

Written by Administrator
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The partners in Foxwoods Casino have filed an appeal in Commonwealth Court challenging the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board's decision last month to revoke the project's license.

The filing,

submitted late Friday, shifts the argument over the license from the gaming board to the court.

This month, the Foxwoods group petitioned the gaming board to reconsider the revocation, but the seven commissioners have been silent on whether they intend to take up the matter.

The Foxwoods group, called Philadelphia Entertainment & Development Partners (PEDP), won a license in 2006 to build a slots parlor on Columbus Boulevard in South Philadelphia. The local investors planned to team with the Mashantucket Pequot tribe of Connecticut to develop and operate it.

They raised \$50 million to acquire one of two gaming licenses for Philadelphia.

The gaming board's revocation raises questions about whether PEDP will get its money back. The state's gaming law does not spell out what happens to the fee under those circumstances.

F. Warren Jacoby, a lawyer for PEDP, could not be reached for comment Friday. He distributed a letter verifying that the partners had filed an appeal, but did not release the actual court filing.

Lawyers for PEDP, as well as the gaming board, have said that if the matter is appealed, it could take years to resolve.

Already, some state lawmakers are pushing for the license to be put out to bid throughout the state, not just in Philadelphia. On Thursday, State Rep. Curt Schroder, the Chester County Republican who now chairs the House Gaming Oversight Committee, will hold hearings on a bill to do just that.

Foxwoods casino license revocation is headed for court - Philadelphia Inquirer

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But with the Foxwoods revocation now the subject of litigation, it seems unlikely that the state would be able to auction off the license until the matter was resolved.

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