



For Immediate Release
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Category 1 (Resort-Casino) and Category 2 (Slots-Parlor) Licensing Update

On December 19, 2013, the Commission decided to issue the below revised **ESTIMATED** schedules for the award of Category 1 and Category 2 gaming licenses. The new projected schedules are based on the assumption that at least one arbitration between an applicant and a surrounding community or impacted live entertainment venue will be required and that this arbitration will take the maximum amount of days allowable under the Commission's regulations. If full length arbitrations are not necessary in a particular Category 1 region or for the Category 2 license, this schedule could potentially be adjusted to allow the earlier award of a gaming license. Although these dates are based on timetables required by statute and the Commission's regulations, they are estimates because they may need to be adjusted due to unforeseen circumstances or to improve the licensing process.

The Commission also decided that the deadline for petitions by communities seeking to be designated as surrounding communities pursuant to 205 CMR 125.01(1)(c) and petitions by venues seeking to be designated as impacted live entertainment venue pursuant to 205 CMR 126.01(1)(b) shall be **January 10, 2014**. The Commission decided that the **January 10** deadline will apply even in situations where a Category 1 applicant files its RFA 2 application prior to the December 31, 2013 application deadline.

All communities designated as surrounding communities in Category 1 applications and venues designated as impacted live entertainment venues (but which have yet to execute an agreement with an applicant) must provide assent to such designation to the Commission by this **January 10, 2014** deadline. The Commission decided that the **January 10** deadline for providing assent to such designations will apply even in situations where a Category 1 applicant files its RFA 2 application prior to the December 31, 2013 application deadline.

The Commission has required applicants to send a copy of applications (excluding non-public segments) to all geographically adjacent communities prior to or contemporaneous with the filing of such applications with the Commission. Communities that are not geographically adjacent to a Category 1 host community may request information from applicants by submitting an e-mail request through the Commission's Web site at <http://massgaming.com/about/host-surrounding-communities/host-community-agreements>.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

CATEGORY 1 (Resort-Casino) Timeline	
ESTIMATED DATE(S)	ACTION
December 31, 2013	Category 1 Application Deadline
January 10, 2014	Deadline for Surrounding Community/Impacted Live Entertainment (“ILEV”) Petitions to be submitted to MGC Deadline for Letters of Assent by Surrounding Communities Designated in an Application to be filed with MGC
January 21	Applicants may provide a response to Surrounding Community/ILEV Petitions to MGC
January 22	Applicant 90 minute presentations on Category 1 Applications
January 23	Potential Presentations by Surrounding Community Petitioners/ILEV Petitioners and Applicants on petitions for designation
February 6	Decisions by Commission on Surrounding Community/ILEV Petitions Written designation of Surrounding Communities/ILEV that have assented to designations made in Category 1 Application
February 7	Beginning of 30-day statutory negotiation period
February 25-27	Public input hearings in Surrounding Communities
March 10	End of 30-day statutory negotiation period between Applicants and Surrounding Communities/ILEVs.
March 11	Beginning of Binding Surrounding Community/ILEV Arbitration Process
Before selecting an arbitrator	The parties must file with the Commission a notice of intent to commence arbitration.
March 17	Deadline for Selection of Arbitrator. If the parties cannot mutually select a single arbitrator, each party shall select one neutral, independent arbitrator who shall then mutually choose a third neutral, independent arbitrator. In the event that a third neutral, independent arbitrator is not selected, the Commission or its designee shall select the third neutral, independent arbitrator.
March 17	Deadline for Best and Final Offer. Each party submits its best and final offer for a Surrounding Community Agreement/ILEV Agreement to the arbitrator and to the other party.
March 21-April 7	Arbitrations. The arbitrator(s) conducts any necessary proceedings.
April 7	Deadline for Arbitration report to be filed with Commission. The arbitrator(s) files with the Commission, and issue to the parties, a report specifying the terms of the Surrounding Community Agreement between the applicant and the community.
April 14	End of Surrounding Community/ILEV Arbitrations. Either the parties sign a Surrounding Community Agreement and file it with the Commission, or the arbitrator’s report shall be deemed to be the Surrounding Community Agreement between the parties
May 30	AWARD OF CATEGORY 1 LICENSES

CATEGORY 2 (Slots-Parlor) Timeline	
ESTIMATED DATE(S)	ACTION
December 31, 2013	Binding Arbitration Process Begins
Before selecting an arbitrator	The parties must file with the Commission a notice of intent to commence arbitration.
January 6	The parties select a neutral, independent arbitrator. If the parties cannot mutually select a single arbitrator, each party shall select one neutral, independent arbitrator who shall then mutually choose a third neutral, independent arbitrator. In the event that a third neutral, independent arbitrator is not selected by 1/6/14, the Commission or its designee shall select the third neutral, independent arbitrator.
January 6	Each party submits its best and final offer for a Surrounding Community Agreement to the arbitrator and to the other party.
January 6-27	The arbitrator(s) conducts any necessary proceedings.
January 27	The arbitrator(s) files with the Commission, and issue to the parties, a report specifying the terms of the Surrounding Community Agreement between the applicant and the community
February 3	Either the parties sign a Surrounding Community Agreement and file it with the Commission, or the arbitrator's report shall be deemed to be the Surrounding Community Agreement between the parties.
February 5-6	Close of Host Community Hearings
March 7	AWARD OF CATEGORY 2 LICENSE