

For Immediate Release

Midwest Gaming Celebrates Construction Start of Des Plaines Casino With Groundbreaking Ceremony

*\$445 million project anticipated to generate hundreds of construction jobs,
approx. 1,000 permanent jobs, and over \$150 million in annual gaming tax revenue*

DES PLAINES, IL – April 16, 2010 – Construction has begun on Midwest Gaming & Entertainment, LLC's Des Plaines casino and entertainment complex, a project which will create hundreds of construction jobs, and upon completion, approximately 1,000 permanent jobs and over \$150 million in annual gaming tax revenue which will benefit the State of Illinois, the City of Des Plaines and economically burdened communities.

Executives from Midwest Gaming; Des Plaines Mayor Marty Moylan and members of the Des Plaines City Council; representatives of the Illinois Gaming Board, and a host of other local elected officials and business and community supporters joined in the groundbreaking ceremony today for the widely anticipated \$445 million casino and entertainment complex at Des Plaines River Road and Devon Avenue in Des Plaines. The casino is expected to open in late summer 2011.

The 147,000 sq. ft. facility will feature a 43,000 sq. ft. casino floor, including a high-limit gaming area. The customer experience will be energized by a multitude of food and beverage venues including a steakhouse, a buffet, a quick casual burger bar, and a sports bar/entertainment lounge.

“After many years of hard work, today we celebrate this great project which will be a wonderful showplace attraction for this region and create jobs, economic development and tax revenues,” said Neil Bluhm, Midwest Gaming Chairman. “We look forward to being a good neighbor to Des Plaines, the surrounding communities and the State of Illinois.”

In addition to the economic activity generated by the project, Midwest Gaming is paying a \$125 million license fee to the State of Illinois. \$47.5 million was paid as a downpayment at the April 9th, 2010 closing of the project's debt financing package and land purchase, bringing the total downpayment thus far to \$50 million. Midwest Gaming will pay the remaining \$75 million when the casino opens for business.

“By the time we are done with construction, we will have created hundreds of construction jobs, approximately 1,000 permanent jobs, and several hundred million in economic activity - all of this as Illinois is battling back from the worst economy in decades,” said Greg Carlin, Midwest Gaming CEO. “We would like to thank the Illinois Gaming Board, the City of Des Plaines and their staffs for their hard work in making today's groundbreaking become a reality.”

The Casino complex will be a gateway to the City of Des Plaines and is being designed by a world-class team of architects and design consultants. It will be minutes from O'Hare International Airport and only 16 miles from downtown Chicago.

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Job-seekers and vendors should visit the company's website, www.midwestgaming.com, under the "Employment" and "Vendors" tabs, to learn about hiring opportunities and to submit their information. Midwest Gaming will hold job and vendor fairs in the spring of 2011, when the company expects to start hiring.

About Midwest Gaming & Entertainment, LLC

In December 2008, Midwest Gaming was awarded the exclusive right to apply for Illinois' only available casino license. On February 10, 2010, it received a finding of preliminary suitability from the Illinois Gaming Board to develop its casino in Des Plaines, Illinois. On March 30, the Illinois Gaming Board approved Midwest Gaming's financing package and construction project. Midwest Gaming is a partnership between affiliates of Neil Bluhm and Clairvest Group Inc. Collectively the partners bring a wide range of development and gaming experience to the project, having developed, constructed and managed casinos, luxury hotels, and other hospitality businesses around the world. For more information, please visit www.midwestgaming.com.

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