

***Presque Isle Downs and Casino
License Renewal Public Input Hearing
Written Comments for Thursday October 2, 2014***

Individuals-

Patrick J. Hogan - 657 E 5th – Erie, PA 16507 - misterhogan@gmail.com – 8/27/2014

They have done very little to control smoking at the non-smoking slot machines. There are NO non-smoking areas except the rest rooms which people ignore. There are only non-smoking slot machines and smokers are constantly around these machines. The only way to enter the casino through a smoke-free environment is to enter through the back of the building.

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September 11, 2014

Gaming Control Board

To Whom It May Concern,

The Pennsylvania Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association supports the renewal of the Presque Isle Downs and Casino gaming license.

Respectfully,



Tim Shea
President



Todd Mostoller
Executive Director

Dear Sir,

Sept. 18, -2014

I'm a 79 year old woman writing in regard to Presque Isle Casino.

Behind the casino against the building are a very few handicapp spaces. Most of the time they are taken by cars with no placard or licence plates. I asked a security guard driving around why this is allowed. He said, I'll check on it. "Nothing"

All the bathrooms are nice once you get in. Problem, walkers are very hard, wheel chairs, not unless some one holds the door. I back in and hope no one pulls the door open, so I don't fall in. They need a wall like other casinos. Rivers, Meadows Seneca etc. Or automatic door opener.

There is no smoke free area on the main floor! How can you call a

smoke free machine and two feet away smoking. What a joke! People are always smoking next to me, and I tell them no smoking. Some put it out, some get angry. It shouldn't be up to me to tell them. At Rivers, if people are breaking the rules, they are told by attendants to put it out, or leave the area. I think the people in charge at Presque Isle are afraid of offending smokers. The air cleaners are not working. As soon as you walk in the door it stinks.

Why can't all the tables go in the No Smoking Room, cut the main casino floor in half for smoke and no smoke. Put a large sign - No Smoking Beyond This Point and enforce it!

Elizabeth Twaroski

9-20-14

BOARD Secretary,

In regards to the Presque Isle CASINO IN ERIE, Pennsylvania, I'd like to bring something to your attention, which I feel needs corrected.

My main concern is the LACK OF NON-SMOKING AREAS! IF you walk thru the CASINO, you'll find a couple rows of non-smoking machines, but the way these machines are dispersed around the CASINO makes them difficult to locate & they are all surrounded by machines where smoking is allowed. Therefore, no matter where you play, the cigarette smoke drifts over to where the non-smoking machines are. The new area the CASINO built across from the buffet isn't much better. This was supposed to be designated as non-smoking, but there are about 20 table games in the middle of this room, which allow smoking!

In addition, I'm constantly seeing people smoking at machines, even though there are signs above & on the machines that smoking is not allowed. People just don't seem to care & the security officers do ABSOLUTELY NOTHING to enforce the non-smoking areas. These security officers are obviously afraid to say anything to the smokers. Once, my father asked one of the security officers to tell a patron

to put out their cigarette. The security officer told my father that he once told a patron that they were smoking in a non-smoking area. He said that the patron responded with, "So!" & then blew smoke in the security officers face.

Other casinos ARE strict & enforce their smoking/non-smoking policies, but Pressure Isle does not! Their security is a joke! Other than standing at the door when you enter the casino, the only other thing I've ever seen them do, is push the chairs back in, ~~is~~ front of the slot machines.

I believe that the only workable solution to this problem is to designate 50% of the casino floor for smoking & 50% for non-smoking. Isn't that only fair? A wall needs to be built right down the middle.

The blatant disregard for non-smokers is sad. I've even seen people with oxygen tanks playing at a slot machine right next to someone smoking. IF there was even a slight leak in the oxygen tank, couldn't this cause an explosion? Especially if a spark from a cigarette or match landed nearby? What would the insurance company who insures the liability for Pressure Isle Casino think about this hazard?

I truly believe that you need to send undercover agents to investigate & correct these problems. After all, non-smokers have just as much a right to enjoy a night out where you don't have to inhale someone's cancer-causing bad habit.

Thank you for taking the time to address this problem. On behalf of all of us non-smokers - Thank you!!

Cynthia Powell