

MENOMINEE INDIAN TRIBE OF WISCONSIN CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday June 15, 2011 FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Randal Chevalier, Tribal Chairman <u>rchevalier@mitw.org</u> (715)799-5114

The Menominee Tribe continues effort to provide new jobs in Kenosha.

(Milwaukee, WI) – On Tuesday June 14, 2011, United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs Assistant-Secretary, Larry Echo-Hawk, announced his decision to rescind the 2008 guidance memorandum, which resulted in the 2009 denial of the Menominee Tribe's application for an off-reservation Gaming Resort at Dairyland Park in Kenosha, WI. With this memorandum no longer in place as a barrier to the application decisions process for the BIA, the Tribe's application for an off-reservation Casino Resort may be a step closer to becoming a reality. However, this project will still require negotiation and clearance from other agencies before final approval can be achieved.

The proposed off-reservation Gaming Resort, if approved, would pave the way for the Menominee Indian Tribe to take an active role in helping the State of Wisconsin's effort to combat unemployment by creating over 3,000 permanent jobs in southeastern Wisconsin once the project is fully developed. The \$800 million project is not only expected to create job opportunities for future sustainability of families for many Southeastern Wisconsin residents, but also several thousand construction job opportunities during its developmental phase.

Menominee Tribal Chairman, Randal Chevalier issued the following statement today regarding the decision and Kenosha project,

"This is great economic news for our Tribe up here in northeastern Wisconsin, but it is also great news for the thousands of residents in southeastern Wisconsin that are in need of good permanent jobs. It is also great news for Governor Walker and others in their efforts to create 250,000 new jobs in Wisconsin. Opportunities like this do not come along every day. We look forward to working with local, state, and federal officials in an effort to bring this project to final approval."

For more information please contact Chairman Randal Chevalier at (715) 799-5114 or via email at <u>rchevalier@mitw.org</u>

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