



Wisconsin Gaming for Wisconsin

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Contact: George Ermert 414-405-0838

East Coast Gaming Interests Heavily Lobby Wisconsin Lawmakers Mohegan spend five times more than Wisconsin Tribe lobbying for Kenosha Casino project

Milwaukee – The Connecticut gaming interest who wants to build an \$808 million mega-casino in Kenosha spent over \$70,000 lobbying Wisconsin lawmakers in 2007, spending five times more than a Wisconsin tribe with interests in the same off-reservation casino project.

According to reports filed with the Government Accountability Board, the Wisconsin Tribal Gaming Development LLC, a corporation owned by the Mohegan Tribe of Connecticut, spent over \$70,000 lobbying issues related to off-reservation gaming and the development of off-reservation gaming facilities in 2007. Meanwhile, the Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin spent only \$14,000 lobbying issues related to off-reservation gaming during that same time.

The Mohegan are attempting to build an \$808 million off-reservation casino in Kenosha. It would be the largest casino between Las Vegas and Atlantic City.

If the proposed off-reservation casino in Kenosha is approved, the Mohegan stand to take a quarter of a billion dollars from Wisconsin back to Connecticut.

While the Menominee Tribe's name is on the application, the Mohegan are the financial backers and have a contract to develop and manage the casino should it receive federal and state approval. In March 2007, the Mohegan Tribe increased their stake in the Kenosha casino project and became the sole developer by buying out the local Kenosha developer. To date, it is estimated that the Mohegan have invested at least \$5 million in the project, which includes nearly \$70,000 in political contributions to Wisconsin lawmakers.

The Kenosha casino project is part of the Mohegan Gaming Corporation's aggressive off-reservation casino expansion strategy to become a national gaming chain. So far they have bought a casino in Pennsylvania and have plans to operate casinos in Washington and Wisconsin. They are also looking to expand to Massachusetts, Atlantic City, New York and Kansas.

The Mohegan already operate a mega-casino in Connecticut called the Mohegan Sun. This casino takes in over \$1 billion annually and is larger than the Ho-Chunk, Oneida and Potawatomi casinos combined.

Wisconsin Gaming for Wisconsin was created to preserve and promote the tradition and integrity of gaming by Wisconsinites and to form relationships with community partners to support economic development that benefits all Wisconsin residents. The coalition is made up of prominent organizations including the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Milwaukee Urban League, VISIT Milwaukee and the Forest County Potawatomi Community. For more information, please visit www.WisconsinGamingforWisconsin.com.

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