

Advertising Association of America, <http://www.aaaa.org>; and Scenic America, <http://www.scenic.org>.

Since the adoption of the HBA and the implementing regulations, there have been substantial changes in relevant practices, technologies, and local conditions. As a result, many of those affected by the OAC program see an increasing gap between current Federal law and regulations and the needs of States, local communities, advertisers, sign owners, owners of properties on which signs are located, interest groups, and the traveling public.

The U.S. Institute and the FHWA initiated the neutral assessment of the OAC program to identify issues that cause controversy, gather the perspectives of various stakeholders on those issues, and identify potential methods for addressing conflicts in order to improve program results. Assessment activities, carried out by the U.S. Institute and its contractor, The Osprey Group, commenced following publication of the **Federal Register** notice described above.

Over several months, the assessment team obtained diverse perspectives through interviews, focus groups, and public listening sessions, supplemented by public comment letters filed in the docket. Substantial input was received and was considered by the assessment team when it prepared its OAC program assessment report.

The assessment report identifies a broad range of attitude/relationship, organization, and substantive OAC program issues. Among these are regulatory approaches to new billboard technology; control of sham businesses and sham zoning that permit erection of billboards in non-commercial and industrial areas; future of non-conforming signs; vegetation control in the vicinity of billboards; consistency in administration of regulations and enforcement; future of the 1958 bonus program, enacted prior to the HBA, by PL 85-381, to control outdoor advertising through bonus payments to States that elected to enter into agreements to meet the stricter requirements; increased FHWA flexibility in enforcement mechanisms for failure to maintain effective control; update of Federal-State Agreements that govern States' OAC obligations; Highway Beautification Act scope associated with highways not within the National Highway System; and evaluation of organizational structures and commitments to the OAC program.

Conclusion

The U.S. Institute's report and the comments submitted in response to this

notice will provide valuable information to the FHWA and other stakeholders, helping them to better understand the issues surrounding the OAC program and develop effective means to address some of the controversial topics.

(Authority: 23 U.S.C. 131; 20 U.S.C. 5601 *et seq.*)

Issued on: February 26, 2007.

Christopher L. Helms,

Executive Director, Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation.

J. Richard Capka,

Federal Highway Administrator.

[FR Doc. 07-982 Filed 3-1-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

NATIONAL INDIAN GAMING COMMISSION

Fee Rate

AGENCY: National Indian Gaming Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to 25 CFR 514.1(a)(3), that the National Indian Gaming Commission has adopted preliminary annual fee rates of 0.00% for tier 1 and 0.059% (.00059) for tier 2 for calendar year 2007. These rates shall apply to all assessable gross revenues from each gaming operation under the jurisdiction of the Commission. If a tribe has a certificate of self-regulation under 25 CFR part 518, the preliminary fee rate on class II revenues for calendar year 2007 shall be one-half of the annual fee rate, which is 0.0295% (.000295).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kwame Mainoo, National Indian Gaming Commission, 1441 L Street, NW., Suite 9100, Washington, DC 20005; telephone (202) 632-7003; fax (202) 632-7066 (these are not toll-free numbers).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) established the National Indian Gaming Commission which is charged with, among other things, regulating gaming on Indian lands.

The regulations of the Commission (25 CFR part 514), as amended, provide for a system of fee assessment and payment that is self-administered by gaming operations. Pursuant to those regulations, the Commission is required to adopt and communicate assessment rates; the gaming operations are required to apply those rates to their revenues, compute the fees to be paid, report the revenues, and remit the fees to the Commission on a quarterly basis.

The regulations of the Commission and the preliminary rate being adopted today are effective for calendar year 2007. Therefore, all gaming operations within the jurisdiction of the Commission are required to self administer the provisions of these regulations, and report and pay any fees that are due to the Commission by March 31, 2007.

Dated: February 22, 2007.

Philip N. Hogen,

Chairman, National Indian Gaming Commission.

[FR Doc. 07-942 Filed 3-1-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7565-01-M

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Meeting of the Industry Trade Advisory Committee on Small and Minority Business (ITAC-11)

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of a partially opened meeting.

SUMMARY: The Industry Trade Advisory Committee on Small and Minority Business (ITAC-11) will hold a meeting on Monday, March 19, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The meeting will be closed to the public from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and opened to the public from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2007, unless otherwise notified.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center, Trade Information Center, Training Room A.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laura Hellstern, DFO for ITAC-11 at (202) 482-3222, Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: During the opened portion of the meeting the following agenda items will be considered.

- Updates on Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee Export Promotion Programs, particularly trade financing.
- Government Procurement through International Development Banks.
- Overview of the Recent U.S. Commercial Service Export Promotion Programs, particularly those that assist small businesses in areas of concern expressed by ITAC-11: Foreign