

Direct Line: 614-729-2325

E-Mail: jeinstein(a volunteerenergy.com

July 30, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Docketing Division 180 E. Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

> Re: In the matter of the Application of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. for Renewal of Certification as a Competitive Retail Natural Gas Supplier Case No. 02-1786-GA-CRS

Dear Sirs:

Please find attached for filing in the above referenced docket the Renewal Certification Application Competitive Retail Natural Gas Supplier. If you any questions, please feel free to call.

Very truly yours,

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

John L. Einstein, IV, Esq./m



PUCO USE O	NLY - Version 1.07	
Date Received	Renewal Certification	ORIGINAL CRS
	Number	Case Number
		₀₂ - ₁₇₈₆ - GA-CRS

RENEWAL CERTIFICATION APPLICATION COMPETITIVE RETAIL NATURAL GAS SUPPLIERS

Please type or print all required information. Identify all attachments with an exhibit label and title (*Example: Exhibit A-16 - Company History*). All attachments should bear the legal name of the Applicant. Applicants should file completed applications and all related correspondence with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Docketing Division, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

This PDF form is designed so that you may directly input information onto the form. You may also download the form by saving it to your local disk.

SECTION A - APPLICANT INFORMATION AND SERVICES

A-1	Applicant intends to renew its cer	runcate as: (check an that apply)	
			☑ Retail Natural Gas Markete

A-2 Applicant information:

Legal Name Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.

Address 790 Windmiller Drive, Pickerington Ohio 43147

Telephone No. 1-800-977-8374 Web site Address www.volunteerenergy.com

Current PUCO Certificate No. 02-022G(6) Effective Dates September 1, 2012 - September 1, 2014

A-3 Applicant information under which applicant will do business in Ohio:

Name Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.

Address 790 Windmiller Drive, Pickerington Ohio 43147

Web site Address www.volunteerenergy.com Telephone No. 1-800-977-8374

A-4 List all names under which the applicant does business in North America:

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.

Volunteer Energy

A-5 Contact person for regulatory or emergency matters:

Name John L. Einstein, IV, Esq. Title General Counsel

Business Address 790 Windmiller Drive, Pickerington Ohio 43147

Tclcphone No. 614-729-2325 Fax No. 614-729-2326 Email Address jeinstein@volunteerenergy.com

(CRNGS Supplier Renewal) Page 1 of 7

A-6	Contact person for Commission Staff use in investigating customer complaints:								
	Name Kevin Smith	Title Account Manager							
	Business address 790 Windmiller Drive, Pickerington O	hio 43147							
	Telephone No. 614-328-2955 Fax No. 614-328	2956 Email Address ksmith@volunteerenergy.com							
A-7	Applicant's address and toll-free number for	customer service and complaints							
	Customer service address 790 Windmiller Drive, Picker	ngton Ohio 43147							
	Toll-Free Telephone No. 1-800-977-8374 Fax No. 9	Email Address ksmith@volunteerenergy.co							
A-8		ee," in accordance with Section 4929.22 of the Ohio Iress, telephone number, and Web site address of the							
	Name Richard A. Curnutte, Sr.	Title President							
	Business address 1-800-977-8374								
	Telephone No. 614-856-3128 Fax No. 614-856-33	01 Email Address rcurnutte@volunteerenergy.com							
А-9	Applicant's federal employer identification nu	mber 31-1772693							
A-10	Applicant's form of ownership: (Check one)								
	☐ Sole Proprietorship	Partnership							
	Limited Liability Partnership (LLP)	Limited Liability Company (LLC)							
	✓ Corporation	Other							
A-11	currently providing service or intends to provide class that the applicant is currently serving commercial, and/or large commercial/industrial in Section 4929.01(L)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code, mean than 500,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year at a single residential use, as part of an undertaking having more than Section 4929.01(L)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code, "Mercarother than for residential use, more than 500,000 cubic feet.	gas company service area in which the applicant is de service, including identification of each customer or intends to serve, for example: residential, small (mercantile) customers. (A mercantile customer, as defined is a customer that consumes, other than for residential use, more location within the state or consumes natural gas, other than for three locations within or outside of this state. In accordance with notile customer "excludes a not-for-profit customer that consumes, et of natural gas per year at a single location within this state or art of an undertaking having more than three locations within or the Public Utilities Commission.)							

Ī	✓ Dominion East Ohio	Residential Small C	ommercial / Large Commercial / Industrial
İ	✓ Duke Energy Ohio	Residential Small Co	ommercial 🗸 Large Commercial / Industrial
Ė	✓ Vectren Energy Deliver		ommercial 🗸 Large Commercial / Industrial
L	vector Birtigy Deliver	Testucitiai V Sman C	Large Commercial / Industrial
Prog	grams, for each servi	ce area and customer class, prov	ted in any of Ohio's Natural Gas Ch ride approximate start date(s) and/or
	(s) that the applicant Columbia Gas of Ohio	began delivering and/or ended s	ervices.
	Residential	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Small Commercial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Large Commercial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Industrial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Dominion East Ohio		
!	Residential	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Small Commercial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
[Large Commercial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Industrial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Duke Energy Ohio		
1	Residential	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Small Commercial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
j	Large Commercial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Industrial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
$\Box v$	ectren Energy Delivery	of Ohio	
	Residential	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
[Small Commercial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Large Commercial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date
	Industrial	Beginning Date of Service	End Date

A-13 If not currently participating in any of Ohio's four Natural Gas Choice Programs, provide the approximate start date that the applicant proposes to begin delivering services:

Columbia Gas of Ohio	Intended Start Date	
Dominion East Ohio	Intended Start Date	
Duke Energy Ohio	Intended Start Date	
Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio	Intended Start Date	

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS AND LABEL AS INDICATED.

- A-14 Exhibit A-14 "Principal Officers, Directors & Partners," provide the names, titles, addresses and telephone numbers of the applicant's principal officers, directors, partners, or other similar officials.
- A-15 <u>Exhibit A-15 "Corporate Structure,"</u> provide a description of the applicant's corporate structure, including a graphical depiction of such structure, and a list of all affiliate and subsidiary companies that supply retail or wholesale natural gas or electricity to customers in North America.
- A-16 <u>Exhibit A-16 "Company History</u>," provide a concise description of the applicant's company history and principal business interests.
- A-17 <u>Exhibit A-17 "Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws</u>, provide the articles of incorporation filed with the state or jurisdiction in which the applicant is incorporated and any amendments thereto, only if the contents of the originally filed documents changed since the initial application.
- A-18 Exhibit A-18 "Secretary of State," provide evidence that the applicant is still currently registered with the Ohio Secretary of the State.

SECTION B - APPLICANT MANAGERIAL CAPABILITY AND EXPERIENCE

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS AND LABEL AS INDICATED

- B-1 Exhibit B-1 "Jurisdictions of Operation," provide a current list of all jurisdictions in which the applicant or any affiliated interest of the applicant is, at the date of filing the application, certified, licensed, registered, or otherwise authorized to provide retail natural gas service, or retail/wholesale electric services.
- B-2 <u>Exhibit B-2 "Experience & Plans,"</u> provide a current description of the applicant's experience and plan for contracting with customers, providing contracted services, providing billing statements, and responding to customer inquiries and complaints in accordance with Commission rules adopted pursuant to Section 4929.22 of the Revised Code and contained in Chapter 4901:1-29 of the Ohio Administrative Code.
- **B-3** Exhibit B-3 "Summary of Experience," provide a concise and current summary of the applicant's experience in providing the service(s) for which it is seeking renewed certification (e.g., number and types of customers served, utility service areas, volume of gas supplied, etc.).
- B-4 <u>Exhibit B-4 "Disclosure of Liabilities and Investigations,"</u> provide a description of all existing, pending or past rulings, judgments, contingent liabilities, revocations of authority, regulatory investigations, or any other matter that could adversely impact the applicant's financial or operational

status or ability to provide the services for which it is seeking renewed certification since applicant last filed for certification.

B-5	Exhibit B-5 "Disclosure of Consumer Protection Violations," disclose whether the applicant,
	affiliate, predecessor of the applicant, or any principal officer of the applicant has been convicted or held
	liable for fraud or for violation of any consumer protection or antitrust laws since applicant last filed for
	certification.

1	No	☐ Yes
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If Yes, provide a separate attachment labeled as <u>Exhibit B-5 "Disclosure of Consumer Protection Violations</u>," detailing such violation(s) and providing all relevant documents.

B-6 Exhibit B-6 "Disclosure of Certification Denial, Curtailment, Suspension, or Revocation," disclose whether the applicant or a predecessor of the applicant has had any certification, license, or application to provide retail natural gas or retail/wholesale electric service denied, curtailed, suspended, or revoked, or whether the applicant or predecessor has been terminated from any of Ohio's Natural Gas Choice programs, or been in default for failure to deliver natural gas since applicant last filed for certification.

abla	No	☐ Yes
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If Yes, provide a separate attachment, labeled as <u>Exhibit B-6</u> "Disclosure of Certification Denial, <u>Curtailment, Suspension, or Revocation,</u>" detailing such action(s) and providing all relevant documents.

SECTION C - APPLICANT FINANCIAL CAPABILITY AND EXPERIENCE

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS AND LABEL AS INDICATED

- C-1 Exhibit C-1 "Annual Reports," provide the two most recent Annual Reports to Shareholders. If applicant does not have annual reports, the applicant should provide similar information, labeled as Exhibit C-1, or indicate that Exhibit C-1 is not applicable and why.
- C-2 <u>Exhibit C-2 "SEC Filings</u>," provide the most recent 10-K/8-K Filings with the SEC. If applicant does not have such filings, it may submit those of its parent company. If the applicant does not have such filings, then the applicant may indicate in Exhibit C-2 whether the applicant is not required to file with the SEC and why.
- C-3 Exhibit C-3 "Financial Statements," provide copies of the applicant's two most recent years of audited financial statements (balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement). If audited financial statements are not available, provide officer-certified financial statements. If the applicant has not been in business long enough to satisfy this requirement, it shall file audited or officer-certified financial statements covering the life of the business.
- C-4 <u>Exhibit C-4 "Financial Arrangements</u>," provide copies of the applicant's current financial arrangements to conduct competitive retail natural gas service (CRNGS) as a business activity (e.g., guarantees, bank commitments, contractual arrangements, credit agreements, etc.)
- C-5 <u>Exhibit C-5 "Forecasted Financial Statements</u>," provide two years of forecasted financial statements (balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement) for the applicant's CRNGS operation, along with a list of assumptions, and the name, address, email address, and telephone number of the preparer.

- C-6 Exhibit C-6 "Credit Rating," provide a statement disclosing the applicant's current credit rating as reported by two of the following organizations: Duff & Phelps, Dun and Bradstreet Information Services, Fitch IBCA, Moody's Investors Service, Standard & Poors, or a similar organization. In instances where an applicant does not have its own credit ratings, it may substitute the credit ratings of a parent or affiliate organization, provided the applicant submits a statement signed by a principal officer of the applicant's parent or affiliate organization that guarantees the obligations of the applicant.
- C-7 Exhibit C-7 "Credit Report," provide a copy of the applicant's current credit report from Experion, Dun and Bradstreet, or a similar organization.
- Exhibit C-8 "Bankruptcy Information," provide a list and description of any reorganizations, protection from creditors, or any other form of bankruptcy filings made by the applicant, a parent or affiliate organization that guarantees the obligations of the applicant or any officer of the applicant in the current year or since applicant last filed for certification.
- C-9 Exhibit C-9 "Merger Information," provide a statement describing any dissolution or merger or acquisition of the applicant since applicant last filed for certification.

SECTION D - APPLICANT TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS AND LABEL AS INDICATED.

- Exhibit D-1 "Operations," provide a current written description of the operational nature of the D-1 applicant's business. Please include whether the applicant's operations will include the contracting of natural gas purchases for retail sales, the nomination and scheduling of retail natural gas for delivery, and the provision of retail ancillary services, as well as other services used to supply natural gas to the natural gas company city gate for retail customers.
- Exhibit D-2 "Operations Expertise," given the operational nature of the applicant's business, provide D-2 evidence of the applicant's current experience and technical expertise in performing such operations.
- Exhibit D-3 "Key Technical Personnel," provide the names, titles, email addresses, telephone numbers, and background of key personnel involved in the operational aspects of the applicant's current business.

Hisparla luxuto 6.

Applicant Signature and Title

Sworn and subscribed before me this 29

day of July

Month 2014 Year

John L. Einstein, IV, Esq.

Signature of official administering oath

Print Name and Title

My commission expires on



JOHN L. EINSTEIN IV Attorney At Law Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Has No Expiration Section 147.03 R.C.



The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Competitive Retail Natural Gas Service Affidavit Form (Version 1.07)

	**							
In	the Matter of the Application of)						
Vol	unteer Energy Services, Inc.)	C	ase No.	02	170	6	CA CDC
for	a Certificate or Renewal Certificate to Provide)	C	ase No.	02	_ 178		-GA-CRS
Co	mpetitive Retail Natural Gas Service in Ohio.)						
	unty of Fairfield te of Ohio							
	Richard A. Curnutte, Sr.	[Affian	t], being c	luly swo	orn/aff	irmed, hei	reby states that:
(1)	The information provided within the certification or complete, true, and accurate to the best knowledge of a		ation re	enewal ap	plication	n and :	supporting	3 information is
(2)	The applicant will timely file an annual report of its natural gas pursuant to Sections 4905.10(A), 4911.18(A)							d cubic feet of
(3)	The applicant will timely pay any assessment made Revised Code.	pursu	iant to	Section	4905.10	or S	ection 49	11.18(A), Ohio
(4)	Applicant will comply with all applicable rules and pursuant to Title 49, Ohio Revised Code.	orders	adopte	ed by the	Public	Utiliti	ies Comn	nission of Ohio
(5)	Applicant will cooperate with the Public Utilities Coconsumer complaint regarding any service offered or pr					aff in	the inves	tigation of any
(6)	Applicant will comply with Section 4929.21, Ohio Recourts and the service of process.	vised	Code, 1	regarding	consent	to the	jurisdicti	ion of the Ohio
(7)	Applicant will inform the Public Utilities Commission the certification or certification renewal application wit contact person for regulatory or emergency purposes complaints.	hin 30	days o	of such ma	aterial c	hange,	including	g any change in
8)	Affiant further sayeth naught.							
	Affiant Signature & Title Risfanda lucy	cutt	5.	, Pres	ident			
	Sworn and subscribed before me this 29 day of	f July	,		Mo	nth	2014	Year
	lance.			ıstein, IV, E				
	Signature of Official Administering Oath Section 147.03 F.98 Why Commission Has No Expiration Amount Page of Ohio JOHN F. LAW TOHN C. EINSTEIN N			e and Title	•			

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(CRNGS Supplier Renewal)

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EXHIBIT A-14

Principal Officers, Directors & Partners



Richard A. Curnutte, Sr. Director and President 790 Windmiller Drive Pickerington, OH 43147 (614) 856-3128

Marc Runck, Sr. Director and CFO 790 Windmiller Drive Pickerington, OH 43147 (614) 856-3128

John L. Einstein, IV, Esq. Secretary 790 Windmiller Drive Pickerington, OH 43147 (614) 856-3128

Richard A. Curnutte, Jr. Director 790 Windmiller Drive Pickerington, OH 43147 (614) 856-3128

Larry Anderson Director 790 Windmiller Drive Pickerington, OH 43147 (614) 856-3128

Jeffrey Horsely Director 790 Windmiller Drive Pickerington, OH 43147 (614) 856-3128



EXHIBIT A-15Corporate Structure

Volunteer Energy Services Inc.

11

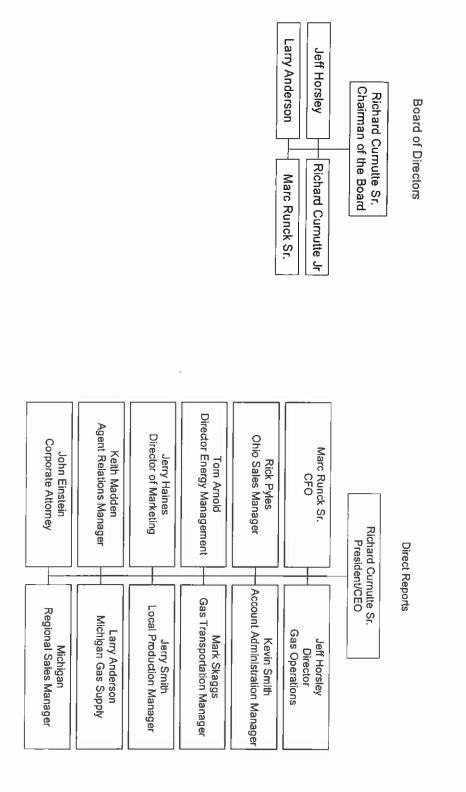




EXHIBIT A-16Company History



Introduction

Volunteer Energy Services. Inc., ("VESI") an Ohio corporation was incorporated on March 2, 2001. VESI is a full-service marketer, serving natural gas customers in Ohio, Kentucky and New York. VESI received its certificate as a gas marketer in Ohio on August 19, 2002 in PUCO Case No. 02-1786-GA-CRS. As a certified retail natural gas supplier, VESI currently provides gas service to Choice and mercantile customers throughout the Columbia Gas of Ohio and Dominion East Ohio Gas service territory. With the background and expertise of VESI's president, Richard Curnutte, Sr., VESI plans to offer savings to its gas customers by acting as a broker for electric service. As a broker, VESI may aggregate its customers to maximize potential savings in electric costs. Mr. Curnutte's background working with the Williams Companies under the original Volunteer Energy Services, and as Director of Energy Management for Wendy's provide him with the requisite skills and experience to lead VESI in this expanded customer offering. VESI also provides energy services to its customers through an internet telemetry system that allows VESI to provide metering, submetering and rebilling services to its customers. Through its patented process known as Visual Energy Window, (VEW), VESI can provide its customers with in-depth power quality analysis.

VESI's natural gas supply services program provides a comprehensive package that contains supply and delivery security at competitive rates, complete administrative support and responsibility, and creative supply flexibility. VESI provides natural gas supplies and energy services to commercial and industrial customers, energy cooperatives, buyer's clubs, municipal aggregations, and trade associations throughout the Ohio market area.

VESI's President, Richard A. Curnutte Sr. participated in the re-formation of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. in March of 2001 and began serving wholesale customers in May of 2001.

Mr. Curnutte previously joined Volunteer Energy Corporation as Vice President, Sales/Marketing in 1995. Mr. Curnutte participated in the formation of the original Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. with the Williams Companies and was named President in 1996. Volunteer Energy Corporation and Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. was sold to FirstEnergy Solutions in November of 1998.

Before joining VESI, Mr. Curnutte was Principal and Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Broad Street Oil and Gas (BSO&G). BSO&G was later sold to Utilicorp/Aquilla Energy. Mr. Curnutte has also held management positions with Unicorp Energy and Yankee Gas Resources/Access Energy.

Prior to entering the natural gas business Mr. Curnutte was Director of Energy Management for Wendy's International. As Corporate Energy Manager, Mr. Curnutte was responsible for energy management for 1200 corporate restaurants throughout the United States. While at Wendy's, Mr. Curnutte transacted the nation's first commercial third party natural gas purchase by buying natural gas for 66 Wendy's and Sister's Chicken & Biscuits restaurants on the Columbia Gas of Ohio system. He also was responsible for the management of their electric usage in 300 stores.



In this capacity Mr. Curnutte worked extensively with utility rates and tariffs to analyze the best opportunities available.

Before Wendy's, Mr. Curnutte was Energy Coordinator for Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). Mr. Curnutte was responsible for administration of the Department of Energy/Ohio Department of Development weatherization programs.

Mr. Curnutte has over 20 years of experience in the natural gas and energy service industry dealing in the sales of natural gas to commercial and industrial customers. All of VES1 employees and officers were previously with Volunteer Energy Corporation and have a combined 95 years of natural gas experience. Most of this experience was and is dedicated to providing energy services to Ohio based customers.

Rick Curnutte Jr. ("Rick") began working for Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. (VESI) in May of 2001. Prior to his current position with VESI, Rick worked as a natural gas sales representative for The Energy Cooperative of Ohio (ECO) and The Energy Cooperative (TEC). Currently As a Director, Secretary, and Director of Sales, Rick manages and oversees commercial energy sales from both internal sales representatives and third-party sales channels (agents, aggregation groups, telemarketers, et al). He has also overseen the creation and implementation of a brandnew CRM sales and management software solution, which will allow VESI to better track, service and sell our product to new and existing end-users.



EXHIBIT A-17 Articles of Incorporation

NO CHANGES



EXHIBIT A-18 Secretary of State



Jon Husted & the Office | Elections & Voting | Campaign Finance | Legislation & Ballot Issues | Businesses | Records | Media Center | Publications

Business Filing Portal

your BUSINESS begins here

General Information Figure Search UCC Search Mark / Service Mark Search Prepayment Accounts Help

Business Name Business Name - Exact Number Search Agent/Contact Name Prior Busines ... Name

Corporation Details

		Corporati	on Deta	ifa:		
Entry Number	1212893					
Business Name	VOLUNTEER ENERG	Y SERVICES, INC.				
Filing Type	CORPORATION FOR	PROFIT				
Status	Active					
Original Filing Date	03/02/2001					
Expiry Date						
Location COLUMBUS		Con	nty FR/	WKE	IN	State
		Agent / Registra	ant Info	mali	on	
		366 E BR COLUMBUS Effective Date Contact Sta Incorporator PATRICK	5,OH 43. : 03/20/ ilus Act Informa	215 2007 ive atlon		
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		NO PAR COMMON			200	
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	Filing Type			D	ate of Filing	Document Number/Image
DOMESTIC ARTICLES/FOR PROFIT				03/02/2001		200106502274
DOMESTIC AGENT ADDRESS CHANGE			_	08/20/2004		200423301050
DOMESTIC AGEN T ADD	RESS CHANGE			12/08	7/2004	200501301310
	SEQUENT APPOINTMENT				72007	200708201960

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Jurisdiction of Operation



Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. is a Certified Retail Natural Gas Supplier in Ohio. (Certificate No. 02-022(4)). Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. also offers natural gas service in Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Florida.



Experience & Plans



Experience

The major objectives of VESI's natural gas and electric supply services program are to provide a comprehensive package that contains supply and delivery security at competitive rates, complete administrative support and responsibility, and creative supply flexibility. VESI currently provides natural gas supplies and energy services to the commercial and industrial customers, energy cooperatives, buyer's clubs, municipal aggregations, and trade associations throughout the Ohio market area. As a certified broker, VESI seeks to expand the array of services it offers to its customers. VESI has the expertise to structure an energy supply portfolio to meet customer's individual needs.

VESI's President, Rick Curnutte Sr., has over 20 years in the natural gas and energy services industry dealing in the sales of natural gas to commercial and industrial customers. All of VESI employees and officers were previously with Volunteer Energy Corporation and have a combined 95 years of natural gas experience. Most of this experience was and is dedicated to providing energy services to Ohio based customers.

Gas Supply Management Program

VESI's Gas Supply Management Program is custom tailored to the end-users needs, with service levels, pricing, and fee structure negotiated to meet each customer's specific requirements. In order to meet the goal and objectives as stated, VESI recommends establishing the natural gas energy management services for our customers as outlined below:

Gas Supply and Storage

For consideration of supply security and price protection, VESI evaluates interruptible, firm transportation options and storage arrangements on the LDC and upstream pipelines for each customer facility receiving gas supply from VESI.

VESI's natural gas supply strategy is focused on purchases of firm supplies under spot and long term arrangements directly from Ohio production areas, producers, supplemented with economical Gulf Coast production from various production areas and interstate pipelines. VESI currently owns and transports on Dominion Transmission and Columbia Gas Transmission (TCO) using Firm Transportation Services (FTS) agreements and Storage Service Transportation (SST) agreements. VESI also has contracts from Firm Storage Service (FSS) on TCO.

Firm Transportation/Capacity Release

VESI assesses the availability of short term and long-term release of firm capacity rights on the Interstate pipelines upstream of customer's facilities for our customers. In addition to the



monitoring of all relevant EBB's, VESI has established trading relationships with other marketers, LDC's and pipelines which have yielded discounted firm transportation via capacity release programs.

Requirement Estimates

VESI will prepare gas requirements forecasts and submit all necessary LDC and pipeline nominations. VESI will develop forecasting procedures that will provide adequate usage estimates and updates necessary to meet actual demand for VESI customers and to comply with pipeline and LDC balancing requirements as required.

Scheduling

VESI does all necessary pipeline and LDC scheduling, dispatching and nominating required to deliver natural gas and to ensure that VESI customers have full advantage of any upstream pipeline discounts. VESI schedules and monitors daily, all flowing gas on upstream pipelines. VESI has full responsibility for arranging transportation to the city gate on a daily basis within the balancing and banking tolerances permitted by the various gas companies. All expenses, fees, fines, or costs associated with imbalances on both the interstate transmission system and the local gas companies are paid by VESI.

Customized Customer Reports

In conjunction with the performance review meetings with customers, various reports will be prepared for customer use. These reports can include: cost savings as compared to published Index and/or LDC's rates, consumption history, price projections for budgeting, etc.

Invoicing

VESI will provide a monthly invoice to each customer in a timely fashion, with a usage breakdown by account. Detailed information will be supplied regarding natural gas supplied and the appropriate cost of those supplies as per the natural gas sales agreement with each customer. VESI will reconcile volumetric consumption and transportation charges with the applicable utility delivery statements. VESI will provide savings analysis on a monthly basis to each GTS customer.

Customer Complaints

VESI provides a toll free number for customers inquiries. VESI will respond to customer inquiries and complaints in accordance with Commission rules.



Pricing

For electric customers, VESI will seek to aggregate its existing customers and contract with a CRES provider to obtain savings for these customers. In so doing, VESI will review the customer's load and billing history to determine the best options.

For gas customers, VESI will present various pricing options. Practical consideration (such as base load expectations, peak day usage, availability of spot gas, and transportation alternatives) and commercial factors (alternative fuels, winter price spikes, tariff costs, long term gas market trends, etc.) will impact the pricing selection.

Price options VESI can provide now or in the future for customers are:

- 1. Fixed price on an established term
- 2. Fixed price with periodic adjustments tied to market tracking mechanism
- 3. "Cost Plus" methodology
- 4. NYMEX related pricing
- 5. Indexed pricing
- 6. Combinations of all above

The primary objectives of VESI are to provide reliable, cost effective commodity supplies and services, to insure that customers receive direct benefits from all transport discounts including capacity release utilization. VESI plans to be a supply partner and to work with customers to achieve savings, supply security, and competitive portfolio pricing that meets the customer's needs and expectations. VESI desires to be long-term energy partner with each and every customer for the provision of both gas and electricity.



Summary of Experience



Summary of Experience

As a Certified Retail Natural Gas Supplier, VESI currently provides natural gas supplies and energy services to the commercial and industrial customers, energy cooperatives, buyer's clubs, municipal aggregations, and trade associations throughout the Ohio Market area.

VESI has the expertise to structure an energy supply portfolio to meet a customer's individual needs. VESI's President, Rick Curnutte Sr. has over 20 years in the natural gas and energy services industry dealing in the sales of natural gas to commercial and industrial customers. All of VESI employees and officers were previously with Volunteer Energy Corporation and have a combined 95 years of natural gas and electric experience. Most of this experience was and will be in the future, dedicated to providing energy services to primarily Ohio based customers.

VESI will use in-house salesmen to solicit new business. Our initial focus will be on the business-to-business opportunities. VESI will focus on businesses with multi site locations, small to mid-size industrials, trade associations, energy cooperatives, buyer's clubs and governmental aggregation groups.

VESI will concentrate on providing the highest level of customer service. VESI is totally focused on the Ohio market as its primary service territory. Every VESI employee is dedicated to creating a partnership with the customer that far exceeds current industry standards.

The primary objective of VESI is to provide reliable, cost effective electric supplies and services and to insure that customers receive the benefits they need. VESI plans to be a supply partner and to work with customers to achieve savings, supply security, and competitive portfolio pricing that meets the customer's needs and expectations. VESI desires to be a long-term energy partner with each and every customer.



Disclosure of Liabilities and Investigations

NONE



Neither the applicant, a predecessor of the applicant nor any principal officer of the applicant has ever been convicted or held liable for fraud or violation of any consumer protection or antitrust laws within the past five years.



Neither the applicant nor the predecessor of the applicant has had any certification, license or application to provide retail natural gas or retail or wholesale electric service denied, curtailed, suspended or revoked, nor has applicant ever been terminated from any of Ohio's Natural Gas Choice programs or been in default for failure to deliver natural gas.



EXHIBIT C-1

Annual Reports

Because Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. is not publicly traded on the stock exchange, no publicly available, published annual report exists; however, on the following pages are relevant financial disclosures made available to shareholders at least annually.



EXHIBIT C-2 SEC Filings

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. is not required to file with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) because it is not publicly traded.



EXHIBIT C-3

Financial Statements

(Under Seal)

SEE DOCUMENT FILED UNDER SEAL



EXHIBIT C-4

Financial Arrangements

EXECUTION VERSION

AMENDED AND RESTATED REVOLVING CREDIT

AND .

SECURITY AGREEMENT

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Successor to National City Business Credit, Inc.

(AS LENDER, ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT AND AS COLLATERAL AGENT)

and

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Successor to National City Bank

(AS ISSUER)

WITH

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

(AS BORROWER)

JULY 23, 2010

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AMENDED AND RESTATED REVOLVING CREDIT AND SECURITY AGREEMENT

Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of July 23, 2010, among VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC., a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Ohio (the "Borrower"), the financial institutions which are now or which hereafter become a party hereto (collectively, the "Lenders" and individually a "Lender"), PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION ("PNC"), as administrative agent and collateral agent for Lenders and the Issuer (PNC, in such capacity, the "Agent"), and PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, successor to National City Bank, as the Issuer (as hereinafter defined).

RECITAL

Borrower, the other Loan Parties (as hereinafter defined), the Lenders, the Agent and the Issuer have agreed to enter into this Agreement in order to, among other things, (a) amend and restate the Original Credit Agreement (as hereinafter defined) in its entirety; (b) re-evidence, ratify, confirm and reaffirm all of the "Obligations" (as such term is defined in the Original Credit Agreement) outstanding or otherwise existing on and as of the date hereof (the "Original Obligations"); (c) set forth the terms and conditions under which the Agent and Lenders will continue outstanding hereunder certain "Loans" made and "Letters of Credit" issued under the Original Credit Agreement and outstanding on the date hereof; and (d) set forth the terms and conditions under which the Agent and Lenders will from time to time hereafter make loans and extensions of credit, as the case may be, to or for the account of the Borrower.

It is the intention of the respective parties hereto that this Agreement not constitute a novation of the Original Credit Agreement, any of the Original Obligations or any agreement, document or instrument evidencing the same.

IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual covenants and undertakings herein contained, Borrower, Lenders and Agent hereby agree as follows:

I. DEFINITIONS.

- 1.1. Accounting Terms. As used in this Agreement, the Other Documents or any certificate, report or other document made or delivered pursuant to this Agreement, accounting terms not defined in Section 1.2 or elsewhere in this Agreement and accounting terms partly defined in Section 1.2 to the extent not defined, shall have the respective meanings given to them under GAAP; provided, however, whenever such accounting terms are used for the purposes of determining compliance with financial covenants in this Agreement, such accounting terms shall be defined in accordance with GAAP as applied in preparation of the audited financial statements of Borrower for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009.
- 1.2. <u>General Terms</u>. For purposes of this Agreement the following terms shall have the following meanings:

[&]quot;Accountants" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.7 hereof.

"Advance Rates" shall mean, collectively, the Receivables Advance Rate and the Inventory Advance Rate.

"Advances" shall mean and include the Revolving Advances and Letters of Credit .

"Affiliate" of any Person shall mean (a) any Person which, directly or indirectly, is in control of, is controlled by, or is under common control with such Person, or (b) any Person who is a director, managing member, general partner or officer (i) of such Person, (ii) of any Subsidiary of such Person or (iii) of any Person described in clause (a) above. For purposes of this definition, control of a Person shall mean the power, direct or indirect, (x) to vote 5% or more of the Equity Interests having ordinary voting power for the election of directors of such Person or other Persons performing similar functions for any such Person, or (y) to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of such Person whether by ownership of Equity Interests, contract or otherwise.

"Agent" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement and shall include its successors and assigns.

"Agent Advances" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.2(b) hereof.

"Aggregation\Pooling Service Agreement" shall mean an agreement between a certified natural Gas remarketer and a local distribution company providing for the local distribution company's transporting and the remarketer's supplying, Gas to customers.

"Agreement" shall mean this Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, as the same may be amended, restated, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time.

"Alternate Base Rate" shall mean, for any day, a rate per annum equal to the higher of (i) the Base Rate in effect on such day, (ii) the Federal Funds Open Rate in effect on such day plus 1/2 of 1% and (iii) the Daily LIBOR Rate plus 1%. For purposes of this definition, "Daily LIBOR Rate" shall mean, for any day, the rate per annum determined by Agent by dividing (x) the Published Rate by (y) a number equal to 1.00 minus the percentage prescribed by the Federal Reserve for determining the maximum reserve requirements with respect to any eurocurrency funding by banks on such day. For the purposes of this definition, "Published Rate" shall mean the rate of interest published each Business Day in The Wall Street Journal "Money Rates" listing under the caption "London Interbank Offered Rates" for a one month period (or, if no such rate is published therein for any reason, then the Published Rate shall be the eurodollar rate for a one month period as published in another publication determined by Agent).

"Anti-Terrorism Laws" shall mean any Applicable Laws relating to terrorism or money laundering, including Executive Order No. 13224, the USA PATRIOT Act, the Applicable Laws comprising or implementing the Bank Secrecy Act, and the Applicable Laws administered by the United States Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Asset Control (as any of the foregoing Applicable Laws may from time to time be amended, renewed, extended, or replaced).

"Applicable Law" shall mean all laws, rules and regulations applicable to the Person, conduct, transaction, covenant, Other Document or contract in question, including all applicable

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common law and equitable principles; all provisions of all applicable state, federal and foreign constitutions, statutes, rules, regulations, treaties, directives and orders of any Governmental Body, and all orders, judgments and decrees of all courts and arbitrators.

"Authority" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.19(d).

"Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas" shall mean the Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas (including the related General terms and Conditions thereof) as promulgated by the North American Energy Standards Board, Inc..

"Base Rate" shall mean the base commercial lending rate of PNC as publicly announced to be in effect from time to time, such rate to be adjusted automatically, without notice, on the effective date of any change in such rate. This rate of interest is determined from time to time by PNC as a means of pricing some loans to its customers and is neither tied to any external rate of interest or index nor does it necessarily reflect the lowest rate of interest actually charged by PNC to any particular class or category of customers of PNC.

"Blocked Accounts" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.15(h).

"Blocked Account Bank" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.15(h).

"Blocked Person" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5.24(b) hereof.

"Borrower" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement and shall extend to all permitted successors and assigns of such Person.

"Borrower on a Consolidated Basis" shall mean the consolidation in accordance with GAAP of the accounts or other items of the Borrower and its Subsidiaries.

"Borrower's Account" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.8.

"Borrowing Base Certificate" shall mean a certificate in substantially the form of Exhibit 1.2 duly executed by the President, Chief Financial Officer or Controller of the Borrower and delivered to the Agent, appropriately completed, by which such officer shall certify to Agent the Formula Amount and calculation thereof as of the date of such certificate.

"Business Day" shall mean any day other than Saturday or Sunday or a legal holiday on which commercial banks are authorized or required by law to be closed for business in East Brunswick, New Jersey and, if the applicable Business Day relates to any Eurodollar Rate Loans, such day must also be a day on which dealings are carried on in the London interbank market.

"Capital Expenditures" shall mean expenditures made or liabilities incurred for the acquisition of any fixed assets or improvements, replacements, substitutions or additions thereto which have a useful life of more than one year, including the total principal portion of Capitalized Lease Obligations, which, in accordance with GAAP, would be classified as capital expenditures.

"Capitalized Lease Obligation" shall mean any Indebtedness of any Borrower represented by obligations under a lease that is required to be capitalized for financial reporting purposes in accordance with GAAP.

"Cash Concentration Account" shall mean, with respect to the Borrowers and Guarantors, (A) that certain commercial deposit account in the name of the applicable Borrower or Guarantor but under control of the Agent which shall be: (a) pursuant to a deposit account control agreement in form and substance satisfactory to Agent, without liability by the Agent or PNC Bank, National Association to pay interest thereon, (b) the funds within which shall be the sole and exclusive property of the Agent for the pro rata benefit of the Lenders and (c) from which account the Agent shall have the irrevocable and exclusive right to withdraw funds until all of the Obligations are paid, performed, satisfied and enforced in full and the commitments of the Lenders to make Advances hereunder and all Letters of Credit have terminated or (B) such other deposit account designated by the Agent to receive collections of the Borrowers and Guarantors for purposes of application to the Borrowers' Account.

"CERCLA" shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§9601 et seq.

"Change of Control" shall mean (a) the occurrence of any event (whether in one or more related transactions) which results in a transfer of control of the Borrower from Richard A. Curnutte, Sr., (b) any merger or consolidation of or with the Borrower in which the Borrower is not the surviving party or (c) the sale (whether in one or more related transactions) of all or substantially all of the property or assets of the Borrower. For purposes of this definition, "control" shall mean the power, direct or indirect (x) to vote fifty percent (50%) or more of the securities having ordinary voting power for the election of directors of the Borrower or (y) to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the Borrower by contract or otherwise.

"Charges" shall mean all taxes, charges, fees, imposts, levies or other assessments, including all net income, gross income, gross receipts, sales, use, ad valorem, value added, transfer, franchise, profits, inventory, capital stock, license, withholding, payroll, employment, social security, unemployment, excise, severance, stamp, occupation and property taxes, custom duties, fees, assessments, liens, claims and charges of any kind whatsoever, together with any interest and any penalties, additions to tax or additional amounts, imposed by any taxing or other authority, domestic or foreign (including the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation or any environmental agency or superfund), upon the Collateral, any Borrower or any of its Affiliates.

"Closing Date" shall mean July 23, 2010 or such other date as may be agreed to by the parties hereto.

"Code" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as the same may be amended or supplemented from time to time, and any successor statute of similar import, and the rules and regulations thereunder, as from time to time in effect.

"Collateral" shall mean and include:

- (a) all Receivables;
- (b) all Equipment;
- (c) all General Intangibles;
- (d) all Inventory;
- (e) all Investment Property;
- (f) all Real Property;
- (g) all Subsidiary Stock;
- (h) the Leasehold Interests;
- (i) all of each Loan Party's right, title and interest in and to, whether now owned or hereafter acquired and wherever located, (i) its respective goods and other property including, but not limited to, all merchandise returned or rejected by Customers, relating to or securing any of the Receivables; (ii) all of each Loan Party's rights as a consignor, a consignee, an unpaid vendor, mechanic, artisan, or other lienor, including stoppage in transit, setoff, detinue, replevin, reclamation and repurchase; (iii) all additional amounts due to any Loan Party from any Customer relating to the Receivables; (iv) other property, including warranty claims, relating to any goods securing the Obligations; (v) all of each Loan Party's contract rights, rights of payment which have been earned under a contract right, instruments (including promissory notes), documents, chattel paper (including electronic chattel paper), warehouse receipts, deposit accounts, letters of credit and money; (vi) all commercial tort claims (whether now existing or hereafter arising); (vii) if and when obtained by any Loan Party, all real and personal property of third parties in which such Loan Party has been granted a lien or security interest as security for the payment or enforcement of Receivables; (viii) all letter of credit rights (whether or not the respective letter of credit is evidenced by a writing); (ix) all supporting obligations; and (x) any other goods, personal property or real property now owned or hereafter acquired in which any Loan Party has expressly granted a security interest or may in the future grant a security interest to Agent hereunder, or in any amendment or supplement hereto or thereto, or under any other agreement between Agent and any Loan Party:
- (j) all of each Loan Party's ledger sheets, ledger cards, files, correspondence, records, books of account, business papers, computers, computer software (owned by any Loan Party or in which it has an interest), computer programs, tapes, disks and documents relating to (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) or (i) of this Paragraph; and
- (k) all proceeds and products of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i) and (j) in whatever form, including, but not limited to: cash, deposit accounts (whether or not comprised solely of proceeds), certificates of deposit, insurance proceeds (including hazard, flood and credit insurance), negotiable instruments and other instruments for the payment of money, chattel paper, security agreements, documents, eminent domain proceeds, condemnation proceeds and tort claim proceeds.

The term "Collateral" shall also mean and include all Collateral (as defined in the Original Credit Agreement).

"Columbia Gas" shall mean Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., an Ohio corporation.

"Columbia Gas CHOICE Receivable" shall mean a Receivable of the Borrower (i) which is sold or transferred by the Borrower to Columbia Gas or any Affiliate thereof or (ii) in which the Borrower has granted a security interest to Columbia Gas or any Affiliate thereof, in either case whether pursuant to the Columbia Gas Receivable Purchase Agreement, any similar agreement or otherwise.

"Columbia Gas Eligible Receivable" shall mean a Receivable owing to the Borrower by Columbia Gas pursuant to the Columbia Gas Receivable Purchase Agreement to the extent (i) such Receivable constitutes an Eligible Receivable and (ii) Columbia Gas pays such Receivable in cash to the Cash Concentration Account not later than the third (3rd) Business Day following the twentieth (20th) day of the calendar month in which such Receivable arose.

"Columbia Gas Receivable Purchase Agreement" shall mean that certain Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. Accounts Receivable Purchase Agreement, dated March 24, 2010, by and between the Borrower and Columbia Gas, as the same may be amended, restated, replaced, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time to the extent consented to in writing by the Agent.

"Commitment Percentage" of any Lender shall mean the percentage set forth below such Lender's name on the signature page hereof as same may be adjusted upon any assignment by a Lender pursuant to Section 16.3(c) or (d) hereof.

"Commitment Transfer Supplement" shall mean a document in the form of Exhibit 16.3 hereto, properly completed and otherwise in form and substance satisfactory to Agent by which the Purchasing Lender purchases and assumes a portion of the obligation of Lenders to make Advances under this Agreement.

"Compliance Certificate" shall mean a compliance certificate to be signed by the Chief Financial Officer or Controller of Borrower, which shall state that, based on an examination sufficient to permit such officer to make an informed statement, no Default or Event of Default exists, or if such is not the case, specifying such Default or Event of Default, its nature, when it occurred, whether it is continuing and the steps being taken by Borrower with respect to such default and, such certificate shall have appended thereto calculations which set forth Borrower' compliance with the requirements or restrictions imposed by Sections 6.5, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, 7.10 and 7.11.

"Consents" shall mean all filings and all licenses, permits, consents, approvals, authorizations, qualifications and orders of Governmental Bodies and other third parties, domestic or foreign, necessary to carry on any Loan Party's business or necessary (including to avoid a conflict or breach under any agreement, instrument, other document, license, permit or other authorization) for the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement or the Other Documents, including any Consents required under all applicable federal, state or other Applicable Law.

"Consigned Inventory" shall mean Inventory of any Borrower that is in the possession of another Person on a consignment, sale or return, or other basis that does not constitute a final sale and acceptance of such Inventory.

"Controlled Group" shall mean, at any time, each Loan Party and all members of a controlled group of corporations and all trades or businesses (whether or not incorporated) under common control and all other entities which, together with any Loan Party, are treated as a single employer under Section 414 of the Code.

"Customer" shall mean and include the account debtor with respect to any Receivable and/or the prospective purchaser of goods, services or both with respect to any contract or contract right, and/or any party who enters into or proposes to enter into any contract or other arrangement with the Borrower pursuant to which the Borrower is to deliver any personal property or perform any services.

"Customs" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.11(b) hereof.

"<u>Default</u>" shall mean an event, circumstance or condition which, with the giving of notice or passage of time or both, would constitute an Event of Default.

"Default Rate" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.1 hereof.

"Defaulting Lender" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.23(a) hereof.

"Depository Accounts" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.15(h) hereof.

"Designated Lender" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.2(b) hereof.

"Documents" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.1(c) hereof.

"Dollar" and the sign "\$" shall mean lawful money of the United States of America.

"Domestic Rate Loan" shall mean any Advance that bears interest based upon the Alternate Base Rate.

"Drawing Date" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.12(b) hereof.

"Early Termination Date" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 13.1 hereof.

"Earnings Before Interest and Taxes" shall mean for any fiscal period the sum of (i) net income (or loss) of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis for such period (excluding extraordinary gains), (ii) plus all interest expense of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis for such period and (iii) plus all charges against or minus credits to income of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its Subsidiaries for federal, state and local taxes on a consolidated basis for such period.

"EBITDA" shall mean for any fiscal period the sum of (i) Earnings Before Interest and Taxes for such period, (ii) plus depreciation expenses of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its

Subsidiaries determined on a consolidated basis for such period for federal, state and local taxes, and (iii) plus amortization expenses of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis for such period.

"Eligible Inventory" shall mean and include with respect to the Borrower, Inventory of the Borrower, valued at the lower of cost or market value, determined on a first-in-first-out basis, which: (i) consists of Gas, (ii) has been delivered by the Borrower to a Local Distribution Company pursuant to an Aggregation\Pooling Service Agreement, (iii) is in Gas storage tanks or pipelines of such Local Distribution Company or related pipeline transmitter pending transport to the Borrower customers, (iv) which is not, in the Agent's opinion, obsolete, slow moving or unmerchantable and (v) the Agent, in its sole and reasonable discretion, shall not deem ineligible Inventory, based on such considerations as the Agent may from time to time reasonably deem appropriate including, without limitation, whether the Inventory is subject to a perfected, first priority security interest in favor of the Agent and whether the Inventory conforms to all standards imposed by any governmental agency, division or department thereof which has regulatory authority over such goods or the use or sale thereof. In addition, no such Inventory of the Borrower shall be Eligible Inventory if it:

- (a) is not owned by the Borrower free and clear of all Liens and rights of any other Person (including the rights of surety that has issued a bond to assure the Borrower's performance with respect to that Inventory), except the Liens in favor of the Agent, on behalf of itself and the Lenders, and other Permitted Encumbrances (subject to reserves established by the Agent in accordance with the terms of this Agreement);
- (aa) is Inventory consisting of Gas being delivered to the Borrower pursuant to a Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas which is not yet delivered to a designated citygate of the applicable Local Distribution Company;
- except for Inventory consisting of Gas which is being transported to customers by a Local Distribution Company after delivery of such Gas to such Local Distribution Company by the Borrower or which is being stored in Gas storage tanks or pipelines of such Local Distribution Company or related pipeline transmitter prior to such transport pursuant to an Aggregation\Pooling Service Agreement, (i) is not located on premises owned. leased or rented by the Borrower and set forth in Schedule 4.5 (as such Schedule may be updated from time to time), or (ii) is stored at a leased location, unless a reasonably satisfactory landlord waiver has been delivered to the Agent, or reserves reasonably satisfactory to the Agent have been established by the Agent with respect thereto or (iii) is stored with a bailee or warehouseman unless a reasonably satisfactory warehouseman waiver or a reasonably satisfactory, acknowledged bailee letter has been received by the Agent or reserves reasonably satisfactory to the Agent have been established by the Agent with respect thereto, or (iv) is located at a location owned by the Borrower that is subject to a mortgage in favor of a lender other than the Agent unless a reasonably satisfactory mortgagee waiver has been delivered to the Agent, or reserves reasonably satisfactory to the Agent have been established by the Agent with respect thereto;
- (c) except for Inventory consisting of Gas which is being transported to customers by a Local Distribution Company after delivery of such Gas to such Local

Distribution Company by the Borrower or which is being stored in Gas storage tanks or pipelines of such Local Distribution Company or related pipeline transmitter of such Local Distribution Company prior to such transport pursuant to an Aggregation\Pooling Service Agreement, is in transit unless such otherwise Eligible Inventory is (i) in transit from a domestic location owned by the Borrower or a domestic location identified on Schedule 1.2A (as such Schedule may be updated from time to time) to a domestic location owned by the Borrower or a location identified on Schedule 1.2A (as such Schedule may be updated from time to time) or (ii) inventory for which title has passed to the Borrower, which is insured to the full value thereof and with respect to which (A) all negotiable bills of lading shall be issued in the Agent's name;

- (d) is covered by a negotiable document of title, unless such document has been delivered to the Agent with all necessary endorsements, free and clear of all Liens except those in favor of the Agent and the Lenders;
- (e) is placed on consignment (or is being held pursuant to a consignment agreement);
- is excess, obsolete, unsalable, shopworn, seconds, damaged or unfit for sale;
- (g) consists of goods which have been returned by the Customer, excluding goods returned for reprocessing in the ordinary course of business;
- (h) consists of display items or packing or shipping materials, manufacturing supplies or replacement parts;
- (i) is not of a type held for sale in the ordinary course of the Borrower's business;
- (j) breaches any of the representations or warranties pertaining to Inventory of the Borrower set forth in this Agreement or in any of the Other Documents;
 - (k) [reserved]
- (l) consists of any gross profit mark-up in connection with the sale and distribution thereof to any division of the Borrower or to any Affiliate of the Borrower;
- (m) except for Inventory consisting of Gas which has been delivered by the Borrower to a Local Distribution Company pursuant to a Aggregation\Pooling Service Agreement, consists of Hazardous Substances or goods that can be transported or sold only with licenses that are not readily available.
- (n) except for Inventory consisting of Gas which has been delivered by the Borrower to a Local Distribution Company pursuant to a Aggregation\Pooling Service Agreement, is not covered by casualty insurance as required by terms of this Agreement reasonably acceptable to the Agent;

- (o) was produced in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act and subject to the "hot goods" provision contained in Title 29 U.S.C. Section 215(a)(1); or
- (p) is not otherwise satisfactory to the Agent as determined in good faith by the Agent in the exercise of its discretion in a reasonable manner.

"Eligible Invoice" shall mean an invoice or other documentary evidence satisfactory to the Agent of billings for Gas sold by the Borrower and which: (i) in the case of a sale of Gas by the Borrower to a Customer in connection with the Ohio CHOICE program and transported to such Customer by a Local Distribution Company pursuant to an Aggregation\Pooling Service Agreement, shall mean documentary evidence consisting of the internal "invoice" generated in connection with the Borrower's receipt of a report from such Local Distribution Company reflecting the delivery of Gas to such Customer, such report by such Local Distribution Company and the invoice sent by such Local Distribution Company on behalf of the Borrower to such Customer and (ii) in the case of a sale of Gas by the Borrower to a Customer in connection with general transmission service of the Borrower, shall mean the invoice sent to such Customer directly by the Borrower.

"Eligible Receivables" shall mean and include with respect to the Borrower, each Receivable consisting solely of Accounts of the Borrower arising in the ordinary course of such Borrower's business and which the Agent, in its sole and reasonable credit judgment, shall deem to be an Eligible Receivable, based on such considerations as the Agent may from time to time deem appropriate. A Receivable shall not be deemed eligible unless such Receivable is subject to the Agent's first priority perfected security interest and no other Lien (other than Permitted Encumbrances), and is evidenced by an Eligible Invoice satisfactory to the Agent. In addition, no Receivable of the Borrower shall be an Eligible Receivable if:

- (a) it arises out of a sale made by the Borrower to an Affiliate of the Borrower or to a Person controlled by an Affiliate of the Borrower;
- (b) it is due or unpaid more than sixty (60) days after the original due date or more than pinety (90) days after the original invoice date of the Eligible Invoice;
- (c) fifty percent (50%) or more of the Receivables from such Customer are not deemed Eligible Receivables hereunder;
- (d) any covenant, representation or warranty contained in this Agreement with respect to such Receivable has been breached;
- (e) the Customer shall (i) apply for, suffer, or consent to the appointment of, or the taking of possession by, a receiver, custodian, trustee or liquidator of itself or of all or a substantial part of its property or call a meeting of its creditors, (ii) admit in writing its inability, or be generally unable, to pay its debts as they become due or cease operations of its present business, (iii) make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, (iv) commence a voluntary case under any state or federal bankruptcy laws (as now or hereafter in effect), (v) be adjudicated a bankrupt or insolvent, (vi) file a petition seeking to take advantage of any other law providing for the relief of debtors, (vii) acquiesce to, or fail to have dismissed, any petition which is filed

against it in any involuntary case under such bankruptcy laws, or (viii) take any action for the purpose of effecting any of the foregoing;

- (f) the sale is to a Customer outside the continental United States of America or, to the extent acceptable to the Agent, Canada, unless the sale is on letter of credit, guaranty or acceptance terms, in each case acceptable to the Agent in its sole discretion;
- (g) the sale to the Customer is on a bill-and-hold, guaranteed sale, sale-andreturn, sale on approval, consignment or any other repurchase or return basis or is evidenced by chattel paper;
- (h) the Agent believes, in its reasonable credit judgment, that collection of such Receivable is insecure or that such Receivable may not be paid by reason of the Customer's financial inability to pay;
- (i) the Customer is the United States of America, any state or any department, agency or instrumentality of any of them, unless the Borrower assigns its right to payment of such Receivable to the Agent pursuant to the Assignment of Claims Act of 1940, as amended (31 U.S.C. Sub-Section 3727 et seq. and 41 U.S.C. Sub-Section 15 et seq.) or has otherwise complied with other applicable laws and has complied with Section 6.4 hereof;
- (j) the goods giving rise to such Receivable have not been shipped or transported to the Customer or the services giving rise to such Receivable have not been performed by the Borrower or the Receivable otherwise does not represent a final sale;
- (k) the Receivables of the Customer exceed a credit limit determined by the Agent, in its sole discretion, to the extent such Receivables;
- (l) the Receivable is subject to any offset, deduction, defense, dispute, or counterclaim, or is owed by a Customer that is also a creditor or supplier of the Borrower (but only to the extent of the Borrower's obligations to such customer from time to time) or the Receivable is contingent in any respect or for any reason;
- (m) the Borrower has made any agreement with any Customer for any deduction therefrom, except for discounts or allowances made in the ordinary course of business for prompt payment, all of which discounts or allowances are reflected in the calculation of the face value of each respective invoice related thereto;
- (n) any return, rejection or repossession of the merchandise has occurred or the rendition of services has been disputed;
 - (o) such Receivable is not payable to the Borrower;
 - (p) such Receivable is a Columbia Gas CHOICE Receivable; or
- (q) such Receivable is not otherwise satisfactory to the Agent as determined in good faith by the Agent in the exercise of its discretion in a reasonable manner.

"Environmental Complaint" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.19(d) hereof.

"Environmental Laws" shall mean all federal, state and local environmental, land use, zoning, health, chemical use, safety and sanitation laws, statutes, ordinances and codes relating to the protection of the environment and/or governing the use, storage, treatment, generation, transportation, processing, handling, production or disposal of Hazardous Substances and the rules, regulations, policies, guidelines, interpretations, decisions, orders and directives of federal, state and local governmental agencies and authorities with respect thereto.

"Equipment" shall mean and include as to each Loan Party all of such Loan Party's goods (other than Inventory) whether now owned or hereafter acquired and wherever located including all equipment, machinery, apparatus, motor vehicles, fittings, furniture, furnishings, fixtures, parts, accessories and all replacements and substitutions therefor or accessions thereto.

"Equity Interests" of any Person shall mean any and all shares, rights to purchase, options, warrants, general, limited or limited liability partnership interests, member interests, participation or other equivalents of or interest in (regardless of how designated) equity of such Person, whether voting or nonvoting, including common stock, preferred stock, convertible securities or any other "equity security" (as such term is defined in Rule 3al1-1 of the General Rules and Regulations promulgated by the SEC under the Exchange Act).

"ERISA" shall mean the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended from time to time and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

"Eurodollar Rate" shall mean for any Eurodollar Rate Loan for the then current Interest Period relating thereto the interest rate per annum (rounded upwards, if necessary, to the nearest 1/100 of 1%) determined by Agent by dividing (i) the rate which appears on the Bloomberg Page BBAM1 (or on such other substitute Bloomberg page that displays rates at which US dollar deposits are offered by leading banks in the London interbank deposit market), or the rate which is quoted by another source selected by Agent which has been approved by the British Bankers' Association as an authorized information vendor for the purpose of displaying rates at which US dollar deposits are offered by leading banks in the London interbank deposit market (an "Alternative Source"), at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time two (2) Business Days prior to the first day of such Interest Period (or if there shall at any time, for any reason, no longer exist a Bloomberg Page BBAM1 (or any substitute page) or any Alternate Source, a comparable replacement rate determined by the Agent at such time (which determination shall be conclusive absent manifest error)) for an amount comparable to such Eurodollar Rate Loan and having a borrowing date and a maturity comparable to such Interest Period by (ii) a number equal to 1.00 minus the Reserve Percentage.

The Eurodollar Rate shall be adjusted with respect to any Eurodollar Rate Loan that is outstanding on the effective date of any change in the Reserve Percentage as of such effective date. The Agent shall give prompt notice to the Borrower of the Eurodollar Rate as determined or adjusted in accordance herewith, which determination shall be conclusive absent manifest error.

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"Eurodollar Rate Loan" shall mean an Advance at any time that bears interest based on the Eurodollar Rate.

"Event of Default" shall have the meaning set forth in Article X hereof.

"Exchange Act" shall have the mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

"Existing Letters of Credit" shall mean the following the Letters of Credit issued by (a) National City Bank in favor of the Borrower which are outstanding on and as of the date of this Agreement: (i) LC 1811239100000 in the original face amount of \$1,000,000 issued on August 20, 2009 in favor of the Borrower for the benefit of Columbia Gas, (ii) LC 1250056100000 in the original face amount of \$450,000 issued on October 15, 2009 in favor of Borrower for the benefit of Duke Energy, and (iii) LC 1250056000000 in the original face amount of \$500,000 issued on September 30, 2009 in favor of Borrower for the benefit of Nexen Energy, and (b) PNC in favor of the Borrower which is outstanding on and as of the date of this Agreement: LC 1250055800000 in the original face amount of \$300,000 issued on November 5, 2009 in favor of Borrower for the benefit of Columbia Gas.

"Executive Order No. 13224" shall mean the Executive Order No. 13224 on Terrorist Financing, effective September 24, 2001, as the same has been, or shall hereafter be, renewed, extended, amended or replaced.

"Federal Funds Effective Rate" for any day shall mean the rate per annum (based on a year of 360 days and actual days elapsed and rounded upward to the nearest 1/100 of 1%) announced by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (or any successor) on such day as being the weighted average of the rates on overnight federal funds transactions arranged by federal funds brokers on the previous trading day, as computed and announced by such Federal Reserve Bank (or any successor) in substantially the same manner as such Federal Reserve Bank computes and announces the weighted average it refers to as the "Federal Funds Effective Rate" as of the date of this Agreement; provided, if such Federal Reserve Bank (or its successor) does not announce such rate on any day, the "Federal Funds Effective Rate" for such day shall be the Federal Funds Effective Rate for the last day on which such rate was announced.

"Federal Funds Open Rate" for any day shall mean the rate per annum (based on a year of 360 days and actual days elapsed) which is the daily federal funds open rate as quoted by ICAP North America, Inc. (or any successor) as set forth on the Bloomberg Screen BTMM for that day opposite the caption "OPEN" (or on such other substitute Bloomberg Screen that displays such rate), or as set forth on such other recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying such rate as selected by PNC (an "Alternate Source") (or if such rate for such day does not appear on the Bloomberg Screen BTMM (or any substitute screen) or on any Alternate Source, or if there shall at any time, for any reason, no longer exist a Bloomberg Screen BTMM (or any substitute screen) or any Alternate Source, a comparable replacement rate determined by the PNC at such time (which determination shall be conclusive absent manifest error); provided however, that if such day is not a Business Day, the Federal Funds Open Rate for such day shall be the "open" rate on the immediately preceding Business Day. If and when the Federal Funds Open Rate changes, the rate of interest with respect to any advance to which

the Federal Funds Open Rate applies will change automatically without notice to the Borrower, effective on the date of any such change.

"Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio" shall mean and include, with respect to any fiscal period, the ratio of (a) EBITDA minus Capital Expenditures that were not specifically funded by Indebtedness (other than a Revolving Advance) of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis with respect to such period, minus cash taxes paid (including, if applicable, Subchapter S taxes) of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis with respect to such period to (b) Fixed Charges.

"Fixed Charges" shall mean, with respect to any fiscal period, the sum of (a) interest expense of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis with respect to such period, plus (b) scheduled principal payments on Indebtedness of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis with respect to such period, plus (c) dividends and distributions (other than Income Tax Distributions) of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis with respect to such period as permitted by Section 7.7 hereof.

"Foreign Subsidiary" of any Person, shall mean any Subsidiary of such Person that is not organized or incorporated in the United States or any State or territory thereof.

"Formula Amount" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.1(a),

"Gas" shall mean any mixture of hydrocarbons and noncombustible gases in a gaseous state consisting primarily of methane which the Borrower sells in the ordinary course of its business pursuant to its Ohio Competitive Retail Natural Gas Supplier Certificate.

"GAAP" shall mean generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America in effect from time to time.

"General Intangibles" shall mean and include as to each Loan Party all of such Loan Party's general intangibles, whether now owned or hereafter acquired, including all payment intangibles, all choses in action, causes of action, corporate or other business records, inventions, designs, patents, patent applications, equipment formulations, manufacturing procedures, quality control procedures, trademarks, trademark applications, service marks, trade secrets, goodwill, copyrights, design rights, software, computer information, source codes, codes, records and updates, registrations, licenses, franchises, customer lists, tax refunds, tax refund claims, computer programs, all claims under guaranties, security interests or other security held by or granted to such Loan Party to secure payment of any of the Receivables by a Customer (other than to the extent covered by Receivables) all rights of indemnification and all other intangible property of every kind and nature (other than Receivables).

"Governmental Acts" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.17.

"Governmental Body" shall mean any nation or government, any state or other political subdivision thereof or any entity, authority, agency, division or department exercising the legislative, judicial, regulatory or administrative functions of or pertaining to a government.

(00831320.DOC;5) 14 54 "Guaranteed Eligible Receivable" shall mean a Receivable which constitutes an Eligible Receivable and which is subject to an agreement with a Local Distribution Company, in substance satisfactory to the Agent in its sole discretion, fully guarantying the Customer payment of such Receivable to the Borrower or agreeing unconditionally to purchase such Receivable from the Borrower so long as:

- (a) the Local Distribution Company executing the agreement providing for such guaranty or purchase has given all consents necessary to permit the assignment of a security interest to the Agent in the Borrower's rights under such agreement; and
- (b) it is due or unpaid more than sixty (60) days after the original due date or more than ninety (90) days after the original invoice date of the Eligible Invoice.

In no event shall any Columbia Gas CHOICE Receivable or any Columbia Gas Eligible Receivable constitute a Guaranteed Eligible Receivable.

"Guarantor" shall mean each Richard A. Curnutte, Sr. and any other Person who may hereafter guarantee payment or performance of the whole or any part of the Obligations and "Guarantors" means collectively all such Persons.

"Guarantor Security Agreement" shall mean any Security Agreement executed by any Guarantor in favor of Agent securing the Guaranty of such Guarantor, in form and substance satisfactory to the Agent, in each case as the same may be amended, supplemented, restated, replaced or otherwise modifies from time to time.

"Guaranty" shall mean any guaranty of the obligations of the Borrower executed by a Guarantor in favor of Agent for its benefit and for the ratable benefit of Lenders, in form and substance satisfactory to the Agent, in each case as the same may be amended, supplemented, restated, replaced or otherwise modifies from time to time.

"Hazardous Discharge" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.19(d) hereof.

"Hazardous Substance" shall mean, without limitation, any flammable explosives, radon, radioactive materials, asbestos, urea formaldehyde foam insulation, polychlorinated biphenyls, petroleum and petroleum products, methane, hazardous materials, Hazardous Wastes, hazardous or Toxic Substances or related materials as defined in CERCLA, the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, as amended (49 U.S.C. Sections 1801, et seq.), RCRA, Articles 15 and 27 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law or any other applicable Environmental Law and in the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

"<u>Hazardous Wastes</u>" shall mean all waste materials subject to regulation under CERCLA, RCRA or applicable state law, and any other applicable Federal and state laws now in force or hereafter enacted relating to hazardous waste disposal.

"Hedge Liabilities" shall have the meaning provided in the definition of "Lender-Provided Interest Rate Hedge".

"Hedging Obligations" shall mean all liabilities of a Person under Interest Rate Hedges.

"Income Tax Distributions" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.7 hereof.

"Indebtedness" of a Person at a particular date shall mean all obligations of such Person which in accordance with GAAP would be classified upon a balance sheet as liabilities (except capital stock and surplus earned or otherwise) and in any event, without limitation by reason of enumeration, shall include all Hedging Obligations, indebtedness, debt and other similar monetary obligations of such Person whether direct or guaranteed, and all premiums, if any, due at the required prepayment dates of such indebtedness, and all indebtedness secured by a Lien on assets owned by such Person, whether or not such indebtedness actually shall have been created, assumed or incurred by such Person. Any indebtedness of such Person resulting from the acquisition by such Person of any assets subject to any Lien shall be deemed, for the purposes hereof, to be the equivalent of the creation, assumption and incurring of the indebtedness secured thereby, whether or not actually so created, assumed or incurred.

"Incligible Security" shall mean any security which may not be underwritten or dealt in by member banks of the Federal Reserve System under Section 16 of the Banking Act of 1933 (12 U.S.C. Section 24, Seventh), as amended.

"Intellectual Property" shall mean property constituting under any Applicable Law a patent, patent application, copyright, trademark, service mark, trade name, mask work, trade secret or license or other right to use any of the foregoing.

"Intellectual Property Claim" shall mean the assertion by any Person of a claim (whether asserted in writing, by action, suit or proceeding or otherwise) that any Loan Party's ownership, use, marketing, sale or distribution of any Inventory, Equipment, Intellectual Property or other property or asset is violative of any ownership of or right to use any Intellectual Property of such Person.

"Interest Period" shall mean the period provided for any Eurodollar Rate Loan pursuant to Section 2.2(b).

"Interest Rate Hedge" shall mean any foreign exchange contract, currency swap agreement, futures contract, commodities hedge agreement, interest rate protection agreement, interest rate futures agreement, interest rate swap agreement, interest rate cap agreement, interest rate collar agreement, option agreement, or any similar hedging agreement or arrangement, in each case to the extent entered into by a Person in the ordinary course of business and not for speculative purposes.

"Inventory" shall mean and include as to each Loan Party all of such Loan Party's now owned or hereafter acquired goods, merchandise and other personal property, wherever located, to be furnished under any consignment arrangement, contract of service or held for sale or lease, all raw materials, work in process, finished goods and materials and supplies of any kind, nature or description which are or might be used or consumed in such Loan Party's business or used in selling or furnishing such goods, merchandise and other personal property, and all documents of title or other documents representing them.

"Inventory Advance Rate" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.1(a) hereof,

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"Investment Property" shall mean and include as to each Loan Party, all of such Loan Party's now owned or hereafter acquired securities (whether certificated or uncertificated), securities entitlements, securities accounts, commodities contracts and commodities accounts.

"Issuer" shall mean, with respect to any Letter of Credit, any Person who issues a Letter of Credit and/or accepts a draft pursuant to the terms hereof, and each of their successors and assigns (and which may be replaced at the sole discretion of the Agent).

"<u>Leasehold Interests</u>" shall mean all of Borrower's right, title and interest in and to the premises located at 790 Windmiller Dr. Pickerington, Ohio 43147.

"<u>Lender</u>" and "<u>Lenders</u>" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in the preamble to this Agreement and shall include each Person which becomes a transferee, successor or assign of any Lender.

"Lender-Provided Interest Rate Hedge" shall mean an Interest Rate Hedge which is provided by any Lender and with respect to which the Agent confirms meets the following requirements: such Interest Rate Hedge (i) is documented in a standard International Swap Dealer Association Agreement, (ii) provides for the method of calculating the reimbursable amount of the provider's credit exposure in a reasonable and customary manner, and (iii) is entered into for hedging (rather than speculative) purposes. The liabilities of any Borrower to the provider of any Lender-Provided Interest Rate Hedge (the "Hedge Liabilities") shall be "Obligations" hereunder, guaranteed obligations under each Guaranty and secured obligations under each Guarantor Security Agreement and otherwise treated as Obligations for purposes of each of the Other Documents. The Liens securing the Hedge Liabilities shall be pari passu with the Liens securing all other Obligations under this Agreement and the Other Documents.

"Letter of Credit Fees" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.2.

"Letter of Credit Borrowing" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.12(d).

"Letter of Credit Sublimit" shall mean \$10,000,000.

"Letters of Credit" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.9 and shall also include all Existing Letters of Credit.

"License Agreement" shall mean any agreement between any Loan Party and a Licensor pursuant to which such Loan Party is authorized to use any Intellectual Property in connection with the manufacturing, marketing, sale or other distribution of any Inventory of such Loan Party or otherwise in connection with such Loan Party's business operations.

"Licensor" shall mean any Person from whom any Loan Party obtains the right to use (whether on an exclusive or non-exclusive basis) any Intellectual Property in connection with such Loan Party's manufacture, marketing, sale or other distribution of any Inventory or otherwise in connection with such Loan Party's business operations.

"<u>Licensor/Agent Agreement</u>" shall mean an agreement between Agent and a Licensor, in form and content satisfactory to Agent, by which Agent is given the unqualified right, vis-a-vis

such Licensor, to enforce Agent's Liens with respect to and to dispose of any Loan Party's Inventory with the benefit of any Intellectual Property applicable thereto, irrespective of such Loan Party's default under any License Agreement with such Licensor.

"Lien" shall mean any mortgage, deed of trust, pledge, hypothecation, assignment, security interest, lien (whether statutory or otherwise), Charge, claim or encumbrance, or preference, priority or other security agreement or preferential arrangement held or asserted in respect of any asset of any kind or nature whatsoever including any conditional sale or other title retention agreement, any lease having substantially the same economic effect as any of the foregoing, and the filing of, or agreement to give, any financing statement under the Uniform Commercial Code or comparable law of any jurisdiction.

"Lien Waiver Agreement" shall mean an agreement which is executed in favor of Agent by a Person who owns or occupies premises at which any Collateral may be located from time to time and by which such Person shall waive any Lien that such Person may ever have with respect to any of the Collateral and shall authorize Agent from time to time to enter upon the premises to inspect or remove the Collateral from such premises or to use such premises to store or dispose of such Inventory.

"Loan Parties" shall mean, collectively, the Borrower and each Subsidiary of the Borrower that executes this Agreement, and "Loan Party" shall mean any one of them.

"Local Distribution Company" shall mean Cincinnati Gas and Electric Company, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., Dominion East Ohio Gas Company, and Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, and any other local gas distribution company acceptable to the Agent in its sole discretion.

"Material Adverse Effect" shall mean a material adverse effect on (a) the condition (financial or otherwise), results of operations, assets, business, properties or prospects of any Loan Party, (b) any Loan Party's ability to duly and punctually pay or perform the Obligations in accordance with the terms thereof, (c) the value of the Collateral, or Agent's Liens on the Collateral or the priority of any such Lien or (d) the practical realization of the benefits of Agent's and each Lender's rights and remedies under this Agreement and the Other Documents.

"Maximum Face Amount" shall mean, with respect to any outstanding Letter of Credit, the face amount of such Letter of Credit including all automatic increases provided for in such Letter of Credit, whether or not any such automatic increase has become effective.

"Maximum Revolving Advance Amount" shall mean (a) for the period commencing on January 1 through and including March 31 of each calendar year, \$40,000,000, (b) for the period commencing on April 1 through and including October 31 of each calendar year, \$25,000,000 and (c) for the period commencing on November 1 through and including December 31 of each calendar year, \$40,000,000.

"Maximum Undrawn Amount" shall mean with respect to any outstanding Letter of Credit, the amount of such Letter of Credit that is or may become available to be drawn, including all automatic increases provided for in such Letter of Credit, whether or not any such automatic increase has become effective.

"Modified Commitment Transfer Supplement" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.3(d).

"Multiemployer Plan" shall mean a "multiemployer plan" as defined in Sections 3(37) and 4001(a)(3) of ERISA.

"Multiple Employer Plan" shall mean a Plan which has two or more contributing sponsors (including any Borrower or any member of the Controlled Group) at least two of whom are not under common control, as such a plan is described in Section 4064 of ERISA.

"Net Income" shall mean, for any period, the consolidated net income (or loss) of the Loan Parties, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

"Note" shall mean the Revolving Credit Note.

"Obligations" shall mean and include any and all loans, advances, debts, liabilities, obligations, covenants and duties owing by the Loan Parties to Lenders or Agent or to any other direct or indirect subsidiary or affiliate of Agent or any Lender of any kind or nature, present or future (including any interest or other amounts accruing thereon after maturity, or after the filing of any petition in bankruptcy, or the commencement of any insolvency, reorganization or like proceeding relating to any Loan Party, whether or not a claim for post-filing or post-petition interest or other amounts is allowed in such proceeding), whether or not evidenced by any note, guaranty or other instrument, whether arising under any agreement, instrument or document, (including this Agreement and the Other Documents) whether or not for the payment of money, whether arising by reason of an extension of credit, opening of a letter of credit, loan, equipment lease or guarantee, under any Interest Rate Hedge or any other interest or currency swap, future, option or other similar agreement, or in any other manner, whether arising out of overdrafts or deposit or other accounts or electronic funds transfers (whether through automated clearing houses or otherwise) or out of the Agent's or any Lenders non-receipt of or inability to collect funds or otherwise not being made whole in connection with depository transfer check or other similar arrangements, whether direct or indirect (including those acquired by assignment or participation), absolute or contingent, joint or several, due or to become due, now existing or hereafter arising, contractual or tortious, liquidated or unliquidated, regardless of how such indebtedness or liabilities arise or by what agreement or instrument they may be evidenced or whether evidenced by any agreement or instrument, including, but not limited to, any and all of each Loan Party's Indebtedness and/or liabilities under this Agreement, the Other Documents or under any other agreement between Agent or Lenders and any Loan Party and any amendments, extensions, renewals or increases and all costs and expenses of Agent and any Lender incurred in the documentation, negotiation, modification, enforcement, collection or otherwise in connection with any of the foregoing, including but not limited to reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses and all obligations of the Loan Parties to Agent or Lenders to perform acts or refrain from taking any action. It is understood that any obligations of a Loan Party in connection with any Lender-Provided Interest Rate hedge or any other interest or currency swap, future, option or other similar agreements to any Lender or an Affiliate thereof shall be deemed to relate to this Agreement and be "Obligations" hereunder. It is further understood that any obligations of a Loan Party arising out of overdrafts or deposit or other accounts or electronic funds transfers (whether through automated clearing houses or otherwise) or out of the Agent's or any Lender's

non-receipt of or inability to collect funds or otherwise not being made whole in connection with a depository transfer check or other similar arrangements with Agent, any Lender or any of their Affiliates shall be deemed to related to this Agreement and be "Obligations" hereunder. The term "Obligations" shall also mean and include all Original Obligations.

"Ordinary Course of Business" shall mean the ordinary course of Borrower's business as conducted on the Closing Date.

"Original Credit Agreement" means that certain Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of January 31, 2005, by and among Borrower, the financial institutions which are a party thereto (the "Original Lenders"), National City Business Credit, Inc., an Ohio corporation ("NCBC"), as administrative agent and collateral agent for the Original Lenders and the Issuer (the "Original Agent"), and National City Bank, a national banking association, as the Issuer (the "Original Issuer"), as amended by (i) that certain Supplemental Amendment No. 1 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of September 19, 2005, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto and the Original Agent, (ii) that certain Supplemental Amendment No. 2 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of December 12, 2005. among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto and the Original Agent, (iii) that certain Supplemental Amendment No. 3 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of March 31, 2006, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto and the Original Agent, (iv) that certain Supplemental Amendment No. 4 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of July 17, 2006, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto and the Original Agent, (v) that certain Supplemental Amendment No. 5 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of August 10, 2006, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto and the Original Agent, (vi) that certain Supplemental Amendment No. 6 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of October 30, 2006, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto and the Original Agent, (vii) that certain Amendment No. 7 and Waiver to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of March 22, 2007, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto and the Original Agent, (viii) that certain Amendment No. 8 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement and Waiver, dated as of July 20, 2007. among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto and the Original Agent, (ix) that certain Amendment No. 9 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of September 13, 2007, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto, the Original Issuer and the Original Agent, (x) that certain Amendment No. 10 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of April 23, 2008, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto, the Original Issuer and the Original Agent, (xi) that certain Amendment No. 11 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of May 13, 2008, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto, the Original Issuer and the Original Agent, (xii) that certain Amendment No. 12 and Waiver to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of July 2, 2008, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto, the Original Issuer and the Original Agent, (xiii) that certain Amendment No. 13 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of October 22, 2008, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto, the Original Issuer and the Original Agent, (xiv) that certain Amendment No. 14 and Waiver to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of January 10, 2009, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto, the Original Issuer and the Original Agent, and (xv) that certain Amendment No. 15 to Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of December 31, 2009, among Borrower, the Original Lenders signatory thereto, the Issuer, and the Agent.

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"Original Obligations" has the meaning ascribed thereto in the Recital hereto.

"Other Documents" shall mean the Note, the Questionnaire, the Letters of Credit, the blocked Account Agreements, the Lien Waiver Agreements, any Guaranty, any Guarantor Security Agreement, any Lender-Provided Interest Rate Hedge and any and all other agreements, instruments and documents, including guaranties, pledges, powers of attorney, consents, interest or currency swap agreements or other similar agreements and all other writings heretofore, now or hereafter executed by any Borrower or any Guarantor or any other Loan Party and/or delivered to Agent or any Lender in respect of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

"Out-of-Formula Loans" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.2(b).

"Parent" of any Person shall mean a corporation or other entity owning, directly or indirectly at least 50% of the shares of stock or other ownership interests having ordinary voting power to elect a majority of the directors of the Person, or other Persons performing similar functions for any such Person.

"Participant" shall mean each Person who shall be granted the right by any Lender to participate in any of the Advances and who shall have entered into a participation agreement in form and substance satisfactory to such Lender.

"Participation Advance" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.12(d).

"Participation Commitment" shall mean each Lender's obligation to buy a participation of the Letters of Credit issued hereunder.

"Payee" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.10.

"Payment Office" shall mean initially Two Tower Center Boulevard, East Brunswick, New Jersey 08816; thereafter, such other office of Agent, if any, which it may designate by notice to Borrower and to each Lender to be the Payment Office.

"PBGC" shall mean the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation established pursuant to Subtitle A of Title IV of ERISA or any successor.

"Pension Benefit Plan" shall mean at any time any employee pension benefit plan (including a Multiple Employer Plan, but not a Multiemployer Plan) which is covered by Title IV of ERISA or is subject to the minimum funding standards under Section 412 of the Code and either (i) is maintained by any member of the Controlled Group for employees of any member of the Controlled Group; or (ii) has at any time within the preceding five years been maintained by any entity which was at such time a member of the Controlled Group for employees of any entity which was at such time a member of the Controlled Group.

"Permitted Encumbrances" shall mean:

(a) Liens in favor of Agent for the benefit of Agent and Lenders;

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- (b) Liens for taxes, assessments or other governmental charges not delinquent or being Properly Contested;
- (c) Liens disclosed in the financial statements referred to in Section 5.5, the existence of which Agent has consented to in writing;
- (d) deposits or pledges to secure obligations under worker's compensation, social security or similar laws, or under unemployment insurance;
- (e) deposits or pledges to secure bids, tenders, contracts (other than contracts for the payment of money), leases, statutory obligations, surety and appeal bonds and other obligations of like nature arising in the Ordinary Course of Business;
- (f) Liens arising by virtue of the rendition, entry or issuance against any Borrower or any Subsidiary, or any property of any Borrower or any Subsidiary, of any judgment, writ, order, or decree for so long as each such Lien (x) is in existence for less than 30 consecutive days after it first arises or is being Properly Contested and (y) is at all times junior in priority to any Liens in favor of Agent;
- (g) mechanics', workers', materialmen's or other like Liens arising in the Ordinary Course of Business with respect to obligations which are not due or which are being Properly Contested;
- (h) Liens placed upon fixed assets hereafter acquired to secure a portion of the purchase price thereof, provided that (x) any such lien shall not encumber any other property of any Loan Party and (y) the aggregate amount of Indebtedness secured by such Liens incurred as a result of such purchases during any fiscal year shall not exceed the amount provided for in Section 7.6;
- (i) other Liens incidental to the conduct of any Borrower's business or the ownership of its property and assets which were not incurred in connection with the borrowing of money or the obtaining of advances or credit, and which do not in the aggregate materially detract from Agent's or Lenders' rights in and to the Collateral or the value of any Borrower's property or assets or which do not materially impair the use thereof in the operation of any Borrower's business:
- (j) Liens disclosed on <u>Schedule 1.2</u>; provided that such Liens shall secure only those obligations which they secure on the Closing Date and shall not subsequently apply to any other property or assets of any Loan Party; and
- (k) Liens in favor of Bank of America, N.A. (or its Affiliates), to secure obligations under the commodities Interest Rate Hedge described in Section 7.8(vi).

"Person" shall mean any individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, business trust, joint stock company, trust, unincorporated organization, association, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, institution, public benefit corporation, joint venture, entity or Governmental Body (whether federal, state, county, city, municipal or otherwise, including any instrumentality, division, agency, body or department thereof).

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"Plan" shall mean any employee benefit plan within the meaning of Section 3(3) of ERISA (including a Pension Benefit Plan), maintained for employees of any Borrower or any member of the Controlled Group or any such Plan to which any Borrower or any member of the Controlled Group is required to contribute on behalf of any of its employees.

"PNC" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement and shall extend to all of its successors and assigns.

"Properly Contested" shall mean, in the case of any Indebtedness or Lien, as applicable. of any Person (including any taxes) that is not paid as and when due or payable by reason of such Person's bona fide dispute concerning its liability to pay same or concerning the amount thereof, (i) such Indebtedness or Lien, as applicable, is being properly contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings promptly instituted and diligently conducted; (ii) such Person has established appropriate reserves as shall be required in conformity with GAAP; (iii) the nonpayment of such Indebtedness will not have a Material Adverse Effect and will not result in the forfeiture of any assets of such Person; (iv) no Lien is imposed upon any of such Person's assets with respect to such Indebtedness unless such Lien is at all times junior and subordinate in priority to the Liens in favor of the Agent (except only with respect to property taxes that have priority as a matter of applicable state law) and enforcement of such Lien is stayed during the period prior to the final resolution or disposition of such dispute; (v) if such Indebtedness or Lien, as applicable, results from, or is determined by the entry, rendition or issuance against a Person or any of its assets of a judgment, writ, order or decree, enforcement of such judgment, writ, order or decree is stayed pending a timely appeal or other judicial review; and (vi) if such contest is abandoned, settled or determined adversely (in whole or in part) to such Person, such Person forthwith pays such Indebtedness and all penalties, interest and other amounts due in connection therewith.

"Projections" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5.5(b) hereof.

"Purchasing CLO" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.3(d) hereof.

"Purchasing Lender" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.3(c) hereof.

"Questionnaire" shall mean the Documentation Information Questionnaire and the responses thereto provided by Borrower and delivered to Agent.

"RCRA" shall mean the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901 et seq., as same may be amended from time to time.

"Real Property" shall mean all of each Borrower's right, title and interest in and to the owned and leased premises identified on Schedule 4.19 hereto or which is hereafter owned or leased by any Borrower.

"Receivables" shall mean and include, as to each Loan Party, all of such Loan Party's accounts, contract rights, instruments (including those evidencing indebtedness owed to such Loan Party by its Affiliates), documents, chattel paper (including electronic chattel paper), general intangibles relating to accounts, drafts and acceptances, credit card receivables and all other forms of obligations owing to such Loan Party arising out of or in connection with the sale

or lease of Inventory or the rendition of services, all supporting obligations, guarantees and other security therefor, whether secured or unsecured, now existing or hereafter created, and whether or not specifically sold or assigned to Agent hereunder.

"Receivables Advance Rate" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.1(a) hereof.

"Register" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.3(e).

"Reimbursement Obligation" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.12(b)hereof.

"Release" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5.7(c)(i) hereof.

"Reportable Event" shall mean a reportable event described in Section 4043(c) of ERISA or the regulations promulgated thereunder.

"Required Lenders" shall mean Lenders holding at least sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the Advances and, if no Advances are outstanding, shall mean Lenders holding sixty-six and two thirds-percent (66 2/3%) of the Commitment Percentages.

"Reserve Percentage" shall mean as of any day the maximum percentage in effect on such day as prescribed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (or any successor) for determining the reserve requirements (including supplemental, marginal and emergency reserve requirements) with respect to eurocurrency funding (currently referred to as "Eurocurrency Liabilities".

"Revolving Advances" shall mean Advances made other than Letters of Credit.

"Revolving Credit Note" shall mean, collectively, the promissory notes referred to in Section 2.1(a) hereof.

"Revolving Interest Rate" shall mean an interest rate per annum equal to (a) the sum of the Alternate Base Rate plus 1.00% with respect to Domestic Rate Loans and (b) the sum of the Eurodollar Rate plus 2.75% with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans.

"SEC" shall mean the Securities and Exchange Commission or any successor thereto.

"Section 20 Subsidiary" shall mean the Subsidiary of the bank holding company controlling PNC, which Subsidiary has been granted authority by the Federal Reserve Board to underwrite and deal in certain Ineligible Securities.

"Securities Act" shall mean the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

"Settlement Date" shall mean the Closing Date and thereafter Wednesday or Thursday of each week or more frequently if Agent deems appropriate unless such day is not a Business Day in which case it shall be the next succeeding Business Day.

"Subchapter S" shall mean subchapter S of the Code.

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"Subsidiary" of any Person shall mean a corporation or other entity of whose Equity Interests having ordinary voting power (other than Equity Interests having such power only by reason of the happening of a contingency) to elect a majority of the directors of such corporation, or other Persons performing similar functions for such entity, are owned, directly or indirectly, by such Person.

"Subsidiary Stock" shall mean all of the issued and outstanding Equity Interests of any Subsidiary owned by any Borrower (not to exceed 65% of the Equity Interests of any Foreign Subsidiary).

"Term" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 13.1 hereof.

"Termination Event" shall mean (i) a Reportable Event with respect to any Plan or Multiemployer Plan; (ii) the withdrawal of any Borrower or any member of the Controlled Group from a Plan or Multiemployer Plan during a plan year in which such entity was a "substantial employer" as defined in Section 4001(a)(2) of ERISA; (iii) the providing of notice of intent to terminate a Plan in a distress termination described in Section 4041(c) of ERISA; (iv) the institution by the PBGC of proceedings to terminate a Plan or Multiemployer Plan; (v) any event or condition (a) which might constitute grounds under Section 4042 of ERISA for the termination of, or the appointment of a trustee to administer, any Plan or Multiemployer Plan, or (b) that may result in termination of a Multiemployer Plan pursuant to Section 4041A of ERISA; or (vi) the partial or complete withdrawal within the meaning of Sections 4203 and 4205 of ERISA, of any Borrower or any member of the Controlled Group from a Multiemployer Plan.

"Toxic Substance" shall mean and include any material present on the Real Property or the Leasehold Interests which has been shown to have significant adverse effect on human health or which is subject to regulation under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), 15 U.S.C. §§ 2601 et seq., applicable state law, or any other applicable Federal or state laws now in force or hereafter enacted relating to toxic substances. "Toxic Substance" includes but is not limited to asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and lead-based paints.

"Trading with the Enemy Act" shall mean the foreign assets control regulations of the United States Treasury Department (31 CFR, Subtitle B, Chapter V, as amended) and any enabling legislation or executive order relating thereto.

"Transferee" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.3(d) hereof.

"Unbilled Eligible Receivable" shall mean a Receivable which would otherwise constitute an Eligible Receivable but for the fact that no Eligible Invoice exists with respect to such Receivable with respect to the sale giving rise the Receivable; provided, however that (i) such Receivable shall be recorded at cost without mark-up until an Eligible Invoice exists, (ii) in the case of a Receivable that would otherwise be a Guaranteed Eligible Receivables, such Receivable is not recorded as billed until an Eligible Invoice exists and (iii) such Unbilled Eligible Receivable is evidenced by a daily delivery report furnished by the applicable pipeline transmitter. In no event shall any Columbia Gas CHOICE Receivable or any Columbia Gas Eligible Receivable constitute an Unbilled Eligible Receivable.

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"Undrawn Availability" at a particular date shall mean an amount equal to (a) the lesser of (i) the Formula Amount or (ii) the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount minus the Maximum Undrawn Amount of outstanding Letters of Credit, minus (b) the sum of (i) the then outstanding amount of Advances plus (ii) all amounts due and owing to Borrower's trade creditors which are outstanding beyond normal trade terms (without duplication with respect to any such amount deducted from the Formula Amount), plus (iii) fees and expenses for which Borrower is liable but which have not been paid or charged to Borrower's Account.

"Unfinanced Capital Expenditures" shall mean all Capital Expenditures of Borrower other than those made utilizing financing provided by the applicable seller or third party lenders. For the avoidance of doubt, Capital Expenditures made by a Borrower utilizing Revolving Advances shall be deemed Unfinanced Capital Expenditures.

"Uniform Commercial Code" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 1.3 hereof.

"USA PATRIOT Act" shall mean the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001, Public Law 107-56, as the same has been, or shall hereafter be, renewed, extended, amended or replaced.

"Week" shall mean the time period commencing with the opening of business on a Wednesday and ending on the end of business the following Tuesday.

- 1.3. <u>Uniform Commercial Code Terms.</u> All terms used herein and defined in the Uniform Commercial Code as adopted in the State of Ohio from time to time (the "Uniform Commercial Code") shall have the meaning given therein unless otherwise defined herein. Without limiting the foregoing, the terms "accounts", "chattel paper", "commercial tort claims", "instruments", "general intangibles", "goods", "payment intangibles", "proceeds", "supporting obligations", "securities", "investment property", "documents", "deposit accounts", "software", "letter of credit rights", "inventory", "equipment" and "fixtures", as and when used in the description of Collateral shall have the meanings given to such terms in Articles 8 or 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code. To the extent the definition of any category or type of collateral is expanded by any amendment, modification or revision to the Uniform Commercial Code, such expanded definition will apply automatically as of the date of such amendment, modification or revision.
- 1.4. Certain Matters of Construction. The terms "herein", "hereof" and "hereunder" and other words of similar import refer to this Agreement as a whole and not to any particular section, paragraph or subdivision. All references herein to Articles, Sections, Exhibits and Schedules shall be construed to refer to Articles and Sections of, and Exhibits and Schedules to, this Agreement. Any pronoun used shall be deemed to cover all genders. Wherever appropriate in the context, terms used herein in the singular also include the plural and vice versa. All references to statutes and related regulations shall include any amendments of same and any successor statutes and regulations. Unless otherwise provided, all references to any instruments or agreements to which Agent is a party, including references to any of the Other Documents, shall include any and all modifications or amendments thereto and any and all extensions or renewals thereof. All references herein to the time of day shall mean the time in New York, New York. Unless otherwise provided, all financial calculations shall be performed with Inventory

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valued on a first-in, first-out basis. Whenever the words "including" or "include" shall be used. such words shall be understood to mean "including, without limitation" or "include, without limitation". A Default or Event of Default shall be deemed to exist at all times during the period commencing on the date that such Default or Event of Default occurs to the date on which such Default or Event of Default is waived in writing pursuant to this Agreement or, in the case of a Default, is cured within any period of cure expressly provided for in this Agreement; and an Event of Default shall "continue" or be "continuing" until such Event of Default has been waived in writing by the Required Lenders. Any Lien referred to in this Agreement or any of the Other Documents as having been created in favor of Agent, any agreement entered into by Agent pursuant to this Agreement or any of the Other Documents, any payment made by or to or funds received by Agent pursuant to or as contemplated by this Agreement or any of the Other Documents, or any act taken or omitted to be taken by Agent, shall, unless otherwise expressly provided, be created, entered into, made or received, or taken or omitted, for the benefit or account of Agent and Lenders. Wherever the phrase "to the best of Loan Parties' knowledge" or words of similar import relating to the knowledge or the awareness of any Loan Party are used in this Agreement or Other Documents, such phrase shall mean and refer to (i) the actual knowledge of a senior officer of any Loan Party or (ii) the knowledge that a senior officer would have obtained if he had engaged in good faith and diligent performance of his duties, including the making of such reasonably specific inquiries as may be necessary of the employees or agents of such Loan Party and a good faith attempt to ascertain the existence or accuracy of the matter to which such phrase relates. All covenants hereunder shall be given independent effect so that if a particular action or condition is not permitted by any of such covenants, the fact that it would be permitted by an exception to, or otherwise within the limitations of, another covenant shall not avoid the occurrence of a default if such action is taken or condition exists. In addition, all representations and warranties hereunder shall be given independent effect so that if a particular representation or warranty proves to be incorrect or is breached, the fact that another representation or warranty concerning the same or similar subject matter is correct or is not breached will not affect the incorrectness of a breach of a representation or warranty hereunder.

1.5. Amendment and Restatement of Original Credit Agreement; No Novation.

- (a) Subject to the terms and provisions set forth in this Agreement, and in reliance upon the representations and warranties of the respective Loan Parties set forth herein and in the Other Documents, effective as of the Closing Date, the Original Credit Agreement is hereby amended and restated in its entirety hereby.
- (b) It is expressly understood and agreed by each of the parties hereto that (i) the Obligations (as such term is defined in this Agreement) include all of the Original Obligations outstanding or otherwise existing on and as of the date hereof, (ii) the Original Obligations shall be payable hereafter in accordance with the respective terms and provisions hereof, and (iii) this Agreement and any promissory notes from time to time issued hereunder (1) merely re-evidence, ratify, confirm and reaffirm the Original Obligations and (2) are in no way intended and shall not be deemed or construed to constitute a novation of the Original Obligations or the Original Credit Agreement (or any promissory notes issued thereunder).
- 1.6. Reaffirmation of Original Credit Agreement and Other Loan Documents. Each Loan Party, in its respective capacities under the Original Credit Agreement and each of the

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Other Loan Documents (as defined in the Original Credit Agreement and, in each case, where applicable, as amended and restated as of the date hereof pursuant to this Agreement or otherwise) to which it is a party (including in the capacities of borrower, obligor, grantor, mortgagor, pledgor, guarantor, indemnitor and assignor, as applicable, and each other similar capacity, if any, in which such Loan Party has granted Liens on all or any part of the properties or assets of such Loan Party, or otherwise acts as an accommodation party, guarantor, indemnitor or surety with respect to all or any part of the Obligations), hereby (i) agrees that the terms and provisions hereof shall not affect in any way any payment, performance, observance or other obligations or liabilities of such Loan Party hereunder or under any of the Other Loan Documents (as defined in the Original Credit Agreement and, in each case, where applicable, as amended and restated as of the date hereof pursuant to this Agreement or otherwise), all of which obligations and liabilities shall remain in full force and effect and extend to the further loans, extensions of credit and other Obligations incurred hereunder and under the Other Documents, and each of which obligations and liabilities are hereby ratified, confirmed and reaffirmed in all respects and (ii) to the extent such Loan Party has granted Liens on any of its properties or assets pursuant to the Original Credit Agreement and/or the Other Loan Documents (as defined in the Original Credit Agreement and, in each case, where applicable, as amended and restated as of the date hereof pursuant to this Agreement or otherwise) to secure the prompt and complete payment, performance and/or observance of all or any part of the Original Obligations, acknowledges, ratifies, confirms and reaffirms such grant of Liens, and acknowledges and agrees that all of such Liens are intended and shall be deemed and construed to secure to the fullest extent set forth therein all now existing and hereafter arising Obligations under and as defined in this Agreement, as amended, restated, supplemented and otherwise modified and in effect from time to time.

II. ADVANCES, PAYMENTS.

2.1. Revolving Advances.

(a) Amount of Revolving Advances. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement including, without limitation, Section 2.1(b), each Lender, severally and not jointly, will make Revolving Advances to the Borrower in aggregate amounts outstanding at any time equal to such Lender's Commitment Percentage of the lesser of (x) the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount less the Maximum Undrawn Amount of outstanding Letters of Credit or (y) an amount equal to the sum of:

(i) up to the sum of:

- (A) up to ninety-percent (90%), subject to the provisions of Section 2.1(b) hereof, of Guaranteed Eligible Receivables, plus
- (B) up to eighty-five percent (85%), subject to the provisions of Section 2.1(b) hereof, of Eligible Receivables (without duplication for Eligible Receivables which are counted as Guaranteed Eligible Receivables), plus

- (C) up to eighty-five percent (85%), subject to the provisions of Section 2.1(b) hereof, of Unbilled Eligible Receivables, plus
- (D) up to eighty-five percent (85%), subject to the provisions of Section 2.1(b) hereof, of Columbia Gas Eligible Receivables; plus
- (ii) up to the lesser of:
- (A) up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the value of Eligible Inventory, subject to the provisions of Section 2.1(b), hereof, or
- (B) Twelve Million Dollars (\$12,000,000) in the aggregate at any one time, or
- (C) an aggregate amount equal to thirty percent (30%) of the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount existing at such time, minus
- (iii) the aggregate Maximum Undrawn Amount of all outstanding Letters of Credit, minus
- (iv) such reserves as Agent may reasonably deem proper and necessary from time to time.

The rates derived from Section 2.1(a)(y)(i)(A), (B), (C) and (D) shall be referred to individually and collectively as the "Receivables Advance Rate." The rate derived from Section 2.1(a)(y)(ii)(A) shall be referred to as the "Inventory Advance Rate." The amount derived from the sum of (x) Sections 2.1(a)(y)(i) and (ii) minus (y) Sections 2.1 (a)(y)(iii) and (iv) at any time and from time to time shall be referred to as the "Formula Amount". In calculating the Formula Amount, the reduction for the aggregate Maximum Undrawn Availability for all outstanding Letters of Credit shall be decreased by the amount of any monies in the cash collateral account pursuant to Section 3.2(b) of this Agreement. The Revolving Advances shall be evidenced by one or more secured promissory notes (collectively, the "Revolving Credit Note") substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit 2.1(a). Without in any way limiting the Agent's general ability to set or otherwise impose reserves as set forth in Section 2.1(a)(y)(iv), the Agent specifically may impose a reserve under this Section 2.1 in the event that the credit rating of Columbia Gas (as reported by Moody's Investor Service, Inc. and/or Standard and Poor's Rating Services) is at any time lowered, such reserve to be in such amount and for such duration as the Agent deems proper and necessary, in its sole discretion.

(b) <u>Discretionary Rights</u>. The Advance Rates may be increased or decreased by Agent at any time and from time to time in the exercise of its reasonable discretion. Each Borrower consents to any such increases or decreases and acknowledges that decreasing the Advance Rates or increasing or imposing reserves may limit or restrict Advances requested by Borrower. The rights of Agent under this subsection are subject to the provisions of Section 16.2(b).

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2.2. Procedure for Revolving Advances Borrowing.

- (a) Borrower may notify Agent prior to 10:00 a.m. on a Business Day of a Borrower's request to incur, on that day, a Revolving Advance hereunder. Should any amount required to be paid as interest hereunder, or as fees or other charges under this Agreement or any other agreement with Agent or Lenders, or with respect to any other Obligation, become due, same shall be deemed a request for a Revolving Advance maintained as a Domestic Rate Loan as of the date such payment is due, in the amount required to pay in full such interest, fee, charge or Obligation under this Agreement or any other agreement with Agent or Lenders, and such request shall be irrevocable.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) above, in the event any Borrower desires to obtain a Eurodollar Rate Loan, Borrower shall give Agent written notice by no later than 10:00 a.m. on the day which is three (3) Business Days prior to the date such Eurodollar Rate Loan is to be borrowed, specifying (i) the date of the proposed borrowing (which shall be a Business Day), (ii) the type of borrowing and the amount on the date of such Advance to be borrowed, which amount shall be in an aggregate principal amount that is not less than \$1,000,000 and integral multiples of \$100,000 in excess thereof, and (iii) the duration of the first Interest Period therefor. Interest Periods for Eurodollar Rate Loans shall be for one, two, or three months; provided, if an Interest Period would end on a day that is not a Business Day, it shall end on the next succeeding Business Day unless such day falls in the next succeeding calendar month in which case the Interest Period shall end on the next preceding Business Day. No Eurodollar Rate Loan shall be made available to any Borrower during the continuance of a Default or an Event of Default. After giving effect to each requested Eurodollar Rate Loan, including those which are converted from a Domestic Rate Loan under Section 2.2(d), there shall not be outstanding more than five (5) Eurodollar Rate Loans, in the aggregate.
- (c) Each Interest Period of a Eurodollar Rate Loan shall commence on the date such Eurodollar Rate Loan is made and shall end on such date as Borrower may elect as set forth in subsection (b)(iii) above provided that the exact length of each Interest Period shall be determined in accordance with the practice of the interbank market for offshore Dollar deposits and no Interest Period shall end after the last day of the Term.

Borrower shall elect the initial Interest Period applicable to a Eurodollar Rate Loan by its notice of borrowing given to Agent pursuant to Section 2.2(b) or by its notice of conversion given to Agent pursuant to Section 2.2(d), as the case may be. Borrower shall elect the duration of each succeeding Interest Period by giving irrevocable written notice to Agent of such duration not later than 10:00 a.m. on the day which is three (3) Business Days prior to the last day of the then current Interest Period applicable to such Eurodollar Rate Loan. If Agent does not receive timely notice of the Interest Period elected by Borrower, Borrower shall be deemed to have elected to convert to a Domestic Rate Loan subject to Section 2.2(d) hereinbelow.

(d) Provided that no Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing, Borrower may, on the last Business Day of the then current Interest Period applicable to any outstanding Eurodollar Rate Loan, or on any Business Day with respect to Domestic Rate Loans, convert any such loan into a loan of another type in the same aggregate principal

amount provided that any conversion of a Eurodollar Rate Loan shall be made only on the last Business Day of the then current Interest Period applicable to such Eurodollar Rate Loan. If Borrower desires to convert a loan, Borrower shall give Agent written notice by no later than 10:00 a.m. (i) on the day which is three (3) Business Days' prior to the date on which such conversion is to occur with respect to a conversion from a Domestic Rate Loan to a Eurodollar Rate Loan, or (ii) on the day which is one (1) Business Day prior to the date on which such conversion is to occur with respect to a conversion from a Eurodollar Rate Loan to a Domestic Rate Loan, specifying, in each case, the date of such conversion, the loans to be converted and if the conversion is from a Domestic Rate Loan to any other type of loan, the duration of the first Interest Period therefor.

- (e) At its option and upon written notice given prior to 10:00 a.m. (New York time) at least three (3) Business Days' prior to the date of such prepayment, any Borrower may prepay the Eurodollar Rate Loans in whole at any time or in part from time to time with accrued interest on the principal being prepaid to the date of such repayment. Such Borrower shall specify the date of prepayment of Advances which are Eurodollar Rate Loans and the amount of such prepayment. In the event that any prepayment of a Eurodollar Rate Loan is required or permitted on a date other than the last Business Day of the then current Interest Period with respect thereto, such Borrower shall indemnify Agent and Lenders therefor in accordance with Section 2.2(f) hereof.
- (f) Borrower shall indemnify Agent and Lenders and hold Agent and Lenders harmless from and against any and all losses or expenses that Agent and Lenders may sustain or incur as a consequence of any prepayment, conversion of or any default by any Borrower in the payment of the principal of or interest on any Eurodollar Rate Loan or failure by any Borrower to complete a borrowing of, a prepayment of or conversion of or to a Eurodollar Rate Loan after notice thereof has been given, including, but not limited to, any interest payable by Agent or Lenders to lenders of funds obtained by it in order to make or maintain its Eurodollar Rate Loans hereunder. A certificate as to any additional amounts payable pursuant to the foregoing sentence submitted by Agent or any Lender to Borrower shall be conclusive absent manifest error.
- change therein or in the interpretation or application thereof, shall make it unlawful for any Lender (for purposes of this subsection (g), the term "Lender" shall include any Lender and the office or branch where any Lender or any corporation or bank controlling such Lender makes or maintains any Eurodollar Rate Loans) to make or maintain its Eurodollar Rate Loans, the obligation of Lenders to make Eurodollar Rate Loans hereunder shall forthwith be cancelled and Borrower shall, if any affected Eurodollar Rate Loans are then outstanding, promptly upon request from Agent, either pay all such affected Eurodollar Rate Loans or convert such affected Eurodollar Rate Loans into loans of another type. If any such payment or conversion of any Eurodollar Rate Loan is made on a day that is not the last day of the Interest Period applicable to such Eurodollar Rate Loan, Borrower shall pay Agent, upon Agent's request, such amount or amounts as may be necessary to compensate Lenders for any loss or expense sustained or incurred by Lenders in respect of such Eurodollar Rate Loan as a result of such payment or conversion, including (but not limited to) any interest or other amounts payable by Lenders to lenders of funds obtained by Lenders in order to make or maintain such Eurodollar Rate Loan.

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A certificate as to any additional amounts payable pursuant to the foregoing sentence submitted by Lenders to Borrower shall be conclusive absent manifest error.

2.3. <u>Disbursement of Advance Proceeds</u>. All Advances shall be disbursed from whichever office or other place Agent may designate from time to time and, together with any and all other Obligations of Borrower to Agent or Lenders, shall be charged to Borrower's Account on Agent's books. During the Term, Borrower may use the Revolving Advances by borrowing, prepaying and reborrowing, all in accordance with the terms and conditions hereof. The proceeds of each Revolving Advance requested by Borrower or deemed to have been requested by Borrower under Section 2.2 hereof shall, with respect to requested Revolving Advances to the extent Lenders make such Revolving Advances, be made available to the applicable Borrower on the day so requested by way of credit to such Borrower's operating account at PNC, or such other bank as Borrower may designate following notification to Agent, in immediately available federal funds or other immediately available funds or, with respect to Revolving Advances deemed to have been requested by any Borrower, be disbursed to Agent to be applied to the outstanding Obligations giving rise to such deemed request.

2.4. [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]

2.5. <u>Maximum Advances</u>. The aggregate balance of Revolving Advances outstanding at any time shall not exceed the lesser of (a) the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount or (b) the Formula Amount, less, in each case, the aggregate Maximum Undrawn Amount of all issued and outstanding Letters of Credit.

2.6. Repayment of Advances.

- (a) The Revolving Advances shall be due and payable in full on the last day of the Term subject to earlier prepayment as herein provided.
- (b) Borrower recognizes that the amounts evidenced by checks, notes, drafts or any other items of payment relating to and/or proceeds of Collateral may not be collectible by Agent on the date received. In consideration of Agent's agreement to conditionally credit Borrower's Account as of the Business Day on which Agent receives those items of payment, each Borrower agrees that, in computing the charges under this Agreement, all items of payment shall be deemed applied by Agent on account of the Obligations one (1) Business Day after (i) the Business Day Agent receives such payments via wire transfer or electronic depository check or (ii) in the case of payments received by Agent in any other form, the Business Day such payment constitutes good funds in Agent's account. Agent is not, however, required to credit Borrower's Account for the amount of any item of payment which is unsatisfactory to Agent and Agent may charge Borrower's Account for the amount of any item of payment which is returned to Agent unpaid.
- (c) All payments of principal, interest and other amounts payable hereunder, or under any of the Other Documents shall be made to Agent at the Payment Office not later than 1:00 P.M. (New York time) on the due date therefor in lawful money of the United States of America in federal funds or other funds immediately available to Agent. Agent shall have

the right to effectuate payment on any and all Obligations due and owing hereunder by charging Borrower's Account or by making Advances as provided in Section 2.2 hereof.

- (d) Borrower shall pay principal, interest, and all other amounts payable hereunder, or under any related agreement, without any deduction whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any deduction for any setoff or counterclaim.
- 2.7. Repayment of Excess Advances. The aggregate balance of Advances outstanding at any time in excess of the maximum amount of Advances permitted hereunder shall be immediately due and payable without the necessity of any demand, at the Payment Office, whether or not a Default or Event of Default has occurred.
- 2.8. Statement of Account. Agent shall maintain, in accordance with its customary procedures, a loan account ("Borrower's Account") in the name of Borrower in which shall be recorded the date and amount of each Advance made by Agent and the date and amount of each payment in respect thereof; provided, however, the failure by Agent to record the date and amount of any Advance shall not adversely affect Agent or any Lender. Each month, Agent shall send to Borrower a statement showing the accounting for the Advances made, payments made or credited in respect thereof, and other transactions between Agent and Borrower during such month. The monthly statements shall be deemed correct and binding upon Borrower in the absence of manifest error and shall constitute an account stated between Lenders and Borrower unless Agent receives a written statement of Borrower's specific exceptions thereto within thirty (30) days after such statement is received by Borrower. The records of Agent with respect to the loan account shall be conclusive evidence absent manifest error of the amounts of Advances and other charges thereto and of payments applicable thereto.
- Letters of Credit. Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, Agent shall issue or cause the issuance of standby and/or trade letters of credit ("Letters of Credit") for the account of Borrower, provided, however, that the Agent will not be required to issue or cause to be issued any Letters of Credit to the extent that the issuance thereof would then cause the sum of (i) the outstanding Revolving Advances plus (ii) the Maximum Undrawn Amount of all outstanding Letters of Credit to exceed the lesser of (x) the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount less the maximum Undrawn Amount of all outstanding Letters of Credit or (y) the Formula Amount. The Maximum Undrawn Amount of outstanding Letters of Credit shall not exceed in the aggregate at any time the Letter of Credit Sublimit. All disbursements or payments related to Letters of Credit shall be deemed to be Domestic Rate Loans consisting of Revolving Advances and shall bear interest at the Revolving Interest Rate for Domestic Rate Loans; Letters of Credit that have not been drawn upon shall not bear interest. It is expressly understood and agreed by each of the parties hereto that the Existing Letters of Credit shall (i) constitute and be deemed to be Letters of Credit for all purposes of this Agreement and the Other Documents, and (ii) remain in full force and effect. Borrower hereby ratifies, confirms and reaffirms in all respects its obligations under and with respect to the Existing Letters of Credit.

2.10. <u>Issuance of Letters of Credit</u>.

(a) Borrower may request Agent to issue or cause the issuance of a Letter of Credit by delivering to Agent at the Payment Office, prior to 10:00 a.m. (New York time), at

- least five (5) Business Days' prior to the proposed date of issuance, Agent's form of Letter of Credit Application (the "Letter of Credit Application") completed to the satisfaction of Agent; and, such other certificates, documents and other papers and information as Agent may reasonably request. Borrower, also has the right to give instructions and make agreements with respect to any application, any applicable letter of credit and security agreement, any applicable letter of credit reimbursement agreement and/or any other applicable agreement, any letter of credit and the disposition of documents, disposition of any unutilized funds, and to agree with Agent upon any amendment, extension or renewal of any Letter of Credit.
- (b) Each Letter of Credit shall, among other things, (i) provide for the payment of sight drafts, other written demands for payment, or acceptances of usance drafts when presented for honor thereunder in accordance with the terms thereof and when accompanied by the documents described therein and (ii) have an expiry date not later than twenty-four (24) months after such Letter of Credit's date of issuance and in no event later than the last day of the Term. Each standby Letter of Credit shall be subject either to the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits as most recently published by the International Chamber of Commerce at the time a Letter of Credit is issued (the "UCP") or the International Standby Practices (ISP98 International Chamber of Commerce Publication Number 590) (the "ISP98 Rules")), and any subsequent revision thereof at the time a standby Letter of Credit is issued, as determined by Agent, and each trade Letter of Credit shall be subject to the UCP.
- (c) Agent shall use its reasonable efforts to notify Lenders of the request by Borrower for a Letter of Credit hereunder.

2.11. Requirements For Issuance of Letters of Credit.

- (a) Borrower shall authorize and direct any Issuer to name the Borrower as the "Applicant" or "Account Party" of each Letter of Credit. If Agent is not the Issuer of any Letter of Credit, Borrower shall authorize and direct the Issuer to deliver to Agent all instruments, documents, and other writings and property received by the Issuer pursuant to the Letter of Credit and to accept and rely upon Agent's instructions and agreements with respect to all matters arising in connection with the Letter of Credit, the application therefor or any acceptance therefor.
- (b) In connection with all Letters of Credit issued or caused to be issued by Agent under this Agreement, each Borrower hereby appoints Agent, or its designee, as its attorney, with full power and authority if an Event of Default shall have occurred, (i) to sign and/or endorse such Borrower's name upon any warehouse or other receipts, letter of credit applications and acceptances, (ii) to sign such Borrower's name on bills of lading; (iii) to clear Inventory through the United States of America Customs Department ("Customs") in the name of such Borrower or Agent or Agent's designee, and to sign and deliver to Customs officials powers of attorney in the name of such Borrower for such purpose; and (iv) to complete in such Borrower's name or Agent's, or in the name of Agent's designee, any order, sale or transaction, obtain the necessary documents in connection therewith, and collect the proceeds thereof. Neither Agent nor its attorneys will be liable for any acts or omissions nor for any error of judgment or mistakes of fact or law, except for Agent's or its attorney's willful

misconduct. This power, being coupled with an interest, is irrevocable as long as any Letters of Credit remain outstanding.

2.12. Disbursements, Reimbursement.

- (a) Immediately upon the issuance of each Letter of Credit, each Lender shall be deemed to, and hereby irrevocably and unconditionally agrees to, purchase from Agent a participation in such Letter of Credit and each drawing thereunder in an amount equal to such Lender's Commitment Percentage of the Maximum Face Amount of such Letter of Credit and the amount of such drawing, respectively.
- (b) In the event of any request for a drawing under a Letter of Credit by the beneficiary or transferee thereof, Agent will promptly notify Borrower. Provided that Borrower shall have received such notice, the Borrower shall reimburse (such obligation to reimburse Agent shall sometimes be referred to as a "Reimbursement Obligation") Agent prior to 12:00 Noon, New York time on each date that an amount is paid by Agent under any Letter of Credit (each such date, a "Drawing Date") in an amount equal to the amount so paid by Agent. In the event Borrower fail to reimburse Agent for the full amount of any drawing under any Letter of Credit by 12:00 Noon, New York time, on the Drawing Date, Agent will promptly notify each Lender thereof, and Borrower shall be deemed to have requested that a Revolving Advance maintained as a Domestic Rate Loan be made by the Lenders to be disbursed on the Drawing Date under such Letter of Credit, subject to the amount of the unutilized portion of the lesser of Maximum Revolving Advance Amount or the Formula Amount and subject to Section 8.2 hereof. Any notice given by Agent pursuant to this Section 2.12(b) may be oral if immediately confirmed in writing; provided that the lack of such an immediate confirmation shall not affect the conclusiveness or binding effect of such notice.
- (c) Each Lender shall upon any notice pursuant to Section 2.12(b) make available to Agent an amount in immediately available funds equal to its Commitment Percentage of the amount of the drawing, whereupon the participating Lenders shall (subject to Section 2.12(d)) each be deemed to have made a Revolving Advance maintained as a Domestic Rate Loan to Borrower in that amount. If any Lender so notified fails to make available to Agent the amount of such Lender's Commitment Percentage of such amount by no later than 2:00 p.m., New York time on the Drawing Date, then interest shall accrue on such Lender's obligation to make such payment, from the Drawing Date to the date on which such Lender makes such payment (i) at a rate per annum equal to the Federal Funds Effective Rate during the first three days following the Drawing Date and (ii) at a rate per armum equal to the rate applicable to Revolving Advances maintained as a Domestic Rate Loans on and after the fourth day following the Drawing Date. Agent will promptly give notice of the occurrence of the Drawing Date, but failure of Agent to give any such notice on the Drawing Date or in sufficient time to enable any Lender to effect such payment on such date shall not relieve such Lender from its obligation under this Section 2.12(c), provided that such Lender shall not be obligated to pay interest as provided in Section 2.12(c) (i) and (ii) until and commencing from the date of receipt of notice from Agent of a drawing.
- (d) With respect to any unreimbursed drawing that is not converted into a Revolving Advance maintained as a Domestic Rate Loan to Borrower in whole or in part as

contemplated by Section 2.12(b), because of Borrower' failure to satisfy the conditions set forth in Section 8.2 (other than any notice requirements) or for any other reason, Borrower shall be deemed to have incurred from Agent a borrowing (each a "Letter of Credit Borrowing") in the amount of such drawing. Such Letter of Credit Borrowing shall be due and payable on demand (together with interest) and shall bear interest at the rate per annum applicable to a Revolving Advance maintained as a Domestic Rate Loan. Each Lender's payment to Agent pursuant to Section 2.12(c) shall be deemed to be a payment in respect of its participation in such Letter of Credit Borrowing and shall constitute a "Participation Advance" from such Lender in satisfaction of its Participation Commitment under this Section 2.12.

(e) Each Lender's Participation Commitment shall continue until the last to occur of any of the following events: (x) Agent ceases to be obligated to issue or cause to be issued Letters of Credit hereunder; (y) no Letter of Credit issued or created hereunder remains outstanding and uncancelled and (z) all Persons (other than the Borrower) have been fully reimbursed for all payments made under or relating to Letters of Credit.

2.13. Repayment of Participation Advances.

- (a) Upon (and only upon) receipt by Agent for its account of immediately available funds from Borrower (i) in reimbursement of any payment made by the Agent under the Letter of Credit with respect to which any Lender has made a Participation Advance to Agent, or (ii) in payment of interest on such a payment made by Agent under such a Letter of Credit, Agent will pay to each Lender, in the same funds as those received by Agent, the amount of such Lender's Commitment Percentage of such funds, except Agent shall retain the amount of the Commitment Percentage of such funds of any Lender that did not make a Participation Advance in respect of such payment by Agent.
- (b) If Agent is required at any time to return to Borrower, or to a trustee, receiver, liquidator, custodian, or any official in any insolvency proceeding, any portion of the payments made by Borrower to Agent pursuant to Section 2.13(a) in reimbursement of a payment made under the Letter of Credit or interest or fee thereon, each Lender shall, on demand of Agent, forthwith return to Agent the amount of its Commitment Percentage of any amounts so returned by Agent plus interest at the Federal Funds Effective Rate.
- 2.14. <u>Documentation</u>. Borrower agrees to be bound by the terms of the Letter of Credit Application and by Agent's interpretations of any Letter of Credit issued on behalf of such Borrower and by Agent's written regulations and customary practices relating to letters of credit, though Agent's interpretations may be different from such Borrower's own. In the event of a conflict between the Letter of Credit Application and this Agreement, this Agreement shall govern. It is understood and agreed that, except in the case of gross negligence or willful misconduct (as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction in a final non-appealable judgment), Agent shall not be liable for any error, negligence and/or mistakes, whether of omission or commission, in following the Borrower's instructions or those contained in the Letters of Credit or any modifications, amendments or supplements thereto.
- 2.15. <u>Determination to Honor Drawing Request</u>. In determining whether to honor any request for drawing under any Letter of Credit by the beneficiary thereof, Agent shall be

responsible only to determine that the documents and certificates required to be delivered under such Letter of Credit have been delivered and that they comply on their face with the requirements of such Letter of Credit and that any other drawing condition appearing on the face of such Letter of Credit has been satisfied in the manner so set forth.\

- 2.16. Nature of Participation and Reimbursement Obligations. Each Lender's obligation in accordance with this Agreement to make the Revolving Advances or Participation Advances as a result of a drawing under a Letter of Credit, and the obligations of Borrower to reimburse Agent upon a draw under a Letter of Credit, shall be absolute, unconditional and irrevocable, and shall be performed strictly in accordance with the terms of this Section 2.16 under all circumstances, including the following circumstances:
 - (i) any set-off, counterclaim, recoupment, defense or other right which such Lender may have against Agent, Borrower or any other Person for any reason whatsoever;
 - (ii) the failure of Borrower or any other Person to comply, in connection with a Letter of Credit Borrowing, with the conditions set forth in this Agreement for the making of a Revolving Advance, it being acknowledged that such conditions are not required for the making of a Letter of Credit Borrowing and the obligation of the Lenders to make Participation Advances under Section 2.12;
 - (iii) any lack of validity or enforceability of any Letter of Credit;
 - (iv) any claim of breach of warranty that might be made by Borrower or any Lender against the beneficiary of a Letter of Credit, or the existence of any claim, set-off, recoupment, counterclaim, cross-claim, defense or other right which Borrower or any Lender may have at any time against a beneficiary, any successor beneficiary or any transferee of any Letter of Credit or the proceeds thereof (or any Persons for whom any such transferee may be acting), Agent or any Lender or any other Person, whether in connection with this Agreement, the transactions contemplated herein or any unrelated transaction (including any underlying transaction between Borrower or any Subsidiaries of Borrower and the beneficiary for which any Letter of Credit was procured);
 - (v) the lack of power or authority of any signer of (or any defect in or forgery of any signature or endorsement on) or the form of or lack of validity, sufficiency, accuracy, enforceability or genuineness of any draft, demand, instrument, certificate or other document presented under or in connection with any Letter of Credit, or any fraud or alleged fraud in connection with any Letter of Credit, or the transport of any property or provisions of services relating to a Letter of Credit, in each case even if Agent or any of Agent's Affiliates has been notified thereof;

- (vi) payment by Agent under any Letter of Credit against presentation of a demand, draft or certificate or other document which does not comply with the terms of such Letter of Credit;
- (vii) the solvency of, or any acts or omissions by, any beneficiary of any Letter of Credit, or any other Person having a role in any transaction or obligation relating to a Letter of Credit, or the existence, nature, quality, quantity, condition, value or other characteristic of any property or services relating to a Letter of Credit;
- (viii) any failure by the Agent or any of Agent's Affiliates to issue any Letter of Credit in the form requested by Borrower, unless the Agent has received written notice from Borrower of such failure within three (3) Business Days after the Agent shall have furnished Borrower a copy of such Letter of Credit and such error is material and no drawing has been made thereon prior to receipt of such notice;
 - (ix) any Material Adverse Effect on Borrower or any Guarantor,
- (x) any breach of this Agreement or any Other Document by any party thereto;
- (xi) the occurrence or continuance of an insolvency proceeding with respect to Borrower or any Guarantor;
- (xii) the fact that a Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing;
- (xiii) the fact that the Term shall have expired or this Agreement or the Obligations hereunder shall have been terminated; and
- (xiv) any other circumstance or happening whatsoever, whether or not similar to any of the foregoing.
- 2.17. Indemnity. In addition to amounts payable as provided in Section 16.5, Borrower hereby agrees to protect, indemnify, pay and save harmless Agent and any of Agent's Affiliates that have issued a Letter of Credit from and against any and all claims, demands, liabilities, damages, taxes, penalties, interest, judgments, losses, costs, charges and expenses (including reasonable fees, expenses and disbursements of counsel and allocated costs of internal counsel) which the Agent or any of Agent's Affiliates may incur or be subject to as a consequence, direct or indirect, of the issuance of any Letter of Credit, other than as a result of (A) the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Agent as determined by a final and non-appealable judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction or (b) the wrongful dishonor by the Agent or any of Agent's Affiliates of a proper demand for payment made under any Letter of Credit, except if such dishonor resulted from any act or omission, whether rightful or wrongful, of any present or future de jure or de facto Governmental Body (all such acts or omissions herein called "Governmental Acts").

2.18. Liability for Acts and Omissions. As between Borrower and Agent and Lenders. Borrower assumes all risks of the acts and omissions of, or misuse of the Letters of Credit by, the respective beneficiaries of such Letters of Credit. In furtherance and not in limitation of the respective foregoing. Agent shall not be responsible for: (i) the form, validity, sufficiency, accuracy, genuineness or legal effect of any document submitted by any party in connection with the application for an issuance of any such Letter of Credit, even if it should in fact prove to be in any or all respects invalid, insufficient, inaccurate, fraudulent or forged (even if Agent shall have been notified thereof); (ii) the validity or sufficiency of any instrument transferring or assigning or purporting to transfer or assign any such Letter of Credit or the rights or benefits thereumder or proceeds thereof, in whole or in part, which may prove to be invalid or ineffective for any reason; (iii) the failure of the beneficiary of any such Letter of Credit, or any other party to which such Letter of Credit may be transferred, to comply fully with any conditions required in order to draw upon such Letter of Credit or any other claim of Borrower against any beneficiary of such Letter of Credit, or any such transferee, or any dispute between or among any Borrower and any beneficiary of any Letter of Credit or any such transferee; (iv) errors, omissions, interruptions or delays in transmission or delivery of any messages, by mail, cable, facsimile, telex or otherwise, whether or not they be in cipher; (v) errors in interpretation of technical terms; (vi) any loss or delay in the transmission or otherwise of any document required in order to make a drawing under any such Letter of Credit or of the proceeds thereof; (vii) the misapplication by the beneficiary of any such Letter of Credit of the proceeds of any drawing under such Letter of Credit; or (viii) any consequences arising from causes beyond the control of Agent, including any governmental acts, and none of the above shall affect or impair, or prevent the vesting of, any of Agent's rights or powers hereunder. Nothing in the preceding sentence shall relieve Agent from liability for Agent's gross negligence or willful misconduct (as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction in a final non-appealable judgment) in connection with actions or omissions described in such clauses (i) through (viii) of such sentence. In no event shall Agent or Agent's Affiliates be liable to Borrower for any indirect, consequential, incidental, punitive, exemplary or special damages or expenses (including without limitation attorneys' fees), or for any damages resulting from any change in the value of any property relating to a Letter of Credit.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Agent and each of its Affiliates (i) may rely on any oral or other communication believed in good faith by Agent or such Affiliate to have been authorized or given by or on behalf of the applicant for a Letter of Credit, (ii) may honor any presentation if the documents presented appear on their face substantially to comply with the terms and conditions of the relevant Letter of Credit; (iii) may honor a previously dishonored presentation under a Letter of Credit, whether such dishonor was pursuant to a court order, to settle or compromise any claim of wrongful dishonor, or otherwise, and shall be entitled to reimbursement to the same extent as if such presentation had initially been honored, together with any interest paid by Agent or its Affiliates; (iv) may honor any drawing that is payable upon presentation of a statement advising negotiation or payment, upon receipt of such statement (even if such statement indicates that a draft or other document is being delivered separately), and shall not be liable for any failure of any such draft or other document to arrive, or to conform in any way with the relevant Letter of Credit; (v) may pay any paying or negotiating bank claiming that it rightfully honored under the laws or practices of the place where such bank is located; and (vi) may settle or adjust any claim or demand made on Agent or its Affiliate in any way related to any order issued at the applicant's request to an air carrier, a letter of guarantee or

of indemnity issued to a carrier or any similar document (each an "Order") and honor any drawing in connection with any Letter of Credit that is the subject of such Order, notwithstanding that any drafts or other documents presented in connection with such Letter of Credit fail to conform in any way with such Letter of Credit.

In furtherance and extension and not in limitation of the specific provisions set forth above, any action taken or omitted by Agent under or in connection with the Letters of Credit issued by it or any documents and certificates delivered thereunder, if taken or omitted in good faith and without gross negligence (as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction in a final non-appealable judgment), shall not put Agent under any resulting liability to any Borrower or any Lender.

2.19. Additional Payments. Any sums expended by Agent or any Lender due to any Borrower's failure to perform or comply with its obligations under this Agreement or any Other Document including any Borrower's obligations under Sections 4.2, 4.4, 4.12, 4.13, 4.14 and 6.1 hereof, may be charged to Borrower's Account as a Revolving Advance and added to the Obligations.

2.20. Manner of Borrowing and Payment.

- (a) Each borrowing of Revolving Advances shall be advanced according to the applicable Commitment Percentages of Lenders.
- (b) Each payment (including each prepayment) by Borrower on account of the principal of and interest on the Revolving Advances, shall be applied to the Revolving Advances pro rata according to the applicable Commitment Percentages of Lenders. Except as expressly provided herein, all payments (including prepayments) to be made by any Borrower on account of principal, interest and fees shall be made without set off or counterclaim and shall be made to Agent on behalf of the Lenders to the Payment Office, in each case on or prior to 1:00 P.M., New York time, in Dollars and in immediately available funds.
- (c) (i) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in Sections 2.20(a) and (b) hereof, commencing with the first Business Day following the Closing Date, each borrowing of Revolving Advances shall be advanced by Agent and each payment by any Borrower on account of Revolving Advances shall be applied first to those Revolving Advances advanced by Agent. On or before 1:00 P.M., New York time, on each Settlement Date commencing with the first Settlement Date following the Closing Date, Agent and Lenders shall make certain payments as follows: (1) if the aggregate amount of new Revolving Advances made by Agent during the preceding Week (if any) exceeds the aggregate amount of repayments applied to outstanding Revolving Advances during such preceding Week, then each Lender shall provide Agent with funds in an amount equal to its applicable Commitment Percentage of the difference between (w) such Revolving Advances and (x) such repayments and (II) if the aggregate amount of repayments applied to outstanding Revolving Advances during such Week exceeds the aggregate amount of new Revolving Advances made during such Week, then Agent shall provide each Lender with funds in an amount equal to its applicable Commitment Percentage of the difference between (y) such repayments and (z) such Revolving Advances.

- (ii) Each Lender shall be entitled to earn interest at the applicable Revolving Interest Rate on outstanding Advances which it has funded.
- (iii) Promptly following each Settlement Date, Agent shall submit to each Lender a certificate with respect to payments received and Advances made during the Week immediately preceding such Settlement Date. Such certificate of Agent shall be conclusive in the absence of manifest error.
- (d) If any Lender or Participant (a "benefited Lender") shall at any time receive any payment of all or part of its Advances, or interest thereon, or receive any Collateral in respect thereof (whether voluntarily or involuntarily or by set-off) in a greater proportion than any such payment to and Collateral received by any other Lender, if any, in respect of such other Lender's Advances, or interest thereon, and such greater proportionate payment or receipt of Collateral is not expressly permitted hereunder, such benefited Lender shall purchase for cash from the other Lenders a participation in such portion of each such other Lender's Advances, or shall provide such other Lender with the benefits of any such Collateral, or the proceeds thereof, as shall be necessary to cause such benefited Lender to share the excess payment or benefits of such Collateral or proceeds ratably with each of the other Lenders: provided, however, that if all or any portion of such excess payment or benefits is thereafter recovered from such benefited Lender, such purchase shall be rescinded, and the purchase price and benefits returned, to the extent of such recovery, but without interest. Each Lender so purchasing a portion of another Lender's Advances may exercise all rights of payment (including rights of set-off) with respect to such portion as fully as if such Lender were the direct holder of such portion.
- (e) Unless Agent shall have been notified by telephone, confirmed in writing. by any Lender that such Lender will not make the amount which would constitute its applicable Commitment Percentage of the Advances available to Agent, Agent may (but shall not be obligated to) assume that such Lender shall make such amount available to Agent on the next Settlement Date and, in reliance upon such assumption, make available to Borrower a corresponding amount. Agent will promptly notify Borrower of its receipt of any such notice from a Lender. If such amount is made available to Agent on a date after such next Settlement Date, such Lender shall pay to Agent on demand an amount equal to the product of (i) the daily average Federal Funds Rate (computed on the basis of a year of 360 days) during such period as quoted by Agent, times (ii) such amount, times (iii) the number of days from and including such Settlement Date to the date on which such amount becomes immediately available to Agent. A certificate of Agent submitted to any Lender with respect to any amounts owing under this paragraph (e) shall be conclusive, in the absence of manifest error. If such amount is not in fact made available to Agent by such Lender within three (3) Business Days after such Settlement Date, Agent shall be entitled to recover such an amount, with interest thereon at the rate per annum then applicable to such Revolving Advances hereunder, on demand from Borrower; provided, however, that Agent's right to such recovery shall not prejudice or otherwise adversely affect Borrower' rights (if any) against such Lender.
- 2.21. <u>Mandatory Prepayments</u>. Subject to Section 4.3 hereof, when any Loan Party sells or otherwise disposes of any Collateral other than Inventory in the Ordinary Course of Business, Borrower shall repay the Advances in an amount equal to the net proceeds of such sale

(i.e., gross proceeds less the reasonable costs of such sales or other dispositions), such repayments to be made promptly but in no event more than one (1) Business Day following receipt of such net proceeds, and until the date of payment, such proceeds shall be held in trust for Agent. The foregoing shall not be deemed to be implied consent to any such sale otherwise prohibited by the terms and conditions hereof. Such repayments shall be applied to the Advances in such order as Agent may determine, subject to Borrower's ability to reborrow Revolving Advances in accordance with the terms hereof.

2.22. <u>Use of Proceeds</u>.

- (a) Borrower shall apply the proceeds of Advances to (i) repay existing indebtedness, (ii) pay fees and expenses relating to this transaction, and (iii) provide for its working capital needs and reimburse drawings under Letters of Credit.
- (b) Without limiting the generality of Section 2.22(a) above, no Loan Party nor any other Person which may in the future become party to this Agreement or the Other Documents as a Borrower or Guarantor, intends to use nor shall they use any portion of the proceeds of the Advances, directly or indirectly, for any purpose in violation of the Trading with the Enemy Act.

2.23. Defaulting Lender.

- (a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, in the event any Lender (x) has refused (which refusal constitutes a breach by such Lender of its obligations under this Agreement) to make available its portion of any Advance or (y) notifies either Agent or Borrower that it does not intend to make available its portion of any Advance (if the actual refusal would constitute a breach by such Lender of its obligations under this Agreement) (each, a "Lender Default"), all rights and obligations hereunder of such Lender (a "Defaulting Lender") as to which a Lender Default is in effect and of the other parties hereto shall be modified to the extent of the express provisions of this Section 2.23 while such Lender Default remains in effect.
- (b) Advances shall be incurred pro rata from Lenders (the "Non-Defaulting Lenders") which are not Defaulting Lenders based on their respective Commitment Percentages, and no Commitment Percentage of any Lender or any pro rata share of any Advances required to be advanced by any Lender shall be increased as a result of such Lender Default. Amounts received in respect of principal of any type of Advances shall be applied to reduce the applicable Advances of each Lender (other than any Defaulting Lender) pro rata based on the aggregate of the outstanding Advances of that type of all Lenders at the time of such application; provided, that, Agent shall not be obligated to transfer to a Defaulting Lender any payments received by Agent for the Defaulting Lender's benefit, nor shall a Defaulting Lender be entitled to the sharing of any payments hereunder (including any principal, interest or fees). Amounts payable to a Defaulting Lender shall instead be paid to or retained by Agent. Agent may hold and, in its discretion, re-lend to a Borrower the amount of such payments received or retained by it for the account of such Defaulting Lender.

- (c) A Defaulting Lender shall not be entitled to give instructions to Agent or to approve, disapprove, consent to or vote on any matters relating to this Agreement and the Other Documents. All amendments, waivers and other modifications of this Agreement and the Other Documents may be made without regard to a Defaulting Lender and, for purposes of the definition of "Required Lenders", a Defaulting Lender shall be deemed not to be a Lender and not to have either Advances outstanding or a Commitment Percentage.
- (d) Other than as expressly set forth in this Section 2.23, the rights and obligations of a Defaulting Lender (including the obligation to indemnify Agent) and the other parties hereto shall remain unchanged. Nothing in this Section 2.23 shall be deemed to release any Defaulting Lender from its obligations under this Agreement and the Other Documents, shall alter such obligations, shall operate as a waiver of any default by such Defaulting Lender hereunder, or shall prejudice any rights which Borrower, Agent or any Lender may have against any Defaulting Lender as a result of any default by such Defaulting Lender hereunder.
- (e) In the event a Defaulting Lender retroactively cures to the satisfaction of Agent the breach which caused a Lender to become a Defaulting Lender, such Defaulting Lender shall no longer be a Defaulting Lender and shall be treated as a Lender under this Agreement.
- 2.24. Increase in Maximum Borrowing Amount. (a) The Borrower shall have the one-time right to increase the maximum amount that may be borrowed hereunder by up to \$10,000,000 by obtaining additional commitments to lend hereunder either from one or more of the Lenders or another lending institution provided that (i) the Agent has approved any such new Lender, in its sole discretion, (ii) any such new Lender assumes all of the rights and obligations of a "Lender" hereunder, and (iii) the procedures and conditions described in Section 2.24(a) have been satisfied. In no event shall any Lender be obligated to provide any such additional commitments to lend hereunder.
 - (b) Any amendment hereto for such an increase or addition shall (x) be in form and substance satisfactory to the Agent, (y) include, without limitation, amendment to the definition of Maximum Revolving Advance Amount and to Section 13.1, in each case reflecting a proportionate increase in the amounts referred to thereunder, and (z) only require the written signatures of the Agent, the Borrower and the Lender(s) being added or increasing their commitment to lend hereunder. As a condition precedent to such an increase, Borrower shall deliver to the Agent a certificate of each Loan Party (in sufficient copies for each Lender) signed by an authorized officer of such Loan Party (i) certifying and attaching the resolutions adopted by such Loan Party approving or consenting to such increase, and (ii) in the case of the Borrower, certifying that, before and after giving effect to such increase, (A) the representations and warranties contained in Articles IV and V and the Other Documents are true and correct, except to the extent that such representations and warranties specifically refer to an earlier date, in which case they are true and correct as of such earlier date, and (B) no Default or Event of Default exists.

III. INTEREST AND FEES.

3.1. Interest. Interest on Advances shall be payable in arrears on the first day of each month with respect to Domestic Rate Loans and, with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans, at the end of each Interest Period. Interest charges shall be computed on the actual principal amount of Advances outstanding during the month at a rate per annum equal to the applicable Revolving Interest Rate. Whenever, subsequent to the date of this Agreement, the Alternate Base Rate is increased or decreased, the Revolving Interest Rate for Domestic Rate Loans shall be similarly changed without notice or demand of any kind by an amount equal to the amount of such change in the Alternate Base Rate during the time such change or changes remain in effect. The Eurodollar Rate shall be adjusted with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans without notice or demand of any kind on the effective date of any change in the Reserve Percentage as of such effective date. Upon and after the occurrence of an Event of Default, and during the continuation thereof, at the option of Agent or at the direction of Required Lenders, the Obligations shall bear interest at the applicable Revolving Interest Rate plus two (2%) percent per annum (the "Default Rate").

3.2. Letter of Credit Fees.

- (a) Borrower shall pay (x) to Agent, for the ratable benefit of Lenders, fees for each Letter of Credit for the period from and excluding the date of issuance of same to and including the date of expiration or termination, equal to the average daily face amount of each outstanding Letter of Credit multiplied by two and three-quarters percent (2.75%) per annum. such fees to be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year for the actual number of days elapsed and to be payable quarterly in arrears on the first day of each quarter and on the last day of the Term, and (y) to the Issuer, a fronting fee of one quarter of one percent (0.25%) per annum. together with any and all administrative, issuance, amendment, payment and negotiation charges with respect to Letters of Credit and all fees and expenses as agreed upon by the Issuer and the Borrower in connection with any Letter of Credit, including in connection with the opening, amendment or renewal of any such Letter of Credit and any acceptances created thereunder and shall reimburse Agent for any and all fees and expenses, if any, paid by Agent to the Issuer (all of the foregoing fees, the "Letter of Credit Fees"). All such charges shall be deemed earned in full on the date when the same are due and payable hereunder and shall not be subject to rebate or pro-ration upon the termination of this Agreement for any reason. Any such charge in effect at the time of a particular transaction shall be the charge for that transaction, notwithstanding any subsequent change in the Issuer's prevailing charges for that type of transaction. All Letter of Credit Fees payable hereunder shall be deemed earned in full on the date when the same are due and payable hereunder and shall not be subject to rebate or pro-ration upon the termination of this Agreement for any reason. Upon and after the occurrence of an Event of Default, and during the continuation thereof, at the option of Agent or at the direction of Required Lenders, the Letter of Credit Fees described in clause (x) of this Section 3.2(a) shall be increased by an additional two percent (2%) per annum.
- (b) On demand, Borrower will cause cash to be deposited and maintained in an account with Agent, as cash collateral, in an amount equal to one hundred and five percent (105%) of the Maximum Undrawn Amount of all outstanding Letters of Credit, and Borrower hereby irrevocably authorizes Agent, in its discretion, on Borrower's behalf and in Borrower's

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name, to open such an account and to make and maintain deposits therein, or in an account opened by Borrower, in the amounts required to be made by Borrower, out of the proceeds of Receivables or other Collateral or out of any other funds of Borrower coming into any Lender's possession at any time. Agent will invest such cash collateral (less applicable reserves) in such short-term money-market items as to which Agent and such Borrower mutually agree and the net return on such investments shall be credited to such account and constitute additional cash collateral. Borrower may not withdraw amounts credited to any such account except upon the occurrence of all of the following: (x) payment and performance in full of all Obligations, (y) expiration of all Letters of Credit and (z) termination of this Agreement.

3.3. Closing Fee; Facility Fee and Commitment Fee.

- (a) Closing Fee. Upon the execution of this Agreement, Borrower shall pay to Agent for the ratable benefit of Lenders a closing fee of \$45,000.
- (b) Facility Fee. If, for any calendar quarter during the Term, the average daily unpaid balance of the Revolving Advances and undrawn amount of any outstanding Letters of Credit for each day of such calendar quarter does not equal the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount, then Borrower shall pay to Agent for the ratable benefit of Lenders a fee at a rate equal to 0.375% per annum on the amount by which the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount exceeds such average daily unpaid balance. Such fee shall be payable to Agent in arrears on the first day of each calendar quarter with respect to the previous calendar quarter.

3.4. <u>Collateral Evaluation Fee, Collateral Monitoring Fee; Underwriting Fee and Fee</u> <u>Letter.</u>

- (a) <u>Collateral Evaluation Fee</u>. Borrower shall pay Agent a collateral evaluation fee equal to \$1,000 per month commencing on the first day of the month following the Closing Date and on the first day of each month thereafter during the Term. The collateral evaluation fee shall be deemed earned in full on the date when same is due and payable hereunder and shall not be subject to rebate or proration upon termination of this Agreement for any reason.
- (b) Collateral Monitoring Fee. Borrower shall pay to Agent on the first day of each month following any month in which Agent performs any collateral monitoring namely any field examination, collateral analysis or other business analysis, the need for which is to be determined by Agent and which monitoring is undertaken by Agent or for Agent's benefit a collateral monitoring fee in an amount equal to \$850 per day for each person employed to perform such monitoring, plus all costs and disbursements incurred by Agent in the performance of such examination or analysis.
- 3.5. <u>Computation of Interest and Fees</u>. Interest and fees hereunder shall be computed on the basis of a year of 360 days and for the actual number of days elapsed. If any payment to be made hereunder becomes due and payable on a day other than a Business Day, the due date thereof shall be extended to the next succeeding Business Day and interest thereon shall be payable at the Revolving Interest Rate for Domestic Rate Loans during such extension.

- 3.6. <u>Maximum Charges</u>. In no event whatsoever shall interest and other charges charged hereunder exceed the highest rate permissible under law. In the event interest and other charges as computed hereunder would otherwise exceed the highest rate permitted under law, such excess amount shall be first applied to any unpaid principal balance owed by Borrower, and if the then remaining excess amount is greater than the previously unpaid principal balance, Lenders shall promptly refund such excess amount to Borrower and the provisions hereof shall be deemed amended to provide for such permissible rate.
- 3.7. Increased Costs. In the event that any Applicable Law, or any change therein or in the interpretation or application thereof, or compliance by any Lender (for purposes of this Section 3.7, the term "Lender" shall include Agent or any Lender and any corporation or bank controlling Agent or any Lender) and the office or branch where Agent or any Lender (as so defined) makes or maintains any Eurodollar Rate Loans with any request or directive (whether or not having the force of law) from any central bank or other financial, monetary or other authority, shall:
 - (a) subject Agent or any Lender to any tax of any kind whatsoever with respect to this Agreement or any Other Document or change the basis of taxation of payments to Agent or any Lender of principal, fees, interest or any other amount payable hereunder or under any Other Documents (except for changes in the rate of tax on the overall net income of Agent or any Lender by the jurisdiction in which it maintains its principal office);
 - (b) impose, modify or hold applicable any reserve, special deposit, assessment or similar requirement against assets held by, or deposits in or for the account of, advances or loans by, or other credit extended by, any office of Agent or any Lender, including pursuant to Regulation D of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; or
 - (c) impose on Agent or any Lender or the London interbank Eurodollar market any other condition with respect to this Agreement or any Other Document;

and the result of any of the foregoing is to increase the cost to Agent or any Lender of making, renewing or maintaining its Advances hereunder by an amount that Agent or such Lender deems to be material or to reduce the amount of any payment (whether of principal, interest or otherwise) in respect of any of the Advances by an amount that Agent or such Lender deems to be material, then, in any case Borrower shall promptly pay Agent or such Lender, upon its demand, such additional amount as will compensate Agent or such Lender for such additional cost or such reduction, as the case may be. Agent or such Lender shall certify the amount of such additional cost or reduced amount to Borrower, and such certification shall be conclusive absent manifest error.

- 3.8. <u>Basis For Determining Interest Rate Inadequate or Unfair</u>. In the event that Agent or any Lender shall have determined that:
 - (a) reasonable means do not exist for ascertaining the Eurodollar Rate applicable pursuant to Section 2.2 hereof for any Interest Period; or
 - (b) Dollar deposits in the relevant amount and for the relevant maturity are not available in the London interbank Eurodollar market, with respect to an outstanding Eurodollar

Rate Loan, a proposed Eurodollar Rate Loan, or a proposed conversion of a Domestic Rate Loan into a Eurodollar Rate Loan,

then Agent shall give Borrower prompt written or telephonic of such determination. If such notice is given, (i) any such requested Eurodollar Rate Loan shall be made as a Domestic Rate Loan, unless Borrower shall notify Agent no later than 10:00 a.m. (New York City time) two (2) Business Days prior to the date of such proposed borrowing, that its request for such borrowing shall be cancelled or made as an unaffected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan, (ii) any Domestic Rate Loan or Eurodollar Rate Loan which was to have been converted to an affected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan shall be continued as or converted into a Domestic Rate Loan, or, if Borrower shall notify Agent, no later than 10:00 a.m. (New York City time) two (2) Business Days prior to the proposed conversion, shall be maintained as an unaffected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan, and (iii) any outstanding affected Eurodollar Rate Loans shall be converted into a Domestic Rate Loan, or, if Borrower shall notify Agent, no later than 10:00 a.m. (New York City time) two (2) Business Days prior to the last Business Day of the then current Interest Period applicable to such affected Eurodollar Rate Loan, shall be converted into an unaffected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan, on the last Business Day of the then current Interest Period for such affected Eurodollar Rate Loans. Until such notice has been withdrawn, Lenders shall have no obligation to make an affected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan or maintain outstanding affected Eurodollar Rate Loans and no Borrower shall have the right to convert a Domestic Rate Loan or an unaffected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan into an affected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan.

3.9. Capital Adequacy.

In the event that Agent or any Lender shall have determined that any Applicable Law or guideline regarding capital adequacy, or any change therein, or any change in the interpretation or administration thereof by any Governmental Body, central bank or comparable agency charged with the interpretation or administration thereof, or compliance by Agent or any Lender (for purposes of this Section 3.9, the term "Lender" shall include Agent or any Lender and any corporation or bank controlling Agent or any Lender) and the office or branch where Agent or any Lender (as so defined) makes or maintains any Eurodollar Rate Loans with any request or directive regarding capital adequacy (whether or not having the force of law) of any such authority, central bank or comparable agency, has or would have the effect of reducing the rate of return on Agent or any Lender's capital as a consequence of its obligations hereunder to a level below that which Agent or such Lender could have achieved but for such adoption, change or compliance (taking into consideration Agent's and each Lender's policies with respect to capital adequacy) by an amount deemed by Agent or any Lender to be material, then, from time to time, Borrower shall pay upon demand to Agent or such Lender such additional amount or amounts as will compensate Agent or such Lender for such reduction. In determining such amount or amounts, Agent or such Lender may use any reasonable averaging or attribution methods. The protection of this Section 3.9 shall be available to Agent and each Lender regardless of any possible contention of invalidity or inapplicability with respect to the Applicable Law or condition.

- (b) A certificate of Agent or such Lender setting forth such amount or amounts as shall be necessary to compensate Agent or such Lender with respect to Section 3.9(a) hereof when delivered to Borrower shall be conclusive absent manifest error.
- 3.10. Gross Up for Taxes. If Borrower shall be required by Applicable Law to withhold or deduct any taxes from or in respect of any sum payable under this Agreement or any of the Other Documents to Agent, or any Lender, assignee of any Lender, or Participant (each, individually, a "Payee" and collectively, the "Payees"), (a) the sum payable to such Payee or Payees, as the case may be, shall be increased as may be necessary so that, after making all required withholding or deductions, the applicable Payee or Payees receives an amount equal to the sum it would have received had no such withholding or deductions been made (the "Gross-Up Payment"), (b) Borrower shall make such withholding or deductions, and (c) Borrower shall pay the full amount withheld or deducted to the relevant taxation authority or other authority in accordance with Applicable Law. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no Borrower shall be obligated to make any portion of the Gross-Up Payment that is attributable to any withholding or deductions that would not have been paid or claimed had the applicable Payee or Payees properly claimed a complete exemption with respect thereto pursuant to Section 3.11 hereof.

3.11. Withholding Tax Exemption.

- (a) Each Payee that is not incorporated under the Laws of the United States of America or a state thereof (and, upon the written request of Agent, each other Payee) agrees that it will deliver to Borrower and Agent two (2) duly completed appropriate valid Withholding Certificates (as defined under §1.1441-1(c)(16) of the Income Tax Regulations ("Regulations")) certifying its status (i.e., U.S. or foreign person) and, if appropriate, making a claim of reduced, or exemption from, U.S. withholding tax on the basis of an income tax treaty or an exemption provided by the Code. The term "Withholding Certificate" means a Form W-9; a Form W-8BEN; a Form W-8ECI; a Form W-8IMY and the related statements and certifications as required under §1.1441-1(e)(2) and/or (3) of the Regulations; a statement described in §1.871-14(c)(2)(v) of the Regulations; or any other certificates under the Code or Regulations that certify or establish the status of a payee or beneficial owner as a U.S. or foreign person.
- (b) Each Payee required to deliver to Borrower and Agent a valid Withholding Certificate pursuant to Section 3.11(a) hereof shall deliver such valid Withholding Certificate as follows: (A) each Payee which is a party hereto on the Closing Date shall deliver such valid Withholding Certificate at least five (5) Business Days prior to the first date on which any interest or fees are payable by any Borrower hereunder for the account of such Payee; (B) each Payee shall deliver such valid Withholding Certificate at least five (5) Business Days before the effective date of such assignment or participation (unless Agent in its sole discretion shall permit such Payee to deliver such Withholding Certificate less than five (5) Business Days before such date in which case it shall be due on the date specified by Agent). Each Payee which so delivers a valid Withholding Certificate further undertakes to deliver to Borrower and Agent two (2) additional copies of such Withholding Certificate (or a successor form) on or before the date that such Withholding Certificate expires or becomes obsolete or after the occurrence of any event requiring a change in the most recent Withholding

Certificate so delivered by it, and such amendments thereto or extensions or renewals thereof as may be reasonably requested by Borrower or Agent.

(c) Notwithstanding the submission of a Withholding Certificate claiming a reduced rate of or exemption from U.S. withholding tax required under Section 3.11(b) hereof, Agent shall be entitled to withhold United States federal income taxes at the full 30% withholding rate if in its reasonable judgment it is required to do so under the due diligence requirements imposed upon a withholding agent under §1.1441-7(b) of the Regulations. Further, Agent is indemnified under §1.1461-1(e) of the Regulations against any claims and demands of any Payee for the amount of any tax it deducts and withholds in accordance with regulations under §1441 of the Code.

IV. COLLATERAL: GENERAL TERMS

- 4.1. Security Interest in the Collateral. To secure the prompt payment and performance to Agent, the Issuer and each Lender of the Obligations, each Loan Party hereby assigns, pledges and grants to Agent for its benefit and for the ratable benefit of each Lender and the Issuer a continuing security interest in and to and Lien on all of its Collateral, whether now owned or existing or hereafter acquired or arising and wheresoever located. Each Loan Party shall mark its books and records as may be necessary or appropriate to evidence, protect and perfect Agent's security interest and shall cause its financial statements to reflect such security interest. Each Loan Party shall promptly provide Agent with written notice of all commercial tort claims, such notice to contain the case title together with the applicable court and a brief description of the claim(s). Upon delivery of each such notice, such Loan Party shall be deemed to hereby grant to Agent a security interest and lien in and to such commercial tort claims and all proceeds thereof.
- Perfection of Security Interest. Each Loan Party shall take all action that may be 4.2. necessary or desirable, or that Agent may request, so as at all times to maintain the validity, perfection, enforceability and priority of Agent's security interest in and Lien on the Collateral or to enable Agent to protect, exercise or enforce its rights hereunder and in the Collateral, including, but not limited to, (i) immediately discharging all Liens other than Permitted Encumbrances, (ii) obtaining Lien Waiver Agreements, (iii) delivering to Agent, endorsed or accompanied by such instruments of assignment as Agent may specify, and stamping or marking, in such manner as Agent may specify, any and all chattel paper, instruments, letters of credits and advices thereof and documents evidencing or forming a part of the Collateral, (iv) entering into warehousing, lockbox and other custodial arrangements satisfactory to Agent, and (v) executing and delivering financing statements, control agreements, instruments of pledge, mortgages, notices and assignments, in each case in form and substance satisfactory to Agent, relating to the creation, validity, perfection, maintenance or continuation of Agent's security interest and Lien under the Uniform Commercial Code or other Applicable Law. By its signature hereto, each Loan Party hereby authorizes Agent to file against such Loan Party, one or more financing, continuation or amendment statements pursuant to the Uniform Commercial Code in form and substance satisfactory to Agent (which statements may have a description of collateral which is broader than that set forth herein). All charges, expenses and fees Agent may incur in doing any of the foregoing, and any local taxes relating thereto, shall be charged to Borrower's Account as a Revolving Advance of a Domestic Rate Loan and added to the

Obligations, or, at Agent's option, shall be paid to Agent for its benefit and for the ratable benefit of Lenders immediately upon demand.

- 4.3. <u>Disposition of Collateral</u>. Each Loan Party will safeguard and protect all Collateral for Agent's general account and make no disposition thereof whether by sale, lease or otherwise except the sale of Inventory in the Ordinary Course of Business.
- Preservation of Collateral. Following the occurrence of a Default or Event of Default, in addition to the rights and remedies set forth in Section 11.1 hereof, Agent: (a) may at any time take such steps as Agent deems necessary to protect Agent's interest in and to preserve the Collateral, including the hiring of such security guards or the placing of other security protection measures as Agent may deem appropriate; (b) may employ and maintain at any of any Loan Party's premises a custodian who shall have full authority to do all acts necessary to protect Agent's interests in the Collateral; (c) may lease warehouse facilities to which Agent may move all or part of the Collateral; (d) may use any Loan Party's owned or leased lifts, hoists, trucks and other facilities or equipment for handling or removing the Collateral; and (e) shall have, and is hereby granted, a right of ingress and egress to the places where the Collateral is located, and may proceed over and through any of Loan Party's owned or leased property. Each Loan Party shall cooperate fully with all of Agent's efforts to preserve the Collateral and will take such actions to preserve the Collateral as Agent may direct. All of Agent's expenses of preserving the Collateral, including any expenses relating to the bonding of a custodian, shall be charged to Borrower's Account as a Revolving Advance maintained as a Domestic Rate Loan and added to the Obligations.

4.5. Ownership of Collateral.

- (a) With respect to the Collateral, at the time the Collateral becomes subject to Agent's security interest: (i) each Loan Party shall be the sole owner of and fully authorized and able to sell, transfer, pledge and/or grant a first priority security interest in each and every item of the its respective Collateral to Agent; and, except for Permitted Encumbrances the Collateral shall be free and clear of all Liens and encumbrances whatsoever; (ii) each document and agreement executed by each Loan Party or delivered to Agent or any Lender in connection with this Agreement shall be true and correct in all respects; (iii) all signatures and endorsements of each Loan Party that appear on such documents and agreements shall be genuine and each Loan Party shall have full capacity to execute same; and (iv) each Loan Party's Equipment and Inventory shall be located as set forth on Schedule 4.5 and shall not be removed from such location(s) without the prior written consent of Agent except with respect to the sale of Inventory in the Ordinary Course of Business.
- (b) (i) There is no location at which any Loan Party has any Inventory (except for Inventory in transit) other than those locations listed on Schedule 4.5; (ii) Schedule 4.5 hereto contains a correct and complete list, as of the Closing Date, of the legal names and addresses of each warehouse at which Inventory of any Loan Party is stored; none of the receipts received by any Loan Party from any warehouse states that the goods covered thereby are to be delivered to bearer or to the order of a named Person or to a named Person and such named Person's assigns; (iii) Schedule 4.5 hereto sets forth a correct and complete list as of the Closing Date of (A) each place of business of each Loan Party and (B) the chief executive

office of each Loan Party; and (iv) Schedule 4.5 hereto sets forth a correct and complete list as of the Closing Date of the location, by state and street address, of all Real Property owned or leased by each Loan Party, together with the names and addresses of any landlords.

- Defense of Agent's and Lenders' Interests. Until (a) payment and performance in full of all of the Obligations and (b) termination of this Agreement, Agent's interests in the Collateral shall continue in full force and effect. During such period no Loan Party shall. without Agent's prior written consent, pledge, sell (except Inventory in the Ordinary Course of Business), assign, transfer, create or suffer to exist a Lien upon or encumber or allow or suffer to be encumbered in any way except for Permitted Encumbrances, any part of the Collateral. Each Loan Party shall defend Agent's interests in the Collateral against any and all Persons whatsoever. At any time following demand by Agent for payment of all Obligations, Agent shall have the right to take possession of the indicia of the Collateral and the Collateral in whatever physical form contained, including: labels, stationery, documents, instruments and advertising materials. If Agent exercises this right to take possession of the Collateral, Loan Parties shall. upon demand, assemble it in the best manner possible and make it available to Agent at a place reasonably convenient to Agent. In addition, with respect to all Collateral, Agent and Lenders shall be entitled to all of the rights and remedies set forth herein and further provided by the Uniform Commercial Code or other Applicable Law. Each Loan Party shall, and Agent may, at its option, instruct all suppliers, carriers, forwarders, warehousers or others receiving or holding cash, checks, Inventory, documents or instruments in which Agent holds a security interest to deliver same to Agent and/or subject to Agent's order and if they shall come into any Loan Party's possession, they, and each of them, shall be held by such Loan Party in trust as Agent's trustee, and such Loan Party will immediately deliver them to Agent in their original form together with any necessary endorsement.
- 4.7. Books and Records. Each Loan Party shall (a) keep proper books of record and account in which full, true and correct entries will be made of all dealings or transactions of or in relation to its business and affairs; (b) set up on its books accruals with respect to all taxes, assessments, charges, levies and claims; and (c) on a reasonably current basis set up on its books, from its earnings, allowances against doubtful Receivables, advances and investments and all other proper accruals (including by reason of enumeration, accruals for premiums, if any, due on required payments and accruals for depreciation, obsolescence, or amortization of properties), which should be set aside from such earnings in connection with its business. All determinations pursuant to this subsection shall be made in accordance with, or as required by, GAAP consistently applied in the opinion of such independent public accountant as shall then be regularly engaged by Loan Parties.
- 4.8. Financial Disclosure. Each Loan Party hereby irrevocably authorizes and directs all accountants and auditors employed by such Loan Party at any time during the Term to exhibit and deliver to Agent and each Lender copies of any of such Loan Party's financial statements, trial balances or other accounting records of any sort in the accountant's or auditor's possession, and to disclose to Agent and each Lender any information such accountants may have concerning such Loan Party's financial status and business operations. Each Loan Party hereby authorizes all Governmental Bodies to furnish to Agent and each Lender copies of reports or examinations relating to such Loan Party, whether made by such Loan Party or otherwise; however, Agent and each Lender will attempt to obtain such information or materials directly

from such Loan Party prior to obtaining such information or materials from such accountants or Governmental Bodies.

- 4.9. Compliance with Laws. Each Loan Party shall comply with all Applicable Laws with respect to the Collateral or any part thereof or to the operation of such Loan Party's business the non-compliance with which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. The assets of Loan Parties at all times shall be maintained in accordance with the requirements of all insurance carriers which provide insurance with respect to the assets of Loan Parties so that such insurance shall remain in full force and effect.
- 4.10. <u>Inspection of Premises</u>. At all reasonable times Agent and each Lender shall have full access to and the right to audit, check, inspect and make abstracts and copies from each Loan Party's books, records, audits, correspondence and all other papers relating to the Collateral and the operation of each Loan Party's business. Agent, any Lender and their agents may enter upon any premises of any Loan Party at any time during business hours and at any other reasonable time, and from time to time, for the purpose of inspecting the Collateral and any and all records pertaining thereto and the operation of such Loan Party's business. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, (i) prior to the occurrence of an Event of Default that is continuing, (1) the Agent shall (y) give the applicable Loan Party at least one day's prior notice before so entering such Loan Party's premises to do any of the foregoing and (z) conduct such field examinations, audits, inspections and appraisals no more frequently than four times per fiscal year and (2) the Borrower shall be responsible for paying for all such field examinations, audits, inspections and appraisals, and (ii) after the occurrence of an Event of Default that is continuing, (1) the Agent (y) shall not be obligated to give the applicable Loan Party any prior notice that it intends to enter such Loan Party's premises to do any of the foregoing and (z) may conduct field examinations, audits, inspections and appraisals at any time and from time to time and (2) the Borrower shall be responsible for paying for all such field examination, audits, inspections and appraisals.
- 4.11. <u>Insurance</u>. The assets and properties of each Loan Party at all times shall be maintained in accordance with the requirements of all insurance carriers which provide insurance with respect to the assets and properties of such Loan Party so that such insurance shall remain in full force and effect. Each Loan Party shall bear the full risk of any loss of any nature whatsoever with respect to the Collateral. At each Loan Party's own cost and expense in amounts and with carriers acceptable to Agent, each Loan Party shall (a) keep all its insurable properties and properties in which such Loan Party has an interest insured against the hazards of fire, flood, sprinkler leakage, those hazards covered by extended coverage insurance and such other hazards, and for such amounts, as is customary in the case of companies engaged in businesses similar to such Loan Party's including business interruption insurance; (b) maintain a bond in such amounts as is customary in the case of companies engaged in businesses similar to such Loan Party insuring against larceny, embezzlement or other criminal misappropriation of insured's officers and employees who may either singly or jointly with others at any time have access to the assets or funds of such Loan Party either directly or through authority to draw upon such funds or to direct generally the disposition of such assets; (c) maintain public and product liability insurance against claims for personal injury, death or property damage suffered by others; (d) maintain all such worker's compensation or similar insurance as may be required under the laws of any state or jurisdiction in which such Loan Party is engaged in business; and

- (e) furnish Agent with (i) copies of all policies and evidence of the maintenance of such policies by the renewal thereof at least thirty (30) days before any expiration date, and (ii) appropriate loss payable endorsements in form and substance satisfactory to Agent, naming Agent as a coinsured and loss payee as its interests may appear with respect to all insurance coverage referred to in clauses (a) and (c) above, and providing (A) that all proceeds thereunder shall be payable to Agent, (B) no such insurance shall be affected by any act or neglect of the insured or owner of the property described in such policy, and (C) that such policy and loss payable clauses may not be cancelled, amended or terminated unless at least thirty (30) days' prior written notice is given to Agent. In the event of any loss thereunder, the carriers named therein hereby are directed by Agent and the applicable Loan Party to make payment for such loss to Agent and not to such Loan Party and Agent jointly. If any insurance losses are paid by check, draft or other instrument payable to any Loan Party and Agent jointly, Agent may endorse such Loan Party's name thereon and do such other things as Agent may deem advisable to reduce the same to cash. Agent is hereby authorized to adjust and compromise claims under insurance coverage referred to in clauses (a) and (b) above. All loss recoveries received by Agent upon any such insurance may be applied to the Obligations, in such order as Agent in its sole discretion shall determine. Any surplus shall be paid by Agent to Loan Parties or applied as may be otherwise required by law. Any deficiency thereon shall be paid by Loan Parties to Agent, on demand.
- 4.12. Failure to Pay Insurance. If any Loan Party fails to obtain insurance as hereinabove provided, or to keep the same in force, Agent, if Agent so elects, may obtain such insurance and pay the premium therefor on behalf of such Loan Party, and charge Borrower's Account therefor as a Revolving Advance of a Domestic Rate Loan and such expenses so paid shall be part of the Obligations.
- 4.13. Payment of Taxes. Each Loan Party will pay, when due, all taxes, assessments and other Charges lawfully levied or assessed upon such Loan Party or any of the Collateral including real and personal property taxes, assessments and charges and all franchise, income, employment, social security benefits, withholding, and sales taxes. If any tax by any Governmental Body is or may be imposed on or as a result of any transaction between any Loan Party and Agent or any Lender which Agent or any Lender may be required to withhold or pay or if any taxes, assessments, or other Charges remain unpaid after the date fixed for their payment, or if any claim shall be made which, in Agent's or any Lender's opinion, may possibly create a valid Lien on the Collateral, Agent may without notice to Loan Parties pay the taxes, assessments or other Charges and each Loan Party hereby indemnifies and holds Agent and each Lender harmless in respect thereof. The amount of any payment by Agent under this Section 4.13 shall be charged to Borrower's Account as a Revolving Advance maintained as a Domestic Rate Loan and added to the Obligations and, until Loan Parties shall furnish Agent with an indemnity therefor (or supply Agent with evidence satisfactory to Agent that due provision for the payment thereof has been made), Agent may hold without interest any balance standing to Loan Parties' credit and Agent shall retain its security interest in and Lien on any and all Collateral held by Agent.
- 4.14. Payment of Leasehold Obligations. Each Loan Party shall at all times pay, when and as due, its rental obligations under all leases under which it is a tenant, and shall otherwise comply, in all material respects, with all other terms of such leases and keep them in full force and effect and, at Agent's request will provide evidence of having done so.

4.15. Receivables.

- (a) Nature of Receivables. Each of the Receivables shall be a bona fide and valid account representing a bona fide indebtedness incurred by the Customer therein named, for a fixed sum as set forth in the invoice relating thereto (provided immaterial or unintentional invoice errors shall not be deemed to be a breach hereof) with respect to an absolute sale or lease and delivery of goods upon stated terms of a Loan Party, or work, labor or services theretofore rendered by a Loan Party as of the date each Receivable is created. Same shall be due and owing in accordance with the applicable Loan Party's standard terms of sale without dispute, setoff or counterclaim except as may be stated on the accounts receivable schedules delivered by Loan Parties to Agent.
- (b) <u>Solvency of Customers</u>. Each Customer, to the best of each Loan Party's knowledge, as of the date each Receivable is created, is and will be solvent and able to pay all Receivables on which the Customer is obligated in full when due or with respect to such Customers of any Loan Party who are not solvent such Loan Party has set up on its books and in its financial records bad debt reserves adequate to cover such Receivables.
- (c) <u>Location of Loan Parties</u>. Each Loan Party's state of organization is as set forth on, and chief executive office is located at those locations set forth on, Schedule 4.15(c) hereto. Until written notice is given to Agent by Borrower of any other office at which any Loan Party keeps its records pertaining to Receivables, all such records shall be kept at such executive office.
- (d) Collection of Receivables. Until any Loan Party's authority to do so is terminated by Agent (which notice Agent may give at any time following the occurrence of an Event of Default or a Default or when Agent in its sole discretion deems it to be in Lenders' best interest to do so), each Loan Party will, at such Loan Party's sole cost and expense, but on Agent's behalf and for Agent's account, collect as Agent's property and in trust for Agent all amounts received on Receivables, and shall not commingle such collections with any Loan Party's funds or use the same except to pay Obligations. Each Loan Party shall deposit in the Blocked Account or, upon request by Agent, deliver to Agent, in original form and on the date of receipt thereof, all checks, drafts, notes, money orders, acceptances, cash and other evidences of Indebtedness.
- (e) Notification of Assignment of Receivables. At any time following the occurrence of an Event of Default or a Default, Agent shall have the right to send notice of the assignment of, and Agent's security interest in and Lien on, the Receivables to any and all Customers or any third party holding or otherwise concerned with any of the Collateral. Thereafter, Agent shall have the sole right to collect the Receivables, take possession of the Collateral, or both. Agent's actual collection expenses, including, but not limited to, stationery and postage, telephone and telegraph, secretarial and clerical expenses and the salaries of any collection personnel used for collection, may be charged to Borrower's Account and added to the Obligations.
- (f) Power of Agent to Act on Loan Parties' Behalf. Agent shall have the right to receive, endorse, assign and/or deliver in the name of Agent or any Loan Party any and all

checks, drafts and other instruments for the payment of money relating to the Receivables, and each Loan Party hereby waives notice of presentment, protest and non-payment of any instrument so endorsed. Each Loan Party hereby constitutes Agent or Agent's designee as such Loan Party's attorney with power at any time after the occurrence of an Event of Default or Default (i) to endorse such Loan Party's name upon any notes, acceptances, checks, drafts. money orders or other evidences of payment or Collateral; (ii) to sign such Loan Party's name on any invoice or bill of lading relating to any of the Receivables, drafts against Customers. assignments and verifications of Receivables; (iii) to send verifications of Receivables to any Customer; (iv) to sign such Loan Party's name on all financing statements or any other documents or instruments deemed necessary or appropriate by Agent to preserve, protect, or perfect Agent's interest in the Collateral and to file same; (v) to demand payment of the Receivables; (vi) to enforce payment of the Receivables by legal proceedings or otherwise; (vii) to exercise all of such Loan Party's rights and remedies with respect to the collection of the Receivables and any other Collateral; (viii) to settle, adjust, compromise, extend or renew the Receivables; (ix) to settle, adjust or compromise any legal proceedings brought to collect Receivables; (x) to prepare, file and sign such Loan Party's name on a proof of claim in bankruptcy or similar document against any Customer; (xi) to prepare, file and sign such Loan Party's name on any notice of Lien, assignment or satisfaction of Lien or similar document in connection with the Receivables; and (xii) to do all other acts and things necessary to carry out this Agreement. All acts of said attorney or designee are hereby ratified and approved, and said attorney or designee shall not be liable for any acts of omission or commission nor for any error of judgment or mistake of fact or of law, unless done maliciously or with gross (not mere) negligence (as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction in a final non-appealable judgment); this power being coupled with an interest is irrevocable while any of the Obligations remain unpaid. Agent shall have the right at any time following the occurrence of an Event of Default or Default, to change the address for delivery of mail addressed to any Loan Party to such address as Agent may designate and to receive, open and dispose of all mail addressed to any Loan Party.

- (g) No Liability. Neither Agent nor any Lender shall, under any circumstances or in any event whatsoever, have any liability for any error or omission or delay of any kind occurring in the settlement, collection or payment of any of the Receivables or any instrument received in payment thereof, or for any damage resulting therefrom. Following the occurrence of an Event of Default or Default Agent may, without notice or consent from any Loan Party, sue upon or otherwise collect, extend the time of payment of, compromise or settle for cash, credit or upon any terms any of the Receivables or any other securities, instruments or insurance applicable thereto and/or release any obligor thereof. Agent is authorized and empowered to accept following the occurrence of an Event of Default or Default the return of the goods represented by any of the Receivables, without notice to or consent by any Loan Party, all without discharging or in any way affecting any Loan Party's liability hereunder.
- (h) Establishment of a Lockbox Account, Dominion Account. All proceeds of Collateral shall be deposited by Loan Parties into either (i) a lockbox account, dominion account or such other "blocked account" ("Blocked Accounts") established at a bank or banks (each such bank, a "Blocked Account Bank") pursuant to an arrangement with such Blocked Account Bank as may be selected by Borrower and be acceptable to Agent or (ii) depository accounts ("Depository Accounts") established at the Agent for the deposit of such proceeds.

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Each applicable Loan Party, Agent and each Blocked Account Bank shall enter into a deposit account control agreement in form and substance satisfactory to Agent directing such Blocked Account Bank to transfer such funds so deposited to Agent, either to any account maintained by Agent at said Blocked Account Bank or by wire transfer to appropriate account(s) of Agent. All funds deposited in such Blocked Accounts shall immediately become the property of Agent and Borrower shall obtain the agreement by such Blocked Account Bank to waive any offset rights against the funds so deposited. Neither Agent nor any Lender assumes any responsibility for such blocked account arrangement, including any claim of accord and satisfaction or release with respect to deposits accepted by any Blocked Account Bank thereunder. All deposit accounts and investment accounts of each Loan Party and its Subsidiaries are set forth on Schedule 4.15(h).

- (i) Adjustments. No Loan Party will, without Agent's consent, compromise or adjust any Receivables (or extend the time for payment thereof) or accept any returns of merchandise or grant any additional discounts, allowances or credits thereon except for those compromises, adjustments, returns, discounts, credits and allowances as have been heretofore customary in the business of such Loan Party.
- 4.16. <u>Inventory</u>. To the extent Inventory held for sale or lease has been produced by any Loan Party, it has been and will be produced by such Loan Party in accordance with the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, and all rules, regulations and orders thereunder.
- 4.17. <u>Maintenance of Equipment</u>. The Equipment shall be maintained in good operating condition and repair (reasonable wear and tear excepted) and all necessary replacements of and repairs thereto shall be made so that the value and operating efficiency of the Equipment shall be maintained and preserved. No Loan Party shall use or operate the Equipment in violation of any law, statute, ordinance, code, rule or regulation.
- 4.18. Exculpation of Liability. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to constitute Agent or any Lender as any Loan Party's agent for any purpose whatsoever, nor shall Agent or any Lender be responsible or liable for any shortage, discrepancy, damage, loss or destruction of any part of the Collateral wherever the same may be located and regardless of the cause thereof. Neither Agent nor any Lender, whether by anything herein or in any assignment or otherwise, assume any of any Loan Party's obligations under any contract or agreement assigned to Agent or such Lender, and neither Agent nor any Lender shall be responsible in any way for the performance by any Loan Party of any of the terms and conditions thereof.

4.19. Environmental Matters.

(a) Loan Parties shall ensure that the Real Property and all operations and businesses conducted thereon remains in compliance with all Environmental Laws and they shall not place or permit to be placed any Hazardous Substances on any Real Property except as permitted by Applicable Law or appropriate governmental authorities.

- (b) Loan Parties shall establish and maintain a system to assure and monitor continued compliance with all applicable Environmental Laws which system shall include periodic reviews of such compliance.
- (c) Loan Parties shall (i) employ in connection with the use of the Real Property appropriate technology necessary to maintain compliance with any applicable Environmental Laws and (ii) dispose of any and all Hazardous Waste generated at the Real Property only at facilities and with carriers that maintain valid permits under RCRA and any other applicable Environmental Laws. Loan Parties shall use their best efforts to obtain certificates of disposal, such as hazardous waste manifest receipts, from all treatment, transport, storage or disposal facilities or operators employed by Loan Parties in connection with the transport or disposal of any Hazardous Waste generated at the Real Property.
- (d) In the event any Loan Party obtains, gives or receives notice of any Release or threat of Release of a reportable quantity of any Hazardous Substances at the Real Property (any such event being hereinafter referred to as a "Hazardous Discharge") or receives any notice of violation, request for information or notification that it is potentially responsible for investigation or cleanup of environmental conditions at the Real Property, demand letter or complaint, order, citation, or other written notice with regard to any Hazardous Discharge or violation of Environmental Laws affecting the Real Property or any Loan Party's interest therein (any of the foregoing is referred to herein as an "Environmental Complaint") from any Person, including any state agency responsible in whole or in part for environmental matters in the state in which the Real Property is located or the United States Environmental Protection Agency (any such person or entity hereinafter the "Authority"), then Borrower shall, within five (5) Business Days, give written notice of same to Agent detailing facts and circumstances of which any Loan Party is aware giving rise to the Hazardous Discharge or Environmental Complaint. Such information is to be provided to allow Agent to protect its security interest in and Lien on the Real Property and the Collateral and is not intended to create nor shall it create any obligation upon Agent or any Lender with respect thereto.
- (e) Borrower shall promptly forward to Agent copies of any request for information, notification of potential liability, demand letter relating to potential responsibility with respect to the investigation or cleanup of Hazardous Substances at any other site owned, operated or used by any Loan Party to dispose of Hazardous Substances and shall continue to forward copies of correspondence between any Loan Party and the Authority regarding such claims to Agent until the claim is settled. Borrower shall promptly forward to Agent copies of all documents and reports concerning a Hazardous Discharge at the Real Property that any Loan Party is required to file under any Environmental Laws. Such information is to be provided solely to allow Agent to protect Agent's security interest in and Lien on the Real Property and the Collateral.
- (f) Loan Parties shall respond promptly to any Hazardous Discharge or Environmental Complaint and take all necessary action in order to safeguard the health of any Person and to avoid subjecting the Collateral or Real Property to any Lien. If any Loan Party shall fail to respond promptly to any Hazardous Discharge or Environmental Complaint or any Loan Party shall fail to comply with any of the requirements of any Environmental Laws, Agent on behalf of Lenders may, but without the obligation to do so, for the sole purpose of

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protecting Agent's interest in the Collateral: (A) give such notices or (B) enter onto the Real Property (or authorize third parties to enter onto the Real Property) and take such actions as Agent (or such third parties as directed by Agent) deem reasonably necessary or advisable, to clean up, remove, mitigate or otherwise deal with any such Hazardous Discharge or Environmental Complaint. All reasonable costs and expenses incurred by Agent and Lenders (or such third parties) in the exercise of any such rights, including any sums paid in connection with any judicial or administrative investigation or proceedings, fines and penalties, together with interest thereon from the date expended at the Default Rate for Domestic Rate Loans constituting Revolving Advances shall be paid upon demand by Borrower, and until paid shall be added to and become a part of the Obligations secured by the Liens created by the terms of this Agreement or any other agreement between Agent, any Lender and any Loan Party.

- (g) Promptly upon the written request of Agent after the occurrence of an Event of Default or a Default, Loan Parties shall provide Agent, at Loan Parties' expense, with an environmental site assessment or environmental audit report prepared by an environmental engineering firm acceptable in the reasonable opinion of Agent, to assess with a reasonable degree of certainty the existence of a Hazardous Discharge and the potential costs in connection with abatement, cleanup and removal of any Hazardous Substances found on, under, at or within the Real Property. Any report or investigation of such Hazardous Discharge proposed and acceptable to an appropriate Authority that is charged to oversee the clean-up of such Hazardous Discharge shall be acceptable to Agent. If such estimates, individually or in the aggregate, exceed \$100,000, Agent shall have the right to require Loan Parties to post a bond, letter of credit or other security reasonably satisfactory to Agent to secure payment of these costs and expenses.
- (h) Loan Parties shall defend and indemnify Agent and Lenders and hold Agent, Lenders and their respective employees, agents, directors and officers harmless from and against all loss, liability, damage and expense, claims, costs, fines and penalties, including attorney's fees, suffered or incurred by Agent or Lenders under or on account of any Environmental Laws, including the assertion of any Lien thereunder, with respect to any Hazardous Discharge, the presence of any Hazardous Substances affecting the Real Property, whether or not the same originates or emerges from the Real Property or any contiguous real estate, including any loss of value of the Real Property as a result of the foregoing except to the extent such loss, liability, damage and expense is attributable to any Hazardous Discharge resulting from actions on the part of Agent or any Lender. Loan Parties' obligations under this Section 4.19 shall arise upon the discovery of the presence of any Hazardous Substances at the Real Property, whether or not any federal, state, or local environmental agency has taken or threatened any action in connection with the presence of any Hazardous Substances. Loan Parties' obligation and the indemnifications hereunder shall survive the termination of this Agreement.
- (i) For purposes of Section 4.19 and 5.7, all references to Real Property shall be deemed to include all of each Loan Party's right, title and interest in and to its owned and leased premises.

4.20. <u>Financing Statements</u>. Except as respects the financing statements filed by Agent and the financing statements described on Schedule 1.2, no financing statement covering any of the Collateral or any proceeds thereof is on file in any public office.

V. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

Each Loan Party represents and warrants as follows:

Authority. Each Loan Party has full power, authority and legal right to enter into this Agreement and the Other Documents and to perform all its respective Obligations hereunder and thereunder. This Agreement, the Subordination Agreement and the Other Documents have been duly executed and delivered by each Loan Party, and this Agreement, the Subordination Agreement and the Other Documents constitute the legal, valid and binding obligation of such Loan Party enforceable in accordance with their terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, moratorium or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and of the Other Documents (a) are within such Loan Party's corporate powers, have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action, are not in contravention of law or the terms of such Loan Party's by-laws, certificate of incorporation or other applicable documents relating to such Loan Party's formation or to the conduct of such Loan Party's business or of any material agreement or undertaking to which such Loan Party is a party or by which such Loan Party is bound. (b) will not conflict with or violate any law or regulation, or any judgment, order or decree of any Governmental Body, (c) will not require the Consent of any Governmental Body or any other Person, except those Consents set forth on Schedule 5.1 hereto, all of which will have been duly obtained, made or compiled prior to the Closing Date and which are in full force and effect and (d) will not conflict with, nor result in any breach in any of the provisions of or constitute a default under or result in the creation of any Lien except Permitted Encumbrances upon any asset of such Loan Party under the provisions of any agreement, charter document, instrument, by-law or other instrument to which such Loan Party is a party or by which it or its property is a party or by which it may be bound.

5.2. Formation and Qualification.

- (a) Each Loan Party is duly incorporated and in good standing under the laws of the state listed on Schedule 5.2(a) and is qualified to do business and is in good standing in the states listed on Schedule 5.2(a) which constitute all states in which qualification and good standing are necessary for such Loan Party to conduct its business and own its property and where the failure to so qualify could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect on such Loan Party. Each Loan Party has delivered to Agent true and complete copies of its certificate of incorporation and by-laws and will promptly notify Agent of any amendment or changes thereto.
 - (b) The only Subsidiaries of each Loan Party are listed on Schedule 5.2(b).
- 5.3. Survival of Representations and Warranties. All representations and warranties of such Loan Party contained in this Agreement and the Other Documents shall be true at the time of such Loan Party's execution of this Agreement and the Other Documents, and shall survive

the execution, delivery and acceptance thereof by the parties thereto and the closing of the transactions described therein or related thereto.

5.4. Tax Returns. Each Loan Party's federal tax identification number is set forth on Schedule 5.4. Each Loan Party has filed all federal, state and local tax returns and other reports each is required by law to file and has paid all taxes, assessments, fees and other governmental charges that are due and payable. Federal, state and local income tax returns of each Loan Party have been examined and reported upon by the appropriate taxing authority or closed by applicable statute and satisfied for all fiscal years prior to and including the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009. The provision for taxes on the books of each Loan Party is adequate for all years not closed by applicable statutes, and for its current fiscal year, and no Loan Party has any knowledge of any deficiency or additional assessment in connection therewith not provided for on its books.

5.5. Financial Statements.

- (a) The twelve-month cash flow projections of Borrower on a Consolidated Basis and their projected balance sheets as of the Closing Date, copies of which are annexed hereto as Exhibit 5.5(b) (the "Projections") were prepared by the Chief Financial Officer of Borrower, are based on underlying assumptions which provide a reasonable basis for the projections contained therein and reflect Loan Parties' judgment based on present circumstances of the most likely set of conditions and course of action for the projected period.
- (b) The consolidated and consolidating balance sheets of Loan Parties, their Subsidiaries and such other Persons described therein (including the accounts of all Subsidiaries for the respective periods during which a subsidiary relationship existed) as of December 31, 2009, and the related statements of income, changes in stockholder's equity, and changes in cash flow for the period ended on such date, all accompanied by reports thereon containing opinions without qualification by independent certified public accountants, copies of which have been delivered to Agent, have been prepared in accordance with GAAP, consistently applied (except for changes in application in which such accountants concur and present fairly the financial position of Loan Parties and their Subsidiaries at such date and the results of their operations for such period. Since December 31, 2009, there has been no change in the condition, financial or otherwise, of Loan Parties or their Subsidiaries as shown on the consolidated balance sheet as of such date and no change in the aggregate value of machinery, equipment and Real Property owned by Loan Parties and their respective Subsidiaries, except changes in the Ordinary Course of Business, none of which individually or in the aggregate has been materially adverse.
- 5.6. Entity Names. No Loan Party has been known by any other corporate name in the past five years and does not sell Inventory under any other name except as set forth on Schedule 5.6, nor has any Loan Party been the surviving company of a merger or consolidation or acquired all or substantially all of the assets of any Person during the preceding five (5) years.

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5.7. O.S.H.A. and Environmental Compliance.

- (a) Each Loan Party has duly complied with, and its facilities, business, assets, property, leaseholds, Real Property and Equipment are in compliance in all material respects with, the provisions of the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Environmental Protection Act, RCRA and all other Environmental Laws; there have been no outstanding citations, notices or orders of non-compliance issued to any Loan Party or relating to its business, assets, property, leaseholds or Equipment under any such laws, rules or regulations.
- (b) Each Loan Party has been issued all required federal, state and local licenses, certificates or permits relating to all applicable Environmental Laws.
- (c) (i) There are no releases, spills, discharges, leaks or disposal (collectively referred to as "Releases") of Hazardous Substances at, upon, under or within any Real Property or any premises leased by any Loan Party (ii) there are no underground storage tanks or polychlorinated biphenyls on the Real Property or any premises leased by any Loan Party; (iii) neither the Real Property nor any premises leased by any Loan Party has ever been used as a treatment, storage or disposal facility of Hazardous Waste; and (iv) no Hazardous Substances are present on the Real Property or any premises leased by any Loan Party.

5.8. Solvency; No Litigation, Violation, Indebtedness or Default.

- (a) Each Loan Party is solvent, able to pay its debts as they mature, has capital sufficient to carry on its business and all businesses in which it is about to engage, and (i) as of the Closing Date, the fair present saleable value of its assets, calculated on a going concern basis, is in excess of the amount of its liabilities and (ii) subsequent to the Closing Date, the fair saleable value of its assets (calculated on a going concern basis) will be in excess of the amount of its liabilities.
- (b) Except as disclosed in Schedule 5.8(b), no Loan Party has (i) any pending or threatened litigation, arbitration, actions or proceedings which involve the possibility of having a Material Adverse Effect, or (ii) any liabilities or indebtedness for borrowed money other than the Obligations.
- (c) No Loan Party is in violation of any applicable statute, law, rule, regulation or ordinance in any respect which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect, nor is any Loan Party in violation of any order of any court, Governmental Body or arbitration board or tribunal.
- (d) No Loan Party nor any member of the Controlled Group maintains or contributes to any Plan other than (i) as of the Closing Date, those listed on Schedule 5.8(d) hereto and (ii) thereafter, as permitted under this Agreement. (i) No Plan has incurred any "accumulated funding deficiency," as defined in Section 302(a)(2) of ERISA and Section 412(a) of the Code, whether or not waived, and each Loan Party and each member of the Controlled Group has met all applicable minimum funding requirements under Section 302 of ERISA in respect of each Plan; (ii) each Plan which is intended to be a qualified plan under Section 401(a) of the Code as currently in effect has been determined by the Internal Revenue

Service to be qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code and the trust related thereto is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(a) of the Code; (iii) neither any Loan Party nor any member of the Controlled Group has incurred any liability to the PBGC other than for the payment of premiums, and there are no premium payments which have become due which are unpaid; (iv) no Plan has been terminated by the plan administrator thereof nor by the PBGC, and there is no occurrence which would cause the PBGC to institute proceedings under Title IV of ERISA to terminate any Plan; (v) at this time, the current value of the assets of each Plan exceeds the present value of the accrued benefits and other liabilities of such Plan and neither any Loan Party nor any member of the Controlled Group knows of any facts or circumstances which would materially change the value of such assets and accrued benefits and other liabilities and could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; (vi) neither any Loan Party nor any member of the Controlled Group has breached any of the responsibilities, obligations or duties imposed on it by ERISA with respect to any Plan; (vii) neither any Loan Party nor any member of a Controlled Group has incurred any liability for any excise tax arising under Section 4972 or 4980B of the Code, and no fact exists which could give rise to any such liability; (viii) neither any Loan Party nor any member of the Controlled Group nor any fiduciary of, nor any trustee to, any Plan, has engaged in a "prohibited transaction" described in Section 406 of the ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code nor taken any action which would constitute or result in a Termination Event with respect to any such Plan which is subject to ERISA; (ix) each Loan Party and each member of the Controlled Group has made all contributions due and payable with respect to each Plan; (x) there exists no event described in Section 4043(b) of ERISA, for which the thirty (30) day notice period has not been waived: (xi) neither any Loan Party nor any member of the Controlled Group has any fiduciary responsibility for investments with respect to any plan existing for the benefit of persons other than employees or former employees of any Loan Party and any member of the Controlled Group; (xii) neither any Loan Party nor any member of the Controlled Group maintains or contributes to any Plan which provides health, accident or life insurance benefits to former employees, their spouses or dependents, other than in accordance with Section 4980B of the Code; (xiii) neither any Loan Party nor any member of the Controlled Group has withdrawn, completely or partially, from any Multiemployer Plan so as to incur liability under the Multiemployer Pension Plan Amendments Act of 1980 and there exists no fact which would reasonably be expected to result in any such liability; and (xiv) no Plan fiduciary (as defined in Section 3(21) of ERISA) has any liability for breach of fiduciary duty or for any failure in connection with the administration or investment of the assets of a Plan.

5.9. Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights and Licenses. All patents, patent applications, trademarks, trademark applications, service marks, service mark applications, copyrights, copyright applications, design rights, tradenames, assumed names, trade secrets and licenses owned or utilized by any Loan Party are set forth on Schedule 5.9, are valid and have been duly registered or filed with all appropriate Governmental Bodies and constitute all of the intellectual property rights which are necessary for the operation of its business; there is no objection to or pending challenge to the validity of any such patent, trademark, copyright, design rights, tradename, trade secret or license and no Loan Party is aware of any grounds for any challenge, except as set forth in Schedule 5.9 hereto. Each patent, patent application, patent license, trademark, trademark application, trademark license, service mark, service mark application, service mark license, design rights, copyright, copyright application and copyright license owned or held by any Loan Party and all trade secrets used by any Loan Party consist of original

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material or property developed by such Loan Party or was lawfully acquired by such Loan Party from the proper and lawful owner thereof. Each of such items has been maintained so as to preserve the value thereof from the date of creation or acquisition thereof. With respect to all software used by any Loan Party, such Loan Party is in possession of all source and object codes related to each piece of software or is the beneficiary of a source code escrow agreement, each such source code escrow agreement being listed on Schedule 5.9 hereto.

- 5.10. Licenses and Permits. Except as set forth in Schedule 5.10, each Loan Party (a) is in compliance with and (b) has procured and is now in possession of, all material licenses or permits required by any applicable federal, state, provincial or local law, rule or regulation for the operation of its business in each jurisdiction wherein it is now conducting or proposes to conduct business and where the failure to procure such licenses or permits could have a Material Adverse Effect.
- 5.11. <u>Default of Indebtedness</u>. No Loan Party is in default in the payment of the principal of or interest on any Indebtedness or under any instrument or agreement under or subject to which any Indebtedness has been issued and no event has occurred under the provisions of any such instrument or agreement which with or without the lapse of time or the giving of notice, or both, constitutes or would constitute an event of default thereunder.
- 5.12. No Default. No Loan Party is in default in the payment or performance of any of its contractual obligations and no Default or Event of Default has occurred.
- 5.13. No Burdensome Restrictions. No Loan Party is party to any contract or agreement the performance of which could have a Material Adverse Effect. Each Loan Party has heretofore delivered to Agent true and complete copies of all material contracts to which it is a party or to which it or any of its properties is subject. No Loan Party has agreed or consented to cause or permit in the future (upon the happening of a contingency or otherwise) any of its property, whether now owned or hereafter acquired, to be subject to a Lien which is not a Permitted Encumbrance.
- 5.14. No Labor Disputes. No Loan Party is involved in any labor dispute; there are no strikes or walkouts or union organization of any Loan Party's employees threatened or in existence and no labor contract is scheduled to expire during the Term other than as set forth on Schedule 5.14 hereto.
- 5.15. Margin Regulations. No Loan Party is engaged, nor will it engage, principally or as one of its important activities, in the business of extending credit for the purpose of "purchasing" or "carrying" any "margin stock" within the respective meanings of each of the quoted terms under Regulation U of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System as now and from time to time hereafter in effect. No part of the proceeds of any Advance will be used for "purchasing" or "carrying" "margin stock" as defined in Regulation U of such Board of Governors.
- 5.16. <u>Investment Company Act</u>. No Loan Party is an "investment company" registered or required to be registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, nor is it controlled by such a company.

5.17. <u>Disclosure</u>. No representation or warranty made by any Loan Party in this Agreement, or in any financial statement, report, certificate or any other document furnished in connection herewith or therewith contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state any material fact necessary to make the statements herein or therein not misleading. There is no fact known to any Loan Party or which reasonably should be known to such Loan Party which such Loan Party has not disclosed to Agent in writing with respect to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

5.18. [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]

- 5.19. Swaps. No Loan Party is a party to, nor will it be a party to, any swap agreement whereby such Loan Party has agreed or will agree to swap interest rates or currencies unless same provides that damages upon termination following an event of default thereunder are payable on an unlimited "two-way basis" without regard to fault on the part of either party.
- 5.20. Conflicting Agreements. No provision of any mortgage, indenture, contract, agreement, judgment, decree or order binding on any Loan Party or affecting the Collateral conflicts with, or requires any Consent which has not already been obtained to, or would in any way prevent the execution, delivery or performance of, the terms of this Agreement or the Other Documents.
- 5.21. Application of Certain Laws and Regulations. Neither any Loan Party nor any Affiliate of any Loan Party is subject to any law, statute, rule or regulation which regulates the incurrence of any Indebtedness, including laws, statutes, rules or regulations relative to common or interstate carriers or to the sale of electricity, gas, steam, water, telephone, telegraph or other public utility services.
- 5.22. Business and Property of Loan Parties. Upon and after the Closing Date, Loan Parties do not propose to engage in any business other than as set forth on Schedule 5.22 hereto and activities necessary to conduct the foregoing. On the Closing Date, each Loan Party will own all the property and possess all of the rights and Consents necessary for the conduct of the business of such Loan Party.
- 5.23. Section 20 Subsidiaries. Loan Parties do not intend to use and shall not use any portion of the proceeds of the Advances, directly or indirectly, to purchase during the underwriting period, or for 30 days thereafter, Ineligible Securities being underwritten by a Section 20 Subsidiary.

5.24. Anti-Terrorism Laws.

- (a) General. Neither any Loan Party nor any Affiliate of any Loan Party is in violation of any Anti-Terrorism Law or engages in or conspires to engage in any transaction that evades or avoids, or has the purpose of evading or avoiding, or attempts to violate, any of the prohibitions set forth in any Anti-Terrorism Law.
- (b) Executive Order No. 13224. Neither any Loan Party nor any Affiliate of any Loan Party or their respective agents acting or benefiting in any capacity in connection

with the Advances or other transactions hereunder, is any of the following (each a "Blocked Person"):

- (i) a Person that is listed in the annex to, or is otherwise subject to the provisions of, the Executive Order No. 13224;
- (ii) a Person owned or controlled by, or acting for or on behalf of, any Person that is listed in the annex to, or is otherwise subject to the provisions of, the Executive Order No. 13224;
- (iii) a Person or entity with which any Lender is prohibited from dealing or otherwise engaging in any transaction by any Anti-Terrorism Law;
- (iv) a Person or entity that commits, threatens or conspires to commit or supports "terrorism" as defined in the Executive Order No. 13224;
- (v) a Person or entity that is named as a "specially designated national" on the most current list published by the U.S. Treasury Department Office of Foreign Asset Control at its official website or any replacement website or other replacement official publication of such list, or
- (vi) a Person or entity who is affiliated or associated with a Person or entity listed above.

Neither any Loan Party nor to the knowledge of any Loan Party, any of its agents acting in any capacity in connection with the Advances or other transactions hereunder (i) conducts any business or engages in making or receiving any contribution of funds, goods or services to or for the benefit of any Blocked Person, or (ii) deals in, or otherwise engages in any transaction relating to, any property or interests in property blocked pursuant to the Executive Order No. 13224.

- 5.25. <u>Trading with the Enemy</u>. No Loan Party has engaged, nor does it intend to engage, in any business or activity prohibited by the Trading with the Enemy Act.
- 5.26. Federal Securities Laws. Neither any Loan Party nor any of its Subsidiaries (i) is required to file periodic reports under the Exchange Act, (ii) has any securities registered under the Exchange Act or (iii) has filed a registration statement that has not yet become effective under the Securities Act.
- 5.27. Common Enterprise. The successful operation and condition of each of the Loan Parties is dependent on the continued successful performance of the functions of the group of the Loan Parties as a whole, and the successful operation of each of the Loan Parties is dependent on the successful performance and operation of each other Loan Party. Each Loan Party expects to derive benefit (and its board of directors or other governing body has determined that it may reasonably be expected to derive benefit), directly and indirectly, from (i) successful operations of each of the other Loan Parties and (ii) the credit extended by the Lenders to the Loan Parties hereunder, both in their separate capacities and as members of the group of companies. Each Loan Party has determined that execution, delivery, and performance of this Agreement and any

Other Documents to be executed by such Loan Party is within its purpose, will be of direct and indirect benefit to such Loan Party, and is in its best interest.

VI. AFFIRMATIVE COVENANTS.

Each Loan Party shall, until payment in full of the Obligations and termination of this Agreement:

- 6.1. Payment of Fees. Pay to Agent on demand all usual and customary fees and expenses which Agent incurs in connection with (a) the forwarding of Advance proceeds and (b) the establishment and maintenance of any Blocked Accounts or Depository Accounts as provided for in Section 4.15(h). Agent may, without making demand, charge Borrower's Account for all such fees and expenses.
- 6.2. Conduct of Business and Maintenance of Existence and Assets. (a) Conduct continuously and operate actively its business according to good business practices and maintain all of its properties useful or necessary in its business in good working order and condition (reasonable wear and tear excepted and except as may be disposed of in accordance with the terms of this Agreement), including all licenses, patents, copyrights, design rights, tradenames, trade secrets and trademarks and take all actions necessary to enforce and protect the validity of any intellectual property right or other right included in the Collateral; (b) keep in full force and effect its existence and comply in all material respects with the laws and regulations governing the conduct of its business where the failure to do so could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; and (c) make all such reports and pay all such franchise and other taxes and license fees and do all such other acts and things as may be lawfully required to maintain its rights, licenses, leases, powers and franchises under the laws of the United States or any political subdivision thereof.
- 6.3. <u>Violations</u>. Promptly notify Agent in writing of any violation of any law, statute, regulation or ordinance of any Governmental Body, or of any agency thereof, applicable to any Loan Party which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.
- 6.4. Government Receivables. Take all steps necessary to protect Agent's interest in the Collateral under the Federal Assignment of Claims Act, the Uniform Commercial Code and all other applicable state or local statutes or ordinances and deliver to Agent appropriately endorsed, any instrument or chattel paper connected with any Receivable arising out of contracts between any Loan Party and the United States, any state or any department, agency or instrumentality of any of them.
- 6.5. <u>Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio</u>. Cause to be maintained as of the end of each fiscal quarter, a Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio (for the Borrower and its consolidated Subsidiaries) of not less than 1.10 to 1.0, calculated for the four (4) fiscal quarter period then ending.
- 6.6. Execution of Supplemental Instruments. Execute and deliver to Agent from time to time, upon demand, such supplemental agreements, statements, assignments and transfers, or instructions or documents relating to the Collateral, and such other instruments as Agent may request, in order that the full intent of this Agreement may be carried into effect.

- 6.7. Payment of Indebtedness. Pay, discharge or otherwise satisfy at or before maturity (subject, where applicable, to specified grace periods and, in the case of the trade payables, to normal payment practices) all its obligations and liabilities of whatever nature, except when the failure to do so could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect or when the amount or validity thereof is currently being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings and each Loan Party shall have provided for such reserves as Agent may reasonably deem proper and necessary, subject at all times to any applicable subordination arrangement in favor of Lenders.
- 6.8. Standards of Financial Statements. Cause all financial statements referred to in Sections 9.7, 9.8, 9.9, 9.10, 9.11, 9.12 and 9.13 as to which GAAP is applicable to be complete and correct in all material respects (subject, in the case of interim financial statements, to normal year-end audit adjustments) and to be prepared in reasonable detail and in accordance with GAAP applied consistently throughout the periods reflected therein (except as concurred in by such reporting accountants or officer, as the case may be, and disclosed therein).
- 6.9. Federal Securities Laws. Promptly notify Agent in writing if any Loan Party or any of its Subsidiaries (i) is required to file periodic reports under the Exchange Act, (ii) registers any securities under the Exchange Act or (iii) files a registration statement under the Securities Act.
- 6.10. Minimum Undrawn Availability. The Borrower shall not permit the Undrawn Availability of the Borrower at any time to be less than \$1,000,000.
- 6.11. Delivery of Receivable Sale Documents. Prior to the sale of any Receivable expressly permitted pursuant to the terms of Section 7.1(b), the Loan Parties shall deliver a true and complete copy of the documents, by which such sale to the applicable Local Distribution Company is to be consummated, including a executed purchase agreement or similar document and any UCC Financing Statement permitted to be filed pursuant to Section 7.2. Such documents shall in form and substance satisfactory to the Agent and shall not be modified or amended without the prior written consent of the Agent.

VII. NEGATIVE COVENANTS.

No Loan Party shall, until satisfaction in full of the Obligations and termination of this Agreement:

7.1. Merger, Consolidation, Acquisition and Sale of Assets.

- (a) Enter into any merger, consolidation or other reorganization with or into any other Person or acquire all or a substantial portion of the assets or Equity Interests of any Person or permit any other Person to consolidate with or merge with it.
- (b) Sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of any of its properties or assets, except dispositions of Inventory to the extent expressly permitted by Section 4.3; provided, however, that a Loan Party may sell a Receivable to the applicable Local Distribution Company which participated in the delivery of Gas to such Loan Party's customers which gave rise to such Receivable, but only to the extent that the applicable Local Distribution Company

makes a cash payment for one hundred percent (100%) of the value of such Receivable (with the exception for Columbia of Kentucky, which shall be no less than ninety-seven percent (97%) of the value of such Receivable) directly into the Cash Concentration Account on the same day as the sale thereof is consummated and the transfer occurs (with the exception of cash payments from Columbia Gas of Ohio which must be received in the Cash Concentration Account by the 3rd business day following the 20th day of each calendar month in which it purchases a Receivable).

- 7.2. Creation of Liens. Create or suffer to exist any Lien or transfer upon or against any of its property or assets now owned or hereafter acquired, except (i) Permitted Encumbrances, (ii) the mortgage in favor of PNC Bank, National Association securing the Indebtedness permitted by Section 7.8(v) of this Agreement and which mortgage shall secure only and be limited to the improvements constructed with the proceeds of such Indebtedness, and (iii) security interests necessary to effect the transfer of any Receivable expressly permitted pursuant to the terms of Section 7.1(b) so long as such security interest only relates to sales of such Receivable and such security interest does not secure any obligation or other liability of the Loan Parties owing to any Local Distribution Company or any other Person.
- 7.3. Guarantees. Become liable upon the obligations or liabilities of any Person by assumption, endorsement or guaranty thereof or otherwise (other than to Lenders or the Issuer) except (a) as disclosed on Schedule 7.3, and (b) the endorsement of checks in the Ordinary Course of Business.
- 7.4. <u>Investments</u>. Purchase or acquire obligations or Equity Interests of, or any other interest in, any Person.
- 7.5. Loans. Make advances, loans or extensions of credit to any Person, including any Parent, Subsidiary or Affiliate except with respect to the extension of commercial trade credit in connection with the sale of Inventory in the Ordinary Course of Business.
- 7.6. <u>Capital Expenditures</u>. Contract for, purchase or make any expenditure or commitments for Capital Expenditures in any fiscal year in an aggregate amount for all Loan Parties in excess of \$300,000.
- 7.7. Dividends. Declare, pay or make any dividend or distribution on any shares of the common stock or preferred stock of any Loan Party (other than dividends or distributions payable in its stock, or split-ups or reclassifications of its stock) or apply any of its funds, property or assets to the purchase, redemption or other retirement of any common or preferred stock, or of any options to purchase or acquire any such shares of common or preferred stock of any Loan Party; provided, however, that (a) with respect to any Loan Party, distributions may be made by any such Loan Party which has elected to be taxed in accordance with Subchapter S and any comparable state tax laws to its respective shareholders in an amount necessary for the payment of the federal and state income tax obligations on account of the attribution of each such Loan Party's income to such shareholders by reason of such Loan Party being a Subchapter S corporation in each case determined by reference to the shareholder who has the highest combined marginal rate for income tax purposes ("Income Tax Distributions") provided the Borrower shall cause any excess distribution to be returned to the Borrower; (b) on or prior to

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December 31, 2010, the Borrower may declare and pay a one-time dividend in an aggregate amount not to exceed One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000), but only so long as both immediately before and after giving effect thereto, no Default or Event of Default shall exist; (c) with respect to the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years of the Borrower, in addition to any Income Tax Distributions the Borrower may declare and pay an annual dividend for each such year in an aggregate amount equal to the lesser of (i) twenty-five percent (25%) of the Net Income of the Loan Parties for such fiscal year (based upon the financial statements required to be delivered under Section 9.7 hereof for such fiscal year) or (ii) One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000), but only so long as both immediately before and after giving effect thereto. (v) no Default or Event of Default shall exist and (z) the Borrower shall have Undrawn Availability of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000); and (d) with respect to the 2013 fiscal year of the Borrower, in addition to any Income Tax Distributions the Borrower may declare and pay an annual dividend for such year in an aggregate amount equal to twentyfive percent (25%) of the Net Income of the Loan Parties for such fiscal year (based upon the financial statements required to be delivered under Section 9.7 hereof for such fiscal year), but only so long as both immediately before and after giving effect thereto, (v) no Default or Event of Default shall exist and (z) the Borrower shall have Undrawn Availability of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000).

- 7.8. Indebtedness. Create, incur, assume or suffer to exist any Indebtedness (exclusive of trade debt) except in respect of (i) Indebtedness to Lenders and the Issuer; (ii) Indebtedness incurred for Capital Expenditures permitted under Section 7.6 hereof; (iii) Indebtedness existing on the Closing Date and set forth on Schedule 7.8 (including any extensions, renewals or refinancings thereof), provided that the principal amount of such Indebtedness shall not be increased without the prior written consent of the Required Lenders; (iv) Indebtedness arising from Interest Rate Hedges with Lenders as counterparties entered into in the ordinary course of business and not for speculative purposes and consisting of bona fide hedging transactions, (v) Indebtedness incurred in connection with a construction loan from PNC Bank, National Association not to exceed \$700,000; and (vi) Indebtedness arising from Interest Rate Hedges with Bank of America, N.A. (or its Affiliates) as counterparties relating to commodities hedging transactions entered into for non-speculative purposes with notional amounts not to exceed \$8,000,000.
- 7.9. Nature of Business. Substantially change the nature of the business in which it is presently engaged, nor except as specifically permitted hereby purchase or invest, directly or indirectly, in any assets or property other than in the Ordinary Course of Business for assets or property which are useful in, necessary for and are to be used in its business as presently conducted.
- 7.10. <u>Transactions with Affiliates</u>. Directly or indirectly, purchase, acquire or lease any property from, or sell, transfer or lease any property to, or otherwise enter into any transaction or deal with, any Affiliate, except transactions disclosed to the Agent, which are in the Ordinary Course of Business, on an arm's-length basis on terms and conditions no less favorable than terms and conditions which would have been obtainable from a Person other than an Affiliate.
- 7.11. <u>Leases</u>. Enter as lessee into any lease arrangement for real or personal property (unless capitalized and permitted under Section 7.6 hereof) if after giving effect thereto,

aggregate annual rental payments for all leased property would exceed \$100,000 in any one fiscal year in the aggregate for all Loan Parties.

7.12. Subsidiaries.

- (a) Form any Subsidiary unless, (i) (y) such Subsidiary expressly becomes a Borrower and becomes jointly and severally liable for the obligations of the Borrower hereunder, under the Notes and under any other agreement between any Borrower and the Lenders, or (z) such Subsidiary becomes a Guarantor for the Obligations and, among other things, executes a Guaranty in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Agent, (ii) Agent shall have received all documents, including organizational documents and legal opinions it may reasonably require in connection therewith and (iii) such Subsidiary grants first (1st) priority perfected Liens in its assets to the Agent for the benefit of the Issuer and the Lenders; provided, however, to the extent such Subsidiary becomes a Borrower, none of such assets which become Collateral shall be included in the Formula Amount in accordance with the terms of this Agreement until such time as the Agent makes such determination in is sole discretion; or
 - (b) Enter into any partnership, joint venture or similar arrangement.
- 7.13. Fiscal Year and Accounting Changes. Change its fiscal year from a calendar year or make any change (i) in accounting treatment and reporting practices except as required by GAAP or (ii) in tax reporting treatment except as required by law.
- 7.14. <u>Pledge of Credit</u>. Now or hereafter pledge Agent's or any Lender's credit on any purchases or for any purpose whatsoever or use any portion of any Advance in or for any business other than such Loan Party's business as conducted on the date of this Agreement.
- 7.15. Amendment of Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws. Amend, modify or waive any term or material provision of its Articles of Incorporation or By-Laws unless required by law.
- 7.16. Compliance with ERISA. (i) (x) Maintain, or permit any member of the Controlled Group to maintain, or (y) become obligated to contribute, or permit any member of the Controlled Group to become obligated to contribute, to any Plan, other than those Plans disclosed on Schedule 5.8(d) or any other Plan for which Agent has provided its prior written consent, (ii) engage, or permit any member of the Controlled Group to engage, in any nonexempt "prohibited transaction", as that term is defined in section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code, (iii) incur, or permit any member of the Controlled Group to incur, any "accumulated funding deficiency", as that term is defined in Section 302 of ERISA or Section 412 of the Code, (iv) terminate, or permit any member of the Controlled Group to terminate, any Plan where such event could result in any liability of any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group or the imposition of a lien on the property of any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group pursuant to Section 4068 of ERISA, (v) assume, or permit any member of the Controlled Group to assume, any obligation to contribute to any Multiemployer Plan not disclosed on Schedule 5.8(d), (vi) incur, or permit any member of the Controlled Group to incur, any withdrawal liability to any Multiemployer Plan; (vii) fail promptly to notify Agent of the occurrence of any Termination Event, (viii) fail to comply, or permit a member of the Controlled

Group to fail to comply, with the requirements of ERISA or the Code or other Applicable Laws in respect of any Plan, (ix) fail to meet, or permit any member of the Controlled Group to fail to meet, all minimum funding requirements under ERISA or the Code or postpone or delay or allow any member of the Controlled Group to postpone or delay any funding requirement with respect of any Plan.

- 7.17. <u>Prepayment of Indebtedness</u>. At any time, directly or indirectly, prepay any Indebtedness (other than to Lenders), or repurchase, redeem, retire or otherwise acquire any Indebtedness of any Loan Party.
- 7.18. Anti-Terrorism Laws. No Loan Party shall, until satisfaction in full of the Obligations and termination of this Agreement, nor shall it permit any Affiliate or agent to:
 - (a) Conduct any business or engage in any transaction or dealing with any Blocked Person, including the making or receiving any contribution of funds, goods or services to or for the benefit of any Blocked Person.
 - (b) Deal in, or otherwise engage in any transaction relating to, any property or interests in property blocked pursuant to the Executive Order No. 13224.
 - (c) Engage in or conspire to engage in any transaction that evades or avoids, or has the purpose of evading or avoiding, or attempts to violate, any of the prohibitions set forth in the Executive Order No. 13224, the USA PATRIOT Act or any other Anti-Terrorism Law. Loan Party shall deliver to Lenders any certification or other evidence requested from time to time by any Lender in its sole discretion, confirming Loan Party's compliance with this Section.
- 7.19. Membership/Partnership Interests. Elect to treat or permit any of its Subsidiaries to (x) treat its limited liability company membership interests or partnership interests, as the case may be, as securities as contemplated by the definition of "security" in Section 8-102(15) and by Section 8-103 of Article 8 of Uniform Commercial Code or (y) certificate its limited liability company membership interests or partnership interests, as the case may be.
- 7.20. <u>Trading with the Enemy Act</u>. Engage in any business or activity in violation of the Trading with the Enemy Act.

7.21. [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]

7.22. Other Agreements. Enter into any material amendment, waiver or modification of any Aggregation/Pooling Service Agreements, the Columbia Gas Receivable Purchase Agreement, or any Interest Rate Hedges.

7.23. [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED].

7.24. <u>Bank of America Cash Collateral Account</u>. Maintain any funds in account number 65550-619389 at Bank of America, N.A. other than amounts deposited as cash collateral to secure Borrower's obligations with respect to Interest Rate Hedges permitted pursuant to

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Section 7.8(vi); provided that the balance of such account shall not at any time exceed Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000).

VIII. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT.

- 8.1. <u>Conditions to Initial Advances</u>. The agreement of Lenders to make the initial Advances requested to be made on the Closing Date is subject to the satisfaction, or waiver by Agent, immediately prior to or concurrently with the making of such Advances, of the following conditions precedent:
 - (a) Note. Agent shall have received the Notes duly executed and delivered by an authorized officer of each Borrower;
 - (b) <u>Filings</u>, <u>Registrations and Recordings</u>. Each document (including any Uniform Commercial Code financing statement) required by this Agreement, any related agreement or under law or reasonably requested by the Agent to be filed, registered or recorded in order to create, in favor of Agent, a perfected security interest in or lien upon the Collateral shall have been properly filed, registered or recorded in each jurisdiction in which the filing, registration or recordation thereof is so required or requested, and Agent shall have received an acknowledgment copy, or other evidence satisfactory to it, of each such filing, registration or recordation and satisfactory evidence of the payment of any necessary fee, tax or expense relating thereto;
- (c) <u>Corporate Proceedings of Borrower</u>. Agent shall have received a copy of the resolutions in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to Agent, of the Board of Directors of each Borrower authorizing (i) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement, the Notes, the Other Documents and any related agreements (collectively the "Documents") and (ii) the granting by each Borrower of the security interests in and liens upon the Collateral in each case certified by the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of each Borrower as of the Closing Date; and, such certificate shall state that the resolutions thereby certified have not been amended, modified, revoked or rescinded as of the date of such certificate;
- (d) <u>Incumbency Certificates of Borrower</u>. Agent shall have received a certificate of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of each Borrower, dated the Closing Date, as to the incumbency and signature of the officers of each Borrower executing this Agreement, the Other Documents, any certificate or other documents to be delivered by it pursuant hereto, together with evidence of the incumbency of such Secretary or Assistant Secretary;
 - (e) [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]
 - (f) [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]
- (g) <u>Certificates</u>. Agent shall have received a copy of the Articles or Certificate of Incorporation of each Loan Party, and all amendments thereto, certified by the Secretary of State or other appropriate official of its jurisdiction of incorporation together with copies of the By-Laws of each Loan Party and all agreements of each Loan Party's shareholders certified as accurate and complete by the Secretary of such Loan Party;

- (h) Good Standing Certificates. Agent shall have received good standing certificates for each Loan Party dated not more than 30 days prior to the Closing Date, issued by the Secretary of State or other appropriate official of each Loan Party's jurisdiction of incorporation and each jurisdiction where the conduct of each Loan Party's business activities or the ownership of its properties necessitates qualification;
- (i) <u>Legal Opinion</u>. Agent shall have received the executed legal opinion of Carlile, Patchen & Murphy, LLP in form and substance satisfactory to Agent which shall cover such matters incident to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, the Notes, the Other Documents, the Guaranty and related agreements as Agent may reasonably require and each Borrower hereby authorizes and directs such counsel to deliver such opinions to Agent and Lenders;
- (j) No Litigation. (i) No litigation, investigation or proceeding before or by any arbitrator or Governmental Body shall be continuing or threatened against any Loan Party against the officers or directors of any Loan Party (A) in connection with this Agreement, the Other Documents or any of the transactions contemplated thereby and which, in the reasonable opinion of Agent, is deemed material or (B) which could, in the reasonable opinion of Agent, have a Material Adverse Effect; and (ii) no injunction, writ, restraining order or other order of any nature materially adverse to any Loan Party or the conduct of its business or inconsistent with the due consummation of the transactions hereunder or contemplated hereby shall have been issued by any Governmental Body;
- (k) <u>Financial Condition Certificates</u>. Agent shall have received an executed Financial Condition Certificate in the form of Exhibit 8.1(k).
- (l) <u>Fees</u>. Agent shall have received all fees payable to Agent and Lenders on or prior to the Closing Date hereunder, including pursuant to Article III hereof;
- (m) <u>Insurance</u>. Agent shall have received in form and substance satisfactory to Agent, certified copies of Borrower' casualty insurance policies, together with loss payable endorsements on Agent's standard form of loss payee endorsement naming Agent as loss payee, and certified copies of Borrower' liability insurance policies, together with endorsements naming Agent as a co-insured;
- (n) <u>Payment Instructions</u>. Agent shall have received written instructions from Borrower directing the application of proceeds of the initial Advances made pursuant to this Agreement;
- (o) <u>Blocked Accounts</u>. Agent shall have received duly executed agreements establishing the Blocked Accounts or Depository Accounts with financial institutions acceptable to Agent for the collection or servicing of the Receivables and proceeds of the Collateral;
- (p) <u>Consents</u>. Agent shall have received any and all Consents necessary to permit the effectuation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and the Other Documents; and, Agent shall have received such Consents and waivers of such third parties as

might assert claims with respect to the Collateral, as Agent and its counsel shall deem necessary;

- (q) No Adverse Material Change. (i) since December 31, 2009, there shall not have occurred any event, condition or state of facts which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect and (ii) no representations made or information supplied to Agent or Lenders shall have been proven to be inaccurate or misleading in any material respect;
- (r) <u>Leasehold Agreements</u>. Agent shall have received landlord, mortgagee, consignees and/or warehouseman agreements satisfactory to Agent with respect to all premises leased by Loan Parties at which Inventory and books and records are located;
- (s) <u>Guarantees and Other Documents</u>. Agent shall have received (i) a Guaranty executed by Richard A. Curnutte, Sr., and (ii) executed Other Documents, all in form and substance satisfactory to Agent;
- (t) <u>Contract Review</u>. Agent shall have reviewed all material contracts of Loan Parties including leases, union contracts, labor contracts, vendor supply contracts, license agreements and distributorship agreements and such contracts and agreements shall be satisfactory in all respects to Agent, including, without limitation, all updated purchase agreements from Local Distribution Companies;
- (u) Closing Certificate. Agent shall have received a closing certificate signed by the Chief Financial Officer of each Loan Party dated as of the date hereof, stating that (i) all representations and warranties set forth in this Agreement and the Other Documents are true and correct on and as of such date, (ii) Loan Parties are on such date in compliance with all the terms and provisions set forth in this Agreement and the Other Documents and (iii) on such date no Default or Event of Default has occurred or is continuing;
- (v) <u>Borrowing Base</u>. Agent shall have received evidence from Borrower that the aggregate amount of Eligible Receivables and Eligible Inventory is sufficient in value and amount to support Advances in the amount requested by Borrower on the Closing Date and those outstanding on the Closing Date;
- (w) Compliance with Laws. Agent shall be reasonably satisfied that each Loan Party is in compliance with all pertinent federal, state, local or territorial regulations, including those with respect to the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Environmental Protection Act, ERISA and the Trading with the Enemy Act; and
- (x) Other. All corporate and other proceedings, and all documents, instruments and other legal matters in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby shall be satisfactory in form and substance to Agent and its counsel.
- 8.2. <u>Conditions to Each Advance</u>. The agreement of Lenders to make any Advance requested to be made on any date (including the initial Advance), is subject to the satisfaction of the following conditions precedent as of the date such Advance is made:

- (a) Representations and Warranties. Each of the representations and warranties made by any Loan Party in or pursuant to this Agreement, the Other Documents and any related agreements to which it is a party, and each of the representations and warranties contained in any certificate, document or financial or other statement furnished at any time under or in connection with this Agreement, the Other Documents or any related agreement shall be true and correct in all material respects on and as of such date as if made on and as of such date;
- (b) No Default. No Event of Default or Default shall have occurred and be continuing on such date, or would exist after giving effect to the Advances requested to be made, on such date; provided, however that Agent, in its sole discretion, may continue to make Advances notwithstanding the existence of an Event of Default or Default and that any Advances so made shall not be deemed a waiver of any such Event of Default or Default; and
- (c) <u>Maximum Advances</u>. In the case of any type of Advance requested to be made, after giving effect thereto, the aggregate amount of such type of Advance shall not exceed the maximum amount of such type of Advance permitted under this Agreement.

Each request for an Advance by Borrower hereunder shall constitute a representation and warranty by Borrower as of the date of such Advance that the conditions contained in this subsection shall have been satisfied.

IX. INFORMATION AS TO LOAN PARTIES.

Each Loan Party shall, or (except with respect to Section 9.11) shall cause Borrower on its behalf to, until satisfaction in full of the Obligations and the termination of this Agreement:

- 9.1. <u>Disclosure of Material Matters</u>. Immediately upon learning thereof, report to Agent all matters materially affecting the value, enforceability or collectability of any portion of the Collateral, including any Loan Party's reclamation or repossession of, or the return to any Loan Party of, a material amount of goods or claims or disputes asserted by any Customer or other obligor.
- 9.2. Schedules. Deliver to Agent on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of each month as and for the prior month (a) accounts receivable agings inclusive of reconciliations to the general ledger, (b) accounts payable schedules inclusive of reconciliations to the general ledger, (c) Inventory reports, (d) a Borrowing Base Certificate in form and substance satisfactory to Agent (which shall be calculated as of the last day of the prior month and which shall not be binding upon Agent or restrictive of Agent's rights under this Agreement) and (e) an Inventory roll-forward report. In addition, the Borrower shall deliver to the Agent on or before the first (1st) day of each Week as and for the prior Week an interim Borrowing Base Certificate (which shall be calculated as of the last day of the prior Week and which shall not be binding upon the Agent or restrictive of the Agent's rights under this Agreement) reflecting all activity (including sales, collections, credits) impacting the accounts of the Borrower for all Business Days of the immediately preceding Week. The amount derived as being excluded from Eligible Accounts used on such interim Borrowing Base Certificate shall be the amount that is calculated and updated monthly pursuant to this Section 9.2 and which is satisfactory to the Agent. The amount



- of Eligible Inventory to be included on such interim Borrowing Base Certificate shall be calculated and updated monthly pursuant to this Section 9.2 and which is satisfactory to the Agent. In addition, each Borrower will deliver to Agent at such intervals as Agent may require: (i) confirmatory assignment schedules, (ii) copies of Customer's invoices, (iii) evidence of shipment or delivery, and (iv) such further schedules, documents and/or information regarding the Collateral as Agent may require including trial balances and test verifications. Agent shall have the right to confirm and verify all Receivables by any manner and through any medium it considers advisable and do whatever it may deem reasonably necessary to protect its interests hereunder. The items to be provided under this Section are to be in form satisfactory to Agent and executed by Borrower and delivered to Agent from time to time solely for Agent's convenience in maintaining records of the Collateral, and Borrower's failure to deliver any of such items to Agent shall not affect, terminate, modify or otherwise limit Agent's Lien with respect to the Collateral.
- 9.3. Environmental Reports. Furnish Agent, concurrently with the delivery of the financial statements referred to in Sections 9.7 and 9.8, with a Compliance Certificate signed by the President of Borrower stating, to the best of his knowledge, that each Loan Party is in compliance in all material respects with all federal, state and local Environmental Laws. To the extent any Loan Party is not in compliance with the foregoing laws, the certificate shall set forth with specificity all areas of non-compliance and the proposed action such Loan Party will implement in order to achieve full compliance.
- 9.4. <u>Litigation</u>. Promptly notify Agent in writing of any claim, litigation, suit or administrative proceeding affecting any Loan Party, whether or not the claim is covered by insurance, and of any litigation, suit or administrative proceeding, which in any such case affects the Collateral or which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.
- 9.5. Material Occurrences. Promptly notify Agent in writing upon the occurrence of (a) any Event of Default or Default; (b) any event, development or circumstance whereby any financial statements or other reports furnished to Agent fail in any material respect to present fairly, in accordance with GAAP consistently applied, the financial condition or operating results of any Loan Party as of the date of such statements; (c) any accumulated retirement plan funding deficiency which, if such deficiency continued for two plan years and was not corrected as provided in Section 4971 of the Code, could subject any Loan Party to a tax imposed by Section 4971 of the Code; (d) each and every default by any Loan Party which might result in the acceleration of the maturity of any Indebtedness, including the names and addresses of the holders of such Indebtedness with respect to which there is a default existing or with respect to which the maturity has been or could be accelerated, and the amount of such Indebtedness; and (e) any other development in the business or affairs of any Loan Party which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; in each case describing the nature thereof and the action Loan Parties propose to take with respect thereto.
- 9.6. Government Receivables. Notify Agent immediately if any of its Receivables arise out of contracts between any Loan Party and the United States, any state, or any department, agency or instrumentality of any of them.

- 9.7. Annual Financial Statements. Furnish Agent and Lenders within one hundred twenty (120) days after the end of each fiscal year of Loan Parties, financial statements of Loan Parties on a consolidating and consolidated basis including, but not limited to, statements of income and stockholders' equity and cash flow from the beginning of the current fiscal year to the end of such fiscal year and the balance sheet as at the end of such fiscal year, all prepared in accordance with GAAP applied on a basis consistent with prior practices, and in reasonable detail and reported upon without qualification by an independent certified public accounting firm selected by Loan Parties and satisfactory to Agent (the "Accountants"). In addition, the reports shall be accompanied by a Compliance Certificate of the Loan Parties signed by each Loan Party's Chief Financial Officer which shall state that, based on an examination sufficient to permit him to make an informed statement, no Default or Event of Default exists, or, if such is not the case, specifying such Default or Event of Default, its nature, when it occurred, whether it is continuing and the steps being taken by such Loan Party with respect to such event, and such Compliance Certificate shall have appended thereto calculations which set forth compliance with the requirements or restrictions imposed by Sections 6.5, 7.6 and 7.11 hereof.
- 9.8. Monthly Financial Statements. Furnish Agent and Lenders within sixty (60) days after the end of each month, an unaudited balance sheet of Loan Parties on a consolidated and consolidating basis and unaudited statements of income and stockholders' equity and cash flow of Loan Parties on a consolidated and consolidating basis reflecting results of operations from the beginning of the fiscal year to the end of such month and for such month, prepared on a basis consistent with prior practices and complete and correct in all material respects, subject to normal and recurring year end adjustments that individually and in the aggregate are not material to Loan Parties' business. In addition, the reports shall be accompanied by a Compliance Certificate of the Loan Parties signed by each Loan Party's Chief Financial Officer which shall state that, based on an examination sufficient to permit him to make an informed statement, no Default or Event of Default exists, or, if such is not the case, specifying such Default or Event of Default, its nature, when it occurred, whether it is continuing and the steps being taken by such Loan Party with respect to such event, and such Compliance Certificate shall have appended thereto calculations which set forth compliance with the requirements or restrictions imposed by Sections 6.5, 7.6 and 7.11 hereof.
- 9.9. Other Reports. Furnish Agent as soon as available, but in any event within ten (10) days after the issuance thereof, with copies of such financial statements, reports and returns as each Loan Party shall send to its stockholders.
- 9.10. Additional Information. Furnish Agent with such additional information as Agent shall reasonably request in order to enable Agent to determine whether the terms, covenants, provisions and conditions of this Agreement and the Notes have been complied with by Loan Parties including, without the necessity of any request by Agent, (a) copies of all environmental audits and reviews, (b) at least thirty (30) days prior thereto, notice of any Loan Party's opening of any new office or place of business or any Loan Party's closing of any existing office or place of business, and (c) promptly upon any Loan Party's learning thereof, notice of any labor dispute to which any Loan Party may become a party, any strikes or walkouts relating to any of its plants or other facilities, and the expiration of any labor contract to which any Loan Party is a party or by which any Loan Party is bound.

- 9.11. Projected Operating Budget. Furnish Agent and Lenders, no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the beginning of each Borrower's fiscal years commencing with fiscal year 2011, a month by month projected operating budget and cash flow of Loan Parties on a consolidated and consolidating basis for such fiscal year (including an income statement for each month and a balance sheet as at the end of the last month in each fiscal quarter), such projections to be accompanied by a certificate signed by the President or Chief Financial Officer of each Loan Party to the effect that such projections have been prepared on the basis of sound financial planning practice consistent with past budgets and financial statements and that such officer has no reason to question the reasonableness of any material assumptions on which such projections were prepared.
- 9.12. <u>Variances From Operating Budget</u>. Furnish Agent, concurrently with the delivery of the financial statements referred to in Section 9.7 and each monthly report, a written report summarizing all material variances from budgets submitted by Loan Parties pursuant to Section 9.12 and a discussion and analysis by management with respect to such variances.
- 9.13. Notice of Suits, Adverse Events. Furnish Agent with prompt written notice of (i) any lapse or other termination of any Consent issued to any Loan Party by any Governmental Body or any other Person that is material to the operation of any Loan Party's business, (ii) any refusal by any Governmental Body or any other Person to renew or extend any such Consent; and (iii) copies of any periodic or special reports filed by any Loan Party with any Governmental Body or Person, if such reports indicate any material change in the business, operations, affairs or condition of any Loan Party, or if copies thereof are requested by Lender, and (iv) copies of any material notices and other communications from any Governmental Body or Person which specifically relate to any Loan Party.
- 9.14. ERISA Notices and Requests. Furnish Agent with immediate written notice in the event that (i) any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group knows or has reason to know that a Termination Event has occurred, together with a written statement describing such Termination Event and the action, if any, which such Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group has taken, is taking, or proposes to take with respect thereto and, when known, any action taken or threatened by the Internal Revenue Service, Department of Labor or PBGC with respect thereto, (ii) any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group knows or has reason to know that a prohibited transaction (as defined in Sections 406 of ERISA and 4975 of the Code) has occurred together with a written statement describing such transaction and the action which such Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group has taken, is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto, (iii) a funding waiver request has been filed with respect to any Plan together with all communications received by any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group with respect to such request, (iv) any increase in the benefits of any existing Plan or the establishment of any new Plan or the commencement of contributions to any Plan to which any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group was not previously contributing shall occur, (v) any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group shall receive from the PBGC a notice of intention to terminate a Plan or to have a trustee appointed to administer a Plan, together with copies of each such notice, (vi) any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group shall receive any favorable or unfavorable determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service regarding the qualification of a Plan under Section 401(a) of the Code, together with copies of each such letter; (vii) any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled

Group shall receive a notice regarding the imposition of withdrawal liability, together with copies of each such notice; (viii) any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group shall fail to make a required installment or any other required payment under Section 412 of the Code on or before the due date for such installment or payment; or (ix) any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group knows that (a) a Multiemployer Plan has been terminated, (b) the administrator or plan sponsor of a Multiemployer Plan intends to terminate a Multiemployer Plan, or (c) the PBGC has instituted or will institute proceedings under Section 4042 of ERISA to terminate a Multiemployer Plan.

- 9.15. <u>Personal Financial Statements</u>. The Borrower shall cause Richard A. Curnutte to provide to the Agent an updated personal financial statement within thirty (30) days after the end of each calendar year.
- 9.16. Additional Documents. Execute and deliver to Agent, upon request, such documents and agreements as Agent may, from time to time, reasonably request to carry out the purposes, terms or conditions of this Agreement.

X. EVENTS OF DEFAULT.

The occurrence of any one or more of the following events shall constitute an "Event of Default":

- 10.1. Nonpayment. Failure by any Loan Party to pay any principal or interest on the Obligations when due, whether at maturity or by reason of acceleration pursuant to the terms of this Agreement or by notice of intention to prepay, or by required prepayment or failure to pay any other liabilities or make any other payment, fee or charge provided for herein when due or in any Other Document;
- 10.2. <u>Breach of Representation</u>. Any representation or warranty made or deemed made by any Borrower or Guarantor in this Agreement, any Other Document or any related agreement or in any certificate, document or financial or other statement furnished at any time in connection herewith or therewith shall prove to have been misleading in any material respect on the date when made or deemed to have been made;
- 10.3. <u>Financial Information</u>. Failure by any Loan Party to (i)(x) furnish financial information when due, or (y) when requested, or (ii) permit the inspection of its books or records in accordance with this Agreement;
- 10.4. <u>Judicial Actions</u>. Issuance of a notice of Lien, levy, assessment, injunction or attachment against any Loan Party's Inventory or Receivables or against a material portion of any Loan Party's other property;
- 10.5. Noncompliance. Except as otherwise provided for in Sections 10.1, 10.3 and 10.5(ii), (i) failure or neglect of any Loan Party or any Guarantor to perform, keep or observe any term, provision, condition, covenant herein contained, or contained in any Other Document or any other agreement or arrangement, now or hereafter entered into between any Loan Party or any Guarantor, and Agent or any Lender, or (ii) failure or neglect of any Loan Party to perform, keep or observe any term, provision, condition or covenant, contained in Sections 4.6, 4.7, 4.9,

- 6.1 or 6.3 hereof which is not cured within thirty (30) days from the occurrence of such failure or neglect;
- 10.6. <u>Judgments</u>. Any judgment or judgments are rendered against any Loan Party or any Guarantor for an aggregate amount in excess of \$100,000 and there shall be any period of thirty (30) consecutive days during which a stay of enforcement of such judgment, by reason of a pending appeal or otherwise, shall not be in effect;
- 10.7. <u>Bankruptcy</u>. Any Loan Party or any Guarantor shall (i) apply for, consent to or suffer the appointment of, or the taking of possession by, a receiver, custodian, trustee, liquidator or similar fiduciary of itself or of all or a substantial part of its property, (ii) make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, (iii) commence a voluntary case under any state or federal bankruptcy laws (as now or hereafter in effect), (iv) be adjudicated a bankrupt or insolvent, (v) file a petition seeking to take advantage of any other law providing for the relief of debtors, (vi) acquiesce to, or fail to have dismissed, within thirty (30) days, any petition filed against it in any involuntary case under such bankruptcy laws, or (vii) take any action for the purpose of effecting any of the foregoing;
- 10.8. <u>Inability to Pay</u>. Any Loan Party or any Guarantor shall admit in writing its inability, or be generally unable, to pay its debts as they become due or cease operations of its present business;
- 10.9. Affiliate Bankruptcy. Any Affiliate or any Subsidiary of any Loan Party or any Guarantor, shall (i) apply for, consent to or suffer the appointment of, or the taking of possession by, a receiver, custodian, trustee, liquidator or similar fiduciary of itself or of all or a substantial part of its property, (ii) admit in writing its inability, or be generally unable, to pay its debts as they become due or cease operations of its present business, (iii) make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, (iv) commence a voluntary case under any state or federal bankruptcy laws (as now or hereafter in effect), (v) be adjudicated a bankrupt or insolvent, (vi) file a petition seeking to take advantage of any other law providing for the relief of debtors, (vii) acquiesce to, or fail to have dismissed, within thirty (30) days, any petition filed against it in any involuntary case under such bankruptcy laws, or (viii) take any action for the purpose of effecting any of the foregoing;
- 10.10. Material Adverse Effect. Any change in any Loan Party's or any Guarantor's results of operations or condition (financial or otherwise) which in Agent's opinion has a Material Adverse Effect;
- 10.11. <u>Lien Priority</u>. Any Lien created hereunder or provided for hereby or under any related agreement for any reason ceases to be or is not a valid and perfected Lien having a first priority interest;

10.12. [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED];

10.13. Cross Default. Any Loan Party shall (a) default in any payment of principal of or interest on any Indebtedness beyond any period of grace with respect to such payment if the aggregate amount of such defaulted Indebtedness exceeds Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) or (b) default in the observance of any other covenant, term or condition contained in any

agreement or instrument pursuant to which such Indebtedness is created, secured or evidenced, if the effect of such default is to cause the acceleration of any such Indebtedness (whether or not such right shall have been waived) if the aggregate amount of all Indebtedness so defaulted exceeds Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000);

- 10.14. <u>Breach of Guaranty</u>. Termination or breach of any Guaranty or Guaranty Security Agreement or similar agreement executed and delivered to Agent in connection with the Obligations of any Loan Party, or if any Guarantor attempts to terminate, challenges the validity of, or its liability under, any such Guaranty or Guaranty Security Agreement or similar agreement;
 - 10.15. Change of Ownership. Any Change of Control shall occur;
- 10.16. <u>Invalidity</u>. Any material provision of this Agreement or any Other Document shall, for any reason, cease to be valid and binding on Loan Party or any Guarantor, or any Loan Party or any Guarantor shall so claim in writing to Agent or any Lender;
- 10.17. Licenses. (i) Any Governmental Body shall (A) revoke, terminate, suspend or adversely modify any license, permit, patent trademark or tradename of any Loan Party or any Guarantor, or (B) commence proceedings to suspend, revoke, terminate or adversely modify any such license, permit, trademark, tradename or patent and such proceedings shall not be dismissed or discharged within sixty (60) days, or (C) schedule or conduct a hearing on the renewal of any license, permit, trademark, tradename or patent necessary for the continuation of any Loan Party's or any Guarantor's business and the staff of such Governmental Body issues a report recommending the termination, revocation, suspension or material, adverse modification of such license, permit, trademark, tradename or patent; (ii) any agreement which is necessary or material to the operation of any Loan Party's or any Guarantor's business shall be revoked or terminated and not replaced by a substitute acceptable to Agent within thirty (30) days after the date of such revocation or termination, and such revocation or termination and non-replacement would reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect;
- 10.18. Seizures. Any portion of the Collateral shall be seized or taken by a Governmental Body, or any Loan Party or any Guarantor or the title and rights of any Loan Party or any Guarantor shall have become the subject matter of claim, litigation, suit or other proceeding which might, in the opinion of Agent, upon final determination, result in impairment or loss of the security provided by this Agreement or the Other Documents;
- 10.19. Operations. The operations of any Loan Party are interrupted at any time for more than seven (7) consecutive days, which interruption would reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect;
- 10.20. Pension Plans. An event or condition specified in Sections 7.16 or 9.15 hereof shall occur or exist with respect to any Plan and, as a result of such event or condition, together with all other such events or conditions, any Loan Party or any member of the Controlled Group shall incur, or in the opinion of Agent be reasonably likely to incur, a liability to a Plan or the PBGC (or both) which, in the reasonable judgment of Agent, would have a Material Adverse Effect; or

10.21. <u>Termination of Ohio Competitive Retail Natural Gas Supplier Certificate</u>. The Ohio Competitive Retail Natural Gas Supplier Certificate granted by The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio to Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. is terminated.

XI. LENDERS' RIGHTS AND REMEDIES AFTER DEFAULT.

11.1. Rights and Remedies.

Upon the occurrence of (i) an Event of Default pursuant to Section 10.7 all Obligations shall be immediately due and payable and this Agreement and the obligation of Lenders to make Advances shall be deemed terminated; and, (ii) any of the other Events of Default and at any time thereafter (such default not having previously been cured), at the option of Required Lenders all Obligations shall be immediately due and payable and Lenders shall have the right to terminate this Agreement and to terminate the obligation of Lenders to make Advances and (iii) a filing of a petition against any Loan Party in any involuntary case under any state or federal bankruptcy laws, all Obligations shall be immediately due and payable and the obligation of Lenders to make Advances hereunder shall be terminated other than as may be required by an appropriate order of the bankruptcy court having jurisdiction over such Loan Party. Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, Agent shall have the right to exercise any and all rights and remedies provided for herein, under the Other Documents, under the Uniform Commercial Code and at law or equity generally, including the right to foreclose the security interests granted herein and to realize upon any Collateral by any available judicial procedure and/or to take possession of and sell any or all of the Collateral with or without judicial process. Agent may enter any of any Loan Party's premises or other premises without legal process and without incurring liability to any Loan Party therefor, and Agent may thereupon, or at any time thereafter, in its discretion without notice or demand, take the Collateral and remove the same to such place as Agent may deem advisable and Agent may require Loan Parties to make the Collateral available to Agent at a convenient place. With or without having the Collateral at the time or place of sale, Agent may sell the Collateral, or any part thereof, at public or private sale, at any time or place, in one or more sales, at such price or prices, and upon such terms, either for cash, credit or future delivery, as Agent may elect. Except as to that part of the Collateral which is perishable or threatens to decline speedily in value or is of a type customarily sold on a recognized market, Agent shall give Loan Parties reasonable notification of such sale or sales, it being agreed that in all events written notice mailed to Borrower at least ten (10) days prior to such sale or sales is reasonable notification. At any public sale Agent or any Lender may bid for and become the purchaser, and Agent, any Lender or any other purchaser at any such sale thereafter shall hold the Collateral sold absolutely free from any claim or right of whatsoever kind, including any equity of redemption and all such claims, rights and equities are hereby expressly waived and released by each Loan Party. In connection with the exercise of the foregoing remedies, including the sale of Inventory, Agent is granted a perpetual nonrevocable, royalty free, nonexclusive license and Agent is granted permission to use all of each Loan Party's (a) trademarks, trade styles, trade names, patents, patent applications, copyrights, service marks, licenses, franchises and other proprietary rights which are used or useful in connection with Inventory for the purpose of marketing, advertising for sale and selling or otherwise disposing of such Inventory and (b) Equipment for the purpose of completing the manufacture of unfinished goods. The cash proceeds realized from the sale of any Collateral shall be applied to the Obligations in the order set forth in Section 11.5 hereof. Noncash proceeds will only be

applied to the Obligations as they are converted into cash. If any deficiency shall arise, Loan Parties shall remain liable to Agent and Lenders therefor.

To the extent that Applicable Law imposes duties on the Agent to exercise remedies in a commercially reasonable manner, each Loan Party acknowledges and agrees that it is not commercially unreasonable for the Agent (i) to fail to incur expenses reasonably deemed significant by the Agent to prepare Collateral for disposition or otherwise to complete raw material or work in process into finished goods or other finished products for disposition, (ii) to fail to obtain third party consents for access to Collateral to be disposed of, or to obtain or, if not required by other law, to fail to obtain governmental or third party consents for the collection or disposition of Collateral to be collected or disposed of, (iii) to fail to exercise collection remedies against Customers or other Persons obligated on Collateral or to remove Liens on or any adverse claims against Collateral, (iv) to exercise collection remedies against Customers and other Persons obligated on Collateral directly or through the use of collection agencies and other collection specialists, (v) to advertise dispositions of Collateral through publications or media of general circulation, whether or not the Collateral is of a specialized nature, (vi) to contact other Persons, whether or not in the same business as any Loan Party, for expressions of interest in acquiring all or any portion of such Collateral, (vii) to hire one or more professional auctioneers to assist in the disposition of Collateral, whether or not the Collateral is of a specialized nature. (viii) to dispose of Collateral by utilizing internet sites that provide for the auction of assets of the types included in the Collateral or that have the reasonable capacity of doing so, or that match buyers and sellers of assets, (ix) to dispose of assets in wholesale rather than retail markets, (x) to disclaim disposition warranties, such as title, possession or quiet enjoyment, (xi) to purchase insurance or credit enhancements to insure the Agent against risks of loss, collection or disposition of Collateral or to provide to the Agent a guaranteed return from the collection or disposition of Collateral, or (xii) to the extent deemed appropriate by the Agent, to obtain the services of other brokers, investment bankers, consultants and other professionals to assist the Agent in the collection or disposition of any of the Collateral. Each Loan Party acknowledges that the purpose of this Section 11.1(b) is to provide non-exhaustive indications of what actions or omissions by the Agent would not be commercially unreasonable in the Agent's exercise of remedies against the Collateral and that other actions or omissions by the Agent shall not be deemed commercially unreasonable solely on account of not being indicated in this Section 11.1(b). Without limitation upon the foregoing, nothing contained in this Section11.1(b) shall be construed to grant any rights to any Loan Party or to impose any duties on Agent that would not have been granted or imposed by this Agreement or by Applicable Law in the absence of this Section 11.1(b).

- 11.2. <u>Agent's Discretion</u>. Agent shall have the right in its sole discretion to determine which rights, Liens, security interests or remedies Agent may at any time pursue, relinquish, subordinate, or modify or to take any other action with respect thereto and such determination will not in any way modify or affect any of Agent's or Lenders' rights hereunder.
- 11.3. Setoff. Subject to Section 14.12, in addition to any other rights which Agent or any Lender may have under Applicable Law, upon the occurrence of an Event of Default hereunder, Agent and such Lender shall have a right, immediately and without notice of any kind, to apply any Loan Party's property held by Agent and such Lender to reduce the Obligations.

- 11.4. Rights and Remedies not Exclusive. The enumeration of the foregoing rights and remedies is not intended to be exhaustive and the exercise of any rights or remedy shall not preclude the exercise of any other right or remedies provided for herein or otherwise provided by law, all of which shall be cumulative and not alternative.
- 11.5. Allocation of Payments After Event of Default. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement to the contrary, after the occurrence and during the continuance of an Event of Default, all amounts collected or received by the Agent on account of the Obligations or any other amounts outstanding under any of the Other Documents or in respect of the Collateral may, at Agent's discretion, be paid over or delivered as follows:

FIRST, to the payment of all reasonable out-of-pocket costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) of the Agent in connection with enforcing its rights and the rights of the Lenders under this Agreement and the Other Documents and any protective advances made by the Agent with respect to the Collateral under or pursuant to the terms of this Agreement;

SECOND, to payment of any fees owed to the Agent;

THIRD, to the payment of all reasonable out-of-pocket costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) of each of the Lenders to the extent owing to such Lender pursuant to the terms of this Agreement;

FOURTH, to the payment of all of the Obligations consisting of accrued fees and interest;

FIFTH, to the payment of the outstanding principal amount of the Obligations (including the payment or cash collateralization of any outstanding Letters of Credit);

SIXTH, to all other Obligations and other obligations which shall have become due and payable under the Other Documents or otherwise and not repaid pursuant to clauses "FIRST" through "FIFTH" above; and

SEVENTH, to the payment of the surplus, if any, to whoever may be lawfully entitled to receive such surplus.

In carrying out the foregoing, (i) amounts received shall be applied in the numerical order provided until exhausted prior to application to the next succeeding category; (ii) each of the Lenders shall receive (so long as it is not a Defaulting Lender) an amount equal to its pro rata share (based on the proportion that the then outstanding Advances held by such Lender bears to the aggregate then outstanding Advances) of amounts available to be applied pursuant to clauses "FOURTH", "FIFTH" and "SIXTH" above; and (iii) to the extent that any amounts available for distribution pursuant to clause "FIFTH" above are attributable to the issued but undrawn amount of outstanding Letters of Credit, such amounts shall be held by the Agent in a cash collateral account and applied (A) first, to reimburse the Issuer from time to time for any drawings under such Letters of Credit and (B) then, following the expiration of all Letters of Credit, to all other obligations of the types described in clauses "FIFTH" and "SIXTH" above in the manner provided in this Section 11.5.

XII. WAIVERS AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

- 12.1. <u>Waiver of Notice</u>. Each Loan Party hereby waives notice of non-payment of any of the Receivables, demand, presentment, protest and notice thereof with respect to any and all instruments, notice of acceptance hereof, notice of loans or advances made, credit extended, Collateral received or delivered, or any other action taken in reliance hereon, and all other demands and notices of any description, except such as are expressly provided for herein.
- 12.2. <u>Delay</u>. No delay or omission on Agent's or any Lender's part in exercising any right, remedy or option shall operate as a waiver of such or any other right, remedy or option or of any Default or Event of Default.
- 12.3. Jury Waiver. EACH PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT HEREBY EXPRESSLY WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY OF ANY CLAIM, DEMAND, ACTION OR CAUSE OF ACTION (A) ARISING UNDER THIS AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER INSTRUMENT, DOCUMENT OR AGREEMENT EXECUTED OR DELIVERED IN CONNECTION HEREWITH, OR (B) IN ANY WAY CONNECTED WITH OR RELATED OR INCIDENTAL TO THE DEALINGS OF THE PARTIES HERETO OR ANY OF THEM WITH RESPECT TO THIS AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER INSTRUMENT, DOCUMENT OR AGREEMENT EXECUTED OR DELIVERED IN CONNECTION HEREWITH, OR THE TRANSACTIONS RELATED HERETO OR THERETO IN EACH CASE WHETHER NOW EXISTING OR HEREAFTER ARISING, AND WHETHER SOUNDING IN CONTRACT OR TORT OR OTHERWISE AND EACH PARTY HEREBY CONSENTS THAT ANY SUCH CLAIM, DEMAND, ACTION OR CAUSE OF ACTION SHALL BE DECIDED BY COURT TRIAL WITHOUT A JURY, AND THAT ANY PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT MAY FILE AN ORIGINAL COUNTERPART OR A COPY OF THIS SECTION WITH ANY COURT AS WRITTEN EVIDENCE OF THE CONSENTS OF THE PARTIES HERETO TO THE WAIVER OF THEIR RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY.

XIII. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERMINATION.

13.1. Term. This Agreement, which shall insure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the respective successors and permitted assigns of each Loan Party, the Issuer, Agent and each Lender, shall become effective on the date hereof and shall continue in full force and effect until July 23, 2013 (the "Term") unless sooner terminated as herein provided. Borrower may terminate this Agreement at any time upon ninety (90) days' prior written notice upon payment in full of the Obligations. In the event the Obligations are prepaid in full prior to the last day of the Term (the date of such prepayment hereinafter referred to as the "Early Termination Date"), Borrower shall pay to Agent for the benefit of Lenders an early termination fee in an amount equal to (x) \$1,200,000 if the Early Termination Date occurs on or after the Closing Date to and including the date immediately preceding the first anniversary of the Closing Date to and including the date immediately preceding the second anniversary of the Closing Date, and (z) \$400,000 if the Early Termination Date occurs on or after the second anniversary of the Closing Date, and (z) \$400,000 if the Early Termination Date occurs on or after the second anniversary of the Closing Date to and including the date immediately preceding the third anniversary of the Closing Date.

13.2. Termination. The termination of the Agreement shall not affect any Loan Party's. Agent's or any Lender's rights, or any of the Obligations having their inception prior to the effective date of such termination, and the provisions hereof shall continue to be fully operative until all transactions entered into, rights or interests created or Obligations have been fully and indefeasibly paid, disposed of, concluded or liquidated. The security interests, Liens and rights granted to Agent and Lenders hereunder and the financing statements filed hereunder shall continue in full force and effect, notwithstanding the termination of this Agreement or the fact that Borrower's Account may from time to time be temporarily in a zero or credit position, until all of the Obligations of each Loan Party have been indefeasibly paid and performed in full after the termination of this Agreement or each Loan Party has furnished Agent and Lenders with an indemnification satisfactory to Agent and Lenders with respect thereto. Accordingly, each Loan Party waives any rights which it may have under the Uniform Commercial Code to demand the filing of termination statements with respect to the Collateral, and Agent shall not be required to send such termination statements to each Loan Party, or to file them with any filing office, unless and until this Agreement shall have been terminated in accordance with its terms and all Obligations have been indefeasibly paid in full in immediately available funds. representations, warranties, covenants, waivers and agreements contained herein shall survive termination hereof until all Obligations are indefeasibly paid and performed in full. Without limitation, all indemnification obligations contained herein and in the Other Documents shall survive the termination hereof and thereof and payment in full of the Obligations.

XIV. REGARDING AGENT.

- 14.1. Appointment. Each Lender hereby designates PNC to act as Agent for such Lender under this Agreement and the Other Documents. Each Lender hereby irrevocably authorizes Agent to take such action on its behalf under the provisions of this Agreement and the Other Documents and to exercise such powers and to perform such duties hereunder and thereunder as are specifically delegated to or required of Agent by the terms hereof and thereof and such other powers as are reasonably incidental thereto and Agent shall hold all Collateral, payments of principal and interest, fees (except the fees set forth in Sections 3.3(a) and 3.4). charges and collections (without giving effect to any collection days) received pursuant to this Agreement, for the ratable benefit of Lenders. Agent may perform any of its duties hereunder by or through its agents or employees. As to any matters not expressly provided for by this Agreement (including collection of the Note) Agent shall not be required to exercise any discretion or take any action, but shall be required to act or to refrain from acting (and shall be fully protected in so acting or refraining from acting) upon the instructions of the Required Lenders, and such instructions shall be binding; provided, however, that Agent shall not be required to take any action which exposes Agent to liability or which is contrary to this Agreement or the Other Documents or Applicable Law unless Agent is furnished with an indemnification reasonably satisfactory to Agent with respect thereto.
- 14.2. Nature of Duties. Agent shall have no duties or responsibilities except those expressly set forth in this Agreement and the Other Documents. Neither Agent nor any of its officers, directors, employees or agents shall be (i) liable for any action taken or omitted by them as such hereunder or in connection herewith, unless caused by their gross (not mere) negligence or willful misconduct (as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction in a final non-appealable judgment), or (ii) responsible in any manner for any recitals, statements,

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representations or warranties made by any Borrower or any officer thereof contained in this Agreement, or in any of the Other Documents or in any certificate, report, statement or other document referred to or provided for in, or received by Agent under or in connection with, this Agreement or any of the Other Documents or for the value, validity, effectiveness, genuineness, due execution, enforceability or sufficiency of this Agreement, or any of the Other Documents or for any failure of any Borrower to perform its obligations hereunder. Agent shall not be under any obligation to any Lender to ascertain or to inquire as to the observance or performance of any of the agreements contained in, or conditions of, this Agreement or any of the Other Documents, or to inspect the properties, books or records of any Borrower. The duties of Agent as respects the Advances to Borrower shall be mechanical and administrative in nature; Agent shall not have by reason of this Agreement a fiduciary relationship in respect of any Lender; and nothing in this Agreement, expressed or implied, is intended to or shall be so construed as to impose upon Agent any obligations in respect of this Agreement except as expressly set forth herein.

14.3. Lack of Reliance on Agent and Resignation. Independently and without reliance upon Agent or any other Lender, each Lender has made and shall continue to make (i) its own independent investigation of the financial condition and affairs of each Loan Party and each Guarantor in connection with the making and the continuance of the Advances hereunder and the taking or not taking of any action in connection herewith, and (ii) its own appraisal of the creditworthiness of each Loan Party and each Guarantor. Agent shall have no duty or responsibility, either initially or on a continuing basis, to provide any Lender with any credit or other information with respect thereto, whether coming into its possession before making of the Advances or at any time or times thereafter except as shall be provided by any Loan Party pursuant to the terms hereof. Agent shall not be responsible to any Lender for any recitals, statements, information, representations or warranties herein or in any agreement, document, certificate or a statement delivered in connection with or for the execution, effectiveness, genuineness, validity, enforceability, collectability or sufficiency of this Agreement or any Other Document, or of the financial condition of any Loan Party or any Guarantor, or be required to make any inquiry concerning either the performance or observance of any of the terms, provisions or conditions of this Agreement, the Note, the Other Documents or the financial condition of any Borrower, or the existence of any Event of Default or any Default.

Agent may resign on sixty (60) days' written notice to each of Lenders and Borrower and upon such resignation, the Required Lenders will promptly designate a successor Agent reasonably satisfactory to Borrower.

Any such successor Agent shall succeed to the rights, powers and duties of Agent, and the term "Agent" shall mean such successor agent effective upon its appointment, and the former Agent's rights, powers and duties as Agent shall be terminated, without any other or further act or deed on the part of such former Agent. After any Agent's resignation as Agent, the provisions of this Article XIV shall inure to its benefit as to any actions taken or omitted to be taken by it while it was Agent under this Agreement.

14.4. <u>Certain Rights of Agent</u>. If Agent shall request instructions from Lenders with respect to any act or action (including failure to act) in connection with this Agreement or any Other Document, Agent shall be entitled to refrain from such act or taking such action unless and

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until Agent shall have received instructions from the Required Lenders; and Agent shall not incur liability to any Person by reason of so refraining. Without limiting the foregoing, Lenders shall not have any right of action whatsoever against Agent as a result of its acting or refraining from acting hereunder in accordance with the instructions of the Required Lenders.

- 14.5. Reliance. Agent shall be entitled to rely, and shall be fully protected in relying, upon any note, writing, resolution, notice, statement, certificate, telex, teletype or telecopier message, cablegram, order or other document or telephone message believed by it to be genuine and correct and to have been signed, sent or made by the proper person or entity, and, with respect to all legal matters pertaining to this Agreement and the Other Documents and its duties hereunder, upon advice of counsel selected by it. Agent may employ agents and attorneys-in-fact and shall not be liable for the default or misconduct of any such agents or attorneys-in-fact selected by Agent with reasonable care.
- 14.6. Notice of Default. Agent shall not be deemed to have knowledge or notice of the occurrence of any Default or Event of Default hereunder or under the Other Documents, unless Agent has received notice from a Lender or Borrower referring to this Agreement or the Other Documents, describing such Default or Event of Default and stating that such notice is a "notice of default". In the event that Agent receives such a notice, Agent shall give notice thereof to Lenders. Agent shall take such action with respect to such Default or Event of Default as shall be reasonably directed by the Required Lenders; provided, that, unless and until Agent shall have received such directions, Agent may (but shall not be obligated to) take such action, or refrain from taking such action, with respect to such Default or Event of Default as it shall deem advisable in the best interests of Lenders.
- 14.7. <u>Indemnification</u>. To the extent Agent is not reimbursed and indemnified by Borrower, each Lender will reimburse and indemnify Agent in proportion to its respective portion of the Advances (or, if no Advances are outstanding, according to its Commitment Percentage), from and against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, actions, judgments, suits, costs, expenses or disbursements of any kind or nature whatsoever which may be imposed on, incurred by or asserted against Agent in performing its duties hereunder, or in any way relating to or arising out of this Agreement or any Other Document; provided that, Lenders shall not be liable for any portion of such liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, actions, judgments, suits, costs, expenses or disbursements resulting from Agent's gross (not mere) negligence or willful misconduct (as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction in a final non-appealable judgment).
- 14.8. Agent in its Individual Capacity. With respect to the obligation of Agent to lend under this Agreement, the Advances made by it shall have the same rights and powers hereunder as any other Lender and as if it were not performing the duties as Agent specified herein; and the term "Lender" or any similar term shall, unless the context clearly otherwise indicates, include Agent in its individual capacity as a Lender. Agent may engage in business with any Loan Party as if it were not performing the duties specified herein, and may accept fees and other consideration from any Borrower for services in connection with this Agreement or otherwise without having to account for the same to Lenders.

- 14.9. <u>Delivery of Documents</u>. To the extent Agent receives financial statements required under Sections 9.7, 9.8, 9.9, 9.12 and 9.13 or Borrowing Base Certificates from Borrower pursuant to the terms of this Agreement which Borrower is not obligated to deliver to each Lender, Agent will promptly furnish such documents and information to Lenders.
- 14.10. Borrower' Undertaking to Agent. Without prejudice to their respective obligations to Lenders under the other provisions of this Agreement, Borrower hereby undertakes with Agent to pay to Agent from time to time on demand all amounts from time to time due and payable by it for the account of Agent or Lenders or any of them pursuant to this Agreement to the extent not already paid. Any payment made pursuant to any such demand shall pro tanto satisfy the Borrower's obligations to make payments for the account of Lenders or the relevant one or more of them pursuant to this Agreement.
- 14.11. No Reliance on Agent's Customer Identification Program. Each Lender acknowledges and agrees that neither such Lender, nor any of its Affiliates, participants or assignees, may rely on the Agent to carry out such Lender's, Affiliate's, participant's or assignee's customer identification program, or other obligations required or imposed under or pursuant to the USA PATRIOT Act or the regulations thereunder, including the regulations contained in 31 CFR 103.121 (as hereafter amended or replaced, the "CIP Regulations"), or any other Anti-Terrorism Law, including any programs involving any of the following items relating to or in connection with any Loan Party, its Affiliates or its agents, this Agreement, the Other Documents or the transactions hereunder or contemplated hereby: (1) any identity verification procedures, (2) any record-keeping, (3) comparisons with government lists, (4) customer notices or (5) other procedures required under the CIP Regulations or such other laws.
- 14.12. Other Agreements. Each of the Lenders agrees that it shall not, without the express consent of Agent, and that it shall, to the extent it is lawfully entitled to do so, upon the request of Agent, set off against the Obligations, any amounts owing by such Lender to any Borrower or any deposit accounts of any Borrower now or hereafter maintained with such Lender. Anything in this Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, each of the Lenders further agrees that it shall not, unless specifically requested to do so by Agent, take any action to protect or enforce its rights arising out of this Agreement or the Other Documents, it being the intent of Lenders that any such action to protect or enforce rights under this Agreement and the Other Documents shall be taken in concert and at the direction or with the consent of Agent or Required Lenders.

XV. [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]

XVI. MISCELLANEOUS

16.1. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio applied to contracts to be performed wholly within the State of Ohio. Any judicial proceeding brought by or against any Loan Party with respect to any of the Obligations, this Agreement, the Other Documents or any related agreement may be brought in any court of competent jurisdiction in the State of Ohio, United States of America, and, by execution and delivery of this Agreement, each Loan Party accepts for itself and in connection with its properties, generally and unconditionally, the non-exclusive jurisdiction of

the aforesaid courts, and irrevocably agrees to be bound by any judgment rendered thereby in connection with this Agreement. Each Loan Party hereby waives personal service of any and all process upon it and consents that all such service of process may be made by registered mail (return receipt requested) directed to Borrower at its address set forth in Section 16.6 and service so made shall be deemed completed five (5) days after the same shall have been so deposited in the mails of the United States of America, or, at the Agent's option, by service upon Borrower which each Loan Party irrevocably appoints as such Borrower's Agent for the purpose of accepting service within the State of Ohio. Nothing herein shall affect the right to serve process in any manner permitted by law or shall limit the right of Agent or any Lender to bring proceedings against any Loan Party in the courts of any other jurisdiction. Each Loan Party waives any objection to jurisdiction and venue of any action instituted hereunder and shall not assert any defense based on lack of jurisdiction or venue or based upon forum non conveniens. Each Loan Party waives the right to remove any judicial proceeding brought against such Loan Party in any state court to any federal court. Any judicial proceeding by any Loan Party against Agent or any Lender involving, directly or indirectly, any matter or claim in any way arising out of, related to or connected with this Agreement or any related agreement, shall be brought only in a federal or state court located in the County of Cuyahoga, State of Ohio.

16.2. Entire Understanding.

- (a) This Agreement and the documents executed concurrently herewith contain the entire understanding between each Loan Party, Agent and each Lender and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, if any, relating to the subject matter hereof. Any promises, representations, warranties or guarantees not herein contained and hereinafter made shall have no force and effect unless in writing, signed by each Loan Party's, Agent's and each Lender's respective officers. Neither this Agreement nor any portion or provisions hereof may be changed, modified, amended, waived, supplemented, discharged, cancelled or terminated orally or by any course of dealing, or in any manner other than by an agreement in writing, signed by the party to be charged. Each Loan Party acknowledges that it has been advised by counsel in connection with the execution of this Agreement and Other Documents and is not relying upon oral representations or statements inconsistent with the terms and provisions of this Agreement.
- (b) The Required Lenders, Agent with the consent in writing of the Required Lenders, and Loan Parties may, subject to the provisions of this Section 16.2 (b), from time to time enter into written supplemental agreements to this Agreement or the Other Documents executed by Loan Parties, for the purpose of adding or deleting any provisions or otherwise changing, varying or waiving in any manner the rights of Lenders, Agent or Loan Parties thereunder or the conditions, provisions or terms thereof or waiving any Event of Default thereunder, but only to the extent specified in such written agreements; provided, however, that no such supplemental agreement shall, without the consent of all Lenders:
 - (i) increase the Commitment Percentage, the maximum dollar commitment of any Lender or the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount.

- (ii) extend the maturity of any Note or the due date for any amount payable hereunder, or decrease the rate of interest or reduce any fee payable by Loan Parties to Lenders pursuant to this Agreement.
- (iii) alter the definition of the term Required Lenders or alter, amend or modify this Section 16.2(b).
- (iv) release any Collateral during any calendar year (other than in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement) having an aggregate value in excess of \$150,000.
 - (v) change the rights and duties of Agent.
- (vi) permit any Revolving Advance to be made if after giving effect thereto the total of Revolving Advances outstanding hereunder would exceed the (x) Maximum Revolving Advance Amount or (y) the Formula Amount for more than sixty (60) consecutive Business Days or exceed one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the Formula Amount.
- (vii) increase the Advance Rates above the Advance Rates in effect on the Closing Date.
 - (viii) release any Guarantor.

Any such supplemental agreement shall apply equally to each Lender and shall be binding upon Loan Parties, Lenders and Agent and all future holders of the Obligations. In the case of any waiver, Loan Parties, Agent and Lenders shall be restored to their former positions and rights, and any Event of Default waived shall be deemed to be cured and not continuing, but no waiver of a specific Event of Default shall extend to any subsequent Event of Default (whether or not the subsequent Event of Default is the same as the Event of Default which was waived), or impair any right consequent thereon.

In the event that Agent requests the consent of a Lender pursuant to this Section 16.2 and such consent is denied, then PNC may, at its option, require such Lender to assign its interest in the Advances to PNC or to another Lender or to any other Person designated by the Agent (the "Designated Lender"), for a price equal to (i) the then outstanding principal amount thereof plus (ii) accrued and unpaid interest and fees due such Lender, which interest and fees shall be paid when collected from Loan Parties. In the event PNC elects to require any Lender to assign its interest to PNC or to the Designated Lender, PNC will so notify such Lender in writing within forty five (45) days following such Lender's denial, and such Lender will assign its interest to PNC or the Designated Lender no later than five (5) days following receipt of such notice pursuant to a Commitment Transfer Supplement executed by such Lender, PNC or the Designated Lender, as appropriate, and Agent.

Notwithstanding (a) the existence of a Default or an Event of Default, (b) that any of the other applicable conditions precedent set forth in Section 8.2 hereof have not been satisfied or (c) any other provision of this Agreement, Agent may at its discretion and without the consent of the Required Lenders, voluntarily permit the sum of the outstanding Revolving Advances at any

time to exceed the Formula Amount by up to ten percent (10%) of the Formula Amount for up to sixty (60) consecutive Business Days (the "Out-of-Formula Loans"). If Agent is willing in its sole and absolute discretion to make such Out-of-Formula Loans, such Out-of-Formula Loans shall be payable on demand and shall bear interest at the Default Rate for Revolving Advances consisting of Domestic Rate Loans; provided that, if Lenders do make Out-of-Formula Loans. neither Agent nor Lenders shall be deemed thereby to have changed the limits of Section 2.1(a). For purposes of this paragraph, the discretion granted to Agent hereunder shall not preclude involuntary overadvances that may result from time to time due to the fact that the Formula Amount was unintentionally exceeded for any reason, including, but not limited to, Collateral previously deemed to be either "Eligible Receivables" or "Eligible Inventory", as applicable, becomes ineligible, collections of Receivables applied to reduce outstanding Revolving Advances are thereafter returned for insufficient funds or overadvances are made to protect or preserve the Collateral. In the event Agent involuntarily permits the outstanding Revolving Advances to exceed the Formula Amount by more than ten percent (10%), Agent shall use its efforts to have Borrower decrease such excess in as expeditious a manner as is practicable under the circumstances and not inconsistent with the reason for such excess. Revolving Advances made after Agent has determined the existence of involuntary overadvances shall be deemed to be involuntary overadvances and shall be decreased in accordance with the preceding sentence.

In addition to (and not in substitution of) the discretionary Revolving Advances permitted above in this Section 16.2, the Agent is hereby authorized by Loan Parties and the Lenders, from time to time in the Agent's sole discretion, (A) after the occurrence and during the continuation of a Default or an Event of Default, or (B) at any time that any of the other applicable conditions precedent set forth in Section 8.2 hereof have not been satisfied, to make Revolving Advances to Borrower on behalf of the Lenders which the Agent, in its reasonable business judgment, deems necessary or desirable (a) to preserve or protect the Collateral, or any portion thereof, (b) to enhance the likelihood of, or maximize the amount of, repayment of the Advances and other Obligations, or (c) to pay any other amount chargeable to Borrower pursuant to the terms of this Agreement; provided, that at any time after giving effect to any such Revolving Advances the outstanding Revolving Advances do not exceed one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the Formula Amount.

16.3. Successors and Assigns; Participations; New Lenders.

- (a) This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of Loan Parties, Agent, each Lender, all future holders of the Obligations and their respective successors and permitted assigns, except that no Loan Party may assign or transfer any of its rights or obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of Agent and each Lender.
- (b) Each Borrower acknowledges that in the regular course of commercial banking business one or more Lenders may at any time and from time to time sell participating interests in the Advances to other financial institutions (each such transferee or purchaser of a participating interest, a "Participant"). Each Participant may exercise all rights of payment (including rights of set-off) with respect to the portion of such Advances held by it or other Obligations payable hereunder as fully as if such Participant were the direct holder thereof provided that Borrower shall not be required to pay to any Participant more than the amount

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which it would have been required to pay to Lender which granted an interest in its Advances or other Obligations payable hereunder to such Participant had such Lender retained such interest in the Advances hereunder or other Obligations payable hereunder and in no event shall Borrower be required to pay any such amount arising from the same circumstances and with respect to the same Advances or other Obligations payable hereunder to both such Lender and such Participant. Each Loan Party hereby grants to any Participant a continuing security interest in any deposits, moneys or other property actually or constructively held by such Participant as security for the Participant's interest in the Advances.

- (c) Any Lender, with the consent of Agent which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed, may sell, assign or transfer all or any part of its rights and obligations under or relating to Revolving Advances under this Agreement and the Other Documents to one or more additional banks or financial institutions and one or more additional banks or financial institutions may commit to make Advances hereunder (each a "Purchasing Lender"). in minimum amounts of not less than \$5,000,000, pursuant to a Commitment Transfer Supplement, executed by a Purchasing Lender, the transferor Lender, and Agent and delivered to Agent for recording. Upon such execution, delivery, acceptance and recording, from and after the transfer effective date determined pursuant to such Commitment Transfer Supplement, (i) Purchasing Lender thereunder shall be a party hereto and, to the extent provided in such Commitment Transfer Supplement, have the rights and obligations of a Lender thereunder with a Commitment Percentage as set forth therein, and (ii) the transferor Lender thereunder shall, to the extent provided in such Commitment Transfer Supplement, be released from its obligations under this Agreement, the Commitment Transfer Supplement creating a novation for that purpose. Such Commitment Transfer Supplement shall be deemed to amend this Agreement to the extent, and only to the extent, necessary to reflect the addition of such Purchasing Lender and the resulting adjustment of the Commitment Percentages arising from the purchase by such Purchasing Lender of all or a portion of the rights and obligations of such transferor Lender under this Agreement and the Other Documents. Each Loan Party hereby consents to the addition of such Purchasing Lender and the resulting adjustment of the Commitment Percentages arising from the purchase by such Purchasing Lender of all or a portion of the rights and obligations of such transferor Lender under this Agreement and the Other Documents. Each Loan Party shall execute and deliver such further documents and do such further acts and things in order to effectuate the foregoing.
- (d) Any Lender, with the consent of Agent which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed, may directly or indirectly sell, assign or transfer all or any portion of its rights and obligations under or relating to Revolving Advances under this Agreement and the Other Documents to an entity, whether a corporation, partnership, trust, limited liability company or other entity that (i) is engaged in making, purchasing, holding or otherwise investing in bank loans and similar extensions of credit in the ordinary course of its business and (ii) is administered, serviced or managed by the assigning Lender or an Affiliate of such Lender (a "Purchasing CLO" and together with each Participant and Purchasing Lender, each a "Transferee" and collectively the "Transferees"), pursuant to a Commitment Transfer Supplement modified as appropriate to reflect the interest being assigned ("Modified Commitment Transfer Supplement"), executed by any intermediate purchaser, the Purchasing CLO, the transferor Lender, and Agent as appropriate and delivered to Agent for recording. Upon such execution and delivery, from and after the transfer effective date determined

pursuant to such Modified Commitment Transfer Supplement, (i) Purchasing CLO thereunder shall be a party hereto and, to the extent provided in such Modified Commitment Transfer Supplement, have the rights and obligations of a Lender thereunder and (ii) the transferor Lender thereunder shall, to the extent provided in such Modified Commitment Transfer Supplement, be released from its obligations under this Agreement, the Modified Commitment Transfer Supplement creating a novation for that purpose. Such Modified Commitment Transfer Supplement shall be deemed to amend this Agreement to the extent, and only to the extent, necessary to reflect the addition of such Purchasing CLO. Each Loan Party hereby consents to the addition of such Purchasing CLO. Each Loan Party shall execute and deliver such further documents and do such further acts and things in order to effectuate the foregoing.

- (e) Agent shall maintain at its address a copy of each Commitment Transfer Supplement and Modified Commitment Transfer Supplement delivered to it and a register (the "Register") for the recordation of the names and addresses of each Lender and the outstanding principal, accrued and unpaid interest and other fees due hereunder. The entries in the Register shall be conclusive, in the absence of manifest error, and each Loan Party, Agent and Lenders may treat each Person whose name is recorded in the Register as the owner of the Advance recorded therein for the purposes of this Agreement. The Register shall be available for inspection by Borrower or any Lender at any reasonable time and from time to time upon reasonable prior notice. Agent shall receive a fee in the amount of \$3,500 payable by the applicable Purchasing Lender and/or Purchasing CLO upon the effective date of each transfer or assignment (other than to an intermediate purchaser) to such Purchasing Lender and/or Purchasing CLO.
- (f) Each Loan Party authorizes each Lender to disclose to any Transferee and any prospective Transferee any and all financial information in such Lender's possession concerning such Loan Party which has been delivered to such Lender by or on behalf of such Loan Party pursuant to this Agreement or in connection with such Lender's credit evaluation of such Loan Party.
- 16.4. Application of Payments. Agent shall have the continuing and exclusive right to apply or reverse and re-apply any payment and any and all proceeds of Collateral to any portion of the Obligations. To the extent that any Loan Party makes a payment or Agent or any Lender receives any payment or proceeds of the Collateral for any Loan Party's benefit, which are subsequently invalidated, declared to be fraudulent or preferential, set aside or required to be repaid to a trustee, debtor in possession, receiver, custodian or any other party under any bankruptcy law, common law or equitable cause, then, to such extent, the Obligations or part thereof intended to be satisfied shall be revived and continue as if such payment or proceeds had not been received by Agent or such Lender.
- 16.5. <u>Indemnity</u>. Each Loan Party shall indemnify Agent, each Lender and each of their respective officers, directors, Affiliates, attorneys, employees and agents from and against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, actions, judgments, suits, costs, expenses and disbursements of any kind or nature whatsoever (including fees and disbursements of counsel) which may be imposed on, incurred by, or asserted against Agent or any Lender in any claim, litigation, proceeding or investigation instituted or conducted by any Governmental Body or instrumentality or any other Person with respect to any aspect of, or any transaction

contemplated by, or referred to in, or any matter related to, this Agreement or the Other Documents, whether or not Agent or any Lender is a party thereto, except to the extent that any of the foregoing arises out of the willful misconduct of the party being indemnified (as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction in a final and non-appealable judgment). Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this indemnity shall extend to any liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, actions, judgments, suits, costs, expenses and disbursements of any kind or nature whatsoever (including fees and disbursements of counsel) asserted against or incurred by any of the indemnitees described above in this Section 16.5 by any Person under any Environmental Laws or similar laws by reason of any Loan Party's or any other Person's failure to comply with laws applicable to solid or hazardous waste materials, including Hazardous Substances and Hazardous Waste, or other Toxic Substances. Additionally, if any taxes (excluding taxes imposed upon or measured solely by the net income of Agent and Lenders, but including any intangibles taxes, stamp tax, recording tax or franchise tax) shall be payable by Agent, Lenders or Loan Parties on account of the execution or delivery of this Agreement, or the execution, delivery, issuance or recording of any of the Other Documents, or the creation or repayment of any of the Obligations hereunder, by reason of any Applicable Law now or hereafter in effect, Loan Parties will pay (or will promptly reimburse Agent and Lenders for payment of) all such taxes, including interest and penalties thereon, and will indemnify and hold the indemnitees described above in this Section 16.5 harmless from and against all liability in connection therewith.

Party or to Agent or any Lender at their respective addresses set forth below or at such other address as may hereafter be specified in a notice designated as a notice of change of address under this Section. Any notice, request, demand, direction or other communication (for purposes of this Section 16.6 only, a "Notice") to be given to or made upon any party hereto under any provision of this Loan Agreement shall be given or made by telephone or in writing (which includes by means of electronic transmission (i.e., "e-mail") or facsimile transmission or by setting forth such Notice on a site on the World Wide Web (a "Website Posting") if Notice of such Website Posting (including the information necessary to access such site) has previously been delivered to the applicable parties hereto by another means set forth in this Section 16.6) in accordance with this Section 16.6. Any such Notice must be delivered to the applicable parties hereto at the addresses and numbers set forth under their respective names on Section 16.6 hereof or in accordance with any subsequent unrevoked Notice from any such party that is given in accordance with this Section 16.6. Any Notice shall be effective:

In the case of hand-delivery, when delivered;

If given by mail, four days after such Notice is deposited with the United States Postal Service, with first-class postage prepaid, return receipt requested;

In the case of a telephonic Notice, when a party is contacted by telephone, if delivery of such telephonic Notice is confirmed no later than the next Business Day by hand delivery, a facsimile or electronic transmission, a Website Posting or an overnight courier delivery of a confirmatory Notice (received at or before noon on such next Business Day);

In the case of a facsimile transmission, when sent to the applicable party's facsimile machine's telephone number, if the party sending such Notice receives confirmation of the delivery thereof from its own facsimile machine;

In the case of electronic transmission, when actually received;

In the case of a Website Posting, upon delivery of a Notice of such posting (including the information necessary to access such site) by another means set forth in this Section 16.6; and

If given by any other means (including by overnight courier), when actually received.

Any Lender giving a Notice to Borrower or any Loan Party shall concurrently send a copy thereof to the Agent, and the Agent shall promptly notify the other Lenders of its receipt of such Notice.

(A) If to Agent or PNC at:

PNC Bank, National Association 1900 East Ninth Street, 9th Floor Mail Stop B7-YB13-09-5 Cleveland, Ohio 44114 Attention: Todd Milenius Telephone: (216) 222-9761 Facsimile: (216) 222-8155

with a copy to:

PNC Bank, National Association PNC Agency Services PNC Firstside Center 500 First Avenue, 4th Floor Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219 Attention:Lisa Pierce Telephone:(412) 762-6442 Facsimile:(412) 762-8672

with an additional copy to:

Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP 1400 KeyBank Center 800 Superior Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2688 Attention: Martin S. Gates Telephone:(216) 622-8471 Facsimile:(216) 241-0816

(B) If to a Lender other than Agent, as specified on the signature pages hereof.

(C) If to Borrower or any Loan Party:

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. 790 Windmiller Drive Pickerington, Ohio 43147 Attention: Richard A. Curnutte, Sr. Telephone: (614) 328-2934 Facsimile: (614) 328-2935

with a copy to:

Carlile Patchen & Murphy LLP 366 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 Attention: John L. Einstein, Esq. Telephone: (614) 628-0848 Facsimile: (614) 221-0216

- 16.7. <u>Survival</u>. The obligations of Loan Parties under Sections 2.2(f), 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 4.19(h), 6.5 and Article XVII and the obligations of Lenders under Section 14.7, shall survive termination of this Agreement and the Other Documents and payment in full of the Obligations.
- 16.8. Severability. If any part of this Agreement is contrary to, prohibited by, or deemed invalid under Applicable Laws, such provision shall be inapplicable and deemed omitted to the extent so contrary, prohibited or invalid, but the remainder hereof shall not be invalidated thereby and shall be given effect so far as possible.
- 16.9. Expenses. All costs and expenses including reasonable attorneys' fees (including the allocated costs of in house counsel) and disbursements incurred by Agent on its behalf or on behalf of Lenders (a) in all efforts made to enforce payment of any Obligation or effect collection of any Collateral, or (b) in connection with the entering into, modification, amendment, administration and enforcement of this Agreement, the Subordination Agreement or any consents or waivers hereunder or thereunder and all related agreements, documents and instruments, or (c) in instituting, maintaining, preserving, enforcing and foreclosing on Agent's security interest in or Lien on any of the Collateral, or maintaining, preserving or enforcing any of Agent's or any Lender's rights hereunder, under the Subordination Agreement and under all related agreements, documents and instruments, whether through judicial proceedings or otherwise, or (d) in defending or prosecuting any actions or proceedings arising out of or relating to Agent's or any Lender's transactions with any Loan Party or any Guarantor or (e) in connection with any advice given to Agent or any Lender with respect to its rights and obligations under this Agreement, the Subordination Agreement and all related agreements, documents and instruments, may be charged to Borrower's Account and shall be part of the Obligations.
- 16.10. <u>Injunctive Relief</u>. Each Loan Party recognizes that, in the event any Loan Party fails to perform, observe or discharge any of its obligations or liabilities under this Agreement, or threatens to fail to perform, observe or discharge such obligations or liabilities, any remedy at law may prove to be inadequate relief to Lenders; therefore, Agent, if Agent so requests, shall be

entitled to temporary and permanent injunctive relief in any such case without the necessity of proving that actual damages are not an adequate remedy.

- 16.11. Consequential Damages. Neither Agent nor any Lender, nor any agent or attorney for any of them, shall be liable to any Loan Party or any Guarantor (or any Affiliate of any such Person) for indirect, punitive, exemplary or consequential damages arising from any breach of contract, tort or other wrong relating to the establishment, administration or collection of the Obligations or as a result of any transaction contemplated under this Agreement or any Other Document.
- 16.12. <u>Captions</u>. The captions at various places in this Agreement are intended for convenience only and do not constitute and shall not be interpreted as part of this Agreement.
- 16.13. <u>Counterparts</u>; <u>Facsimile Signatures</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of and by different parties hereto on separate counterparts, all of which, when so executed, shall be deemed an original, but all such counterparts shall constitute one and the same agreement. Any signature delivered by a party by facsimile transmission shall be deemed to be an original signature hereto.
- 16.14. <u>Construction</u>. The parties acknowledge that each party and its counsel have reviewed this Agreement and that the normal rule of construction to the effect that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not be employed in the interpretation of this Agreement or any amendments, schedules or exhibits thereto.
- 16.15. Confidentiality; Sharing Information. Agent, each Lender and each Transferee shall hold all non-public information obtained by Agent, such Lender or such Transferee pursuant to the requirements of this Agreement in accordance with Agent's, such Lender's and such Transferee's customary procedures for handling confidential information of this nature; provided, however, Agent, each Lender and each Transferee may disclose such confidential information (a) to its examiners, Affiliates, outside auditors, counsel and other professional advisors, (b) to Agent, any Lender or to any prospective Transferees, and (c) as required or requested by any Governmental Body or representative thereof or pursuant to legal process; provided, further that (i) unless specifically prohibited by Applicable Law, Agent, each Lender and each Transferee shall use its reasonable best efforts prior to disclosure thereof, to notify the applicable Loan Party of the applicable request for disclosure of such non-public information (A) by a Governmental Body or representative thereof (other than any such request in connection with an examination of the financial condition of a Lender or a Transferee by such Governmental Body) or (B) pursuant to legal process and (ii) in no event shall Agent, any Lender or any Transferee be obligated to return any materials furnished by any Loan Party other than those documents and instruments in possession of Agent or any Lender in order to perfect its Lien on the Collateral once the Obligations have been paid in full and this Agreement has been terminated. Each Loan Party acknowledges that from time to time financial advisory, investment banking and other services may be offered or provided to such Loan Party or one or more of its Affiliates (in connection with this Agreement or otherwise) by any Lender or by one or more Subsidiaries or Affiliates of such Lender and each Loan Party hereby authorizes each Lender to share any information delivered to such Lender by such Loan Party and its Subsidiaries pursuant to this Agreement, or in connection with the decision of such Lender to enter into this

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Agreement, to any such Subsidiary or Affiliate of such Lender, it being understood that any such Subsidiary or Affiliate of any Lender receiving such information shall be bound by the provisions of this Section 16.15 as if it were a Lender hercunder. Such authorization shall survive the repayment of the other Obligations and the termination of this Agreement.

- 16.16. <u>Publicity</u>. Each Loan Party and each Lender hereby authorizes Agent to make appropriate announcements of the financial arrangement entered into among Loan Parties, Agent and Lenders, including announcements which are commonly known as tombstones, in such publications and to such selected parties as Agent shall in its sole and absolute discretion deem appropriate.
- 16.17. Certifications From Banks and Participants; US PATRIOT Act. Each Lender or assignee or participant of a Lender that is not incorporated under the Laws of the United States of America or a state thereof (and is not excepted from the certification requirement contained in Section 313 of the USA PATRIOT Act and the applicable regulations because it is both (i) an affiliate of a depository institution or foreign bank that maintains a physical presence in the United States or foreign country, and (ii) subject to supervision by a banking authority regulating such affiliated depository institution or foreign bank) shall deliver to the Agent the certification, or, if applicable, recertification, certifying that such Lender is not a "shell" and certifying to other matters as required by Section 313 of the USA PATRIOT Act and the applicable regulations: (1) within 10 days after the Closing Date, and (2) as such other times as are required under the USA PATRIOT Act.

ATTEST:	VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.
	as Borrower
	Ву:
	Name:
	Title:

Each of the parties has signed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

as Lender, Issuer and as Agent

Ву:	 	
Name:	 	
Title:		

PNC Bank, National Association 1900 East Ninth Street, 9th Floor Mail Stop B7-YB13-09-5 Cleveland, Ohio 44114 Attention: Todd Milenius

Commitment Percentage: 100%

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Signature Page to
Amended and Restated Revolving Credit
And Security Agreement
(PNC Bank, National Association)

STATE OF	.)	•		
COUNTY OF) ss. .)			
On this day			me personally duly swom, did depo	came
say that s/he is the			rvices, Inc., the corpo	
described in and which executed t	he foregoing	instrument; and tha	at s/he signed her/his	name
thereto by order of the board of dire				
		_		
	_			
	N	lotary Public		

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Notary Page to
Amended and Restated Revolving Credit
And Security Agreement
(Volunteer EnergyServices, Inc.)

	Notary Public
and that s/he was authorized to sign	of PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION her/his name thereto.
and say that s/he is the	_, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose
On this day	1
COUNTY OF) 55.
STATE OF)) ss.

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Notary Page to
Amended and Restated Revolving Credit
And Security Agreement
(PNC Bank, National Association)

AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO AMENDED AND RESTATED REVOLVING CREDIT AND SECURITY AGREEMENT

This AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO AMENDED AND RESTATED REVOLVING CREDIT AND SECURITY AGREEMENT (this "Amendment"), is made as of this 13th day of December, 2012, among the financial institutions that are a party to the Credit Agreement (as defined below) (collectively, the "Lenders" and each individually, a "Lender"), PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association, as a Lender, as Issuer, and as administrative agent and collateral agent for the Lenders (the "Agent"), and VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC., an Ohio corporation (the "Borrower").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Borrower, the Agent, the Lenders, and the Issuer have entered into that certain Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of July 23, 2010, as amended by Waiver and Amendment No. 1 to Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of May 11, 2011, Amendment No. 2 to Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of October 5, 2011, Amendment No. 3 to Amended and Restated Revolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of December 20, 2011, and Amendment No. 4 to Amended and Restated Evolving Credit and Security Agreement, dated as of March 16, 2012 (as amended, restated, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time, the "Credit Agreement") pursuant to which Agent and Lenders provide Borrower with certain financial accommodations;

WHEREAS, the Borrower has requested that the Agent, the Lenders and the Issuer amend certain provisions of the Credit Agreement as set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, the Agent, the Lenders and the Issuer are willing to do the foregoing, and to amend the Credit Agreement in certain respects on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and agreements contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the Agent, the Lenders, the Issuer, and the Borrower do hereby agree as follows:

1. **DEFINED TERMS**.

Each defined term used herein and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in the Credit Agreement.

2. AMENDMENTS TO THE CREDIT AGREEMENT.

2.1 The following defined terms in Section 1.2 of the Credit Agreement are deleted: Columbia Gas Choice Receivable, Columbia Gas Eligible Receivable, Columbia Gas of Ohio CHOICE Receivable, Columbia Gas of Ohio Eligible Receivable, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania CHOICE Receivable, Vectren Choice Receivable and Vectren Eligible Receivable.

2.2 The following defined terms are added to Section 1.2 of the Credit Agreement in appropriate alphabetical order.

"Amendment No. 5" shall mean Amendment No. 5 to this Agreement dated as of December 13, 2012, among Borrower, Agent, Lenders, and the Issuer.

"Daily LIBOR Rate" shall mean, for any day, the rate per annum determined by Agent by dividing (A) the Published Rate by (B) a number equal to 1.00 minus the percentage prescribed by the Federal Reserve for determining the maximum reserve requirements with respect to any eurocurrency fundings by banks on such day.

"Daily LIBOR Rate Loans" shall mean an Advance or portion thereof at any time that bears interest based at the Daily LIBOR Rate.

"Increase Option" is defined in Section 2.24.

"National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Billing Service Agreement" means the Billing Service Agreement for Consolidated Billing Service under Rate Schedule SATS – Small Aggregation Transportation Supplier Service dated November 20, 2012 between National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and Borrower.

"Receivables Purchase Agreement" means an Aggregation/ Pooling Service Agreement between Borrower as a certified natural gas remarketer, and a Local Distribution Company, acceptable to the Agent in its sole discretion as advised by Agent in writing, providing for (a) the Local Distribution Company's transporting, and Borrower's supplying, Gas to Customers, (b) the Local Distribution Company's purchase of some or all of the Receivables owed by Customers to Borrower for the supplying of Gas in connection with such Aggregation/Pooling Services Agreement, and (c) the purchase of any such Receivable occurring by no later than the calendar month following the month in which any Gas was transported to the Customer giving rise to such Receivable. Receivables due from the Customers to Borrower that a Local Distribution Company has purchased as described in the preceding sentence are called "Specified Sold Customer Receivables", and the Receivables due from Local Distribution Companies to the Borrower that arise from Borrower's sale of Specified Sold Customer Receivables are called "Specified LDC Receivables". On the date of Amendment No. 5, the following are Receivables Purchase Agreements: the Columbia Gas of Ohio Receivable Purchase Agreement, the Columbia Gas of Ohio Standard Choice Offer Supplier Agreement, the Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania Receivable Purchase Agreement, the Vectren Choice Supplier Pooling Agreement, and the National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Billing Service Agreement.

"Specified LDC Receivable Payment Deadline" means, unless otherwise specified in the following sentence, the earlier of (a) the date required in the applicable Receivables Purchase Agreement and (b) 30 days of the date Borrower sold the Specified Sold Customer Receivable to the Local Distribution Company under a Receivables Purchase Agreement that gave rise to the Specified LDC Receivable. With respect to the following Specified LDC Receivables, Specified LDC Receivable Payment Deadline means: (i) the third (3rd) Business Day following the twentieth (20th) day of the calendar month in which Columbia Gas of Ohio purchased the applicable Specified Sold Customer Receivable under the Columbia Gas of Ohio Receivable Purchase Agreement, (ii) the twenty-fifth (25th) day of the calendar month in which Columbia Gas of Ohio purchased the applicable Specified Sold Customer Receivable under the Columbia Gas of Ohio Standard Choice Offer Supplier Agreement, (iii) the thirtieth (30th) day of the calendar month in which Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania purchased the applicable Specified Sold Customer Receivable under a Receivables Purchase Agreement, (iv) the third (3rd) Business Day following the twenty-fifth (25th) day of the calendar month in which Vectren purchased the applicable Specified Sold Customer Receivable under the Vectren Choice Supplier Pooling Agreement, and (v) the third (3rd) Business Day following the twentieth (20th) day after National Fuel Gas Distribution Company issues a bill to the Customer with respect to the applicable Specified Sold Customer Receivable National Fuel Gas Distribution Company purchased under the National Fuel Gas Distribution Company Billing Service Agreement.

"Sold or Encumbered Receivable" means a Receivable of the Borrower (i) which is sold or transferred to a local gas distribution company (including all Specified Sold Customer Receivables) or (ii) in which the Borrower has granted a security interest to a local gas distribution company, in either case whether pursuant to a Receivables Purchase Agreement, any similar agreement or otherwise.

2.3 The following defined terms in Section 1.2 of the Credit Agreement are amended to read as follows:

"Alternate Base Rate" shall mean, for any day, a rate per annum equal to the higher of (i) the Base Rate in effect on such day, (ii) the Federal Funds Open Rate in effect on such day plus 1/2 of 1%, and (iii) the Daily LIBOR Rate plus 1%.

"Eligible Invoice" shall mean an invoice or other documentary evidence satisfactory to the Agent of billings for Gas sold by the Borrower and which: (i) in the case of a sale of Gas by the Borrower to a Customer in connection with a CHOICE program and transported to such Customer by a Local Distribution Company pursuant to an Aggregation\Pooling

Service Agreement, shall mean documentary evidence consisting of the internal "invoice" generated in connection with the Borrower's receipt of a report from such Local Distribution Company reflecting the delivery of Gas to such Customer, such report by such Local Distribution Company and the invoice sent by such Local Distribution Company on behalf of the Borrower to such Customer and (ii) in the case of a sale of Gas by the Borrower to a Customer in connection with general transmission service of the Borrower, shall mean the invoice sent to such Customer directly by the Borrower.

"Guaranteed Eligible Receivable" shall mean a Receivable which constitutes an Eligible Receivable and which is:

- (a) a Specified LDC Receivable so long as (i) the applicable Local Distribution Company has given all consents necessary to permit the assignment of a security interest to Agent in Borrower's rights under the applicable Receivables Purchase Agreement and (ii) the applicable Local Distribution Company pays the Specified LDC Receivable in cash to the Cash Concentration Account not later than the Specified LDC Receivable Payment Deadline; or
- (b) subject to an agreement with a Local Distribution Company, in substance satisfactory to the Agent in its sole discretion as advised by Agent in writing, fully guarantying the Customer payment of such Receivable to the Borrower or agreeing unconditionally to purchase such Receivable from the Borrower so long as the Local Distribution Company executing the agreement providing for such guaranty or purchase has given all consents necessary to permit the assignment of a security interest to the Agent in the Borrower's rights under such agreement.

In no event shall any Sold or Encumbered Receivable constitute a Guaranteed Eligible Receivable.

"Letter of Credit Sublimit" shall mean \$15,000,000.

"Local Distribution Company" shall mean any local gas distribution company acceptable to the Agent in its sole discretion as advised by Agent in writing, which on the date of Amendment No. 5 includes Cincinnati Gas and Electric Company, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Dominion East Ohio Gas Company, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Vectren, and National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation.

"Maximum Revolving Advance Amount" shall mean (a) for the period commencing on January 1 through and including March 31 of each calendar year, \$40,000,000, (b) for the period commencing on April 1 through and including October 31 of each calendar year, \$25,000,000 and

(c) for the period commencing on November 1 through and including December 31 of each calendar year, \$40,000,000, as such amounts may be increased or decreased from time to time to time in accordance with this Agreement.

"Published Rate" shall mean the rate of interest published each Business Day in the Wall Street Journal "Money Rates" listing under the caption "London Interbank Offered Rates" for a one month period (or, if no such rate is published therein for any reason, then the Published Rate shall be the eurodollar rate for a one month period as published in another publication selected by Agent).

"Revolving Interest Rate" shall mean an interest rate per annum equal to (a) the sum of the Alternate Base Rate plus 0.75% with respect to Domestic Rate Loans, (b) the sum of the Daily LIBOR Rate plus 2.50% with respect to Daily LIBOR Rate Loans, and (c) the sum of the Eurodollar Rate plus 2.50% with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans.

"Unbilled Eligible Receivable" shall mean a Receivable which would otherwise constitute an Eligible Receivable but for the fact that no Eligible Invoice exists with respect to such Receivable with respect to the sale giving rise to the Receivable; provided, however that (i) such Receivable shall be recorded at cost without mark-up until an Eligible Invoice exists, (ii) in the case of a Receivable that would otherwise be a Guaranteed Eligible Receivables, such Receivable is not recorded as billed until an Eligible Invoice exists, and (iii) such Unbilled Eligible Receivable is evidenced by a daily delivery report furnished by the applicable pipeline transmitter. In no event shall any Sold or Encumbered Receivable constitute an Unbilled Eligible Receivable.

- 2.4 Clause (p) of the definition of "Eligible Receivables" in Section 1.2 of the Credit Agreement is amended to read:
 - (p) such Receivable is a Sold or Encumbered Receivable; or
 - 2.5 Section 2.1(a) of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:
 - (a) Amount of Revolving Advances. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement including, without limitation, Section 2.1(b), each Lender, severally and not jointly, will make Revolving Advances to the Borrower in aggregate amounts outstanding at any time equal to such Lender's Commitment Percentage of the lesser of (x) the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount less the Maximum Undrawn Amount of outstanding Letters of Credit or (y) an amount equal to the sum of:
 - (i) up to the sum of:

- (A) up to 90%, subject to the provisions of Section 2.1(b) hereof, of Guaranteed Eligible Receivables, plus
- (B) up to 85%, subject to the provisions of Section 2.1(b) hereof, of Eligible Receivables (without duplication for Eligible Receivables which are counted as Guaranteed Eligible Receivables), plus
- (C) up to 85%, subject to the provisions of Section 2.1(b) hereof, of Unbilled Eligible Receivables, plus

(ii) up to the lesser of:

- (A) up to 75% of the value of Eligible Inventory, subject to the provisions of Section 2.1(b), hereof, or
- (B) an aggregate amount equal to 37.5% of the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount existing at such time, minus
- (iii) the aggregate Maximum Undrawn Amount of all outstanding Letters of Credit, minus
- (iv) such reserves as Agent may reasonably deem proper and necessary from time to time.

The rates derived from Section 2.1(a)(y)(i)(A), (B), and (C) shall be referred to individually and collectively as the "Receivables Advance Rate." The rate derived from Section 2.1(a)(y)(ii)(A) shall be referred to as the "Inventory Advance Rate." The amount derived from the sum of (x) Sections 2.1(a)(y)(i) and (ii) minus (y) Sections 2.1 (a)(y)(iii) and (iv) at any time and from time to time shall be referred to as the "Formula Amount". In calculating the Formula Amount, the reduction for the aggregate Maximum Undrawn Availability for all outstanding Letters of Credit shall be decreased by the amount of any monies in the cash collateral account pursuant to Section 3.2(b) of this Agreement. The Revolving Advances shall be evidenced by one or more secured promissory notes (collectively, the "Revolving Credit Note") substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit 2.1(a). Without in any way limiting the Agent's general ability to set or otherwise impose reserves as set forth in Section 2.1(a)(y)(iv), the Agent specifically may impose a reserve under this Section 2.1 in the event that the credit rating of any Local Distribution Company with respect to which there are any Guaranteed Eligible Receivables (as reported by Moody's Investor Service, Inc. and/or Standard and Poor's Rating Services) is at any time lowered, such reserve to be in such amount and for such duration as the Agent deems proper and necessary, in its sole discretion.

2.6 Section 2.2(b) of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:

Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) above, in the event any Borrower desires to obtain a Eurodollar Rate Loan, Borrower shall give Agent written notice by no later than 10:00 a.m. on the day which is three (3) Business Days prior to the date such Eurodollar Rate Loan is to be borrowed, specifying (i) the date of the proposed borrowing (which shall be a Business Day), (ii) the type of borrowing and the amount on the date of such Advance to be borrowed, which amount shall be in an aggregate principal amount that is not less than \$1,000,000 and integral multiples of \$100,000 in excess thereof, and (iii) the duration of the first Interest Period therefor. Interest Periods for Eurodollar Rate Loans shall be for one, two, or three months; provided, if an Interest Period would end on a day that is not a Business Day, it shall end on the next succeeding Business Day unless such day falls in the next succeeding calendar month in which case the Interest Period shall end on the next preceding Business Day. No Eurodollar Rate Loan shall be made available to any Borrower during the continuance of a Default or an Event of Default. After giving effect to each requested Eurodollar Rate Loan, including those which are converted from a Domestic Rate Loan or a Daily LIBOR Rate Loan under Section 2.2(d), there shall not be outstanding more than five (5) Eurodollar Rate Loans, in the aggregate.

2.7 Section 2.2(d) of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:

Provided that no Event of Default shall have occurred and (d) be continuing, Borrower may, on the last Business Day of the then current Interest Period applicable to any outstanding Eurodollar Rate Loan, or on any Business Day with respect to Domestic Rate Loans or Daily LIBOR Rate Loans, convert any such loan into a loan of another type in the same aggregate principal amount provided that any conversion of a Eurodollar Rate Loan shall be made only on the last Business Day of the then current Interest Period applicable to such Eurodollar Rate Loan. If Borrower desires to convert a loan, Borrower shall give Agent written notice by no later than 10:00 a.m. (i) on the day which is three (3) Business Days' prior to the date on which such conversion is to occur with respect to a conversion from a Domestic Rate Loan or a Daily LIBOR Rate Loan to a Eurodollar Rate Loan, or (ii) on the day which is one (1) Business Day prior to the date on which such conversion is to occur with respect to a conversion from a Eurodollar Rate Loan to either a Domestic Rate Loan or a Daily LIBOR Rate Loan, specifying, in each case, the date of such conversion, the loans to be converted and if the conversion is from a Domestic Rate Loan or a Daily LIBOR Rate Loan to any other type of loan, the duration of the first Interest Period therefor.

2.8 Section 2.2(g) of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, if any Applicable Law, or any change therein or in the interpretation or

application thereof, shall make it unlawful for any Lender (for purposes of this subsection (g), the term "Lender" shall include any Lender and the office or branch where any Lender or any corporation or bank controlling such Lender makes or maintains any Eurodollar Rate Loans or Daily LIBOR Rate Loans) to make or maintain its Eurodollar Rate Loans or Daily LIBOR Rate Loans, the obligation of Lenders to make Eurodollar Rate Loans or Daily LIBOR Rate Loans hereunder shall forthwith be cancelled and Borrower shall, if any affected Eurodollar Rate Loans or Daily LIBOR Rate Loans are then outstanding, promptly upon request from Agent, either pay all such affected Eurodollar Rate Loans or Daily LIBOR Rate Loans, as the case may be, or convert such affected Eurodollar Rate Loans or Daily LIBOR Rate Loans into loans of another type. If any such payment or conversion of any Eurodollar Rate Loan is made on a day that is not the last day of the Interest Period applicable to such Eurodollar Rate Loan, Borrower shall pay Agent, upon Agent's request, such amount or amounts as may be necessary to compensate Lenders for any loss or expense sustained or incurred by Lenders in respect of such Eurodollar Rate Loan as a result of such payment or conversion, including (but not limited to) any interest or other amounts payable by Lenders to lenders of funds obtained by Lenders in order to make or maintain such Eurodollar Rate Loan. A certificate as to any additional amounts payable pursuant to the foregoing sentence submitted by Lenders to Borrower shall be conclusive absent manifest error.

2.9 The following new Section 2.2(h) is added to the Credit Agreement:

(h) Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, if Agent determines (which determination shall be final and conclusive) that, by reason of circumstances affecting the eurodollar market generally, deposits in dollars (in the applicable amounts) are not being offered to banks in the eurodollar market for the selected term, or adequate means do not exist for ascertaining the Daily LIBOR Rate, then Agent shall give notice thereof to Borrower. Thereafter, the obligation of Lenders to make Daily LIBOR Rate Loans hereunder shall forthwith be cancelled and Borrower shall, if any affected Daily LIBOR Rate Loans are then outstanding, promptly upon request from Agent, either pay all such affected Daily LIBOR Rate Loans or convert such affected Daily LIBOR Rate Loan into a Domestic Rate Loan.

2.10 Section 2.24 of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:

2.24. <u>Increase of the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount.</u> Borrower may from time to time request that Lenders increase the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount by up to \$10,000,000 in the aggregate, subject to the following conditions precedent (each request, an "*Increase Option*"):

- (a) no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such request or on the date which such increase is to become effective;
- (b) the first increase is at least \$5,000,000, and any increase that causes the aggregate increase to the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount under this Section 2.24 to exceed \$5,000,000, must be in increments of \$1,000,000;
- (c) such request shall be made at least thirty (30) days' prior to the proposed effective date of such increase;
- (d) such increase shall be granted at the sole discretion of the Lenders and shall be subject to credit approval;
- (e) the representations and warranties set forth in Article V shall be true and correct on and as of the date on which such increase is to become effective, except to the extent that such representations and warranties specifically refer to an earlier date, in which case they shall be true and correct as of such earlier date; and
- (e) Agent shall have received all documents (including appropriate authorizing resolutions and replacement Notes) it may reasonably request relating to the corporate or other necessary authority for such increase, and any other matters relevant thereto, all in form and substance satisfactory to Agent.

The Increase Option may be requested on one or more occasions during the Term. Promptly following receipt of a request under this Section, Agent shall advise the Lenders thereof. Each notice delivered by Borrower under this Section shall be irrevocable. Lenders may refuse to fund any Increase Option and Agent shall not be obligated to solicit or obtain lenders to provide additional commitments in such event. If and when all of the conditions to the effectiveness of any Increase Option are met, the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount shall be increased by the amount requested pursuant to such Increase Option.

2.11 Section 3.1 of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:

3.1 <u>Interest.</u> Interest on Advances shall be payable in arrears on the first day of each month with respect to Domestic Rate Loans and Daily LIBOR Rate Loans and, with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans, at the end of each Interest Period. Interest charges shall be computed on the actual principal amount of Advances outstanding during the month at a rate per annum equal to the applicable Revolving Interest Rate. Whenever, subsequent to the date of this Agreement, the Alternate Base Rate is increased or decreased, the Revolving Interest Rate for Domestic Rate Loans shall be similarly changed without notice or demand of any

kind by an amount equal to the amount of such change in the Alternate Base Rate during the time such change or changes remain in effect. Whenever, subsequent to the date of this Agreement, the Daily LIBOR Rate is increased or decreased, the Revolving Interest Rate for Daily LIBOR Rate Loans shall be similarly changed without notice or demand of any kind by an amount equal to the amount of such change in the Daily LIBOR Rate during the time such change or changes remain in effect. The Eurodollar Rate shall be adjusted with respect to Eurodollar Rate Loans without notice or demand of any kind on the effective date of any change in the Reserve Percentage as of such effective date. Upon and after the occurrence of an Event of Default, and during the continuation thereof, at the option of Agent or at the direction of Required Lenders, the Obligations shall bear interest at the applicable Revolving Interest Rate plus two (2%) percent per annum (the "Default Rate").

- 2.12 Section 3.2(a) of the Credit Agreement is amended to replace "two and three-quarters percent (2.75%)" with "two and one-half percent (2.50%)".
 - 2.13 Section 3.5 of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:
 - 3.5 <u>Computation of Interest and Fees</u>. Interest and fees hereunder shall be computed on the basis of a year of 360 days and for the actual number of days elapsed. If any payment to be made hereunder becomes due and payable on a day other than a Business Day, the due date thereof shall be extended to the next succeeding Business Day and interest thereon shall be payable at the applicable Revolving Interest Rate during such extension.
- 2.14 Section 3.7 of the Credit Agreement is amended to insert "or Daily LIBOR Rate Loans" after "Eurodollar Rate Loans".
 - 2.15 Section 3.8 of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:
 - 3.8 <u>Basis For Determining Interest Rate Inadequate or Unfair</u>. In the event that Agent or any Lender shall have determined that:
 - (a) reasonable means do not exist for ascertaining the Eurodollar Rate applicable pursuant to Section 2.2 hereof for any Interest Period; or
 - (b) Dollar deposits in the relevant amount and for the relevant maturity are not available in the London interbank Eurodollar market, with respect to an outstanding Eurodollar Rate Loan, a proposed Eurodollar Rate Loan, or a proposed conversion of a Domestic Rate Loan into a Eurodollar Rate Loan,

then Agent shall give Borrower prompt written or telephonic of such determination. If such notice is given, (i) any such requested Eurodollar

Rate Loan shall be made as a Domestic Rate Loan, unless Borrower shall notify Agent no later than 10:00 a.m. (New York City time) two (2) Business Days prior to the date of such proposed borrowing, that its request for such borrowing shall be cancelled or made as an unaffected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan, (ii) any Domestic Rate Loan, Daily LIBOR Rate Loan or Eurodollar Rate Loan which was to have been converted to an affected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan shall be continued as or converted into a Domestic Rate Loan, or, if Borrower shall notify Agent, no later than 10:00 a.m. (New York City time) two (2) Business Days prior to the proposed conversion, shall be maintained as an unaffected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan, and (iii) any outstanding affected Eurodollar Rate Loans shall be converted into a Domestic Rate Loan, or, if Borrower shall notify Agent, no later than 10.00 a.m. (New York City time) two (2) Business Days prior to the last Business Day of the then current Interest Period applicable to such affected Eurodollar Rate Loan, shall be converted into an unaffected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan, on the last Business Day of the then current Interest Period for such affected Eurodollar Rate Loans. Until such notice has been withdrawn, Lenders shall have no obligation to make an affected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan or maintain outstanding affected Eurodollar Rate Loans and no Borrower shall have the right to convert a Domestic Rate Loan, Daily LIBOR Rate Loan or an unaffected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan into an affected type of Eurodollar Rate Loan.

2.16 Section 7.1(b) of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:

- (b) Sell, lease, transfer or otherwise dispose of any of its properties or assets, except dispositions of Inventory to the extent expressly permitted by Section 4.3; provided, however, that a Loan Party may sell a Receivable to the applicable Local Distribution Company which participated in the delivery of Gas to such Loan Party's Customers which gave rise to such Receivable, but only to the extent that the applicable Local Distribution Company makes a cash payment for 100% of the value of such Receivable (with the exception for Specified Sold Customer Receivables, which shall be no less than the greater of (y) 97% or (z) the percentage specified in the applicable Receivables Purchase Agreement, of the value of such Receivable) directly into the Cash Concentration Account on the same day as the sale thereof is consummated and the transfer occurs or, in the case of Specified LDC Receivables, by the applicable Specified LDC Receivable Payment Deadline.
- 2.17 Section 7.6 of the Credit Agreement is amended to replace "\$300,000" with "\$1,000,000".
 - 2.18 Section 7.7 of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:

7.7 Dividends. Declare, pay or make any dividend or distribution on any shares of the common stock or preferred stock of any Loan Party (other than dividends or distributions payable in its stock, or split-ups or reclassifications of its stock) or apply any of its funds, property or assets to the purchase, redemption or other retirement of any common or preferred stock, or of any options to purchase or acquire any such shares of common or preferred stock of any Loan Party; provided, however, that (a) with respect to any Loan Party, distributions may be made by any such Loan Party which has elected to be taxed in accordance with Subchapter S and any comparable state tax laws to its respective shareholders in an amount necessary for the payment of the federal and state income tax obligations on account of the attribution of each such Loan Party's income to such shareholders by reason of such Loan Party being a Subchapter S corporation in each case determined by reference to the shareholder who has the highest combined marginal rate for income tax purposes ("Income Tax Distributions") provided the Borrower shall cause any excess distribution to be returned to the Borrower; (b) with respect to the 2012 fiscal year of the Borrower, in addition to any Income Tax Distributions the Borrower may declare and pay an annual dividend for such year in an aggregate amount of up to Nine Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$9,500,000), but only so long as both immediately before and after giving effect thereto, (y) no Default or Event of Default shall exist and (z) the Borrower shall have Undrawn Availability of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000); and (c) with respect to the 2013 fiscal year of the Borrower and each fiscal year thereafter, in addition to any Income Tax Distributions the Borrower may declare and pay an annual dividend for such year in an aggregate amount equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the Net Income of the Loan Parties for such fiscal year (based upon the financial statements required to be delivered under Section 9.7 hereof for such fiscal year), but only so long as both immediately before and after giving effect thereto, (y) no Default or Event of Default shall exist and (z) the Borrower shall have Undrawn Availability of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000).

2.19 Section 7.22 of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:

7.22 Other Agreements. Enter into any amendment, waiver or modification of any Aggregation/Pooling Service Agreements, any Receivables Purchase Agreement, or any Interest Rate Hedges.

2.20 Section 13.1 of the Credit Agreement is amended to read as follows:

13.1 <u>Term.</u> This Agreement, which shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the respective successors and permitted assigns of each Loan Party, the Issuer, Agent and each Lender, shall become effective on the date hereof and shall continue in full force and effect until November 30, 2015 (the "Term") unless sooner terminated as herein

provided. Borrower may terminate this Agreement at any time upon ninety (90) days' prior written notice upon payment in full of the Obligations. In the event the Obligations are prepaid in full prior to the last day of the Term (the date of such prepayment hereinafter referred to as the "Early Termination Date"), Borrower shall pay to Agent for the benefit of Lenders an early termination fee in an amount equal to (x) 3% of the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount if the Early Termination Date occurs on before November 29, 2013, (y) 2% of the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount if the Early Termination Date occurs on or after November 30, 2013 to and including November 29, 2014, and (z) 1% of the Maximum Revolving Advance Amount if the Early Termination Date occurs on or after November 30, 2014.

3. CERTAIN UCC AMENDMENT REQUESTS.

Borrower is party to, and intends in the future to enter into, Aggregation/Pooling Services Agreements wherein local Gas distribution companies agree to deliver Gas supplied by Borrower to Borrower's Customers and to purchase Receivables owing from Customers to Borrower arising from the local Gas distribution company's delivery of Gas supplied by Borrower under such agreements. Borrower believes that from time to time it will ask Agent to amend the collateral description in its UCC-1 Financing Statements filed against Borrower as Debtor to remove Receivables purchased by the applicable local Gas distribution company. After Borrower makes such request to Agent in writing and provides Agent with the applicable Aggregation/Pooling Services Agreement, Agent agrees to review the applicable Aggregation/Pooling Services Agreement and evaluate the request. Agent may grant or deny the request in Agent's sole discretion. If Agent grants such request, it agrees that it intends to use the UCC-3 Amendment form attached as Exhibit A to this Amendment as the basis for the UCC-3 Amendment it will file, revised based on Agent's review of the applicable Aggregation/Pooling Services Agreement, the request, and the facts and circumstances in each case.

4. AMENDED AND RESTATED SUBORDINATION AND INTERCREDITOR AGREEMENT. Reference is made to that certain Amended and Restated Subordination and Intercreditor Agreement dated as of July 23, 2010 between Agent as "First Lien Agent", Lenders as "First Lien Lenders", and Bank of America, N.A. on behalf of itself and its successors and assigns as the "Second Lien Lenders" (the "Subordination and Intercreditor By February 11, 2013, Borrower must either (a) deliver to Agent an Agreement"). acknowledgement from Merrill Lynch Commodities, Inc. that it is a Second Lien Lender under the Subordination and Intercreditor Agreement, and as such it is bound by the terms of the Subordination and Intercreditor Agreement, or (b) cause Merrill Lynch Commodities, Inc. to enter into an amended and restated subordination and intercreditor agreement with Agent, Lenders, and Borrower containing the same terms as the Subordination and Intercreditor Agreement.

5. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

The Borrower hereby represents and warrants to the Agent, each of the Lenders and the Issuer as follows:

- 5.1 The Amendment. This Amendment has been duly and validly executed by an authorized officer of the Borrower and constitutes the legal, valid and binding obligation of the Borrower enforceable against the Borrower in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, moratorium or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally.
- 5.2 <u>Credit Agreement</u>. The Credit Agreement, as amended by this Amendment, remains in full force and effect and remains the valid and binding obligation of the Borrower enforceable against the Borrower in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, moratorium or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally. The Borrower hereby ratifies and confirms the Credit Agreement, as amended hereby.
- 5.3 Reference to and Effect on the Credit Agreement. Upon the effectiveness of this Amendment, each reference in the Credit Agreement to "this Agreement", "hereunder", "hereof", "herein", or words of like import shall mean and be a reference to the Credit Agreement, as amended hereby, and each reference to the Credit Agreement in any other document, instrument or agreement executed and/or delivered in connection with the Credit Agreement shall mean and be a reference to the Credit Agreement, as amended hereby. Except as amended hereby, the Credit Agreement and the Other Documents remain unmodified and in full force and effect.
- 5.4 <u>Claims and Defenses</u>. As of the date of this Amendment, the Borrower has no defenses, claims, counterclaims or setoffs with respect to the Credit Agreement or its Obligations thereunder or with respect to any actions of the Agent, any Lender, or the Issuer, or any of their officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents or attorneys, and the Borrower irrevocably and absolutely waives any such defenses, claims, counterclaims and setoffs and releases the Agent, each of the Lenders and the Issuer and each of their respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents and attorneys from the same.
- 5.5 No Default. As of the date of this Amendment, (i) no Default or Event of Default exists under the Credit Agreement or any of the Other Documents, and (ii) no default or event of default exists under the Interest Rate Hedges (as defined in the Credit Agreement) with Bank of America, N.A. (or its Affiliates).

6. **REAFFIRMATION**.

The Borrower hereby (i) acknowledges and agrees that the terms and provisions hereof shall not affect in any way any payment, performance, observance or other obligations or liabilities of the Borrower under the Credit Agreement or under any of the Other Documents, all of which obligations and liabilities shall remain in full force and effect and extend to the further loans, extensions of credit and other Obligations incurred under the Credit Agreement and any of the Other Documents, and each of which obligations and liabilities are hereby ratified, confirmed and reaffirmed in all respects, and (ii) acknowledges, ratifies, confirms and reaffirms its grant of Liens on its properties and assets pursuant to the Credit Agreement and any of the Other Documents to secure the prompt and complete payment, performance and/or observance of all or any part of the Obligations, and acknowledges and agrees that all of such Liens are intended and

shall be deemed and construed to secure to the fullest extent set forth therein all now existing and hereafter arising Obligations under and as defined in the Credit Agreement, as amended hereby.

7. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS AMENDMENT.

In addition to all of the other conditions and agreements set forth herein, the effectiveness of this Amendment is subject to each of the following conditions precedent:

- 7.1 This Amendment. The Agent shall have received (i) an original counterpart of this Amendment, executed and delivered by a duly authorized officer of the Borrower, (ii) an original counterpart of the Acknowledgment of the Guarantor, attached to this Amendment, executed and delivered by the Guarantor, and (iii) all related documents and such other information, materials and Loan Documents listed on the Closing Checklist attached as Exhibit B to this Amendment.
- 7.2 <u>National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Billing Service Agreement and Assignment Notice</u>. The Agent shall have received a fully-executed copy of the National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Billing Service Agreement and evidence that Borrower has sent National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation the assignment notice described in Section F.9. of the National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation Billing Service Agreement.
- 7.3 <u>Fees and Expenses</u>. The Borrower shall have paid all fees of the Agent, the Lenders and the Issuer in connection with this Amendment including, without limitation, any reasonable legal fees and expenses.
- 7.4 Other Documents and Deliveries. The Agent shall have received such other documents, instruments or other materials as it shall have reasonably requested.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

- 8.1 Governing Law. This Amendment shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the State of Ohio, without regard to principles of conflict of law.
- 8.2 Severability. Each provision of this Amendment shall be interpreted in such manner as to be valid under applicable law, but if any provision hereof shall be invalid under applicable law, such provision shall be ineffective to the extent of such invalidity, without invalidating the remainder of such provision or the remaining provisions hereof.
- 8.3 <u>Counterparts.</u> This Amendment may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which, when taken together, shall constitute but one and the same agreement. Delivery of an executed counterpart hereof by facsimile or electronic transmission in .pdf format shall be effective as manual delivery of such counterpart; <u>provided, however</u>, that each party hereto will promptly thereafter deliver counterpart originals of such counterpart facsimiles delivered by or on behalf of such party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Borrower has caused this Amendment to be duly executed and delivered by its duly authorized officer as of the date first above written.

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

By: Maryal a Current &

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as Agent, Lender and Issuer

By: ______ Todd W. Milenius, Vice President

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Borrower has caused this Amendment to be duly executed and delivered by its duly authorized officer as of the date first above written.

VOLUNTEER ENER	lGY	SERVICES	INC.
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Ву:					
	Richard	A.	Curnutte,	Sr.,	President

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

as Agent, Lender and Issuer

By:

Todd W. Milenius, Vice President



EXHIBIT C-5

Forecasted Financial Statements

(Under Seal)

SEE DOCUMENT FILED UNDER SEAL



EXHIBIT C-6 Credit Rating

(See Attached)





VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Doing Business as: VOLL

VOLUNTEER ENERGY

D-U-N-S® Number: 02-845-5926 Location Type: Headquarters Registered Address: Web: 790 Windmiller Dr, Pickerington, OH 43147 www.volunteerenergy.com Phone: 614 856-3128 Fax: 614-856-3301

This report includes:

✓ Core Report
 ✓ Enhanced Data Upgrade
 ✓ Enhanced Trade Upgrade
 ✓ Enhanced Analytics Upgrade

Trade Payments



Examining how a company has paid its bills in the past can strongly indicate, but may not necessarily predict, how it will pay its bills in the future.

- D&B's overall assessment of trade payment risk is medium
- Payment average: 19 days beyond terms, which is reflected in D&B's PAYDEX score of 64. This is based on 21 trade experiences in D&B's database. 83% of these trade experiences were pald within terms.

Trade Payments History

Trade Payments History - Past 3 months

Over the past 3 months, this company has paid its bills 3 days beyond terms

Based on D&B's 3-Month PAYDEX

Complete Trade Payment History

Based on all of the trade experiences in D&B database, this company has paid its bills 19 days beyond terms

Based on D&B's 24-Month PAYDEX





24 Month Payment Trend & Industry Comparison

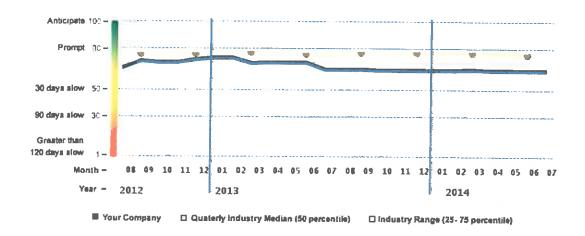


This industry comparison chart lets you see if this business's payment patterns are typical for this particular industry segment to help you establish appropriate credit lines

Recently, the average payment record for all companies in the Natural gas distribution industry is 6 days beyond terms



VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.



Trade Payment Data Currently in D&B's Database

# of Payment Experiences in D&B's	21	Average Highest Credit	\$5,538
Database		Largest Higheat Credit	\$65,000
% of Payments Within Terms	83%	Highest Amount Now Owing	\$5.000
% of Payments With Slow or Negative Payments	28,57%	Highest Amount Past Due	\$5,000
# of Payments Placed for Collection	0		

Detailed Trade Risk Insight



The charts in this section show two important aspects of the company's payment behavior during the past year. 1) the aging profile of the company's accounts, and 2) amounts owed that have had to be written off or placed for collection (Derogatory Events). Use the links at the bottom of the section to see more details.

Amounts Current and Past Due - Past 12 Months

This chart shows the company's account aging profile over the past year. The chart lets you see at a glance the proportion of payments that were paid promptly versus those that were paid late.



Key Data



D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.



Key Data shows you how stable and well-established a company is, which can indicate its overall ability to pay its bills. Some companies are riskier than others, so review revenue, net worth, and number of employees to determine the company's general health. Look at years in business, length of management tenure, and the people involved in the company to determine how stable it is. Note whether the company is involved in a relatively high-risk industry. You can also check to see if there are any special events, such as a management or location change, that could adversely affect the company's ability to pay its bills. Click the links for more detailed information.

Key Principal	RICHARD CURNUTTE SR, F	PRES	
Line of Business	Natural gas distribution (SIG	C: 4924)	
Number of Employees	65	Employees at this location	51
Financing Status	SECURED	Years in Business	13 Years
Overall Status	No negative information in	D&B's files.	
Facilities	Rents 3,000 sq. ft. in a one s	story building.	
Location	Central business section or	side street.	

D&B Predictive Scores and Insights



D&B Predictive Scores and Insights allow to you make more informed credit decisions by identifying the potential risks based on past behavior. D&B's predictive scores are based on empirically-validated statistical models. While you can use them as one factor in making your credit decisions, you should be aware that the predictive scores represent statistical probabilities, not guarantees of future behavior.

D&B Credit Limit Recommendation



D&B's recommended Credit Limit is based on the company profile and on profiles of other companies of similar size, industry, and credit usage.

D&B Conservative Credit Limit: \$35,000

D&B Aggressive Credit Limit: \$90,000

Risk of Financial Failure in the Coming 12 Months



D&B calculates the Financial Stress Score using a statistically valid model derived from our extensive data files. This score predicts the likelihood in the coming 12 months that the company will cease business without paying all creditors in full, or undergo financial reorganization, or try to obtain relief from creditors under state or federal law.

- In D&B's view, this company has a Moderate to high risk of severe financial stress, such as a bankruptcy, over the next 12 months.
- Companies In the same Financial Stress Class as this company have around a 0.84% (84 per 10,000) likelihood of experiencing severe financial distress or financial failure in the coming 12 months.
- This is 175% of the predicted failure rate for all businesses in D&B's database of 0.48% (48 per 10,000) in the coming 12 months.

Risk of Financial Failure

Risk of Financial Failure - 12 Month Trend



VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

These graphs let you select 3 ways of viewing the company's risk of financial distress in the coming year. They are all based on D&'s Financial Stress Score (FSS). The Score graph shows the actual FSS as calculated by D&. The Percentile graph shows how the company's failure risk compares to all companies in the D&B database. The Class graph aggregates all companies into five groups, which makes it easier to identify a particular company's risk profile.

Based on D&B's Financial Stress Score Class

Financial Stress Score Class



Based on D&B's Financial Stress Score Percentile

Financial Stress Score Percentile



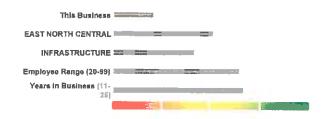
Based on D&B's Financial Stress Score



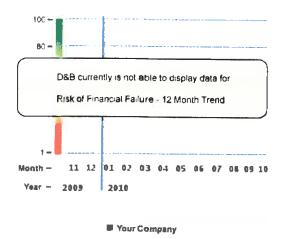


Comparative Risk of Financial Failure

The Comparative Risk of Financial Failure chart lets you see how the company's risk of financial failure compares to the average risk of failure for its various peer groups, including companies in the same region, in the same industry, with the same employee size range, and with a comparable number of years in business.



This chart shows how the company's risk of financial failure has trended over the past 12 months. Companies whose risk of financial failure is increasing represent a higher risk than companies whose risk is steady or declining.



Factors Related to Risk of Financial Failure

The risk factors listed below indicate the principal issues or conditions that contributed to the assessment of the company's risk of financial failure.

- Composite credit appraisal is rated limited.
- Low proportion of satisfactory payment experiences to total payment experiences,
- UCC Filings reported.
- High number of inquiries to D&B over last 12 months.
- Low Paydex Score,
- Business does not own facilities.

Risk of Payment Delinquency in the Coming 12 Months





D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

DEB

D&B calculates the Commercial Credit Score using a statistically valid model derived from our extensive data files. This score predicts the likelihood in the coming 12 months that the company will pay its bills in a severely delinquent manner (90 days or more past terms), or try to obtain legal relief from creditors or cease operations without paying all creditors in full.

- In D&B's view, this company has a High risk of severe payment delinquency over next 12 months.
- Companies In the same Commercial Credit Class as this company have around a 70.00% likelihood of severe payment delinquency in the coming 12 months.
- This is 298% of the predicted delinquency rate for all businesses in D&B's database of 23.50% in the coming 12 months.

Risk of Payment Delinquency

These graphs let you select 3 ways of viewing the company's risk of payment delinquency in the coming year. They are all based on D&'s Commercial Credit Score (CCS). The Score graph shows the actual CCS as calculated by D&. The Percentile graph shows how the company's delinquency risk compares to all companies in the D&B database. The Class graph aggregates all companies into five groups, which makes it easier to identify a particular company's risk profile.

Based on D&B's Commercial Credit Score Class

Commercial Cradit Score Class



Based on D&B's Commercial Credit Score Percentile

Commercial Credit Score Percentite



Based on D&B's Commercial Credit Score

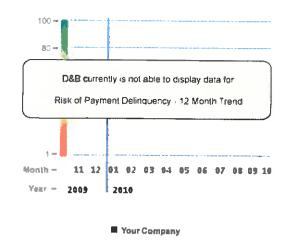
Commercial Credit Score



Comparative Risk of Payment Delinquency

Risk of Payment Delinquency - 12 Month Trend

This chart shows how the company's risk of payment delinquency has trended over the past 12 months. Companies whose risk of payment delinquency is increasing represent a higher risk than companies whose risk is steady or declining.

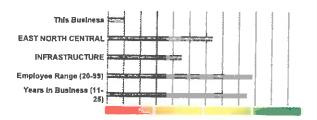


Factors Related to Risk of Payment Delinquency



VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

The Comparative Risk of Payment Delinquency chart lets you see how the company's risk of not paying its bills promptly compares to the average delinquency risk for its various peer groups, including companies in the same region, in the same industry, with the same employee size range, and with a comparable number of years in business.



The nsk factors listed below indicate the principal issues or conditions that contributed to the assessment of the company's risk of payment delinquency.

- High proportion of past due balances to total amount owing.
- Low number of satisfactory payments.
- · Most recent amount past due.
- Composite credit appraisal is rated limited.
- · Insufficient number of payment experiences.
- Low proportion of satisfactory payment experiences to total payment experiences.

Size & Creditworthiness: The D&B Rating



The D&B Rating can help you quickly assess a firm's size and overall creditworthiness.

- . D&B has no financial information on file for this company
- . D&B rating employee range 10 or more employees
- . D&B's assessment of overall creditworthlness is limited

Date Assigned	D&B Rating	Size (Net Worth or Number of Employees)	Overall Creditworthiness
Current	1R4	1R (10 or more employees)	4 (limited)
10/16/2013	1R4	1R (10 or more employees)	4 (limited)
01/23/2013	4A2	4A (\$10 to 50 million)	2 (good)
12/14/2012	1R3	1R (10 or more employees)	3 (fair)
10/14/2010	1R4	1R (10 or more employees)	4 (limited)
03/10/2009	3A3	3A (\$1 to 10 million)	3 (fair)
03/02/2009	1R3	1R (10 or more employees)	3 (fair)
10/14/2008	1R4	1R (10 or more employees)	4 (limited)
08/12/2008	3A3	3A (\$1 to 10 million)	3 (fair)
11/21/2007	3A2	3A (\$1 to 10 million)	2 (good)
10/15/2007	1R4	1R (10 or more employees)	4 (limited)

The Rating was changed on October 16, 2013 because the company has not submitted a current financial statement. The 1R and 2R ratings categories reflect company size based on the total number of employees for the business. They are assigned to business files that do not contain a current financial statement. In 1R and 2R Ratings, the 2, 3, or 4 creditworthiness indicator is based on analysis by D&B of public filings, trade payments, business age and other important factors. 2 is the highest Composite Credit Appraisal a company not supplying D&B with current financial information can receive.

Legal and Public Filings



Examining the company's legal situation can help you understand its financial exposure. Check out the suits, liens, judgments, and UCC fillings to see if there are any actions that could have an adverse financial impact. You can drill down on each category to see details,

Record Type	Records	Most Recent
Bankruptcles	0	
Suita	0	D
Liens	1	05/31/2006

.





D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Judgments	0	
UCCs	14	03/28/2014

This public filing data is for informational purposes only and is not an official record. Both open and closed filings may be shown. Certified copies of these records can be obtained from their official sources.

Business Registration Information



Minimize your risk by understanding who you are doing business with. Determine if the company is formally incorporated, where it's incorporated, and how long it has been in business. To increase your confidence in doing business with a small, relatively new company, you can use the names of the key principals for your own online research.

Corporate and business registrations reported by the Secretary of State or other official source as of JUL 18 2014. The following data is not an official record of the Department of State or the State of OHIO, and D&B is not an employee or agent thereof.

Registered Name	VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.	Registration ID:	1212893
Business Type:	CORPORATION	Status ⁻	ACTIVE
Corporation Type	PROFIT		SECRETARY OF
State of Incorporation	OHIO	Where Filed	STATE/CORPORATIONS DIVISION,
Incorporation Date	03-02-2001		COLUMBUS, OH
Filing Date	03-02-2001		

Principals

Name	Title
PATRICK LALOR	INCORPORATOR





D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Industry Classification



When evaluating credit, it is important to consider the company's primary industry and understand the risk pertaining to that industry based on current economic or local conditions. The SIC and NAICS codes on this page identify the type of economic or industrial activity the company engages in.

SIC Codes

The 4-digit SIC numbers link to the industry classification descriptions on the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) Web site. Links open in a new browser window. D&B adds an additional 4 digits to the end of the SIC code. This enables D&B to be more specific about a company's operations.

SIC Code SIC Code Description
4924 0000 Natural gas distribution

NAICS Codes

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is a six-digit industry classification code. The first two digits specify the business sector, the third digit specifies the subsector, the fourth digit specifies the industry group, and the fifth digit specifies the industry. The sixth digit is designed for country specific classifications and may differ from one nation to the next.

NAICS Code NAICS Code Description
221210 Natural Gas Distribution



D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Company History



Review details about the company's history to learn more about the company's stability and ownership history. Examine the recent events to see if there is anything that may impact the company's ability to pay its bills.

The following information was reported on 05/15/2014

Officer(s):

RICHARD CURNUTTE SR, PRES RICHARD CURNUTTE JR, SEC MARC RUNCK, CFO

Director(s):

THE OFFICER(S) and Richard A Cumulte Jr.

The Ohio Secretary of State's business registrations file showed that Volunteer Energy Services, Inc was registered as a Corporation on March 2, 2001.

Business started 2001 by the officers, 100% of capital stock is owned by the officers.

RICHARD CURNUTTE SR born 1952, 2002-present active here.

RICHARD CURNUTTE JR born 1933, 2002-present active here.

MARC RUNCK born 1951, 2006-present active here.



D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Company Operations Summary



Review the operations summary to learn more about the kinds of business the company conducts. You can also see more details about special events that may impact the company's ability to pay its bills, banking information, and government programs the company may be involved with

Operations Summary

As on 05/15/2014

Description:

Provides natural gas distribution (100%).

FAX NUMBER 614.856,3301.

ADDITIONAL PHONE NUMBER | 800 977-8374.

Has 40,000 account(s). Check, wire transfer, Sells to retailers. Territory | United States,

Nonseasonal,

Employees:

65 which includes officer(s), 50 employed here.

Facilities:

Rents 3,000 sq. ft. in a one slory building.

Location

Central business section on side street.

Branch(es) or Division(s) exist: Y

Government Activity

	Government Activity Summary	
	Borrower (Dir/Guar)	No
1	Administrative Debt	No
1	Contractor	No
ĺ	Grantee	No
	Party excluded from federal program(s)	No

Possible Candidate for Socioeconomic Program Consideration	
Small Business	Yes (2014)

The details provided in the Government Activity section are as reported to Dun & Bradstreet by the federal government and other sources.

Registered Agent Details

Agent Name	CMP STATUTORY AGENT INC	
Agent Street	366 E BROAD ST	
Agent City	COLUMBUS	
Agent State	ОН	
Agent ZIp	432150000	

Fax Numbers





D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Complete list of all Fax Styles 614-856-3301







VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Liens



Liens are claims against the company's property. Open liens could negatively affect the company's financial status and their ability to pay their bills. Review the details about any outstanding liens against this company and whether they are open or released on this page.

Amount \$1,205 Status Open

DOCKET NO. 2006JG018437 Type State State Tax

Filed By STATE OF OHIO against VOLUNTEER ENERGY SVC INC

Where Flied FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT, COLUMBUS, OH

Date Filed 05/31/2006 Status Attained Date 05/31/2006 Latest Information Received 10/25/2012

This public filing data is for informational purposes only and is not an official record, Both open and closed filings may be shown. Certified copies of these records can be obtained from their official sources.





VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

UCC Filings



Review the extent of UCC filings against the company's assets on this page. If too many of a company's assets are used as collateral in UCC filings, it could negatively affect their ability to pay their bills in times of financial stress because creditors with UCC filings are given legal title to the collateral assets.

Collateral	All Assets
Туре	Original
Secured Party	NATIONAL CITY BUSINESS CREDIT, INC., AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH
Debtor	VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.
Filing Number	OH00086057950
Flied With	SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION, COLUMBUS, OH
Date Filed	02/01/2005
Latest Information Received	02/14/2005

Type	Amendment
Secured Party	NATIONAL CITY BUSINESS CREDIT, INC., AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH
Debtor	VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC and OTHERS
Filing Number	20080460116
Flied With	SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION, COLUMBUS, OH
Date Filed	02/14/2008
Latest Information Received	03/04/2008
Original Filing Date	02/01/2005
Original Filing Number	OH00086057950

Туре	Amendment	Туре	Continuation
Secured Party	NATIONAL CITY BUSINESS CREDIT, INC., AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH	Secured Party	NATIONAL CITY BUSINESS CREDIT, INC., AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH
Debtor	VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC and OTHERS	Debtor	VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC and OTHERS
Filing Number	20093200232	Filing Number	20093210144
Filed With	SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION, COLUMBUS, OH	Filed With	SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION, COLUMBUS, OH
Date Filed	11/13/2009	Date Filed	11/16/2009
Latest Information Received	12/01/2009	Latest Information Received	11/30/2009
Original Filing Date	02/01/2005	Original Filing Date	02/01/2005
Original Filing Number	OH00086057950	Original Filling Number	OH00086057950

Туре	Amendment	Туре	Amendment
Secured Party	NATIONAL CITY BUSINESS CREDIT, INC., AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT, PITTSBURGH, PA PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH	Secured Party	NATIONAL CITY BUSINESS CREDIT, INC., AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT, PITTSBURGH, PA PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH
Debtor	VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC and OTHERS	Debtor	VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC and OTHERS
Fillng Number	20102070105	Filing Number	20102070106
Filed With	SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION, COLUMBUS, OH	Filed With	SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION, COLUMBUS, OH
Date Filed	07/23/2010	Date Filed	07/23/2010
Latest Information Received	08/12/2010	Latest Information Received	08/12/2010
Original Filing Date	02/01/2005	Original Filing Date	02/01/2005
Original Filing Number	OH00086057950	Original Filing Number	OH00086057950
Collateral	Accounts receivable and proceeds - Account(s) and proceeds - Assets and proceeds	Collateral	Accounts receivable and proceeds - Assets and proceeds
Туре	Amendment	Туре	Original





VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

NATIONAL CITY BUSINESS CREDIT, INC., AS Secured Party

AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT, PITTSBURGH, PA PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS

AGENT, CLEVELAND, OH

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC and Debtor

OTHERS

Filing Number 20120820100

Filed With SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION.

COLUMBUS, OH

Date Filled 03/21/2012 04/03/2012 Latest Information

Received

Original Filing 02/01/2005

Original Filing OH00086057950

Number

Collateral Accounts receivable and proceeds - Assets and

proceeds - Account(s) and proceeds

Type

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS Secured Party

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT, PITTSBURGH, PA

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC. Debtor

Filing Number 20120820101

Flied With SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION.

COLUMBUS, OH

07/23/2010

Date Filed 03/21/2012 04/03/2012 Latest Information

Received

Original Filing Date

Original Fillng OH00143886008

Number

Collateral

SECURITY INTEREST and proceeds

Type

Secured Party COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC., COLUMBUS,

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC. Debtor

Filing Number OH00158307261

Filed With SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION,

COLUMBUS, OH

Date Filed 05/23/2012 Latest Information

Received

Collateral

SECURITY INTEREST and proceeds

Type Original Secured Party COLUMBIA GAS OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.,

COLUMBUS, OH

Debtor VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Filing Number OH00153310253

Filed With SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION,

COLUMBUS, OH

Date Filed 10/05/2011 Latest Information 10/13/2011 Secured Party

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT, PITTSBURGH, PA

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Debtor Elling Number OH00143886008

SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION, Filed With

COLUMBUS, OH

Date Filed 07/23/2010 Letest Information 08/12/2010

Received

Collateral RIGHTS, TITLE AND INTEREST and

proceeds Original

Type VECTREN ENERGY DELIVERY OF OHIO, Secured Party

INC., EVANSVILLE, IN

Debtor VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Filing Number OH00174867691

Flied With SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION.

COLUMBUS, OH

Date Filed 03/28/2014 Latest Information 04/01/2014

Received

Collateral AGREEMENT and proceeds

Typa Original

Secured Party VECTREN ENERGY DELIVERY OF OHIO.

INC., EVANSVILLE, IN

Debtor VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Filing Number OH00157312877

Filed With SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION.

COLUMBUS, OH

Date Filed 04/04/2012 Latest Information 04/10/2012

Received

Type

Collateral SECURITY INTEREST and proceeds Original

Secured Party COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.,

COLUMBUS, OH

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Fillng Number OH00153310142

Filed With SECRETARY OF STATE/UCC DIVISION.

COLUMBUS, OH

Date Filed 10/05/2011 Latest Information 10/13/2011

Received

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VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.







VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Corporate Linkage



Corporate linkage shows the financial and legal relationships between the entities in a corporate family. Linkage helps you assess risk across different parts of an organization. Linkage is updated monthly and reflects mergers, acquisitions, openings, and closings.

Domestic Branches

Company Name	Address (City, State)	D-U-N-S® Number
VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.	ANN ARBOR, MI	07-872-4933







VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Trade Payment Habits



The Trade Payment Habits chart shows how a company has paid its bills relative to the amount of credit it has been extended. You can use this chart to get a sense of the how promptly you may be repaid based on the amount of credit you are thinking of extending. For each dollar-amount category, the chart provides the number of experiences used to calculate the percentage and the total dollar value of credit extended to the business.

\$ Credit Extended [\$ ranges]	# Payment Experiences	Total Amount	% Payments within	Terms
OVER 100,000	0	0	11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	0
50,000 - 100,000	1	65,000		50
15,000 - 49,999	1	15,000		50
5,000 - 14,999	2	12,500		100
1,000 - 4,999	4	5,500		91
Under 1,000	10	1,700		82





D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Trade Payments Summary



The Trade Payment Summary shows the company's payment patterns organized by industry. You can use this summary to get a sense of whether the company pays certain types of suppliers more quickly or slowly than others, and in particular, how it has paid obligations owed to vendors in your industry segment.

# of trade payment experiences in D&B's file - past 24 months:	21
# of trade payment experiences in D&B's file - past 3 months:	-
	11
Highest \$ amount now owed:	\$5,000
Highest \$ amount past due:	\$5,000

		Total	High Credit	76	Days[Slow[1%]			
Industries/Categories	# Payment Experiences	Amounts (USD)	Amounts (USD)	Payments Within Terms	0- 30	31- 60	61- 90	[9]
Top Industries				• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •				
Telephone communictus	4	7,850	7,500	100	0	0	0	0
Natural gas distrib	3	80,500	65,000	50	50	٥	0	
Misc equipment rental	1	5,000	5,000	100	٥	0	0	0
Public finance	1	2,500	2,500	100	0	0	0	C
Whol office supplies	1	1,000	1,000	50	50	0	0	0
Misc business service	1	1,000	1,000	100	0	0	0	0
Nonclassified	1	1,000	1,000	100	0	0	0	0
Misc business credit	1	500	500	50	50	0	0	0
Lithographic printing	1	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
Ret stationery	1	100	100	50	50	0	0	0
Personal credit	1	50	50	100	0	0	0	0
Electric services	1	50	50	100	0	0	0	0
Whol nondurable goods	1	50	50	100	0	0	0	0
Other Payments Categor	ies	•						
Cash experiences	1	500	500					ПП
Unfavorable comments	1	5,000	5,000					
Payment record unknown	1	50	50					
Placement for Collection								
Total in D&B File	0	0	0					



Printed on: 07/29/2014



D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Complete Detailed Trade Risk Insight



The Detailed Trade Risk Insight shows two important aspects of the company's payment behavior during the past year: 1) the aging profile of the company's accounts (Accounts Current and Past Due), and 2) amounts owed to creditors that have had to be written off or placed for collection (Derogatory Events)

Amounts Current and Past Due

The Accounts Current and Past Due section shows the aging profile of the company's accounts over the past year. This lets you determine the proportion of payments that were paid promptly versus those that were paid late. The chart allows you to see aging trends - has the company started to reduce or increase the proportion of obligations it pays promptly, or has this proportion remained constant over time.



\$ in thousands

Status	2013					2014						
(Days Past due)	07	OR	09	10	711	12	01	02	03	04	05	06
Current Amount	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	2	8	8	1
1-30 Days	-	0	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	_		_
31-60 Days	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	_	-	-	_
61-90 Days	-	-	_	-	-	_	-	-	- 1	_	-	
91+ Days	-	- ,	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	_	-	-



Printed on: 07/29/2014



D&B Report for:

VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Detailed Trade Payment History



This table shows the details of individual trade payment experiences that have been reported to D&B's during the past three months. Each record reflects the payment record to one creditor, and each record is updated when a new payment to that supplier is reported. It should be noted that in some cases, a payment may be delayed beyond terms as a result of a dispute, missing invoice, or other similar circumstance.

Each experience shown is from a separate supplier. Updated trade experiences replace those previously reported.

Date Reported (month/year)	Payment Record	High Credit	Now Owes	Past Due	Selling Terms	Recency of Last Sale
07/14	Prompt	5,000	1,000		Lease Agreemnt	
	Prompt	1,000	0	0		2-3 mos
06/14	Prompt	7,500	1,000	0		1 mo
	Prompt	1,000	750	0		1 mo
	Prompt	250	0	0		6-12 mos
	Prompt	50	50	0		1 mo
	Prompt	50	0	0		6-12 mos
	Prompt	50	50	0		1 mo
	Prompt-Slow 30	1,000	250	0		1 mo
	Prompt-Slow 30	500	250	0		1 mo
	Prompt-Slow 30	100	100	50	N30	1 mo
01/14	Unsatisfactory	5,000	5,000	5,000		
09/13	Prompt	100				1 mo
08/13	Prompt	2,500				1 mo
07/13	Prompt	50	0	0		6-12 mos
		500	i		Cash account	2-3 mos
06/13	Prompt	500	50	0	N30	1 mo
	Prompt-Slow 30	65,000	0	0	N30	1 mo
	Prompt-Slow 30	15,000	0	0	N30	1 mo
05/13		50	1			1 mo
09/12	Prompt	50	0	0		2-3 mos

Anticipated - Payments are received prior to date of invoice; Discount - Payments are received within trade discount period; Prompt - Payments are received within terms granted, Slow - Payments are beyond vendor's terms, For example, Slow 30" means payments are 30 days due, Prompt-Slow - Some Payments are within terms, while others are paid beyond terms.



EXHIBIT C-7Credit Report

(See Exhibit C-6 Previously Attached)



EXHIBIT C-8Bankruptcy Information

NOT APPLICABLE



EXHIBIT C-9

Merger Information

None



EXHIBIT D-1

Operations

(See Attached)



A. General Requirements

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. (VESI) will purchase natural gas and will supply and deliver natural gas to customers that sign a natural gas sales agreement with VESI. VESI will purchase and sell natural gas to customers under the existing rules and tariff requirements of Columbia Gas of Ohio ("COH"), Dominion East Ohio Gas ("DEO"), Duke Energy Ohio ("Duke"), and Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio ("VEDO") according to the rules and regulations of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO").

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. currently delivers wholesale supplies of natural gas to customers behind the gas companies, COH, Duke, DEO, and VEDO.

B. Point of Delivery

The Point Delivery for natural gas for purposes of passing title and determining a Proposal price shall be the inlet side of the city gate meter for the various gas companies. VESI shall have full responsibility for arranging transportation to the city gate on a daily basis within the balancing and banking tolerances permitted by each gas company. All expenses, fees, fines or costs associated with imbalances on both the transmission system and the local gas company shall be paid by VESI.

C. Natural Gas Quality Specifications

Natural gas tendered to the various gas companies city gate shall meet the pipeline quality standards established by each interstate transmission company and each local gas company. VESI shall take full responsibility for meeting the quality standards for both the interstate pipeline(s) and the local gas companies. To the degree that any gas tendered by VESI fails to meet thermal values, or falls below the established quality standards for moisture, sulfur or contaminants, the full cost for such failure to comply with pipeline/distribution quality standards shall be paid by VESI.

D. Supply and Distribution Plan

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. currently delivers to its COH and DEO markets using various supply sources. This includes Gulf Coast supply delivered into Columbia Gulf Transmission and Dominion Transmission, Appalachian Production and Supply Pool volumes. VESI also uses supply originations from ANR Pipeline, Texas Gas Transmission, Tennessee Gas Pipeline and Texas Eastern Transmission for market areas on COH's system, which may be better served through these interstate pipelines.



VESI currently owns Firm Transportation capacity and transports on Columbia Gas Transmission (TCO) using Film Transportation Service (FTS) agreements and Storage Service Transportation (SST) agreements. Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. also has contracts for Firm Storage Service (FSS) on TCO.



EXHIBIT D-2

Operations Expertise

(See Attached)



Since it has been in business, VESI has been engaged in all the activities described below. These activities shall continue in the future as VESI offer retail natural gas service.

Gas Supply Management Program

VESI's Gas Supply Management Program is custom tailored to the end-users needs, with service levels, pricing, and fee structure negotiated to meet each customer's specific requirements. In order to meet the goal and objectives as stated, VESI recommends establishing the natural gas energy management services for our customers as outlined below:

Gas Supply and Storage

VESI will evaluate interruptible, firm transportation options and storage arrangements on the LDC and upstream pipelines for each customer facility receiving gas supply from VESI.

VESI's natural gas supply strategy is focused on purchases of firm supplies under spot and long term arrangements directly from Ohio production areas, producers, supplemented with economical Gulf Coast production from various production areas and interstate pipelines. VESI currently owns and transports on Dominion Transmission and Columbia Gas Transmission (TCO) using Firm Transportation (FTS) agreements and Storage Service Transportation (SST) agreements. VESI also has contracts for Firm Storage Service (FSS) on TCO.

Firm Transportation/Capacity Release

VESI will continue to assess the availability of short term and long-term release of firm capacity rights on the interstate pipelines upstream of customer's facilities for our customers. In addition to monitoring of all relevant EBB's, VESI has established trading relationships with other marketers, LDC's and pipelines which have yielded discounted firm transportation via capacity release programs.

Requirement Estimates

VESI will prepare gas requirement forecasts and submit all necessary LDC and pipeline nominations. VESI will develop forecasting procedures that will provide adequate usage estimates and updates necessary to meet actual demand for VESI customers and to comply with pipeline and LDC balancing requirements as required.

Scheduling

VESI will do all necessary pipeline and LDC scheduling, dispatching and nominating required to deliver natural gas and to ensure that VESI customers have full advantage of any upstream pipeline discounts. VESI will schedule and monitor daily, all flowing gas on upstream pipelines. VESI shall have full responsibility for arranging transportation to the city gate on a daily basis within the balancing and banking tolerances permitted by the various gas companies. All



expenses, fees, fines, or costs associated with imbalances on both the interstate transmission system and the local gas companies shall be paid by VESI.

Customized Customer Reports

In conjunction with the performance review meetings with customers, various reports will be prepared for customers use. These reports can include: cost savings as compared to published Index and/or LDC's rates, consumption history, price projections for budgeting, etc.

Invoicing

VESI will provide a monthly invoice to each customer in a timely fashion, with a usage breakdown by account. Detailed information will be supplied regarding natural gas supplied and the appropriate cost of those supplies as per the natural gas sales agreement with each customer. VESI will reconcile volumetric consumption and transportation charges with the applicable utility delivery statements. VESI will provide savings analysis on a monthly basis to each GTS customer.

Customer Complaints

VESI provides a toll free number for customers inquires. VESI will respond to customer inquiries and complaint in accordance with Commission rules adopted pursuant to Section 4929.22 of the Revised Code and contained in Chapter 4901:1-29 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Pricing

VESI will present various pricing options for potential VESI customers. Practical consideration (such as base load expectations, peak day usage, availability of spot gas, and transportation alternatives) and commercial factors (alternative fuels, winter price spikes, tariff costs, long term gas market trends, etc.) will impact the pricing selection.

Price options VESI can provide now or in the future for customers are:

- 1. Fixed price for an established term
- Fixed price with periodic adjustments tied to market tracking mechanism
- 3. "Cost Plus" methodology
- 4. NYMEX related pricing
- 5. Indexed pricing
- 6. Combinations of the above



The primary objectives of the VESI is to provide reliable, cost effective natural gas supplies and services, to insure that customers receive direct benefits from all transport discounts including capacity release utilization. VESI to become a supply partner and to work with customers to achieve savings, supply security, and competitive portfolio pricing that meets the customer's needs and expectations. VESI desires to be long-term energy partner with each and every customer



Richard A. Curnutte Sr. - Rick is President of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. Rick participated in the re-formation of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. in March of 2001. Rick was named President of the new company and began serving customers in May of 2001. Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.'s main focus is arranging for natural gas supplies and working with Energy Cooperatives and non-profit Buyers Groups.

Rick joined Volunteer Energy Corporation as Vice President, Sales/Marketing in 1995. Rick participated in the formation of Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. with the Williams Companies and was named President in 1996. Volunteer Energy Corporation and Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. was sold to First Energy Solutions in November of 1998.

Before joining Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. Rick was Principal/Vice President, Sales/Marketing for Broad Street Oil & Gas (BSO&G). BSO&G was later sold to Utilicorp/Aquilla Energy. He has also held management positions with Unicorp Energy and Yankee Gas Resources/Access Energy/Enron Energy Services.

Prior to entering the natural gas business he was Director of Energy Management for Wendy's International. As Corporate Energy Manager for Wendy's, he was responsible for energy management for 1200 corporate owned Wendy's restaurants throughout the United States. While at Wendy's, Rick transacted the nations first commercial third party natural gas purchase by buying natural gas for 66 Wendy's and Sister's Chicken & Biscuits restaurants on the Columbia Gas of Ohio system.

Before Wendy's Rick was Energy Coordinator for Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) of Columbus, Ohio. Rick was responsible for administration of the Department of Energy's/Ohio Department of Development weatherization programs for MORPC/Franklin County Commissioners.

Rick has over 18 years experience in the natural gas industry dealing with the aggregation of residential/commercial and Industrial accounts throughout the United States.

Rick attended Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, Tennessee where he earned a B.A. degree in Social Sciences with a minor in economics.

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Jeffrey M. Horsley - Mr. Horsley is General Manager and manages Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.'s supply portfolio. His current responsibilities include assisting markets with procurement of natural gas supplies, interstate transportation agreements and management of the Gas Operations activities. Mr. Horsley was the Director of Energy Supply and Operations for The Energy Cooperative (TEC). Mr. Horsley also served as Director of Gas Operations for Volunteer Energy Corporation (VEC). During his tenure at TEC and VEC, Mr. Horsley was responsible for the administrative setup of the Ohio Schools Council natural gas management services program, which included the tracking of volumes, savings reports, aggregated billing and utility invoice auditing. Mr. Horsley has also held operational management positions with Broad Street Oil and Gas and Enron (Access Energy).

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Tina M. Perkins - Mrs. Perkins is an Operations Analyst, whose current focus is on the account management and nomination needs of the Columbia Gas Distribution Companies, including COH, as well as the Columbia Gas Transmission and Columbia Gulf Transmission interstate markets. Mrs. Perkins had held operational positions with The Energy Cooperative (TEC), Volunteer Energy Corporation (VEC) and Broad Street Oil and Gas (Utilicorp/Energy One.) During her tenure at TEC and VEC, Mrs. Perkins was responsible for the account management, nominations and billing for the Ohio School Council natural gas management service program.

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Brenda G. Hammons - Mrs. Hammons is an Operations Analyst. Her current focus is on the account management and nomination needs of the Dominion Distribution Companies, including the Dominion East Ohio and Dominion West Ohio gas companies, as well as the Dominion interstate pipeline market areas. Mrs. Hammons has held operational positions with The Energy Cooperative (TEC), Volunteer Energy Corporation (VEC) and NGO Development. During her tenure at TEC and VEC, Mrs. Hammons was involved in the management of over 70 school districts for the Ohio School Council natural gas management service program.

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