

IN THE MATTER of the Gambling Act 2003

AND on an application by **SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED** for approval of a new floor plan and game mix for the Queenstown casino

**BEFORE THE GAMBLING COMMISSION**

Members: P Chin (Chief Gambling Commissioner)  
M M Lythe  
P J Stanley  
G L Reeves  
M J Richardson

Date of Applications: 8 April 2009

Date of Decision: 22 May 2009

Date of Notification  
of Decision: 9 June 2009

**DECISION ON AN APPLICATION BY SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED  
FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW FLOOR PLAN AND GAME MIX  
FOR THE QUEENSTOWN CASINO**

**Introduction**

- 1 SKYCITY Casino Management Limited ("SCML") applied to the Commission for approval of:
- (a) a new floor plan, "Alternative Gambling Area Floor Layout 2009 Version 2", under condition 12 of its operator's licence for the Queenstown casino; and
  - (b) a new game mix, D (Alternative), under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence for the Queenstown casino

**Licence conditions**

- 2 The relevant licence conditions are as follows:

**SCML Operator's Licence (Queenstown)**

- 9 The Licence Holder may operate on casino gaming tables the game types and game mixes specified in Annex A attached to this Licence. The Licence Holder shall obtain the prior approval of the Commission for any change to the game types and/or game mixes specified
- 12 The Licence Holder shall obtain the approval of the Commission for new floor plans prior to relocating or installing tables or machines in positions not specified in approved floor layout. When applying, the Licence Holder must

submit fresh plans showing the floor layout for the Gambling Area and details of the proposed CCTV layout for the consideration of the Commission. Any changes must comply with the Surveillance Standard

### **Submissions by SCML**

3 SCML stated that:

- (a) It presently has two approved floor plans, "Standard Gambling Area Floor Layout 2009" and "Alternative Gambling Area Floor Layout 2009". It wants to replace the alternative floor plan with a new alternative plan, "Alternative Gambling Area Floor Layout 2009 Version 2", with a new game mix, D (Alternative), which will be deployed on this plan
- (b) The alternative plan and game mix is designed for use during Poker tournaments

4 SCML submitted that:

- (a) The proposed floor plan changes will have a neutral impact on harm prevention and minimisation;
- (b) It will make any necessary adjustments to the CCTV layout to accommodate the proposed new floor configurations to ensure they satisfy the Surveillance Standard
- (c) It will notify the DIA of any changes in accordance with the requirements of the Minimum Operating Standards
- (d) The proposed new game mix has fewer player spaces and generates fewer gambling opportunities than game mix A, the regulatory benchmark for the Queenstown casino
- (e) There are no changes to the configuration of gaming machine locations.

### **The Secretary's submissions**

5. The Secretary had no objection to SCML's proposal, and agreed that the proposed new game mix will not increase opportunities for casino gambling

### **Analysis**

6 SCML wants to replace its existing alternative floor plan with another alternative floor plan, the difference between the two being the repositioning of one table on the main gaming floor. This does not raise any issue of regulatory concern.

7 SCML's proposal to add a new game mix to the new alternative floor plan also does not raise any issue of regulatory concern. The Commission's approach when determining whether a new game mix will increase opportunities for casino gambling is to compare the new game mix with the game mix which provides the greatest level of opportunities for casino gambling. Game mix A provides the greatest level of opportunities.

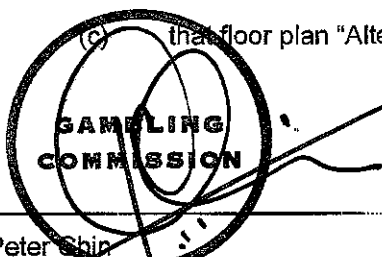
8 Compared with game mix A, game mix D (Alternative) will not increase opportunities for casino gambling.

#### Decision of the Commission

9 The Commission decided:

- (a) to approve floor plan "Alternative Gambling Area Floor Layout 2009 Version 2" (**attached**), under condition 12 of SCML's operator's licence for the Queenstown casino;
- (b) to approve game mix D (Alternative), which will be deployed on plan "Alternative Gambling Area Floor Layout 2009 Version 2", under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence for the Queenstown casino; and

(c) that floor plan "Alternative Gambling Area Floor Layout 2009" ceases to be valid.

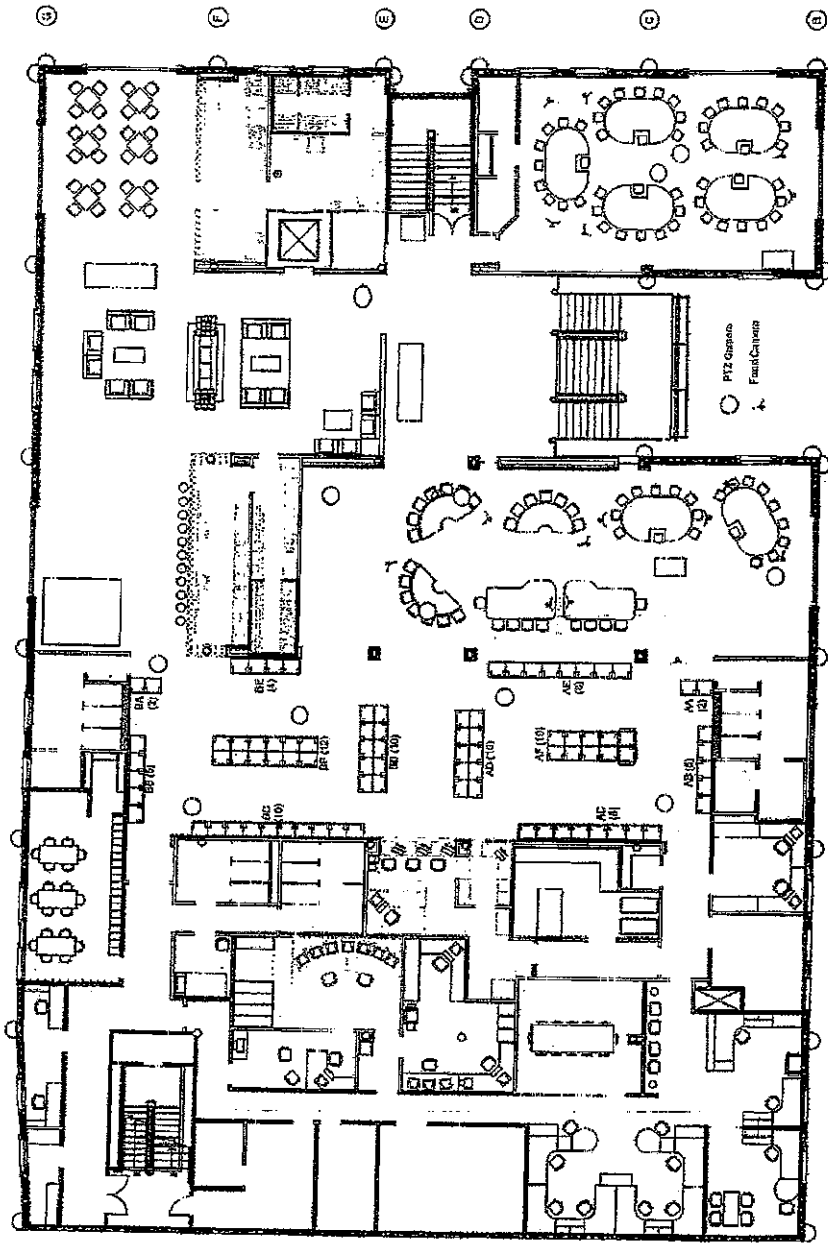


Peter Shin  
Chief Gambling Commissioner

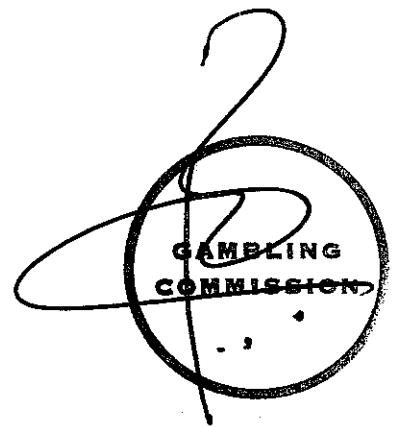
for and on behalf of the  
Gambling Commission

9 June 2009

Alternative Gambling Area Floor Layout 2009 Version 2



file:///D:/Documents/2009/2009Settings/pocommell/Local/20Settings/Temp/OLK375/Floorplan/20Apr/2009%20Proposal/20-%205-7... 8/04/2009



**Explanatory Note**

The licence holder may operate no more than 86 gaming machines and 12 table games in the configuration shown in the plan. The following game mix is approved for operation with this plan.

**Game Mix D**

Blackjack	x 2
Poker	x 6
Roulette	x 2
Midi Baccarat	x 1
Caribbean Stud Poker	x 1

**Game Mix D (Alternative)**

Blackjack	x2
Poker	x7
Roulette	x2
Caribbean Stud Poker	x1

**Note:**

The licence holder is permitted to change between the Standard Plan and this Alternative Plan subject to providing the Commission and Inspectorate with a minimum of five working days notice in writing of its intention to do so, unless a shorter notice period is agreed with the Inspectorate on a case by case basis.

