

This Chapter discusses the potential impacts that the proposed action and the alternatives may have on the community facilities that currently serve the Nation's properties and surrounding area.

A. ALTERNATIVE 1: PROPOSED ACTION

Under this alternative, the Nation's property would be taken into and held in trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The Nation's use of the properties would remain the same as under the current conditions, although under this alternative the Nation would reopen the two LakeSide Entertainment gaming operations.

It is anticipated that these LakeSide Entertainment facilities would resume operations as they existed prior to October 2005, when the gaming operations were temporarily suspended. As during their previous operation, the facilities will be small-scale Type II gaming operations consisting of electronic bingo machines. Consistent with federal regulations, the LakeSide Entertainment Class II gaming facilities will not be "casinos" with table gaming (e.g., poker, blackjack, or roulette) or slot machines.

Due to the small size and small scale of the LakeSide gaming facilities, and due to lack of entertainment venues or food and beverage services, it is the Nation's experience from having formerly operated these facilities that patrons are drawn from the localized Cayuga and Seneca County areas.

The continuing of existing business operations and the reopening of these facilities is not expected to result in any adverse impacts to community service providers in the affected communities. The gaming facilities were in full operation prior to October 2005 and during the period of operation were adequately serviced by local emergency service providers. The same level of business operations and local service needs would be anticipated in the future under this alternative.

As discussed in Chapter 4.8, "Socioeconomic Effects," as trust land, the Nation's property would not be subject to local or county taxation, and would therefore not contribute to the funding of these services through the property taxation system. The Nation, however, would assume the full range of jurisdiction over the subject properties. Further, the Nation will continue to pay for necessary community services it uses, and the Nation will explore cooperative agreements in regard to community service providers, including emergency services, to ensure that the Nation's properties and patrons of its businesses are adequately protected.

B. ALTERNATIVE 2: NO ACTION

Under this alternative the BIA would take no action, and the Nation's land would not be taken into trust. Under this alternative, the Nation would continue use of its properties for multiple purposes, including the continuation of existing uses (e.g., convenience store and gas station

operations, gaming facilities, a car wash and related activities). The LakeSide Entertainment gaming operations would remain temporarily closed under this alternative.

The Nation would continue to pay taxes on all of the land parcels in Cayuga and Seneca Counties. The Nation's properties would continue to be serviced by existing community services, including all Town and Village emergency service providers.

C. ALTERNATIVE 3: ENTERPRISE PROPERTIES INTO TRUST

Under Alternative 3, the Nation's property in Seneca Falls and Union Springs would be placed into trust. Taxes would only be paid on the two smallest parcels, the parcels in Montezuma and in Springport. Under this Alternative, the reduction in property tax revenue for the Village of Union Springs and the Town of Seneca Falls would be the same as those discussed under Alternative 1.

Although no increased demand for community services is anticipated under this alternative, the Nation will continue to pay for necessary community services it uses, and the Nation will explore cooperative agreements with regards to community service providers, including emergency services, to ensure that the Nation's properties and patrons of its businesses are adequately protected.

D. CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

No cumulative impacts on community services are anticipated for the proposed action under any of the analyzed alternatives. No other currently active proposals are similar to the proposal in either county. Tribal fee-to-trust applications in other New York counties are also not anticipated to produce statewide cumulative impacts, since any impacts on community services from other proposals, if any, would be localized. Implementation of the Nation's proposal would return both Counties' conditions to those of the environmental baseline date of the Nation's application, which included the gaming operation. With no impacts on community services resulting from the proposal, and no other proposals impacting the same resources, no cumulative impacts are anticipated.