

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ABC ADOPTS ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION ON CASINO FIRE SAFETY ISSUE
HEARING FOR PROTESTANTS WILL BE SCHEDULED

Santa Rosa – The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) today announced it is adopting an ABC Administrative Law Judge ruling that the Dry Creek Rancheria has fully complied with California Compact Gaming Building Code requirements regarding fire safety and that a liquor license should be approved.

By adopting the judge's decision, the department is recommending issuance of a liquor license for the River Rock Casino in Geyserville subject to the outcome of a hearing that will allow protestants to present evidence and testimony before an ABC Administrative Law Judge.

The hearing will address all the issues concerning the liquor license application for River Rock including fire safety.

ABC denied the liquor license back in September, 2004 relying on a report by the State Fire Marshal. That report concluded the Dry Creek Rancheria had not met all the requirements contained in the Uniform Building Code contained in the Tribal-State Gaming Compact between the Dry Creek Rancheria and the State of California, dated September 10, 1999.

The Dry Creek Rancheria successfully petitioned to have a hearing on the ABC's denial. The Rancheria moved to separate the issues and hold a trial exclusively on the denial issue of fire safety. The ABC Administrative Law Judge ruled on the fire safety issue earlier this week concluding the Rancheria has met the necessary requirements and should not be denied a license on the fire safety issue.