New York Gaming Facility Location Board Response to Request for Applications to Develop and Operate a Gaming Facility in New York State

TIOGA DOWNS RACETRACK, LLC

Exhibit X.B.4.

Since its opening eight years ago, Tioga Downs has been committed to hiring and training residents of the Southern Tier region, especially the unemployed and veteran populations. This proud history of Tioga Downs is built on the organization's commitment to the region. Tioga Downs' actions define their organization; a team united to providing the very best in hospitality and service in the region. That teamwork, starts with their commitment to the Southern Tier region, and is defined by their actions.

<u>Highlights of Tioga Downs' History of Commitment to Hiring</u> Unemployed and Veterans in the Southern Tier

- Working earnestly with the Broome-Tioga Workforce Investment Board to access local unemployed workers and include appropriate assessment and screening tools;
- Conducting job fairs at Tioga Workforce specifically for the unemployed;
- Conducting job fairs specific to veterans;
- Offering early entry to job fairs to veterans;
- Establishing a line on the job application for veteran status;
- Posting job openings to state and local public job boards, including veterans' services organizations; and
- Giving priority to veterans applicants.

<u>Tioga Downs History of Commitment to the Southern Tier</u> is the Foundation for Tioga Downs' Future

The Tioga Downs workforce comes primarily from the surrounding counties in New York. This expansion project will strengthen the regional economy. Currently, the adult population in the Tioga Region labor force (Broome, Chemung, Cortland, Tioga, and Tompkins counties) is approximately 60%--lower than both the state and national averages. With the regional net decline of over 13,900 jobs since 2009, and with the regional labor force more likely to commute to Tioga County than Broome County, Tioga Downs Casino provides a powerful opportunity to improve the employment prospects and economic conditions within the region.¹

¹ Source: Thomas P. Miller and Associates, 2014, with data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014, and U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2012 (most recent data available).

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Exhibit X.B.4 (cont.)

As Tioga Downs Casino Resort works to cultivate the region's existing workforce, an expanded gaming license will allow the resort casino to implement an even more robust commitment in this area, including, but not limited to:

- Partnering with others who share Tioga Downs' commitment to the recruitment and hiring of the unemployed and long-term underemployed;
- Additional collaborative efforts with Tioga Transportation for routes/service focused around scheduled work shifts and other transportation assistance efforts for those without access to personal automobiles; and
- Work with SUNY to establish a local on-site casino training school. This will enable Tioga Downs to cultivate new talent among local unemployed residents, rather than recruiting or transferring talent from existing gaming facilities in the region.