

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

CONTRACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND  
MERIDIAN FARMS WATER COMPANY,  
DIVERTER OF WATER FROM SACRAMENTO RIVER SOURCES,  
SETTLING WATER RIGHTS DISPUTES AND  
PROVIDING FOR PROJECT WATER

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6 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
7 Central Valley Project, California

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11 SETTLING WATER RIGHTS DISPUTES AND  
12 PROVIDING FOR PROJECT WATER

13 THIS CONTRACT, hereinafter referred to as "Settlement Contract," is entered into  
14 by THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, hereinafter referred to as the United States, made  
15 this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, pursuant to the applicable authority granted to  
16 it generally in the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388), and acts amendatory or supplementary  
17 thereto, including, but not limited to, the Acts of August 26, 1937 (50 Stat. 844), as amended and  
18 supplemented, August 4, 1939 (53 Stat. 1187), as amended and supplemented, including, but not  
19 limited to, Sections 9 and 14 thereto, July 2, 1956 (70 Stat. 483), June 21, 1963 (77 Stat. 68),  
20 October 12, 1982 (96 Stat. 1262), October 27, 1986 (100 Stat. 3050), as amended, and Title  
21 XXXIV of the Act of October 30, 1992 (106 Stat. 4706), all collectively hereinafter referred to  
22 as Federal Reclamation law, and MERIDIAN FARMS WATER COMPANY, hereinafter  
23 referred to as the Contractor, a corporation, acting pursuant to Sections 12003 and 12004 of the  
24 California Water Code, with its principal place of business in California;

25 WITNESSETH, that:

EXPLANATORY RECITALS

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

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

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

[4<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the United States has rights to divert, is diverting, and will continue to divert waters from said Rivers and said Delta in connection with the operation of said Central Valley Project; and

[5<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the Contractor and the United States had a dispute over the respective rights of the parties to divert and use water from the regulated flow of the Sacramento River which threatened to result in litigation, and as a means to settle that dispute entered into Contract No. 14-06-200-838A, hereinafter referred to as the Existing Contract, which established terms for the delivery to the Contractor of Central Valley Project Water, and the quantities of Base Supply the United States and the Contractor agreed may be diverted by the Contractor from the Sacramento River pursuant to such contract; and

[6<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, the United States and the Contractor disagree with respect to the authority of the United States to change the quantities of Base Supply and/or Project Water specified as available for diversion in this Settlement Contract from the quantities specified in

1 the Existing Contract, and other issues related thereto. That dispute was the subject of litigation  
2 in a lawsuit entitled *Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, et al. v. United States, et al.* [Civ. No. S-  
3 01-1816 GEB/JFM (E.D. Cal.)], but that litigation was dismissed, without prejudice, pursuant to  
4 a stipulation of dismissal filed by the parties thereto on August 29, 2002. Notwithstanding that  
5 dismissal, the Contractor and the United States enter into this Settlement Contract to renew the  
6 Existing Contract, pursuant to the terms of the Existing Contract, Federal Reclamation law, and  
7 the laws of the State of California; and

8 [7<sup>th</sup>] WHEREAS, to assure the Contractor of the enjoyment and use of the regulated  
9 flow of the said Rivers and the Delta, and to provide for the economical operation of the Central  
10 Valley Project by, and the reimbursement to, the United States for expenditures made for said  
11 Project.

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

14 DEFINITIONS

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

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

21 (b) “Basin-Wide Water Management Plan” shall mean the mutually agreeable  
22 Sacramento River Basinwide Water Management Plan, dated \_\_\_\_\_, developed by  
23 Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, Maxwell Irrigation District, Natomas Central Mutual Water  
24 Company, Pelger Mutual Water Company, Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District, Provident

1 Irrigation District, Reclamation District 108, Sutter Mutual Water Company, Anderson-  
2 Cottonwood Irrigation District, Meridian Farms Water Company, Reclamation District 1004, and  
3 the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7 (f) “CVPIA” shall mean the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, Title  
8 XXXIV of the Act of October 30, 1992 (106 Stat. 4706);

9 (g) “Eligible Lands” shall mean all lands to which Project Water may be  
10 delivered in accordance with Section 204 of the Reclamation Reform Act of October 12, 1982  
11 (96 Stat. 1263), as amended, hereinafter referred to as RRA;

12 (h) “Excess Lands” shall mean all lands in excess of the limitations contained  
13 in Section 204 of the RRA, other than those lands exempt from acreage limitation under Federal  
14 Reclamation law;

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

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

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

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

23 (m) “Project Water” shall mean all Surface Water diverted or scheduled to be  
24 diverted each month during the period April through October of each Year by the Contractor

1 from the Sacramento River which is in excess of the Base Supply. The United States recognizes  
2 the right of the Contractor to make arrangements for acquisition of water from projects of others  
3 than the United States for delivery through the Sacramento River and tributaries subject to  
4 written agreement between Contractor and the United States as to identification of such water  
5 which water when so identified shall not be deemed Project Water under this Settlement  
6 Contract;

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

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

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

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

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

18 TERM OF SETTLEMENT CONTRACT

19 2. (a) This Settlement Contract shall become effective April 1, 2004, and shall  
20 remain in effect until and including March 31, 2044: Provided, that under terms and conditions  
21 mutually agreeable to the parties hereto, renewals may be made for successive periods not to  
22 exceed 40 years each. The terms and conditions of each renewal shall be agreed upon not later  
23 than 1 year prior to the expiration of the then existing Settlement Contract.

1           (b)     With respect to Project Water and the portions of this Settlement Contract  
2     pertaining thereto, upon written request by the Contractor of the Secretary made not later than  
3     1 year prior to the expiration of this Settlement Contract, whenever, account being taken of the  
4     amount then credited to the costs of construction of water supply works, the remaining amount of  
5     construction costs of water supply work which is properly assignable for ultimate return by the  
6     Contractor as established by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to (3) of Section 1 of Public  
7     Law 643 (70 Stat. 483), probably can be repaid to the United States within the term of a contract  
8     under subsection 9(d) of the 1939 Reclamation Project Act (53 Stat. 1187), the relevant portions  
9     of this Settlement Contract may be converted to a contract under said subsection 9(d) upon terms  
10    and conditions mutually agreeable to the United States and the Contractor. The Secretary shall  
11    make a determination 10 years after the date of execution of this Settlement Contract, and every  
12    5 years thereafter, of whether a conversion to a contract under said subsection 9(d) can be  
13    accomplished pursuant to Public Law 643. Notwithstanding any provision of this Settlement  
14    Contract, the Contractor reserves and shall have all rights and benefits under Public Law 643.

15                                   WATER TO BE FURNISHED TO CONTRACTOR

16           3.     (a)     Subject to the conditions, limitations, and provisions hereinafter  
17    expressed, the Contractor is hereby entitled and authorized to divert from the Sacramento River  
18    at the locations shown in Exhibit A, for beneficial use within the area delineated on Exhibit B,  
19    (both Exhibits are attached hereto and made a part hereof), the Contract Total designated in  
20    Exhibit A, or any revision thereof, in accordance with the monthly operating schedule required  
21    by Article 3(c) of this Settlement Contract. The quantity of any water diverted under this  
22    Settlement Contract from the Sacramento River, during the period April through October, for use  
23    on any lands delineated on Exhibit B, by the owner of such lands or otherwise shall constitute a  
24    part of the Contract Total as shown on Exhibit A and shall be subject to all the provisions of this

1 Settlement Contract relating to such Contract Total as if such diversion were made by the  
2 Contractor.

3 (b) The Contractor may have acquired rights to divert water from the  
4 Sacramento River during the period April through October, that were obtained after the date of  
5 execution of the Existing Contract, or the Contractor may acquire such rights in the future. All  
6 diversions made from the Sacramento River, pursuant to such rights, during the period April  
7 through October, shall not be considered a part of the quantity of Base Supply and Project Water  
8 specified in Exhibit A; Provided, that the quantities diverted pursuant to the above rights shall be  
9 identified on the schedule submitted pursuant to Article 3(c) below, and shall not be substituted  
10 for any Base Supply or Project Water; Provided, further, that any such identified quantities of  
11 other acquired rights may be diverted by the Contractor before incurring any fee pursuant to  
12 Article 3(c)(1), below.

13 (c) Before April 1 and before the first day of each month thereafter when a  
14 revision is needed, the Contractor shall submit a written schedule to the Contracting Officer  
15 indicating the Contract Total to be diverted by the Contractor during each month under this  
16 Settlement Contract. The United States shall furnish water to the Contractor in accordance with  
17 the monthly operating schedule or any revisions thereof. However, the United States recognizes  
18 the need of the Contractor to change from time to time its monthly diversions of water from the  
19 quantities shown in Exhibit A; the Contractor may make such changes, provided:

20 (1) that for the quantity of Base Supply diverted in excess of the  
21 monthly quantity shown in Exhibit A, and as may be reduced in accordance with Article 5(a),  
22 during June, July, August, September, or October of any Water Year, the Contractor shall be  
23 charged a rescheduling fee equal to 50 percent of the sum of the storage operations and  
24 maintenance rate and the storage capital rate components of the Project ratesetting policy.

1                   (2)     that in no event shall the total quantity scheduled for diversion by  
2 the Contractor from the Sacramento River:

3                   (i)     During the period April through October exceed the  
4                   aggregate of the Contract Total for that period shown in Exhibit A or any revision  
5                   thereof;

6                   (ii)    During the period July through September exceed the  
7                   aggregate of the Contract Total for that period shown in Exhibit A or any revision  
8                   thereof.

9                   (d)     In the event conditions warrant, the Contracting Officer reserves the right  
10 to require the Contractor to submit, at least 72 hours prior to the beginning of each weekly  
11 period, its estimate of daily diversion requirements for each such period from the Sacramento  
12 River: Provided, however, that changes during any such period may be made upon the giving of  
13 72 hours' notice thereof to the Contracting Officer.

14                  (e)     No sale, transfer, exchange, or other disposal of any of the Contract Total  
15 designated in Exhibit A or the right to the use thereof for use on land other than that shown on  
16 Exhibit B shall be made by the Contractor without first obtaining the written consent of the  
17 Contracting Officer. Such consent will not be unreasonably withheld and a decision will be  
18 rendered in a timely manner. For short-term actions that will occur within 1 year or less, the  
19 decision will be rendered within 30 days after receipt of a complete written proposal. For long-  
20 term actions that will occur in a period longer than 1 year, the decision will be rendered within  
21 90 days after receipt of a complete written proposal. For a proposal to be deemed complete by  
22 the Contracting Officer, it must comply with all provisions required by State and Federal law,  
23 including information sufficient to enable the Contracting Officer to comply with the National  
24 Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, and applicable rules or regulations then

1 in effect; Provided that, such consent does not authorize the use of Federal facilities to facilitate  
2 or effectuate the sale, transfer, exchange, or other disposal of Base Supply. Such use of Federal  
3 facilities will be the subject of a separate agreement to be entered into between the Contractor  
4 and Reclamation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 (4) Any damage whether direct or indirect arising out of or in any  
23 manner caused by a shortage of water whether such shortage be on account of errors in  
24 operation, drought, or unavoidable causes.



1 water and groundwater, the development and better utilization of surface water storage, the  
2 effective utilization of waste, seepage and return flow water, and other operational and  
3 management options that may be identified in the future.

4 USE OF WATER FURNISHED TO CONTRACTOR

5 7. (a) Project Water furnished to the Contractor pursuant to this Settlement  
6 Contract shall not be delivered or furnished by the Contractor for any purposes other than  
7 agricultural purposes without the written consent of the Contracting Officer. For purposes of this  
8 Settlement Contract, “agricultural purposes” includes, but is not restricted to, the irrigation of  
9 crops, the watering of livestock, incidental domestic use including related landscape irrigation, or  
10 underground water replenishment.

11 (b) The Contractor shall comply with requirements applicable to the  
12 Contractor in biological opinion(s) prepared as a result of a consultation regarding the execution  
13 of this Settlement Contract undertaken pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of  
14 1973, as amended, that are within the Contractor’s legal authority to implement. The Contractor  
15 shall comply with the limitations or requirements imposed by environmental documentation  
16 applicable to the Contractor and within its legal authority to implement. The Existing Contract,  
17 which evidences in excess of 40 years of diversions, for agricultural uses, of the quantities of  
18 water provided for in Article 3, and the underlying water rights of the Contractor will be  
19 considered in developing an appropriate base-line for the Biological Assessment prepared  
20 pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, and in any other needed environmental review.  
21 Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the Contractor from challenging or seeking judicial  
22 relief in a court of competent jurisdiction with respect to any biological opinion or other  
23 environmental documentation referred to in this Article.



1 on such estimates. On or before September 15 of each Year, the Contracting Officer shall notify  
2 the Contractor in writing of the Charges to be in effect during the period October 1 of the current  
3 Year, through September 30, of the following Year, and such notification shall revise Exhibit D.

4 (2) Prior to October 1 of each Year, the Contracting Officer shall make  
5 available to the Contractor an estimate of the Rates for Project Water for the following Year and  
6 the computations and cost allocations upon which those Rates are based. The Contractor shall be  
7 allowed not less than 2 months to review and comment on such computations and cost  
8 allocations. By December 31 of each Year, the Contracting Officer shall provide the Contractor  
9 with the final Rates to be in effect for the upcoming Year, and such notification shall revise  
10 Exhibit D.

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

13 (1) With respect to Rates, prior to May 1 of each Year, the Contractor  
14 shall pay the United States one-half the total amount payable pursuant to subdivision (a) of this  
15 Article and the remainder shall be paid prior to July 1 or such later date or dates as may be  
16 specified by the United States in a written notice to the Contractor: Provided, however, that if at  
17 any time during the Year the amount of Project Water diverted by the Contractor shall equal the  
18 amount for which payment has been made, the Contractor shall pay for the remaining amount of  
19 such water as shown in Exhibit A in advance of any further diversion of Project Water.

20 (2) With respect to Charges, the Contractor shall also make a payment  
21 to the United States, in addition to the Rate(s) in subdivision (c)(1) of this Article, at the Charges  
22 then in effect, before the end of the month following the month of delivery or transfer. The  
23 payments shall be consistent with the quantities of Project Water delivered or transferred.  
24 Adjustment for overpayment or underpayment of Charges shall be made through the adjustment

1 of payments due to the United States for Charges for the next month. Any amount to be paid for  
2 past due payment of Charges shall be computed pursuant to Article 13 of this Settlement  
3 Contract.

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

6 (1) All revenues received by the United States from the Contractor  
7 relating to the delivery of Project Water or the delivery of non-Project Water through Project  
8 facilities shall be allocated and applied in accordance with Federal Reclamation law and the  
9 associated rules or regulations, and the then current Project ratesetting policies for irrigation  
10 water.

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

20 (f) The parties acknowledge and agree that the efficient administration of this  
21 Settlement Contract is their mutual goal. Recognizing that experience has demonstrated that  
22 mechanisms, policies, and procedures used for establishing Rates and Charges and/or for making  
23 and allocating payments, other than those set forth in this Article may be in the mutual best  
24 interest of the parties, it is expressly agreed that the parties may enter into agreements to modify

1 the mechanisms, policies, and procedures for any of those purposes while this Settlement  
2 Contract is in effect without amendment of this Settlement Contract.

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

14 (h) Except as provided in subsection 3405(a)(1)(B) of the CVPIA, the Rates  
15 for Project Water transferred, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of, by the Contractor shall be the  
16 Contractor's Rates adjusted upward or downward to reflect the changed costs of delivery (if any)  
17 of the transferred, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of Project Water to the transferee's point of  
18 delivery in accordance with the then-current ratesetting policies for the Project. Except as  
19 provided in subsection 3407(d)(2)(A) of the CVPIA, the Charges for Project Water transferred,  
20 exchanged, or otherwise disposed of, by the Contractor shall be the Contractor's Charges  
21 specified in Exhibit D. If the Contractor is receiving lower Rates and Charges because of  
22 inability to pay and is transferring, exchanging, or otherwise disposing of Project Water to  
23 another entity whose Rates and Charges are not adjusted due to inability to pay, the Rates and

1 Charges for transferred, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of Project Water shall be the  
2 Contractor's Rates and Charges unadjusted for ability to pay.

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

5 (j) Each payment to be made pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b) of this  
6 Article shall be made at the office of the Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, File  
7 No. 11546, P.O. Box 6000, San Francisco, California 94160-1546, or at such other place as the  
8 United States may designate in a written notice to the said Contractor. Payments shall be made  
9 by cash transaction, wire, or any other mechanism as may be agreed to in writing by the  
10 Contractor and the Contracting Officer. In the event there should be a default in the payment of  
11 the amount due, the delinquent payment provisions of Article 13 shall apply. The Contractor  
12 shall not be relieved of the whole or any part of its said obligation by, on account of, or  
13 notwithstanding, as the case may be:

14 (1) Its failure, refusal, or neglect to divert 75 percent of the quantity of  
15 Project Water shown on Exhibit A;

16 (2) The default in payment to it by any water user of assessments,  
17 tolls, or other charges levied by or owing to said Contractor;

18 (3) Any judicial determination that any assessment, toll, or other  
19 charge referred to in subsection 8(c)(2) of this Settlement Contract is irregular, void, or  
20 ineffectual; or

21 (4) Any injunctive process enjoining or restraining the Contractor  
22 from making or collecting any such assessment, toll, or other charge referred to in subsection  
23 8(c)(2) of this Settlement Contract.

AGREEMENT ON WATER QUANTITIES

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

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

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

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

1           (c)     In the event that the California State Water Resources Control Board or a  
2 court of competent jurisdiction issues a final decision or order modifying the terms and  
3 conditions of the water rights of either party to this Settlement Contract in order to impose Bay-  
4 Delta water quality obligations, the Contractor and the United States shall promptly meet to  
5 determine whether or not to modify any of the terms of this Settlement Contract to comply with  
6 the final decision or order, including, but not limited to, the applicability of the rescheduling  
7 charge in Article 3(c)(1) of this Settlement Contract. If within 60 days of the date of the issuance  
8 of the final decision or order the parties are not able to reach agreement regarding either the need  
9 to modify this Settlement Contract or the manner in which this Settlement Contract is to be  
10 modified, the parties shall promptly retain a neutral mediator, experienced in resolving water  
11 right disputes, to assist the parties in resolving their dispute. The cost of the mediator shall be  
12 shared equally. In the event that either of the parties to this Settlement Contract determines that  
13 the parties will not be able to develop mutually-agreeable modification(s) to this Settlement  
14 Contract even with the assistance of a mediator, either of the parties to this Settlement Contract  
15 may attempt to resolve the impasse by seeking appropriate judicial relief including, but not  
16 limited to, filing a general adjudication of the rights to the use of water in the Sacramento River  
17 system. The foregoing provisions of this sub-article shall only apply to the incremental  
18 obligations contained within a final decision or order of the State Water Resources Control  
19 Board that reflects a modification to the obligations imposed in State Water Resources Control  
20 Board Revised Water Rights Decision 1641 dated March 15, 2000, and its associated 1995 Water  
21 Quality Control Plan which, taken together, will be considered the baseline for the application of  
22 the provisions of this sub-article.

23           (d)     In the event this Settlement Contract terminates, the rights of the parties to  
24 thereafter divert and use water shall exist as if this Settlement Contract had not been entered into;

1 and the fact that as a compromise settlement of a controversy as to the respective rights of the  
2 parties to divert and use water and the yield of such rights during the term hereof, this Settlement  
3 Contract places a limit on the Contract Total to be diverted annually by the Contractor during the  
4 Settlement Contract term and segregates it into Base Supply and Project Water shall not  
5 jeopardize the rights or position of either party with respect to its water rights or the yield thereof  
6 at all times after the Settlement Contract terminates. It is further agreed that the Contractor at all  
7 times will first use water to the use of which it is entitled by virtue of its own water rights, and  
8 neither the provisions of this Settlement Contract, action taken thereunder, nor payments made  
9 thereunder to the United States by the Contractor shall be construed as an admission that any part  
10 of the water used by the Contractor during the term of this Settlement Contract was in fact water  
11 to which it would not have been entitled under water rights owned by it nor shall receipt of  
12 payments thereunder by the United States from the Contractor be construed as an admission that  
13 any part of the water used by the Contractor during the term of this Settlement Contract was in  
14 fact water to which it would have been entitled under water rights owned by it.

15 MEASUREMENT OF WATER

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

19 (b) All water diverted from the Sacramento River pursuant to this Settlement  
20 Contract will be measured or caused to be measured by the United States at each point of  
21 diversion with existing equipment or equipment to be installed, operated, and maintained by the  
22 United States, and/or others, under contract with and at the option of the United States. The  
23 equipment and methods used to make such measurement shall be in accordance with sound

1 engineering practices. Upon request of the Contractor, the accuracy of such measurements will  
2 be investigated by the Contracting Officer and any errors appearing therein will be corrected.

3 (c) The right of ingress to and egress from all points of diversion is hereby  
4 granted to all authorized employees of the United States. The Contractor also hereby grants to  
5 the United States the right to install, operate, maintain, and replace such equipment on diversion  
6 or carriage facilities at each point of diversion as the Contracting Officer deems necessary.

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

15 (e) The Contractor shall pay the United States for the costs to repair, relocate,  
16 or replace measurement equipment when the Contractor modifies, alters, removes, or replaces  
17 diversion or carriage facilities.

18 (f) Contractor and Contracting Officer shall develop a mutually agreeable  
19 surface water delivery water measurement program which shall be implemented by the  
20 Contractor, and such measurement program shall be consistent with the conservation and  
21 efficiency criteria for evaluating water conservation plans as provided in Article 29(a).

22 (g) All new surface water delivery systems installed within the lands  
23 delineated on Exhibit B after the effective date of this Settlement Contract shall also comply with  
24 the measurement provisions described in this Article.

1 RULES AND REGULATIONS

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

7 GENERAL OBLIGATION--BENEFITS CONDITIONED UPON PAYMENT

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

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

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

21 CHARGES FOR DELINQUENT PAYMENTS

22 13. (a) The Contractor shall be subject to interest, administrative and penalty  
23 charges on delinquent installments or payments. When a payment is not received by the due  
24 date, the Contractor shall pay an interest charge for each day the payment is delinquent beyond  
25 the due date. When a payment becomes 60 days delinquent, the Contractor shall pay an  
26 administrative charge to cover additional costs of billing and processing the delinquent payment.  
27 When a payment is delinquent 90 days or more, the Contractor shall pay an additional penalty  
28 charge of six percent per year for each day the payment is delinquent beyond the due date.  
29 Further, the Contractor shall pay any fees incurred for debt collection services associated with a  
30 delinquent payment.

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

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

4 QUALITY OF WATER

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

10 WATER AND AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

11 15. The Contractor, in carrying out this Settlement Contract, shall comply with all  
12 applicable water and air pollution laws and regulations of the United States and the State of  
13 California, and shall obtain all required permits or licenses from the appropriate Federal, State,  
14 or local authorities.

15 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

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

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

28 (b) The Contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees  
29 placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive  
30 consideration for employment without discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, or  
31 national origin.

1 (c) The Contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers  
2 with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice,  
3 to be provided by the Contracting Officer, advising the said labor union or workers'  
4 representative of the Contractor's commitments under Section 202 of Executive Order No. 11246  
5 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places  
6 available to employees and applicants for employment.

7 (d) The Contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order No.  
8 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of  
9 the Secretary of Labor.

10 (e) The Contractor will furnish all information and reports required by said  
11 amended Executive Order and by the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or  
12 pursuant thereto, and will permit access to its books, records, and accounts by the Contracting  
13 Officer and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with  
14 such rules, regulations, and orders.

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

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

31 COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS AND REGULATIONS

32 17. (a) The Contractor shall comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964  
33 (42 U.S.C. 2000d), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975 (P.L. 93-112, as amended), the  
34 Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101, et seq.) and any other applicable civil rights  
35 laws, as well as with their respective implementing regulations and guidelines imposed by the  
36 U.S. Department of the Interior and/or Bureau of Reclamation.

37 (b) These statutes require that no person in the United States shall, on the  
38 grounds of race, color, national origin, handicap, or age, be excluded from participation in, be  
39 denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity  
40 receiving financial assistance from the Bureau of Reclamation. By executing this Settlement  
41 Contract, the Contractor agrees to immediately take any measures necessary to implement this

1 obligation, including permitting officials of the United States to inspect premises, programs, and  
2 documents.

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

11 MINGLING OF CONTRACTOR'S PROJECT AND NON-PROJECT WATER

12 18. (a) Project Water must of necessity be transported by the Contractor to its  
13 water users by means of the same works and channels used for the transport of its non-Project  
14 Water including Base Supply. Notwithstanding such mingling of water, the provisions of Article  
15 11 hereof shall be applicable only to Project Water, and such mingling of water shall not in any  
16 manner subject to the provisions of Article 11 hereof the Contractor's non-Project Water  
17 including Base Supply.

18 (b) If required in accordance with subdivision (c) of this Article, the  
19 Contractor shall install and maintain such measuring equipment and distribution facilities and  
20 maintain such records as may be necessary to determine the amounts of water delivered to  
21 Excess Lands served by the Contractor. The Contractor shall not within any month deliver to  
22 Ineligible Lands water in excess of the non-Project Water, including Base Supply, for that  
23 month. The Contracting Officer or authorized representative shall have the right at all  
24 reasonable times to inspect such records and measuring equipment.

25 (c) The Contractor will not be considered in violation of the requirement that  
26 Project Water be delivered only to Eligible Lands during any month of the irrigation season that  
27 the water requirement for beneficial use on Eligible Lands for that month is equal to or in excess  
28 of the Project Water for that month as shown on Exhibit A or any revision thereof pursuant to

1 subdivision (c) of Article 3. The water requirement for beneficial use on Eligible Lands will be  
2 determined by multiplying:

3 (1) the number of irrigable acres of the particular types of crops grown  
4 in that year on the acreage designated as eligible by

5 (2) the Unit Duties as set forth in Exhibit C attached hereto and made  
6 a part hereof, or by such other Unit Duties mutually agreed upon by the Contractor and the  
7 Contracting Officer. In order to make the computation of the water requirement for Eligible  
8 Lands, on April 1 of each Year and concurrently with its order for water for the irrigation season,  
9 the Contractor shall designate the acreage of and type of crops to be grown on its Eligible Lands  
10 that irrigation season. During any month the water requirement as above determined for crops  
11 growing on Eligible Lands during such month is equal to or in excess of the Project Water for  
12 that month as provided herein the Contractor shall not be required to measure the water delivered  
13 to Excess Lands. Any month the said water requirement is less than the amount of Project Water  
14 as provided herein, the Contractor will be required to measure water delivered to excess land in  
15 accordance with subdivision (b) hereof.

16 BOOKS, RECORDS, AND REPORTS

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

26 CHANGE OF PLACE OF USE OR ORGANIZATION

27 20. (a) Unless the written consent of the United States is first obtained no change  
28 shall be made in the place of water use shown on Exhibit B.

1 (b) While this Settlement Contract is in effect, no change shall be made in the  
2 area of the Contractor as shown on its Exhibit B, by inclusion, exclusion, annexation, or  
3 detachment of lands, by dissolution, consolidation, or merger or otherwise, except upon the  
4 Contracting Officer's written consent thereto. Such consent will not be unreasonably withheld  
5 and a decision will be provided in a timely manner.

6 (c) In the event lands are annexed to or detached from the area of the  
7 Contractor, as provided herein, the quantity of Project Water to be diverted may be increased or  
8 decreased, as may be appropriate, pursuant to a supplemental agreement to be executed in  
9 respect thereto.

10 CONSOLIDATION OF CONTRACTING ENTITIES

11 21. Consolidation of Contractors may be approved by the Contracting Officer  
12 provided: (i) the Contracting Officer approves the form and organization of the resulting entity  
13 and the utilization by it of the Contract Total; and (ii) the obligations of the Contractors are  
14 assumed by such entity.

15 No such consolidation shall be valid unless and until approved by the Contracting  
16 Officer.

17 NOTICES

18 22. Any notice, demand, or request authorized or required by this Settlement Contract  
19 shall be deemed to have been given, on behalf of the Contractor, when mailed, postage prepaid,  
20 or delivered to the Area Manager, Northern California Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation,  
21 16349 Shasta Dam Boulevard, Shasta Lake, California 96019, and on behalf of the United  
22 States, when mailed, postage prepaid, or delivered to the Board of Directors of the Meridian  
23 Farms Water Company, P.O. Box 187 (1138 4<sup>th</sup> Street), Meridian, California 95957. The  
24 designation of the addressee or the address may be changed by notice given in the same manner  
25 as provided in this Article for other notices.

26 ASSIGNMENT LIMITED--SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OBLIGATED

27 23. (a) The provisions of this Settlement Contract shall apply to and bind the  
28 successors and assigns of the parties hereto, but no assignment or transfer of this Settlement

1 Contract or any right or interest therein shall be valid until approved in writing by the  
2 Contracting Officer.

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

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

8 OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT

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

12 (b) No officer or member of the governing board of the Contractor shall  
13 receive any benefit that may arise by reason of this Settlement Contract other than as a  
14 landowner within the Contractor’s service area and in the same manner as other landowners  
15 within the said service area.

16 CONTINGENT UPON APPROPRIATION OR ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS

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

22 CONFIRMATION OF SETTLEMENT CONTRACT

23 26. The Contractor, after the execution of this Settlement Contract, shall promptly  
24 seek to secure a decree of a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of California, if  
25 appropriate, confirming the execution of this Settlement Contract. The Contractor shall furnish  
26 the United States a certified copy of the final decree, the validation proceedings, and all pertinent  
27 supporting records of the court approving and confirming this Settlement Contract, and  
28 decreeing and adjudging it to be lawful, valid, and binding on the Contractor. This Settlement  
29 Contract shall not be binding on the United States until such final decree has been secured.

30 UNAVOIDABLE GROUNDWATER PERCOLATION

31 27. To the extent applicable, the Contractor shall not be deemed to have delivered  
32 Project Water to Excess Lands or Ineligible Lands if such lands are irrigated with groundwater  
33 that reaches the underground strata as an unavoidable result of the delivery of Project Water by  
34 the Contractor to Eligible Lands.

1 PRIVACY ACT COMPLIANCE

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

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

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

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

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

27 WATER CONSERVATION

28 29. (a) Prior to the diversion of Project Water, the Contractor shall be  
29 implementing an effective water conservation and efficiency program based on the Basin-Wide  
30 Water Management Plan and/or Contractor's water conservation plan that has been determined  
31 by the Contracting Officer to meet the conservation and efficiency criteria for evaluating water  
32 conservation plans established under Federal law. The water conservation and efficiency  
33 program shall contain definite water conservation objectives, appropriate economically feasible  
34 water conservation measures, and time schedules for meeting those objectives. Continued

1 diversion of Project Water pursuant to this Settlement Contract shall be contingent upon the  
2 Contractor's continued implementation of such water conservation program. In the event the  
3 Contractor's water conservation plan or any revised water conservation plan completed pursuant  
4 to subdivision (c) of Article 29 of this Settlement Contract have not yet been determined by the  
5 Contracting Officer to meet such criteria, due to circumstances which the Contracting Officer  
6 determines are beyond the control of the Contractor, Project Water deliveries shall be made  
7 under this Settlement Contract so long as the Contractor diligently works with the Contracting  
8 Officer to obtain such determination at the earliest practicable date, and thereafter the Contractor  
9 immediately begins implementing its water conservation and efficiency program in accordance  
10 with the time schedules therein.

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

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

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

22 (e) In order to provide incentives for water conservation, the Contractor may  
23 reduce the amount of Project Water for which payment is required under Article 8(a) in  
24 accordance with the provisions of this Article 29(e).



1 unreasonable opinions or determinations. Both parties, notwithstanding any other provisions of  
2 this Settlement Contract, expressly reserve the right to seek relief from and appropriate  
3 adjustment for any such arbitrary, capricious, or unreasonable opinion or determination. Each  
4 opinion or determination by either party shall be provided in a timely manner. Nothing in  
5 subdivision (a) of Article 30 of this Settlement Contract is intended to or shall affect or alter the  
6 standard of judicial review applicable under Federal law to any opinion or determination  
7 implementing a specific provision of Federal law embodied in statute or regulation.

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

13 CONTRACTOR TO PAY CERTAIN MISCELLANEOUS COSTS

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

22 (b) All advances for miscellaneous costs incurred for work requested by the  
23 Contractor pursuant to Article 31 of this Settlement Contract shall be adjusted to reflect the  
24 actual costs when the work has been completed. If the advances exceed the actual costs incurred,

1 the difference will be refunded to the Contractor. If the actual costs exceed the Contractor's  
2 advances, the Contractor will be billed for the additional costs pursuant to Article 31 of this  
3 Settlement Contract.

4 WAIVER OF DEFAULT

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

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

11 THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

15 (SEAL)

16 MERIDIAN FARMS WATER COMPANY

17 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
18 President

19 ATTEST:

20 \_\_\_\_\_  
21 Secretary

Exhibit A

Meridian Farms Water Company  
Sacramento River

SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY DIVERSIONS OF WATER

	<u>Base Supply</u> (acre-feet)	<u>Project Water</u> (acre-feet)	<u>Contract Total</u> (acre-feet)
April	<u>4,400</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,400</u>
May	<u>6,200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,200</u>
June	<u>5,900</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,900</u>
July	<u>2,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>7,000</u>
August	<u>1,100</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>6,100</u>
September	<u>3,400</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>5,400</u>
October	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>23,000</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>

Points of Diversion: 71.1L, 74.8L, 80.0L

Dated:

Exhibit B

(Map to be inserted to identify area covered by contract)

Meridian Farms Water Company  
Sacramento River

Exhibit C

Meridian Farms Water Company  
Sacramento River

UNIT DUTY

(In Acre-Feet Per Acre)

	<u>Rice</u>	<u>Alfalfa and Irrigated Pasture</u>	<u>General Crops</u>
June	1.90	0.80	0.60
July	2.10	1.00	0.70
August	2.00	0.80	0.70
September	0.50	0.60	0.40

Dated:

Exhibit D  
 Meridian Farms Water Company  
 Sacramento River

WATER RATES AND CHARGES

*Note: Rates and Charges shown are 2003 rates. This exhibit will be updated prior to execution of the contract to reflect the Rates and Charges for 2004.*

COST OF SERVICE RATES:	<u>Per Acre-Foot</u>
Capital Rates	
Storage	\$4.42
O&M Rates:	
Water Marketing	\$6.28
Storage	\$5.57
Deficit Rates:	
Interest Bearing	\$3.27
CFO/PFR Adjustment Rate 1/	<u>\$1.26</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$20.80</u></b>

FULL-COST RATES:

Section 202(3) Rate is applicable to a Qualified Recipient or to a Limited Recipient receiving irrigation water on or before October 1, 1981.	<u>\$25.46</u>
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Section 205(a)(3) Rate is applicable to a Limited Recipient that did not receive irrigation water on or before October 1, 1981.	<u>\$27.95</u>
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CHARGES UNDER P.L. 102-575 TO THE RESTORATION FUND 2/

Restoration Payments (3407(d)(2)(A))	<u>\$7.69</u>
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1/ Chief Financial Officer (CFO) adjustment and Provision for Replacement (PFR) expense is being distributed over a 5-year period beginning in FY 2003 for those contractors that requested those costs be deferred.

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