

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Central Valley Project, California

CONTRACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
NENE RANCH, LLC,
DIVERTER OF WATER FROM SACRAMENTO RIVER SOURCES,
SETTLING WATER RIGHTS DISPUTES AND
PROVIDING FOR PROJECT WATER

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3 UNITED STATES
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6 Central Valley Project, California

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10 SETTLING WATER RIGHTS DISPUTES AND
11 PROVIDING FOR PROJECT WATER

12 THIS CONTRACT, hereinafter referred to as "Settlement Contract," is entered into
13 by THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, hereinafter referred to as the United States, made
14 this 27th day of May, 2005, pursuant to the applicable authority granted
15 to it generally in the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388), and acts amendatory or supplementary
16 thereto, including, but not limited to, the Acts of August 26, 1937 (50 Stat. 844), as amended and
17 supplemented, August 4, 1939 (53 Stat. 1187), as amended and supplemented, including but not
18 limited to Sections 9 and 14 thereto, July 2, 1956 (70 Stat. 483), June 21, 1963 (77 Stat. 68),
19 October 12, 1982 (96 Stat. 1262), October 27, 1986 (100 Stat. 3050), as amended, and Title
20 XXXIV of the Act of October 30, 1992 (106 Stat. 4706), all collectively hereinafter referred to
21 as Federal Reclamation law, and NENE RANCH, LLC, hereinafter referred to as the Contractor,
22 acting pursuant to Sections 12003 and 12004 of the California Water Code, with its principal
23 place of business in California;

24 WITNESSETH, that:

25 EXPLANATORY RECITALS

26 [1st] WHEREAS, the United States has constructed and is operating the Central Valley
27 Project, California, for multiple purposes pursuant to its statutory authority; and

28 [2nd] WHEREAS, the Contractor has rights to divert, is diverting, and will continue to
29 divert for reasonable beneficial use, water from the natural flow of the Sacramento River and
30 tributaries thereto, that would have been flowing therein if the Central Valley Project were not in
31 existence; and

32 [3rd] WHEREAS, the construction and operation of the integrated and coordinated
33 Central Valley Project has changed and will further change the regimen of the Sacramento,
34 American, San Joaquin, and Trinity Rivers and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta from
35 unregulated flow to regulated flow; and

36 [4th] WHEREAS, the United States has rights to divert, is diverting, and will continue to
37 divert waters from said Rivers and said Delta in connection with the operation of said Central
38 Valley Project, and

39 [5th] WHEREAS, the Contractor and the United States had a dispute over the respective
40 rights of the parties to divert and use water from the regulated flow of the Sacramento River
41 which threatened to result in litigation, and as a means to settle that dispute entered into Contract
42 No. 14-06-200-2993A, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Existing Contract, which
43 established terms for the delivery to the Contractor of Central Valley Project Water, and the
44 quantities of Base Supply the United States and the Contractor agreed may be diverted by the
45 Contractor from the Sacramento River pursuant to such contract; and

46 [6th] WHEREAS, the United States and the Contractor disagree with respect to the
47 authority of the United States to change the quantities of Base Supply and/or Project Water
48 specified as available for diversion in this Settlement Contract from the quantities specified in
49 the Existing Contract, and other issues related thereto. That dispute was the subject of litigation
50 in a lawsuit entitled *Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, et al. v. United States, et al.* [Civ. No. S-

51 01-1816 GEB/JFM (E.D. Cal.)], but that litigation was dismissed, without prejudice, pursuant to
52 a stipulation of dismissal filed by the parties thereto on August 29, 2002. Notwithstanding that
53 dismissal, the Contractor and the United States enter into this Settlement Contract to renew the
54 Existing Contract, pursuant to the terms of the Existing Contract, Federal Reclamation law, and
55 the laws of the State of California

56 [7th] WHEREAS, to assure the Contractor of the enjoyment and use of the regulated flow
57 of the said Rivers and the Delta, and to provide for the economical operation of the Central
58 Valley Project by, and the reimbursement to, the United States for expenditures made for said
59 Project;

60 NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the performance of the herein contained
61 provisions, conditions, and covenants, it is agreed as follows:

62 DEFINITIONS

63 1. When used herein, unless otherwise expressed or incompatible with the intent
64 hereof, the term:

65 (a) "Base Supply" shall mean the quantity of Surface Water established in
66 Articles 3 and 5 which may be diverted by the Contractor from the Sacramento River each month
67 during the period April through October of each Year without payment to the United States for
68 such quantities diverted;

69 (b) "Basin-Wide Water Management Plan" shall mean the mutually agreeable
70 Sacramento River Basinwide Water Management Plan, dated October 11, 2004, developed by
71 Glenn Colusa Irrigation District, Maxwell Irrigation District, Natomas Central Mutual Water
72 Company, Pelger Mutual Water Company, Princeton-Codora Glenn Irrigation District, Provident
73 Irrigation District, Reclamation District 108, Sutter Mutual Water Company, Anderson-

74 Cottonwood Irrigation District, Meridian Farms Water Company, Reclamation District 1004, and
75 the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation;

76 (c) "Charges" shall mean the payments for Project Water that the Contractor
77 is required to pay to the United States in addition to the "Rates" specified in this Settlement
78 Contract. The Contracting Officer will, on an annual basis, determine the extent of these
79 Charges. The type and amount of each Charge shall be specified in Exhibit D;

80 (d) "Contract Total" shall mean the sum of the Base Supply and Project Water
81 available for diversion by the Contractor for the period April 1 through October 31;

82 (e) "Critical Year" shall mean any Year in which either of the following
83 eventualities exists:

84 (1) The forecasted full natural inflow to Shasta Lake for the current
85 Water Year, as such forecast is made by the United States on or before February 15 and reviewed
86 as frequently thereafter as conditions and information warrant, is equal to or less than 3.2 million
87 acre-feet; or

88 (2) The total accumulated actual deficiencies below 4 million acre-feet
89 in the immediately prior Water Year or series of successive prior Water Years each of which had
90 inflows of less than 4 million acre-feet, together with the forecasted deficiency for the current
91 Water Year, exceed 800,000 acre-feet.

92 For the purpose of determining a Critical Year, the computation of inflow to
93 Shasta Lake shall be performed in a manner that considers the extent of upstream development
94 above Shasta Lake during the year in question, and shall be used as the full natural flow to
95 Shasta Lake. In the event that major construction has occurred or occurs above Shasta Lake after
96 September 1, 1963, and which has materially altered or alters the regimen of the stream systems

97 contributing to Shasta Lake, the computed inflow to Shasta Lake used to define a Critical Year
98 will be adjusted to eliminate the effect of such material alterations. After consultation with the
99 State of California, the National Weather Service, and other recognized forecasting agencies, the
100 Contracting Officer will select the forecast to be used and will make the details of it available to
101 the Contractor. The same forecasts used by the United States for the operation of the Project
102 shall be used to make the forecasts hereunder;

103 (f) "CVPIA" shall mean the Central Valley Project Improvement Act,
104 Title XXXIV of the Act of October 30, 1992 (106 Stat. 4706);

105 (g) Omitted;

106 (h) Omitted;

107 (i) Omitted;

108 (j) Omitted;

109 (k) Omitted;

110 (l) "Project" shall mean the Central Valley Project owned by the United
111 States and managed by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation;

112 (m) "Project Water" shall mean all Surface Water diverted or scheduled to be
113 diverted each month during the period April through October of each Year by the Contractor
114 from the Sacramento River which is in excess of the Base Supply. The United States recognizes
115 the right of the Contractor to make arrangements for acquisition of water from projects of others
116 than the United States for delivery through the Sacramento River and tributaries subject to
117 written agreement between Contractor and the United States as to identification of such water,
118 which water, when so identified, shall not be deemed Project Water under this Settlement
119 Contract;

120 (n) "Rates" shall mean the payments for Project Water determined annually
121 by the Contracting Officer in accordance with the then-current applicable water ratesetting
122 policies for the Project, as described in subdivision (a) of Article 8 of this Settlement Contract;

123 (o) "Secretary" or "Contracting Officer" shall mean the Secretary of the
124 Interior, a duly appointed successor, or an authorized representative acting pursuant to any
125 authority of the Secretary and through any agency of the Department of the Interior;

126 (p) "Surface Water" shall mean only those waters that are considered as
127 surface water under California law;

128 (q) "Water Year" shall mean the period commencing with October 1 of one
129 year and extending through September 30 of the next; and

130 (r) "Year" shall mean a calendar year.

131 TERM OF SETTLEMENT CONTRACT

132 2. (a) This Settlement Contract shall become effective April 1, 2005, and shall
133 remain in effect until and including March 31, 2045; Provided, that under terms and conditions
134 mutually agreeable to the parties hereto, renewals may be made for successive periods not to
135 exceed 40 years each. The terms and conditions of each renewal shall be agreed upon not later
136 than one year prior to the expiration of the then existing Settlement Contract.

137 (b) With respect to Project Water and the portions of this Settlement Contract
138 pertaining thereto, upon written request by the Contractor of the Secretary made not later than
139 one year prior to the expiration of this Settlement Contract, whenever, account being taken of the
140 amount then credited to the costs of construction of water supply works, the remaining amount of
141 construction costs of water supply work which is properly assignable for ultimate return by the
142 Contractor as established by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to (3) of Section 1 of Public

143 Law 643 (70 Stat. 483), probably can be repaid to the United States within the term of a contract
144 under subsection 9(d) of the 1939 Reclamation Project Act (53 Stat. 1187), the relevant portions
145 of this Settlement Contract may be converted to a contract under said subsection 9(d) upon terms
146 and conditions mutually agreeable to the United States and the Contractor. The Secretary shall
147 make a determination ten years after the date of execution of this Settlement Contract, and every
148 five years thereafter, of whether a conversion to a contract under said subsection 9(d) can be
149 accomplished pursuant to Public Law 643. Notwithstanding any provision of this Settlement
150 Contract, the Contractor reserves and shall have all rights and benefits under Public Law 643.

151 WATER TO BE FURNISHED TO CONTRACTOR

152 3. (a) Subject to the conditions, limitations, and provisions hereinafter
153 expressed, the Contractor is hereby entitled and authorized to divert from the Sacramento River
154 at the locations shown in Exhibit A, for beneficial use within the area delineated on Exhibit B,
155 (both Exhibits are attached hereto and made a part hereof), the Contract Total designated in
156 Exhibit A, or any revision thereof.

157 (b) No sale, transfer, exchange, or other disposal of any of the Contract Total
158 designated in Exhibit A or the right to the use thereof for use on land other than that shown on
159 Exhibit B shall be made by the Contractor without first obtaining the written consent of the
160 Contracting Officer. Such consent will not be unreasonably withheld and a decision will be
161 rendered in a timely manner. For short-term actions that will occur within one year or less, the
162 decision will be rendered within 30 days after receipt of a complete written proposal. For long-
163 term actions that will occur in a period longer than one year, the decision will be rendered within
164 90 days after receipt of a complete written proposal. For a proposal to be deemed complete by
165 the Contracting Officer, it must comply with all provisions required by State and Federal law,

166 including information sufficient to enable the Contracting Officer to comply with the National
167 Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, and applicable rules or regulations then
168 in effect; Provided, that, such consent does not authorize the use of Federal facilities to facilitate
169 or effectuate the sale, transfer, exchange or other disposal of Base Supply. Such use of Federal
170 facilities will be the subject of a separate agreement to be entered into between the Contractor
171 and Reclamation.

172 (c) For the purpose of determining whether Section 3405(a)(1)(M) of the
173 CVPIA applies to the Contractor as a transferor or transferee of Project Water, the Contracting
174 Officer acknowledges that the Contractor is within a county, watershed, or other area of origin,
175 as those terms are utilized under California law.

176 (d) Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Contractor from diverting
177 water during the months of November through March for beneficial use on the land shown on
178 Exhibit B or elsewhere to the extent authorized under the laws of the State of California.

179 (e) The United States assumes no responsibility for and neither it nor its
180 officers, agents, or employees shall have any liability for or on account of:

181 (1) The quality of water to be diverted by the Contractor;

182 (2) The control, carriage, handling, use, disposal, or distribution of
183 water diverted by the Contractor outside the facilities constructed and then being operated and
184 maintained by or on behalf of the United States;

185 (3) Claims of damage of any nature whatsoever, including but not
186 limited to, property loss or damage, personal injury, or death arising out of or connected with the
187 control, carriage, handling, use, disposal, or distribution of said water outside of the hereinabove
188 referred to facilities; and

212 satisfactory to the Contracting Officer. The Contractor shall install, operate, and maintain this
213 equipment at the Contractor's expense. The Contractor shall submit, by April 1 of that Critical
214 Year, a written schedule to the Contracting Officer indicating the Contract Total to be diverted
215 by the Contractor during each month of that Critical Year under this Settlement Contract.

216 (c) The amount of any overpayment by the Contractor shall, at its option, be
217 refunded or credited upon amounts to become due to the United States from the Contractor under
218 the provisions hereof in the ensuing Year. To the extent of such deficiency such adjustment of
219 overpayment shall constitute the sole remedy of the Contractor.

220 INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

221 6. The Contractor and United States desire to work together to maximize the
222 reasonable beneficial use of water for their mutual benefit. As a consequence, the United States
223 and the Contractor will work in partnership and with others within the Sacramento Valley,
224 including other contractors, to facilitate the better integration within the Sacramento Valley of all
225 water supplies including, but not limited to, the better management and integration of surface
226 water and groundwater, the development and better utilization of surface water storage, the
227 effective utilization of waste, seepage and return flow water, and other operational and
228 management options that may be identified in the future.

229 USE OF WATER FURNISHED TO CONTRACTOR

230 7. (a) Project Water furnished to the Contractor pursuant to this Settlement
231 Contract shall not be delivered or furnished by the Contractor for any purposes other than
232 agricultural purposes without the written consent of the Contracting Officer. For purposes of this
233 Settlement Contract, "agricultural purposes" includes, but is not restricted to, the irrigation of

234 crops, the watering of livestock, incidental domestic use including related landscape irrigation, or
235 underground water replenishment.

236 (b) The Contractor shall comply with requirements applicable to the
237 Contractor in biological opinion(s) prepared as a result of a consultation regarding the execution
238 of this Settlement Contract undertaken pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of
239 1973, as amended, that are within the Contractor's legal authority to implement. The Existing
240 Contract, which evidences in excess of 40 years of diversions, for agricultural uses, of the
241 quantities of water provided for in Article 3, and the underlying water rights of the Contractor
242 will be considered in developing an appropriate base-line for the Biological Assessment prepared
243 pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, and in any other needed environmental review.
244 Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the Contractor from challenging or seeking judicial
245 relief in a court of competent jurisdiction with respect to any biological opinion or other
246 environmental documentation referred to in this Article.

247 RATE AND METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR WATER

248 8. (a) The Contractor shall make payments to the United States as provided in
249 this Article for each acre of land irrigated from April 1 through October 31 each Year.

250 Such payments shall be at Rates and Charges established in accordance with: (i)
251 the Secretary's then-current ratesetting policies for the Project; and (ii) applicable Reclamation
252 law and associated rules and regulations, or policies; Provided, that if the Contractor desires to
253 use Project Water for other than agricultural purposes the Rates and Charges set forth above will
254 be adjusted by the Contracting Officer to the applicable Rates and Charges for such purposes.
255 The Rates and Charges applicable to the Contractor upon execution of this Settlement Contract
256 are set forth in Exhibit D, as may be revised annually. The Secretary's ratesetting policies for

257 the Project shall be amended, modified, or superseded only through a public notice and comment
258 procedure.

259 (b) The Contracting Officer shall notify the Contractor of the Rates and
260 Charges as follows:

261 (1) Prior to July 1 of each Year, the Contracting Officer shall provide
262 the Contractor an estimate of the Charges for Project Water that will be applied to the period
263 October 1, of the current Year, through September 30, of the following Year, and the basis for
264 such estimate. The Contractor shall be allowed not less than two months to review and comment
265 on such estimates. On or before September 15 of each Year, the Contracting Officer shall notify
266 the Contractor in writing of the Charges to be in effect during the period October 1 of the current
267 Year, through September 30, of the following Year, and such notification shall revise Exhibit D.

268 (2) Prior to October 1 of each Year, the Contracting Officer shall make
269 available to the Contractor an estimate of the Rates for Project Water for the following Year and
270 the computations and cost allocations upon which those Rates are based. The Contractor shall be
271 allowed not less than two months to review and comment on such computations and cost
272 allocations. By December 31 of each Year, the Contracting Officer shall provide the Contractor
273 with the final Rates to be in effect for the upcoming Year, and such notification shall revise
274 Exhibit D.

275 (c) The Contractor shall pay the United States for Project Water in the
276 following manner:

277 (1) With respect to Rates and Charges, on or before May 1 of each
278 Year, the Contractor shall pay the United States one-half the total amount payable pursuant to

279 subdivision (a) of this Article and the remainder shall be paid on or before July 1 or such later
280 date or dates as may be specified by the United States in a written notice to the Contractor.

281 (2) The amount to be paid on or before May 1 of each Year shall be
282 based on a written estimate, provided to the Contracting Officer by the Contractor on or before
283 April 1 of each Year, of the total area to be irrigated between April 1 and October 31 of that
284 Year.

285 (3) The amount to be paid on or before July 1 shall be equal to the
286 difference between the amount paid on May 1 and the total amount due for the Year, based on
287 the total area actually irrigated between April 1 and July 1.

288 (4) If additional areas are placed under irrigation on or after July 1, but
289 before October 31, additional payment shall be made in advance of such additional irrigation at
290 the Rates and Charges shown in Exhibit D for each additional acre placed under irrigation.

291 (d) Payments to be made by the Contractor to the United States under this
292 Settlement Contract may be paid from any revenues available to the Contractor. All revenues
293 received by the United States from the Contractor relating to the delivery of Project Water or the
294 delivery of non-Project water through Project facilities shall be allocated and applied in
295 accordance with Federal Reclamation law and the associated rules or regulations, and the then-
296 current Project ratesetting policies for irrigation water.

297 (e) The Contracting Officer shall keep its accounts pertaining to the
298 administration of the financial terms and conditions of its long-term water service and Settlement
299 Contracts, in accordance with applicable Federal standards, so as to reflect the application of
300 Project costs and revenues. The Contracting Officer shall, each Year upon request of the
301 Contractor, provide to the Contractor a detailed accounting of all Project and Contractor expense

302 allocations, the disposition of all Project and Contractor revenues, and a summary of all water
303 delivery information. The Contracting Officer and the Contractor shall enter into good faith
304 negotiations to resolve any discrepancies or disputes relating to accountings, reports, or
305 information.

306 (f) The parties acknowledge and agree that the efficient administration of this
307 Settlement Contract is their mutual goal. Recognizing that experience has demonstrated that
308 mechanisms, policies, and procedures used for establishing Rates and Charges and/or for making
309 and allocating payments, other than those set forth in this Article may be in the mutual best
310 interest of the parties, it is expressly agreed that the parties may enter into agreements to modify
311 the mechanisms, policies, and procedures for any of those purposes while this Settlement
312 Contract is in effect without amendment of this Settlement Contract.

313 (g) For the term of this Settlement Contract, Rates under the respective
314 ratesetting policies for the Project will be established to recover only reimbursable operation and
315 maintenance (including any deficits) and capital costs of the Project, as those terms are used in
316 the then-current Project ratesetting policies, and interest, where appropriate, except in instances
317 where a minimum Rate is applicable in accordance with the relevant Project ratesetting policy.
318 Proposed changes of significance in practices which implement the ratesetting policies for the
319 Project will not be implemented until the Contracting Officer has provided the Contractor an
320 opportunity to discuss the nature, need, and impact of the proposed change. The Contractor
321 retains all rights to challenge the validity of Rates and Charges imposed pursuant to this
322 Settlement Contract, including but not limited to operation and maintenance expenses and
323 operation and maintenance deficits, in an appropriate administrative or judicial proceeding.

324 (h) Except as provided in subsection 3405(a)(1)(B) of the CVPIA, the Rates
325 for Project Water transferred, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of, by the Contractor shall be the
326 Contractor's Rates adjusted upward or downward to reflect the changed costs of delivery (if any)
327 of the transferred, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of Project Water to the transferee's point of
328 delivery in accordance with the then-current ratesetting policies for the Project. Except as
329 provided in subsection 3407(d)(2)(A) of the CVPIA, the Charges for Project Water transferred,
330 exchanged, or otherwise disposed of, by the Contractor shall be the Contractor's Charges
331 specified in Exhibit D. If the Contractor is receiving lower Rates and Charges because of
332 inability to pay and is transferring, exchanging, or otherwise disposing of Project Water to
333 another entity whose Rates and Charges are not adjusted due to inability to pay, the Rates and
334 Charges for transferred, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of Project Water shall be the
335 Contractor's Rates and Charges unadjusted for ability to pay.

336 (i) Pursuant to the Act of October 27, 1986 (100 Stat. 3050), the Contracting
337 Officer is authorized to adjust determinations of ability to pay every five years.

338 (j) Each payment to be made pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b) of this
339 Article shall be made at the office of the Bureau of Reclamation, MP Region: Mid-Pacific, P.O.
340 Box 894242, Los Angeles, CA 90189-4242, or at such other place as the United States may
341 designate in a written notice to the said Contractor. Payments shall be made by cash transaction,
342 wire, or any other mechanism as may be agreed to in writing by the Contractor and the
343 Contracting Officer. In event there should be a default in the payment of the amount due, the
344 delinquent payment provisions of Article 13 shall apply. The Contractor shall not be relieved of
345 the whole or any part of its said obligation by, on account of, or notwithstanding, as the case may
346 be its failure, refusal, or neglect to divert the quantity of Project Water shown on Exhibit A.

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AGREEMENT ON WATER QUANTITIES

9. (a) During the term of this Settlement Contract and any renewals thereof:

(1) It shall constitute full agreement as between the United States and the Contractor as to the quantities of water and the allocation thereof between Base Supply and Project Water which may be diverted by the Contractor from the Sacramento River for beneficial use on the land shown on Exhibit B from April 1 through October 31, which said diversion, use, and allocation shall not be disturbed so long as the Contractor shall fulfill all of its obligations hereunder;

(2) Neither party shall claim any right against the other in conflict with the provisions of Article 9(a)(1) hereof.

(b) Nothing herein contained is intended to or does limit rights of the Contractor against others than the United States or of the United States against any person other than the Contractor; Provided, however, that in the event the Contractor, the United States, or any other person shall become a party to a general adjudication of rights to the use of water of the Sacramento River system, this Settlement Contract shall not jeopardize the rights or position of either party hereto or of any other person and the rights of all such persons in respect to the use of such water shall be determined in such proceedings the same as if this Settlement Contract had not been entered into, and if final judgment in any such general adjudication shall determine that the rights of the parties hereto are different from the rights as assumed herein, the parties shall negotiate an amendment to give effect to such judgment. In the event the parties are unable to agree on an appropriate amendment they shall, within 60 days of determining that there is an impasse, employ the services of a neutral mediator, experienced in resolving water rights disputes, to assist in resolving the impasse. The cost of the mediation will be shared equally. A

370 failure to reach agreement on an amendment within 60 days of the end of mediation will cause
371 the immediate termination of this Settlement Contract.

372 (c) In the event that the California State Water Resources Control Board or a
373 court of competent jurisdiction issues a final decision or order modifying the terms and
374 conditions of the water rights of either party to this Settlement Contract in order to impose Bay-
375 Delta water quality obligations, the Contractor and the United States shall promptly meet to
376 determine whether or not to modify any of the terms of this Settlement Contract to comply with
377 the final decision or order. If within 60 days of the date of the issuance of the final decision or
378 order the parties are not able to reach agreement regarding either the need to modify this
379 Settlement Contract or the manner in which this Settlement Contract is to be modified, the
380 parties shall promptly retain a neutral mediator, experienced in resolving water right disputes, to
381 assist the parties in resolving their dispute. The cost of the mediator shall be shared equally. In
382 the event that either of the parties to this Settlement Contract determines that the parties will not
383 be able to develop mutually-agreeable modification(s) to this Settlement Contract even with the
384 assistance of a mediator, either of the parties to this Settlement Contract may attempt to resolve
385 the impasse by seeking appropriate judicial relief including, but not limited to, filing a general
386 adjudication of the rights to the use of water in the Sacramento River system. The foregoing
387 provisions of this sub-article shall only apply to the incremental obligations contained within a
388 final decision or order of the State Water Resources Control Board that reflects a modification to
389 the obligations imposed in State Water Resources Control Board Revised Water Rights Decision
390 1641 dated March 15, 2000, and its associated 1995 Water Quality Control Plan which, taken
391 together, will be considered the baseline for the application of the provisions of this sub-article.

392 (d) In the event this Settlement Contract terminates, the rights of the parties to
393 thereafter divert and use water shall exist as if this Settlement Contract had not been entered into;
394 and the fact that as a compromise settlement of a controversy as to the respective rights of the
395 parties to divert and use water and the yield of such rights during the term hereof, this Settlement
396 Contract places a limit on the Contract Total to be diverted annually by the Contractor during the
397 Settlement Contract term and segregates it into Base Supply and Project Water shall not
398 jeopardize the rights or position of either party with respect to its water rights or the yield thereof
399 at all times after the Settlement Contract terminates. It is further agreed that the Contractor at all
400 times will first use water to the use of which it is entitled by virtue of its own water rights, and
401 neither the provisions of this Settlement Contract, action taken thereunder, nor payments made
402 thereunder to the United States by the Contractor shall be construed as an admission that any part
403 of the water used by the Contractor during the term of this Settlement Contract was in fact water
404 to which it would not have been entitled under water rights owned by it nor shall receipt of
405 payments thereunder by the United States from the Contractor be construed as an admission that
406 any part of the water used by the Contractor during the term of this Settlement Contract was in
407 fact water to which it would have been entitled under water rights owned by it.

408 MEASUREMENT OF WATER

409 10. (a) All water diverted by the Contractor from the Sacramento River will be
410 diverted at the existing point or points of diversion shown on Exhibit A or at such other points as
411 may be mutually agreed upon in writing by the Contracting Officer and the Contractor.

412 (b) The right of ingress to and egress from all points of diversion is hereby
413 granted to all authorized employees of the United States. The Contractor also hereby grants to
414 the United States the right to install, operate, maintain, and replace measuring equipment on

415 diversion or carriage facilities at each point of diversion as the Contracting Officer deems
416 necessary.

417 (c) The Contractor shall not modify, alter, remove, or replace diversion
418 facilities or do any other act which would alter the effectiveness or accuracy of the measuring
419 equipment installed by the United States or its representatives unless and until the Contracting
420 Officer has been notified with due diligence and has been given an opportunity to modify such
421 measuring equipment in such manner as may be necessary or appropriate. In the event of an
422 emergency the Contractor shall notify the United States within a reasonable time thereafter as to
423 the existence of the emergency and the nature and extent of such modification, alteration,
424 removal, or replacement of diversion facilities.

425 (d) The Contractor shall pay the United States for the costs to repair, relocate,
426 or replace measurement equipment when the Contractor modifies, alters, removes, or replaces
427 diversion or carriage facilities.

428 RULES AND REGULATIONS

429 11. The parties agree that the delivery of Project Water for irrigation use or use of
430 Federal facilities pursuant to this Settlement Contract is subject to Federal Reclamation law,
431 including but not limited to, the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C.390aa et seq.), as
432 amended and supplemented, and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the
433 Interior under Federal Reclamation law.

434 GENERAL OBLIGATION--BENEFITS CONDITIONED UPON PAYMENT

435 12. (a) The obligation of the Contractor to pay the United States as provided in
436 this Settlement Contract is a general obligation of the Contractor notwithstanding the manner in
437 which the obligation may be distributed among the Contractor's water users and notwithstanding
438 the default of individual water users in their obligations to the Contractor.

439 (b) The payment of Charges becoming due hereunder is a condition precedent
440 to receiving benefits under this Settlement Contract. The United States shall not make water
441 available to the Contractor through Project facilities during any period in which the Contractor
442 may be in arrears in the advance payment of water Rates due the United States. The Contractor
443 shall not furnish water made available pursuant to this Settlement Contract for lands or parties
444 which are in arrears in the advance payment of water rates levied or established by the
445 Contractor.

446 (c) With respect to subdivision (b) of this Article, the Contractor shall have no
447 obligation to require advance payment for water Rates which it levies.

448 CHARGES FOR DELINQUENT PAYMENTS

449 13. (a) The Contractor shall be subject to interest, administrative and penalty
450 charges on delinquent installments or payments. When a payment is not received by the due
451 date, the Contractor shall pay an interest charge for each day the payment is delinquent beyond
452 the due date. When a payment becomes 60 days delinquent, the Contractor shall pay an
453 administrative charge to cover additional costs of billing and processing the delinquent payment.
454 When a payment is delinquent 90 days or more, the Contractor shall pay an additional penalty
455 charge of six percent per year for each day the payment is delinquent beyond the due date.
456 Further, the Contractor shall pay any fees incurred for debt collection services associated with a
457 delinquent payment.

458 (b) The interest charge rate shall be the greater of the rate prescribed quarterly
459 in the Federal Register by the Department of the Treasury for application to overdue payments,
460 or the interest rate of one-half of one percent per month prescribed by Section 6 of the
461 Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (Public Law 76-260). The interest charge rate shall be
462 determined as of the due date and remain fixed for the duration of the delinquent period.

463 (c) When a partial payment on a delinquent account is received, the amount
464 received shall be applied, first to the penalty, second to the administrative charges, third to the
465 accrued interest, and finally to the overdue payment.

466 QUALITY OF WATER

467 14. The operation and maintenance of Project facilities shall be performed in such
468 manner as is practicable to maintain the quality of raw water made available through such
469 facilities at the highest level reasonably attainable as determined by the Contracting Officer. The
470 United States does not warrant the quality of water and is under no obligation to construct or
471 furnish water treatment facilities to maintain or better the quality of water.

472

WATER AND AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

473

15. The Contractor, in carrying out this Settlement Contract, shall comply with all

474

applicable water and air pollution laws and regulations of the United States and the State of

475

California, and shall obtain all required permits or licenses from the appropriate Federal, State,

476

or local authorities.

477

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

478

16. During the performance of this Settlement Contract, the Contractor agrees as

479

follows:

480

(a) The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for

481

employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The Contractor will take

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affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during

483

employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Such action

484

shall include, but not be limited to, the following: Employment, upgrading, demotion, or

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transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination, rates of payment or other

486

forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor

487

agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment,

488

notices to be provided by the Contracting Officer setting forth the provisions of this

489

nondiscrimination clause.

490

(b) The Contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees

491

placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive

492

consideration for employment without discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, or

493

national origin.

494

(c) The Contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers

495

with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice,

496

to be provided by the Contracting Officer, advising the said labor union or workers'

497

representative of the Contractor's commitments under Section 202 of Executive Order 11246 of

498

September 24, 1965, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to

499

employees and applicants for employment.

500

(d) The Contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order

501

No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders

502

of the Secretary of Labor.

503

(e) The Contractor will furnish all information and reports required by said

504

amended Executive Order and by the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or

505

pursuant thereto, and will permit access to its books, records, and accounts by the Contracting

506 Officer and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with
 507 such rules, regulations, and orders.

508 (f) In the event of the Contractor's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination
 509 clauses of this Settlement Contract or with any of the said rules, regulations, or orders, this
 510 Settlement Contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended, in whole or in part, and the
 511 Contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with
 512 procedures authorized in said amended Executive Order, and such other sanctions may be
 513 imposed and remedies invoked as provided in said Executive Order, or by rule, regulation, or
 514 order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

515 (g) The Contractor will include the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (g) in
 516 every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by the rules, regulations, or orders of the
 517 Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to Section 204 of said amended Executive Order, so that such
 518 provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor will take such
 519 action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as may be directed by the Secretary of
 520 Labor as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance:
 521 Provided, however, that in the event the Contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with,
 522 litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction, the Contractor may request
 523 the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

524 17. Omitted.

525 18. Omitted.

526 BOOKS, RECORDS, AND REPORTS

527 19. The Contractor shall establish and maintain accounts and other books and records
 528 pertaining to administration of the terms and conditions of this Settlement Contract, including:
 529 the Contractor's financial transactions, water supply data, and Project land and right-of-way
 530 agreements; the water users' land-use (crop census), land ownership, land-leasing and water use
 531 data; and other matters that the Contracting Officer may require. Reports thereon shall be
 532 furnished to the Contracting Officer in such form and on such date or dates as the Contracting
 533 Officer may require. Subject to applicable Federal laws and regulations, each party to this
 534 Settlement Contract shall have the right during office hours to examine and make copies of each
 535 other's books and official records relating to matters covered by this Settlement Contract.

536 CHANGE OF PLACE OF USE

537 20. Unless the written consent of the United States is first obtained no change shall be
 538 made in the place of water use shown on Exhibit B.

539 21. Omitted

540

NOTICES

541 22. Any notice, demand, or request authorized or required by this Settlement Contract
542 shall be deemed to have been given, on behalf of the Contractor, when mailed, postage prepaid,
543 or delivered to the Area Manager, Northern California Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation,
544 16349 Shasta Dam Blvd., Shasta Lake, California 96019, and on behalf of the United States,
545 when mailed, postage prepaid, or delivered to Nene Ranch, LLC, 4052 River Road, Colusa,
546 California 95932. The designation of the addressee or the address may be changed by notice
547 given in the same manner as provided in this Article for other notices.

548

ASSIGNMENT LIMITED--SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OBLIGATED

549 23. (a) The provisions of this Settlement Contract shall apply to and bind the
550 successors and assigns of the parties hereto, but no assignment or transfer of this Settlement
551 Contract or any right or interest therein shall be valid until approved in writing by the
552 Contracting Officer.

553 (b) The assignment of any right or interest in this Settlement Contract by
554 either party shall not interfere with the rights or obligations of the other party to this Settlement
555 Contract absent the written concurrence of said other party.

556 (c) The Contracting Officer shall not unreasonably condition or withhold his
557 approval of any proposed assignment.

558

OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT

559 24. No Member of or Delegate to Congress, Resident Commissioner, or official of the
560 Contractor shall benefit from this Settlement Contract other than as a water user or landowner in
561 the same manner as other water users or landowners.

562

CONTINGENT UPON APPROPRIATION OR ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS

563 25. The expenditure or advance of any money or the performance of any obligation of
564 the United States under this Settlement Contract shall be contingent upon appropriation or
565 allotment of funds. Absence of appropriation or allotment of funds shall not relieve the
566 Contractor from any obligations under this Settlement Contract. No liability shall accrue to the
567 United States in case funds are not appropriated or allotted.

568

CONFIRMATION OF SETTLEMENT CONTRACT

569 26. The Contractor, after the execution of this Settlement Contract, shall promptly
570 seek to secure a decree of a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of California, if
571 appropriate, confirming the execution of this Settlement Contract. The Contractor shall furnish
572 the United States a certified copy of the final decree, the validation proceedings, and all pertinent
573 supporting records of the court approving and confirming this Settlement Contract, and

574 decreeing and adjudging it to be lawful, valid, and binding on the Contractor. This Settlement
575 Contract shall not be binding on the United States until such final decree has been secured.

576 27. Omitted

577 PRIVACY ACT COMPLIANCE

578 28. (a) The Contractor shall comply with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a)
579 (the Act) and the Department of the Interior rules and regulations under the Act (43 CFR 2.45 et
580 seq.) in maintaining Landholder acreage certification and reporting records, required to be
581 submitted to the Contractor for compliance with Sections 206 and 228 of the Reclamation
582 Reform Act of 1982 (96 Stat. 1266), and pursuant to 43 CFR 426.18.

583 (b) With respect to the application and administration of the criminal penalty
584 provisions of the Act (5 U.S.C. 552a(i)), the Contractor and the Contractor's employees
585 responsible for maintaining the certification and reporting records referenced in (a) above are
586 considered to be employees of the Department of the Interior. See 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).

587 (c) The Contracting Officer or a designated representative shall provide the
588 Contractor with current copies of the Interior Department Privacy Act regulations and the Bureau
589 of Reclamation Federal Register Privacy Act System of Records Notice (Acreage Limitation--
590 Interior, Reclamation-31) which govern the maintenance, safeguarding, and disclosure of
591 information contained in the Landholder's certification and reporting records.

592 (d) The Contracting Officer shall designate a full-time employee of the
593 Bureau of Reclamation to be the System Manager who shall be responsible for making decisions
594 on denials pursuant to 43 CFR 2.61 and 2.64 amendment requests pursuant to 43 CFR 2.72. The
595 Contractor is authorized to grant requests by individuals for access to their own records.

596 (e) The Contractor shall forward promptly to the System Manager each
597 proposed denial of access under 43 CFR 2.64; and each request for amendment of records filed
598 under 43 CFR 2.71; notify the requester accordingly of such referral; and provide the System
599 Manager with information and records necessary to prepare an appropriate response to the
600 requester. These requirements do not apply to individuals seeking access to their own
601 certification and reporting forms filed with the Contractor pursuant to 43 CFR 426.18, unless the
602 requester elects to cite the Privacy Act as a basis for the request.

603 WATER CONSERVATION

604 29. (a) Prior to the diversion of Project Water, the Contractor shall be
605 implementing an effective water conservation and efficiency program based on the Basin-Wide
606 Water Management Plan and/or Contractor's water conservation plan that has been determined
607 by the Contracting Officer to meet the conservation and efficiency criteria for evaluating water

608 conservation plans established under Federal law. The water conservation and efficiency
609 program shall contain definite water conservation objectives, appropriate economically feasible
610 water conservation measures, and time schedules for meeting those objectives. Continued
611 diversion of Project Water pursuant to this Settlement Contract shall be contingent upon the
612 Contractor's continued implementation of such water conservation program. In the event the
613 Contractor's water conservation plan or any revised water conservation plan completed pursuant
614 to subdivision (d) of Article 29 of this Settlement Contract have not yet been determined by the
615 Contracting Officer to meet such criteria, due to circumstances which the Contracting Officer
616 determines are beyond the control of the Contractor, Project Water deliveries shall be made
617 under this Settlement Contract so long as the Contractor diligently works with the Contracting
618 Officer to obtain such determination at the earliest practicable date, and thereafter the Contractor
619 immediately begins implementing its water conservation and efficiency program in accordance
620 with the time schedules therein.

621 (b) The Contractor shall submit to the Contracting Officer a report on the
622 status of its implementation of the water conservation plan on the reporting dates specified in the
623 then existing conservation and efficiency criteria established under Federal law.

624 (c) At five-year intervals, the Contractor shall revise its water conservation
625 plan to reflect the then-current conservation and efficiency criteria for evaluating water
626 conservation plans established under Federal law and submit such revised water management
627 plan to the Contracting Officer for review and evaluation. The Contracting Officer will then
628 determine if the water conservation plan meets Reclamation's then-current conservation and
629 efficiency criteria for evaluating water conservation plans established under Federal law.

630 (d) If the Contractor is engaged in direct ground-water recharge, such activity
631 shall be described in the Contractor's water conservation plan.

632 OPINIONS AND DETERMINATIONS

633 30. (a) Where the terms of this Settlement Contract provide for actions to be
634 based upon the opinion or determination of either party to this Settlement Contract, said terms
635 shall not be construed as permitting such action to be predicated upon arbitrary, capricious, or
636 unreasonable opinions or determinations. Both parties, notwithstanding any other provisions of
637 this Settlement Contract, expressly reserve the right to seek relief from and appropriate
638 adjustment for any such arbitrary, capricious, or unreasonable opinion or determination. Each
639 opinion or determination by either party shall be provided in a timely manner. Nothing in
640 subdivision (a) of Article 30 of this Settlement Contract is intended to or shall affect or alter the
641 standard of judicial review applicable under Federal law to any opinion or determination
642 implementing a specific provision of Federal law embodied in statute or regulation.

643 (b) The Contracting Officer shall have the right to make determinations
644 necessary to administer this Settlement Contract that are consistent with the provisions of this
645 Settlement Contract, the laws of the United States and of the State of California, and the rules
646 and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior. Such determinations shall be made
647 in consultation with the Contractor to the extent reasonably practicable.

648 CONTRACTOR TO PAY CERTAIN MISCELLANEOUS COSTS

649 31. (a) In addition to all other payments to be made by the Contractor pursuant to
650 this Settlement Contract, the Contractor shall pay to the United States, within 60 days after
651 receipt of a bill and detailed statement submitted by the Contracting Officer to the Contractor for
652 such specific items of direct cost incurred by the United States for work requested by the

653 Contractor associated with this Settlement Contract plus indirect costs in accordance with
654 applicable Bureau of Reclamation policies and procedures. All such amounts referred to in this
655 Article shall not exceed the amount agreed to in writing in advance by the Contractor. This
656 Article shall not apply to costs for routine contract administration.

657 (b) All advances for miscellaneous costs incurred for work requested by the
658 Contractor pursuant to Article 31 of this Settlement Contract shall be adjusted to reflect the
659 actual costs when the work has been completed. If the advances exceed the actual costs incurred,
660 the difference will be refunded to the Contractor. If the actual costs exceed the Contractor's
661 advances, the Contractor will be billed for the additional costs pursuant to Article 31 of this
662 Settlement Contract.

663 WAIVER OF DEFAULT

664 32. The waiver by either party to this Settlement Contract as to any default shall not
665 be construed as a waiver of any other default or as authority of the other party to continue such
666 default or to make, do, or perform, or not to make, do, or perform, as the case may be, any act or
667 thing which would constitute a default.

668 CONTRACT ASSIGNMENT OR TERMINATION UPON TRANSFER OF LAND

669 33. (a) The rights and obligations of the Contractors may be transferred in
670 connection with the transfer of title to the land or any portion thereof delineated on Exhibit B on
671 the following terms and conditions:

672 (1) A voluntary inter vivos transfer may be made, upon mutual
673 agreement of the United States and the Contractors, to a person eligible to hold title to the land as
674 a nonexcess landowner; and

697 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Settlement Contract as
698 of the day and year first hereinabove written.

699
700

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL
FORM AND SUFFICIENCY
James E. Turner
OFFICE OF REGIONAL SOLICITOR
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

701
702
703

By: *[Signature]*
Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region
Bureau of Reclamation

704 (SEAL)

705

NENE RANCH, LLC:

706
707
708

By: *Mariette B. Hollins*, *sa*
Mariette B. Hollins

Exhibit A

NENE RANCH, LLC
Sacramento River

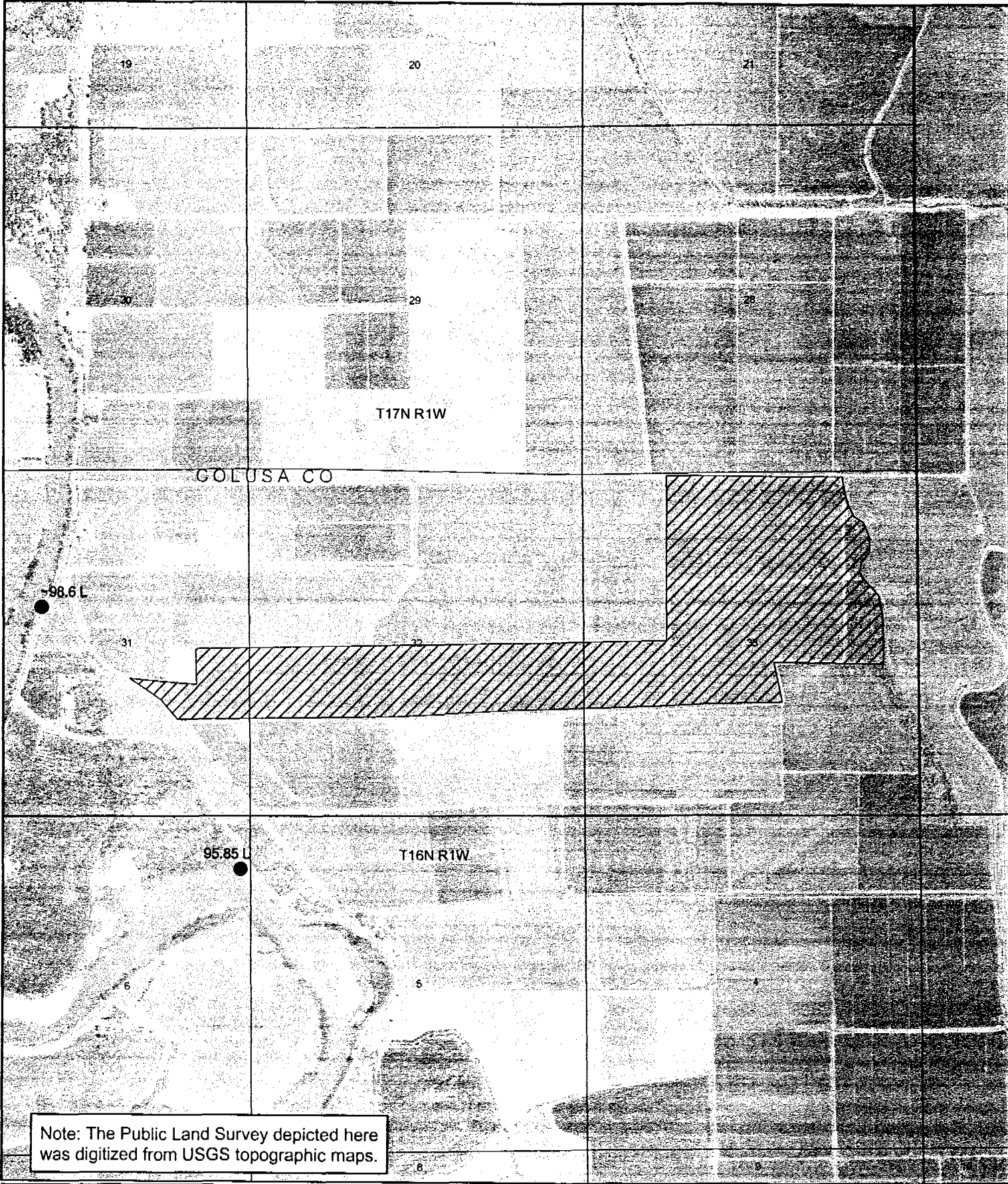
SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY DIVERSIONS OF WATER

| | <u>Base Supply</u> (acre-feet) | <u>Project Water</u> (acre-feet) | <u>Contract Total</u> (acre-feet) |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| April | <u>30</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>30</u> |
| May | <u>620</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>620</u> |
| June | <u>340</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>340</u> |
| July | <u>150</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>150</u> |
| August | <u>80</u> | <u>200</u> | <u>280</u> |
| September | <u>130</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>130</u> |
| October | <u>10</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>10</u> |
| Total | <u>1,360</u> | <u>200</u> | <u>1,560</u> |

Irrigable Acres: 409

Points of Diversion: 98.61

Dated: 04-04-08



Note: The Public Land Survey depicted here was digitized from USGS topographic maps.

Nene Ranch, LLC

Contract No. 14-06-200-2993A-R-1

Exhibit B



Contractor's Service Area



Point of Diversion

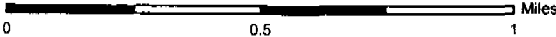


Exhibit C

Omitted

Exhibit D

NENE RANCH, LLC
Sacramento River
2005 Water Rates and Charges per Irrigated Acre

Irrigation

COST OF SERVICE RATE:

\$10.28

FULL-COST RATES:

Section 202(3) Rate is applicable to a Qualified Recipient or to a Limited Recipient receiving irrigation water on or before October 1, 1981.

\$14.24

Section 205(a)(3) Rate is applicable to a Limited Recipient that did not receive irrigation water on or before October 1, 1981.

\$15.43

CHARGES UNDER P.L. 102-575 TO THE RESTORATION FUND 1/

Restoration Payments (3407(d)(2)(A))

\$3.88

1/ Restoration fund charges are payments in addition to the water rates and were determined pursuant to Title XXXIV of Public Law 102-575. Restoration fund charges are on a fiscal year basis (10/1 - 9/30).

CALIFORNIA ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

No. 5907

State of California

County of Colusa

on 5-4-05 before me, Sarah E. Allen, Notary Public

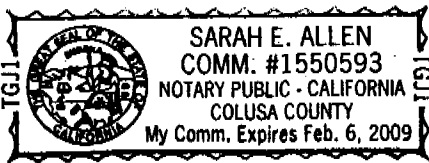
DATE

NAME, TITLE OF OFFICER - E.G., "JANE DOE, NOTARY PUBLIC"

personally appeared Mariette B. Hollins

NAME(S) OF SIGNER(S)

personally known to me - OR - proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.



WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Sarah E. Allen
SIGNATURE OF NOTARY

OPTIONAL

Though the data below is not required by law, it may prove valuable to persons relying on the document and could prevent fraudulent reattachment of this form.

CAPACITY CLAIMED BY SIGNER

- INDIVIDUAL
- CORPORATE OFFICER

- TITLE(S) _____
- PARTNER(S) LIMITED
 - ATTORNEY-IN-FACT GENERAL
 - TRUSTEE(S)
 - GUARDIAN/CONSERVATOR
 - OTHER: _____

SIGNER IS REPRESENTING:
NAME OF PERSON(S) OR ENTITY(IES)

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

TITLE OR TYPE OF DOCUMENT _____

30 _____
NUMBER OF PAGES

5-4-05 _____
DATE OF DOCUMENT

SIGNER(S) OTHER THAN NAMED ABOVE

OPERATING AGREEMENT**NENE RANCH, LLC****A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**

This Operating Agreement is made as of December 5, 1998, by and among the parties listed on the signature pages of this Agreement (collectively referred to as "Members" or individually as a "Member"), with reference to the following facts:

A. On December 4, 1998, Articles of Organization (the "Articles") for Nene Ranch, LLC (the "Company"), a limited liability company under the laws of the State of California, were filed with the California Secretary of State.

B. The Members desire to adopt and approve an operating agreement for the Company.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Members by this Agreement set forth the operating agreement for the Company under the Beverly-Killea Limited Liability Company Act, California Corporations Code Sections 1700 et seq., as amended from time to time (the "Act").

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS.**A. Name.**

The name of the Company shall be "Nene Ranch, LLC."

B. Term.

The term of the Company commenced on the date of the filing of the Articles and, unless sooner terminated under this Agreement, shall end thirty-five (35) years thereafter.

C. Office and Agent.

The Company shall continuously maintain an office and registered agent in the State of California. The principal office of the Company shall be at Colusa County, California, or such location as the Members may determine. The registered agent shall be as stated in the Articles or as otherwise determined by the Members.

III. MEMBERS.

A. Admission of Additional Members.

The Members may by vote of a Majority admit to the Company additional Members who will participate on such terms as are determined by the Members.

B. Withdrawals or Resignations.

Any Member may withdraw or resign as a Member at any time upon 30 days prior written notice to the Company. In the event of a withdrawal, the Member's Percentage Interest shall be subject to purchase as provided in Section VII.

C. Payments to Members.

Except as specified in this Agreement or pursuant to a transaction permitted in Section IV below, no Member or affiliate of a Member is entitled to remuneration for services rendered or goods provided to the Company. However, the Company shall reimburse the Members and their affiliates for the actual cost of goods and materials used by the Company and for organizational expenses (including, without limitation, legal and accounting fees and costs) incurred to form the Company, and for expenses incurred in furtherance of the business of the Company.

IV. MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF THE COMPANY.

A. Management and Powers.

Mariette B. Hollins shall manage the day-to-day operations of the Company, subject to approval of the Members as set forth in this Agreement. Mariette B. Hollins shall be paid an annual management fee which may be accrued.

B. Limitations on Power of Members.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement, no contractual obligation, debt or liability of more than \$10,000.00 may be incurred or contracted for on behalf of the Company without the approval of a Majority. Additionally, the Manager shall have authority to cause the Company to engage in the following transactions without first obtaining the approval of a Majority, or the larger number if indicated:

1. The sale, exchange or other disposition of all, or substantially all, of the Company's assets occurring as part of a single transaction or plan, or in multiple transactions over a 12 month period, except in the orderly liquidation and winding up of the business of the Company upon its duly authorized dissolution.

2. Merger with or into, or reorganization, of the Company into a general or limited partnership, another limited liability company, a business trust, a corporation, or any other business entity.
3. Establishment of different classes of Members.
4. Alteration of the authorized business of the Company.
5. Any act which would make it impossible to carry on the ordinary business of the Company.
6. Confession of a judgment against the Company.
7. Any other transaction described in this Agreement as requiring the approval, consent or vote of the Members.

C. Meetings.

If a meeting is held, the meeting shall be noticed, held and conducted pursuant to the Act, provided that if the meeting is attended by a Majority, no advance notice is required and any matter may be brought before the meeting. Provided further, however, that approval of any matter at a meeting held without advance notice, or of any matter not included in a notice if given, must by a Majority.

D. Devotion of Time.

Members need not devote all of their time or business efforts to the Company. Each Member may devote whatever time or effort as that Member deems appropriate.

E. Competing Activities.

Members may engage or invest in any activity, including without limitation those that might be in direct or indirect competition with the Company. Neither the Company nor any Member shall have any right in or to such other activities or to the income or proceeds derived therefrom. No Member shall be obligated to present any investment opportunity to the Company, even if the opportunity is of the character that, if presented to the Company, could be taken by the Company. Each Member shall have the right to hold any investment opportunity for his or her own account or to recommend the opportunity to persons other than the Company. The Members acknowledge that certain Members may own and/or manage other businesses, including businesses that may compete with the Company and for the Members' time. Each Member waives any and all rights and claims, except any claims based on fraud or intentional wrongdoing, which he or she may otherwise have against the other Members and their affiliates as a result of any of such activities.

F. Transactions Between the Company and the Members.

Notwithstanding that it may constitute a conflict of interest, the Members may engage in any transaction with the Company so long as such transaction is not expressly prohibited by this Agreement and so long as the terms and conditions of the transaction, on an overall basis, are fair and reasonable to the Company and are at least as favorable to the Company as those that are generally available from persons capable of similarly performing them or if Members holding a Majority having no interest in the transaction (other than their interests as Members) approve the transaction in writing.

V. ALLOCATIONS AND DISTRIBUTIONS.

A. Definitions.

When used in this Agreement, the following underlined terms shall have the following meanings:

1. Code. The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, the provisions of succeeding law, and to the extent applicable, the Treasury Regulations.
2. Net Profits and Net Losses. The income, gain, loss, deductions, and credits of the Company in the aggregate or separately stated, as appropriate, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles employed under the method of accounting at the close of each fiscal year on the Company's information tax return filed for federal income tax purposes.

B. Allocations of Net Profit and Net Loss.

1. Net Loss. Net Loss shall be allocated to the Members in proportion to their Percentage Interests.
2. Net Profit. Net Profit shall be allocated to the Members in proportion to their Percentage Interests.

C. Distribution of Assets by the Company.

Subject to applicable law and any limitations contained elsewhere in this Agreement, a Majority may elect from time to time to cause the Company to make distributions. Distributions shall be first to the Members in proportion to their unreturned capital contributions until each Member has recovered his or her capital contributions, and then to the Members in proportion to their Percentage Interests.

JUST THE FAX!

This document has been sent from:

(530) 458-7780

"INSTANT MAIL" TRANSMISSION FORM

TO: Bureau Reclamation Date: ~~5/15/05~~ - 5/24/05
Name: Don Bultema Time: _____
Company: Don Bultema Fax No. 530 934 1302
Street: 1140 W. Wood Phone No. 530 934 1361
City: Willows Zip: 95988
State: CA

FROM: Manette Hollins
Name: Manette Hollins Total Pages Including This Page: ~~5~~ 5
Company: We We Ranch, LLC Phone No. 530 458 2495
Street: 4052 River Rd Return Fax No: _____
City: Colusa
State: CA Zip: 95932
Special Instructions: _____

Don - This was requested by
your legal dept.
Manette Hollins

D. Business of the Company.

The purpose of the Company is ranching and as stated in the Articles.

E. Majority Voting.

The term "Majority" means Members holding over fifty percent (50%) of the total outstanding Percentage Interests listed on Exhibit A. Reference to a vote or approval or consent by a Majority, or a vote or approval or consent by the Members, shall mean approval by Members holding more than fifty-one (51%) of the total outstanding Percentage Interests listed on Exhibit A, unless some other percentage requirement is stated, or more than fifty-one (51%) of the Percentage Interests held by a specific grouping of Members, as specifically stated.

F. Merger and Reorganization.

Subject to approval of a Majority, and any limitations in the Act, the Company may merge into or with, or reorganize into a general or limited partnership, another limited liability company, a business trust, a corporation, or any other business entity.

II. CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

A. Required Contributions.

Each initial Member shall make a contribution to the capital of the Company, and receive a "Percentage Interest" in proportion thereto, in the amounts shown opposite the Member's name on attached Exhibit A. No Member shall be required or permitted to make any additional contributions to the capital of the Company without the unanimous consent of the Members.

B. Capital Accounts.

The Company shall establish an individual capital account ("Capital Account") for each Member. The Company shall determine and maintain each Capital Account in accordance with Treasury Regulations Section 1.704-1(b)(2)(iv)(1).

C. No Interest.

The Company shall not pay interest on capital contributions.

LAW OFFICES OF JACK TOMLINSON
221 Main Street, Sixteenth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
Telephone: (415) 344-0252
Facsimile: (415) 344-0010

Jack Tomlinson

May 3, 2001

Mariette Hollins
65 Knights Pond Rd.
Northport, ME 04849

Re: **Gifts of Membership Interests in
Nene Ranch, LLC**

Dear Mariette:

Debbie Gioia has faxed us the percentage amount of membership interests in Nene Ranch, LLC that you and Harry gifted to Hunter, Bayard, Emmet and Lawrence in 2000. This and all previous gift transactions have now been documented for LLC records. Enclosed are:

1. A set of acceptance forms for each of the boys to sign and return to me in the envelopes provided.
2. Two sets of certificates representing the Hollins family membership interests in Nene Ranch, LLC. An explanation here is in order:
 - A. Certificates for Harry and Mariette. Certificate Nos. 13 and 14 reflect your original 50% membership interest. Subsequent certificates (Nos. 15 through 18) reflect your diminishing membership interest as a result of your gift to the boys. For example, your gift in 1998 amounted to 4.57% of your membership interest. Subtracting that amount from your original 50% interest left you with a 45.43% interest in the company. In order to document this transaction Certificate No. 13 had to be cancelled and a new certificate (No. 15) issued in its place. The same process applied to Harry.

We now end up Certificate Nos. 19 and 20 which reflect your and Harry's current membership interest.
 - B. Hunter, Bayard, Emmet and Lawrence. These certificates (Nos. 1-12, three each) represent your gifts to them in 1998, 1999 and 2000.

Each certificate must be signed by you. Once this has been done, please return all certificates to me.

M. Hollins
May 3, 2001
Page 2

Re: Membership Interests in Nene Ranch, LLC

As of this date you and Harry each have a 35.4% membership interest in Nene Ranch, LLC, and each boy has a 7.3% interest.

The paperwork is now complete through 2000. Please call if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Jack Tomlinson

JT/ip
Enc.

Nene Ranch
4052 River Road
Colusa, CA. 95933


May 25, 2008

Don Bultema
Bureau of Reclamation
1140 W Wood St
Willows, CA 95988

RE: Nene Ranch LLC

Don

This letter confirms that I authorize
Mauree B. Hollins to enter into contact
with the Sacramento River Statewater
Resources Board.


HARRY B HOLLINS, Pres
Nene Ranch LLC