



Fact Sheet
Briefing to the Honorable Members of the National Council
Tuesday, May 28, 2019

RIVER SPIRIT CASINO RESORT

- As the news from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers became more apparent that a major water release from the Keystone Dam would occur last week, Resort management began to prepare for emergency operations.
- On Wednesday, May 22, the Resort was officially closed at 2 pm and the property vacated of guests and employees for their safety. By 5 pm on the same day, it became necessary to shut down all power sources in order to best protect the integrity of the systems.
- This is an unprecedented water release from the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers.
- The management team, operations and security crews continue to work incessantly to protect the Resort from the relentless increase in water released by the Corp and the Keystone Dam.

BUILT TO SUSTAIN THE 100-YEAR-FLOOD

- Current release, as of Tuesday, May 28, is 275,000 cubic feet per second.
- The last flood occurrence was in 1986 and the level of release was 205,000 cubic feet per second.
- Meaning, Tulsa is currently receiving 70,000 cubic feet per second *higher* than in 1986.
- The Resort complex was built at an elevation level intended to withstand 250,000 cubic feet per second and maintain all areas intended to be dry.
- The Resort Pool deck is an elevation of 615, which is the current water level.
 - The water has entered the pool deck and the Resort swimming pool. The water has begun to seep into the interior of the building at the pool deck level with the indoor/outdoor Tiki Bar Dining and the Resort Spa.

- The Resort Hotel, River Spirit Casino and restaurants, Margaritaville Restaurant and Casino and the Ruth's Chris Restaurant are at an elevation level of 628 and is in no danger of being compromised by the water.
 - This level is 13 feet higher than the Resort pool deck.
- Level 00 is an elevation of 616 feet. The water has impacted this level which contains the loading docks, storage area and mechanical management, which are below the elevation of 616.
- The spread of the water from the Arkansas River continues to impact the south parking lot and the subterranean parking garage at a 612 elevation level.
- The ground level south to north driveway in front of the subterranean parking garage has water and is not accessible.
- The North Parking garage is not accessible due to water blocking the driveway entries.
- The Fred Creek flood channel is overflowing its containment and is joining the water flow in the Arkansas River, but does not further impact the immediate area surrounding the facilities.

STRUCTURALLY SOUND

- While the photos and news reports may look alarming, the Resort was designed to withstand severe weather or a severe event such as this.
- All facilities on the property remain structurally sound and, as designed, are withstanding the current level of release of 275,000 cubic feet per second from the Keystone Dam.
- Construction of the Resort hotel tower and expanded gaming and restaurants were built utilizing 675 concrete piers, eight feet in diameter that are 80 to 87 feet below the ground and socketed to the bedrock at an elevation level of 588.
 - Meaning, there is no possibility the Resort complex can be structurally damaged by the water release.
- Additionally, the complex is further protected from land erosion due to the sheet piling surrounding the river side of the property from the hotel tower to the theater.
 - The sheet piling begins at the elevation level of 614 and protects the land all the way to the bedrock level of 588.
- External construction engineers have been on site to review and develop a report regarding the structural integrity of the buildings and land bridges.

SECURITY

- The facility and its assets are secure and guarded 24 hours-a-day both inside and outside the property.
- Additionally, City of Tulsa Police Department has provided additional security on the perimeters of the property.

BUSINESS DISRUPTION

- The management team worked quickly to secure all of the assets of the property and deploy plans to ensure critical support offices could resume work immediately.
- Some offices and employees were sent to other Muscogee (Creek) Nation Casinos properties and others have resumed offices in temporary buildings adjacent to River Spirit.
- Hotel guests with reservations through June 5 have been notified of the closure. This date will be extended when more information is available from the Corp of Engineers.
- Currently, groups with meeting or event reservations at the Resort have been notified of the closure through June 16. This may also be extended after more information is available.
- Two events in Paradise Cove Theater were cancelled due to the closure. Additional event dates will be evaluated as needed.

EMPLOYEES

- Communicating with River Spirit employees is a top priority to ensure human resources and benefits information is accessible.
- Currently, River Spirit employs 1,600 workers, of whom more than one-half are Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens.
 - The GOAB approved the continuation of payroll for those scheduled to work through June 5 for the payroll release on June 13.
- Additionally, Margaritaville and Ruth's Chris employs an additional 200 workers. Both corporations of Margaritaville and Ruth's Chris committed to pay their employees until additional information is available.

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

- As a preventative measure, external maintenance companies have arrived at the Resort to condition the interior air of the hotel, restaurants, gaming floors and the theater.

- The pedestrian trail in front of the Resort is closed indefinitely to bicyclists and runners for safety as the Resort has converted the trail for use by security and maintenance equipment relocation.

DISASTER RELIEF

- Principal Chief Floyd is working closely with the Oklahoma Federal and State officials to position the property to be included in the State of Emergency and for federal disaster relief consideration.
 - Meetings have included U.S. Rep. Kevin Hern (Dist.1), City of Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum, Tulsa County Commissioner Karen Keith, and Tulsa City Councilors Phil Lakin, Jeannie Cue, and Connie Dodson. The meeting with Gov. Stitt is pending.

OTHER PROPERTIES

- The RiverWalk Crossing in Jenks, remains open to the public.
 - The restaurants, retail and Flying Tee are exceeding expectations with guests seeking a view of the Arkansas River.
 - The trail system in front of the RiverWalk is closed to guests for their safety.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

- We continue to monitor other locations throughout the Nation impacted by both the water release and storm damage.
- We are dispatching staff to assess the situation and report back to ensure we can maintain responsiveness to the needs of our citizens.