

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 23, 2024

Casella Waste Systems, Inc.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

000-23211
(Commission
File Number)

03-0338873
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**25 Greens Hill Lane,
Rutland, Vermont**
(Address of principal executive offices)

05701
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (802) 775-0325

Not applicable
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value per share	CWST	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (Nasdaq Global Select Market)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On December 23, 2024, Casella Waste Systems, Inc. (the “Company”) completed a financing transaction pursuant to which the Company incurred indebtedness in the principal amount of \$45.0 million. The transaction involved the issuance by the Finance Authority of Maine (the “Authority”) of \$45.0 million aggregate principal amount of its Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds (Casella Waste Systems, Inc. Project) Series 2024 (the “Bonds”). The Bonds were issued on December 23, 2024 pursuant to the Indenture, dated as of December 1, 2024 (the “Indenture”), by and between the Authority and U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, as trustee (the “Trustee”). The proceeds of the Bonds were loaned to the Company pursuant to a Financing Agreement, dated as of December 1, 2024 (the “Financing Agreement”), between the Authority and the Company, to fund the costs of certain qualifying capital projects in the State of Maine, to pay certain costs of issuance, and to refinance and repay in full on the stated maturity date of January 1, 2025 (required to be paid on January 2, 2025 under the applicable indenture) of the Authority’s Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds (Casella Waste Systems, Inc. Project) Series 2005, previously issued to finance certain project costs and costs of issuance under an indenture between the Authority and the bond trustee dated as of December 1, 2005, as amended.

The Bonds were issued at the initial rate of 4.625% per annum during the initial fixed rate interest period through June 1, 2035. After the end of the initial term interest rate period, the Bonds may be converted to a variable (daily or weekly) interest rate period or may remain in a term interest rate period of the same or a different duration. The interest rate on the Bonds will be reset at the end of each interest rate period.

On June 1, 2035, and any other conversion date and on certain other dates specified in the Indenture, each holder of the Bonds is required to tender the Bonds held by it for purchase and the Bonds are required to be purchased. BofA Securities, Inc., as remarketing agent for the Bonds (the “Remarketing Agent”), is required (except as otherwise provided in the Remarketing Agreement between the Company and the Remarketing Agent, dated as of December 1, 2024 (the “Remarketing Agreement”)) to use its best efforts to remarket any Bonds tendered for purchase. Funds for the payment of the purchase price of any Bonds so purchased will be paid from the proceeds of any such resale or, to the extent such funds are insufficient, from the proceeds of a letter of credit, if the Bonds bear interest at a variable interest rate and are supported by a letter of credit at such time, or from payments made by the Company pursuant to the Financing Agreement or by the guarantors named in the Guaranty (as hereinafter defined).

The Financing Agreement contains standard representations, covenants and events of default for transactions of this type. Events of default under the Financing Agreement include a failure to make any loan payment or purchase price payment when due and the failure to observe and perform other covenants, conditions, or agreements under the Financing Agreement or related note that continues for a period of 60 days after notice. The Company’s indebtedness under the Financing Agreement may be accelerated upon the occurrence of an event of default. Additionally, while any Bonds are in a term interest rate period and are not supported by a letter of credit, (i) a change of control would require the Company to offer to repurchase the Bonds and (ii) the obligations under the Bonds can be accelerated if (a) the Company’s obligations under its senior credit facility have been accelerated or (b) if such senior credit facility obligations have been discharged, the Company’s obligations under any indebtedness in the principal amount of \$30.0 million or more have been accelerated.

The Bonds (as long as they are in a term interest rate period) are guaranteed by substantially all of the subsidiaries of the Company pursuant to a Guaranty Agreement, jointly and severally by the guarantors party thereto, in favor of the Trustee, dated as of December 1, 2024 (the “Guaranty”). Pursuant to the Guaranty, as long as the Bonds, or any series thereof, are in a term interest rate period, each guarantor will guarantee to the Trustee for the benefit of the owners and beneficial owners of the such Bonds the full and prompt payment of (i) the principal of and redemption premium, if any, on such Bonds when and as the same become due; (ii) the interest on the Bonds when and as the same becomes due; (iii) the purchase price of such Bonds tendered or deemed tendered for purchase pursuant to the Indenture; and (iv) all loan payments and purchase price payments due or to become due from the Company under the Financing Agreement with respect to such Bonds (collectively, the “Guaranteed Obligations”). The obligations of each guarantor under the Guaranty will (subject to the release provisions contained therein or the conversion of the Bonds to a variable interest rate period) remain in full force and effect until the entire principal payment of, redemption premium, if any, and interest on or purchase price of the Bonds have been paid or provided for according to the terms of the Indenture and all other Guaranteed Obligations have been paid and satisfied in full.

The Bonds were issued as tax-exempt bonds. If the Company or the Authority do not comply with certain of their respective covenants under the Indenture, the Financing Agreement or the tax compliance agreement, as applicable, or if certain representations or warranties made by the Company in the Financing Agreement or in certain related certificates or agreements are false, then the interest on the Bonds may become includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to the date of original issuance of the Bonds. If the Bonds are declared to be taxable or the Financing Agreement is determined to be invalid, the Indenture provides that the Bonds are subject to mandatory redemption within 60 days thereafter at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount thereof, without premium, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption.

The foregoing descriptions of the Financing Agreement and the Guaranty do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the full text of the Financing Agreement and the Guaranty, copies of which are filed as Exhibits 4.1 and 4.2 hereto, respectively, and incorporated by reference herein.

Item 2.03 Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant.

The information set forth under Item 1.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Exhibit Description</u>
4.1	Financing Agreement, dated as of December 1, 2024, between Finance Authority of Maine and Casella Waste Systems, Inc.
4.2	Guaranty Agreement, dated as of December 1, 2024, by the guarantors named therein, in favor of U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, as trustee.
101.SCH	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.**
101.LAB	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Label Linkbase Document.**
101.PRE	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Presentation Linkbase Document.**
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as inline XBRL with applicable taxonomy extension information contained in Exhibits 101).
**	Submitted Electronically Herewith.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC.

Date: December 23, 2024

By: /s/ Bradford J. Helgeson
Bradford J. Helgeson
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE

and

CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC.

FINANCING AGREEMENT

Dated as of December 1, 2024

Relating to

\$45,000,000

The Finance Authority of Maine
Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds
(Casella Waste Systems, Inc. Project)
Series 2024

FINANCING AGREEMENT

This FINANCING AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”), dated as of December 1, 2024, between the FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE (the “Authority”) and CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC., a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware (the “Company”);

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Authority is a body corporate and politic and a public instrumentality of the State of Maine created under Maine Revised Statutes Annotated (“MRSA”) Title 10, Section 963 and is authorized pursuant to 10 MRSA Chapter 110 (the “Act”) to provide financing for certain projects; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Act, the Authority proposes to finance certain costs relating to certain solid waste landfill and solid waste collection, organics, and transfer recycling and hauling facilities located in the State of Maine (collectively, the “Project”), as more particularly described in Exhibit A hereof, and to pay the costs of issuance in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to and in accordance with the Act, the Authority has authorized and undertaken to issue its Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds (Casella Waste Systems, Inc. Project) Series 2024 (the “Bonds”) pursuant to an Indenture (the “Indenture”) of even date herewith between the Authority and U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, as trustee (the “Trustee”), in order to provide funds to finance the Project and to pay the costs of issuance in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has undertaken to finance the cost of the Project by loaning the proceeds derived from the sale of the Bonds to the Company pursuant to this Agreement, under which the Company is required to make loan payments sufficient to pay when due the principal of, premium, if any, Purchase Price of and interest on the Bonds and related expenses; and

WHEREAS, the Bonds may be issued in one or more subseries, and may bear interest at a Term Interest Rate or a Variable Interest Rate (as such terms are defined in the Indenture), on the terms set forth in the Indenture; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Indenture, the Bonds will be issued and the Authority will assign to the Trustee its right to receive payments, and certain but not all other rights, under this Agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the premises and the material covenants hereinafter contained, the parties hereto hereby formally covenant, agree and bind themselves as follows:

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

Section 1.1 Definition of Terms. (a) Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms used in this Agreement and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings specified in Section 1.1 of the Indenture, as originally executed or as it may from time to time be supplemented or amended as provided therein. While Bonds bear interest in different Interest Rate Periods, the terms “Bonds” shall mean only the Bonds of the applicable subseries bearing interest in a particular Interest Rate Period, as the context may require.

(b) The following terms have the following meanings in the Indenture and in this Agreement:

(1) “Change of Control” means the occurrence of any of the following (with capitalized terms used herein having the meaning set forth in Exhibit B hereto):

- (a) any “person” or “group” (as such terms are used in Sections 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act) is or becomes the Beneficial Owner, directly or indirectly, of securities representing 50% or more of the voting power of all Voting Stock of the Company; or
- (b) the sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by way of merger or consolidation), in one or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and substantially all of its direct and indirect Subsidiaries taken as a whole to any “person” or “group” (as such terms are used in Sections 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act); or
- (c) the Company consolidates with, or merges with or into, any Person, or any Person consolidates with, or merges with or into, the Company, in any such event pursuant to a transaction in which any of the outstanding Voting Stock of the Company is converted into or exchanged for cash, securities or other property, other than any such transaction where the Voting Stock of the Company outstanding immediately prior to such transaction is converted into or exchanged for Voting Stock (other than Disqualified Capital Stock) of the surviving or transferee Person or the parent of such surviving or transferee Person representing a majority of the voting power of all Voting Stock of such surviving or transferee Person or the parent of such surviving or transferee Person immediately after giving effect to such issuance; or
- (d) the adoption by the stockholders of the Company of a plan or proposal for the liquidation or dissolution of the Company.

(2) “Exchange Act” means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or any successor statute or statutes thereto.

(3) “Finance Lease” means any finance lease that is required to be capitalized and presented as part of indebtedness for financial reporting purposes in accordance with GAAP as in effect on December 31, 2023. The amount of any Finance Lease on a particular determination date is the amount presented as a part of indebtedness as aforesaid. For the avoidance of doubt, Finance Leases shall exclude all capitalized operating leases.

(4) “GAAP” means generally accepted accounting principles as in effect on the date of this Agreement as set forth in the opinions and pronouncements of the Accounting Principles Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and statements and pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board or in such other statements by such other entity as have been approved by a significant segment of the accounting profession.

(5) “U.S. Legal Tender” means any such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment shall be legal tender for the payment of public and private debts.

Section 1.2 References to Guarantors/Guaranty. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, provisions referencing the Guarantors and/or the Guaranty shall be deemed to apply only to Bonds (or any subseries thereof) that bear interest at a Term Interest Rate and have been guaranteed by the Guarantors pursuant to the Guaranty.

Section 1.3 References to Credit Provider/Letter of Credit/Reimbursement Agreement. Notwithstanding anything contained herein or in the Indenture to the contrary, provisions referencing the Credit Provider, the Reimbursement Agreement and/or the Letter of Credit shall be deemed to apply only to Bonds (or any subseries thereof), if any, issued in or converted to the Daily Interest Rate Period or the Weekly Interest Rate Period, the payment of principal, Purchase Price and interest on which has been secured by a Credit Provider pursuant to a Letter of Credit.

Section 1.4 References to Remarketing Agent/Remarketing Agreement. Notwithstanding anything contained herein or in the Indenture to the contrary, provisions referencing the Remarketing Agent and/or the Remarketing Agreement shall be deemed to apply only to Bonds (or any subseries thereof) for which a Remarketing Agent has been appointed and a Remarketing Agreement is in effect.

Section 1.5 References to Bonds/holders/Bondholders and Owners. While Bonds bear interest in different Interest Rate Periods or are otherwise designated as separate subseries, the terms “Bonds,” “Holders,” “Bondholders,” and “Owners” shall mean only the Bonds, Holders, Bondholders and Owners of the applicable subseries of Bonds bearing interest in such Interest Rate Period or that have been otherwise designated as separate subseries, as the context may require.

Section 1.6 Number and Gender. The singular form of any word used herein, including the terms defined in Section 1.1 of the Indenture, shall include the plural, and vice versa. The use herein of a word of any gender shall include all genders.

Section 1.7 Articles, Sections, Etc. Unless otherwise specified, references to Articles, Sections and other subdivisions of this Agreement are to the designated Articles, Sections and other subdivisions of this Agreement as amended from time to time. The words “hereof,” “herein,” “hereunder” and words of similar import refer to this Agreement as a whole. The headings or titles of the several articles and sections, and the table of contents appended to copies hereof, shall be solely for convenience of reference and shall not affect the meaning, construction or effect of the provisions hereof.

ARTICLE II

REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF THE AUTHORITY AND THE COMPANY

Section 2.1 Representations of the Authority. The Authority makes the following representations as the basis for its undertakings herein contained:

- (a) The Authority is a body corporate and politic and a public instrumentality of the State of Maine duly created under 10 MRSA, Section 963.
- (b) The Bonds will be issued under and secured by an Indenture, pursuant to which the Authority’s interest in this Agreement with respect to the Bonds (except certain rights of the Authority to payment for expenses and indemnification) will be pledged to the Trustee as security for payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds.
- (c) All Revenues to be derived by the Authority under this Agreement and the rights of the Authority hereunder (except for indemnification rights and the rights of the Authority to receive fees and reimbursement of its expenses and to receive notices) have been assigned to the Trustee pursuant to the Indenture to provide for the payment of the Bonds. The Authority has not pledged and will not pledge any interest in this Agreement for any purpose other than to secure the Bonds under the Indenture.
- (d) The Authority has made the required findings under the Act with respect to the issuance of the Bonds and the execution of this Agreement.
- (e) No director of the Authority has any pecuniary interest in the Company.
- (f) The Authority has designated a share of the State ceiling on private activity bonds in connection with the issuance of the Bonds.
- (g) The Authority has full power and authority to consummate all transactions contemplated by this Agreement, the Bonds and the Indenture and any and all other agreements relating thereto.
- (h) The Authority makes no representation or warranty concerning the suitability of the Project for the purpose for which it is being undertaken by the Company. The Authority has not made any independent investigation as to the feasibility or creditworthiness of

the Company. Any bond purchaser, assignee of this Agreement or any other party with any interest in this transaction, shall make its own independent investigation as to the creditworthiness and feasibility of the Project, independent of any representation or warranties of the Authority.

Section 2.2 Representations and Warranties of the Company. The Company represents and warrants to the Authority that, as of the date of execution of this Agreement and as of the date of delivery of the Bonds to the initial purchasers thereof (such representations and warranties to remain operative and in full force and effect regardless of the issuance of the Bonds or any investigations by or on behalf of the Authority or the results thereof):

(a) The Company has full legal right, power and authority under the laws of the United States and the State of Maine (i) to enter into this Agreement and the Tax Agreement, (ii) to agree to be bound by the terms of the Indenture, (iii) to perform its obligations hereunder and thereunder, and (iv) to consummate the transactions contemplated by the Agreement and the Tax Agreement. The Company is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware and qualified to do business in the State of Maine. The Company has by proper corporate action duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the Tax Agreement and the performance of its obligations thereunder.

(b) This Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by the Company and constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of the Company, enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws or judicial decisions affecting the rights of creditors generally and by judicial discretion in the exercise of equitable remedies. Upon the execution and delivery thereof, this Agreement and the Tax Agreement will each constitute a valid and binding obligation of the Company, enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws or judicial decisions affecting creditors' rights generally and by judicial discretion in the exercise of equitable remedies.

(c) The execution and delivery of this Agreement and the Tax Agreement and the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder and thereunder and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby do not and will not conflict with, or constitute a breach or result in a violation of, the certificate of incorporation or bylaws of the Company, will not violate any law, regulation, rule or ordinance applicable to the Company or the transactions contemplated hereby or any material order, judgment or decree of any federal, state or local court applicable to the Company and (with due notice or the passage of time, or both), do not conflict with, or constitute a breach of, or a default under, or result in the creation or imposition of any prohibited lien, charge or encumbrance whatsoever upon any of the property or assets of the Company under the terms of any material document, instrument or commitment to which the Company is a party or by which the Company or any of its property is bound.

(d) No consent, approval or authorization of, or the filing, registration or qualification with, any governmental authority on the part of the Company is required prior to the execution, delivery and performance by the Company of this Agreement or the Tax

Agreement or the offer, issue, sale or delivery by the Authority of the Bonds other than those already obtained or made.

(e) Except as disclosed in the Bond Purchase Agreement dated December 17, 2024, among the Company, the Authority and BofA Securities, Inc. as underwriter of the Bonds, or in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q or Periodic Reports on Form 8-K, or any other report, registration statement or item, that is from time to time, filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, in each case as amended from time to time, the Company has not been served with and, to the knowledge of the Company there is no action, suit, proceeding, inquiry or investigation by or before any court, governmental agency or public board or body pending or threatened against the Company that (i) seeks to prohibit, restrain or enjoin the issuance, sale or delivery of the Bonds or the loaning of the proceeds of the Bonds to the Company or the execution and delivery of this Agreement or the Tax Agreement, (ii) questions the validity or enforceability of this Agreement or the Tax Agreement, (iii) questions the power or authority of the Company to carry out the transactions contemplated by, or to perform its obligations under this Agreement or the Tax Agreement or the powers of the Company to own, acquire, equip or operate the Project, or (iv) would reasonably be expected to materially impair its right to carry on business substantially as now conducted or as now contemplated to be conducted, or would materially adversely affect its financial condition.

(f) The Company is not in default under any document, instrument or commitment to which the Company is a party or to which it or any of its property is subject which default would reasonably be expected to affect the ability of the Company to carry out its obligations under this Agreement or the Tax Agreement.

(g) Any certificate signed by the Company or an Authorized Representative of the Company and delivered pursuant to this Agreement, the Tax Agreement or the Indenture shall be deemed a representation and warranty by the Company to the Authority and the Trustee as to the statements made therein.

(h) The information contained in the Limited Offering Memorandum dated December 17, 2024, prepared in connection with the sale of the Bonds, pertaining to the Company and the Bonds, specifically including the information under the heading "The Company and the Guarantors," "The Project" and in Appendix A, as of its date and at all times thereafter up to and including the Closing Date (other than the information under the captions "THE AUTHORITY", "TAX MATTERS", "PURCHASE OF THE BONDS", "LITIGATION - The Authority", "NOTICE TO INVESTORS", "BOOK ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM", "LEGAL MATTERS", "FINANCIAL ADVISOR", "CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS", "MISCELLANEOUS" and, except for the information with respect to the DTC and its procedures and in Appendix C) does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

(i) The Cost of the Project is as set forth in the Tax Agreement and has been determined in accordance with sound engineering/construction and accounting principles. All

the information and representations in the Tax Agreement are true and correct as of the date thereof.

(j) The Project consists and will consist of those facilities described in Exhibit A. In particular, the Company is in compliance with all requirements set forth in the Tax Agreement. The Company is fully familiar with the physical condition of the Project and is not relying on any representation of any kind by the Authority as to the nature or the condition thereof.

(k) All certificates, approvals, permits and authorizations with respect to the construction of the Project of applicable local governmental agencies, the State and the federal government have been obtained, or if not yet obtained, are expected to be obtained in due course.

(l) No event has occurred and no condition exists which would constitute an Event of Default (as defined in the Indenture) or Loan Default Event (as defined herein) or which, with the passing of time or with the giving of notice or both would become such an Event of Default or Loan Default Event.

ARTICLE III

ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; APPLICATION OF PROCEEDS

Section 3.1 Agreement to Issue Bonds; Application of Bond Proceeds. (a) To provide funds to finance costs of the Project, the Authority agrees that it will issue under the Indenture, sell and cause to be delivered to the purchasers thereof, the Bonds. Project Costs shall be financed through the issuance of the Bonds issued and delivered as set forth in Section 2.2 of the Indenture. The Authority will thereupon apply the proceeds received from the sale of the Bonds as provided herein and in the Indenture.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in Sections 5.2 or 5.3, in the event that the Company desires to alter or change the Project, and such alteration or change substantially alters the purpose and description of the Project as described in Exhibit A hereto, the Authority may consent (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld) to such changes in its discretion and, if it shall so consent, will instruct the Trustee to consent to such amendment or supplement to Exhibit A as shall be required to reflect such alteration or change to the Project upon receipt of:

- (i) a certificate of the Authorized Representative of the Company describing in detail the proposed changes;
- (ii) a copy of the proposed form of amended or supplemented Exhibit A hereto; and
- (iii) an Approving Opinion relating to such proposed changes, and an opinion of Bond Counsel that such changes will not disqualify the Project as facilities that may be financed pursuant to the Act.

Section 3.2 Disbursements from the Project Fund; Disbursements from the Costs of Issuance Fund. (a) The Company will authorize and direct the Trustee, upon compliance

with Section 3.3 of the Indenture, to disburse the moneys in the Project Fund only for the following purposes (and not for Costs of Issuance), subject to the provisions of Section 3.3 hereof:

(i) Payment to the Company of such amounts, if any, as shall be necessary to reimburse the Company in full for all advances and payments made by it, prior to or after the delivery of the Bonds, in connection with the acquisition, construction, installation and equipping of and other improvements to the Project, including payment on behalf of the Company of a portion of the moneys deposited in the Project Fund to refinance the Series 2005 Bonds, as described in Section 3.2(c) below.

(ii) Payment to any vendors, suppliers or contractors to acquire, construct and install the Project, as provided in the plans, specifications and work orders therefor; and payment of the miscellaneous expenses incidental thereto.

(iii) Payment of the fees, if any, of architects, engineers, legal counsel and supervisors expended in connection with the acquisition, construction, installation and equipping of and other improvements to the Project.

(iv) Payment of taxes including property taxes, assessments and other charges, if any, that may become payable during the construction period with respect to the Project, or reimbursement thereof, if paid by the Company.

(v) Payment of any other Costs of the Project permitted by the Tax Agreement (but not including any Costs of Issuance).

Each of the payments referred to in this Section 3.2(a) shall be made upon receipt by the Trustee of a written requisition in the form prescribed by Section 3.3 of the Indenture, signed by the Authorized Representative of the Company.

(b) The Company will authorize and direct the Trustee, upon compliance with Section 3.4 of the Indenture, to disburse the moneys in the Costs of Issuance Fund to or on behalf of the Company only for Costs of Issuance. Each of the payments referred to in this Section 3.2(b) shall be made upon receipt by the Trustee of a written requisition in the form prescribed by Section 3.4 of the Indenture, signed by the Authorized Representative of the Company.

(c) The Company will authorize and direct the Trustee to disburse moneys deposited in the Project Fund to the Series 2005 Bond Trustee, to be deposited into the Series 2005 Bond Fund to pay in full the Series 2005 Bonds on the maturity date thereof, as described in the Letter of Instructions and in accordance with Sections 5.1 and 5.2 of the Series 2005 Indenture.

(d) All disbursements from the Project Fund and the Costs of Issuance Fund must comply with the requirements of the Tax Agreement.

Section 3.3 Establishment of Completion Date; Obligation of Company to Complete. Promptly after the construction of the Project is completed, the Authorized Representative of the Company, on behalf of the Company, shall evidence the Completion Date

by providing a certificate to the Trustee and the Authority (if so requested by the Authority) stating that the construction of the Project has been completed substantially in accordance with the plans, specifications and work orders therefor, and all labor, services, materials and supplies used in the construction have been paid or provided for. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such certificate may state that it is given without prejudice to any rights of the Company against third parties for any claims or for the payment of any amount not then due and payable which exist at the date of such certificate or which may subsequently exist.

All moneys remaining in the Project Fund after the Completion Date (other than moneys relating to provisional payments) and after payment or provision for payment of all other Costs of the Project have been provided for shall be transferred to the Surplus Account in accordance with Section 3.3 of the Indenture and applied as provided therein.

In the event the moneys in the Project Fund available for payment of the Costs of the Project are or will be insufficient to pay the costs of acquisition, construction and installation of the Project as contemplated in this Agreement, the Company agrees to pay directly, or to deposit in the Project Fund moneys sufficient to pay, any costs of completing the acquisition, construction and installation of the Project in excess of the moneys available for such purpose in the Project Fund. The Authority makes no express or implied warranty that the moneys deposited in the Project Fund and available for payment of the Costs of the Project, under the provisions of this Agreement, will be sufficient to pay all the amounts which may be incurred for such Costs of the Project. The Company agrees that if, after exhaustion of the moneys in the Project Fund, the Company should pay, or deposit moneys in the Project Fund for the payment of, any portion of the Costs of the Project pursuant to the provisions of this Section, it shall not be entitled to any reimbursement therefor from the Authority, from the Trustee or from the holders of any of the Bonds, nor shall it be entitled to any diminution of the amounts payable under Section 4.2.

Section 3.4 Investment of Moneys in Funds. Any moneys in any fund or account held by the Trustee shall, at the written request of the Authorized Representative of the Company, be invested or reinvested by the Trustee as provided in the Indenture. Such investments shall be held by the Trustee and shall be deemed at all times a part of the fund or account from which such investments were made, and the interest accruing thereon, and any profit or loss realized therefrom, shall be credited or charged to such fund or account. The Company acknowledges that to the extent regulations of the Comptroller of the Currency or other applicable regulatory entity grant the Company the right to receive brokerage confirmations of security transactions from the Trustee as they occur, the Company specifically waives receipt of such confirmations to the extent permitted by law.

Section 3.5 Limitation of Authority's Liability. Anything contained in this Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, under no circumstances shall the Authority be obligated directly or indirectly to pay Costs of the Project, principal of or premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds, or expenses of operation, maintenance and upkeep of the Project except from Bond proceeds or from funds received under this Agreement and the Indenture, exclusive of funds received by the Authority for its own use. The Authority's obligations under the Indenture, this Agreement and the Bonds shall not constitute a debt or liability of or a pledge of the faith and credit of the Authority, the State, any political subdivisions thereof, or any

municipality therein. Nothing herein, in the Indenture or in the Bonds, shall directly, indirectly or contingently obligate the Authority, the State any political subdivision thereof or any municipality to levy or pledge any form of taxation whatsoever or make any appropriation for the payment of the Bonds.

ARTICLE IV

LOAN OF PROCEEDS; REPAYMENT PROVISION

Section 4.1 Loan of Bond Proceeds; Issuance of Bonds. The Authority covenants and agrees, upon the terms and conditions in this Agreement, to make a loan to the Company from the proceeds of the Bonds for the purpose of financing the Costs of the Project and the Costs of Issuance. The Authority further covenants and agrees that it shall take all actions within its authority to keep this Agreement in effect in accordance with its terms. Pursuant to said covenants and agreements, the Authority will issue the Bonds upon the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement and the Indenture and will cause the Bond proceeds to be applied as provided in Article III of the Indenture.

Section 4.2 Loan Payments and Payment of Other Amounts. (a) On or before 12:00 noon New York City time on each Bond Payment Date (as hereinafter defined), until the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on, the Bonds shall have been fully paid or provision for such payment shall have been made as provided in the Indenture, the Company covenants and agrees to pay to the Trustee as a repayment on the loan made to the Company from Bond proceeds pursuant to Section 4.1 hereof, a sum equal to the amount payable on such Bond Payment Date as principal of, and premium, if any, and interest on, the Bonds as provided in the Indenture. Such Loan Payments shall be made in federal funds or other funds immediately available at the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee. The term "Bond Payment Date" as used in this Section shall mean any date upon which any such amounts payable with respect to the Bonds shall become due, whether upon redemption, acceleration, maturity or otherwise.

Each payment made pursuant to this Section 4.2(a) shall at all times be sufficient to pay the total amount of interest and principal (whether at maturity or upon redemption or acceleration) and premium, if any, becoming due and payable on the Bonds on each Bond Payment Date; provided that any amount held by the Trustee in the Bond Fund on any due date for a Loan Payment hereunder shall be credited against the Loan Payment due on such date, to the extent available for such purpose; and provided further that, subject to the provisions of this paragraph, if at any time the amounts held by the Trustee in the Bond Fund are sufficient to pay all of the principal of and interest and premium, if any, on the Bonds as such payments become due, the Company shall be relieved of any obligation to make any further payments under the provisions of this Section. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if on any date the amount held by the Trustee in the Bond Fund is insufficient to make any required payments of principal of (whether at maturity or upon redemption or acceleration) and interest and premium, if any, on, the Bonds as such payments become due, the Company shall forthwith pay such deficiency as a Loan Payment hereunder.

The obligation of the Company to make any payment required by this Section 4.2(a) shall be deemed to have been satisfied to the extent of any corresponding payment made (i) by a

Credit Provider to the Trustee pursuant to a Letter of Credit then in effect with respect to the Bonds or (ii) by one or more Guarantors pursuant to a Guaranty in effect with respect to the Bonds.

(b) The Company further covenants that it will make any payments required to be made pursuant to Sections 2.4, 4.6 and 4.8 of the Indenture at the applicable Purchase Price thereof by 2:45 p.m. New York City time in federal or other immediately available funds; provided however the obligation to make such payments shall have been deemed satisfied to the extent that such Purchase Price shall have been paid from remarketing proceeds or from a draw under a Letter of Credit pursuant to Section 4.7(D) of the Indenture.

(c) The Company also agrees to pay (i) the annual fee of the Trustee and the Tender Agent, if any, for their ordinary services rendered as trustee or tender agent, respectively, and their ordinary expenses incurred under the Indenture, as and when the same become due, (ii) the reasonable fees, charges and expenses (including reasonable legal fees and expenses) of the Trustee, as bond registrar and paying agent, the reasonable fees of any other paying agent on the Bonds as provided in the Indenture, and (iii) the reasonable fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the necessary extraordinary services rendered by it and extraordinary expenses incurred by it under the Indenture, as and when the same become due. The Trustee's compensation shall not be limited by any provision of law regarding the compensation of a Trustee of an express trust.

(d) Except to the extent paid or reimbursed from Bond proceeds, the Company covenants and agrees to pay promptly when due the Authority's Service Charge, and as Additional Payments hereunder, within ten (10) Business Days after request therefor made in writing, all expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) incurred by the Authority in connection with the issuance and carrying of the Bonds and all expenses reasonably incurred or advances reasonably made in the exercise of the Authority's rights or the performance of its obligations under this Agreement, the Bonds or the Indenture. Any fees, expenses, reimbursements or other charges which the Authority may be entitled to receive from the Company hereunder or thereunder, if not paid when due, shall bear a late charge equal to 5% of the amount overdue, and if not paid within sixty (60) days, shall bear interest at twelve percent (12%) per annum.

(e) The Company also agrees to pay the reasonable fees, charges and expenses of the Remarketing Agent specified in the Remarketing Agreement. Such payments shall be made directly to the Remarketing Agent. The Authority shall have no obligation whatsoever with respect to the payment of fees, charges and expenses of the Remarketing Agent.

(f) The Company agrees to pay any amounts required to be deposited in the Rebate Fund to comply with the provisions of the Tax Agreement and to pay the fees, charges and expenses of any rebate analyst.

Section 4.3 Unconditional Obligation. The obligations of the Company to make the Loan Payments, the Additional Payments and the other payments required by Section 4.2 hereof and to perform and observe the other agreements on its part contained herein shall be absolute and unconditional and shall be binding and enforceable in all circumstances whatsoever,

irrespective of any defense or any rights of set-off, recoupment or counterclaim it might otherwise have against the Authority, and during the term of this Agreement, the Company shall pay all payments required to be made on account of this Agreement (which payments shall be net of any other obligations of the Company) as prescribed in Section 4.2 and all other payments required hereunder, free of any deductions and without abatement, diminution or set-off. The Company shall be obligated to make the payments whether or not the Project has come into existence or become functional and whether or not the Project has ceased to exist or to be functional to any extent and from any cause whatsoever. The Company shall be obligated to make such payments regardless of whether the Company is in possession or is entitled to be in possession of the Project or any part thereof. Until such time as the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on, the Bonds shall have been fully paid, or provision for the payment thereof shall have been made as required by the Indenture, the Company (i) will not suspend or discontinue any payments provided for in Section 4.2; (ii) will perform and observe all of its other covenants contained in this Agreement; and (iii) except as provided in Article VIII hereof, will not terminate this Agreement for any cause, including, without limitation, the occurrence of any act or circumstances that may constitute failure of consideration, destruction of or damage to all or a portion of those facilities or equipment comprising the Project, commercial frustration of purpose, any change in the tax or other laws of the United States of America or of the State or any political subdivision of either of these, or any failure of the Authority or the Trustee to perform and observe any covenant, whether express or implied, or any duty, liability or obligation arising out of or connected with this Agreement or the Indenture, except to the extent permitted by this Agreement.

Section 4.4 Assignment of Authority's Rights. As security for the payment of the Bonds, the Authority will under the Indenture assign to the Trustee the Authority's rights under this Agreement, including the right to receive Loan Payments hereunder (except the right of the Authority to receive certain payments, if any, with respect to fees, expenses and indemnification, or to enforce its rights under Sections 4.2(d), 7.3, 9.2 and 9.3 and its rights of indemnification and consent). The Authority hereby directs the Company to make the Loan Payments required hereunder directly to the Trustee for deposit as contemplated by the Indenture. The Authority hereby directs the Company to make the Purchase Price Payments and any payments under Section 5.13 required hereunder directly to the Trustee or the Tender Agent as contemplated by the Indenture. The Company hereby consents to such assignment and agrees to make payments directly to the Trustee or the Tender Agent, as the case may be, without defense or set-off by reason of any dispute between the Company and the Authority or the Trustee.

Section 4.5 Amounts Remaining in Funds. It is agreed by the parties hereto that after payment in full of (i) the Bonds, or after provision for such payment shall have been made as provided in the Indenture, (ii) the fees, charges and expenses of the Authority and the Trustee and paying agents in accordance with the Indenture, (iii) all other amounts required to be paid under this Agreement and the Indenture, and (iv) if applicable, payment to the Credit Provider of any amounts owed to the Credit Provider by the Company under the Reimbursement Agreement, any amounts remaining in any fund held by the Trustee under the Indenture (excepting the Rebate Fund) shall be paid as provided in Section 5.8 of the Indenture. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement or the Indenture, under no circumstances shall proceeds of a draw on a Letter of Credit or remarketing proceeds be paid to the Authority or the Company.

ARTICLE V

SPECIAL COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS

Section 5.1 Right of Access to the Project. The Company agrees that during the term of this Agreement the Authority, the Trustee, and the duly authorized agents of either of them shall have the right at all reasonable times during normal business hours to enter upon each site where any part of the Project is located and to examine and inspect the Project or, in the case of the Authority, to carry out its powers hereunder; provided that reasonable notice shall be given to the Company at least five (5) Business Days prior to such examination or inspection, and such inspection shall not disturb the Company's normal business operations.

Section 5.2 Disposition of Project. Except as provided hereafter with respect to the portion of the Project comprising equipment, without an Approving Opinion (i) the Company will not sell, lease or otherwise dispose of (other than to a "Related Party" as defined in Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-1(b) (a "Related Party")), or place any other person (other than a Related Party) in possession of, the Project or any portion thereof or interest therein, and (ii) the portion of the Project comprising equipment shall remain at a Project site except in the ordinary course of business; provided, however, that nothing herein shall limit the right of the Company to grant or permit a mortgage and or security interest in all or any part of the Project. The Company may remove and sell or otherwise dispose of any portion of the Project comprising equipment when the same shall have become obsolete, worn out or unnecessary for its business operations.

Section 5.3 The Company's Maintenance of Its Existence. The Company covenants and agrees that during the term of this Agreement it (a) will maintain its existence as a corporation in good standing in the State of Delaware and qualified to do business in the State, (b) will not dissolve, sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets and (c) will not combine or consolidate with or merge into another entity so that the Company is not the resulting or surviving entity (any such sale, disposition, combination or merger shall be referred to hereafter as a "transaction"); provided that the Company may consummate such transaction with the prior consent of the Authority, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, if (i) the surviving or resulting transferee, person or entity, as the case may be, assumes and agrees in writing to pay and perform all of the obligations of the Company hereunder, (ii) the surviving or resulting transferee, person or entity, as the case may be, qualifies to do business in the State and (iii) the Company shall deliver to the Authority and Trustee prior to or substantially contemporaneously with the consummation of the transaction an Approving Opinion.

If a merger, consolidation, sale or other transfer is effected, as provided in this Section, all provisions of this Section shall continue in full force and effect and no further merger, consolidation, sale or transfer shall be effected except in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, for so long as Section 5.13 hereof shall be in effect with respect to the Bonds (or any subseries thereof), the covenants set forth in Subsections 5.3(b) and 5.3(c) above shall not be effective with respect to such Bonds.

Section 5.4 Records and Financial Statements of Company. The Company covenants and agrees at all times to keep, or cause to be kept, proper books of record and account, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, in which complete and accurate entries shall be made of all transactions of or in relation to the business, properties and operations relating to the Project. Such books of record and account shall be available for inspection by the Authority or the Trustee during normal business hours and under reasonable circumstances; provided that reasonable notice shall be given to the Company at least five (5) Business Days prior to such inspection and such inspection shall not disturb the Company's normal business operations..

Section 5.5 Insurance. The Company agrees to insure the Project during the term of this Agreement for such amounts and for such occurrences as are customary for similar facilities of the Company within the State, by means of policies issued by reputable insurance companies qualified to do business in the State or through "self insurance" in accordance with the ordinary course of business of the Company.

Section 5.6 Use of Project.

(a) **Permitted Purposes; Ownership of the Project.** The Company agrees that it will, or will cause a Related Party to, acquire, construct and install, or complete the acquisition, construction and installation of, the Project, substantially in accordance with the description of the Project prepared by the Company and submitted to the Authority, including any and all supplements, amendments and additions or deletions thereto or therefrom, it being understood that the approval of the Authority shall not be required for changes in such description which do not substantially alter the purpose and description of the Project as set forth in Exhibit A hereto.

The Project consists of those facilities described in Exhibit A and, except as otherwise provided in Sections 5.2 or 5.3: (i) the Company shall not make any changes to the Project or to the operation thereof which would have the effect of disqualifying the Project as a project eligible for financing under the Act or impair the exemption from federal income taxation of the interest on the Bonds; (ii) the Company agrees to comply with all requirements set forth in the Tax Agreement; (iii) contracts for carrying out the Project and purchases in connection therewith shall be made by the Company in its own name or in the name of a Related Party; and (iv) the Company or a Related Party) owns or operates the Project sufficient to carry out the purposes of this Agreement.

(b) **Completion of Project.** The Project is reasonably expected to be completed within three years of the date hereof.

(c) **Compliance with Laws; Maintenance and Repairs.** The Company agrees to maintain the Project during the term of this Agreement (i) in as reasonably safe condition as its operations shall permit and as is customary in the industry and (ii) in good order and repair and in good operating condition, ordinary wear and tear excepted, and damage from casualty expressly not excepted, making from time to time all necessary repairs thereto and renewals and replacements thereof. The Company agrees not to permit or commit waste on the Project. In the acquisition, construction, maintenance, improvement and operation of the Project, the Company will comply in all material respects with all applicable planning, building, zoning, subdivision,

environmental protection, sanitary and safety and other land use laws, rules and regulations and will not permit any material nuisance thereon. Subject to the ability of the Company to dispose of the Project or portions thereon pursuant to this Agreement, the Project will be operated and maintained in such manner as to be consistent with the Act. It shall not be a breach of this section if the Company fails to comply with such laws, rules and regulations during any period in which the Company shall in good faith be diligently contesting the validity thereof.

(d) **Taxes; Utility and Other Charges.** The Company agrees to pay or cause to be paid during the term of this Agreement all taxes, governmental charges of any kind lawfully assessed or levied upon the Project or any part thereof or with respect to the Company's interest therein or use thereof, including any taxes levied against any portion of the Project, all utility and other charges incurred in the operation, maintenance, use, occupancy and upkeep of any portion of the Project and all assessments and charges lawfully made by any governmental body for public improvements that may be secured by a lien on the Project, provided that with respect to special assessments or other governmental charges that may lawfully be paid in installments over a period of years, the Company shall be obligated to pay only such installments as are required to be paid during the term of this Agreement. The Company may, at the Company's expense and in the Company's name, in good faith, diligently contest any such taxes, assessments and other charges and, in the event of any such contest, may permit the taxes, assessments or other charges so contested to remain unpaid during that period of such contest and any appeal therefrom unless by such nonpayment the Project or any part thereof will be subject to loss or forfeiture.

Nothing contained in this Agreement or the Indenture shall be construed to require or authorize the Authority to operate the Project itself or to conduct any business enterprise in connection therewith. The Authority shall not be liable to the Company or to any other person for any latent or patent defect in the Project.

Section 5.7 Qualification in Maine. The Company agrees that throughout the term of this Agreement it, or any successor or assignee as permitted by Section 5.2, will be qualified to do business in the State.

Section 5.8 Tax Covenant. The Company covenants and agrees that it shall at all times do and perform all acts and things permitted by law and this Agreement and the Indenture that are necessary in order to assure that interest paid on the Bonds (or any of them) will be excluded from gross income of the Holders for federal income tax purposes and shall take no action that would result in such interest not being excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Company agrees to comply with the provisions of the Tax Agreement, which are hereby incorporated herein. This covenant shall survive payment in full or defeasance of the Bonds. Notwithstanding this Section 5.8 or anything in this Agreement, the Indenture or the Tax Agreement to the contrary, the Company shall not be required to take any action to oppose or promote the adoption or implementation of legislative or regulatory changes that could affect the excludability of interest paid on the Bonds from gross income of Holders, and any failure of interest on the Bonds to be excluded from gross income of a Holder that arises out of a Holder's status or financial condition (rather than an action of the Company) shall not be deemed to breach this Section 5.8 or any provision of this Agreement, the Indenture or the Tax Agreement.

Section 5.9 Continuing Disclosure. Pursuant to the federal Securities and Exchange Commission (“S.E.C.”) Rule 15c2-12 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Company hereby covenants and agrees to comply, or to cause compliance with, when and if applicable, the continuing disclosure requirements set forth in the Continuing Disclosure Agreement, as such Continuing Disclosure Agreement may from time to time hereafter be amended or supplemented. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, failure of the Company to comply with the requirements of the Continuing Disclosure Agreement, as it may from time to time hereafter be amended or supplemented, shall not be considered a Loan Default Event or any default or event of default hereunder or under the Indenture, and may not result in the acceleration of the Bonds or this Agreement; however, the Trustee may (and, at the written request of any Holder of Outstanding Bonds, shall, but only to the extent indemnified to its satisfaction from and against any cost, liability or expense related thereto, including, without limitation, fees and expenses of its attorneys and advisors and additional fees and expenses of the Trustee or any Bondholder or beneficial owner of the Bonds) take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandamus or specific performance by court order, to cause the Company to comply with its obligations pursuant to this Section 5.9.

Section 5.10 Assignment by Company. The rights and obligations of the Company under this Agreement may be assigned by the Company to any person in whole or in part, subject, however, to each of the following conditions:

(a) No assignment (other than pursuant to Section 5.2 hereof) shall relieve the Company from primary liability for any of its obligations hereunder, and in the event of any assignment not pursuant to Section 5.2 hereof the Company shall continue to remain primarily liable for the payments specified in Section 4.2 hereof and for performance and observance of the other agreements herein provided to be performed and observed by it.

(b) Any assignment from the Company shall retain for the Company such rights and interests as will permit it to perform its obligations under this Agreement, and any assignee from the Company shall assume in writing the obligations of the Company hereunder to the extent of the interest assigned.

(c) Within 30 days after delivery thereof, the Company shall furnish or cause to be furnished to the Authority and the Trustee a true and complete copy of each such assignment together with an instrument of assumption.

(d) The Company shall furnish to the Authority and the Trustee an Approving Opinion.

Section 5.11 Cooperation in Filings and Other Matters. The Authority and the Company agree to cooperate, upon the request of either party, at the expense of the Company in the filing and renewal of UCC-1 Financing Statements, if any.

Section 5.12 Letter of Credit. (a) At any time the Company may, at its option, provide for the delivery to the Trustee of a Letter of Credit or Alternate Letter of Credit (hereafter collectively referred to with the Letter of Credit as a “Credit Instrument”) securing

Bonds bearing interest at a Variable Interest Rate, and the Company shall, in any event, cause to be delivered an Alternate Letter of Credit at least 20 days before the expiration date of any existing Letter of Credit, unless otherwise permitted by the Indenture. A Credit Instrument shall be an irrevocable letter of credit or other irrevocable credit facility (including, if applicable, a confirming letter of credit), issued by a Credit Provider, the terms of which shall comply with the requirements of the Indenture. On or prior to the date of the delivery of a Credit Instrument to the Trustee, the Company shall cause to be furnished to the Trustee, with a copy to the Authority, (i) an opinion of Bond Counsel stating to the effect that the delivery of such Credit Instrument to the Trustee is authorized under the Indenture and complies with the terms hereof and will not in and of itself adversely affect the Tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds, (ii) an opinion of counsel to the Credit Provider issuing such Credit Instrument stating to the effect that such Credit Instrument is enforceable in accordance with its terms (except to the extent that the enforceability thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, reorganization or similar laws limiting the enforceability of creditors' rights generally and except that no opinion need be expressed as to the availability of any discretionary equitable remedies), and (iii) written evidence from the Rating Agency that the Bonds secured by such Credit Instrument shall have a long-term rating of "A" (or equivalent) or higher or, if the Bonds only have a short-term rating, such short-term rating shall be in the highest short-term rating category (without regard to "+"s or "-"s).

(b) The Company shall provide to the Trustee (with a copy to the Authority) a notice at least 15 days prior to the effective date of any Credit Instrument (and in no event later than 35 days prior to the expiration of any existing Credit Instrument) identifying the Credit Instrument, if any, and the rating which will apply to the Bonds after the effective date of such Credit Instrument.

Section 5.13 Change of Control. The provisions of this Section 5.13 shall be effective only for so long as the Bonds are in the Term Interest Rate Period and are not secured by a Letter of Credit and shall only be applicable to Bonds (or a subseries thereof) that are in the Term Interest Rate Period and are not secured by a Letter of Credit.

If a Change of Control occurs, each Holder of Bonds (or subseries thereof) that are in the Term Interest Rate Period and are not secured by a Letter of Credit will have the right to require the Company to repurchase all or any part (in a principal amount equal to \$100,000 or an integral multiple of \$5,000 in excess thereof; provided that no such repurchase may result in a Holder owning less than an Authorized Denomination) of that Holder's Bonds pursuant to a Change of Control Offer (the "Change of Control Offer"). In the Change of Control Offer, the Company will offer to pay an amount in cash (the "Change of Control Payment") equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of Bonds repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon, if any, to the date of purchase. Within 30 days following any Change of Control, the Company will mail a notice to each Holder of Bonds (or subseries thereof) that are in the Term Interest Rate Period and are not secured by a Letter of Credit describing the transaction or transactions that constitute the Change of Control and offering to repurchase Bonds on the date (the "Change of Control Payment Date") specified in such notice, which date shall be a Business Day no earlier than 30 days and no later than 60 days from the date such notice is mailed, pursuant to the procedures required by this Agreement and described in such notice. Such notice shall state:

- (1) that the Change of Control Offer is being made pursuant to this

Section 5.13 and that all Bonds tendered and not withdrawn will be accepted for payment;

- (2) the purchase price (including the amount of accrued interest) and the Change of Control Payment Date;
- (3) that any Bond not tendered will continue to accrue interest;
- (4) that, unless the Company defaults in making payment therefor, any Bond accepted for payment pursuant to the Change of Control Offer shall cease to accrue interest after the Change of Control Payment Date;
- (5) that Holders electing to have a Bond purchased pursuant to a Change of Control Offer will be required to surrender the Bond, with the form entitled "Option of Holder to Elect Purchase" on the Bond completed, to the Trustee at the address specified in the notice prior to the close of business on the third Business Day prior to the Change of Control Payment Date;
- (6) that Holders will be entitled to withdraw their election if the Trustee receives, not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m. New York time) on the second Business Day prior to the Change of Control Payment Date, a facsimile transmission or letter setting forth the name of the Holder, the principal amount of the Bonds the Holder delivered for purchase and a statement that such Holder is withdrawing his election to have such Bonds purchased;
- (7) that Holders whose Bonds are purchased only in part will be issued new Bonds in a principal amount equal to the unpurchased portion of the Bonds surrendered; and
- (8) the circumstances and relevant facts regarding such Change of Control.

On or before the Change of Control Payment Date, the Company will, to the extent lawful:

- (a) accept for payment all Bonds or portions thereof properly tendered pursuant to the Change of Control Offer;
- (b) deposit with the Paying Agent U.S. Legal Tender sufficient to pay the Change of Control Payment in respect of all Bonds or portions thereof so tendered; and
- (c) deliver or cause to be delivered to the Trustee the Bonds so accepted together with a certificate of an Authorized Representative stating the aggregate principal amount of Bonds or portions thereof being purchased by the Company.

The Company will cause the Paying Agent to promptly pay to each Holder of Bonds so tendered the Change of Control Payment for such Bonds (in the same manner as payment of interest on the Bonds, to the Bondholders of record, or Direct Participants with respect to Book-Entry Bonds, on the Record Date), and the Company will cause the Trustee to promptly authenticate and mail (or cause to be transferred by book entry) to each Holder a new Bond equal in principal amount to any unpurchased portion of the Bonds surrendered, if any; provided that each such new Bond will be in a principal amount of \$100,000 or an integral multiple of \$5,000 in excess thereof.

The Company will publicly announce the results of the Change of Control Offer as soon as practicable after the Change of Control Payment Date.

The Company will not be required to make a Change of Control Offer upon a Change of Control if a third party makes the Change of Control Offer in the manner, at the times and otherwise in compliance with the requirements set forth in this Agreement applicable to a Change of Control Offer made by the Company and purchases all Bonds validly tendered and not withdrawn under such Change of Control Offer.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company shall not be required to make a Change of Control Offer, as provided above, if, in connection with or in contemplation of any Change of Control, it or a third party has made an offer to purchase (an "Alternate Offer") any and all Bonds validly tendered at a cash price equal to or higher than the Change of Control Payment and has purchased all Bonds properly tendered in accordance with the terms of such Alternate Offer. Any Alternate Offer may be terminated by the Company or such third party at any time prior to the consummation of the applicable Change of Control. The Alternate Offer shall remain, if commenced prior to the Change of Control, open for acceptance until the earlier of (a) the consummation of the Change of Control or (b) any termination of the Alternate Offer by the Company or such third party prior to the consummation of the applicable Change of Control, must permit Holders to withdraw any tenders of Bonds made into the Alternate Offer until the final expiration or consummation thereof and must comply with all the other provisions applicable to the Change of Control Offer.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the Bonds shall be subject to redemption or mandatory tender (or the Company has exercised a right to do so) on the same date that the Bonds are subject to a Change of Control Offer, the redemption and mandatory tender provisions in the Indenture shall control, including without limitation with respect to the redemption price or Purchase Price of 100% of the principal amount of the Outstanding Bonds plus accrued and unpaid interest.

The Company will comply, and will use reasonable efforts to ensure that any third party making a Change of Control Offer or an Alternate Offer will comply, with the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Exchange Act and any other securities laws and regulations thereunder to the extent such laws and regulations are applicable in connection with such Change of Control Offer or an Alternate Offer. To the extent the provisions of any applicable securities laws or regulations conflict with the provisions of this Agreement relating to a Change of Control Offer, the Company will not be deemed to have breached its obligations under this Agreement by virtue of complying with such laws or regulations.

Section 5.14 Maintenance of Guaranty; Additional Subsidiary Guarantees. For so long as the Bonds (or a subseries thereof) are in the Term Interest Rate Period and are not secured by a Letter of Credit, the Company will cause the Guarantors to maintain in effect the Guaranty.

The following provisions of this Section 5.14 and the Guaranty to be delivered are applicable only with respect to Bonds (or a subseries thereof) that are in the Term Interest Rate Period and are not secured by a Letter of Credit:

(a) If any Subsidiary (i) becomes a guarantor, borrower and/or issuer in respect of the Senior Credit Facility or (ii) if the Senior Credit Facility has been terminated, becomes a guarantor of any other issue of indebtedness for borrowed money of the Company of \$30.0 million or more in aggregate principal amount (per issue), then that Subsidiary shall become a Guarantor and shall, concurrently with the guarantee of such indebtedness:

(1) execute and deliver to the Trustee (with a copy to the Authority) a signature page to the Guaranty, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit C hereto, pursuant to which such Subsidiary shall unconditionally guarantee the Guaranteed Obligations (as defined in the Guaranty) on the terms set forth in the Guaranty; and

(2) deliver to the Trustee (with a copy to the Authority) an opinion of counsel that the Guaranty constitutes a valid and legally binding and enforceable obligation of such Subsidiary, subject to the assumptions, qualifications, limitations and exceptions contained in such opinion of counsel.

Thereafter, such Subsidiary shall be a Guarantor for all purposes of the Guaranty.

(b) The guarantees under the Guaranty are subject to release upon the terms set forth in the Guaranty.

Section 5.15 Post Issuance Compliance. The Company's Chief Financial Officer or such other officer designated by the Company and disclosed in writing to the Authority, shall be the Company's compliance officer, as prescribed by Section III(c) (i) of the Authority's Tax-Exempt Bond monitoring procedures for Conduit Bonds Issued by the Authority ("Bond Compliance Policy"). The Company shall comply in all material respects with the Authority's Bond Compliance Policy, as applicable to the Company, including particularly, but not limited to, Section III(c)(i)-(v) thereof. A copy of the Authority's Bond Compliance Policy is attached hereto as Exhibit D. In the event of a failure of the Company to comply with any provision of this Section 5.15, the Authority may seek mandamus or specific performance by court order to cause the Company to comply with its obligations under this Section 5.15. A failure of the Company to comply with any provision of this Section 5.15 shall not be deemed an Event of Default under the Indenture or this Agreement or any other agreement, and the sole remedy under this Agreement in the event of any failure of the Company to comply with this Section 5.15 shall be an action by the Authority to compel performance.

Section 5.16 Compliance with Indenture. The Company recognizes that the Indenture contains provisions that, among other things, relate to matters affecting the administration and investment of certain funds. The Company has reviewed the Indenture and hereby assents to all

provisions of the Indenture. The Company shall take such action as may be reasonably necessary in order to enable the Authority and the Trustee to comply with all requirements and to fulfill all covenants of the Indenture to the extent that compliance with such requirements and fulfillment of such covenants are dependent upon any observance or performance required of the Company by the Indenture or this Agreement.

ARTICLE VI

[RESERVED]

ARTICLE VII

LOAN DEFAULT EVENTS AND REMEDIES

Section 7.1 Loan Default Events. Any one of the following which occurs and continues shall constitute a Loan Default Event:

- (a) Failure of the Company to make any Loan Payment required by Section 4.2(a) hereof when due; or
- (b) Failure of the Company to make any Purchase Price Payment required by Section 4.2(b) hereof when due; or
- (c) Failure of the Company to observe and perform any covenant, condition or agreement on its part required to be observed or performed by this Agreement other than as provided in (a) or (b), which continues for a period of 60 days after written notice by the Authority or the Trustee delivered to the Company and the Credit Provider, if any, which notice shall specify such failure and request that it be remedied (including by redemption of all or a portion of the Bonds), unless the Authority and the Trustee shall agree in writing to an extension of such time; provided, however, that if the failure stated in the notice cannot be corrected within such period, the Authority and the Trustee will not unreasonably withhold their consent to an extension of such time if corrective action is instituted within such period and diligently pursued until the default is corrected; or

(d) The dissolution or liquidation of the Company or the filing by the Company of a voluntary petition in bankruptcy, or failure by the Company promptly to cause to be lifted any execution, garnishment or attachment of such consequence as will materially impair the Company's ability to carry on its obligations hereunder, or the commission by the Company of any act of bankruptcy, or adjudication of the Company as a bankrupt, or if a petition or answer proposing the adjudication of the Company as a bankrupt or its reorganization, arrangement or debt readjustment under any present or future federal bankruptcy act or any similar federal or state law shall be filed in any court and such petition or answer shall not be discharged or denied within ninety days after the filing thereof, or if the Company shall admit in writing its inability to pay its debts generally as they become due, or a receiver, trustee or liquidator of the Company shall be appointed in any proceeding brought against the Company and shall not be discharged within ninety days after such appointment or if the Company shall consent to or acquiesce in

such appointment, or assignment by the Company for the benefit of its creditors, or the entry by the Company into an agreement of composition with its creditors, or a bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceeding shall be otherwise initiated by or against the Company under any applicable bankruptcy, reorganization or analogous law as now or hereafter in effect and if initiated against the Company shall remain undismissed (subject to no further appeal) for a period of ninety days; provided, the term “dissolution or liquidation of the Company,” as used in this subsection, shall not be construed to include the cessation of the existence of the Company resulting either from a merger or consolidation of the Company into or with another entity or a dissolution or liquidation of the Company following a transfer of all or substantially all of its assets as an entirety or under the conditions permitting such actions contained in Section 5.2 hereof; or

(e) Existence of an Event of Default under the Indenture; or

(f) Existence of an Event of Default under the Guaranty; or

(g) So long as the Bonds are in the Term Interest Rate Period and no Letter of Credit is in effect, the existence of a default under and as defined in the Senior Credit Facility, but only if such default has resulted in the acceleration of the obligations owed under the Senior Credit Facility prior to their final stated maturities and provided that, in the event that such acceleration has been rescinded, such Event of Default hereunder will be deemed cured for all purposes and of no further effect; or

(h) So long as the Bonds are in the Term Interest Rate Period and no Letter of Credit is in effect, and the Company shall have been deemed discharged from its obligations (other than any indemnification and other obligations which survive the termination of the Senior Credit Facility) with respect to the Senior Credit Facility (as set forth in the Senior Credit Facility), a default under, and as defined in, the indenture, agreement or instrument governing any bond, note, Finance Lease, or any other indebtedness for borrowed money of the Company, in any case, in the principal amount of \$30 million or more (collectively, the “Indebtedness”), but only if such default with respect to any such Indebtedness has resulted in the acceleration of such Indebtedness prior to its final stated maturity and provided that, in the event that such acceleration has been rescinded, such Event of Default hereunder will be deemed cured for all purposes and of no further effect.

Section 7.2 Remedies on Default. Subject to Section 7.1 hereof, whenever any Loan Default Event shall have occurred and shall be continuing,

(a) The Trustee, by written notice to the Authority, the Company and the Credit Provider, if any, may declare the unpaid balance of the loan payable under Section 4.2(a) of this Agreement to be due and payable immediately, provided that concurrently with or prior to such notice the unpaid principal amount of the Bonds shall have been declared to be due and payable under the Indenture. Upon any such declaration such amount shall become and shall be immediately due and payable as determined in accordance with Section 7.01 of the Indenture.

(b) The Authority or the Trustee may have access to and may inspect, examine and make copies of the books and records relating to the transactions contemplated

hereby and any and all accounts, data and federal income tax and other tax returns of the Company relating to the transactions contemplated hereby.

(c) The Authority or the Trustee may take whatever action at law or in equity as may be necessary or desirable to collect the payments and other amounts then due and thereafter to become due or to enforce performance and observance of any obligation, agreement or covenant of the Company under this Agreement.

(d) Notwithstanding any contrary provision in this Agreement or the Indenture, the Authority shall have the right to take any action or make any decision with respect to proceedings for indemnity against the liability of the Authority and for collection or reimbursement from sources other than moneys or property held under this Agreement or the Indenture. The Authority may enforce its rights under this Agreement and the Indenture which have not been assigned to the Trustee by legal proceedings for the specific performance of any obligation contained herein or for the enforcement of any other appropriate legal or equitable remedy, and may recover damages caused by any breach by the Company of its obligations to the Authority under this Agreement or the Indenture, including court costs, reasonable attorney's fees and other costs and expenses incurred in enforcing such obligations.

(e) If applicable, the Trustee shall have the right to immediately draw upon any Letter of Credit, if permitted by its terms and required by the terms of the Indenture, and apply the amount so drawn in accordance with the Indenture and may exercise any remedy available to it thereunder.

In case the Trustee or the Authority shall have proceeded to enforce its rights under this Agreement and such proceedings shall have been discontinued or abandoned for any reason or shall have been determined adversely to the Trustee or the Authority, then, and in every such case, the Company, the Trustee and the Authority shall be restored respectively to their several positions and rights hereunder, and all rights, remedies and powers of the Company, the Trustee and the Authority shall continue as though no such action had been taken.

The Company covenants that, in case a Loan Default Event shall occur with respect to the payment of any Loan Payment payable under Section 4.2(a) hereof, then, upon demand of the Trustee, the Company will pay to the Trustee the whole amount that then shall have become due and payable under said Section, with interest on the amount then overdue with respect to principal at the rate then borne by the Bonds on the day prior to the occurrence of such default.

In the case the Company shall fail forthwith to pay such amounts upon such demand, the Trustee shall be entitled and empowered to institute any action or proceeding at law or in equity for the collection of the sums so due and unpaid, and may prosecute any such action or proceeding to judgment or final decree, and may enforce any such judgment or final decree against the Company and collect in the manner provided by law the moneys adjudged or decreed to be payable.

In case proceedings shall be pending for the bankruptcy or for the reorganization of the Company under the federal bankruptcy laws or any other applicable law, or in case a receiver or trustee shall have been appointed for the property of the Company or in the case of any other

similar judicial proceedings relative to the Company, or the creditors or property of the Company, then the Trustee shall be entitled and empowered, by intervention in such proceedings or otherwise, to file and prove a claim or claims for the whole amount owing and unpaid pursuant to this Agreement and, in case of any judicial proceedings, to file such proofs of claim and other papers or documents as may be necessary or advisable in order to have the claims of the Trustee allowed in such judicial proceedings relative to the Company, its creditors or its property, and to collect and receive any moneys or other property payable or deliverable on any such claims, and to distribute such amounts as provided in the Indenture after the deduction of its reasonable charges and expenses to the extent permitted by the Indenture. Any receiver, assignee or trustee in bankruptcy or reorganization is hereby authorized to make such payments to the Trustee, and to pay to the Trustee any amount due it for reasonable compensation and expenses, including reasonable expenses and fees of counsel incurred by it up to the date of such distribution.

In the event the Trustee incurs expenses or renders services in any proceedings which result from a Loan Default Event under Section 7.1(d) hereof, or from any default which, with the passage of time, would become such Loan Default Event, the expenses so incurred and compensation for services so rendered are intended to constitute expenses of administration under the United States Bankruptcy Code or equivalent law. Any provisions governing the rights, immunities and protections of the Trustee under Sections 8.1, 8.3 and 8.4 of the Indenture are incorporated by reference into this Agreement as though fully set forth herein.

Section 7.3 Agreement to Pay Attorneys' Fees and Expenses. In the event the Company should default under any of the provisions of this Agreement and the Authority or the Trustee should employ attorneys or incur other expenses for the collection of the payments due under this Agreement or the enforcement of performance or observance of any obligation or agreement on the part of the Company herein contained, the Company agrees to pay to the Authority or the Trustee the reasonable fees of such attorneys and such other reasonable out-of-pocket expenses so incurred by the Authority or the Trustee.

Section 7.4 No Remedy Exclusive. No remedy herein conferred upon or reserved to the Authority or the Trustee is intended to be exclusive of any other available remedy or remedies, but each and every such remedy shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to every other remedy given under this Agreement or now or hereafter existing at law or in equity or by statute. No delay or omission to exercise any right or power accruing upon any default shall impair any such right or power or shall be construed to be a waiver thereof, but any such right and power may be exercised from time to time and as often as may be deemed expedient. In order to entitle the Authority or the Trustee to exercise any remedy reserved to it in this Article, it shall not be necessary to give any notice, other than such notice as may be expressly required herein or by applicable law. Such rights and remedies as are given the Authority hereunder shall also extend to the Trustee as the assignee of the Authority. Notwithstanding any other provision hereunder, the Trustee may proceed first against either the Guarantors or the Company in accordance with the terms of the Guaranty and/or this Agreement, respectively, as the Trustee may deem appropriate.

Section 7.5 No Additional Waiver Implied by One Waiver. In the event any agreement or covenant contained in this Agreement should be breached by the Company and

thereafter waived by the Authority or the Trustee, such waiver shall be limited to the particular breach so waived and shall not be deemed to waive any other breach hereunder.

ARTICLE VIII

PREPAYMENT

Section 8.1 Redemption of Bonds with Prepayment Moneys. By virtue of the assignment of the rights of the Authority under this Agreement to the Trustee as is provided in Section 4.4 hereof, the Company agrees to and shall pay directly to the Trustee any amount permitted or required to be paid by it under this Article VIII. Whenever Bonds are to be redeemed in whole or in part, the Trustee shall give the Authority notice thereof at least ten (10) business days before the redemption date specifying the date and amount of redemption and the amount of accrued interest and premium, if any. The Trustee shall use the moneys so paid to it by the Company to redeem the Bonds on the date set for such redemption pursuant to Section 8.5 hereof or to reimburse any Credit Provider for any draw under the Letter of Credit therefor. The Authority shall at the expense of the Company call Bonds for redemption as required by Article V of the Indenture or as requested by the Company pursuant to the Indenture or this Agreement.

Section 8.2 Options to Prepay Installments. The Company shall have the option to prepay the Loan Payments payable under Section 4.2(a) hereof by paying to the Trustee, for deposit in the Bond Fund, the amount set forth in Section 8.4 hereof and to cause all or any part of the Bonds to be redeemed at the times and at the prices set forth in Section 4.1(B) of the Indenture if the conditions under said Section 4.1(B) are met and at the times and at the prices set forth in Sections 4.1(C) or 4.1(D) of the Indenture, as the case may be.

Section 8.3 Mandatory Prepayment. The Company shall have and hereby accepts the obligation to prepay in whole the Loan Payments required by Section 4.2(a), together with interest accrued, but unpaid, thereon by paying to the Trustee, for deposit in the Bond Fund, the amount set forth in Section 8.4 hereof, to be used to redeem all or a part of the Outstanding Bonds if mandatory redemption is required by Section 4.1(A) of the Indenture.

Section 8.4 Amount of Prepayment. In the case of a prepayment of the entire amount due hereunder pursuant to Section 8.2 or 8.3, the amount to be paid shall be a sum sufficient, together with other funds and the yield on any securities deposited with the Trustee and available for such purpose, to pay (1) the principal of all Bonds Outstanding on the redemption date specified in the notice of redemption, plus interest accrued and to accrue to the payment or redemption date of the Bonds, plus premium, if any, pursuant to the Indenture, (2) all reasonable and necessary fees and expenses of the Authority, the Trustee and any paying agent accrued and to accrue through final payment of the Bonds and (3) all other liabilities of the Company accrued and to accrue under this Agreement. In the case of redemption of the Outstanding Bonds in part, the amount payable shall be a sum sufficient, together with other funds deposited with the Trustee and available for such purpose, to pay the principal amount of and premium, if any, and accrued interest on the Bonds to be redeemed, as provided in the Indenture, and to pay expenses of redemption of such Bonds.

Section 8.5 Notice of Prepayment. To exercise an option granted in or to perform an obligation required by this Article VIII, the Company shall give written notice at least fifteen (15) days prior to the last day by which the Trustee is permitted to give notice of redemption pursuant to Section 4.3 of the Indenture, to the Authority and the Trustee specifying the amount to be prepaid and the date upon which any prepayment will be made. If the Company fails to give such notice of a prepayment in connection with a mandatory redemption under this Agreement, such notice may be given by the Authority, by the Trustee or by any Holder or Holders of 10% or more in aggregate principal amount of the Bonds Outstanding. The Authority and the Trustee, at the request of the Company or any such Holder, shall forthwith take all steps necessary under the applicable provisions of the Indenture (except that the Authority shall not be required to make payment of any money required for such redemption) to effect redemption of all or part of the Bonds then Outstanding, as the case may be, on the earliest practicable date thereafter on which such redemption may be made under applicable provisions of the Indenture. The Authority hereby appoints the Company to give all notices and make all requests to the Trustee with respect to the application of funds paid by the Company as prepayments, including notices of optional redemption of the Bonds in conformity with Article IV of the Indenture, provided, however, that the Company shall in all such cases provide copies to the Authority of the notices so given.

ARTICLE IX

NON-LIABILITY OF AUTHORITY; EXPENSES; INDEMNIFICATION

Section 9.1 Non-liability of Authority; Limitations on Authority Actions and Responsibilities. The Authority shall not be obligated to pay the principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on the Bonds, except from Revenues. The Company hereby acknowledges that the Authority's sole source of moneys to repay the Bonds will be provided by the payments made by the Company pursuant to this Agreement, together with other Revenues with respect to the Bonds, including amounts received by the Trustee under the Guaranty or the Letter of Credit, if any, and investment income on certain funds and accounts held by the Trustee under the Indenture, and hereby agrees that if the payments to be made hereunder shall ever prove insufficient to pay all principal of, and premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds as the same shall become due (whether by maturity, redemption, acceleration or otherwise), then upon notice from the Trustee, the Company shall pay such amounts as are required from time to time to prevent any deficiency or default in the payment of such principal, premium or interest, including, but not limited to, any deficiency caused by acts, omissions, nonfeasance or malfeasance on the part of the Trustee, the Company, the Authority, the Credit Provider, if any, or any third party, other than as a result of such party's willful misconduct.

The Authority's obligations under the Indenture, this Agreement and the Bonds shall not constitute a debt or liability of or a pledge of the faith and credit of the Authority, the State, any political subdivisions thereof, or any municipality therein. Nothing herein, in the Indenture or in the Bonds, shall directly, indirectly or contingently obligate the Authority, the State any political subdivision thereof or any municipality to levy or pledge any form of taxation whatsoever or make any appropriation for the payment of the Bonds.

The Authority shall not be required to monitor the financial condition of the Company, the investment or expenditure of Bond proceeds, or the physical condition or use of the Project and, unless otherwise expressly provided, shall not have any responsibility with respect to notices, certificates or other documents filed with it. The Authority shall not be required to take notice of any breach or default except when given notice thereof by the Trustee or the Holders, as the case may be. The Authority shall not be responsible for the payment of any rebate to the United States under Section §148(f) of the Code, except as otherwise set forth in Section 6.6 of the Indenture. The Authority shall not be required to take any action unless indemnity reasonably satisfactory to it is furnished for expenses or liability to be incurred therein (other than the giving of notice). The Authority, upon written request of the Holders or the Trustee, and upon receipt of reasonable indemnity for expenses or liability, shall cooperate to the extent reasonably necessary to enable the Trustee to exercise any power granted to the Trustee by this Agreement or the Indenture. The Authority shall be entitled to reimbursement pursuant to Section 4.2(d) hereof to the extent that it acts without previously obtaining full indemnity.

The Authority shall be entitled to the advice of counsel (who may be counsel for any party or for any Holder) and shall be wholly protected as to any action taken or omitted to be taken in good faith in reliance on such advice. The Authority may rely conclusively on any notice, certificate or other document furnished to it under this Agreement or the Indenture and reasonably believed by it to be genuine. The Authority shall not be liable for any action taken by it in good faith and reasonably believed by it to be within the discretion or power conferred upon it, or in good faith omitted to be taken by it and reasonably believed to be beyond such discretion or power, or taken by it pursuant to any direction or instruction by which it is governed under this Agreement or the Indenture or omitted to be taken by it by reason of the lack of direction or instruction required for such action under this Agreement or the Indenture, or be responsible for the consequences of any error of judgment reasonably made by it. When any payment, consent or other action by the Authority is called for by this Agreement or the Indenture, the Authority may defer such action pending such investigation or inquiry or receipt of such evidence, if any, as it may reasonably require in support thereof. A permissive right or power to act shall not be construed as a requirement to act, and no delay in the exercise of a right or power shall affect the subsequent exercise thereof. The Authority shall in no event be liable for the application or misapplication of funds, or for other acts or defaults by any person or entity except by its own directors, officers and employees. No recourse shall be had by the Company, the Trustee or any Holder for any claim based on this Agreement or the Indenture or the Bonds against any director, officer, employee or agent of the Authority unless such claim is based upon the willful misconduct, bad faith, fraud or deceit of such person. No covenant, obligation or agreement of the Authority contained in this Agreement or the Indenture shall be deemed to be a covenant, obligation or agreement of any present or future director, officer, employee or agent of the Authority in his or her individual capacity, and no person executing a Bond shall be liable personally thereon or be subject to any personal liability or accountability by reason of the issuance thereof.

Section 9.2 Expenses. The Company covenants and agrees to reimburse the Authority and the Trustee for all reasonable costs and charges, including, without limitation, the Trustee's compensation provided for in the Indenture and including fees and disbursements of attorneys, accountants, consultants and other experts, incurred in good faith in connection with this Agreement or the Indenture.

Section 9.3 Indemnification.

The Company, regardless of any agreement to maintain insurance, will indemnify the Authority against (a) any and all claims by any person related to the participation of the Authority in the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, including without limitation claims arising out of (i) any condition of the Project or the construction, use, occupancy or management thereof; (ii) any loss or damage to property or injury to or death of or loss by any person that may be occasioned by any cause whatsoever pertaining to the construction, maintenance, operation and use of the Project; (b) any breach or default on the part of the Company in the performance of any covenant or agreement of the Company under this Agreement, the Reimbursement Agreement or any related document, or arising from any act or failure to act by the Company, or any of its agents, contractors, servants, employees or licensees; (iv) any act or omission of the Company or any of its agents, contractors, servants, employees or licensees; or (v) the offering, issuance, sale or any resale of the Bonds to the extent permitted by law, and (b) all costs, counsel fees, expenses or liabilities reasonably incurred in connection with any such claim or any action or proceeding brought thereon. In case any action or proceeding is brought against the Authority by reason of any such claim, the Company will defend the same at its expense upon notice from the Authority, and the Authority, will cooperate with the Company, at the expense of the Company, in connection therewith. This indemnification shall survive the termination or defeasance of this Agreement.

The Company agrees to indemnify the Trustee and the Tender Agent for, and to hold them harmless against, all liabilities, claims, costs and expenses incurred without intentional misconduct, negligence or bad faith on the part of the Trustee and the Tender Agent on account of any action taken or omitted to be taken by the Trustee and the Tender Agent in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, the Bonds or the Indenture or any action taken at the request of or with the consent of the Company, including the reasonable and documented costs and expenses of the Trustee and the Tender Agent in defending themselves against any such claim, action or proceeding brought in connection with the exercise or performance of any of their powers or duties under this Agreement, the Bonds, the Indenture, the Reimbursement Agreement, the Credit Instrument or the Guaranty.

In case any action or proceeding is brought against the Authority, the Tender Agent or the Trustee in respect of which indemnity may be sought hereunder, the party seeking indemnity promptly shall give notice of that action or proceeding to the Company, and the Company upon receipt of that notice shall have the obligation and the right to assume the defense of the action or proceeding; provided, that failure of a party to give that notice shall not relieve the Company from any of its obligations under this Section unless that failure prejudices the defense of the action or proceeding by the Company. At its own expense, an indemnified party may employ separate counsel and participate in the defense. The Company shall not be liable for any settlement made without its consent.

The indemnification set forth above is intended to and shall include the indemnification of all affected officials, directors, officers and employees of the Authority, the Tender Agent and the Trustee, respectively. That indemnification is intended to and shall be enforceable by the Authority, the Tender Agent and the Trustee, respectively, to the full extent permitted by law and shall survive the discharge of the Indenture.

ARTICLE X

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 10.1 Notices. All notices, certificates or other communications shall be deemed sufficiently given if sent by facsimile (receipt confirmed), electronic mail or if mailed by first-class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the Authority, the Company, or the Trustee, as the case may be, as follows:

To the Authority:

Finance Authority of Maine
5 Community Drive
P.O. Box 949
Augusta, Maine 04332-0949
Attention: General Counsel
Phone: (207) 620-3520
Facsimile: (207) 213-2620
E-Mail: croney@famemaine.com

To the Company:

Casella Waste Systems, Inc.
25 Greens Hill Lane
Rutland, Vermont 05701
Attention: Chief Financial Officer
Phone: (802) 772-2268
Facsimile: (802) 775-3290
E-Mail: brad.helgeson@casella.com

With a copy to the General Counsel:

Casella Waste Systems, Inc.
25 Greens Hill Lane
Rutland, Vermont 05701
Attention: General Counsel
Phone: (802) 772-2215
Facsimile: (802) 775-3290
E-Mail: shelley.sayward@casella.com

To the Trustee:

U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association
60 Livingston Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55107
Attention: Global Corporate Trust
Phone: (651) 446-6098
E-Mail: maria.bui@usbank.com

To the Credit Provider:

As may be provided, if applicable.

A duplicate copy of each notice, certificate or other communication given hereunder by either the Authority or the Company to the other shall also be given to the Trustee and the Credit Provider, if applicable. Notices to the Trustee are effective only when actually received by the Trustee. The Authority, the Company, the Trustee and the Credit Provider, if applicable, may, by notice given hereunder, designate any different addresses to which subsequent notices, certificates or other communications shall be sent. Section 8.1(J) and Section 12.8 of the Indenture (relating to the delivery of instructions and directions to the Trustee by Electronic Means and the use of digital or electronic signatures to sign documents delivered to the Trustee) are incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

Section 10.2 Matters to be Considered by Authority. In approving, concurring in or consenting to action or in exercising any discretion or in making any determination under this Agreement or the Indenture, the Authority may consider the interests of the public, which shall include the anticipated effect of any transaction on tax revenues and employment, as well as the interests of the other parties and the Holders; provided, however, nothing shall be construed as conferring on any person other than the other parties and the Holders any right to notice, hearing or participation in the Authority's consideration, and nothing in this section shall be construed as conferring on any of them any right additional to those conferred elsewhere. Subject to the foregoing, the Authority will not unreasonably withhold any approval or consent to be given by it hereunder.

Section 10.3 Severability. If any provision of this Agreement shall be held or deemed to be, or shall in fact be, illegal, inoperative or unenforceable, the same shall not affect any other provision or provisions herein contained or render the same invalid, inoperative, or unenforceable to any extent whatever.

Section 10.4 Execution of Counterparts. This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

Section 10.5 Amendments, Changes and Modifications. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement or the Indenture, this Agreement may not be effectively amended, modified or terminated except by the written agreement of the Authority and the Company and with the written consent of the Credit Provider, if applicable, and of the Trustee if required in accordance with Section 10.5 of the Indenture. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein or in the Indenture, any modifications or amendments to this Agreement that require the consent of Holders of Bonds shall be deemed to mean only those Holders of Bonds of one or more subseries that are affected by such amendment or modification, and the consent of the Credit Provider is only required if the amendment affects Bonds supported by a Letter of Credit.

Section 10.6 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the Constitution and laws of the State applicable to contracts made and performed in the State.

Section 10.7 Authorized Representative. Whenever under the provisions of this Agreement the approval of the Company is required or the Company is required to take some action at the request of the Authority, such approval or such request shall be given on behalf of the Company by the Authorized Representative, and the Authority and the Trustee shall be authorized to act on any such approval or request and neither party hereto shall have any complaint against the other or against the Trustee as a result of any such action taken.

Section 10.8 Actions by Authority. Any action which may be taken by the Authority hereunder shall be deemed sufficiently taken if taken on its behalf by its Chief Executive Officer or by any other member, director, officer or agent whom it may designate from time to time.

Section 10.9 Term of the Agreement. This Agreement shall be and remain in full force and effect from the date of delivery of the Bonds to the Underwriter until such time as all of the Bonds have been fully paid (or provision made for such payment) pursuant to the Indenture and all other sums payable by the Company under this Agreement shall have been paid, except for obligations of the Company under Sections 4.2 and 9.3 hereof, which shall survive any termination of this Agreement.

Section 10.10 Binding Effect. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the Authority, the Company and their respective successors and assigns; subject, however, to the limitations contained in Sections 5.2 and 5.10 hereof.

Section 10.11 Complete Agreement. The parties agree that the terms and conditions of this Agreement supersede those of all previous agreements between the parties, and that this Agreement, together with the documents referred to in this Agreement, contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto.

Section 10.12 Business Days. If any payment is to be made hereunder or any action is to be taken hereunder on any date that is not a Business Day, such payment or action otherwise required to be made or taken on such date shall be made or taken on the immediately succeeding Business Day with the same force and effect as if made or taken on such scheduled date and as to any payment; provided, any such payment is made on such succeeding Business Day.

Section 10.13 Limitation on Liability of the Authority. The Bonds are payable solely and only from the special funds pledged for the benefit of the Bondholders pursuant to the Indenture. The Bonds and the interest thereon and premium, if any, do not represent or constitute an indebtedness of the Authority, any member of the Authority, the State or any other political subdivision of the State within the meaning of the provisions of the constitution or statutes of the State or a pledge of the faith and credit of the Authority, the State or any other political subdivision of the State. The Bonds are a limited obligation of the Authority payable solely and only out of payments by the Company pursuant to this Agreement. The Bonds are not a lien or charge upon the funds or property of the Authority or any member of the Authority, except to the extent of the aforementioned. No recourse shall be had for the payment of the

Bonds against any elected or appointed officer, official, employee or agent of the Authority or any person executing the Bonds.

Section 10.14 Waivers. Each of the Company and the Authority hereby (i) irrevocably and unconditionally waive, to the fullest extent permitted by law, trial by jury in any legal action or proceeding relating to this Agreement or the Project and for any counterclaim therein and (ii) irrevocably waive, to the maximum extent not prohibited by law, any right it may have to claim or recover in any such litigation any special, exemplary, punitive or consequential damages, or damages other than, or in addition to, actual damages.

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE has caused this Agreement to be executed in its name and CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC. has caused this Agreement to be executed in its name by a duly authorized officer all as of the date first above written.

FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE

By /s/ Christopher H. Roney
Christopher H. Roney, General Counsel

CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS, INC.

By /s/ Bradford J. Helgeson
Name: Bradford J. Helgeson
Title: Executive Vice President and Chief
Financial Officer

EXHIBIT A

Description of Project

The Project consists of the (1) refinancing of certain solid waste disposal facilities, including landfill development costs and construction, disposal equipment and related improvements, Maine Energy Recovery Company capital maintenance, buildings and office improvements, office equipment, vehicles, containers, equipment and land in the State; and (2) financing of the acquisition, development, construction and/or equipping of facilities used in connection with the disposal, conversion, or reclamation of solid waste, including, without limitation: (A) the acquisition and equipping of new collection vehicles, trucks, trailers, solid waste disposal containers and related equipment, and computers; (B) the acquisition and installation of certain solid waste recycling sorting and processing equipment; (C) the acquisition, construction, improvement and equipping of certain solid waste disposal, collection, transfer, recycling and customer care facilities; (D) the acquisition and development of landfill facilities including (i) landfill cell development and liners to create additional disposal capacity at the Company's permitted landfill sites, (ii) landfill gas treatment and processing infrastructure, and (iii) other related costs including paving, grading and other infrastructure improvements; and (E) additional capital expenditures for the development, design, engineering, replacements, demolition, construction, and renovation that were, or will be, undertaken or incurred to accomplish the foregoing.

The Project shall also include, without limitation, any other permitted use of the Bond proceeds by the Company under the Tax Agreement, as well as any installation, development, design, engineering, replacements, demolition, improvements, equipment, construction, renovation, structures, permitting and capital expenditures that were, or will be, undertaken or incurred to accomplish the foregoing

EXHIBIT B

DEFINITIONS RELATING TO “CHANGE OF CONTROL”

As used in the defined term “Change of Control” in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

“**Beneficial Owner**” has the meaning assigned to such term in Rule 13d-3 and Rule 13d-5 under the Exchange Act, except that in calculating the beneficial ownership of any particular “person” (as such term is used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act), such “person” shall be deemed to have beneficial ownership of all securities that such “person” has the right to acquire, whether such right is currently exercisable or is exercisable only upon the occurrence of a subsequent condition.

“**Disqualified Capital Stock**” means any class or series of capital stock of any Person that by its terms or otherwise is

(a) required to be redeemed or is redeemable at the option of the holder of such class or series of capital stock at any time on or prior to the date that is 91 days after the final stated maturity of the principal of the Bonds; or

(b) convertible into or exchangeable at the option of the holder thereof for capital stock referred to in clause (1) above or indebtedness having a scheduled maturity on or prior to the date that is 91 days after the final stated maturity of the principal of the Bonds.

Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, any capital stock that would constitute Disqualified Capital Stock solely because the holders of the capital stock have the right to require the issuer thereof to repurchase such capital stock upon the occurrence of a “change of control” or “asset sale” will not constitute Disqualified Capital Stock if such requirement only becomes operative after compliance with such terms applicable to the Bonds, including the purchase of any Bonds tendered pursuant thereto.

“**Person**” means an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, firm, association, joint stock company, unincorporated organization, trust, bank, trust company, land trust, business trust or other enterprise or joint venture, or a governmental agency or political subdivision thereof or other entity.

“**Voting Stock**” of any Person as of any date means the capital stock of such Person that is entitled (without regard to the occurrence of any contingency) to vote in the election of directors, managers or trustees of such Person.

EXHIBIT C

FORM OF JOINDER AND SIGNATURE PAGE TO GUARANTY AGREEMENT

This Joinder and Signature Page to Guaranty Agreement is made as of December 23, 2024 pursuant to that certain Guaranty Agreement dated as of December 1, 2024, jointly and severally by and between the guarantors party thereto (the “Guarantors”) and U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, as trustee (the “Trustee”) (the “Guaranty Agreement”) issued in connection with that certain Indenture dated as of December 1, 2024 by and between the Finance Authority of Maine (“FAME”) and the Trustee, as amended, supplemented, amended and supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time, and the Financing Agreement dated as of December 1, 2024 by and between Casella Waste Systems, Inc. and FAME, as amended, amended and restated or otherwise modified from time to time. Capitalized terms used herein without definition shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Guaranty Agreement, and Sections 4 and 21 of the Guaranty Agreement are hereby incorporated by reference, mutatis mutandis.

The undersigned, [NAME OF GUARANTOR], a [STATE OF INCORPORATION] corporation (“[NAME OF GUARANTOR]”), hereby acknowledges and agrees to the terms and conditions of the Guaranty Agreement, joins in the agreements of the Guaranty Agreement as a Guarantor thereunder, unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees the Guaranteed Obligations on the terms set forth in the Guaranty Agreement and agrees that all obligations of a Guarantor under the Guaranty Agreement shall be the obligations, jointly and severally, of [NAME OF GUARANTOR] with the same force and effect as if [NAME OF GUARANTOR] was originally a Guarantor under the Guaranty Agreement and an original signatory to the Guaranty Agreement.

This Joinder and Signature Page to Guaranty Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York without giving effect to principles of conflicts of laws.

[NAME OF GUARANTOR]

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

EXHIBIT D

AUTHORITY BOND COMPLIANCE POLICY

FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE

TAX EXEMPT BOND MONITORING PROCEDURES

FOR CONDUIT BONDS ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY

I. APPOINTMENT OF COMPLIANCE OFFICER

- a. The General Counsel (the “Compliance Officer”) shall be responsible for implementing Authority policies and procedures as it relates to issuance and monitoring of Authority issued conduit tax exempt obligations (“Bonds”) for compliance with applicable law.
- b. Unless a shorter time-frame is specified below, the Compliance Officer shall annually review each of the Authority’s Bonds to monitor for compliance with these policies and procedures.
- c. The Compliance Officer shall consult with Bond Counsel and/or its financial advisor and a rebate consultant as necessary to meet the requirements of these policies and procedures.
- d. The Compliance Officer will be trained as needed to implement these policies and procedures.

II. POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of the Authority to issue Bonds only in full compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”), and to ensure that once issued, the Bonds remain tax-exempt in conformance with the provisions of the IRC.

III. PRE-ISSUANCE/ISSUANCE PROCEDURES

In order to implement the policy, the Compliance Officer shall ensure the following in connection with the application, review and issuance of Bonds by the Authority:

- a. The Borrower and the Authority will enter into an Inducement Agreement (constituting a declaration of official intent);
- b. The Authority will hold a TEFRA hearing and state law required public hearing after provision of proper notice and publication;
- c. The Borrower and the Authority will enter into a Tax Compliance Agreement, Tax Regulatory Agreement or similar tax and arbitrage compliance certificate or agreement (a “Tax Compliance Agreement”) approved by Bond Counsel containing statements of reasonable expectation and covenants that will ensure compliance with IRC requirements and limitations that relate to the timing and

spending of bond proceeds, yield on bond proceeds, use of bond proceeds, use of facilities financed with bond proceeds, calculation and payment of arbitrage rebate and yield reduction payments, and filing and reporting. The tax Compliance Agreement, or other applicable bond documents shall also provide:

- i. That the Borrower be required to adopt post-issuance bond monitoring policies acceptable to the Authority, which will provide assurances that the Borrower has designated its own compliance officer, and will have in place procedures that are reasonably intended to ensure that the Borrower takes the steps necessary to maintain the Bond remain tax exempt in compliance with the IRC.
 - ii. That the Borrower be required to notify the Authority of Qualified Hedges to which it becomes a party during the term of the Bonds, and of any and all elections made under the IRC;
 - iii. That the Borrower be required to provide notice to the Authority of any tax compliance issues discovered and to take whatever remedial actions may be required to ensure the Bonds remain tax exempt obligations;
 - iv. That the Borrower be required to maintain records regarding fulfillment of its post-issuance monitoring obligations and compliance with the requirements and limitations of the IRC for at least 6 years following full payment of the Bonds.
 - v. That the Borrower certify to the Authority on an annual basis compliance with the IRC, Tax Compliance Agreement, approved bond monitoring procedures, and bond documents, as well as the outstanding principal balance of the Bonds;
- d. The Authority will make a notation in its case file or in the bond transcript of any Qualified Hedge about which the Borrower notifies the Authority it has entered into as part of the transaction;
 - e. The Governor will execute a form approving the issuance of the Bonds;
 - f. The Borrower will cause an IRS form 8038 to be timely filed as part of the transaction;
 - g. The Authority will not issue Bonds until the requisite Bond Volume Cap allocation letters are issued, if applicable, and records are maintained by the Authority detailing the annual allocations to the Authority, and the disposition (allocation, reallocation, or carryover) of all such allocations;
 - h. The Authority will receive a legal opinion addressed to the Authority by regionally recognized Bond Counsel, that the transaction qualifies as a Bond where interest on such Bond is excludable from the gross income of the bondholders on their federal income tax returns;
 - i. The Authority is paid its application and issuance fees, and the payment and source of such fees are certified by the Borrower not to cause non-compliance with any IRC limitations.

IV. POST-ISSUANCE PROCEDURES

In order to implement the policy, the Compliance Officer shall ensure the following in connection with the period following the issuance of Bonds by the Authority:

- a. The Authority receives a copy of the closing transcript;
- b. The Authority receives a copy of the duly and timely filed IRS form 8038;
- c. The Borrowers submit their annual certifications on a timely basis;
- d. The annual certifications by the Borrowers are reviewed and no material compliance issues are presented;
- e. To the extent that any changes to the Bonds or bond documents are requested by the Borrower, that all such changes are approved by Bond Counsel as not adversely affecting the exclusion of interest on the Bonds from the gross income of the bondholders;
- f. All Authority records relating to the Bonds shall be retained at least 6 years following the payment in full of such Bonds.

V. POLICY REVIEW

These policies and procedures shall be reviewed periodically by the Authority to determine if any changes are warranted.

Adopted: August 27, 2012

Last Revised: August 27, 2012

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GUARANTY AGREEMENT

This Guaranty Agreement, as may be amended and supplemented from time to time, (the “**Guaranty**”) is made as of December 1, 2024, jointly and severally by and between each of the undersigned (each, a “**Guarantor**,” and collectively, together with any additional parties that from time to time may become a Guarantor pursuant to the terms of the Financing Agreement described below, the “**Guarantors**”), as guarantors, and **U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**, as trustee under the Indenture (defined below) (in such capacity, together with any successor or successors in such capacity, herein called the “**Trustee**”):

WITNESSETH:

The Finance Authority of Maine (the “**Authority**”) is issuing its Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds (Casella Waste Systems, Inc. Project) Series 2024, in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$45,000,000 (the “**Bonds**”), under and pursuant to an Indenture dated as of December 1, 2024 (as supplemented and amended from time to time, the “**Indenture**”) between the Authority and the Trustee. The proceeds of the Bonds will be loaned by the Authority to Casella Waste Systems, Inc. (the “**Company**”) pursuant to the terms of a Financing Agreement dated as of December 1, 2024 (as supplemented and amended from time to time, the “**Financing Agreement**”) between the Authority and the Company. Each Guarantor under this Guaranty Agreement is a subsidiary of the Company.

As used herein, the following capitalized terms have the meanings set forth below:

“**Affiliate**” of any specified Person means any other Person directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by or under direct or indirect common control with such specified Person.

“**Capital Stock**” means: (1) in the case of a corporation, corporate stock; (2) in the case of an association or business entity, any and all shares, interests, participations, rights or other equivalents (however designated) of corporate stock; (3) in the case of a partnership or limited liability company, partnership or membership interests (whether general or limited); and (4) any other interest or participation that confers on a Person the right to receive a share of the profits and losses of, or distributions of assets of, the issuing Person.

“**Electronic Copy**” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.

“**Electronic Record**” and “**Electronic Signature**” shall have the meanings assigned to them, respectively, by 15 USC § 7006, as it may be amended from time to time.

“**Person**” means an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, firm, association, joint stock company, unincorporated organization, trust, bank, trust company, land trust, business trust or other enterprise or joint venture, or a governmental agency or political subdivision thereof or other entity.

“**Subsidiary**” means, with respect to any Person:

(a) any corporation, association or other business entity of which more than 50% of the total voting power of shares of Capital Stock entitled (without regard to the occurrence of any contingency) to vote in the election of directors, managers or trustees thereof is at the time owned, directly or indirectly, by such Person or one or more of the other Subsidiaries of that Person (or a combination thereof); and

(b) any partnership (i) the sole general partner or the managing general partner of which is such Person or a Subsidiary of such Person or (ii) the only general partners of which are such Person or of one or more Subsidiaries of such Person (or any combination thereof).

All other capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Indenture and the Financing Agreement, as applicable.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, each Guarantor agrees as follows:

Section 1. Unconditional Guarantee.

Subject to the provisions of this Section 1, each of the Guarantors hereby unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees to the Trustee for the benefit of the Bondholders (as defined in the Indenture), irrespective of the validity and enforceability of the Financing Agreement or the obligations of the Company or any other Guarantors to the Trustee hereunder or thereunder: (a) the principal of and redemption premium, if any, on the Bonds when and as the same shall become due (whether at maturity, by acceleration, call for redemption or otherwise); (b) the interest on the Bonds when and as the same shall become due; (c) the purchase price of Bonds tendered or deemed tendered for purchase pursuant to Sections 4.6, 4.8 or 4.9 of the Indenture; and (d) all amounts allocable to the Bonds due or to become due from the Company under Sections 4.2(a) and 4.2(b) of the Financing Agreement (collectively, the “**Guaranteed Obligations**”). If the Company fails to pay any Guaranteed Obligations when due under the Financing Agreement, each Guarantor shall be jointly and severally obligated to pay or to perform or cause the performance of, the same immediately. An Event of Default under the Financing Agreement with respect to the Bonds shall constitute an event of default under this Guaranty, and shall entitle the Trustee to accelerate the obligations of the Guarantors hereunder in the same manner and to the same extent as the obligations of the Company under the Financing Agreement.

Each Guarantor hereby agrees that its obligations hereunder shall be unconditional, irrespective of the validity, regularity or enforceability of the Financing Agreement, the absence of any action to enforce the same, any release of any other Guarantor, the recovery of any judgment against the Company, any action to enforce the same, whether or not this Guaranty is affixed to the Financing Agreement or the Bonds, or any other circumstance which might otherwise constitute a legal or equitable discharge or defense of such Guarantor (other than the defense of payment). Each Guarantor hereby waives the benefit of diligence, presentment, demand of payment, filing of claims with a court in the event of insolvency or bankruptcy of the Company, any right to require a proceeding first against the Company, protest,

notice and all demands whatsoever and covenants that this Guaranty shall not be discharged except by complete performance of the Guaranteed Obligations. This Guaranty is a guarantee of payment and not of collection. If the Trustee is required by any court or otherwise to return to the Company or to a Guarantor, or any custodian, trustee, liquidator or other similar official acting in relation to the Company or a Guarantor, any amount paid by the Company or a Guarantor to the Trustee, this Guaranty, to the extent theretofore discharged, shall be reinstated in full force and effect, subject to Section 7 hereof. Each Guarantor further agrees that, as between it, on the one hand, and the Trustee, on the other hand, (a) subject to the other provisions of this Guaranty, the maturity of the loans made under the Financing Agreement may be accelerated as provided in Section 7.2 of the Financing Agreement for the purposes of this Guaranty, notwithstanding any stay, injunction or other prohibition preventing such acceleration in respect of such loans for purposes of the Financing Agreement, and (b) in the event of any acceleration of the loans as provided in Section 7.2 of the Financing Agreement, such obligations (whether or not due and payable) shall forthwith become due and payable by the Guarantor for the purpose of this Guaranty.

Each Guarantor agrees to make immediate payment to the Trustee of all Guaranteed Obligations owing or payable to the Trustee upon receipt of a demand for payment therefor by the Trustee to the Guarantor in writing.

Section 2. Guaranteed Obligations Absolute and Continuing.

Subject to Section 7 hereof, the obligations of each Guarantor hereunder are and shall be absolute and unconditional and any monies or amounts expressed to be owing or payable by each Guarantor hereunder which may not be recoverable from such Guarantor on the basis of this Guaranty shall be recoverable from such Guarantor as a primary obligor and principal debtor in respect thereof. Subject to Section 7 hereof, the obligations of each Guarantor hereunder shall be continuing and shall remain in full force and effect until the entire principal of, redemption premium, if any, and interest on or purchase price of the Bonds shall have been paid or provided for according to the terms of the Indenture and all other Guaranteed Obligations have been paid and satisfied in full. Each Guarantor agrees with the Trustee that it will from time to time deliver to the Trustee suitable acknowledgments of this continued liability hereunder in such form as counsel to the Trustee may reasonably request and as will prevent any action brought against it in respect of any default hereunder being barred by any statute of limitations now or hereafter in force and, in the event of the failure of such Guarantor so to do, it hereby irrevocably appoints the Trustee as agent of such Guarantor to make, execute and deliver such written acknowledgment or acknowledgments or other instruments as may from time to time become necessary or advisable, in the judgment of the Trustee on the advice of Trustee's counsel, to fully maintain and keep in force the liability of such Guarantor hereunder.

Section 3. Limitation on Guarantor Liability.

Each Guarantor and the Trustee hereby confirm that it is the intention of each such party that this Guaranty does not constitute a fraudulent transfer or conveyance for purposes of Bankruptcy Law, the Uniform Fraudulent Conveyance Act, the Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act or any similar federal or state law to the extent applicable to this Guaranty. To effectuate the foregoing intention, each Guarantor and the Trustee hereby irrevocably agree that the obligations

of the Guarantors under this Guaranty shall be limited to the maximum amount as will, after giving effect to such maximum amount and all other contingent and fixed liabilities of the Guarantors that are relevant under such laws, and after giving effect to any collections from, rights to receive contribution from or payments made by or on behalf of any other Guarantor in respect of the obligations of such other Guarantor under this Guaranty, result in the obligations of the Guarantors under this Guaranty not constituting a fraudulent transfer or conveyance.

Section 4. Execution and Delivery of Guaranty.

This Guaranty may be in the form of an Electronic Record and may be executed using Electronic Signatures. Any Electronic Signature on or associated with this Guaranty shall be valid and binding on such Person to the same extent as a manual, original signature, enforceable against such Person in accordance with the terms thereof to the same extent as if a manually executed original signature was delivered. This Guaranty may be executed in as many counterparts as necessary or convenient, including both paper and electronic counterparts, but all such counterparts are one and the same Guaranty. For the avoidance of doubt, the authorization under this paragraph may include, without limitation, use or acceptance of a manually signed paper Guaranty which has been converted into electronic form (such as scanned into .pdf format), or an electronically signed Guaranty converted into another format, for transmission, delivery and/or retention. A Guarantor may, at its option, create one or more copies of this Guaranty in the form of an imaged Electronic Record (“**Electronic Copy**”), which shall be deemed created in the ordinary course of such Person’s business, and destroy the original paper document. All documents, instruments and agreements in the form of an Electronic Record, including an Electronic Copy, shall be considered an original for all purposes, and shall have the same legal effect, validity and enforceability as a paper record.

Section 5. Waiver.

Without in any way limiting the provisions of Section 1, each Guarantor hereby waives notice of acceptance hereof, notice of any liability of the Guarantor hereunder, notice or proof of reliance by the Holders upon the obligations of the Guarantor hereunder, and diligence, presentment, demand for payment on the Company, protest, notice of dishonor or nonpayment of any of the Guaranteed Obligations, or other notice or formalities to the Company or the Guarantor of any kind whatsoever.

Section 6. No Set-Off.

Each payment to be made by the Guarantors hereunder in respect of the Guaranteed Obligations shall be payable in the currency or currencies in which such Guaranteed Obligations are denominated, and shall be made without set-off, counterclaim, reduction or diminution of any kind or nature. It is the intention of the parties hereto that the Authority, its members, officers, officials, agents and employees shall not incur pecuniary liability by reason of the terms of this Guaranty, the Financing Agreement or the Indenture, or by reason of the undertakings required of the Authority, its members, officers, officials, agents and employees in connection with this Guaranty, the Financing Agreement or the Indenture, the performance of any act required or requested of the Authority, its members, officers, officials, agents and employees in connection with the issuance of the Bonds, this Guaranty, the Financing Agreement

or the Indenture, or in any way arising from the transaction which this Guaranty is a part or arising in any manner in connection with the Project, and each Guarantor hereby waives any rights or claims it may have against the Authority in connection therewith.

Section 7. Release of a Guarantor.

This Guaranty will be released with respect to any Guarantor:

(a) upon the sale or other disposition (including by way of merger or consolidation), to any Person that is not an Affiliate of the Company, of all of the Capital Stock of that Guarantor held by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or of all or substantially all of the assets of that Guarantor;

(b) upon the contemporaneous or substantially contemporaneous release or discharge of such Guarantor (1) as a guarantor, borrower and/or issuer in respect of the Senior Credit Facility and (2) if the Senior Credit Facility has been terminated, as a guarantor, borrower and/or issuer of any issue of any other indebtedness for borrowed money of more than \$30,000,000 in aggregate principal amount (per issue) of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries (other than any Subsidiaries of such Guarantor), except, in each case, as a result of payment by a guarantor in its capacity as a guarantor (and not as a borrower and/or issuer);

(c) at any time that a Letter of Credit is in effect with respect to the Bonds; or

(d) upon or substantially contemporaneously with the payment in full of the Guaranteed Obligations.

The Trustee shall execute an appropriate instrument prepared by the Company evidencing the release of a Guarantor from its obligations under this Guaranty upon receipt of a request by the Company or such Guarantor accompanied by (i) a Certificate of an Authorized Representative of the Company certifying as to the compliance with this Section 7; and (ii) so long as the Senior Credit Facility is not in effect, in connection with a sale or disposition of assets or Capital Stock (or a series of related sales or dispositions) described in Section 7(a), as evidenced by a Certificate of an Authorized Representative of the Company and an Opinion of Counsel as to the compliance with this Section 7, provided however, that the legal counsel delivering such Opinion of Counsel may rely as to matters of fact on one or more Certificates of an Authorized Representative of the Company.

Section 8. Waiver of Subrogation.

Until the payment in full of all Guaranteed Obligations, each Guarantor hereby irrevocably waives and agrees not to exercise any claim or other rights which it may now or hereafter acquire against the Company that arise from the existence, payment, performance or enforcement of the Company's obligations under the Financing Agreement and such Guarantor's obligations under this Guaranty, in any such instance including, without limitation, any right of subrogation, reimbursement, exoneration, contribution and indemnification and any right to participate in any claim or remedy of the Authority or the Trustee against the Company, whether or not such claim, remedy or right arises in equity, or under contract, statute or common law, including, without limitation, the right to take or receive from the Company, directly or

indirectly, in cash or other assets or by set-off or in any other manner, payment or security on account of such claim or other rights. If any amount shall be paid to any Guarantor in violation of the preceding sentence and any Guaranteed Obligations shall not have been paid in full, such amount shall have been deemed to have been paid to such Guarantor for the benefit of, and held in trust for the benefit of, the Authority or the Trustee, as applicable, and shall forthwith be paid to the Authority or the Trustee, as applicable, to be credited and applied to the obligations in favor of the Authority or the Trustee, as applicable, whether matured or unmatured, in accordance with the terms of this Guaranty. Each Guarantor acknowledges that it will receive direct and indirect benefits from the financing arrangements contemplated by this Guaranty and that the waiver set forth in this Section 8 is knowingly made in contemplation of such benefits.

Section 9. Guaranteed Obligations Reinstated.

Subject to Section 7 hereof, the obligations of each Guarantor hereunder shall continue to be effective or shall be reinstated, as the case may be, if at any time any payment that would otherwise have reduced the obligations of any Guarantor hereunder (whether such payment shall have been made by or on behalf of the Company or by or on behalf of a Guarantor) is rescinded or reclaimed from the Trustee upon the insolvency, bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization of the Company or any Guarantor or otherwise, all as though such payment had not been made. If demand for, or acceleration of the time for, payment by the Company or any other Guarantor is stayed upon the insolvency, bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization of the Company or such Guarantor, all such indebtedness otherwise subject to demand for payment or acceleration shall nonetheless be payable by each Guarantor as provided herein.

Section 10. Guaranteed Obligations Not Affected.

The obligations of each Guarantor hereunder shall not be affected, impaired or diminished in any way by any act, omission, matter or thing whatsoever, occurring before, upon or after any demand for payment hereunder (and whether or not known or consented to by any Guarantor or the Trustee) that, but for this provision, might constitute a whole or partial defense to a claim against any Guarantor hereunder or might operate to release or otherwise exonerate any Guarantor from any of its obligations hereunder or otherwise affect such obligations, whether occasioned by default of the Trustee or otherwise, including, without limitation:

- (a) any limitation of status or power, disability, incapacity or other circumstance relating to the Company or any other Person, including any insolvency, bankruptcy, liquidation, reorganization, readjustment, composition, dissolution, winding-up or other proceeding involving or affecting the Company or any other Person;
- (b) any irregularity, defect, unenforceability or invalidity in respect of any indebtedness or other obligation of the Company or any other Person under the Financing Agreement or any other document or instrument;
- (c) any failure of the Company or any other Guarantor, whether or not without fault on its part, to perform or comply with any of the provisions of this Guaranty or the Financing Agreement, or to give notice thereof to a Guarantor;

(d) the taking or enforcing or exercising or the refusal or neglect to take or enforce or exercise any right or remedy from or against the Company or any other Person or their respective assets or the release or discharge of any such right or remedy;

(e) the granting of time, renewals, extensions, compromises, concessions, waivers, releases, discharges and other indulgences to the Company or any other Person;

(f) any change in the time, manner or place of payment of, or in any other term of, the Bonds, the Indenture or the Financing Agreement, or any other amendment, variation, supplement, replacement or waiver of, or any consent to departure from, the Bonds, the Indenture or the Financing Agreement, including, without limitation, any increase or decrease in the principal amount of or premium, if any, or interest on the Bonds;

(g) except as provided in Section 7, any change in the ownership, control, name, objects, businesses, assets, capital structure or constitution of the Company or a Guarantor;

(h) except as provided in Section 7, any merger or amalgamation of the Company or a Guarantor with any Person or Persons;

(i) the occurrence of any change in the laws, rules, regulations or ordinances of any jurisdiction by any present or future action of any governmental authority or court amending, varying, reducing or otherwise affecting, or purporting to amend, vary, reduce or otherwise affect, any of the Guaranteed Obligations or the obligations of a Guarantor under this Guaranty; and

(j) except as provided in Section 7, any other circumstance, including release of another Guarantor pursuant to Section 7 (other than release under Section 7(d) by complete, irrevocable payment), that might otherwise constitute a legal or equitable discharge or defense of the Company under the Financing Agreement or of a Guarantor in respect of its guarantee hereunder.

Section 11. No Obligation to Take Action Against the Company.

The Trustee shall have no obligation to enforce or exhaust any rights or remedies against the Company or any other Person or any property of the Company or any other Person before the Trustee is entitled to demand payment and performance by any or all Guarantors of their liabilities and obligations under this Guaranty.

Section 12. Dealing with the Company and Others.

The Trustee, without releasing, discharging, limiting or otherwise affecting in whole or in part the obligations and liabilities of any Guarantor hereunder and without the consent of or notice to any Guarantor, may:

(a) grant time, renewals, extensions, compromises, concessions, waivers, releases, discharges and other indulgences to the Company or any other Person;

(b) take or abstain from taking security or collateral from the Company or from perfecting security or collateral of the Company;

(c) release, discharge, compromise, realize, enforce or otherwise deal with or do any act or thing in respect of (with or without consideration) any and all collateral, mortgages or other security given by the Company or any third party with respect to the obligations or matters contemplated by the Financing Agreement;

(d) accept compromises or arrangements from the Company;

(e) apply all monies at any time received from the Company or from any security upon such part of the Guaranteed Obligations as the requisite Holders may direct or change any such application in whole or in part from time to time as the requisite Holders may direct; and

(f) otherwise deal with, or waive or modify its right to deal with, the Company and all other Persons and any security as the Trustee may determine.

Section 13. Representations.

Each Guarantor makes the following representations as of the date hereof as the basis for its undertakings hereunder:

(a) It is, as applicable, a corporation, limited partnership or limited liability company duly organized, and validly existing in good standing under the laws of the state of its organization, has the corporate, limited partnership or limited liability company, as applicable, power to enter into this Guaranty and to perform its obligations hereunder, and by proper corporate, limited partnership or limited liability company action has duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Guaranty and performance of its obligations hereunder.

(b) The execution and delivery of this Guaranty and the performance of its obligations hereunder do not and will not conflict with, or constitute a breach or result in a violation of, its certificate of incorporation, bylaws or other organizational documents, as applicable, or any material agreement or other material instrument to which it is a party or by which it is bound or any constitutional or statutory provision applicable to it, or order, rule, regulation, decree or ordinance of any court, government or governmental authority having jurisdiction over it or its property, in each case, the breach, conflict with or the violation of any of which would have a material adverse effect upon the Guarantor's ability to perform its obligations hereunder.

(c) Except for the matters disclosed in the Limited Offering Memorandum dated December 17, 2024 with respect to the Bonds, or in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q or Periodic Reports on Form 8-K filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, each as amended, there are no pending or, to the best of each Guarantor's knowledge, threatened actions, suits, proceedings or investigations of a legal, equitable, regulatory, administrative or legislative nature, which could reasonably be expected to adversely affect in a material way its ability to perform its obligations under this Guaranty.

Section 14. Events of Default Remedies.

Each of the following events shall be an Event of Default hereunder:

(a) Failure of any Guarantor to pay any Guaranteed Obligations upon receipt of demand by the Trustee to such Guarantor given in accordance with Sections 1 and 20 hereof.

(b) The dissolution or liquidation of a Guarantor or the filing by a Guarantor of a voluntary petition in bankruptcy, or the entry of any order or decree granting relief in any involuntary case commenced against a Guarantor under any present or future federal bankruptcy act or any similar federal or state law, or a petition for such an order or decree shall be filed in any court and such petition shall not be discharged or denied within 90 days after the filing thereof, or if a Guarantor shall admit in writing its inability to pay its debts generally as they become due, or a receiver, trustee or liquidator of a Guarantor shall be appointed in any proceeding brought against the Guarantor and shall not be discharged within 90 days after such appointment or if a Guarantor shall consent to such appointment, or assignment by the Guarantor of all or substantially all of its assets for the benefit of its creditors, or the entry by the Guarantor into an agreement of composition with its creditors with respect to all or substantially all of its assets, or a bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceeding shall be otherwise initiated by or against a Guarantor under any applicable bankruptcy, reorganization or analogous law as now or hereafter in effect and if initiated against the Guarantor shall remain undismissed (subject to no further appeal) for a period of 90 days; provided, the term "dissolution or liquidation of a Guarantor," as used in this subsection, shall not be construed to include the cessation of the existence of a Guarantor resulting either from a merger or consolidation of the Guarantor into or with another entity or a dissolution or liquidation of the Guarantor following a transfer of all or substantially all of its assets as an entirety; and provided further that an Event of Default shall not be triggered under this Subsection (b) if the Company and the unaffected Guarantor or Guarantors shall continue to own more than 50% of the consolidated assets of the Company and the Subsidiaries.

(c) If any representation made by a Guarantor contained in this Guaranty was false or misleading in any material respect at the time it was made or delivered.

Whenever an Event of Default shall have happened and be continuing, (a) the Trustee in the manner provided in Section 7.1 of the Indenture may declare the entire unpaid principal of, or redemption premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds to be immediately due and payable, and (b) the Trustee may, in its discretion, or shall upon the written request of the Holders of 66 2/3% in principal amount of Bonds then Outstanding, take whatever action at law or in equity as may appear necessary or desirable to collect payments then due or thereafter to become due hereunder or to enforce observance or performance of any covenant or agreement of the Guarantors under this Guaranty.

In case the Trustee shall have proceeded to enforce this Guaranty and such proceedings shall have been discontinued or abandoned for any reason, then and in every such case each Guarantor and the Trustee, subject to any determination in any applicable proceeding, shall be restored respectively to their several positions and rights hereunder, and all rights, remedies and powers of the Guarantors and the Trustee shall continue as though no such proceeding had been taken.

Section 15. Successors and Assigns; Enforcement of Remedies.

This Guaranty shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of each Guarantor and the Trustee and their respective successors and permitted assigns, except that no Guarantor may assign any of its obligations hereunder. All rights against each Guarantor arising under this Guaranty shall be for the sole benefit of the Trustee and the Holders of the Bonds and their respective successors and assigns, and, with respect to payments due the Authority under Sections 4.2(d), 7.3, 9.2 and 9.3 of the Financing Agreement, the Authority. If any Guarantor fails to pay in accordance with Section 1 hereof, the Trustee may proceed in the enforcement of this Guaranty and such Guarantor's obligations thereunder and hereunder by any remedy provided by law, whether by legal proceedings or otherwise, and to recover from such Guarantor the obligations, without exhausting any other remedies that the Trustee may have pursuant to the terms of the Bonds, the Indenture or the Financing Agreement and without resort to any other security held by or available to the Authority or the Trustee.

Section 16. Amendment of Guaranty.

The Trustee and the Guarantors may, without the consent of or notice to the Bondholders or beneficial owners of the Bonds, enter into any amendment, change or modification of this Guaranty (i) as may be required by the provisions of this Guaranty or the Indenture, (ii) for the purpose of curing any ambiguity or inconsistency, defective provision or omission, (iii) in connection with an amendment of the Indenture or the Financing Agreement to effect any event or purpose for which there could be such an amendment without the consent of the Holders, or (iv) in connection with any other change herein that is not to the material prejudice of the Trustee or the owners or beneficial Bondholders of the Bonds. Except for the amendments, changes or modifications described in the preceding sentence, the Trustee and the Guarantors may not enter into any other amendment, change or modification of this Guaranty without first mailing notice to, and obtaining the written approval or consent of, the Bondholders or beneficial owners of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Bonds at the time outstanding; provided, however, that the foregoing does not permit, without the written approval or consent of the Holders of 100% in aggregate principal amount of the Bonds then Outstanding, an extension of the time of payment of, or a reduction in, any of the Guaranteed Obligations. In addition, any amendment, change or modification of this Guaranty relating to payments due the Authority under Section 4.2(d), 7.3, 9.2 or 9.3 of the Financing Agreement may only be made with the prior written consent of the Authority. No amendment, modification or waiver of any provision of this Guaranty relating to any Guarantor or consent to any departure by any Guarantor from any such provision will in any event be effective unless it is signed by such Guarantor and the Trustee. Further, notwithstanding the foregoing, while the Senior Credit Facility remains in effect, the parties hereto agree that they will not (x) amend, modify or waive the provisions set forth in Section 7 of this Guaranty or (y) amend, modify or waive any of the other provision of this Guaranty (i) if the effect of such modification or waiver would be to delete or otherwise render ineffective the references to Section 7 expressly contained in such provision or (ii) in a manner that could reasonably be expected to be materially adverse to the holders of the Senior Credit Facility, without, in each case, the prior written consent of the administrative agent thereunder.

Section 17. No Merger or Waiver; Cumulative Remedies.

This Guaranty shall not operate by way of merger of any of the obligations of a Guarantor under any other agreement. No failure to exercise and no delay in exercising, on the part of the Trustee, any right, remedy, power or privilege under this Guaranty, the Indenture or the Financing Agreement shall operate as a waiver thereof; nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right, remedy, power or privilege under this Guaranty, the Indenture or the Financing Agreement preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, remedy, power or privilege. The rights, remedies, powers and privileges in this Guaranty and under the Indenture, the Financing Agreement and any other document or instrument between a Guarantor and/or the Company and the Trustee or the Authority are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights, remedies, powers and privilege provided by law.

Section 18. Survival of Guaranteed Obligations.

Subject to Section 7 hereof, the obligations of each Guarantor under Section 1 shall be enforceable against such Guarantor without regard to and without giving effect to any defense, right of offset or counterclaim available to or which may be asserted by the Company or any Guarantor.

Section 19. Guaranty in Addition to Other Guarantee Obligations.

The obligations of each Guarantor under this Guaranty are in addition to and not in substitution for any other obligations to the Trustee in relation to the Financing Agreement and any guarantees or security at any time held by or for the benefit of the Trustee.

Section 20. Notices.

Demand for payment by any Guarantor of the amounts guaranteed hereunder shall be made by notice in writing as provided in the next sentence. All demands, notices, approvals, consents, requests and other communication hereunder shall be in writing addressed to the applicable Guarantors, c/o the address of the Company as set forth in Section 12.8 of the Indenture, and shall be deemed to have been given: (i) when the same are delivered by hand, or (ii) when the same are sent by electronic or confirmed facsimile transmission, or (iii) on the next Business Day when the same are sent by overnight delivery service (with delivery confirmed). The Guarantors, the Company, the Authority and the Trustee may, by notice given hereunder, designate any further or different addresses or means of communication to which subsequent demands, notices, approvals, consents, requests or other communications shall be sent or persons to whose attention the same shall be directed.

Section 21. Miscellaneous.

(a) Any provision of this Guaranty that is prohibited or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall not invalidate the remaining provisions and any such prohibition or unenforceability in any jurisdiction shall not invalidate or render unenforceable such provision in any other jurisdiction unless its removal would substantially defeat the basic intent, spirit and purpose of this Guaranty.

(b) This Guaranty shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York without giving effect to principles of conflicts of law. Each of the undersigned Guarantors hereby agrees to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of New York in any action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Guaranty.

(c) Each Guarantor hereby acknowledges communication of the terms of this Guaranty, the Indenture and the Financing Agreement and consents to all the terms, covenants and conditions thereof.

(d) No director, officer, employee, incorporator or stockholder of any Guarantor shall have any personal liability for any obligations of the Guarantors hereunder or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation.

(e) Each Guarantor shall pay on demand by the Trustee any and all reasonable costs, fees and expenses incurred by the Trustee, its agents and advisors and in enforcing any of their rights under this Guaranty.

[Signature Page Follows]

Accepted:

U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
as Trustee

By: /s/ Marie Bui-Clifford
Name: Marie Bui-Clifford
Title: Vice President

[Acknowledgment Signature Page to Guaranty Agreement]