

New Jersey OKs Internet gambling for six casinos

November 25 2013, by Wayne Parry



A computer screen in Atlantic City, N.J., shows an Internet roulette game in which the ball landed on No. 18 on the international site of the partypoker website on Nov. 19, 2013. The company is partnered with the Borgata Hotel Casino and was allowed to begin offering Internet gambling throughout New Jersey on Monday, Nov. 25, 2013. (AP Photo/Wayne Parry)

New Jersey gambling regulators gave six casinos the green light to offer



Internet gambling statewide on Monday.

Approved are the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa; the Tropicana Casino and Resort; Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino; the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort; Bally's Atlantic City and Caesars Atlantic City.

The state Division of Gaming Enforcement's decision, which came after more than four days of testing the technology involved in online betting and making sure gamblers are within New Jersey, allows the state to join Nevada and Delaware as the only ones offering Internet gambling in America. It authorized six of the seven casinos that hold Internet gambling permits to immediately offer online gambling throughout New Jersey.

Division director David Rebuck didn't immediately have an estimate of how many people had logged on during the test period but said it had topped 10,000 fairly early during the test.

The Golden Nugget Atlantic City was required to continue testing its systems before being cleared for unrestricted play. Rebuck didn't specify what was found to be lacking with the casino's systems.

"Hopefully in the near future they'll pass," Rebuck said.

The Golden Nugget said being among the first casinos to launch an online gambling site wasn't important and it was waiting a week to start.

"It is more important to be among the best," company spokesman Thomas Winter said.

New Jersey began a five-day trial period of online gambling last Thursday. The purpose was to test the technology involved in the games and determine whether the systems are ready for the entire state to log



on and play.

During the test period, many users were locked out by geolocation software that wrongly determined they weren't within New Jersey's borders. Rebuck said the geolocation problems are matters for the <u>casinos</u> and their technology partners to address.

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