

Dated: August 9, 2018.

Tara Sweeney,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2018–17729 Filed 8–16–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4337–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[189A2100DD/AAKC001030/
AOA501010.999900253G]

Indian Gaming; Approval of Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact Amendments in the State of Oklahoma

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The State of Oklahoma entered into compact amendments with the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and with the Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma governing certain forms of class III gaming; this notice announces the approval of the State of Oklahoma Gaming Compact Non-house-Banked Table Games Supplement between the State of Oklahoma and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and the Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma.

DATES: The compact amendments take effect on August 17, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Paula L. Hart, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary—Policy and Economic Development, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219–4066.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) Public Law 100–497, 25 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the **Federal Register** notice of approved Tribal-State compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands. As required by IGRA and 25 CFR 293.4, all compacts and amendments are subject to review and approval by the Secretary. The compact amendments authorize the Tribes to engage in certain additional class III gaming activities, provide for the application of existing revenue sharing agreements to the additional forms of class III gaming, and designate how the State will distribute revenue sharing funds.

Dated: August 6, 2018.

Tara Sweeney,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2018–17728 Filed 8–16–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4337–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[189A2100DD/AAKC001030/
AOA501010.999900 253G]

Rate Adjustments for Indian Irrigation Projects

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) owns or has an interest in irrigation projects located on or associated with various Indian reservations throughout the United States. We are required to establish irrigation assessment rates to recover the costs to administer, operate, maintain, and rehabilitate these projects. We are notifying you that we have adjusted the irrigation assessment rates at several of our irrigation projects and facilities to reflect current costs of administration, operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation.

DATES: The irrigation assessment rates are current as of January 1, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For details about a particular BIA irrigation project or facility, please use the tables in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section to identify contacts at the regional or local office at which the project or facility is located.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A Notice of Proposed Rate Adjustment was published in the **Federal Register** on January 18, 2018 (83 FR 2662) to propose adjustments to the irrigation assessment rates at several BIA irrigation projects. The public and interested parties were provided an opportunity to submit written comments during the 60-day period that ended March 19, 2018.

Did BIA defer or change any proposed rate increases?

Yes. The 2019 Operation and Maintenance (O&M) rate for the Wind River Irrigation Project, Units 2, 3, and 4, was proposed in the **Federal Register** at \$25.00 per acre. After further review, BIA decided to change the rate to \$24.50. Instead of raising the rate by \$1.00, the rate will only increase by \$.50. Because the rate increased by \$1.50 over the two previous years, BIA decided the full \$1.00 increase for the 2019 O&M rate is not appropriate. Hence, this notice of rate adjustments reflects a 2019 O&M rate of \$24.50 per acre for Units 2, 3, and 4.

Did BIA receive any comments on the proposed irrigation assessment rate adjustments?

Yes. BIA received twelve (12) written comments related to the proposed irrigation rate adjustment for the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project and Wind River Irrigation Project.

What issues were of concern to the commenters?

Commenters raised concerns on the proposed rates about the following issues:

The Following Comments are Specific to the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project (FIIP)

Written comments relating to the proposed rate adjustment were received by letter. BIA's summary of the issues and BIA's responses are provided below.

Comment: Several commenters state a general opposition to the 2019 rate increase, along with a number of specific concerns. These include: A concern that BIA is pursuing a rate increase prior to the FIIP manager's annual meeting with the individual irrigation districts, and concerns with how FIIP management chooses to expend funds obtained through irrigation rate assessments.

Response: As noted when rates were proposed in the **Federal Register** on January 18, 2018 (83 FR 2662), BIA is required to establish irrigation assessment rates that recover the costs to administer, operate, maintain, and rehabilitate our projects. As owner of FIIP, it is BIA's responsibility to ensure adequate resources are made available to meet the requirements noted above. BIA's authority to assess rates dates back to the Act of May 29, 1908, codified at 25 U.S.C. 381 *et seq.*, and is addressed in BIA's regulations at 25 CFR part 171. Additionally, the repayment contracts between the irrigation districts and the Department of the Interior explicitly state that operation and maintenance expenses "shall be paid . . . as provided . . . by rules made or to be made . . . by the Secretary of the Interior." The procedures followed by BIA in adjusting its irrigation assessment rates are consistent with applicable law and past practice.

Regarding the timing of this **Federal Register** notice, BIA makes every effort to publish notice of irrigation O&M rate adjustments prior to the issuance of irrigation bills for the upcoming season, and that process requires BIA to solicit comments on proposed rate adjustments on a timeline that will allow it to