Timeline: History Behind the Nation's New Resort and Casino in Glendale, AZ

1970's — NATION'S LOSS OF LAND

Despite promises to the contrary, 9,880 acres of land in the Nation's San Lucy District are destroyed by continual flooding caused by the federal government's Painted Rock Dam on the Gila River. The dam was constructed to protect the land of non-Indian farmers downstream from the project.

1983 — CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

Congress instructs the Dep. of Interior to study the issue and identify replacement lands within 100 miles. After attempts to find replacement lands fail, Nation goes back to Congress and offers a legislative settlement. Senators Goldwater and DeConcini, and Congressmen McCain and Udall, sponsor legislation authorizing the Nation to purchase up to 9,880 acres of unincorporated land in Pima, Pinal or Maricopa Counties as replacement.

1986 — CONGRESS ENACTS P.L. 99-503

The Gila Bend Reservation Lands Replacement Act (P.L. 99-503) is enacted. Section 6 of the Act mandates that the Secretary of the Interior must hold in trust any replacement lands which satisfy specific criteria set forth in the Act and the land "*shall be deemed to be a Federal Indian Reservation for all purposes*."

1988 — INDIAN GAMING REGULATORY ACT (IGRA)

IGRA passes legalizing gaming on Indian lands. This law limits gaming to existing tribal lands. However, this does NOT apply to mandatory acquisitions like those made under the Gila Bend Reservation Lands Replacement Act, that are taken into trust as part of a settlement of a land claim with the federal government.

2002 — PROPOSITION 202

Proposition 202 is passed by Arizona voters, establishing updated guidelines for Indian gaming and ensuring continuation well into the future; it continues to allow the Nation to construct two additional casinos.

2003 — PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

The Nation purchases a 135-acre parcel in unincorporated Maricopa County near Glendale and Peoria to replace their lost tribal reservation lands as stipulated in the Gila Bend Reservation Lands Replacement Act.

2009 — TRUST APPLICATION

The Nation moves to place purchased land into trust under the Gila Bend Reservation Lands Replacement Act. This is the first step in the creation of an integrated resort and casino. The new resort will bring major economic benefits to both the region and the Nation.