

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

CONTRACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES  
AND  
CHOWCHILLA WATER DISTRICT  
PROVIDING FOR PROJECT WATER SERVICE FROM  
BUCHANAN UNIT AND  
FOR FACILITIES REPAYMENT

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1 UNITED STATES  
2 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
3 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
4 Central Valley Project, California

5 CONTRACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES  
6 AND  
7 CHOWCHILLA WATER DISTRICT  
8 PROVIDING FOR PROJECT WATER SERVICE FROM  
9 BUCHANAN UNIT  
10 AND  
11 FACILITIES REPAYMENT

12 THIS CONTRACT, made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010, is entered into  
13 pursuant to the Act of June 17, 1902, (32 Stat. 388), and acts amendatory or supplementary thereto,  
14 including but not limited to: the Act of August 26, 1937 (50 Stat. 844), as amended and  
15 supplemented, August 4, 1939 (53 Stat. 1187), as amended and supplemented, July 2, 1956 (70 Stat.  
16 483), June 21, 1963 (77 Stat. 68), October 12, 1982 (96 Stat. 1262), October 27, 1986 (100 Stat.  
17 3050), as amended, Title XXXIV of the Act of October 30, 1992 (106 Stat. 4706), and Title X,  
18 Subtitle A, of the Act of March 30, 2009 (123 Stat. 1349), also referred to as the San Joaquin River  
19 Restoration Settlement Act hereinafter referred to as SJRRSA, all collectively hereinafter referred to  
20 as Federal Reclamation law, between THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, hereinafter referred to  
21 as the United States and CHOWCHILLA WATER DISTRICT, hereinafter referred to as the  
22 Contractor, a public agency of the State of California, duly organized, existing, and acting pursuant to  
23 the laws thereof, with its principal place of business in California;

24 WITNESSETH, That

25 EXPLANATORY RECITALS

26 [1<sup>st</sup>] WHEREAS, the United States has constructed and is operating the Central Valley  
27 Project, California, for diversion, storage, carriage, distribution and beneficial use, for flood control,

irrigation, municipal, domestic, industrial, fish and wildlife mitigation, protection and restoration, generation and distribution of electric energy, salinity control, navigation and other beneficial uses, of waters of the Sacramento River, the American River, the Trinity River, and the San Joaquin River and their tributaries; and

[2<sup>nd</sup>] WHEREAS, pursuant to Title II of the Flood Control Act of October 23, 1962 (76 Stat. 1180), and supporting documents, the United States constructed Buchanan Dam on the Chowchilla River (thereby creating Eastman Lake), hereinafter collectively referred to as the Buchanan Unit, which is operated by the Corps of Engineers for flood control, recreation and other incidental uses; and

[3<sup>rd</sup>] WHEREAS, the United States and the Contractor entered into Contract Number 14-06-200-3844A, as amended, providing the Contractor the right to the entire yield from the Buchanan Unit available for conservation purposes from May 28, 1968 through February 28, 1994; and

[4<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the Contractor and the United States have, pursuant to subsection 3404(c)(1) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA), subsequently entered into interim renewal contract(s), identified as Contract Number (s) 14-06-200-3844A-IR2, IR3, IR4, IR5, and IR6, which provided for the continued water service to Contractor from December 1, 2000 through February 28, 2001, and subsequently entered into a long-term renewal contract, identified as Contract Number 14-06-200-3844A-LTR1, which provided for continued water service to Contractor through February 28, 2026, which was amended January 22, 2007, and is herein referred to as the "Existing Contract"; and

[5<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 8 of the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388), the United States has acquired water rights and other rights to the flows of the Chowchilla River, including without limitation the permits issued as the result of Decision 1365 by the California State Water Resource Control Board pursuant to which the Contracting Officer develops, diverts, stores and delivers Project Water stored or flowing through Eastman Lake in accordance with State and Federal law for the benefit of the Contractor in the Buchanan Unit and for other specified Project purposes; and

[6<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the water supplied to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract is Project Water developed through the exercise of the rights described in the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Explanatory Recital of this Contract; and

[7<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, as a result of litigation entitled “Natural Resources Defense Council, et al. v Kirk Rogers, et al.” No. CIV-S-88-1658LLK/GGH, certain contractors from the Friant Division entered into a Stipulation of Settlement dated September 13, 2006, (the “Settlement”), which settlement prescribes a Restoration Goal and a Water Management Goal and which Settlement was subsequently confirmed and implemented through the SJRRSA; and

[8<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the SJRRSA authorizes and directs the Secretary to convert the Existing Contract to a repayment contract under subsection (d) of Section 9 of the Act of August 4, 1939, no later than December 31, 2010, and further directs that such contract shall require the accelerated repayment of the Contractors’ allocated share of construction costs, either as a lump sum payment by January 31, 2011 or in annual installments by January 31, 2014, which funds will in turn be made

available for implementation of the Settlement and SJRRSA, and which costs otherwise would have been payable through annual water rates, with full repayment by 2030; and

[9<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, such repayment of costs will assist the United States with implementation of actions required under the Settlement and the SJRRSA and provide the Contractor the benefits provided in Section 10010 of the SJRRSA; and

[10<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, subsection (4) of Section 1 of the Act of July 2, 1956 (1956 Act) directs the Secretary to provide that the other party to any contract entered into pursuant to subsection (d) of Section 9 of the Act of August 4, 1939 (repayment contract) or pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 9 of the Act of August 4, 1939 (water service contract) shall “have the first right (to which the rights of the holders of any other type of irrigation water contract shall be subordinate) to a stated share or quantity of the project’s available water supply for beneficial use on the irrigable lands within the boundaries of, or owned by, the party and a permanent right to such share or quantity upon completion of payment of the amount assigned for ultimate return” by the contractor subject to fulfillment of all obligations under the contract; and

[11<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, among other things, this Contract includes provisions granting the Contractor the permanent right to the entire yield from the Buchanan Unit available for conservation purposes as described in the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) Explanatory Recital; and

[12<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the Contractor has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Contracting Officer that the Contractor has utilized the Project Water supplies available to it for reasonable and beneficial use and/or has demonstrated projected future demand for water use such that the

Contractor has the capability and expects to utilize fully for reasonable and beneficial use the quantity of Project Water to be made available to it pursuant to this Contract; and

[13<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, water obtained from the Central Valley Project has been relied upon by urban and agricultural areas within California for more than fifty (50) years and is considered by the Contractor as an essential portion of its water supply; and

[14<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the economies of regions within the Central Valley Project, including the Contractor's, depend upon the continued availability of water, including water service from the Central Valley Project; and

[15<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the Secretary intends through coordination, cooperation, and partnerships to pursue measures to improve water supply, water quality, and reliability of the Project for all Project purposes; and

[16<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the mutual goals of the United States and the Contractor include: to provide for reliable Project Water supplies; to control costs of those supplies; to achieve repayment of the Central Valley Project as required by law; to guard reasonably against Project Water shortages; to achieve a reasonable balance among competing demands for use of Project Water; and to comply with all applicable environmental statutes, all consistent with the legal obligations of the United States relative to the Central Valley Project; and

[17<sup>th</sup>] Omitted; and

[18<sup>th</sup>] Omitted; and

[19<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the United States has determined that the Contractor has fulfilled all of its obligations under the Existing Contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual and dependent covenants herein contained, it is hereby mutually agreed by the parties hereto as follows:

DEFINITIONS

1. When used herein, unless otherwise distinctly expressed or manifestly incompatible with the intent of the parties as expressed in this Contract, the term:

(a) “Additional Capital Obligation” shall mean any additional construction costs or other capitalized costs incurred after the effective date of this Contract or not reflected in the Existing Capital Obligation as provided in Section 10010(a)(3)(B) of the SJRRSA and any amounts payable by Contractor as determined through the final adjustment described and required by Section 10010(b) of the SJRRSA;

(b) “Calendar Year” shall mean the period January 1 through December 31, both dates inclusive;

(c) “Charges” shall mean the payments required by Federal Reclamation law in addition to the Rates and Tiered Pricing Components specified in this Contract as determined annually by the Contracting Officer pursuant to this Contract and consistent with the SJRRSA;

(d) Omitted;

(e) Omitted;

(f) Omitted;

(g) “Contracting Officer” shall mean the Secretary of the Interior’s duly authorized representative acting pursuant to this Contract or applicable Federal Reclamation law or regulation;

(h) "Contract Total" shall mean the amount of Project Water to which the Contractor is entitled under subdivision (a) of Article 3 of this Contract and is the stated share or quantity of Water to which the Contractor will have a permanent right in accordance with the 1956 Act and the terms of this Contract, upon the Contractor's complete payment of the Repayment Obligation, notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, which right shall not be disturbed so long as the Contractor fulfills all of its obligations under this Contract;

(i) "Contractor's Service Area" shall mean the area to which the Contractor is permitted to provide Project Water under this Contract as described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto, which may be modified from time to time in accordance with Article 36 of this Contract without amendment of this Contract;

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

(j2) "District Engineer" shall mean the District Engineer, United States Army Corps of Engineers, or his authorized representative;

(k) "Eligible Lands" shall mean all lands to which Irrigation Water may be delivered in accordance with Section 204 of the Reclamation Reform Act of October 12, 1982 (96 Stat. 1263), as amended, hereinafter referred to as RRA;

(l) "Excess Lands" shall mean all lands in excess of the limitations contained in Section 204 of the RRA, other than those lands exempt from acreage limitation under Federal Reclamation law;

(m) “Existing Capital Obligation” shall mean the remaining amount of construction costs of the Contractor identified in the Central Valley Project Irrigation Water Rates and/or Municipal and Industrial Water Rates, respectively, dated January 25, 2007, as adjusted to reflect payments not reflected in such schedule, pursuant to Section 10010(a)(3)(A) of the SJRRSA. The Contracting Officer has computed the Existing Capital Obligation in a manner consistent with the SJRRSA and such amount is set forth in Exhibits “C-1” and “C-2”, incorporated herein by reference;

(n) “Financing Costs”, for purposes of computing the reduction of certain charges as specified in subdivision (c) of Article 7 of this Contract, shall mean the difference between the net present value of the Existing Capital Obligation discounted using the full Treasury rate and the Existing Capital Obligation discounted using one-half the Treasury Rate, as set forth in Section 10010(d)(3) of the SJRRA;

(o) “Full Cost Rate” shall mean that water rate described in Sections 205(a)(3) or 202(3) of the RRA, whichever is applicable;

(p) “Ineligible Lands” shall mean all lands to which Irrigation Water may not be delivered in accordance with Section 204 of the RRA;

(q) “Irrigation Full Cost Water Rate” shall have the same meaning as “full cost” as that term is used in Paragraph (3) of Section 202 of the RRA;

(r) “Irrigation Water” shall mean water made available from the Project that is used primarily in the production of agricultural crops or livestock, including domestic use incidental thereto, and watering of livestock. Irrigation water shall not include water used for the purposes such as the watering of landscaping or pasture for animals (e.g., horses) which are kept for personal

171 enjoyment or water delivered to landholdings operated in units of less than five (5) acres unless the  
172 Contractor establishes to the satisfaction of the Contracting Officer that the use of the water delivered  
173 to any such landholding is a use described in this subdivision of this Article of this Contract;

174 (s) “Landholder” shall mean a party that directly or indirectly owns or leases  
175 nonexempt land, as provided in 43 CFR 426.2;

176 (t) Omitted;

177 (u) Omitted.

178 (v) “Municipal & Industrial (M&I) Full Cost Water Rate” shall mean the annual  
179 rate, which, as determined by the Contracting Officer, shall amortize the expenditures for  
180 construction allocable to Project M&I facilities in service, including, O&M deficits funded, less  
181 payments, over such periods as may be required under Federal Reclamation law with interest  
182 accruing from the dates such costs were first incurred plus the applicable rate for the O&M of such  
183 Project facilities. Interest rates used in the calculation of the M&I Full Cost Rate shall comply with  
184 the Interest Rate methodology contained in Section 202(3) (B) and (C) of the RRA;

185 (w) “Operation and Maintenance” or “O&M” shall mean normal and reasonable  
186 care, control, operation, repair, replacement (other than Capital replacement), and maintenance of  
187 Project facilities;

188 (x) Omitted;

189 (y) “Other Water” shall mean water from the Project other than Irrigation Water as  
190 described in subdivision (r) of this Article of this Contract, which is used for a purpose that is  
191 considered to be an irrigation use pursuant to State law such as the watering of landscaping or pasture

for animals (e.g., horse) which are kept for the personal enjoyment. For purposes of this Contract, Other Water shall be paid for at Rates and Charges identical to those established for M&I water pursuant to the then-existing M&I Ratesetting Policy;

(y2) “Prior-Rights Water” shall mean that portion of the inflow to Eastman Lake which flows through or is released from Buchanan Dam in recognition of prior downstream Chowchilla River water rights of the Contractor and others, subject to any necessary new water rights permit or permit revisions and in accordance with any applicable agreements relating to the operation of the Buchanan Unit and approved by the Contracting Officer and the State Water Resources Control Board, as necessary;

(z) “Project” shall mean the Central Valley Project owned by the United States and managed by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation;

(aa) “Project Contractors” shall mean all parties who have a long-term water service contract or repayment contract for Project Water from the Project with the United States pursuant to Federal Reclamation law;

(bb) “Project Water” shall mean all water that is developed, diverted, stored, or delivered by the Secretary in accordance with the statutes authorizing the Project and in accordance with the terms and conditions of water rights acquired pursuant to California law;

(cc) “Rates” shall mean the payments determined annually by the Contracting Officer in accordance with the then-existing applicable water ratesetting policies for the Project, as described in subdivision (a) of Article 7 of this Contract and illustrated in Exhibit “B”, attached hereto;

(dd) Omitted;

(ee) “Repayment Obligation”, as provided in subdivision (a)(2)(A) of Article 7 of this Contract, shall be the Existing Capital Obligation, as defined herein, discounted by one-half of the Treasury rate and computed consistent with the provisions of Section 10010(3)(A) of the SJRRSA to be paid as either a lump sum payment by January 31, 2011 or in approximately equal annual installments by January 31, 2014;

(ff) “Secretary” shall mean the Secretary of the Interior, a duly appointed successor, or an authorized representative acting pursuant to any authority of the Secretary and through any agency of the Department of the Interior;

(gg) “Settlement” shall mean the Stipulation of Settlement dated September 13, 2006, the Order Approving Stipulation of Settlement, and the Judgment and further orders issued by the Court pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Settlement in Natural Resources Defense Council, et al. v. Rodgers, et al., No. CIV-S-88-1658 LLJ/GGH;

(hh) “Tiered Pricing Component” shall be the incremental amount to be paid for each acre-foot of Water Delivered as described in subdivision (l)(1) of Article 7 of this Contract;

(ii) “Water Delivered” or “Delivered Water” shall mean Project Water diverted for use by the Contractor at Buchanan Dam, other than Prior-Rights Water, and for pricing purposes shall be 24,000 acre-feet per Year;

(jj) Omitted;

(kk) Omitted;

(ll) Omitted; and

(mm) "Year" shall mean the period from and including March 1 of each Calendar Year through the last day of February of the following Calendar Year.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CONTRACT

2. (a) This Contract shall become effective on the date first hereinabove written and shall continue so long as the Contractor is making the annual payments required herein and paying any other amounts owing under this Contract and applicable law, unless it is terminated by the Contracting Officer by reason of a material uncured breach by the Contractor; Provided, That the Contracting Officer shall not seek to terminate this Contract by reason of an asserted material uncured breach by the Contractor unless it has first provided at least sixty (60) days written notice of the asserted breach to the Contractor and the Contractor has failed to cure such breach (or to diligently commence curative actions satisfactory to the Contracting Officer for a breach that cannot be fully cured within sixty (60) days) within the sixty (60)-day notice period; Provided further, That this Contract may be terminated at any time by mutual consent of the parties hereto.

(b) Upon complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the Tiered Pricing Component as that term is utilized in this Contract, the acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of Federal Reclamation law, and subdivisions (k), (l), (o) through (q), (s), and (v) of Article 1, subdivisions (a)(2)(A), (l)(1), (l)(2), and (l)(3) of Article 7, Article 14, subdivision (a) of Article 18, and Article 25, all of this Contract, shall no longer be applicable to the Contractor. Upon complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the terms of this Contract shall be as

provided in the restated contract attached hereto as Exhibit “E”, which has been prepared solely as a matter of administrative convenience. Exhibit “E” makes no substantive revisions other than those required by this subdivision of this Article of this Contract. Accordingly, upon complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the parties shall refer to Exhibit “E” as their entire agreement under this Contract.

(c) This Contract supersedes in its entirety and is intended to replace in full the Existing Contract; Provided, That if this Contract is terminated or determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason other than a material uncured breach of this Contract by the Contractor, the Existing Contract shall not be superseded and shall be in full force and effect.

WATER TO BE MADE AVAILABLE AND DELIVERED TO THE CONTRACTOR

3. (a) During each Year, consistent with all applicable State water rights, permits, and licenses, Federal law, the Settlement including the SJRRSA, and subject to the provisions set forth in Articles 12 and 13 of this Contract, the Contracting Officer shall make available for delivery to the Contractor the entire quantity of Project Water from the Buchanan Unit for irrigation purposes. The quantity of Water Delivered to the Contractor in accordance with this subdivision shall be paid for pursuant to the provisions of Article 7 of this Contract.

(b) Upon complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the Contractor shall have a permanent right to the Contract Total in accordance with the 1956 Act and the terms of this Contract. This right shall not be disturbed so long as the Contractor fulfills all of its obligations

hereunder. The quantity of water made available for delivery in any given Year shall remain subject to the terms and conditions of subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract.

(c) The Contractor shall utilize the Project Water in accordance with all applicable legal requirements.

(d) The Contractor shall make reasonable and beneficial use of all Project Water or other water furnished pursuant to this Contract. Groundwater recharge programs, groundwater banking programs, surface water storage programs, and other similar programs utilizing Project Water or other water furnished pursuant to this Contract conducted within the Contractor's Service Area which are consistent with applicable State law and result in use consistent with applicable Federal Reclamation law will be allowed; Provided, That any direct recharge program(s) is (are) described in the Contractor's Water Conservation Plan submitted pursuant to Article 27 of this Contract; Provided further, That such Water Conservation Plan demonstrates sufficient lawful uses exist in the Contractor's Service Area so that using a long-term average, the quantity of Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract is demonstrated to be reasonable for such uses and in compliance with Federal Reclamation law. Groundwater recharge programs, groundwater banking programs, surface water storage programs, and other similar programs utilizing Project Water or other water furnished pursuant to this Contract conducted outside the Contractor's Service Area may be permitted upon written approval of the Contracting Officer, which approval will be based upon environmental documentation, Project Water rights, and Project operational concerns. The Contracting Officer will address such concerns in regulations, policies, or guidelines.

(e) The Contractor, through this Contract, shall comply with requirements applicable to the Contractor in biological opinion(s) prepared as a result of the consultation regarding the execution of the Existing Contract undertaken pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, as well as the requirements of any other biological opinions applicable to Project Water delivery under this Contract, that are within the Contractor's legal authority to implement. The Contractor shall comply with the limitations or requirements imposed by environmental documentation applicable to the Contractor and within its legal authority to implement regarding specific activities. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the Contractor from challenging or seeking judicial relief in a court of competent jurisdiction with respect to any biological opinion or other environmental documentation referred to in this Article of this Contract.

(f) Omitted.

(g) Omitted.

(h) The Contractor's right pursuant to Federal Reclamation law and applicable State law to the reasonable and beneficial use of the Contract Total pursuant to this Contract shall not be disturbed so long as the Contractor shall fulfill all of its obligations under this Contract. Nothing in the preceding sentence shall affect the Contracting Officer's ability to impose shortages under Article 12 or Article 13 of this Contract.

(i) Project Water furnished to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract may be delivered for purposes other than those described in subdivisions (r) and (y) of Article 1 of this Contract upon written approval by the Contracting Officer in accordance with the terms and conditions of such approval.

(j) The Contracting Officer shall make reasonable efforts to protect the water rights and other rights described in the fifth (5th) Explanatory Recital of this Contract and to provide the water available under this Contract. The Contracting Officer shall not object to participation by the Contractor, in the capacity and to the extent permitted by law, in administrative proceedings related to the water rights and other rights described in the fifth (5th) Explanatory Recital of this Contract; Provided however, That the Contracting Officer retains the right to object to the substance of the Contractor's position in such a proceeding. Provided further, that in such proceedings the Contracting Officer shall recognize the Contractor has a legal right under the terms of this Contract to use Project Water.

(k) Omitted.

(l) Omitted.

(m) Nothing in this Contract, nor any action or inaction of the Contractor or Contracting Officer in connection with the implementation of this Contract, is intended to override, modify, supersede or otherwise interfere with any term or condition of the water rights and other rights referred in the fifth (5th) Explanatory Recital of this Contract.

(n) Omitted.

(o) Omitted.

#### RESERVOIR OPERATION – USE AND SALE OF WATER

4. (a) At the request of the Contractor, pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Contract, the United States, acting through the District Engineer, shall store, regulate, and/or release all flows of the Chowchilla River water at the Buchanan Unit subject to the regulation of the

Buchanan Unit for flood control, as conclusively determined by the District Engineer, and further subject to Prior Rights Water releases and the maintenance of a minimum pool of ten thousand (10,000) acre-feet of water in Eastman Lake for recreational and incidental uses.

(b) Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be used as Irrigation Water or Other Water only and shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of for use outside the Contractor's Service Area without the written approval of the Contracting Officer.

POINT OF DIVERSION AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISTRIBUTION OF WATER

5. (a) Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract shall be delivered to the Contractor at Buchanan Dam.

(b) Omitted.

(c) The Contractor shall not deliver Project Water to land outside the Contractor's Service Area unless approved in advance by the Contracting Officer. Until complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the Contractor shall deliver Project Water in accordance with applicable acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of Federal Reclamation law and any applicable land classification provisions of the associated regulations.

(d) Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be measured and recorded with equipment furnished, installed, operated, and maintained by the United States at the point of delivery established pursuant to subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract. Upon the request of either party to this Contract, the Contracting Officer shall investigate, or cause to be investigated, the accuracy of such measurements and shall take any necessary steps to adjust any

errors appearing therein. For any period of time when accurate measurements have not been made, the Contracting Officer shall consult with the Contractor prior to making a final determination of the quantity delivered for that period of time.

(e) The Contracting Officer shall not be responsible for the control, carriage, handling, use, disposal, or distribution of Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract beyond the delivery point specified in subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract. The Contractor shall indemnify the United States, its officers, employees, agents, and assigns on account of damage or claim of damage of any nature whatsoever for which there is legal responsibility, including property damage, personal injury, or death arising out of or connected with the control, carriage, handling, use, disposal, or distribution of such Project Water beyond such delivery point, except for any damage or claim arising out of: (i) acts or omissions of the Contracting Officer or any of its officers, employees, agents, or assigns, with the intent of creating the situation resulting in any damage or claim; (ii) willful misconduct of the Contracting Officer or any of its officers, employees, agents, or assigns; (iii) negligence of the Contracting Officer or any of its officers, employees, agents, or assigns; or (iv) damage or claims resulting from a malfunction of facilities owned and/or operated by the United States.

(f) The Contractor shall maintain a surface water measurement program satisfactory to the Contracting Officer to provide for the operation of the Buchanan Unit facilities without interference to established rights including correlative rights easterly of the Eastside-Chowchilla Canal Bypass and keep records of data obtained from such program satisfactory to the Contracting Officer.

MEASUREMENT OF WATER WITHIN THE SERVICE AREA

6. (a) The Contractor has established a measurement program satisfactory to the Contracting Officer; all surface water delivered for irrigation purposes within the Contractor's Service Area is measured at each agricultural turnout; and Other Water delivered by the Contractor is measured at each service connection. The water measuring devices or water measuring methods of comparable effectiveness must be acceptable to the Contracting Officer. The Contractor shall be responsible for installing, operating, and maintaining and repairing all such measuring devices and implementing all such water measuring methods at no cost to the United States. The Contractor shall use the information obtained from such water measuring devices or water measuring methods to ensure its proper management of the water, to bill water users for water delivered by the Contractor; and, if applicable, to record water delivered as Other Water. Nothing herein contained, however, shall preclude the Contractor from establishing and collecting any charges, assessments, or other revenues authorized by California law.

(b) To the extent the information has not otherwise been provided, upon execution of this Contract, the Contractor shall provide to the Contracting Officer a written report describing the measurement devices or water measuring methods being used or to be used to implement subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract and identifying the agricultural turnouts and the Other Water service connections or alternative measurement programs approved by the Contracting Officer, at which such measurement devices or water measuring methods are being used, and, if applicable, identifying the locations at which such devices and/or methods are not yet being used including a time schedule for implementation at such locations. The Contracting Officer shall advise the

Contractor in writing within sixty (60) days as to the adequacy of, and necessary modifications, if any, of the measuring devices or water measuring methods identified in the Contractor's report and if the Contracting Officer does not respond in such time, they shall be deemed adequate. If the Contracting Officer notifies the Contractor that the measuring devices or methods are inadequate, the parties shall within sixty (60) days following the Contracting Officer's response, negotiate in good faith the earliest practicable date by which the Contractor shall modify said measuring devices and/or measuring methods as required by the Contracting Officer to ensure compliance with subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract.

(c) All new surface water delivery systems installed within the Contractor's Service Area after the effective date of this Contract shall also comply with the measurement provisions described in subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract.

(d) The Contractor shall inform the Contracting Officer and the State of California in writing by April 30 of each Year of the annual volume of Irrigation Water and Other Water delivered within the Contractor's Service Area during the previous Year.

(e) Omitted.

RATES, METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR WATER,  
AND ACCELERATED REPAYMENT OF FACILITIES

7. (a) The Contractor's cost obligations for all Delivered Water shall be determined in accordance with: (i) the Secretary's ratesetting policy for Irrigation Water adopted in 1988 and the Secretary's then-existing ratesetting policy for M&I water, consistent with the SJRRSA, and such ratesetting policies shall be amended, modified, or superseded only through a public notice and

comment procedure; (ii) applicable Federal Reclamation law and associated rules and regulations, or policies; and (iii) other applicable provisions of this Contract.

(1) The Contractor shall pay the United States as provided for in this Article of this Contract for the Delivered Water at Rates and Charges determined in accordance with policies for Irrigation Water and M&I water. The Contractor's Rates shall be established to recover its estimated reimbursable costs included in the O&M Component of the Rate and amounts established to recover other charges and deficits, other than the construction costs. The Rates for O&M costs and Charges shall be adjusted, as appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of the SJRRSA.

(2) In accordance with the SJRRSA, the Contractor's allocable share of Project construction costs will be repaid pursuant to the provisions of this Contract.

(A) The amount due and payable to the United States, pursuant to the SJRRSA, shall be the Repayment Obligation. The Repayment Obligation has been computed by the Contracting Officer in a manner consistent with the SJRRSA and is set forth, both as a lump sum payment payable by January 31, 2011 and as four (4) approximately equal annual installments, which amounts together with the manner in which such amounts were calculated are set forth in Exhibits "C-1" and "C-2". The Repayment Obligation is due in lump sum by January 31, 2011 or in approximate equal annual installments by January 31, 2014, as provided by the SJRRSA. The Contractor must provide appropriate notice to the Contracting Officer in writing not later than thirty (30) days prior to January 31, 2011 if electing to repay the amount due using the lump sum alternative. If such notice is not provided by such date, the Contractor shall be deemed to have

443 elected the installment payment alternative, in which case, the first such payment shall be made no  
444 later than May 1, 2011, the second payment shall be made no later than the first anniversary of the  
445 first payment date, the third payment shall be made no later than the second anniversary of the first  
446 payment date, and the final payment shall be made no later than January 31, 2014. If the installment  
447 payment option is elected by the Contractor, the Contractor may pre-pay the remaining portion of the  
448 Repayment Obligation by giving the Contracting Officer sixty (60) days written notice, in which  
449 case, the Contracting Officer shall re-compute the remaining amount due to reflect the pre-payment  
450 using the same methodology as was used to compute the initial annual installment payment amount,  
451 which is illustrated in Exhibit "C-2". Upon complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the  
452 Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the  
453 Contractor shall be fully and permanently released from any obligation to pay and shall be deemed to  
454 have fully satisfied, the Existing Capital Obligation.

455 (B) Project construction costs or other capitalized costs attributable  
456 to capital additions to the Project incurred after the effective date of this Contract or that are not  
457 reflected in the schedules referenced in Exhibits "C-1" and "C-2" and properly assignable to the  
458 Contractor, shall be repaid as prescribed by the SJRRSA without interest except as required by law.  
459 Consistent with Federal Reclamation law, interest shall continue to accrue on the M&I portion of  
460 unpaid Project construction costs or other capitalized cost assigned to the Contractor until such costs  
461 are paid. Increases or decreases in Project construction costs or other capitalized costs assigned to the  
462 Contractor caused solely by annual adjustment of Project construction costs or other capitalized costs  
463 assigned to each CVP contractor by the Secretary shall not be considered in determining the amounts

to be paid pursuant to this subdivision (a)(2)(B), but will be considered under subdivision (b) of this Article. A separate repayment agreement shall be established by the Contractor and the Contracting Officer to accomplish repayment of all additional Project construction costs or other capitalized costs assigned to the Contractor within the timeframe prescribed by the SJRRSA subject to the following:

(1) If the collective annual Project construction costs or other capitalized costs that are incurred after the effective date of this Contract and properly assignable to the contractors are less than \$5,000,000, then the portion of such costs properly assignable to the Contractor shall be repaid in not more than five (5) years after notification of the allocation. This amount is the result of a collective annual allocation of Project construction costs to the contractors exercising contract conversions; Provided, That the reference to the amount of \$5,000,000 shall not be a precedent in any other context.

(2) If the collective annual Project construction costs or other capitalized costs that are incurred after the effective date of this Contract and properly assignable to the contractors are \$5,000,000 or greater, then the portion of such costs properly assignable to the Contractor shall be repaid as provided by applicable Federal Reclamation law. This amount is the result of a collective annual allocation of Project construction costs to the contractors exercising contract conversions; Provided, That the reference to the amount of \$5,000,000 shall not be a precedent in any other context.

(b) Consistent with Section 10010(b) of the SJRRSA, following a final cost allocation by the Secretary upon completion of the construction of the Central Valley Project, the amounts paid by the Contractor shall be subject to adjustment to reflect the effect of any reallocation

of Project construction costs or other capitalized costs assigned to the Contractor that may have occurred between the determination of Contractor's Existing Capital Obligation and the final cost allocation. In the event that the final cost allocation, as determined by the Secretary, indicates that the costs properly assignable to the Contractor, as determined by the Contracting Officer, are greater than the Existing Capital Obligation and other amounts of Project construction costs or other capitalized costs paid by the Contractor, then the Contractor shall be obligated to pay the remaining allocated costs. The term of such additional repayment contract shall be no less than one (1) year and no more than ten (10) years, however, mutually agreeable provisions regarding the rate of repayment of such amount may be developed by the parties. In the event that the final cost allocation, as determined by the Secretary, indicates that the costs properly assignable to the Contractor, as determined by the Contracting Officer, are less than the Existing Capital Obligation and other amounts of Project construction costs or other capitalized costs paid by the Contractor, then the Contracting Officer shall credit such overpayment as an offset against any outstanding or future obligation of the Contractor, consistent with the SJRRSA. This Contract shall be implemented in a manner consistent with Section 10010(f) of the SJRRSA.

(c) Prior to July 1 of each Calendar Year, the Contracting Officer shall provide the Contractor an estimate of the Charges for Project Water that will be applied to the period October 1, of the current Calendar Year, through September 30, of the following Calendar Year, and the basis for such estimate. The Contractor shall be allowed not less than two (2) months to review and comment on such estimates. On or before September 15 of each Calendar Year, the Contracting Officer shall notify the Contractor in writing of the Charges to be in effect during the period October

1 of the current Calendar Year, through September 30 of the following Calendar Year, and such notification shall revise Exhibit "B". Charges shall be subject to reduction consistent with the SJRRSA based upon the average annual delivery amount agreed to by the Contracting Officer and the Contractor.

(1) Upon complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, for the years 2020 through 2039 inclusive, outstanding or future obligations of the Contractor shall be reduced consistent with Section 10010(d)(2) of the SJRRSA. The amount of such reduction in outstanding or future obligations of the Contractor after October 1, 2010 has been computed by the Contracting Officer, and as computed, such amount is set forth in Exhibit "D".

(d) Prior to October 1 of each Calendar Year, the Contracting Officer shall make available to the Contractor an estimate of the Rates and Tiered Pricing Component for Project Water for the following Year and the computations and cost allocations upon which those Rates are based. The Contractor shall be allowed not less than two (2) months to review and comment on such computations and cost allocations. By December 31 of each Calendar Year, the Contracting Officer shall provide the Contractor with the final Rates and Tiered Pricing Component to be in effect for the upcoming Year, and such notification shall revise Exhibit "B". The O&M component of the Rate may be reduced as provided in the SJRRSA.

(e) Before March 1 and again before July 1 of each Year the Contractor shall pay to the United States, at the Rates and Charges provided in subdivision (a) of this Article of this

Contract, for one-half (1/2) of the Delivered Water (i.e. 12,000 acre-feet) regardless of the quantity of Irrigation Water and Other Water actually made available to the Contractor during the Year.

(f) Omitted.

(g) Omitted.

(h) Payments to be made by the Contractor to the United States under this Contract may be paid from any revenues available to the Contractor.

(i) All revenues received by the United States from the Contractor relating to the delivery of Project Water or the delivery of non-project water through Project facilities shall be allocated and applied in accordance with Federal Reclamation law and the associated rules or regulations, the then-existing Project Ratesetting policies for M&I water or Irrigation Water, and consistent with the SJRRSA.

(j) The Contracting Officer shall keep its accounts, pertaining to the administration of the financial terms and conditions of its long-term contracts, in accordance with applicable Federal standards so as to reflect the application of Project costs and revenues. The Contracting Officer shall, each Year upon request of the Contractor, provide to the Contractor a detailed accounting of all Project and Contractor expense allocations, the disposition of all Project and Contractor revenues, and a summary of all water delivery information. The Contracting Officer and the Contractor shall enter into good faith negotiations to resolve any discrepancies or disputes relating to accountings, reports, or information.

(k) The parties acknowledge and agree that the efficient administration of this Contract is their mutual goal. Recognizing that experience has demonstrated that mechanisms,

547 policies, and procedures used for establishing Rates, Charges, Tiered Pricing Components, and/or for  
548 making and allocating payments, other than those set forth in this Article of this Contract, may be in  
549 the mutual best interest of the parties, it is expressly agreed that the parties may enter into  
550 agreements to modify the mechanisms, policies, and procedures for any of those purposes while this  
551 Contract is in effect without amending this Contract.

552           (l)     (1)     For tiered pricing calculation purposes, the amount of Delivered Water  
553 in excess of eighty percent (80%) but less than or equal to ninety percent (90%) of Water Delivered  
554 shall remain fixed at 2,400 acre-feet per Year and the applicable Tiered Pricing Component on this  
555 2,400 acre-feet shall equal one-half of the difference between the Rate established under subdivision  
556 (a) of this Article of this Contract and the Irrigation Full Cost Water Rate, or M&I Full Cost Water  
557 Rate, whichever is applicable. Likewise, the amount of Delivered Water in excess of ninety percent  
558 (90%) of Water Delivered shall remain fixed at 2,400 acre-feet per Year and the applicable Tiered  
559 Pricing Component on this 2,400 acre-feet shall equal the difference between (i) the Rate established  
560 under subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract and (ii) the Irrigation Full Cost Water Rate or  
561 M&I Full Cost Water Rate, whichever is applicable. Before July 1 of each Year the Contractor shall  
562 make payment to the United States equal to the sum of the multiplication products of the applicable  
563 Tiered Pricing Component and such 2,400 acre-feet amounts.

564           (2)     Subject to the Contracting Officer's written approval, the Contractor  
565 may request and receive an exemption from such Tiered Pricing Components for Project Water  
566 delivered pursuant to this Contract to produce a crop which the Contracting Officer determines will  
567 provide significant and quantifiable habitat values for waterfowl in fields where the water is used and

the crops are produced; Provided, That the exemption from the Tiered Pricing Components for Irrigation Water shall apply only if such habitat values can be assured consistent with the purposes of CVPIA through binding agreements executed with or approved by the Contracting Officer prior to use of such water.

(3) For purposes of determining the applicability of the Tiered Pricing Components pursuant to this Article of this Contract, Water Delivered shall include Project Water that the Contractor transfers to others but shall not include Project Water transferred and delivered to the Contractor.

(m) Rates under the respective ratesetting policies will be established to recover only reimbursable O&M (including any deficits) costs of the Project, as those terms are used in the then-existing Project ratesetting policies, and consistent with the SJRRSA, and interest, where appropriate, except in instances where a minimum Rate is applicable in accordance with the relevant Project ratesetting policy. Changes of significance in practices which implement the Contracting Officer's ratesetting policies will not be implemented until the Contracting Officer has provided the Contractor an opportunity to discuss the nature, need, and impact of the proposed change.

(n) Except as provided in subsections 3405(a)(1)(B) and 3405(f) of the CVPIA, the Rates for Project Water transferred by the Contractor shall be the Contractor's Rates adjusted upward or downward to reflect the changed costs of delivery (if any) incurred by the Contracting Officer in the delivery of the transferred Project Water to the transferee's point of delivery in accordance with the then-existing Central Valley Project Ratesetting Policy.

(o) Pursuant to the Act of October 27, 1986 (100 Stat. 3050), the Contracting Officer is authorized to adjust determinations of ability to pay every five (5) years.

NON-INTEREST BEARING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE DEFICITS

8. The Contractor and the Contracting Officer concur that, as of the effective date of this Contract, the Contractor has no non-interest bearing operation and maintenance deficits and therefore shall have no further liability.

RECOVERED WATER ACCOUNT

9. Omitted.

SALES, TRANSFERS, AND EXCHANGES OF WATER

10. (a) The right to receive Project Water provided for in this Contract may be sold, transferred, or exchanged to others for reasonable and beneficial uses within the State of California if such sale, transfer, or exchange is authorized by applicable Federal and State laws, and applicable guidelines or regulations then in effect. No sale, transfer, or exchange of Project Water under this Contract may take place without the prior written approval of the Contracting Officer. No such Project Water sales, transfers, or exchanges shall be approved, where approval is required, absent compliance with appropriate environmental documentation including but not limited to the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act. Such environmental documentation must include, as appropriate, an analysis of groundwater impacts and economic and social effects, including environmental justice, of the proposed Project Water sales, transfers and exchanges on both the transferor/exchanger and transferee/exchange recipient.

(b) Omitted.

(c) Omitted.

(d) Omitted.

(e) Omitted.

(f) Omitted.

(1) Omitted.

(2) Omitted.

(3) Omitted.

(4) Omitted.

(g) Upon complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, in the case of a sale or transfer of Irrigation Water to another contractor which is otherwise subject to the acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of the RRA, such sold or transferred Irrigation Water shall not be subject to such RRA provisions, however, in the case of a sale or transfer of Irrigation Water to the Contractor from another contractor which is subject to RRA provisions, such RRA provisions shall apply to delivery of such water.

#### APPLICATION OF PAYMENTS AND ADJUSTMENTS

11. (a) The amount of any overpayment by the Contractor of the Contractor's O&M, Capital, and deficit (if any) obligations for the Year shall be applied first to any current liabilities of the Contractor arising out of this Contract then due and payable. Overpayments of more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) shall be refunded at the Contractor's request. In lieu of a refund, any amount of such overpayment, at the option of the Contractor, may be credited against amounts to

become due to the United States by the Contractor. With respect to overpayment, such refund or adjustment shall constitute the sole remedy of the Contractor or anyone having or claiming to have the right to the use of any of the Project Water supply provided for herein. All credits and refunds of overpayments shall be made within thirty (30) days of the Contracting Officer obtaining direction as to how to credit or refund such overpayment in response to the notice to the Contractor that it has finalized the accounts for the Year in which the overpayment was made.

(b) All advances for miscellaneous costs incurred for work requested by the Contractor pursuant to Article 26 of this Contract shall be adjusted to reflect the actual costs when the work has been completed. If the advances exceed the actual costs incurred, the difference will be refunded to the Contractor. If the actual costs exceed the Contractor's advances, the Contractor will be billed for the additional costs pursuant to Article 26 of this Contract.

TEMPORARY REDUCTIONS—RETURN FLOWS

12. (a) The Contracting Officer shall make all reasonable efforts to optimize delivery of the Contract Total subject to: (i) the authorized purposes and priorities of the Project; (ii) the requirements of Federal law and the Settlement; and (iii) the obligations of the United States under existing contracts, or renewals thereof, providing for water deliveries from the Project.

(b) The Contracting Officer may temporarily discontinue or reduce the quantity of Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract as herein provided for the purposes of investigation, inspection, maintenance, repair, or replacement of any of the Project facilities or any part thereof necessary for the delivery of Project Water to the Contractor, but so far as feasible the Contracting Officer will give the Contractor due notice in advance of such temporary

discontinuance or reduction, except in case of emergency, in which case no notice need be given;  
Provided, That the United States shall use its best efforts to avoid any discontinuance or reduction in  
such service. Upon resumption of service after such reduction or discontinuance, and if requested by  
the Contractor, the United States will, if possible, deliver the quantity of Project Water which would  
have been delivered hereunder in the absence of such discontinuance or reduction.

(c) The United States reserves the right to all seepage and return flow water  
derived from Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract which escapes or is  
discharged beyond the Contractor's Service Area; Provided, That this shall not be construed as  
claiming for the United States any right as seepage or return flow to water being used pursuant to this  
Contract for surface irrigation or underground storage either being put to reasonable and beneficial  
use pursuant to this Contract within the Contractor's Service Area by the Contractor or those  
claiming by, through, or under the Contractor. For purposes of this subdivision, groundwater  
recharge, groundwater banking and all similar groundwater activities will be deemed to be  
underground storage.

#### CONSTRAINTS ON THE AVAILABILITY OF WATER

13. If there is a reduction in total water supply because of errors in physical operations of  
the Project, drought, other physical causes beyond the control of the Contracting Officer or actions  
taken by the Contracting Officer to meet legal obligations then, except as provided in subdivision (a)  
of Article 19 of this Contract, no liability shall accrue against the United States or any of its officers,  
agents, or employees for any damage, direct or indirect, arising therefrom.

UNAVOIDABLE GROUNDWATER PERCOLATION

14. To the extent applicable, the Contractor shall not be deemed to have delivered Irrigation Water to Excess Lands and Ineligible Lands within the meaning of this Contract if such lands are irrigated with groundwater that reaches the underground strata as an unavoidable result of the delivery of Irrigation Water by the Contractor to Eligible Lands.

ACREAGE LIMITATION

15. (a) Notwithstanding the application of the acreage limitation provisions to activities referred to in subdivision (b) of this Article, subdivision (a) of Article 16, and Article 18 of this Contract, upon complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the provisions of section 213(a) and (b) of the RRA shall apply to lands in the Contractor's Service Area, with the effect that acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of the RRA shall no longer apply to lands in the Contractor's Service Area with respect to Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract. Upon receiving the complete payment of the Repayment Obligation from the Contractor, Reclamation will conduct a final water district review for the purpose of determining compliance with the acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of the RRA from the date of the last water district review until the date when payment to Reclamation of the Repayment Obligation is completed.

(b) Project Water now owned or hereafter acquired by the Contractor through a separate contract, other than this Contract, that is subject to Federal Reclamation law, may be delivered to lands within the Contractor's Service Area. Upon complete payment of the Repayment

Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract may be mixed with Project Water delivered pursuant to a contract with the United States, other than this Contract, to which acreage limitations, reporting, and the Full Cost pricing provisions of Federal Reclamation law apply without causing the application of the acreage limitations, reporting, and the Full Cost pricing provisions of Federal Reclamation law to the Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract; Provided, The terms and conditions in such other contract shall continue to apply, and if such terms and conditions so require, the lands to receive Project Water under such other contract shall be properly designated by the Contractor and such Project Water is to be delivered in accordance with the RRA including any applicable acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions.

COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL RECLAMATION LAWS

16. (a) The parties agree that the delivery of irrigation water or use of Federal facilities pursuant to this Contract is subject to Federal reclamation law, including but not limited to the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390 *aa et seq.*), as amended and supplemented, and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior under Federal reclamation law.

(b) The terms of this Contract are subject to the Settlement and the SJRRSA. Nothing in this Contract shall be interpreted to limit or interfere with the full implementation of the Settlement and the SJRRSA.

PROTECTION OF WATER AND AIR QUALITY

17. (a) Project facilities used to make available and deliver water to the Contractor shall be operated and maintained in the most practical manner to maintain the quality of the water at the highest level possible as determined by the Contracting Officer: *Provided, That* the United States does not warrant the quality of the water delivered to the Contractor and is under no obligation to furnish or construct water treatment facilities to maintain or improve the quality of water delivered to the Contractor.

(b) The Contractor shall comply with all applicable water and air pollution laws and regulations of the United States and the State of California; and shall obtain all required permits or licenses from the appropriate Federal, State, or local authorities necessary for the delivery of water by the Contractor; and shall be responsible for compliance with all Federal, State, and local water quality standards applicable to surface and subsurface drainage and/or discharges generated through the use of Federal or Contractor facilities or project water provided by the Contractor within the Contractor's Project Water Service Area.

(c) This article shall not affect or alter any legal obligations of the Secretary to provide drainage or other discharge services.

WATER ACQUIRED BY THE CONTRACTOR  
OTHER THAN FROM THE UNITED STATES

18. (a) Until complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, water or water rights now owned or hereafter acquired by the Contractor other than from the United States and Irrigation Water furnished pursuant to the terms of this Contract may be simultaneously transported through the same distribution facilities of the Contractor subject to the following: (i) if the facilities utilized for commingling Irrigation Water and non-project water were constructed without funds made available pursuant to Federal Reclamation law, the acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of Federal Reclamation law will be applicable only to the Landholders of lands which receive Irrigation Water; (ii) the eligibility of land to receive Irrigation Water must be established through the certification requirements as specified in the Acreage Limitation Rules and Regulations

(43 CFR Part 426); and (iii) the water requirements of Eligible Lands within the Contractor's Service Area can be established and the quantity of Irrigation Water to be utilized is less than or equal to the quantity necessary to irrigate such Eligible Lands. The Contractor and the Contracting Officer acknowledge that the Contractor's distribution system that was constructed with funds made available pursuant to Federal Reclamation law was, prior to effective date of this Contract, repaid in full and title to the facilities transferred to the Contractor. As such, when such facilities are utilized for commingling Irrigation Water and non-project water, the acreage limitations, reporting, and Full-Cost pricing provisions of Federal Reclamation law will be applicable only to the Landholders of lands which receive Irrigation Water.

(b) Upon complete payment of the Repayment Obligation by the Contractor, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, water or water rights now owned or hereafter acquired by the Contractor other than from the United States pursuant to this Contract and Irrigation Water furnished pursuant to the terms of this Contract may be simultaneously transported through the same distribution facilities of the Contractor without the payment of fees to the United States and without application of Federal Reclamation law to Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract or to lands which receive Project Water delivered to Contractor pursuant to this Contract.

(c) Water or water rights now owned or hereafter acquired by the Contractor, other than from the United States or adverse to the Project or its contractors (i.e., non-project water), may be stored, conveyed and/or diverted through Project facilities, other than Buchanan Unit facilities, subject to the completion of appropriate environmental documentation, with the approval of the

Contracting Officer and the execution of any contract determined by the Contracting Officer to be necessary, consistent with the following provisions:

(1) The Contractor may introduce non-project water into Project facilities and deliver said water to lands within the Contractor's Service Area, including Ineligible Lands, subject to payment to the United States of an appropriate rate as determined by the Contracting Officer. In addition, if electrical power is required to pump non-project water, the Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining the necessary power and paying the necessary charges therefor.

(2) Delivery of such non-project water in and through Project facilities shall only be allowed to the extent such deliveries do not: (i) interfere with other Project purposes as determined by the Contracting Officer; (ii) reduce the quantity or quality of water available to other Project Contractors; (iii) interfere with the delivery of contractual water entitlements to any other Project Contractors; (iv) interfere with the physical maintenance of the Project facilities; or (v) result in the United States incurring any liability or unreimbursed costs or expenses thereby.

(3) The United States shall not be responsible for control, care or distribution of the non-project water before it is introduced into or after it is delivered from the Project facilities. The Contractor hereby releases and agrees to defend and indemnify the United States and its officers, agents, and employees, from any claim for damage to persons or property, direct or indirect, resulting from Contractor's diversion or extraction of non-project water from any source.

(4) Diversion of such non-project water into Project facilities shall be consistent with all applicable laws, and if involving groundwater, consistent with any groundwater management plan for the area from which it was extracted.

(5) After Project purposes are met, as determined by the Contracting Officer, the United States and the Contractor shall share priority to utilize the remaining capacity of the facilities declared to be available by the Contracting Officer for conveyance and transportation of non-project water prior to any such remaining capacity being made available to non-project contractors.

(d) Non-project water may be stored, conveyed and/or diverted through Buchanan Unit facilities, subject to the prior completion of appropriate environmental documentation and approval of the Contracting Officer without execution of a separate contract, consistent with subdivisions (c)(1) through (c)(5) of this Article and any other condition determined to be appropriate by the Contracting Officer.

#### OPINIONS AND DETERMINATIONS

19. (a) Where the terms of this Contract provide for actions to be based upon the opinion or determination of either party to this Contract, said terms shall not be construed as permitting such action to be predicated upon arbitrary, capricious, or unreasonable opinions or determinations. Both parties, notwithstanding any other provisions of this Contract, expressly reserve the right to seek relief from and appropriate adjustment for any such arbitrary, capricious, or unreasonable opinion or determination. Each opinion or determination by either party shall be provided in a timely manner. Nothing in this Article of this Contract is intended to or shall affect or

alter the standard of judicial review applicable under Federal law to any opinion or determination implementing a specific provision of Federal law embodied in statute or regulation.

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

#### COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

20. (a) In order to further their mutual goals and objectives, the Contracting Officer and the Contractor shall communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with each other, and with other affected Project Contractors, in order to improve the operation and management of the Project. The communication, coordination, and cooperation regarding operations and management shall include, but not limited to, any action which will or may materially affect the quantity or quality of Project Water supply, the allocation of Project Water supply, and Project financial matters including, but not limited to, budget issues. The communication, coordination, and cooperation provided for hereunder shall extend to all provisions of this Contract. Each party shall retain exclusive decision making authority for all actions, opinions, and determinations to be made by the respective party.

(b) It is the intent of the Secretary to improve water supply reliability. To carry out this intent:

(1) The Contracting Officer will, at the request of the Contractor, assist in the development of integrated resource management plans for the Contractor. Further, the

Contracting Officer will, as appropriate, seek authorizations for implementation of partnerships to improve water supply, water quality, and reliability.

(2) The Secretary will, as appropriate, pursue program and project implementation and authorization in coordination with Project Contractors to improve the water supply, water quality, and reliability of the Project for all Project purposes.

(3) The Secretary will coordinate with Project Contractors and the State of California to seek improved water resource management.

(4) The Secretary will coordinate actions of agencies within the Department of the Interior that may impact the availability of water for Project purposes.

(5) The Contracting Officer shall periodically, but not less than annually, hold division level meetings to discuss Project operations, division level water management activities, and other issues as appropriate.

(c) Without limiting the contractual obligations of the Contracting Officer hereunder, nothing in this Contract shall be construed to limit or constrain the Contracting Officer's ability to communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with the Contractor or other interested stakeholders or to make decisions in a timely fashion as needed to protect health, safety, physical integrity of structures or facilities, or the Contracting Officer's ability to comply with applicable laws.

#### CHARGES FOR DELINQUENT PAYMENTS

21. (a) The Contractor shall be subject to interest, administrative and penalty charges on delinquent installments or payments. When a payment is not received by the due date, the Contractor shall pay an interest charge for each day the payment is delinquent beyond the due date. When a payment becomes sixty (60) days delinquent, the Contractor shall pay an administrative charge to cover additional costs of billing and processing the delinquent payment. When a payment

is delinquent ninety (90) days or more, the Contractor shall pay an additional penalty charge of six (6%) percent per year for each day the payment is delinquent beyond the due date. Further, the Contractor shall pay any fees incurred for debt collection services associated with a delinquent payment.

(b) The interest charge rate shall be the greater of the rate prescribed quarterly in the Federal Register by the Department of the Treasury for application to overdue payments, or the interest rate of one-half of one (0.5%) percent per month prescribed by Section 6 of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (Public Law 76-260). The interest charge rate shall be determined as of the due date and remain fixed for the duration of the delinquent period.

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

#### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

22. During the performance of this Contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

(a) The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Contracting Officer setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

(b) The Contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin.

(c) The Contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice, to be provided by the Contracting Officer, advising the labor union or workers' representative of the Contractor's commitments under Section 202 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

(d) The Contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.

(e) The Contractor will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the Contracting Agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.

(f) In the event of the Contractor's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of such rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the Contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965 or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

(g) The Contractor will include the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (7) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by the rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to Section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as may be directed by the Secretary of Labor as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance: *Provided, however*, that in the event the Contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction, the Contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

#### GENERAL OBLIGATION--BENEFITS CONDITIONED UPON PAYMENT

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

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

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

#### COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS AND REGULATIONS

914           24.     (a)     The Contractor shall comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42  
915 U.S.C. 2000d), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975 (P.L. 93-112, as amended), the Age  
916 Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101, et seq.) and any other applicable civil rights laws, as  
917 well as with their respective implementing regulations and guidelines imposed by the U.S.  
918 Department of the Interior and/or Bureau of Reclamation.

919                   (b)     These statutes require that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds  
920 of race, color, national origin, handicap, or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the  
921 benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving  
922 financial assistance from the Bureau of Reclamation. By executing this Contract, the Contractor  
923 agrees to immediately take any measures necessary to implement this obligation, including permitting  
924 officials of the United States to inspect premises, programs, and documents.

925                   (c)     The Contractor makes this agreement in consideration of and for the purpose  
926 of obtaining any and all Federal grants, loans, contracts, property discounts, or other Federal financial  
927 assistance extended after the date hereof to the Contractor by the Bureau of Reclamation, including  
928 installment payments after such date on account of arrangements for Federal financial assistance  
929 which were approved before such date. The Contractor recognizes and agrees that such Federal  
930 assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this Article,  
931 and that the United States reserves the right to seek judicial enforcement thereof.

932                                   PRIVACY ACT COMPLIANCE

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

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

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

947                   (d)     The Contracting Officer shall designate a full-time employee of the Bureau of  
948 Reclamation to be the System Manager who shall be responsible for making decisions on denials

pursuant to 43 CFR 2.61 and 2.64 amendment requests pursuant to 43 CFR 2.72. The Contractor is authorized to grant requests by individuals for access to their own records.

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

#### CONTRACTOR TO PAY CERTAIN MISCELLANEOUS COSTS

26. In addition to all other payments to be made by the Contractor pursuant to this Contract, the Contractor shall pay to the United States, within sixty (60) days after receipt of a bill and detailed statement submitted by the Contracting Officer to the Contractor for such specific items of direct cost incurred by the United States for work requested by the Contractor associated with this Contract plus indirect costs in accordance with applicable Bureau of Reclamation policies and procedures. All such amounts referred to in this Article of this Contract shall not exceed the amount agreed to in writing in advance by the Contractor. This Article of this Contract shall not apply to costs for routine contract administration.

#### WATER CONSERVATION

27. (a) Prior to the delivery of water provided from or conveyed through Federally constructed or Federally financed facilities pursuant to this Contract, the Contractor shall be implementing an effective water conservation and efficiency program based on the Contractor's water conservation plan that has been determined by the Contracting Officer to meet the conservation and efficiency criteria for evaluating water conservation plans established under Federal law. The water conservation and efficiency program shall contain definite water conservation objectives, appropriate

economically feasible water conservation measures, and time schedules for meeting those objectives. Continued Project Water delivery pursuant to this Contract shall be contingent upon the Contractor's continued implementation of such water conservation program. In the event the Contractor's water conservation plan or any revised water conservation plan completed pursuant to subdivision (d) of this Article of this Contract have not yet been determined by the Contracting Officer to meet such criteria, due to circumstances which the Contracting Officer determines are beyond the control of the Contractor, water deliveries shall be made under this Contract so long as the Contractor diligently works with the Contracting Officer to obtain such determination at the earliest practicable date, and thereafter the Contractor immediately begins implementing its water conservation and efficiency program in accordance with the time schedules therein.

(b) Omitted.

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

(d) At five (5) -year intervals, the Contractor shall revise its water conservation plan to reflect the then-existing conservation and efficiency criteria for evaluating water conservation plans established under Federal law and submit such revised water management plan to the Contracting Officer for review and evaluation. The Contracting Officer will then determine if the water conservation plan meets Reclamation's then-existing conservation and efficiency criteria for evaluating water conservation plans established under Federal law.

(e) If the Contractor is engaged in direct groundwater recharge, such activity shall be described in the Contractor's water conservation plan.

EXISTING OR ACQUIRED WATER OR WATER RIGHTS

28. Except as specifically provided in Article 18 of this Contract, the provisions of this Contract shall not be applicable to or affect non-project water or water rights now owned or hereafter acquired by the Contractor or any user of such water within the Contractor's Service Area including, without limitation, Prior-Rights Water. Any such water shall not be considered Project Water under this Contract. In addition, this Contract shall not be construed as limiting or curtailing any rights which the Contractor or any water user within the Contractor's Service Area acquires or has available under any other contract pursuant to Federal Reclamation law.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BY OPERATING NON-FEDERAL ENTITY

29. Omitted.

CONTINGENT ON APPROPRIATION OR ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS

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

BOOKS, RECORDS, AND REPORTS

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

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract, no books, records, or other information shall be requested from the Contractor by the Contracting Officer unless such books, records, or information are reasonably related to the administration or performance of this Contract. Any such request shall allow the Contractor a reasonable period of time within which to provide the requested books, records, or information.

(c) Omitted.

ASSIGNMENT LIMITED--SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OBLIGATED

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

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

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

SEVERABILITY

33. In the event that a person or entity who is neither (i) a party to a Project contract, nor (ii) a person or entity that receives Project Water from a party to a Project contract, nor (iii) an association or other form of organization whose primary function is to represent parties to Project contracts, brings an action in a court of competent jurisdiction challenging the legality or enforceability of a provision included in this Contract and said person, entity, association, or organization obtains a final court decision holding that such provision is legally invalid or

unenforceable and the Contractor has not intervened in that lawsuit in support of the plaintiff(s), the parties to this Contract shall use their best efforts to (i) within thirty (30) days of the date of such final court decision identify by mutual agreement the provisions in this Contract which must be revised and (ii) within three (3) months thereafter promptly agree on the appropriate revision(s). The time periods specified above may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties. Pending the completion of the actions designated above, to the extent it can do so without violating any applicable provisions of law, the United States shall continue to make the quantities of Project Water specified in this Contract available to the Contractor pursuant to the provisions of this Contract which were not found to be legally invalid or unenforceable in the final court decision.

#### RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

34. Should any dispute arise concerning any provisions of this Contract, or the parties' rights and obligations thereunder, the parties shall meet and confer in an attempt to resolve the dispute. Prior to the Contractor commencing any legal action, or the Contracting Officer referring any matter to Department of Justice, the party shall provide to the other party thirty (30) days written notice of the intent to take such action; Provided, That such notice shall not be required where a delay in commencing an action would prejudice the interests of the party that intends to file suit. During the thirty (30) day notice period, the Contractor and the Contracting Officer shall meet and confer in an attempt to resolve the dispute. Except as specifically provided, nothing herein is intended to waive or abridge any right or remedy that the Contractor or the United States may have.

#### OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT

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

CHANGES IN CONTRACTOR'S SERVICE AREA

36. (a) While this Contract is in effect, no change may be made in the Contractor's Service Area or boundaries, by inclusion or exclusion of lands, dissolution, consolidation, merger, or otherwise, except upon the Contracting Officer's written consent.

(b) Within thirty (30) days of receipt of a request for such a change, the Contracting Officer will notify the Contractor of any additional information required by the Contracting Officer for processing said request, and both parties will meet to establish a mutually agreeable schedule for timely completion of the process. Such process will analyze whether the proposed change is likely to: (i) result in the use of Project Water contrary to the terms of this Contract; (ii) impair the ability of the Contractor to pay for Project Water furnished under this Contract or to pay for any Federally-constructed facilities for which the Contractor is responsible; and (iii) have an impact on any Project Water rights applications, permits, or licenses. In addition, the Contracting Officer shall comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act. The Contractor will be responsible for all costs incurred by the Contracting Officer in this process, and such costs will be paid in accordance with Article 26 of this Contract.

FEDERAL LAWS

37. By entering into this Contract, the Contractor does not waive its rights to contest the validity or application in connection with the performance of the terms and conditions of this Contract of any Federal law or regulation; Provided, That the Contractor agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of this Contract unless and until relief from application of such Federal law or regulation to the implementing provision of the Contract is granted by a court of competent jurisdiction.

1089

EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND

1090

38. Omitted.

1091

MEDIUM FOR TRANSMITTING PAYMENT

39. (a) All payments from the Contractor to the United States under this contract shall be by the medium requested by the United States on or before the date payment is due. The required method of payment may include checks, wire transfers, or other types of payment specified by the United States.

(b) Upon execution of the contract, the Contractor shall furnish the Contracting Officer with the Contractor's taxpayer's identification number (TIN). The purpose for requiring the Contractor's TIN is for collecting and reporting any delinquent amounts arising out of the Contractor's relationship with the United States.

NOTICES

40. Any notice, demand, or request authorized or required by this Contract shall be deemed to have been given, on behalf of the Contractor, when mailed, postage prepaid, or delivered to the Area Manager, South-Central California Area Office, 1243 "N" Street, Fresno, California 93721, and on behalf of the United States, when mailed, postage prepaid, or delivered to the Board of Directors of Chowchilla Water District, P.O. Box 905, Chowchilla, California 93610. The designation of the addressee or the address may be changed by notice given in the same manner as provided in this Article of this Contract for other notices.

CONFIRMATION OF CONTRACT

41. The Contractor, after the execution of this Contract, shall promptly provide to the Contracting Officer a decree of a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of California, confirming the execution of this Contract. The Contractor shall furnish the United States a certified copy of the final decree, the validation proceedings, and all pertinent supporting records of the court approving and confirming this Contract, and decreeing and adjudging it to be lawful, valid, and binding on the Contractor.

CONTRACT DRAFTING CONSIDERATIONS

42. Articles 1 through 8, Articles 10 through 15, subdivision (b) of Article 16, Articles 18 through 20, subdivision (c) of Article 23, Articles 26 through 28, subdivision (b) of Article 31, subdivisions (b) and (c) of Article 32, Articles 33 through 34, subdivision (b) of Article 36, and Article 37 of this Contract have been drafted, negotiated, and reviewed by the parties hereto, each of whom is sophisticated in the matters to which this Contract pertains, and no one party shall be considered to have drafted the stated Articles.

1124               IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Contract as of the day and  
1125   year first above written.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region  
Bureau of Reclamation

CHOWCHILLA WATER DISTRICT

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY

Attest:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE

**EXHIBIT A**

**Map or Description of Service Area**

**EXHIBIT B**  
**CHOWCHILLA WATER DISTRICT - BUCHANAN UNIT**  
**2010 Rates and Charges**  
**(Per Acre-Foot)**

	<b>Irrigation Water Class 1</b>	<b>Other Water<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>COST-OF-SERVICE (COS) RATES</b>		
O&M Component		
Water Marketing	\$6.01	
Storage	\$6.57	
Conveyance <sup>2</sup>		
<b>TOTAL COS RATES</b> ( <i>Tier 1 Rate</i> )	\$12.58	
<b>IRRIGATION FULL COST RATE (RRA)</b>		
Section 202(3) Rate is applicable to a Qualified Recipient or to a Limited Recipient receiving irrigation water on or before October 1, 1981.	\$23.35	
Section 205(a)(3) Rate is applicable to a Limited Recipient that did not receive irrigation water on or before October 1, 1981.	\$25.22	
<b>TIERED PRICING COMPONENTS</b> ( <i>In Addition to Total COS Rate Above</i> )		
<b>IRRIGATION</b>		
<i>Tier 2 Rate</i> : >80% <=90% of Contract Total [Section 202(3) Irrigation Full Cost Rate - Irrigation COS Rate]/2 ( <i>Amount to be added to Tier 1 Rate</i> )	\$5.39	
<i>Tier 3 Rate</i> : >90% of Contract Total [Section 202(3) Irrigation Full Cost Rate - Irrigation COS Rate] ( <i>Amount to be added to Tier 1 Rate</i> )	\$10.77	
<b>CHARGES AND ASSESSMENTS</b> ( <i>Payments in addition to Rates</i> )		
P.L. 102-575 Surcharges <sup>3</sup>		
Restoration Fund Payments [Section 3407(d)(2)(A)]	\$9.11	
P.L. 106-377 Assessment (Trinity Public Utilities District) <sup>4</sup> [Appendix B, Section 203]	\$0.11	

**EXPLANATORY NOTES**

- 1 The Contractor has not projected any delivery of Other Water for the 2010 contract year. A temporary Rate will be applied upon any Other Water delivery.
- 2 Conveyance and Conveyance Pumping Operation and Maintenance costs were removed for ratesetting purposes and are to be direct billed
- 3 The surcharges were determined pursuant to Title XXXIV of P.L. 102-575. Restoration Fund surcharges under P.L. 102-575 are determined on a fiscal year basis (10/1-9/30).
- 4 The Trinity Public Utilities District Assessment is applicable to each acre-foot of water delivered from 3/1/2010-2/28/2011 and is adjusted annually.

**Additional details of the rate components are available on the Internet at**

<http://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvpwaterrates/ratebooks/index.html>

**Exhibit C-1**

## Repayment Obligation - Lump Sum Option

**Friant Contractor:**  
**San Joaquin River Restoration Act**

Chowchilla WD - Buchanan Unit

<b>Existing Capital Obligation (Article 1(m))</b>	<b>\$ 1,878,943.15</b>
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<b>Irrigation portion of Existing Capital Obligation</b>	<b>\$ 1,878,943.15</b>
--	------------------------

20yr CMT as of : **10/01/10** **4.050%**

Discount Rate (1/2 20yr CMT) **2.025%**

<b>Discounted Irrigation Capital</b>	<b>\$ 1,532,471.00</b>
--------------------------------------	------------------------

**Non-Discounted M&I Portion of  
Existing Capital Obligation**

**\$ -**

<b>Repayment Obligation - Lump Sum Option (per Article 7(a)(2)(A) \$ 1,532,471.00</b>			
<b>Irrigation Portion of Allocated Capital Cost</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Straight Line Repayment</b>	
2011	\$ 1,878,943	\$ 93,947	
2012	\$ 1,784,996	\$ 93,947	
2013	\$ 1,691,049	\$ 93,947	
2014	\$ 1,597,102	\$ 93,947	
2015	\$ 1,503,155	\$ 93,947	
2016	\$ 1,409,207	\$ 93,947	
2017	\$ 1,315,260	\$ 93,947	
2018	\$ 1,221,313	\$ 93,947	
2019	\$ 1,127,366	\$ 93,947	
2020	\$ 1,033,419	\$ 93,947	
2021	\$ 939,472	\$ 93,947	
2022	\$ 845,524	\$ 93,947	
2023	\$ 751,577	\$ 93,947	
2024	\$ 657,630	\$ 93,947	
2025	\$ 563,683	\$ 93,947	
2026	\$ 469,736	\$ 93,947	
2027	\$ 375,789	\$ 93,947	
2028	\$ 281,841	\$ 93,947	
2029	\$ 187,894	\$ 93,947	
2030	\$ 93,947	\$ 93,947	
		<b>\$ 1,878,943</b>	

**Exhibit C-2**

Repayment Obligation - Installment Payment Option

**Prinant Contractor:** Chowchilla WD - Buchanan Unit

<b>Existing Capital Obligation (Article 1(m))</b>	<b>\$ 1,878,943.15</b>
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<b>Irrigation Portion of Existing Capital Obligation</b>	<b>\$ 1,878,943.15</b>
--	------------------------

<b>20yr CMT - 10/1/2010</b>	<b>4.050%</b>
<b>Discount Rate (1/2 20yr CMT)</b>	<b>2.025%</b>

<b>Non-Discounted M&amp;I Existing Capital Obligation</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
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**Installment Schedule**

	<b>Payment Due Date</b>	<b>Irrigation Portion of Repayment Obligation</b>	<b>Non-discounted M&amp;I Portion of Existing Capital Obligation</b>	<b>Repayment Obligation</b>
<b>1st Installment</b>	5/1/2011	\$ 394,564.08	\$ -	\$ 394,564.08
<b>2nd Installment</b>	5/1/2012	\$ 394,385.32	\$ -	\$ 394,385.32
<b>3rd Installment</b>	5/1/2013	\$ 394,668.00	\$ -	\$ 394,668.00
<b>4th Installment</b>	1/31/2014	\$ 395,264.39	\$ -	\$ 395,264.39

<b>Total Repayment Obligation - Installment Option (per Article 7(a)(2)(A)):</b>	<b>\$ 1,578,881.78</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,578,881.78</b>
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Year	Irrigation Portion of Allocated Capital Cost		Discounted Capital Amount			
	Beginning Balance	Straight Line Repayment	\$394,564.08	\$394,385.32	\$394,668.00	\$395,264.39
2011	\$ 1,878,943	\$ 93,947	\$ 93,947			
2012	\$ 1,784,996	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 74,218		
2013	\$ 1,691,049	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 52,282	
2014	\$ 1,597,102	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2015	\$ 1,503,155	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2016	\$ 1,409,207	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2017	\$ 1,315,260	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2018	\$ 1,221,313	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2019	\$ 1,127,366	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2020	\$ 1,033,419	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2021	\$ 939,472	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2022	\$ 845,524	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2023	\$ 751,577	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2024	\$ 657,630	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2025	\$ 563,683	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2026	\$ 469,736	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2027	\$ 375,789	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2028	\$ 281,841	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2029	\$ 187,894	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
2030	\$ 93,947	\$ 93,947	\$ 19,729	\$ 21,937	\$ 24,567	\$ 27,714
	\$ 1,878,943		\$ 468,796	\$ 469,078	\$ 469,924	\$ 471,145

Exhibit D  
Computation of Financing Costs Offset

**Friant Contractor:**  
**San Joaquin River Restoration Act**

Chowchilla WD - Buchanan Unit

Average Annual Delivery - Forecasted for 2020-2039*	n/a
Total Projected deliveries (over 20 yr period)**	
Article 7(c)	n/a
20 yr CMT as of 10/1/2010	4.050%
1/2 20 yr CMT as of 10/1/2010	2.025%

Irrigation Portion of Existing Capital Obligation	\$1,878,943
NPV at Half CMT (Repayment Obligation)	\$1,532,471
NPV at Full CMT	\$1,271,138
Financing Cost Offset: ® (Article 7(c)(1))	\$261,333
NPV of FS Reduction	\$0

Difference between Financing Cost Offset and NPV of FS Reduction **\$261,333**

2020 Other Obligation Credit (FV of difference) (Art. 7(c)(1))***	\$373,571
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Irrigation portion of Allocated Capital Cost			CVPIA Friant Surcharges	Reduction in Friant Surcharge			
Year	Beginning Balance	Straight Line Repayment	Surcharge per Acre-Foot Before Reduction	Surcharge Reduction per Article	Surcharge due per A/F after 7(	Projected Total Annual Credit	2020 Other Obligation Credit Calculation (Art.
2011	\$ 1,878,943	\$ 93,947	n/a		n/a	n/a	\$ 261,332.76
2012	\$ 1,784,996	\$ 93,947	n/a		n/a	n/a	\$ 271,916.73
2013	\$ 1,691,049	\$ 93,947	n/a		n/a	n/a	\$ 282,929.36
2014	\$ 1,597,102	\$ 93,947	n/a		n/a	n/a	\$ 294,388.00
2015	\$ 1,503,155	\$ 93,947	n/a		n/a	n/a	\$ 306,310.71
2016	\$ 1,409,207	\$ 93,947	n/a		n/a	n/a	\$ 318,716.30
2017	\$ 1,315,260	\$ 93,947	n/a		n/a	n/a	\$ 331,624.31
2018	\$ 1,221,313	\$ 93,947	n/a		n/a	n/a	\$ 345,055.09
2019	\$ 1,127,366	\$ 93,947	n/a		n/a	n/a	\$ 359,029.82
2020	\$ 1,033,419	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$ 373,570.53
2021	\$ 939,472	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2022	\$ 845,524	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2023	\$ 751,577	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2024	\$ 657,630	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2025	\$ 563,683	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2026	\$ 469,736	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2027	\$ 375,789	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2028	\$ 281,841	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2029	\$ 187,894	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2030	\$ 93,947	\$ 93,947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2031			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2032			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2033			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2034			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2035			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2036			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2037			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2038			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
2039			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
		\$ 1,878,943				n/a	

Exhibit D  
Computation of Financing Costs Offset

**Footnotes**

\*\*\* The difference represents the amount of financing costs that are not offset through the reduced Friant Surcharge computed on this schedule. Pursuant to Section 7(c)(2), this amount shall offset the Contractor's other outstanding or future obligations. After 2020, the contractors other obligations shall be reduced in the following order to fully offset this amount: 1) Payments or prepayments due for O&M expenses and, to the extent applicable, 2) Additional Capital Obligation.

@ Amount of reduction in Friant Surcharge is computed using FPV of Financing Costs adjusted to Yr 2020. Annual Friant Surcharge reduction to fully offset Financing costs is computed and presented on per a/f basis. Friant surcharge may be reduced up to \$3 per a/f.

Friant Surcharge (FS) Reduction Calculations

FV of Total Financing Cost for Offset	\$	388,700
Annual Credit Target	\$	(27,610)
FS Reduction w/o limit	n/a	
FS Reduction limit	n/a	

**EXHIBIT E**

**Restated Contract<sup>1</sup>**

Irrigation and Other

Contract No. 14-06-200-3844E

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

**CONTRACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES**  
**AND**  
**CHOWCHILLA WATER DISTRICT**  
**PROVIDING FOR PROJECT WATER SERVICE FROM**  
**BUCHANAN UNIT AND**  
**FOR FACILITIES REPAYMENT**

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to subdivision (b) of Article 2 of the Contract to which this exhibit is attached, this Exhibit “E” makes no substantive revisions to the Contract to which it is attached and is prepared solely as a matter of administrative convenience. In this Exhibit “E”, references to “Contract” or “this Contract” refers to this Restated Contract.

16	Compliance With Federal Reclamation Law
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19	Opinions and Determinations
20	Coordination and Cooperation
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#### Signature Page

Exhibit A	Contractor's Map or Description of Service Area
Exhibit B	Rates and Charges
Exhibit C-1	Repayment Schedule – Lump Sum Option
Exhibit C-2	Repayment Schedule – Installment Option
Exhibit D	Computation of Financing Costs Offset
Exhibit E	Omitted

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1 UNITED STATES  
2 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
3 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
4 Central Valley Project, California

5 CONTRACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES  
6 AND  
7 CHOWCHILLA WATER DISTRICT  
8 PROVIDING FOR PROJECT WATER SERVICE FROM  
9 BUCHANAN UNIT AND  
10 FACILITIES REPAYMENT

11 THIS CONTRACT, made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010, is entered into  
12 pursuant to the Act of June 17, 1902, (32 Stat. 388), and acts amendatory or supplementary thereto,  
13 including but not limited to: the Act of August 26, 1937 (50 Stat. 844), as amended and  
14 supplemented, August 4, 1939 (53 Stat. 1187), as amended and supplemented, July 2, 1956 (70 Stat.  
15 483), June 21, 1963 (77 Stat. 68), October 12, 1982 (96 Stat. 1262), October 27, 1986 (100 Stat.  
16 3050), as amended, Title XXXIV of the Act of October 30, 1992 (106 Stat. 4706), and Title X,  
17 Subtitle A, of the Act of March 30, 2009 (123 Stat. 1349), also referred to as the San Joaquin River  
18 Restoration Settlement Act hereinafter referred to as SJRRSA, all collectively hereinafter referred to  
19 as Federal Reclamation law, between THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, hereinafter referred to  
20 as the United States and CHOWCHILLA WATER DISTRICT, hereinafter referred to as the  
21 Contractor, a public agency of the State of California, duly organized, existing, and acting pursuant to  
22 the laws thereof, with its principal place of business in California;

23 WITNESSETH, That

24 EXPLANATORY RECITALS

25 [1<sup>st</sup>] WHEREAS, the United States has constructed and is operating the Central Valley  
26 Project, California, for diversion, storage, carriage, distribution and beneficial use, for flood control,

irrigation, municipal, domestic, industrial, fish and wildlife mitigation, protection and restoration, generation and distribution of electric energy, salinity control, navigation and other beneficial uses, of waters of the Sacramento River, the American River, the Trinity River, and the San Joaquin River and their tributaries; and

[2<sup>nd</sup>] WHEREAS, pursuant to Title II of the Flood Control Act of October 23, 1962 (76 Stat. 1180), and supporting documents, the United States constructed Buchanan Dam on the Chowchilla River (thereby creating Eastman Lake), hereinafter collectively referred to as the Buchanan Unit, which is operated by the Corps of Engineers for flood control, recreation and other incidental uses; and

[3<sup>rd</sup>] WHEREAS, the United States and the Contractor entered into Contract Number 14-06-200-3844A, as amended, providing the Contractor the right to the entire yield from the Buchanan Unit available for conservation purposes from May 28, 1968 through February 28, 1994; and

[4<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the Contractor and the United States have, pursuant to subsection 3404(c)(1) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA), subsequently entered into interim renewal contract(s), identified as Contract Number (s) 14-06-200-3844A-IR2, IR3, IR4, IR5, and IR6, which provided for the continued water service to Contractor from December 1, 2000 through February 28, 2001, and subsequently entered into a long-term renewal contract, identified as Contract Number 14-06-200-3844A-LTR1, which provided for continued water service to Contractor through February 28, 2026, which was amended January 22, 2007, and is herein referred to as the "Existing Contract"; and

47           [5<sup>th</sup>]   WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 8 of the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388), the  
48   United States has acquired water rights and other rights to the flows of the Chowchilla River,  
49   including without limitation the permits issued as the result of Decision 1365 by the California State  
50   Water Resource Control Board pursuant to which the Contracting Officer develops, diverts, stores  
51   and delivers Project Water stored or flowing through Eastman Lake in accordance with State and  
52   Federal law for the benefit of the Contractor in the Buchanan Unit and for other specified Project  
53   purposes; and

54           [6<sup>th</sup>]   WHEREAS, the water supplied to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract is Project  
55   Water developed through the exercise of the rights described in the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Explanatory Recital of  
56   this Contract; and

57           [7<sup>th</sup>]   WHEREAS, as a result of litigation entitled “Natural Resources Defense Council, et  
58   al. v Kirk Rogers, et al.” No. CIV-S-88-1658LLK/GGH, certain contractors from the Friant Division  
59   entered into a Stipulation of Settlement dated September 13, 2006, (the “Settlement”), which  
60   settlement prescribes a Restoration Goal and a Water Management Goal and which Settlement was  
61   subsequently confirmed and implemented through the SJRRSA; and

62           [8<sup>th</sup>]   WHEREAS, the SJRRSA authorizes and directs the Secretary to convert the Existing  
63   Contract to a repayment contract under subsection (d) of Section 9 of the Act of August 4, 1939, no  
64   later than December 31, 2010, and further directs that such contract shall require the accelerated  
65   repayment of the Contractors’ allocated share of construction costs, either as a lump sum payment by  
66   January 31, 2011 or in annual installments by January 31, 2014, which funds will in turn be made

available for implementation of the Settlement and SJRRSA, and which costs otherwise would have been payable through annual water rates, with full repayment by 2030; and

[9<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, such repayment of costs will assist the United States with implementation of actions required under the Settlement and the SJRRSA and provide the Contractor the benefits provided in Section 10010 of the SJRRSA; and

[10<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, subsection (4) of Section 1 of the Act of July 2, 1956 (1956 Act) directs the Secretary to provide that the other party to any contract entered into pursuant to subsection (d) of Section 9 of the Act of August 4, 1939 (repayment contract) or pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 9 of the Act of August 4, 1939 (water service contract) shall “have the first right (to which the rights of the holders of any other type of irrigation water contract shall be subordinate) to a stated share or quantity of the project’s available water supply for beneficial use on the irrigable lands within the boundaries of, or owned by, the party and a permanent right to such share or quantity upon completion of payment of the amount assigned for ultimate return” by the contractor subject to fulfillment of all obligations under the contract; and

[11<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, among other things, this Contract includes provisions granting the Contractor the permanent right to the entire yield from the Buchanan Unit available for conservation purposes as described in the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) Explanatory Recital; and

[12<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the Contractor has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Contracting Officer that the Contractor has utilized the Project Water supplies available to it for reasonable and beneficial use and/or has demonstrated projected future demand for water use such that the

Contractor has the capability and expects to utilize fully for reasonable and beneficial use the quantity of Project Water to be made available to it pursuant to this Contract; and

[13<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, water obtained from the Central Valley Project has been relied upon by urban and agricultural areas within California for more than fifty (50) years and is considered by the Contractor as an essential portion of its water supply; and

[14<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the economies of regions within the Central Valley Project, including the Contractor's, depend upon the continued availability of water, including water service from the Central Valley Project; and

[15<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the Secretary intends through coordination, cooperation, and partnerships to pursue measures to improve water supply, water quality, and reliability of the Project for all Project purposes; and

[16<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the mutual goals of the United States and the Contractor include: to provide for reliable Project Water supplies; to control costs of those supplies; to achieve repayment of the Central Valley Project as required by law; to guard reasonably against Project Water shortages; to achieve a reasonable balance among competing demands for use of Project Water; and to comply with all applicable environmental statutes, all consistent with the legal obligations of the United States relative to the Central Valley Project; and

[17<sup>th</sup>] Omitted; and

[18<sup>th</sup>] Omitted; and

[19<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the United States has determined that the Contractor has fulfilled all of its obligations under the Existing Contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual and dependent covenants herein contained, it is hereby mutually agreed by the parties hereto as follows:

DEFINITIONS

1. When used herein, unless otherwise distinctly expressed or manifestly incompatible with the intent of the parties as expressed in this Contract, the term:

(a) “Additional Capital Obligation” shall mean any additional construction costs or other capitalized costs incurred after the effective date of this Contract or not reflected in the Existing Capital Obligation as provided in Section 10010(a)(3)(B) of the SJRRSA and any amounts payable by Contractor as determined through the final adjustment described and required by Section 10010(b) of the SJRRSA;

(b) “Calendar Year” shall mean the period January 1 through December 31, both dates inclusive;

(c) “Charges” shall mean the payments required by Federal Reclamation law in addition to the Rates specified in this Contract as determined annually by the Contracting Officer pursuant to this Contract and consistent with the SJRRSA;

(d) Omitted;

(e) Omitted;

(f) Omitted;

(g) “Contracting Officer” shall mean the Secretary of the Interior’s duly authorized representative acting pursuant to this Contract or applicable Federal Reclamation law or regulation;

(h) "Contract Total" shall mean the amount of Project Water to which the Contractor is entitled under subdivision (a) of Article 3 of this Contract and is the stated share or quantity of Water to which the Contractor has a permanent right in accordance with the 1956 Act and the terms of this Contract, due to the Contractor's complete payment of the Repayment Obligation, notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, which right shall not be disturbed so long as the Contractor fulfills all of its obligations under this Contract;

(i) "Contractor's Service Area" shall mean the area to which the Contractor is permitted to provide Project Water under this Contract as described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto, which may be modified from time to time in accordance with Article 36 of this Contract without amendment of this Contract;

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

(j2) "District Engineer" shall mean the District Engineer, United States Army Corps of Engineers, or his authorized representative;

(k) Omitted;

(l) Omitted;

(m) "Existing Capital Obligation" shall mean the remaining amount of construction costs of the Contractor identified in the Central Valley Project Irrigation Water Rates and/or Municipal and Industrial Water Rates, respectively, dated January 25, 2007, as adjusted to reflect payments not reflected in such schedule, pursuant to Section 10010(a)(3)(A) of the SJRRSA. The

Contracting Officer has computed the Existing Capital Obligation in a manner consistent with the SJRRSA and such amount is set forth in Exhibits “C-1” and “C-2”, incorporated herein by reference;

(n) “Financing Costs”, for purposes of computing the reduction of certain charges as specified in subdivision (c) of Article 7 of this Contract, shall mean the difference between the net present value of the Existing Capital Obligation discounted using the full Treasury rate and the Existing Capital Obligation discounted using one-half the Treasury Rate, as set forth in Section 10010(d)(3) of the SJRRRA;

(o) Omitted;

(p) Omitted;

(q) Omitted;

(r) “Irrigation Water” shall mean water made available from the Project that is used primarily in the production of agricultural crops or livestock, including domestic use incidental thereto, and watering of livestock. Irrigation water shall not include water used for the purposes such as the watering of landscaping or pasture for animals (e.g., horses) which are kept for personal enjoyment or water delivered to landholdings operated in units of less than five (5) acres unless the Contractor establishes to the satisfaction of the Contracting Officer that the use of the water delivered to any such landholding is a use described in this subdivision of this Article of this Contract;

(s) Omitted;

(t) Omitted;

(u) Omitted;

(v) Omitted;

(w) “Operation and Maintenance” or “O&M” shall mean normal and reasonable care, control, operation, repair, replacement (other than Capital replacement), and maintenance of Project facilities;

(x) Omitted;

(y) “Other Water” shall mean water from the Project other than Irrigation Water as described in subdivision (r) of this Article of this Contract, which is used for a purpose that is considered to be an irrigation use pursuant to State law such as the watering of landscaping or pasture for animals (e.g., horse) which are kept for the personal enjoyment. For purposes of this Contract, Other Water shall be paid for at Rates and Charges identical to those established for municipal and industrial water pursuant to the then-existing Municipal and Industrial Ratesetting Policy;

(y2) “Prior-Rights Water” shall mean that portion of the inflow to Eastman Lake which flows through or is released from Buchanan Dam in recognition of prior downstream Chowchilla River water rights of the Contractor and others, subject to any necessary new water rights permit or permit revisions and in accordance with any applicable agreements relating to the operation of the Buchanan Unit and approved by the Contracting Officer and the State Water Resources Control Board, as necessary;

(z) “Project” shall mean the Central Valley Project owned by the United States and managed by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation;

(aa) “Project Contractors” shall mean all parties who have a long-term water service contract or repayment contract for Project Water from the Project with the United States pursuant to Federal Reclamation law;

(bb) “Project Water” shall mean all water that is developed, diverted, stored, or delivered by the Secretary in accordance with the statutes authorizing the Project and in accordance with the terms and conditions of water rights acquired pursuant to California law;

(cc) “Rates” shall mean the payments determined annually by the Contracting Officer in accordance with the then-existing applicable water ratesetting policies for the Project, as described in subdivision (a) of Article 7 of this Contract and illustrated in Exhibit “B”, attached hereto;

(dd) Omitted;

(ee) “Repayment Obligation”, as provided in subdivision (a)(2)(A) of Article 7 of this Contract, shall be the Existing Capital Obligation, as defined herein, discounted by one-half of the Treasury rate and computed consistent with the provisions of Section 10010(3)(A) of the SJRRSA to be paid as either a lump sum payment by January 31, 2011 or in approximately equal annual installments by January 31, 2014;

(ff) “Secretary” shall mean the Secretary of the Interior, a duly appointed successor, or an authorized representative acting pursuant to any authority of the Secretary and through any agency of the Department of the Interior;

(gg) “Settlement” shall mean the Stipulation of Settlement dated September 13, 2006, the Order Approving Stipulation of Settlement, and the Judgment and further orders issued by the Court pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Settlement in Natural Resources Defense Council, et al. v. Rodgers, et al., No. CIV-S-88-1658 LLJ/GGH;

(hh) Omitted;

(ii) "Water Delivered" or "Delivered Water" shall mean Project Water diverted for use by the Contractor at Buchanan Dam, other than Prior-Rights Water, and for pricing purposes shall be 24,000 acre-feet per Year;

(jj) Omitted;

(kk) Omitted;

(ll) Omitted; and

(mm) "Year" shall mean the period from and including March 1 of each Calendar Year through the last day of February of the following Calendar Year.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF CONTRACT

2. (a) This Contract shall become effective on the date first hereinabove written and shall continue so long as the Contractor is making the annual payments required herein and paying any other amounts owing under this Contract and applicable law, unless it is terminated by the Contracting Officer by reason of a material uncured breach by the Contractor; Provided, That the Contracting Officer shall not seek to terminate this Contract by reason of an asserted material uncured breach by the Contractor unless it has first provided at least sixty (60) days written notice of the asserted breach to the Contractor and the Contractor has failed to cure such breach (or to diligently commence curative actions satisfactory to the Contracting Officer for a breach that cannot be fully cured within sixty (60) days) within the sixty (60)-day notice period; Provided further, That this Contract may be terminated at any time by mutual consent of the parties hereto.

(b) The Contractor has paid the Repayment Obligation, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the tiered pricing component and the

acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of Federal Reclamation law, shall no longer be applicable to the Contractor.

(c) This Contract supersedes in its entirety and is intended to replace in full the Existing Contract; Provided, That if this Contract is terminated or determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason other than a material uncured breach of this Contract by the Contractor, the Existing Contract shall not be superseded and shall be in full force and effect.

WATER TO BE MADE AVAILABLE AND DELIVERED TO THE CONTRACTOR

3. (a) During each Year, consistent with all applicable State water rights, permits, and licenses, Federal law, the Settlement including the SJRRSA, and subject to the provisions set forth in Articles 12 and 13 of this Contract, the Contracting Officer shall make available for delivery to the Contractor the entire quantity of Project Water from the Buchanan Unit for irrigation purposes. The quantity of Water Delivered to the Contractor in accordance with this subdivision shall be paid for pursuant to the provisions of Article 7 of this Contract.

(b) The Contractor has paid the Repayment Obligation, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the Contractor has a permanent right to the Contract Total in accordance with the 1956 Act and the terms of this Contract. This right shall not be disturbed so long as the Contractor fulfills all of its obligations hereunder. The quantity of water made available for delivery in any given Year shall remain subject to the terms and conditions of subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract.

(c) The Contractor shall utilize the Project Water in accordance with all applicable legal requirements.

(d) The Contractor shall make reasonable and beneficial use of all Project Water or other water furnished pursuant to this Contract. Groundwater recharge programs, groundwater banking programs, surface water storage programs, and other similar programs utilizing Project Water or other water furnished pursuant to this Contract conducted within the Contractor's Service Area which are consistent with applicable State law and result in use consistent with applicable Federal Reclamation law will be allowed; Provided, That any direct recharge program(s) is (are) described in the Contractor's Water Conservation Plan submitted pursuant to Article 27 of this Contract; Provided further, That such Water Conservation Plan demonstrates sufficient lawful uses exist in the Contractor's Service Area so that using a long-term average, the quantity of Project Water delivered, pursuant to this Contract, is demonstrated to be reasonable for such uses and in compliance with Federal Reclamation law. Groundwater recharge programs, groundwater banking programs, surface water storage programs, and other similar programs utilizing Project Water or other water furnished pursuant to this Contract conducted outside the Contractor's Service Area may be permitted upon written approval of the Contracting Officer, which approval will be based upon environmental documentation, Project Water rights, and Project operational concerns. The Contracting Officer will address such concerns in regulations, policies, or guidelines.

(e) The Contractor, through this Contract, shall comply with requirements applicable to the Contractor in biological opinion(s) prepared as a result of the consultation regarding the execution of the Existing Contract undertaken pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, as well as the requirements of any other biological opinions applicable to Project Water delivery under this Contract, that are within the Contractor's legal authority to

implement. The Contractor shall comply with the limitations or requirements imposed by environmental documentation applicable to the Contractor and within its legal authority to implement regarding specific activities. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the Contractor from challenging or seeking judicial relief in a court of competent jurisdiction with respect to any biological opinion or other environmental documentation referred to in this Article of this Contract.

(f) Omitted.

(g) Omitted.

(h) The Contractor's right pursuant to Federal Reclamation law and applicable State law to the reasonable and beneficial use of the Contract Total pursuant to this Contract shall not be disturbed so long as the Contractor shall fulfill all of its obligations under this Contract. Nothing in the preceding sentence shall affect the Contracting Officer's ability to impose shortages under Article 12 or Article 13 of this Contract.

(i) Project Water furnished to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract may be delivered for purposes other than those described in subdivisions (r) and (y) of Article 1 of this Contract upon written approval by the Contracting Officer in accordance with the terms and conditions of such approval.

(j) The Contracting Officer shall make reasonable efforts to protect the water rights and other rights described in the fifth (5th) Explanatory Recital of this Contract and to provide the water available under this Contract. The Contracting Officer shall not object to participation by the Contractor, in the capacity and to the extent permitted by law, in administrative proceedings related to the water rights and other rights described in the fifth (5th) Explanatory Recital of this

Contract; Provided however, That the Contracting Officer retains the right to object to the substance of the Contractor's position in such a proceeding. Provided further, that in such proceedings the Contracting Officer shall recognize the Contractor has a legal right under the terms of this Contract to use Project Water.

(k) Omitted.

(l) Omitted.

(m) Nothing in this Contract, nor any action or inaction of the Contractor or Contracting Officer in connection with the implementation of this Contract, is intended to override, modify, supersede or otherwise interfere with any term or condition of the water rights and other rights referred in the fifth (5th) Explanatory Recital of this Contract.

(n) Omitted.

(o) Omitted.

#### RESERVOIR OPERATION – USE AND SALE OF WATER

4. (a) At the request of the Contractor, pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Contract, the United States, acting through the District Engineer, shall store, regulate, and/or release all flows of the Chowchilla River water at the Buchanan Unit subject to the regulation of the Buchanan Unit for flood control, as conclusively determined by the District Engineer, and further subject to Prior-Rights Water releases and the maintenance of a minimum pool of ten thousand (10,000) acre-feet of water in Eastman Lake for recreational and incidental uses.

(b) Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be used as Irrigation Water or Other Water only and shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of for use outside the Contractor's Service Area without the written approval of the Contracting Officer.

POINT OF DIVERSION AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISTRIBUTION OF WATER

5. (a) Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract shall be delivered to the Contractor at Buchanan Dam.

(b) Omitted.

(c) The Contractor shall not deliver Project Water to land outside the Contractor's Service Area unless approved in advance by the Contracting Officer. The Contractor shall deliver Project Water in accordance with applicable Federal Reclamation law.

(d) Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be measured and recorded with equipment furnished, installed, operated, and maintained by the United States at the point of delivery established pursuant to subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract. Upon the request of either party to this Contract, the Contracting Officer shall investigate, or cause to be investigated, the accuracy of such measurements and shall take any necessary steps to adjust any errors appearing therein. For any period of time when accurate measurements have not been made, the Contracting Officer shall consult with the Contractor prior to making a final determination of the quantity delivered for that period of time.

(e) The Contracting Officer shall not be responsible for the control, carriage, handling, use, disposal, or distribution of Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract beyond the delivery point specified in subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract. The

Contractor shall indemnify the United States, its officers, employees, agents, and assigns on account of damage or claim of damage of any nature whatsoever for which there is legal responsibility, including property damage, personal injury, or death arising out of or connected with the control, carriage, handling, use, disposal, or distribution of such Project Water beyond such delivery point, except for any damage or claim arising out of: (i) acts or omissions of the Contracting Officer or any of its officers, employees, agents, or assigns, with the intent of creating the situation resulting in any damage or claim; (ii) willful misconduct of the Contracting Officer or any of its officers, employees, agents, or assigns; (iii) negligence of the Contracting Officer or any of its officers, employees, agents, or assigns; or (iv) damage or claims resulting from a malfunction of facilities owned and/or operated by the United States.

(f) The Contractor shall maintain a surface water measurement program satisfactory to the Contracting Officer to provide for the operation of the Buchanan Unit facilities without interference to established rights including correlative rights easterly of the Eastside-Chowchilla Canal Bypass and keep records of data obtained from such program satisfactory to the Contracting Officer.

#### MEASUREMENT OF WATER WITHIN THE SERVICE AREA

6. (a) The Contractor has established a measurement program satisfactory to the Contracting Officer; all surface water delivered for irrigation purposes within the Contractor's Service Area is measured at each agricultural turnout; and Other Water delivered by the Contractor is measured at each service connection. The water measuring devices or water measuring methods of comparable effectiveness must be acceptable to the Contracting Officer. The Contractor shall be

357 responsible for installing, operating, and maintaining and repairing all such measuring devices and  
358 implementing all such water measuring methods at no cost to the United States. The Contractor shall  
359 use the information obtained from such water measuring devices or water measuring methods to  
360 ensure its proper management of the water, to bill water users for water delivered by the Contractor;  
361 and, if applicable, to record water delivered as Other Water. Nothing herein contained, however,  
362 shall preclude the Contractor from establishing and collecting any charges, assessments, or other  
363 revenues authorized by California law.

364 (b) To the extent the information has not otherwise been provided, upon execution  
365 of this Contract, the Contractor shall provide to the Contracting Officer a written report describing  
366 the measurement devices or water measuring methods being used or to be used to implement  
367 subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract and identifying the agricultural turnouts and the Other  
368 Water service connections or alternative measurement programs approved by the Contracting Officer,  
369 at which such measurement devices or water measuring methods are being used, and, if applicable,  
370 identifying the locations at which such devices and/or methods are not yet being used including a  
371 time schedule for implementation at such locations. The Contracting Officer shall advise the  
372 Contractor in writing within sixty (60) days as to the adequacy of, and necessary modifications, if  
373 any, of the measuring devices or water measuring methods identified in the Contractor's report and if  
374 the Contracting Officer does not respond in such time, they shall be deemed adequate. If the  
375 Contracting Officer notifies the Contractor that the measuring devices or methods are inadequate, the  
376 parties shall within sixty (60) days following the Contracting Officer's response, negotiate in good  
377 faith the earliest practicable date by which the Contractor shall modify said measuring devices and/or

measuring methods as required by the Contracting Officer to ensure compliance with subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract.

(c) All new surface water delivery systems installed within the Contractor's Service Area after the effective date of this Contract shall also comply with the measurement provisions described in subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract.

(d) The Contractor shall inform the Contracting Officer and the State of California in writing by April 30 of each Year of the annual volume of Irrigation Water and Other Water delivered within the Contractor's Service Area during the previous Year.

(e) Omitted.

RATES, METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR WATER,  
AND ACCELERATED REPAYMENT OF FACILITIES

7. (a) The Contractor's cost obligations for all Delivered Water shall be determined in accordance with: (i) the Secretary's ratesetting policy for Irrigation Water adopted in 1988 and the Secretary's then-existing ratesetting policy for municipal and industrial water, consistent with the SJRRSA, and such ratesetting policies shall be amended, modified, or superseded only through a public notice and comment procedure; (ii) applicable Federal Reclamation law and associated rules and regulations, or policies; and (iii) other applicable provisions of this Contract.

(1) The Contractor shall pay the United States as provided for in this Article of this Contract for the Delivered Water at Rates and Charges determined in accordance with policies for Irrigation Water and municipal and industrial water. The Contractor's Rates shall be established to recover its estimated reimbursable costs included in the O&M Component of the Rate and amounts established to recover other charges and deficits, other than the construction costs. The

Rates for O&M costs and Charges shall be adjusted, as appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of the SJRRSA.

(2) Omitted.

(A) Omitted.

(B) Project construction costs or other capitalized costs attributable to capital additions to the Project incurred after the effective date of this Contract or that are not reflected in the schedules referenced in Exhibits “C-1” and “C-2” and properly assignable to the Contractor, shall be repaid as prescribed by the SJRRSA without interest except as required by law. Consistent with Federal Reclamation law, interest shall continue to accrue on the municipal and industrial portion of unpaid Project construction costs or other capitalized cost assigned to the Contractor until such costs are paid. Increases or decreases in Project construction costs or other capitalized costs assigned to the Contractor caused solely by annual adjustment of Project construction costs or other capitalized costs assigned to each CVP contractor by the Secretary shall not be considered in determining the amounts to be paid pursuant to this subdivision (a)(2)(B), but will be considered under subdivision (b) of this Article. A separate repayment agreement shall be established by the Contractor and the Contracting Officer to accomplish repayment of all additional Project construction costs or other capitalized costs assigned to the Contractor within the timeframe prescribed by the SJRRSA subject to the following:

(1) If the collective annual Project construction costs or other capitalized costs that are incurred after the effective date of this Contract and properly assignable to the contractors are less than \$5,000,000, then the portion of such costs properly

assignable to the Contractor shall be repaid in not more than five (5) years after notification of the allocation. This amount is the result of a collective annual allocation of Project construction costs to the contractors exercising contract conversions; Provided, That the reference to the amount of \$5,000,000 shall not be a precedent in any other context.

(2) If the collective annual Project construction costs or other capitalized costs that are incurred after the effective date of this Contract and properly assignable to the contractors are \$5,000,000 or greater, then the portion of such costs properly assignable to the Contractor shall be repaid as provided by applicable Federal Reclamation law. This amount is the result of a collective annual allocation of Project construction costs to the contractors exercising contract conversions; Provided, That the reference to the amount of \$5,000,000 shall not be a precedent in any other context.

(b) Consistent with Section 10010(b) of the SJRRSA, following a final cost allocation by the Secretary upon completion of the construction of the Central Valley Project, the amounts paid by the Contractor shall be subject to adjustment to reflect the effect of any reallocation of Project construction costs or other capitalized costs assigned to the Contractor that may have occurred between the determination of Contractor's Existing Capital Obligation and the final cost allocation. In the event that the final cost allocation, as determined by the Secretary, indicates that the costs properly assignable to the Contractor, as determined by the Contracting Officer, are greater than the Existing Capital Obligation and other amounts of Project construction costs or other capitalized costs paid by the Contractor, then the Contractor shall be obligated to pay the remaining allocated costs. The term of such additional repayment contract shall be no less than one (1) year and

no more than ten (10) years, however, mutually agreeable provisions regarding the rate of repayment of such amount may be developed by the parties. In the event that the final cost allocation, as determined by the Secretary, indicates that the costs properly assignable to the Contractor, as determined by the Contracting Officer, are less than the Existing Capital Obligation and other amounts of Project construction costs or other capitalized costs paid by the Contractor, then the Contracting Officer shall credit such overpayment as an offset against any outstanding or future obligation of the Contractor, consistent with the SJRRSA. This Contract shall be implemented in a manner consistent with Section 10010(f) of the SJRRSA.

(c) Prior to July 1 of each Calendar Year, the Contracting Officer shall provide the Contractor an estimate of the Charges for Project Water that will be applied to the period October 1, of the current Calendar Year, through September 30, of the following Calendar Year, and the basis for such estimate. The Contractor shall be allowed not less than two (2) months to review and comment on such estimates. On or before September 15 of each Calendar Year, the Contracting Officer shall notify the Contractor in writing of the Charges to be in effect during the period October 1 of the current Calendar Year, through September 30 of the following Calendar Year, and such notification shall revise Exhibit "B". Charges shall be subject to reduction consistent with the SJRRSA based upon the average annual delivery amount agreed to by the Contracting Officer and the Contractor.

(1) For the years 2020 through 2039 inclusive, outstanding or future obligations of the Contractor shall be reduced consistent with Section 10010(d)(2) of the SJRRSA. The amount of such reduction in outstanding or future obligations of the Contractor after October 1,

2010 has been computed by the Contracting Officer, and as computed, such amount is set forth in Exhibit "D".

(d) Prior to October 1 of each Calendar Year, the Contracting Officer shall make available to the Contractor an estimate of the Rates for Project Water for the following Year and the computations and cost allocations upon which those Rates are based. The Contractor shall be allowed not less than two (2) months to review and comment on such computations and cost allocations. By December 31 of each Calendar Year, the Contracting Officer shall provide the Contractor with the final Rates to be in effect for the upcoming Year, and such notification shall revise Exhibit "B". The O&M component of the Rate may be reduced as provided in the SJRRSA.

(e) Before March 1 and again before July 1 of each Year, the Contractor shall pay to the United States, at the Rates and Charges provided in subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract, for one-half (1/2) of the Delivered Water (i.e. 12,000 acre-feet) regardless of the quantity of Irrigation Water and Other Water actually made available to the Contractor during the Year.

(f) Omitted.

(g) Omitted.

(h) Payments to be made by the Contractor to the United States under this Contract may be paid from any revenues available to the Contractor.

(i) All revenues received by the United States from the Contractor relating to the delivery of Project Water or the delivery of non-project water through Project facilities shall be allocated and applied in accordance with Federal Reclamation law and the associated rules or

483 regulations, the then-existing Project Ratesetting policies for municipal and industrial water or  
484 Irrigation Water, and consistent with the SJRRSA.

485 (j) The Contracting Officer shall keep its accounts, pertaining to the  
486 administration of the financial terms and conditions of its long-term contracts, in accordance with  
487 applicable Federal standards so as to reflect the application of Project costs and revenues. The  
488 Contracting Officer shall, each Year upon request of the Contractor, provide to the Contractor a  
489 detailed accounting of all Project and Contractor expense allocations, the disposition of all Project  
490 and Contractor revenues, and a summary of all water delivery information. The Contracting Officer  
491 and the Contractor shall enter into good faith negotiations to resolve any discrepancies or disputes  
492 relating to accountings, reports, or information.

493 (k) The parties acknowledge and agree that the efficient administration of this  
494 Contract is their mutual goal. Recognizing that experience has demonstrated that mechanisms,  
495 policies, and procedures used for establishing Rates, Charges, and/or for making and allocating  
496 payments, other than those set forth in this Article of this Contract, may be in the mutual best interest  
497 of the parties, it is expressly agreed that the parties may enter into agreements to modify the  
498 mechanisms, policies, and procedures for any of those purposes while this Contract is in effect  
499 without amending this Contract.

500 (l) (1) Omitted.

501 (2) Omitted.

502 (3) Omitted.

(m) Rates under the respective ratesetting policies will be established to recover only reimbursable O&M (including any deficits) costs of the Project, as those terms are used in the then-existing Project ratesetting policies, and consistent with the SJRRSA, and interest, where appropriate, except in instances where a minimum Rate is applicable in accordance with the relevant Project ratesetting policy. Changes of significance in practices which implement the Contracting Officer's ratesetting policies will not be implemented until the Contracting Officer has provided the Contractor an opportunity to discuss the nature, need, and impact of the proposed change.

(n) Except as provided in subsections 3405(a)(1)(B) and 3405(f) of the CVPIA, the Rates for Project Water transferred by the Contractor shall be the Contractor's Rates adjusted upward or downward to reflect the changed costs of delivery (if any) incurred by the Contracting Officer in the delivery of the transferred Project Water to the transferee's point of delivery in accordance with the then-existing Central Valley Project Ratesetting Policy.

(o) Pursuant to the Act of October 27, 1986 (100 Stat. 3050), the Contracting Officer is authorized to adjust determinations of ability to pay every five (5) years.

NON-INTEREST BEARING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE DEFICITS

8. The Contractor and the Contracting Officer concur that, as of the effective date of this Contract, the Contractor has no non-interest bearing operation and maintenance deficits and therefore shall have no further liability.

RECOVERED WATER ACCOUNT

9. Omitted.

SALES, TRANSFERS, AND EXCHANGES OF WATER

10. (a) The right to receive Project Water provided for in this Contract may be sold, transferred, or exchanged to others for reasonable and beneficial uses within the State of California if such sale, transfer, or exchange is authorized by applicable Federal and State laws, and applicable guidelines or regulations then in effect. No sale, transfer, or exchange of Project Water under this Contract may take place without the prior written approval of the Contracting Officer. No such Project Water sales, transfers, or exchanges shall be approved, where approval is required, absent compliance with appropriate environmental documentation including but not limited to the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act. Such environmental documentation must include, as appropriate, an analysis of groundwater impacts and economic and social effects, including environmental justice, of the proposed Project Water sales, transfers and exchanges on both the transferor/exchanger and transferee/exchange recipient.

(b) Omitted.

(c) Omitted.

(d) Omitted.

(e) Omitted.

(f) Omitted.

(1) Omitted.

(2) Omitted.

(3) Omitted.

(4) Omitted.

(g) Notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, in the case of a sale or transfer of Irrigation Water to another contractor which is otherwise subject to the acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the RRA, such sold or transferred Irrigation Water shall not be subject to such RRA provisions, however, in the case of a sale or transfer of Irrigation Water to the Contractor from another contractor which is subject to RRA provisions, such RRA provisions shall apply to delivery of such water.

APPLICATION OF PAYMENTS AND ADJUSTMENTS

11. (a) The amount of any overpayment by the Contractor of the Contractor's O&M, Capital, and deficit (if any) obligations for the Year shall be applied first to any current liabilities of the Contractor arising out of this Contract then due and payable. Overpayments of more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) shall be refunded at the Contractor's request. In lieu of a refund, any amount of such overpayment, at the option of the Contractor, may be credited against amounts to become due to the United States by the Contractor. With respect to overpayment, such refund or adjustment shall constitute the sole remedy of the Contractor or anyone having or claiming to have the right to the use of any of the Project Water supply provided for herein. All credits and refunds of overpayments shall be made within thirty (30) days of the Contracting Officer obtaining direction as to how to credit or refund such overpayment in response to the notice to the Contractor that it has finalized the accounts for the Year in which the overpayment was made.

(b) All advances for miscellaneous costs incurred for work requested by the Contractor pursuant to Article 26 of this Contract shall be adjusted to reflect the actual costs when the

work has been completed. If the advances exceed the actual costs incurred, the difference will be refunded to the Contractor. If the actual costs exceed the Contractor's advances, the Contractor will be billed for the additional costs pursuant to Article 26 of this Contract.

TEMPORARY REDUCTIONS—RETURN FLOWS

12. (a) The Contracting Officer shall make all reasonable efforts to optimize delivery of the Contract Total subject to: (i) the authorized purposes and priorities of the Project; (ii) the requirements of Federal law and the Settlement; and (iii) the obligations of the United States under existing contracts, or renewals thereof, providing for water deliveries from the Project.

(b) The Contracting Officer may temporarily discontinue or reduce the quantity of Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract as herein provided for the purposes of investigation, inspection, maintenance, repair, or replacement of any of the Project facilities or any part thereof necessary for the delivery of Project Water to the Contractor, but so far as feasible the Contracting Officer will give the Contractor due notice in advance of such temporary discontinuance or reduction, except in case of emergency, in which case no notice need be given; Provided, That the United States shall use its best efforts to avoid any discontinuance or reduction in such service. Upon resumption of service after such reduction or discontinuance, and if requested by the Contractor, the United States will, if possible, deliver the quantity of Project Water which would have been delivered hereunder in the absence of such discontinuance or reduction.

(c) The United States reserves the right to all seepage and return flow water derived from Project Water delivered to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract which escapes or is discharged beyond the Contractor's Service Area; Provided, That this shall not be construed as

claiming for the United States any right as seepage or return flow to water being used pursuant to this Contract for surface irrigation or underground storage either being put to reasonable and beneficial use pursuant to this Contract within the Contractor's Service Area by the Contractor or those claiming by, through, or under the Contractor. For purposes of this subdivision, groundwater recharge, groundwater banking and all similar groundwater activities will be deemed to be underground storage.

CONSTRAINTS ON THE AVAILABILITY OF WATER

13. If there is a reduction in total water supply because of errors in physical operations of the Project, drought, other physical causes beyond the control of the Contracting Officer or actions taken by the Contracting Officer to meet legal obligations then, except as provided in subdivision (a) of Article 19 of this Contract, no liability shall accrue against the United States or any of its officers, agents, or employees for any damage, direct or indirect, arising therefrom.

UNAVOIDABLE GROUNDWATER PERCOLATION

14. Omitted.

ACREAGE LIMITATION

15. (a) The Contractor has paid the Repayment Obligation, and notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, the provisions of section 213(a) and (b) of the RRA shall apply to lands in the Contractor's Service Area, with the effect that acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of the RRA shall no longer apply to lands in the Contractor's Service Area with respect to Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract. Reclamation will conduct a final water district review for the purpose of determining compliance

with the acreage limitations, reporting, and Full Cost pricing provisions of the RRA from the date of the last water district review until the date when payment to Reclamation of the Repayment Obligation was completed.

(b) Project Water now owned or hereafter acquired by the Contractor through a separate contract, other than this Contract, that is subject to Federal Reclamation law, may be delivered to lands within the Contractor's Service Area. Notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, Project Water delivered under this Contract may be mixed with Project Water delivered pursuant to a contract with the United States, other than this Contract, to which acreage limitations, reporting, and the Full Cost pricing provisions of Federal Reclamation law apply without causing the application of the acreage limitations, reporting, and the Full Cost pricing provisions of Federal Reclamation law to the Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract; Provided, The terms and conditions in such other contract shall continue to apply, and if such terms and conditions so require, the lands to receive Project Water under such other contract shall be properly designated by the Contractor and such Project Water is to be delivered in accordance with the RRA including any applicable acreage limitations, reporting, and the Full Cost pricing provisions.

#### RULES, REGULATIONS, AND DETERMINATIONS

16. (a) The parties agree that the delivery of water or the use of Federal facilities pursuant to this Contract is subject to Federal Reclamation law, as amended and supplemented, and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior under Federal reclamation law.

(b) The terms of this Contract are subject to the Settlement and the SJRRSA. Nothing in this Contract shall be interpreted to limit or interfere with the full implementation of the Settlement and the SJRRSA.

PROTECTION OF WATER AND AIR QUALITY

17. (a) Project facilities used to make available and deliver water to the Contractor shall be operated and maintained in the most practical manner to maintain the quality of the water at the highest level possible as determined by the Contracting Officer: *Provided, That* the United States does not warrant the quality of the water delivered to the Contractor and is under no obligation to furnish or construct water treatment facilities to maintain or improve the quality of water delivered to the Contractor.

(b) The Contractor shall comply with all applicable water and air pollution laws and regulations of the United States and the State of California; and shall obtain all required permits or licenses from the appropriate Federal, State, or local authorities necessary for the delivery of water by the Contractor; and shall be responsible for compliance with all Federal, State, and local water quality standards applicable to surface and subsurface drainage and/or discharges generated through the use of Federal or Contractor facilities or project water provided by the Contractor within the Contractor's Project Water Service Area.

(c) This article shall not affect or alter any legal obligations of the Secretary to provide drainage or other discharge services.

WATER ACQUIRED BY THE CONTRACTOR  
OTHER THAN FROM THE UNITED STATES

18. (a) Omitted.

(b) Notwithstanding any Additional Capital Obligation that may later be established, water or water rights now owned or hereafter acquired by the Contractor other than from the United States pursuant to this Contract and Irrigation Water furnished pursuant to the terms of this Contract may be simultaneously transported through the same distribution facilities of the Contractor without the payment of fees to the United States and without application of Federal Reclamation law to Project Water delivered pursuant to this Contract or to lands which receive Project Water delivered to Contractor pursuant to this Contract.

(c) Water or water rights now owned or hereafter acquired by the Contractor, other than from the United States or adverse to the Project or its contractors (i.e., non-project water), may

be stored, conveyed and/or diverted through Project facilities, other than Buchanan Unit facilities, subject to the completion of appropriate environmental documentation, with the approval of the Contracting Officer and the execution of any contract determined by the Contracting Officer to be necessary, consistent with the following provisions:

(1) The Contractor may introduce non-project water into Project facilities and deliver said water to lands within the Contractor's Service Area subject to payment to the United States of an appropriate rate as determined by the Contracting Officer. In addition, if electrical power is required to pump non-project water, the Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining the necessary power and paying the necessary charges therefor.

(2) Delivery of such non-project water in and through Project facilities shall only be allowed to the extent such deliveries do not: (i) interfere with other Project purposes as determined by the Contracting Officer; (ii) reduce the quantity or quality of water available to other Project Contractors; (iii) interfere with the delivery of contractual water entitlements to any other Project Contractors; (iv) interfere with the physical maintenance of the Project facilities; or (v) result in the United States incurring any liability or unreimbursed costs or expenses thereby.

(3) The United States shall not be responsible for control, care or distribution of the non-project water before it is introduced into or after it is delivered from the Project facilities. The Contractor hereby releases and agrees to defend and indemnify the United States and its officers, agents, and employees, from any claim for damage to persons or property, direct or indirect, resulting from Contractor's diversion or extraction of non-project water from any source.

(4) Diversion of such non-project water into Project facilities shall be consistent with all applicable laws, and if involving groundwater, consistent with any groundwater management plan for the area from which it was extracted.

(5) After Project purposes are met, as determined by the Contracting Officer, the United States and the Contractor shall share priority to utilize the remaining capacity of the facilities declared to be available by the Contracting Officer for conveyance and transportation of non-project water prior to any such remaining capacity being made available to non-project contractors.

(d) Non-project water may be stored, conveyed and/or diverted through Buchanan Unit facilities, subject to the prior completion of appropriate environmental documentation and approval of the Contracting Officer without execution of a separate contract, consistent with subdivisions (c)(1) through (c)(5) of this Article and any other condition determined to be appropriate by the Contracting Officer.

#### OPINIONS AND DETERMINATIONS

19. (a) Where the terms of this Contract provide for actions to be based upon the opinion or determination of either party to this Contract, said terms shall not be construed as permitting such action to be predicated upon arbitrary, capricious, or unreasonable opinions or determinations. Both parties, notwithstanding any other provisions of this Contract, expressly reserve the right to seek relief from and appropriate adjustment for any such arbitrary, capricious, or unreasonable opinion or determination. Each opinion or determination by either party shall be provided in a timely manner. Nothing in this Article of this Contract is intended to or shall affect or

alter the standard of judicial review applicable under Federal law to any opinion or determination implementing a specific provision of Federal law embodied in statute or regulation.

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

#### COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

20. (a) In order to further their mutual goals and objectives, the Contracting Officer and the Contractor shall communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with each other, and with other affected Project Contractors, in order to improve the operation and management of the Project. The communication, coordination, and cooperation regarding operations and management shall include, but not limited to, any action which will or may materially affect the quantity or quality of Project Water supply, the allocation of Project Water supply, and Project financial matters including, but not limited to, budget issues. The communication, coordination, and cooperation provided for hereunder shall extend to all provisions of this Contract. Each party shall retain exclusive decision making authority for all actions, opinions, and determinations to be made by the respective party.

(b) It is the intent of the Secretary to improve water supply reliability. To carry out this intent:

(1) The Contracting Officer will, at the request of the Contractor, assist in the development of integrated resource management plans for the Contractor. Further, the

Contracting Officer will, as appropriate, seek authorizations for implementation of partnerships to improve water supply, water quality, and reliability.

(2) The Secretary will, as appropriate, pursue program and project implementation and authorization in coordination with Project Contractors to improve the water supply, water quality, and reliability of the Project for all Project purposes.

(3) The Secretary will coordinate with Project Contractors and the State of California to seek improved water resource management.

(4) The Secretary will coordinate actions of agencies within the Department of the Interior that may impact the availability of water for Project purposes.

(5) The Contracting Officer shall periodically, but not less than annually, hold division level meetings to discuss Project operations, division level water management activities, and other issues as appropriate.

(c) Without limiting the contractual obligations of the Contracting Officer hereunder, nothing in this Contract shall be construed to limit or constrain the Contracting Officer's ability to communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with the Contractor or other interested stakeholders or to make decisions in a timely fashion as needed to protect health, safety, physical integrity of structures or facilities, or the Contracting Officer's ability to comply with applicable laws.

#### CHARGES FOR DELINQUENT PAYMENTS

21. (a) The Contractor shall be subject to interest, administrative and penalty charges on delinquent installments or payments. When a payment is not received by the due date, the Contractor shall pay an interest charge for each day the payment is delinquent beyond the due date. When a payment becomes sixty (60) days delinquent, the Contractor shall pay an administrative charge to cover additional costs of billing and processing the delinquent payment. When a payment

is delinquent ninety (90) days or more, the Contractor shall pay an additional penalty charge of six (6%) percent per year for each day the payment is delinquent beyond the due date. Further, the Contractor shall pay any fees incurred for debt collection services associated with a delinquent payment.

(b) The interest charge rate shall be the greater of the rate prescribed quarterly in the Federal Register by the Department of the Treasury for application to overdue payments, or the interest rate of one-half of one (0.5%) percent per month prescribed by Section 6 of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (Public Law 76-260). The interest charge rate shall be determined as of the due date and remain fixed for the duration of the delinquent period.

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

#### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

22. During the performance of this Contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

(a) The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Contracting Officer setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

(b) The Contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin.

(c) The Contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice, to be provided by the Contracting Officer, advising the labor union or workers' representative of the Contractor's commitments under Section 202 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

(d) The Contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.

(e) The Contractor will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the Contracting Agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.

(f) In the event of the Contractor's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of such rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the Contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965 or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

(g) The Contractor will include the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (7) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by the rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to Section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as may be directed by the Secretary of Labor as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance: *Provided, however*, that in the event the Contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction, the Contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

#### GENERAL OBLIGATION--BENEFITS CONDITIONED UPON PAYMENT

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

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

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

COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS AND REGULATIONS

24. (a) The Contractor shall comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975 (P.L. 93-112, as amended), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101, et seq.) and any other applicable civil rights laws, as well as with their respective implementing regulations and guidelines imposed by the U.S. Department of the Interior and/or Bureau of Reclamation.

(b) These statutes require that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, handicap, or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving financial assistance from the Bureau of Reclamation. By executing this Contract, the Contractor agrees to immediately take any measures necessary to implement this obligation, including permitting officials of the United States to inspect premises, programs, and documents.

(c) The Contractor makes this agreement in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all Federal grants, loans, contracts, property discounts, or other Federal financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the Contractor by the Bureau of Reclamation, including installment payments after such date on account of arrangements for Federal financial assistance which were approved before such date. The Contractor recognizes and agrees that such Federal assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this Article, and that the United States reserves the right to seek judicial enforcement thereof.

PRIVACY ACT COMPLIANCE

25. Omitted.

CONTRACTOR TO PAY CERTAIN MISCELLANEOUS COSTS

26. In addition to all other payments to be made by the Contractor pursuant to this Contract, the Contractor shall pay to the United States, within sixty (60) days after receipt of a bill and detailed statement submitted by the Contracting Officer to the Contractor for such specific items of direct cost incurred by the United States for work requested by the Contractor associated with this Contract plus indirect costs in accordance with applicable Bureau of Reclamation policies and procedures. All such amounts referred to in this Article of this Contract shall not exceed the amount

843 agreed to in writing in advance by the Contractor. This Article of this Contract shall not apply to  
844 costs for routine contract administration.

845 WATER CONSERVATION

846 27. (a) Prior to the delivery of water provided from or conveyed through Federally  
847 constructed or Federally financed facilities pursuant to this Contract, the Contractor shall be  
848 implementing an effective water conservation and efficiency program based on the Contractor's water  
849 conservation plan that has been determined by the Contracting Officer to meet the conservation and  
850 efficiency criteria for evaluating water conservation plans established under Federal law. The water  
851 conservation and efficiency program shall contain definite water conservation objectives, appropriate  
852 economically feasible water conservation measures, and time schedules for meeting those objectives.  
853 Continued Project Water delivery pursuant to this Contract shall be contingent upon the Contractor's  
854 continued implementation of such water conservation program. In the event the Contractor's water  
855 conservation plan or any revised water conservation plan completed pursuant to subdivision (d) of  
856 this Article of this Contract have not yet been determined by the Contracting Officer to meet such  
857 criteria, due to circumstances which the Contracting Officer determines are beyond the control of the  
858 Contractor, water deliveries shall be made under this Contract so long as the Contractor diligently  
859 works with the Contracting Officer to obtain such determination at the earliest practicable date, and  
860 thereafter the Contractor immediately begins implementing its water conservation and efficiency  
861 program in accordance with the time schedules therein.

862 (b) Omitted.

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

(d) At five (5) -year intervals, the Contractor shall revise its water conservation plan to reflect the then-existing conservation and efficiency criteria for evaluating water conservation plans established under Federal law and submit such revised water management plan to the Contracting Officer for review and evaluation. The Contracting Officer will then determine if the water conservation plan meets Reclamation's then-existing conservation and efficiency criteria for evaluating water conservation plans established under Federal law.

(e) If the Contractor is engaged in direct groundwater recharge, such activity shall be described in the Contractor's water conservation plan.

#### EXISTING OR ACQUIRED WATER OR WATER RIGHTS

28. Except as specifically provided in Article 18 of this Contract, the provisions of this Contract shall not be applicable to or affect non-project water or water rights now owned or hereafter acquired by the Contractor or any user of such water within the Contractor's Service Area including, without limitation, Prior-Rights Water. Any such water shall not be considered Project Water under this Contract. In addition, this Contract shall not be construed as limiting or curtailing any rights which the Contractor or any water user within the Contractor's Service Area acquires or has available under any other contract pursuant to Federal Reclamation law.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BY OPERATING NON-FEDERAL ENTITY

29. Omitted.

CONTINGENT ON APPROPRIATION OR ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS

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

BOOKS, RECORDS, AND REPORTS

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

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (a) of this Article of this Contract, no books, records, or other information shall be requested from the Contractor by the Contracting Officer unless such books, records, or information are reasonably related to the administration or performance of this Contract. Any such request shall allow the Contractor a reasonable period of time within which to provide the requested books, records, or information.

(c) Omitted.

ASSIGNMENT LIMITED--SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OBLIGATED

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

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

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

#### SEVERABILITY

33. In the event that a person or entity who is neither (i) a party to a Project contract, nor (ii) a person or entity that receives Project Water from a party to a Project contract, nor (iii) an association or other form of organization whose primary function is to represent parties to Project contracts, brings an action in a court of competent jurisdiction challenging the legality or enforceability of a provision included in this Contract and said person, entity, association, or organization obtains a final court decision holding that such provision is legally invalid or unenforceable and the Contractor has not intervened in that lawsuit in support of the plaintiff(s), the parties to this Contract shall use their best efforts to (i) within thirty (30) days of the date of such final court decision identify by mutual agreement the provisions in this Contract which must be revised and (ii) within three (3) months thereafter promptly agree on the appropriate revision(s). The time periods specified above may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties. Pending the completion of the actions designated above, to the extent it can do so without violating any applicable provisions of law, the United States shall continue to make the quantities of Project Water specified in this Contract available to the Contractor pursuant to the provisions of this Contract which were not found to be legally invalid or unenforceable in the final court decision.

RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

34. Should any dispute arise concerning any provisions of this Contract, or the parties' rights and obligations thereunder, the parties shall meet and confer in an attempt to resolve the dispute. Prior to the Contractor commencing any legal action, or the Contracting Officer referring any matter to Department of Justice, the party shall provide to the other party thirty (30) days written notice of the intent to take such action; Provided, That such notice shall not be required where a delay in commencing an action would prejudice the interests of the party that intends to file suit. During the thirty (30) day notice period, the Contractor and the Contracting Officer shall meet and confer in an attempt to resolve the dispute. Except as specifically provided, nothing herein is intended to waive or abridge any right or remedy that the Contractor or the United States may have.

OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT

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

CHANGES IN CONTRACTOR'S SERVICE AREA

36. (a) While this Contract is in effect, no change may be made in the Contractor's Service Area or boundaries, by inclusion or exclusion of lands, dissolution, consolidation, merger, or otherwise, except upon the Contracting Officer's written consent.

(b) Within thirty (30) days of receipt of a request for such a change, the Contracting Officer will notify the Contractor of any additional information required by the Contracting Officer for processing said request, and both parties will meet to establish a mutually agreeable schedule for timely completion of the process. Such process will analyze whether the proposed change is likely to: (i) result in the use of Project Water contrary to the terms of this

Contract; (ii) impair the ability of the Contractor to pay for Project Water furnished under this Contract or to pay for any Federally-constructed facilities for which the Contractor is responsible; and (iii) have an impact on any Project Water rights applications, permits, or licenses. In addition, the Contracting Officer shall comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act. The Contractor will be responsible for all costs incurred by the Contracting Officer in this process, and such costs will be paid in accordance with Article 26 of this Contract.

#### FEDERAL LAWS

37. By entering into this Contract, the Contractor does not waive its rights to contest the validity or application in connection with the performance of the terms and conditions of this Contract of any Federal law or regulation; Provided, That the Contractor agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of this Contract unless and until relief from application of such Federal law or regulation to the implementing provision of the Contract is granted by a court of competent jurisdiction.

#### EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND

38. Omitted.

#### MEDIUM FOR TRANSMITTING PAYMENT

39. (a) All payments from the Contractor to the United States under this contract shall be by the medium requested by the United States on or before the date payment is due. The required method of payment may include checks, wire transfers, or other types of payment specified by the United States.

(b) Upon execution of the contract, the Contractor shall furnish the Contracting Officer with the Contractor's taxpayer's identification number (TIN). The purpose for requiring the Contractor's TIN is for collecting and reporting any delinquent amounts arising out of the Contractor's relationship with the United States.

NOTICES

40. Any notice, demand, or request authorized or required by this Contract shall be deemed to have been given, on behalf of the Contractor, when mailed, postage prepaid, or delivered to the Area Manager, South-Central California Area Office, 1243 "N" Street, Fresno, California 93721, and on behalf of the United States, when mailed, postage prepaid, or delivered to the Board of Directors of Chowchilla Water District, P.O. Box 905, Chowchilla, California 93610. The designation of the addressee or the address may be changed by notice given in the same manner as provided in this Article of this Contract for other notices.

CONFIRMATION OF CONTRACT

41. The Contractor, after the execution of this Contract, shall promptly provide to the Contracting Officer a decree of a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of California, confirming the execution of this Contract. The Contractor shall furnish the United States a certified copy of the final decree, the validation proceedings, and all pertinent supporting records of the court approving and confirming this Contract, and decreeing and adjudging it to be lawful, valid, and binding on the Contractor.

CONTRACT DRAFTING CONSIDERATIONS

42. Articles 1 through 8, Articles 10 through 15, subdivision (b) of Article 16, Articles 18 through 20, subdivision (c) of Article 23, Articles 26 through 28, subdivision (b) of Article 31, subdivisions (b) and (c) of Article 32, Articles 33 through 34, subdivision (b) of Article 36, and Article 37 of this Contract have been drafted, negotiated, and reviewed by the parties hereto, each of whom is sophisticated in the matters to which this Contract pertains, and no one party shall be considered to have drafted the stated Articles.

1002           IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Contract as of the day and  
1003   year first above written.