Tiger Woods visits his Cliffs course in N.C.

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Golfer Tiger Woods visited the Cliffs at High Carolina east of Asheville, N.C., Tuesday where he is designing his first U.S. course.

Pictured: Tiger Woods surveys the land for his first U.S. golf course along with Cliffs developer Jim Antony, at left.

The visit comes a week after Cliffs members secured financing to proceed with construction of the course. Nearly 630 Cliffs members agreed to lend developer Jim Anthony $62 million through a private placement of seven-year notes that will pay a 12% annual return.

Previous coverage
Cliffs members raise $62 million for developer

"The commitment made by the members at the Cliffs, and their belief in High Carolina and Jim's leadership is wonderful to see," Tiger Woods said in a prepared statement. "Since we announced the project in 2007, everyone at the Cliffs has been tremendously supportive of my first U.S. golf design. The more the project progresses, the more enthusiastic I become about the golf experience ... I am looking forward to the day that The Cliffs members and I can play my course."

Tiger Woods Design is set to begin construction oversight on the project. The course at High Carolina is scheduled for a 2012 completion.

"I spent several hours on the site today (Tuesday) and I am very happy with what I saw," Woods said. "With each visit I make I am more excited about this golf course. We looked at several new opportunities which will make a spectacular layout even better."

Woods is in North Carolina to play this weekend's Quail Hollow Championship in Charlotte.

In an earlier interview, Anthony welcomed Woods' return to golf after a five-month break following the admission of his marital problems. Anthony said Woods' deserves a second chance and that Cliffs members support the golfer.

"We've had 30,000 people inquire about the Cliffs since Tiger announced he was designing his first U.S. course at High Carolina," Anthony said. "We've been very loyal to Tiger."