

IN THE MATTER of the Gambling Act 2003

AND on applications by **SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED**
for approval of new game mixes for
the Auckland casino

BEFORE THE GAMBLING COMMISSION

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

Date of Applications: 30 September 2010, 7 October 2010

Date of Decision: 12 November 2010

Date of Notification
of Decision: 12 November 2010

**DECISION ON APPLICATIONS BY SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED
FOR APPROVAL OF NEW GAME MIXES FOR THE AUCKLAND CASINO**

Introduction

1. Under cover of two separate letters, SKYCITY Casino Management Limited ("**SCML**") applied to the Commission for approval, under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence, for approval of five new game mixes, Y, Z, ZA, ZB and ZC for the Auckland casino.
2. The relevant licence condition is as follows:

SCML's operator's licence (Auckland)

- 9 The Licence Holder may operate on casino gaming tables the game types and game mix(es) 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

Submissions by SCML

3. SCML submitted, in summary, as follows:
 - (a) The impact of the proposed new game mixes on player spaces is set out in a table below. For those games where the maximum number of player positions is not fixed by game rules, it has applied a theoretical maximum number of positions as a guide for the Commission. These theoretical maximums have been used in previous applications. Based on these figures, each of the new game mixes has fewer player spaces than the regulatory benchmark, game mix A.

- (b) A comparison of rates of play is also set out in the table below. The figures used in this table were derived from a trial carried out by SKYCITY and considered by the Commission in decision GC17/10
- (c) Unlike previous applications, it did not seek to specify a notional hourly rate of play for each of the games. Following an assessment of the Commission's comments in decision GC17/10 it presented the trial data in its raw form, without extrapolation, to provide for a more appropriate comparison
- (d) The notional opportunities associated with each of the proposed new game mixes is significantly less than that associated with game mix A.
- (e) It was satisfied that the new game mixes will not increase casino gambling opportunities.
- (f) Subject to the Commission's approval of the new game mixes, it will provide the Commission and the DIA inspectorate with a minimum of five days notice before adopting any one of them.
- (g) The player spaces and rates of play for the relevant game mixes are as follows:

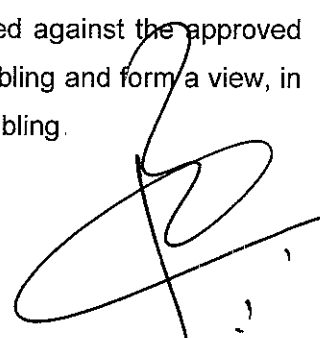
Game Mix	Player Spaces	Overall gambling opportunities
A	3,909	68,363
Y	3,872	61,352
Z	3,849	60,585
ZA	3,855	61,464
ZB	3,861	61,128
ZC	3,861	61,506

The Secretary's submissions

- 4. The Secretary submitted that the Applicant's calculations appear accurate and he had no regulatory concerns regarding game mixes Y-ZC.

Analysis

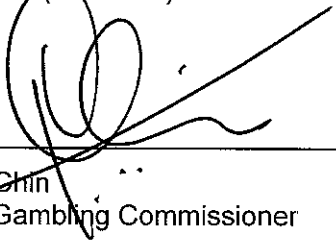
- 5. SCML applied for approval of five new game mixes, Y-ZC, relying upon the data it presented to the Commission in its application which led to decision GC17/10.
- 6. The Commission's approach when considering whether a proposal will increase opportunities for casino gambling is to compare what is proposed against the approved game mix that provides the greatest opportunities for casino gambling and form a view, in the round, on whether it will increase opportunities for casino gambling.



7. The Commission compared game mixes Y-ZC with game mix A and was satisfied that they will not increase opportunities for casino gambling.

Decision of the Commission

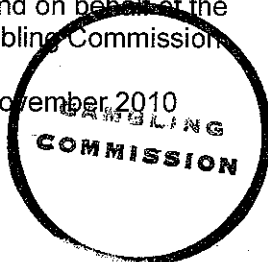
8. The Commission approved, under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence, a new Annex A (attached) for the Auckland casino.



Peter Chin
Chief Gambling Commissioner

for and on behalf of the
Gambling Commission

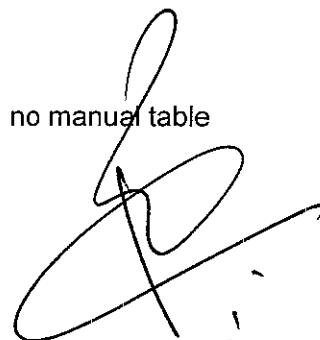
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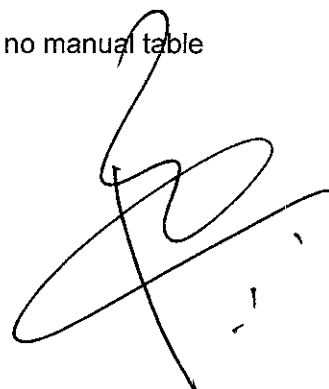
ANNEX A

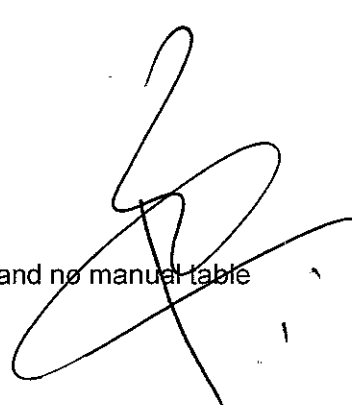
Pursuant to condition 9 the following game mixes may be operated by the Licence Holder on casino gaming tables subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- A.
 - Black Jack/Pontoon – up to 44 games
 - Roulette – up to 24 games
 - Electronic Roulette – 1 game with up to 14 player spaces and no manual table
 - Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 10 games
 - Midi Baccarat – up to 17 games
 - Mini Baccarat – up to 7 games
 - Pai Gow – up to 4 games
 - Tai Sai (Double Side) – 1 game
 - Tai Sai (Single Side) – 1 game
 - Money Wheel (Double Side) – 1 game
- B.
 - Black Jack/Pontoon ('7 Box') – up to 33 games
 - Roulette – up to 20 games
 - Electronic Roulette – up to 2 games with up to 21 player spaces and no manual table
 - Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 7 games
 - Midi Baccarat – up to 18 games
 - Mini Baccarat – up to 7 games
 - Money Wheel (Double Side) – 1 game
 - Pai Gow – up to 3 games
 - Poker – up to 18 games with up to 10 player spaces
 - Tai Sai (Double Side) – 1 game
- C.
 - Black Jack/Pontoon ('7 Box') – up to 32 games
 - Roulette – up to 20 games
 - Electronic Roulette – up to 2 games with up to 21 player spaces and no manual table
 - Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 7 games
 - Midi Baccarat – up to 18 games
 - Mini Baccarat – up to 8 games
 - Money Wheel (Double Side) – 1 game
 - Pai Gow – up to 3 games
 - Poker – up to 18 games with up to 10 player spaces
 - Tai Sai (Double Side) – 1 game
- D.
 - Black Jack/Pontoon ('7 Box') – up to 34 games
 - Roulette – up to 20 games
 - Electronic Roulette – up to 2 games with up to 21 player spaces and no manual table
 - Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 7 games
 - Midi Baccarat – up to 18 games
 - Mini Baccarat – up to 6 games
 - Money Wheel (Double Side) – 1 game
 - Pai Gow – up to 3 games
 - Poker – up to 18 games with up to 10 player spaces
 - Tai Sai (Double Side) – 1 game
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 - Black Jack/Pontoon ('7 Box') – up to 35 games
 - Roulette – up to 20 games
 - Electronic Roulette – up to 2 games with up to 21 player spaces and no manual table
 - Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 6 games
 - Midi Baccarat – up to 18 games
 - Mini Baccarat – up to 6 games
 - Money Wheel (Double Side) – 1 game



- Pai Gow – up to 3 games
 - Poker – up to 18 games with up to 10 player spaces
 - Tai Sai (Double Side) – 1 game
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- Black Jack/Pontoon ('7 Box') – up to 36 games
 - Roulette – up to 17 games
 - Electronic Roulette – up to 3 games with up to 21 player spaces and no manual table
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 - Midi Baccarat – up to 18 games
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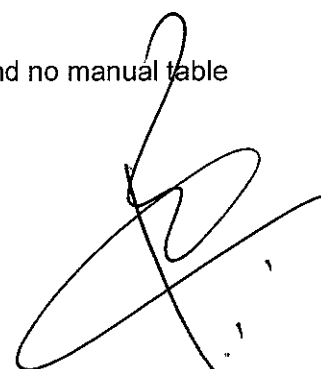
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- K.
- Black Jack/Pontoon ('7 Box') – up to 33 games
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 - Pai Gow – up to 3 games
 - Poker – up to 18 games with up to 10 player spaces
 - Tai Sai (Double Side) – 1 game
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- Black Jack/Pontoon ('7 Box') – up to 41 games
 - Roulette – up to 17 games
 - Electronic Roulette – up to 3 games with up to 21 player spaces and no manual table
 - Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 6 games
 - Midi Baccarat – up to 18 games
 - Mini Baccarat – up to 8 games
 - Money Wheel (Double Side) – 1 game
 - Pai Gow – up to 3 games
 - Poker – up to 12 games with up to 10 player spaces
 - Tai Sai (Double Side) – 1 game
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- Black Jack/Pontoon ('7 Box') – up to 42 games
 - Roulette – up to 17 games
 - Electronic Roulette – up to 3 games with up to 21 player spaces and no manual table
 - Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 6 games
 - Midi Baccarat – up to 18 games
 - Mini Baccarat – up to 7 games
 - Money Wheel (Double Side) – 1 game
 - Pai Gow – up to 3 games
 - Poker – up to 12 games with up to 10 player spaces
 - Tai Sai (Double Side) – 1 game
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- Black Jack/Pontoon ('7 Box') – up to 40 games
 - Roulette – up to 17 games
 - Electronic Roulette – up to 3 games with up to 21 player spaces and no manual table
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 - Poker – up to 12 games with up to 10 player spaces



- Tai Sai (Double Side) – 1 game
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Notes

1. The Licence Holder is permitted to change between the Game Mixes specified in A-ZC subject to providing the Commission and the Inspectorate with a minimum of 5 working days notice in writing of its intention to do so.
2. The Licence Holder is permitted to operate automatic shufflers on:
 - the Poker tables specified in Game Mixes B-ZC;
 - 50% of open Black Jack tables specified in Game Mix A;
 - all Black Jack tables specified in Game Mixes B-ZC; and
 - CSP and Baccarat tables specified in each of the Game Mixes, provided that no more than 10 such shufflers are operated on CSP games and no more than 24 such shufflers are operated on Baccarat games.
3. At least 50% of the Midi Baccarat games specified in Game Mixes B-ZC shall be conducted in accordance with dealing Style B as set out in the rules of Baccarat.
4. The Licence Holder is permitted to conduct two alternative Poker games – Hold'em and Omaha

