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CROWN SYDNEY GRANTED LICENCE TO OPERATE BARANGAROO RESTRICTED GAMING FACILITY

The NSW Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority has granted approval to Crown Sydney Gaming Pty Ltd to operate the proposed Barangaroo Restricted Gaming Facility from 15 November 2019.

On 16 December 2013, Crown Sydney applied to the Authority seeking approval to be granted a Restricted Gaming Licence.

The application followed completion of negotiations for a proposed integrated hotel resort complex at Barangaroo as part of the NSW Government's Unsolicited Proposal process and amendments to the Casino Control Act.

In assessing the application, the Authority was required to determine if Crown Sydney and all close associates of Crown Sydney were suitable to be concerned in or associated with the management and operation of the proposed Barangaroo Restricted Gaming Facility. It was also necessary to consider all business associates of Crown Sydney and of its close associates.

The Authority's investigations and considerations were conducted for the purpose of ensuring that:

- the ownership, finances, management and operations of the Restricted Gaming Facility are satisfactory and would be financially viable;
- the facility would remain free from criminal influence, exploitation and undesirable or unsatisfactory financial sources; and
- the potential of the Restricted Gaming Facility to cause harm to the public interest is contained and appropriately regulated.

The Authority's investigation considered a wide range of material sourced from a number of regulatory and enforcement agencies both nationally and internationally, probity inquiries, public submissions, and legal and financial advice.

The Authority also took into account information obtained through its previous investigation concerning the Crown Group in relation to Crown's application to acquire up to 23% of Echo Entertainment, which was completed on 10 May 2013.

The Authority's investigation also focused on relevant individuals and entities connected to or associated with Crown Sydney, including its ultimate holding company Crown Resorts, Consolidated Press Holdings and James Packer. It included a review of their business and legal affairs, including any litigation in Australia or overseas and any criminal or related incidents, to determine whether they were of good repute having regard to character, honesty and integrity.



In recognising that Crown is an international company, the Authority also reviewed Crown's operations overseas and will continue to monitor any business associations arising in new gaming jurisdictions.

The decision of the Authority has been entirely separate from and independent of the decision making by the NSW Government under the Unsolicited Proposal process. It has been further overseen by an independent process auditor, IAB Services.

Commencement of gaming operations at the proposed Restricted Gaming Facility remains subject to various agreements being reached between the Barangaroo Delivery Authority, Lend Lease and Crown Resorts; obtaining relevant planning approvals; and the completion of the construction of the integrated hotel and Restricted Gaming Facility proposed in the Crown Unsolicited Proposal. The development and construction of the hotel and Restricted Gaming Facility are under the oversight and control of the Barangaroo Delivery Authority.

A Ministerial Direction issued on 12 December 2013 naming Crown Sydney as an 'approved applicant' to apply for a licence contains the terms and conditions of the proposed licence.

The Authority will publish on its website Section 142 agreements relevant to the operation and management of the Restricted Gaming Facility, following the tabling of a Duty and Responsible Gambling Levy Agreement by the Treasurer in each House of Parliament as required by Section 118 of the Act, which is anticipated in August.

The Authority's decision and Ministerial Direction are available at [http://www.ilga.nsw.gov.au/Reviews and Investigations](http://www.ilga.nsw.gov.au/Reviews_and_Investigations)

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