



News Release

For more information:

Sean Harrison

Wireless (479) 236-3166

Email SeanH59@sbcglobal.net

DOWNSTREAM CONSTRUCTION ADVANCING AT BRISK PACE Casino Foundation Complete, Steel Arrives, Ready to Go Up

(Oct. 9, 2007) – While architects finalized interior designs, more than a dozen truckloads of structural steel arrived Monday and Tuesday on the construction site of Downstream Casino Resort at the Three-States Corner outside of Joplin.

Over 2,400 cubic yards of concrete were poured from mid-August through the first week in October to complete the casino building's 277,000-square-foot foundation. "Our aggressive construction schedule remains on course for a summer 2008 opening of the resort's \$200 million Phase I," said John Berrey, chairman of the Quapaw Tribe and the Downstream Authority.

"Right now this is the largest construction project in the state of Oklahoma, and we are moving very fast. You can see the progress on a daily basis," Berrey said.

Meantime, a 40,000-square-foot building with administrative offices and warehouse space has been added to the project. It will be constructed by a local company and will be located just west, behind the casino/hotel complex.

Monday and Tuesday, equipment operators unloaded 2,000 tons of structural steel that was shipped by rail to a steel fabrication plant in Ottawa Kansas then moved by truck to the job site. A crew of more than 200 steel workers will operate in shifts to take advantage of all daylight hours from dawn to dusk every day until the casino's structural steel is complete, estimated to be around January 1, Berrey said. The hotel foundation will be poured while steel goes up for the casino, with steel work on the hotel beginning soon after.

Downstream Casino Resort Phase I – part of a planned multi-phase entertainment development – includes: a lavish casino with about 2,100 popular slot machines, 30 table games, 15 poker tables, and a special high-limit area; an upscale 226-room hotel with luxury suites; a high-end steakhouse with seating for about 100 guests; a buffet restaurant, food court and sports bar with a race book; an 8,800-square-foot conference center; outdoor swimming pool with 10,000-square-foot deck and space designated for a spa to be added in a later phase; two 18-hole golf courses at nearby Loma Linda Country Club; retail shops; a separate administration/warehouse building; and an RV parking lot with hookups. The 12-story hotel, at just under 200 feet above grade, will be the Tri-State Region's tallest building.

By the numbers

Downstream Phase I construction includes:

- * 18,000 cubic yards of concrete 2,400 yards poured to date
- * 2,000 tons of structural steel
- * 350,000 cubic yards of dirt to move
- * Over 500,000 lineal feet (about 80 miles) of electrical conduit
- * Over 2,000,000 lineal feet (about 330 miles) of wire and cable