

IN THE MATTER of the Gambling Act 2003


AND on an application by **SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED** for approval to install cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminals

BEFORE THE GAMBLING COMMISSION

Members: G L Reeves (Chief Gambling Commissioner)
P J Stanley
L M Hansen

Date of Application: 15 April 2011

Date of Decision: 13 May 2011

Date of Notification
of Decision:  May 2011

DECISION ON AN APPLICATION BY SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED FOR APPROVAL TO INSTALL CASH-DISPENSING EFTPOS TERMINALS

Introduction

1. SKYCITY Casino Management Limited ("**SCML**") applied to the Commission for approval, under condition 13 of SCML's operator's licence for the Auckland casino, to install three cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminals – two in the cashiering facility on level 5, and one in the cashiering facility in the Platinum Room.
2. The application originally sought approval to install only the two terminals on level 5, but was amended once SCML discovered that a cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminal had been installed, without Commission approval, in the cashiering cage in the Platinum Room. SCML sought retrospective approval for this terminal.
3. SCML also informed the Commission that it was installing a non cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminal in the bar on level 5.
4. Submissions were sought on the proposal from the Secretary for Internal Affairs (the "**Secretary**"), Problem Gambling Foundation, Gambling Helpline, Salvation Army and the Ministry of Health. Submissions were received from only the Secretary.

Licence conditions

5. The relevant licence conditions are:

SCML's operator's licence (Auckland)

13. The Licence Holder is prohibited from dispensing cash from EFTPOS and like devices in the Gambling Area unless approved by the Commission. The approval of the Commission shall be revocable at the discretion of the Commission and may be subject to such conditions as the Commission may from time to time impose.
17. The Licence Holder is required to notify the Commission if it moves ATMs in the Casino Venue or if it installs or moves non-cash dispensing EFTPOS terminals in the Gambling Area.

Submissions by SCML

6. SCML submitted, in summary, as follows:

- (a) In decision GC25/10, the Commission approved construction and design changes to levels 5 and 6 of the Auckland casino to allow it to create a new VIP area with four gaming salons and a general VIP area. Level 5 will also include a cashiering facility.
- (b) Pursuant to condition 13 of its operator's licence, it is prohibited from dispensing cash from EFTPOS and like devices in the Gambling Area unless approved by the Commission. The Commission has previously approved 22 cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminals operating in the casino's Gambling Area. It currently operates only 14, with a further three having been approved for installation in the new Diamond room.
- (c) It proposes:
- to install two cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminals in the cashiering facility on level 5; and
 - to remove a cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminal from the Pacific Room on level 3; and
 - to install a cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminal in the cashiering facility in the Platinum Room.

This will take the overall total to 19 cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminals; well within the approved number of 22 terminals.

- (d) It also intends to install a non-cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminal in the bar on level 5 for the purchase of non-complimentary items, such as cigarettes.

The Secretary's submissions

7. The Secretary submitted that the proposal raised no issues of regulatory concern.

Analysis

8. SCML originally sought Commission approval to install two cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminals in the cashiering facility on level 5, but amended the application to seek retrospective approval for a terminal installed without approval in the Platinum Room.
9. SCML's proposal did not raise any issue of regulatory concern for the Commission. The Commission has previously approved SKYCITY operating a maximum of 22 cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminals in the casino's Gambling Area so the introduction of three additional terminals to the current total, together with other movements, will result in 19 cash-dispensing terminals across the casino's Gambling Area.
10. The Commission also noted SCML's intention to install a non cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminal in the bar on level 5.

Decision of the Commission

11. The Commission approved, under condition 13 of SCML's operator's licence, the introduction of three cash-dispensing EFTPOS terminals – two in the VIP cashiering facility on level 5 and one in the cashiering cage in the Platinum Room.



Graeme Reeves
Chief Gambling Commissioner

for and on behalf of the
Gambling Commission

18 May 2011

