

**IN THE MATTER** of the Gambling Act 2003  
**AND** on an application by **SKYCITY  
 AUCKLAND LIMITED** and  
**SKYCITY CASINO  
 MANAGEMENT LIMITED** to  
 amend casino licence conditions

**BEFORE THE GAMBLING COMMISSION**

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

Date of Application: 28 April 2006

Date of Decision: 9 June 2006

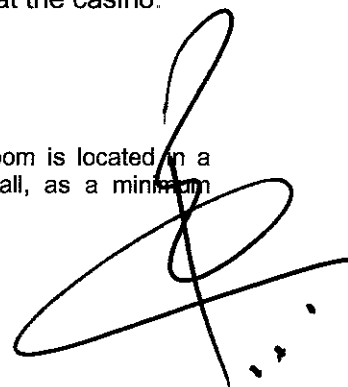
Date of Notification  
 of Decision: 22 June 2006

**DECISION**

**ON AN APPLICATION BY SKYCITY AUCKLAND LIMITED TO AMEND  
 CONDITIONS 10, 12 AND 13 OF ITS CASINO VENUE LICENCE, AND  
 SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED, TO AMEND CONDITIONS 21 AND 22  
 OF ITS CASINO OPERATOR'S LICENCE**

**Application**

1. SKYCITY Auckland Limited ("**SCAL**") applied to the Gambling Commission (the "**Commission**") to amend conditions 10, 12 and 13 of its casino venue licence. SKYCITY Casino Management Limited ("**SCML**") applied to the Commission to amend conditions 21 and 22 of its casino operator's licence. Both applications were made pursuant to section 139 of the Gambling Act 2003 (the "**Act**").
2. Conditions 12 and 13 of the casino venue licence and conditions 21 and 22 of the casino operator's licence relate to the cage/chip bank facilities at the SKYCITY Auckland casino. Condition 10 of the venue licence relates to the soft count room at the casino.
3. The amendments sought (shown in mark up) are as follows:
  10. The Licence Holder shall ensure that the soft count room is located in a secure area ~~connected to the cashier's cage~~ and shall, as a minimum requirement, provide the following:



- (a) effective electronic surveillance in accordance with the Surveillance Standard;
  - (b) an alarm device connected to the entrance of the count room which signals to the security/surveillance department whenever the door is opened;
  - (c) a telephone link;
  - (d) a count table constructed of transparent material with clear visibility through to the floor;
  - (e) an area within, or with access from, the count room to house an enclosed cabinet or trolley(s) with a separately keyed double locking system for the storage of drop boxes.
- 12.(i) The Licence Holder shall maintain at least one principal cashiering facility on each level of the gaming floor which is clearly visible to patrons. Each such cashiering facility shall as a minimum requirement include the following:
- (a) accommodation for ~~chip bank cashiers and general cashiers (which shall be physically separate unless the Commission approves otherwise);~~
  - (b) storage facilities for cashiering cage inventory;
  - ~~(c) a separate locked compartment for storage of chips and plaques held in reserve and not used for active gaming in at least one facility;~~
  - ~~(cd)~~ manually triggered and automatic silent alarm systems connected directly to monitor rooms of the security and surveillance departments; and
  - ~~(de)~~ interconnect door entry and exit system (man trap) which will not permit a person to pass through the second door until the first door is securely locked.
- (ii) The Licence Holder may provide accommodation for chip bank cashiers in the principal cashiering facility which shall be physically separate from general cashiers unless the Commission approves otherwise.
- (iii) Chips and plaques held in reserve and not used for active gaming shall be housed in a locked compartment within the chip bank.
13. The approval of the Commission is required for the construction and relocation of cashiering facilities additional to the principal facility in other parts of the Gambling Area or casino venue ~~to service dedicated areas or rooms~~. Any such additional facilities must comply with the surveillance equipment requirements set out in the Surveillance Standard and be fitted with manually triggered and automatic silent alarm systems connected to the security/surveillance department.
- 21.(i) The Licence Holder shall maintain at least one principal cashiering facility on each level of the gaming floor which is clearly visible to patrons. Each such cashiering facility shall as a minimum requirement include the following:
- (a) accommodation for ~~chip bank cashiers and general cashiers (which shall be physically separate unless the Commission approves otherwise);~~

- (b) storage facilities for cashiering cage inventory;
  - ~~(c) a separate locked compartment for storage of chips and plaques held in reserve and not used for active gaming in at least one facility;~~
  - (~~c~~d) manually triggered and automatic silent alarm systems connected directly to monitor rooms of the security and surveillance departments; and
  - (~~d~~e) interconnect door entry and exit system (man trap) which will not permit a person to pass through the second door until the first door is securely locked
- (ii) The Licence Holder may provide accommodation for chip bank cashiers in the principal cashiering facility which shall be physically separate from general cashiers unless the Commission approves otherwise.
  - (iii) Chips and plaques held in reserve and not used for active gaming shall be housed in a locked compartment within the chip bank.

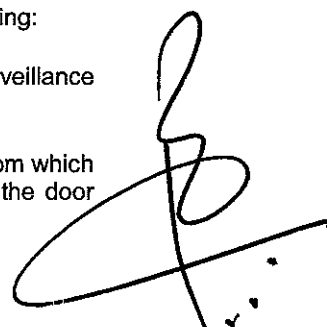
22. The approval of the Commission is required for the construction and relocation of cashiering facilities additional to the principal facility in other parts of the Gambling Area or casino venue to service dedicated areas or rooms. Any such additional facilities must comply with the surveillance equipment requirements set out in the Surveillance Standard and be fitted with manually triggered and automatic silent alarm systems connected to the security/surveillance department.

### Submissions by the Applicants

4. The Applicants stated that they are proposing major refurbishment work to the Gambling Area on Level 2 of the Auckland casino. The refurbishment plans, while yet to be finalised, will be completed in stages commencing with an expansion of the delicatessen and canoe bar, changes to the cashiering station and alterations to bar facilities.
5. The Applicants submitted that these changes are dependent upon their ability to relocate their "back of house" cashiering facilities, presently located in the Gambling Area, to other secure parts of the casino venue in order to accommodate, within the Gambling Area, the expanded food and beverage facilities, and relocated tables and gaming machines.
6. The Applicants stated that they cannot apply to relocate the cashiering facilities until the licence conditions are amended
7. The proposed conditions are as follows:

### SCAL venue licence

10. The Licence Holder shall ensure that the soft count room is located in a secure area and shall, as a minimum requirement, provide the following:
  - (a) effective electronic surveillance in accordance with the Surveillance Standard;
  - (b) an alarm device connected to the entrance of the count room which signals to the security/surveillance department whenever the door is opened;



- (c) a telephone link;
  - (d) a count table constructed of transparent material with clear visibility through to the floor;
  - (e) an area within, or with access from, the count room to house an enclosed cabinet or trolley(s) with a separately keyed double locking system for the storage of drop boxes.
- 12.(i) The Licence Holder shall maintain at least one principal cashiering facility on each level of the gaming floor which is clearly visible to patrons. Each such cashiering facility shall as a minimum requirement include the following:
- (a) accommodation for general cashiers;
  - (b) storage facilities for cashiering inventory;
  - (c) manually triggered and automatic silent alarm systems connected directly to monitor rooms of the surveillance department; and
  - (d) interconnect door entry and exit system (man trap) which will not permit a person to pass through the second door until the first door is securely locked.
- (ii) The Licence Holder may provide accommodation for chip bank cashiers in the principal cashiering facility which shall be physically separate from general cashiers unless the Commission approves otherwise.
- (iii) Chips and plaques held in reserve and not used for active gaming shall be housed in a locked compartment within the chip bank.
13. The approval of the Commission is required for the construction and relocation of cashiering facilities additional to the principal facility in other parts of the Gambling Area or casino venue. Any such additional facilities must comply with the surveillance equipment requirements set out in the Surveillance Standard and be fitted with manually triggered and automatic silent alarm systems connected to the surveillance department.

### **SCML operator's licence**

- 21.(i) The Licence Holder shall maintain at least one principal cashiering facility on each level of the gaming floor which is clearly visible to patrons. Each such cashiering facility shall as a minimum requirement include the following:
- (a) accommodation for general cashiers;
  - (b) storage facilities for cashiering inventory;
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- (iii) Chips and plaques held in reserve and not used for active gaming shall be housed in a locked compartment within the chip bank.
- 22 The approval of the Commission is required for the construction and relocation of cashiering facilities additional to the principal facility in other parts of the Gambling Area or casino venue. Any such additional facilities

must comply with the surveillance equipment requirements set out in the Surveillance Standard and be fitted with manually triggered and automatic silent alarm systems connected to the surveillance department.

8. The Applicants submitted that:
- (a) the proposed changes to conditions 12 and 21 will enable to the Commission to consider the suitability of relocating the “back of house” cashiering facilities; and
  - (b) the proposed changes to conditions 13 and 22 will enable to the Commission to consider the relocation of cashiering facilities outside the Gambling Area; and
  - (c) the proposed changes to condition 10 removes an ambiguous term (the “cashier’s cage”) and the requirement for the soft count room to be connected to the cashier’s cage; and
  - (d) the proposed changes would have no bearing on the provision of cashiering services to the general public.

#### **Submissions by the Secretary**

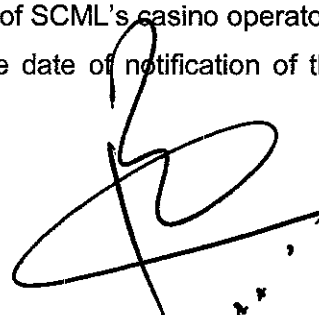
9. The Secretary had no objections to the proposed amendments.

#### **Analysis**

10. These applications represent the first step in the Applicants’ refurbishment of Level 2 of the Auckland casino and would allow the Applicants to apply to the Commission to separate and relocate the “back of house” cashiering facilities away from their “front of house” cashiering facilities.
11. The Commission noted that the Secretary had no concerns with the proposal and accepted that the amendments would have no bearing on the cashiering services available to the general public.
12. The Commission was satisfied that the amendments met the criteria set out in section 139(2) of the Act.

#### **Decision**

13. The Commission decided unanimously to allow the amendments to conditions 10, 12 and 13 of SCAL’s casino venue licence and conditions 21 and 22 of SCML’s casino operator’s licence, as proposed by the Applicants, with effect from the date of notification of this decision. These conditions now read as follows:

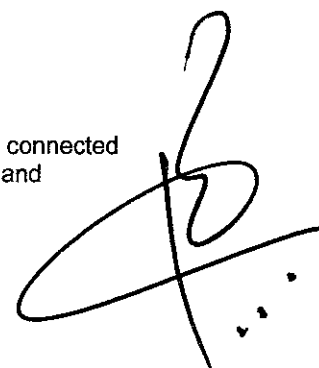
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**SCAL venue licence**

10. The Licence Holder shall ensure that the soft count room is located in a secure area and shall, as a minimum requirement, provide the following:
- (a) effective electronic surveillance in accordance with the Surveillance Standard;
  - (b) an alarm device connected to the entrance of the count room which signals to the security/surveillance department whenever the door is opened;
  - (c) a telephone link;
  - (d) a count table constructed of transparent material with clear visibility through to the floor;
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**SCML operator's licence**

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  - (b) storage facilities for cashiering inventory;
  - (c) manually triggered and automatic silent alarm systems connected directly to monitor rooms of the surveillance department; and

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

- (d) interconnect door entry and exit system (man trap) which will not permit a person to pass through the second door until the first door is securely locked.
- (ii) The Licence Holder may provide accommodation for chip bank cashiers in the principal cashiering facility which shall be physically separate from general cashiers unless the Commission approves otherwise.
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**Peter Chin**  
Chief Gambling Commissioner

for and on behalf of the  
Gambling Commission

22 June 2006