

TOWN OF AQUINNAH

955 State Road, Aquinnah, Massachusetts 02535 Tel. (508) 645-2300 - Fax (508) 645-7884 www.aquinnah-ma.gov

January 16, 2018

Adam Turner, Director Martha's Vineyard Commission 33 New York Avenue Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Re: Aquinnah Casino

Dear Mr. Turner and Members of the Commission:

Representatives from our Board, specifically Selectman Jim Newman and Town Counsel Ron Rappaport, met with Tribal officials to discuss their plan for a class II gaming facility in Aquinnah. The attached letter dated January 8, 2019 outlines our understanding of the Tribe's plans. As you will see, other than seeking a beer and wine permit from the Town, the Tribe has stated that they will not seek any other permits from the Town or from the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC).

It is the Town's position that local and MVC permits are required for this facility. As you are aware, the MVC has jurisdiction over these lands pursuant to its Enabling Act. In our view, there has never been a proposed development contemplated in Aquinnah that could have more potential regional impacts than this proposed gaming facility.

Since the Tribe has stated that they do not intend to seek review from the MVC, we are asking that you take action to protect your statutory rights to review this proposed facility. Please feel free to follow up with us or with our Town Counsel, Ron Rappaport.

Very truly yours,

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen

Julianne Vanderhoop

Gary Haley, Chairman

Jim Newman

cc:

Ronald H. Rappaport, Esq., Town Counsel



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January 8, 2019

VIA E-MAIL chairwoman@wampanoagtribe.net

Cheryl Andrews-Maltais Chairwoman Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head 20 Black Brook Road Aguinnah, MA 02535

Re: Casino

Dear Chairwoman Andrews-Maltais:

Jim Newman and Ron Rappaport have reported to us of your preliminary plans for a Class II gaming facility in Aquinnah. We are writing to ask you to confirm the accuracy of information set forth below, or to tell us whether any of your plans have changed.

We understand that the Tribe intends to utilize the property formerly owned by John D. Wiener shown on Aquinnah Assessors Map No. 8, Parcel No. 7, for the Class II gaming facility. It is our understanding that the facility is proposed to be of "sprung" construction and will be approximately 10,000 square feet in size. It is our further understanding you do not intend to have a restaurant on the property, but the facility

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will be serviced by food trucks; that you plan to have approximately 250 gaming machines, but that you do not yet know the proposed days and hours of operation or the size of the proposed parking area; nor do you have projections about the intensity of uses. We are unclear about the type of proposed bathroom facilities. It is also our understanding that you do not intend to seek any permits from the Town, other than a beer and wine license, or from the Martha's Vineyard Commission.

Could you kindly confirm that the above is accurate. We look forward to hearing from you on or before January 15, 2019 and again invite you to meet with us to discuss the proposed facility and the related public safety needs that would arise.

Very truly yours,

AOUINNAH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Gary Haley, Chairman

Jylianne Vanderhoop

tim Newman

cc: Ronald H. Rappaport, Esq., Town Counsel 4607-009\Andrews-Maltais Ltr 1 9 18.doc