

RESOLUTION NO. RS-24-25

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND EMPOWERING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY (THE "COUNTY") TO ISSUE AND SELL, UPON ITS FULL FAITH AND CREDIT, TO THE MARYLAND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION (THE "ADMINISTRATION") A GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND IN ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,488,552.00, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF TITLE 6 OF THE CODE OF PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY AND SECTIONS 9-1601 TO 9-1622, INCLUSIVE, OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND; SUCH BOND TO BE DESIGNATED AS PROVIDED HEREIN AND THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE APPLIED TO FINANCE OR REIMBURSE COSTS OF THE PROJECT GENERALLY REFERRED TO IN COUNTY BUDGET MATERIALS AS "SMITHSBURG WwTP - ENR UPGRADES," TOGETHER WITH RELATED COSTS AND FINANCING COSTS, ALL TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY THE ADMINISTRATION; APPROVING THE SUBSTANTIALLY FINAL FORM OF THE BOND AND PROVIDING FOR THE COMPLETION, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE BOND; APPROVING OR PROVIDING FOR THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF THE BOND TO THE ADMINISTRATION BY PRIVATE SALE, WITHOUT PUBLIC BIDDING, AND OTHER DETAILS INCIDENT THERETO, AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OFFICIALS TO DETERMINE CERTAIN DETAILS OF THE BOND, ALL WITHIN THE PARAMETERS PROVIDED FOR IN THIS RESOLUTION; APPROVING THE SUBSTANTIALLY FINAL FORM OF A LOAN AGREEMENT WITH THE ADMINISTRATION, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE COMPLETION, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF SUCH LOAN AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PAYMENT OF FEES OR COSTS PROVIDED FOR IN THE LOAN AGREEMENT THAT ARE NOT PAYABLE FROM BOND PROCEEDS; PLEDGING ANY MONEYS THAT THE COUNTY IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FROM THE STATE OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING THE COUNTY'S SHARE OF INCOME TAX REVENUES, TO SECURE ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE LOAN AGREEMENT; ACKNOWLEDGING THE RIGHT OF THE ADMINISTRATION TO ACCELERATE PAYMENT OF THE BOND UPON A DEFAULT UNDER THE LOAN AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OFFICIALS TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS UNDER THE LOAN AGREEMENT AND IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF THE BOND; PROVIDING FOR THE DISBURSEMENT OF ADVANCES OF THE BOND; PLEDGING THE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT AND UNLIMITED TAXING POWER OF THE COUNTY TO THE PAYMENT OF THE BOND AND PROVIDING THAT, IN THE EVENT THAT OTHER FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE COUNTY ARE INSUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BOND, THE COUNTY SHALL LEVY AND COLLECT AD VALOREM TAXES UPON ALL THE LEGALLY ASSESSABLE PROPERTY WITHIN WASHINGTON COUNTY SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE FOR SUCH PAYMENTS WHEN DUE; PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT OF DEBT SERVICE ON THE BOND IN THE FIRST INSTANCE FROM AN INDICATED SOURCE; MAKING OR PROVIDING FOR THE MAKING OF CERTAIN ELECTIONS, COVENANTS OR DETERMINATIONS PERTAINING TO THE TAX-EXEMPT STATUS OF THE BOND; MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS CONCERNING A DEBT LIMITATION; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN RULES OF CONSTRUCTION, INCLUDING PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN OFFICIALS TO ACT IN THE EVENT OF A VACANCY IN THE POSITION OF AN IDENTIFIED OFFICIAL OR IN THE ABSENCE, DISABILITY OR UNAVAILABILITY OF SUCH IDENTIFIED OFFICIAL;

PROVIDING THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE LIBERALLY CONSTRUED; AND OTHERWISE GENERALLY RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE, SALE, DELIVERY AND PAYMENT OF THE BOND AUTHORIZED HEREBY.

RECITALS

County Commissioners of Washington County, a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of Maryland (the "County"), has determined to undertake a project generally referred to in County budget materials as "Smithsburg WwTP – ENR Upgrades" or by similar names (the "Project") and, in connection with such undertaking, to acquire or pay for, as applicable, necessary property rights and equipment; related site and utility improvements; related architectural, engineering, planning, design, study, document development, bidding, permitting, acquisition, construction, improvement, installation, modification, expansion, demolition, removal, renovation, reconstruction, rehabilitation, replacement, equipping, furnishing, inspection and construction management expenses; costs of related activities, improvements and appurtenances; related financial, administrative and legal expenses; and contingencies; and has determined to borrow money for the public purpose of financing or reimbursing all or a portion of the costs of any one or more components of any such activities in whole or in part, including costs of issuance relating to any such borrowing and any related costs (collectively, "Costs of the Project").

Title 6 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Washington County, as replaced, supplemented or amended (the "Water and Sewer Act"), authorizes and empowers the County to issue and sell its bonds upon the full faith and credit of the County to provide funds for the design, construction, establishment, purchase or condemnation of water, sewerage and drainage systems.

Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the "Clean Water Act"), as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987 ("Title VI"), authorizes the United States Environmental Protection Agency (the "EPA") to award grants to qualifying states to establish and capitalize state water pollution control revolving funds ("SRFs") for the purpose of providing loans and other forms of financial assistance to finance, among other things, the construction of publicly-owned wastewater treatment facilities, and the implementation of estuary conservation management plans and nonpoint source management programs.

As contemplated by Title VI, the General Assembly of Maryland at its 1988 session enacted the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration Act (previously known as the Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration Act), codified at Sections 9-1601 through 9-1622, inclusive, of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as replaced, supplemented or amended, the "MWIFA Act"), establishing the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration (previously known as the Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration, and referred to in this Resolution as the "Administration") and establishing an SRF designated the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund (the "SRF Fund") to be maintained and administered by the Administration.

The MWIFA Act authorizes the Administration, among other things, to make a loan from the SRF Fund to a "local government" (as defined in the MWIFA Act) for the purpose of financing or refinancing all or a portion of the cost of a "wastewater facility" project (as defined in the MWIFA Act).

The MWIFA Act authorizes a local government to issue one or more bonds, notes or other evidences of obligation (each, a “loan obligation” as defined in the MWIFA Act) to evidence its indebtedness under a loan agreement with respect to a loan from the Administration, to sell any such bond, note or other evidence of obligation to the Administration at private sale, without public bidding, and to establish a dedicated source of revenues for repayment of such loan.

The County is a “local government” within the meaning of the MWIFA Act, and the Project is a “wastewater facility” project within the meaning of the MWIFA Act and a “project” relating to a “sewerage system” within the meaning of the Water and Sewer Act, and the County has applied to the Administration for a loan from the SRF Fund for Project purposes.

Pursuant to the authority of the Water and Sewer Act and the MWIFA Act, the County has determined to borrow money from the Administration for the public purpose of financing or reimbursing costs of the Project or such components of the Project as the Administration shall approve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY:

Section 1. (a) The Recitals to this Resolution are incorporated by reference herein and deemed a substantive part of this Resolution. Capitalized terms used in the Sections of this Resolution that are not defined therein shall have the meanings given to such terms in the Recitals.

(b) References in this Resolution to any official by title shall be deemed to refer (i) to any official authorized under the Code of the Public Local Laws of Washington County, Maryland (the “County Code”) or other applicable law or authority to act in such titled official’s stead in the event of a vacancy in such position or during the absence, disability or unavailability of such titled official, (ii) to any person who has been elected, appointed or designated to fill such position in an acting or interim capacity under the County Code or other applicable law or authority, (iii) to any person who serves in a “deputy,” “associate” or “assistant” capacity as such an official, provided that the applicable responsibilities, rights or duties referred to herein have been delegated to such deputy, associate or assistant in accordance with the County Code or other applicable law or authority, and/or (iv) to the extent an identified official commonly uses another title not provided for in the County Code, the official, however known, who is charged under the County Code or other applicable law or authority with the applicable responsibilities, rights or duties referred to herein. For example, (i) the County Code provides for a County Finance Officer who is the director of the Office of Budget and Finance, but the person filling such position is now commonly referred to as the Chief Financial Officer of the County (the “Chief Financial Officer”), and (ii) the County Clerk of the County (the “County Clerk”) is also sometimes referred to as the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners.

(c) References to the President (as defined in Section 3(b) of this Resolution) shall be construed to refer to (i) the Vice President (the “Vice President”) of the Board (as defined in subsection (f) below) in the event the position of the President is vacant or in the absence, disability or unavailability of the President at the time the President is authorized to take any action in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution, or (ii) the County Administrator of the County (the “County Administrator”) in the event that the positions of both the President and the Vice President are vacant or in the absence, disability or unavailability of both the President and the Vice President

at the time the President is authorized to take any action in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution; provided that, the County Administrator may not both execute the Bond (as defined in Section 3(b) of this Resolution) and/or the Loan Agreement (as defined in Section 2(b) of this Resolution) on behalf of the County and attest to the impression, affixing or imprinting of the County seal thereon in accordance with subsection (e) below.

(d) Except as otherwise expressly provided with respect to the specified officials authorized to requisition advances as provided for in Section 5(b) of this Resolution, in the event the position of the Chief Financial Officer is vacant or in the absence, disability or unavailability of the Chief Financial Officer at the time the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to take any actions or provide any advice in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution, and if no official has applicable authority pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) above, such actions or advice shall be taken or given by the Director of Budget and Finance of the County (the "Director of Budget and Finance") unless authority for the matter in question has been assigned to another County official or employee in accordance with Section 2-302 of the County Code.

(e) In the event the position of the County Clerk is vacant or in the absence, disability or unavailability of the County Clerk, and if no other official has authority pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) above to attest to the impression, affixing or imprinting of the County seal on the Bond or any instruments, documents or certificates relating to the Bond, but subject to the provisions of subsection (c) above, pursuant to the authority of Resolution No. RS-23-13 adopted by the Board on April 4, 2023, the County Administrator shall attest to the impression, affixing or imprinting of the County seal on the Bond and on any instruments, documents or certificates relating to the Bond providing for such attestation; provided that, in such case, if the County Administrator executes the Bond and the Loan Agreement in accordance with subsection (c) above, the Director of Budget and Finance shall attest to any impression, affixing or imprinting of the County seal thereon and on any instruments, documents or certificates relating to the Bond providing for such attestation. In addition, pursuant to Section 1-104(c)(7) of the County Code, in the event the position of the County Clerk is vacant or in the absence, disability or unavailability of the County Clerk, and if no other official has applicable authority pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) above, the Board hereby assigns to the County Administrator or to the County Administrator's designee the power to certify as to, or to make representations as to, matters in any instruments, documents or certificates relating to the Bond that are typically made by the County Clerk with respect to County obligations in the nature of the Bond.

(f) References to the Project and to Costs of the Project in this Resolution are intended to include any modifications or amendments to components of the Project and costs thereof provided for in the County budget or capital improvement program or through other applicable actions of the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, the governing body of the County (the "Board"), provided that any such modifications or amendments to be paid from proceeds of the Bond are permitted by the Administration.

(g) References in this Resolution to officials of the County shall be construed to also refer to employees of the County, to the extent applicable.

(h) To the extent that applicable laws, orders, regulations or other authority allow for signatures of County officials to be made by facsimile, electronic or other means, the provisions of such applicable laws, orders, regulations or other authority allowing signatures to be made in a manner

other than manually shall apply to any signatures of County officials provided for in or contemplated by this Resolution, including on this Resolution.

Section 2. (a) Pursuant to the authority of the Water and Sewer Act and the MWIFA Act, the County hereby determines to borrow money and incur indebtedness for the public purpose of financing or reimbursing Costs of the Project, all to the extent permitted by the Administration. The total Costs of the Project not otherwise payable from other sources is not expected to exceed Four Million Four Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$4,488,552.00).

(b) As contemplated by the MWIFA Act, such borrowing and indebtedness shall be made and incurred in accordance with the provisions of a loan agreement between the County and the Administration (the "Loan Agreement"). The Loan Agreement shall be in substantially the form of Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof. The County is referred to in the Loan Agreement as the "Borrower." The Administration generally refers to the Project in various materials, including in the Loan Agreement, with a project name of "Smithsburg Wastewater Treatment Plant ENR Upgrade and Expansion" or similar names.

Section 3. (a) Pursuant to the authority of the Water and Sewer Act and the MWIFA Act, and to evidence the payment obligations of the County under the Loan Agreement, the County shall issue and sell, upon its full faith and credit, a series of general obligation bonds in the form of a single installment bond for the public purpose of financing or reimbursing any one or more components of Costs of the Project in whole or in part, all to the extent permitted by the Administration.

(b) Such bond shall be issued in accordance with the Loan Agreement in the original principal amount not to exceed Four Million Four Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$4,488,552.00) and shall be designated as the "County Commissioners of Washington County Water Quality Bond, Series 2024 (Tax-Exempt)" or by such additional or different designation as may be required by the Administration (the "Bond"). The President of the Board (the "President"), on behalf of the County, is hereby authorized and directed to determine and approve the final original principal amount of the Bond, provided that the final original principal amount of the Bond shall not exceed Four Million Four Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$4,488,552.00), such determination and approval to be evidenced conclusively by the President's execution and delivery of the Bond reflecting such finally determined original principal amount pursuant to subsection (k) below.

(c) The Bond shall be dated the date of its delivery and shall be issued in the form of a single, fully registered bond, without coupons attached. The initially issued Bond shall be numbered R-1. The Bond is referred to in the Loan Agreement as the "Note."

(d) Subject to the provisions of subsections (f) and (g) below and the further provisions of this subsection (d), the principal amount of the Bond advanced under the Loan Agreement shall be paid in twenty (20) installments on February 1 in each of the years 2026 through 2045, inclusive, in such amounts as shall be determined by the Administration to achieve, as nearly as possible, roughly level debt service payments (on an annualized basis) after giving effect to the interest rate provided for in subsection (e) of this Section 3. The President, with the advice of the Chief Financial Officer, on behalf of the County, is hereby authorized and empowered to approve the

amortization schedule for the Bond, calculated as described in this subsection (d), but subject to the further provisions of subsection (f) below, provided that the final original principal amount of the Bond does not exceed Four Million Four Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$4,488,552.00), such approval to be evidenced conclusively by the President's execution and delivery of the Bond in final form in accordance with the provisions of subsection (k) below.

(e) The Bond, or so much of the principal amount thereof as shall have been advanced from time to time under the terms of the Loan Agreement, shall bear interest from its dated date at an annual rate of interest equal to 50% of the average of the Bond Buyer 11-Bond Index for the month prior to the month in which the Bond is delivered, provided that the rate determined by such calculation may be rounded down by the Administration in its sole discretion. Subject to the provisions of subsection (f) below, interest due on the unpaid principal amounts advanced under the Bond shall accrue on the basis of a 30-day month, 360-day year from the dates of the respective advances of such principal amounts, and shall be paid on February 1, 2025, and semiannually thereafter on the 1st day of August and February in each year until the entire principal amount of the Bond has been paid.

(f) The payment dates provided for in the foregoing subsections (d) and (e) are based on an anticipated date of delivery of the Bond in September 2024 and an estimated completion date for the Project in July 2025. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the Bond, for whatever reason, is not delivered in September 2024, the estimated completion date for the Project is determined prior to the date of delivery of the Bond to occur in a month earlier or later than July 2025, or the Administration determines in accordance with its program requirements that a different amortization schedule is necessary, the President, with the advice of the Chief Financial Officer, on behalf of the County, is hereby authorized and directed to adjust and change such principal and interest payment dates provided for or contemplated in subsections (d) and (e) above (including, without limitation, by providing for a first minimum principal payment on a date specified by the Administration and/or by otherwise adjusting the dates on which principal and/or interest will be due) and to approve the amortization schedule for the Bond prepared by the Administration on a roughly level debt service basis (on an annualized basis, and exclusive of any first minimum principal payment due on the Bond specified by the Administration), all as required by the Administration in order to meet the requirements of Section 9-1605(d)(1)(ii) of the MWIFA Act or to meet other requirements of the Administration, provided that the final original principal amount of the Bond shall not exceed Four Million Four Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$4,488,552.00), such approval and adjustment to be evidenced conclusively by the President's execution and delivery of the Bond in final form in accordance with the provisions of subsection (k) below. The final amortization schedule shall be for a term ending approximately twenty (20) years from the estimated date of completion of the Project, taking into account the Administration's standard annual principal payment dates and semi-annual interest payment dates, and any one-time minimal principal payment date, as well as the requirements of the MWIFA Act.

(g) If the Administration determines at any time following delivery of the Bond to reduce the maximum amount of the Loan Commitment (as defined in the Loan Agreement) relating to the Bond in accordance with Section 3.08 of the Loan Agreement, the Maximum Principal Amount (as defined in the Bond) of the Bond shall be reduced accordingly and such Maximum Principal Amount as so reduced shall be amortized as provided in the Loan Agreement. In such event, as determined by the Administration, the County may execute and deliver (in the manner provided in subsection (k) below for the original delivery of the Bond) a new Bond evidencing such reduction in the Loan

Commitment and/or such other certificates, documents or instruments as the Administration may require pursuant to Section 3.08 of the Loan Agreement. The President is hereby authorized and directed to approve, execute and deliver any such other certificates, documents or instruments required by the Administration under Section 3.08 of the Loan Agreement.

(h) The County shall pay (i) a late charge for any payment of principal or interest on the Bond that is received later than the tenth (10th) day following its due date, in an amount equal to 5% of such payment, and (ii) interest on overdue installments of principal and (to the extent permitted by law) interest at a rate equal to the Default Rate provided for in the Loan Agreement, which Default Rate shall be equal to 100% of the average of the Bond Buyer 11-Bond Index for the calendar month prior to the month in which the Bond is delivered, provided that the rate determined by such calculation may be rounded down by the Administration in its sole discretion. Amounts payable pursuant to this subsection (h) shall be immediately due and payable to the Administration, and interest at the Default Rate shall continue to accrue on overdue installments of principal and (to the extent permitted by law) interest until such amounts are paid in full.

(i) The Bond shall be subject to prepayment prior to maturity only as provided in Section 3.10 of the Loan Agreement.

(j) Unless the Board provides otherwise by resolution adopted prior to delivery of the Bond, the Bond shall be issued in substantially the form of Exhibit F to the substantially final form of the Loan Agreement that is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Appropriate variations and insertions to provide dates, numbers and amounts, and modifications not altering the substance of the Bond, including, without limitation, to reflect matters determined in accordance with the other subsections of this Section 3, may be made by the President, with the advice of the Chief Financial Officer. All of the covenants contained in the form of Bond set forth as Exhibit F to the substantially final form of the Loan Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A, as the Bond may be finally completed as provided herein, are hereby adopted by the County as and for the form of obligation to be incurred by the County, and the covenants and conditions contained in the final form of the Bond as executed and delivered are hereby made binding upon the County, including the promise to pay therein contained. The execution of the Bond by the President shall be conclusive evidence of the approval by the County of all changes in or additions to the form of the Bond and of the due execution of the Bond by the County.

(k) The Bond shall be executed in the name of the County and on its behalf by the President. The corporate seal of the County shall be affixed to the Bond and attested by the signature of the County Clerk. In the event any official whose signature shall appear on the Bond shall cease to be such official prior to the delivery of the Bond, or, in the event any such official whose signature shall appear on the Bond shall have become such after the date of delivery thereof, the Bond shall nevertheless be a valid and binding obligation of the County in accordance with its terms.

(l) Both the principal of and interest on the Bond will be paid to the registered owner thereof in lawful money of the United States of America, at the time of payment, and will be paid by electronic funds transfer, or by check or draft mailed (by depositing such check or draft, correctly addressed and postage prepaid, in the United States mail before the payment date) to the registered owner at such address as the registered owner may designate from time to time by notice in writing delivered to the Chief Financial Officer.

(m) The Bond shall be transferable only after the first principal payment date as set forth in the Bond or the date upon which the Maximum Principal Amount of the Bond has been borrowed, whichever is earlier, as provided in the Bond and the Loan Agreement. The Bond shall be transferable upon the books of the County at the office of the Chief Financial Officer, by the registered owner in person or by his attorney duly authorized in writing, upon surrender thereof, together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the Chief Financial Officer, duly executed by such registered owner or his duly authorized attorney. The County shall, within a reasonable time, issue in the name of the transferee a new registered bond or bonds of the same series as the Bond surrendered, in such denominations as the County shall by resolution approve, in an aggregate principal amount equal to the unpaid principal amount of the bond or bonds surrendered and with the same maturity date and installment payment dates and interest rate. If more than one bond is issued upon any such transfer of the Bond, the installment of principal and interest to be paid on each such bond on each payment date shall be equal to the product of the following formula: the total installment due on each payment date multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the principal amount of such bond and the denominator of which shall be the aggregate principal amount of the bonds representing the Bond then outstanding and unpaid. The new bond or bonds shall be delivered to the transferee only after payment of any taxes on and any shipping or insurance expenses relating to such transfer. The County may deem and treat the party in whose name a bond is registered as the absolute owner thereof for the purpose of receiving payment of or on account of the principal thereof and interest due thereon and for all other purposes. References in this Resolution to the Bond shall be deemed to refer to any bond or bonds transferred for the Bond in accordance with the provisions of this subsection (m), and references in this Resolution to the registered owner of the Bond shall be deemed to refer to any or all of the registered owners of bonds of such series contemplated by this subsection (m). Any new bond issued in transfer or exchange may be executed and sealed as provided in subsection (k) above with respect to the original execution and delivery of the Bond, or as otherwise required by then-applicable law, and appropriate changes may be made to the form of the bond delivered in transfer or exchange to account for the dated date of such bond and, to the extent applicable, the then-outstanding principal amount of such bond transferred or exchanged for the new bond.

(n) In the event of a discrepancy between the provisions of the Bond and this Resolution, the provisions of the Bond shall control. The County agrees to abide by and perform the covenants and agreements set forth in the Bond as finally executed and delivered in accordance with this Section 3 as though such covenants and agreements were set forth in full in this Resolution.

Section 4. (a) As authorized by the Water and Sewer Act and the MWIFA Act, the County hereby determines to sell the Bond to the Administration by private sale, without public bidding, which sale by private sale is hereby deemed by the County to be in its best interest and in the interest of its citizens due, in part, to the benefit of the structure of the Bond as a draw-down obligation and the beneficial interest rate. Therefore, and pursuant to the authority of the Water and Sewer Act and the MWIFA Act, the Bond shall be sold to the Administration by private sale, without public bidding, for a price of the principal amount of the Bond or so much of the principal amount of the Bond as is advanced to the County, such purchase price to be advanced in accordance with the Loan Agreement.

(b) The Bond shall be sold to the Administration and the purchase price of the Bond shall be advanced to the County in accordance with the Loan Agreement. The terms and conditions of the Loan Agreement, as completed as provided in this Section 4, are hereby incorporated by reference herein and approved by and adopted as the obligations of the County. The Bond is referred to in the Loan Agreement as the "Note."

(c) The substantially final form of the Loan Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A reflects the expectation, as of the date of introduction of this Resolution, that the final original principal amount of the Bond will be Four Million Four Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$4,488,552.00). The President, on behalf of the County, is hereby authorized and directed to complete, execute and deliver the Loan Agreement for and in the name of the County with such changes, insertions and deletions as are approved by such official to reflect matters determined in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution, to comply with program requirements of the Administration or to complete the exhibits to the substantially final form of the Loan Agreement attached hereto, or as are determined by such official not to be materially adverse to the interests of the County, such approval to be evidenced conclusively by such official's execution and delivery of the Loan Agreement in final form. To the extent required or provided for in the Loan Agreement, the County Clerk shall attest to the affixing, impression or reproduction of the County seal thereon.

(d) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Resolution, advances under the Loan Agreement or the Bond, payment or prepayment of the principal of and interest on the Bond, and transfer or exchange of the Bond shall be made in accordance with the Loan Agreement.

(e) The County is hereby authorized and directed to pay any fees or costs provided for in the Loan Agreement that are not payable from Bond proceeds, including, without limitation, any Administrative Fee payments provided for in the Loan Agreement, and any other costs and expenses relating to the Bond or the Loan Agreement. The County hereby expressly acknowledges its absolute and unconditional obligation to make such payments.

(f) As authorized by Section 9-1606(d) of the MWIFA Act, the County hereby pledges any moneys that the County is entitled to receive from the State of Maryland, including the County's share of the income tax revenues collected by the State, to secure its obligations under the Loan Agreement, subject to any limitations on such pledge provided for in the Loan Agreement in accordance with this Section 4. Such pledge shall be evidenced by and detailed in the Loan Agreement.

(g) The County hereby acknowledges the provisions of Article IV of the Loan Agreement (Events of Default and Remedies), which allow for, among other remedies, all payments on the Bond to be declared immediately due and payable upon the occurrence of an Event of Default provided for in such Loan Agreement.

(h) In the event of a discrepancy between the provisions of this Resolution and the Loan Agreement, the provisions of the Loan Agreement shall control. The County agrees to abide by and perform the covenants and agreements set forth in the Loan Agreement as finally executed and delivered in accordance with this Section 4 as though such covenants and agreements were set forth in full in this Resolution.

Section 5. (a) As soon as may be practicable after the adoption of this Resolution, the Bond shall be suitably prepared in definitive form, executed and delivered to the Administration upon a date mutually satisfactory to the Administration and the Chief Financial Officer.

(b) Each of the following officials of the County: the Chief Financial Officer, the Director of Budget and Finance, the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance of the County (the "Deputy Director of Budget and Finance"), and the Senior Accountant in the Office of Budget and Finance (the "Senior Accountant") is hereby expressly authorized to take any necessary actions under the Loan Agreement or the Bond in order to requisition advances on behalf of the County.

(c) Each of the President, the County Administrator and the Chief Financial Officer is hereby expressly designated as an "Authorized Officer" for purposes of the Loan Agreement. By voice vote, motion or other appropriate action, and for purposes of the Loan Agreement, the Board may (i) designate one or more additional officials or employees as an Authorized Officer, or (ii) remove the designation of any Authorized Officer, with or without designating another Authorized Officer in place of the Authorized Officer whose designation was removed; written evidence of any such designation, removal of designation or replacement designation shall be provided to the Administration.

(d) The Board hereby ratifies, confirms and approves any actions taken to date by the President, the Vice President, the County Administrator, the Chief Financial Officer, the Director of Budget and Finance, the Deputy Director of Budget and Finance or the Senior Accountant in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Resolution, including, without limitation, the execution and delivery by the Chief Financial Officer of the Loan Proceeds Questionnaire and Certificate pertaining to the Bond and the first cash draw request for proceeds of the Bond.

(e) The President, the Vice President, the County Administrator, the Chief Financial Officer, the Director of Budget and Finance, the County Clerk, and all other appropriate officials of the County are expressly authorized, empowered and directed to (i) take any and all action necessary to complete and close the sale and delivery of the Bond, (ii) negotiate, approve, execute and deliver all documents, certificates and instruments necessary or appropriate in connection therewith, and (iii) carry out the transactions contemplated by this Resolution, any resolution amendatory of or supplemental to this Resolution, any resolution adopted in furtherance of this Resolution, and any such documents, certificates or instruments executed and delivered in connection with the issuance of the Bond, all to the extent any particular action is within the scope of such official's authority and all to the extent authorization with respect to such particular action has not otherwise been expressly delegated to one or more County officials by or in accordance with this Resolution.

Section 6. Each advance of the proceeds of the Bond shall be paid directly to the County and shall be deposited by the Chief Financial Officer or other appropriate County official in the proper account or accounts, or shall be paid at the direction of the Authorized Officer, or shall be paid as otherwise required by the Administration. Advances under the Bond shall be used and applied by the County exclusively and solely for the public purpose described in Section 2 hereof.

Section 7. (a) The full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the County are hereby pledged to the prompt payment of the principal of and interest on the Bond as and when the same are payable and to the levy and collection of the taxes hereinbelow described as and when such taxes may become necessary in order to provide sufficient funds to meet the debt service requirements

of the Bond. Subject to the further provisions of this Section 7, the County, in each and every year in which the Bond may be outstanding, shall levy and collect ad valorem taxes upon all the legally assessable property within the corporate limits of the County at a rate and in an amount sufficient to provide for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bond when due, and in the event the proceeds from the taxes so levied in any fiscal year are inadequate for such purpose, the County shall levy additional taxes in the succeeding fiscal year to make up any deficiency. The County hereby covenants with the registered owner of the Bond to take any action that may be lawfully appropriate from time to time during the period that the Bond remains outstanding and unpaid to provide the funds necessary to pay promptly the principal and interest due thereon.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) above, the principal of and interest on the Bond will be payable in the first instance from revenues of the wastewater system and the water supply system (each within the meaning of the MWIFA Act) serving the County, including fees for use of or connection to such systems or any special assessments or other charges imposed by the County pursuant to the Water and Sewer Act, all to the extent available for such purpose; however, such revenues are not specifically pledged to the payment of principal of and interest on the Bond. To the extent of any funds received or receivable as described in this subsection (b) or subsection (c) below in any fiscal year, the taxes required to be imposed in accordance with subsection (a) of this Section 7 may be reduced proportionately.

(c) The foregoing provisions shall not be construed so as to prohibit the County from paying the principal of and interest on the Bond from the proceeds of the sale of any other obligations of the County or from any other funds legally available for that purpose. The County may apply to the payment of the principal of or interest on the Bond any funds received by it from the State of Maryland or the United States of America, or any governmental agency or instrumentality, or from any other source, if such funds are granted or paid to the County for the purpose of assisting the County in accomplishing the type of project or projects which the Bond are issued to finance, reimburse or refinance or are otherwise available for such purpose. The provisions of this subsection (c) are subject to the provisions of Section 8 of this Resolution.

(d) Wastewater system revenues (which may be referred to as sewer user charges in the Loan Agreement) and water supply system revenues (which may be referred to as water user charges in the Loan Agreement) are intended to be the dedicated source of revenues required by Section 9-1605(d)(1)(iii) of the MWIFA Act with respect to the Bond. Such revenues may be referred to by similar, but not exact references, on any applicable exhibits to the Loan Agreement.

Section 8. (a) On the date of issuance of the Bond, the President and the Chief Financial Officer shall be responsible for the execution and delivery to counsel rendering an opinion on the validity of the Bond of a certificate of the County which complies with the requirements of Section 103 and Sections 141 through 150, inclusive, including Section 148, of the Code and the applicable regulations thereunder.

(b) The County shall set forth in said certificate its reasonable expectations as to relevant facts, estimates and circumstances relating to the use of the proceeds of the Bond, or of any moneys, securities or other obligations which may be deemed to be proceeds of the Bond pursuant to Section 148 of the Code or the applicable regulations (collectively, the "Bond Proceeds"). The County covenants with the registered owner of the Bond that the facts, estimates and circumstances set forth in such certificate will be based on the County's reasonable

expectations on the date of issuance of the Bond and will be, to the best of the knowledge of the persons executing such certificate, true, correct and complete as of that date.

(c) The County covenants with the registered owner of the Bond that it will not use, or permit the use of any of, the Bond Proceeds or any other funds of the County, directly or indirectly, to acquire any securities or obligations, and will not take or permit to be taken or fail to take any other action or actions which would cause the Bond to be an "arbitrage bond" within the meaning of said Section 148 and said regulations or that would otherwise cause the interest on the Bond to be includable in gross income of the registered owner of the Bond for federal income tax purposes.

(d) The County further covenants that it will comply with said Section 148 and said regulations and such other requirements of the Code which are applicable to the Bond on the date of issuance of the Bond and which may subsequently lawfully be made applicable to the Bond.

(e) The County shall make timely payment of any rebate amount or payment in lieu thereof (or installment thereof) required to be paid to the United States of America in order to preserve the exclusion from gross income for purposes of federal income taxation of interest on the Bond and shall include with any such payment such other documents, certificates or statements as shall be required to be included therewith under then applicable law and regulations. Investment proceeds (including interest earnings) of the Bond may be used to make any such payments.

(f) In connection with the execution and delivery of the certificate provided for in this Section 8, the authorized officers provided for in this Section 8 are hereby authorized and empowered, on behalf of the County, to make any designations, elections, determinations or filings on behalf of the County provided for in or permitted by the Code and the regulations thereunder and to reflect the same in the such certificate and/or the IRS Form 8038-G filed in connection with the issuance of the Bond or any other documentation deemed appropriate by bond counsel to the County; provided that, only one such identified officer must sign the IRS Form 8038-G.

(g) The President and the Chief Financial Officer may execute a certificate or certificates supplementing or amending the certificate provided for in subsection (a) of this Section 8, and actions taken by the County subsequent to the execution of such certificate shall be in accordance with said certificate as amended or supplemented; provided, however, that the County shall execute any such certificate only upon receipt by it of an opinion of bond counsel addressed to the County to the effect that actions taken by the County in accordance with the amending or supplementing certificate will not adversely affect the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Bond.

(h) The County shall retain such records as necessary to document the investment and expenditure of Bond Proceeds, the uses of Bond Proceeds and of the facilities and improvements financed or reimbursed with such proceeds, together with such other records as may be required by the tax certificate or the Internal Revenue Service in order to establish compliance with requirements of the Code and the regulations thereunder as conditions to the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Bond.

Section 9. It is hereby determined that (i) the total unpaid bonded indebtedness of the County issued pursuant to Section 6-401 of the Water and Sewer Act, less the amount of any sinking funds or reserves for payment of any bonded indebtedness previously issued under such

Section of the Water and Sewer Act at the date of adoption of this Resolution is \$32,939,050; (ii) the total assessed valuation of all property within Washington County subject to County taxation as of the end of the fiscal year 2024 (the most recently concluded fiscal year of the County) was \$1,580,397,900; and (iii) the total amount of bonded indebtedness set out in clause (i) of this Section, together with the maximum original principal amount of the Bond, will not exceed 10% of the total assessed valuation specified in clause (ii) of this Section. Accordingly, it is hereby found and determined that the issuance, sale, execution and delivery of the Bond is within the debt limit provided for in the Water and Sewer Act.

Section 10. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Resolution, the County shall use and apply proceeds of the Bond only as permitted by the Loan Agreement, the Clean Water Act and the MWIFA Act (which is referred to in the Loan Agreement as the "Act").

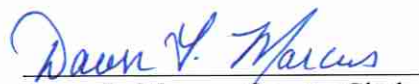
Section 11. The provisions of this Resolution shall be liberally construed in order to effectuate the transactions contemplated by this Resolution.

Section 12. This Resolution shall take effect from the date of its adoption.

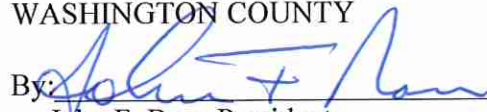
Adopted this 27 day of August, 2024.

(SEAL)


ATTEST:


Dawn L. Marcus, County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY

By: 
John F. Barr, President
Board of County Commissioners
of Washington County

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:


Zachary J. Kieffer
County Attorney

Mail to:
Office of the County Attorney
100 W. Washington Street, Suite 1101
Hagerstown, MD 21740

#236048;50052.047

EXHIBIT A

SUBSTANTIALLY FINAL FORM OF LOAN AGREEMENT

[See Attached]

LOAN AGREEMENT

By and Between

MARYLAND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE
FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

and

"Insert Name of Entity"

Dated as of "Insert Month and Day", 2024

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LOAN AGREEMENT

THIS LOAN AGREEMENT, made this "Insert Day" day of "Insert Month", 2024, between the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration (the "Administration"), a unit of the Department of the Environment (the "Department") of the State of Maryland (the "State"), and "Insert Name of Entity", a "Insert Entity Type" of the State (the "Borrower").

RECITALS

Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the "Clean Water Act"), as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987 ("Title VI"), authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") to award grants to qualifying States to establish and capitalize State water pollution control revolving funds ("SRFs") for the purpose of providing loans and certain other forms of financial assistance (but not grants) to finance, among other things, the construction and improvement of publicly-owned wastewater treatment facilities and the implementation of estuary conservation management plans and nonpoint source management programs.

As contemplated by Title VI, the General Assembly of the State at its 1988 session enacted the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration Act, codified at Sections 9-1601 through 9-1622 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the "Act"), establishing an SRF designated the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund (the "Fund") to be maintained and administered by the Administration. The Act authorizes the Administration, among other things, to make a loan from the Fund to a "local government" (as defined in the Act) for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the cost of a "wastewater facility" project (as defined in the Act).

The Borrower, which is a "local government" within the meaning of the Act, has applied to the Administration for a loan from the Fund to assist in the financing of a certain project or projects of the Borrower (the "Project," as defined herein) which constitutes a "wastewater facility" within the meaning of the Act. The Project is one designated for funding in an Intended Use Plan promulgated by the Administration in accordance with regulations issued by the EPA pursuant to Title VI, and the Project conforms to the applicable "county plan" adopted pursuant to the requirements of Subtitle 5 of Title 9 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended.

The Director of the Administration has determined that the making of a loan to the Borrower for the purpose of assisting the financing of the Project, on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, is necessary and desirable in the public interest, will promote the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the State and the United States by assisting in the prevention of pollution of the environment, and will further the purposes of Title VI and the Act.

The Act authorizes the Administration, subject to the prior approval of the Secretary of the Department and the Board of Public Works, to issue its revenue bonds for the

purpose of providing monies for deposit to the Fund. The Administration may issue and sell one or more series of such revenue bonds (the "Bonds") for the purpose of providing monies for deposit to the Fund in an amount sufficient, together with certain other monies expected to be available for that purpose, to enable the Administration to make, or reimburse the Administration for making, a loan to the Borrower and certain other entities to assist in the financing of projects, all as contemplated by the Administration's Intended Use Plan. The revenues from this loan and such other loans, whether or not funded from the proceeds of Bonds, may be pledged by the Administration to secure Bonds.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants hereinafter set forth and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Borrower and the Administration, each intending to be legally bound, hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

Section 1.01. Definitions. Unless specifically provided otherwise or the context otherwise requires, when used in this Agreement:

"Act" means the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration Act, Sections 9-1601 through 9-1622 of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and all acts supplemental thereto or amendatory thereof.

"Administration" means the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration, a unit of the Department of the Environment of the State, and its successors and assigns.

"Administrative Fee" means the fee payable by the Borrower pursuant to this Agreement for the general administrative services and other functions and expenses of the Administration.

"Agreement" means this Loan Agreement, including the Exhibits attached hereto and any amendments hereto.

"Application" means the application for the Loan submitted by the Borrower to the Administration, together with any amendments thereto.

"Authorized Officer" means, in the case of the Borrower, any person authorized by law or by a resolution of the governing body of the Borrower to perform any act or execute any document on behalf of the Borrower.

"Board" means the Board of Public Works of the State.

“Bonds” means any series of revenue bonds issued by the Administration under the Act.

“Bond Counsel” means a law firm acceptable to the Administration whose legal opinions are generally accepted by purchasers of municipal bonds.

“Borrower” means the local government (as defined in the Act) that is identified in the first paragraph of this Agreement, and its successors and assigns.

“Business Day” means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or day on which the offices of the Administration or commercial banks in the State are authorized or obligated to remain closed.

“Change Orders” means any amendments or modifications to any Plans and Specifications or any general construction contract for the Project.

“Clean Water Act” means the Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, PL 92-500, as amended, 33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq., and rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

“Code” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, or any successor federal income tax statute or code, and the applicable regulations and rulings promulgated thereunder.

“Default” means an event or condition the occurrence of which would, with the lapse of time or the giving of notice or both, constitute an Event of Default.

“Default Rate” means the interest rate so specified in Exhibit B of this Agreement.

“Department” means the Maryland Department of the Environment, and its successors.

“Director” means the Director of the Administration.

“Eligible Project Costs” means all those costs of the Project permitted by the Act to be funded by a loan from the Fund and which have been approved by the Director.

“EPA” means the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and its successors.

“Event of Default” means any occurrence or event specified in Section 4.01 hereof.

“Fiscal Year” means the period of 12 consecutive months commencing on July 1 in any calendar year and ending on June 30 of the succeeding calendar year.

“Fund” means the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund.

“Governmental Authority” means the United States, the State of Maryland, or any of their political subdivisions, agencies, departments, commissions, boards, bureaus or instrumentalities, including any local authority having jurisdiction over the Project, and including EPA, the Department, the Board and the Administration.

“Indenture” means the indenture of trust, bond resolution or other trust agreement between the Administration and the Trustee, providing for the issuance of Bonds, as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time.

“Independent Counsel” means any attorney or law firm with attorneys duly admitted to practice law before the highest court of any state who has or have regularly engaged in the practice of law as the primary occupation of such attorney or attorneys for at least five years. Independent Counsel may also serve as Bond Counsel if qualified to act as Bond Counsel.

“Independent Public Accountant” means an individual, partnership or corporation engaged in the accounting profession, either entitled to practice, or having members or officers entitled to practice, as a certified public accountant under the laws of the State of Maryland and, in fact, independent.

“Loan” means the aggregate amounts which are advanced from time to time by the Administration to the Borrower pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

“Loan Closing Date” means the date on which the Note is executed and delivered to the Administration.

“Loan Commitment” means that amount which the Administration is obligated to lend to the Borrower pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Agreement and subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in this Agreement, as such amount may be adjusted as provided in this Agreement.

“Loan Proceeds Questionnaire and Certificate” means the Loan Proceeds Questionnaire and Certificate executed and provided by the Borrower in connection with the Loan, in form and substance satisfactory to the Administration.

“Loan Year” means the period beginning on the first February 1 on which principal of the Loan is payable and each February 1 thereafter and ending on the immediately succeeding January 31.

“Note” means the bond, note or other obligation executed and delivered by the Borrower to the Administration to evidence the Loan, such Note to be substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit F.

“Plans and Specifications” means the final plans and specifications for the construction of the Project prepared by the architect or engineer and approved by the Department.

“Project” means the project or projects of the Borrower described in Exhibit B to this Agreement.

“Project Budget” means the budget for the Project as set forth in Exhibit C to this Agreement, as revised in accordance with Section 2.02(d).

“Related Financing” means any bond, note, agreement or other instrument or transaction (other than this Agreement or the Note) pursuant to which the Borrower obtains any monies that may be expended to pay costs of the Project.

“Requirement” means any law, ordinance, code, order, rule or regulation of a Governmental Authority, including, without limitation, a condition set forth in a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (“NPDES”) permit or in a construction permit issued by the Department.

“State” means the State of Maryland.

“Tax-Exempt Bonds” means Bonds the interest on which is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under the Code.

“Trustee” means the trustee for the Bonds.

Section 1.02. Rules of Construction. Unless the context clearly indicates to the contrary, the following rules shall apply to the construction of this Agreement:

(a) words importing the singular number include the plural number and words importing the plural number include the singular number;

(b) words of the masculine gender include correlative words of the feminine and neuter genders;

(c) words importing persons include any individual, corporation, partnership, joint venture, association, joint stock company, trust, unincorporated organization or government or agency or political subdivision thereof;

(d) the terms “agree” and “agreement” shall include and mean “covenant”, and all agreements contained in this Agreement are intended to constitute covenants and shall be enforceable as such;

(e) the headings and the Table of Contents set forth in this Agreement are solely for convenience of reference and shall not constitute a part of this Agreement or affect its meaning, construction or effect; and

(f) any reference to a particular Article or Section shall be to such Article or Section of this Agreement unless the context shall otherwise require.

ARTICLE II

REPRESENTATIONS AND COVENANTS OF BORROWER

Section 2.01. Representations of Borrower. The Borrower represents for the benefit of the Administration as follows:

(a) Corporate Organization and Authority. The Borrower:

(i) is a “local government” as defined in the Act; and

(ii) has all requisite power and authority and all necessary licenses and permits required as of the date hereof to own and operate the Project, to enter into this Agreement, to execute and deliver the Note, and to carry out and consummate all transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

(b) Full Disclosure. There is no fact that the Borrower has not disclosed to the Administration in writing that materially adversely affects or (so far as the Borrower can now foresee) that will materially adversely affect the properties, activities, prospects or condition (financial or other) of the Borrower or the ability of the Borrower to make all payments due hereunder and otherwise perform its obligations under this Agreement and the Note.

(c) Pending Litigation. There are no proceedings pending, or to the knowledge of the Borrower threatened, against or affecting the Borrower in any court or before any Governmental Authority or arbitration board or tribunal that, if adversely determined, would materially adversely affect the properties, activities, prospects or condition (financial or other) of the Borrower, or the ability of the Borrower to make all payments due hereunder and otherwise perform its obligations under this Agreement and the Note, and that have not been disclosed in writing to the Administration in the Application or otherwise.

(d) Borrowing Legal and Authorized. The consummation of the transactions provided for in this Agreement and the Note and compliance by the Borrower with the provisions of this Agreement and the Note:

(i) are within its powers and have been duly authorized by all necessary action on the part of the governing body of the Borrower; and

(ii) will not result in any breach of any of the terms, conditions or provisions of, or constitute a default under, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien, charge or encumbrances upon any property or assets of the Borrower pursuant to, any indenture, loan agreement or other instrument (other than this Agreement and the Note) to which the Borrower is a party or by which the Borrower may be bound, nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of laws, ordinances, governmental rules, regulations or court orders to which the Borrower or its properties or operations is subject.

(e) No Defaults. No event has occurred and no condition exists that, upon execution of this Agreement and the Note or receipt of the Loan, would constitute a Default hereunder. The Borrower is not in violation, and has not received notice of any claimed violation, of any term of any agreement or other instrument to which it is a party or by which it or its property may be bound, which violation would materially adversely affect the properties, activities, prospects or condition (financial or other) of the Borrower or the ability of the Borrower to make all payments due hereunder and otherwise perform its obligations under this Agreement and the Note, and that have not been disclosed in writing to the Administration in the Application or otherwise.

(f) Governmental Consent; Project Consistency.

(i) The Borrower has obtained all permits and approvals required to date by any Governmental Authority for the making and performance by the Borrower of its obligations under this Agreement and the Note or for the Project and the financing thereof. No consent, approval or authorization of, or filing, registration or qualification with, any Governmental Authority that has not been obtained is required on the part of the Borrower as a condition to the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the Note or the consummation of any transaction herein contemplated.

(ii) The Project is consistent with (A) the local plan of the Borrower as contemplated under Section 5-7A-02 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended; (B) the State Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Policy established in Section 5-7A-01 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended; and (C) all applicable provisions of *Subtitle 7B, "Priority Funding Areas,"* of Title 5 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended.

(g) No Conflicts. No member, officer, or employee of the Borrower, or its designees, or agents, no consultant, no member of the governing body of the Borrower or of any Governmental Authority, who exercises or has exercised any authority over the Project during such person's tenure, shall have any interest, direct or indirect, in any contract or subcontract, or its proceeds, in any activity, or in any benefit therefrom, which is part of the Project.

(h) Use of Proceeds. The Borrower will apply the proceeds of the Loan from the Administration as described in Exhibit B attached hereto and made a part hereof (i) to finance all or a portion of the Eligible Project Costs; and (ii) to reimburse the Borrower for all or a portion of the Eligible Project Costs paid or incurred prior to the date hereof in anticipation of reimbursement by the Administration (and subject to compliance with Section 2.02(l) of this Agreement). Except as provided in Sections 3.01 and 3.03(c) of this Agreement, before each and every advance of the proceeds of the Loan to the Borrower, the Borrower shall submit to the Administration a requisition meeting the requirements of Section 3.03 of this Agreement.

(i) Loan Closing Submissions. On or before the Loan Closing Date, the Borrower will cause to be delivered to the Administration each of the following items:

(i) an opinion of Independent Counsel, acceptable to the Administration, dated as of the Loan Closing Date, substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit D to this Agreement;

(ii) an opinion of Bond Counsel [who may rely, as to the validity of this Agreement and the Note, on the opinion of Independent Counsel referred to in (i)], dated as of the Loan Closing Date, and acceptable to the Administration, to the effect that (A) interest on the Loan and the Note will be excludable from gross income for purposes of federal income taxation and (B) interest on the Loan and the Note will not be included in the alternative minimum taxable income of individuals, corporations or other taxpayers as an enumerated item of tax preference or other specific adjustment;

(iii) fully executed counterparts of this Agreement, the Note and the Loan Proceeds Questionnaire and Certificate;

(iv) copies of the ordinance, resolution or other official action of the governing body of the Borrower authorizing the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the Note, certified by an appropriate officer of the Borrower;

(v) a certificate, dated as of the Loan Closing Date, signed by an Authorized Officer of the Borrower and in form satisfactory to the Administration, confirming the Borrower's obligations under and representations in the Loan Agreement and the Loan Proceeds Questionnaire and Certificate as of such date;

(vi) a requisition in an amount not less than the lesser of 5% of the Loan Commitment or \$50,000 for (i) reimbursement to the Borrower of Eligible Project Costs together with paid invoices supporting such reimbursement, or (ii) payment to third-parties of currently due and payable invoices for Eligible Project Costs, or (iii) a combination of (i) and (ii); and

(vii) such other certificates, documents, opinions and information as the Administration may require.

Section 2.02. Particular Covenants of the Borrower.

(a) Maintenance of Project; Insurance. The Borrower shall (i) keep, operate and maintain, or cause to be kept, operated and maintained, the Project in good working order, condition and repair; (ii) make or cause to be made all needed and proper replacements to the Project so that the Project will at all times be in good operating condition, fit and proper for the purposes for which it was originally erected or installed; (iii) not permit any waste of the Project; (iv) observe and comply with, or cause to be observed and complied with, all Requirements; and (v) operate, or cause to be operated, the Project in the manner in which similar projects are operated by persons operating a first-class facility of a similar nature. The Borrower shall maintain or cause to be maintained at its sole cost and expense insurance with respect to the Project, both during its construction and thereafter, against such casualties and contingencies and in such amounts as are customarily maintained by governmental entities similarly situated and as are consistent with sound governmental practice.

(b) Sale or Disposition of Project. The Borrower reasonably expects that no portion of the Project will be sold prior to the final maturity date of the Loan. In the event that the Borrower shall sell or otherwise dispose of any portion of the Project prior to the final maturity date of the Loan, the Borrower shall apply the net proceeds thereof to the prepayment of the Loan or as the Administration shall otherwise direct unless (i) the Borrower shall have obtained the prior written consent of the Administration to some other proposed application of such net proceeds and (ii) there shall have been delivered to the Administration an opinion of Bond Counsel to the effect that, in the opinion of such firm, such proposed application of such net proceeds will not adversely affect the tax-exempt status for federal income tax purposes of the interest on any Tax-Exempt Bonds applicable to the Project or the Note.

(c) Inspections; Information. The Borrower shall permit the Administration or its designee to examine, visit and inspect, at any and all reasonable times (including, without limitation, any time during which the Project is under construction or in operation), the property constituting the Project, to attend all construction progress meetings relating to the Project and to inspect and make copies of any accounts, books and records, including (without limitation) its records regarding receipts, disbursements, contracts, investments and any other matters relating to the Project and the financing thereof, and shall supply such reports and information as the Administration may reasonably require in connection therewith. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Borrower shall keep and maintain any books, records, and other documents that may be required under applicable federal and State statutes, regulations, guidelines, rules and procedures now or hereafter applicable to loans made by the Administration from the Fund, and as may be reasonably necessary to reflect and disclose fully the amount and disposition of the Loan, the total cost of the activities paid for, in whole or in part, with the proceeds of the Loan, and the amount and nature of all investments related to such activities which are supplied or to be supplied by other sources. All such books, records and other documents shall be maintained at the offices of the Borrower, as specified on Exhibit B attached hereto, for

inspection, copying, audit and examination at all reasonable times by any duly authorized representative of the Administration. All such books, records and other documents shall be maintained until the completion of an audit of the Project by the EPA or notification from the State or the EPA that no audit is required.

(d) Completion of the Project; Payment of Excess Costs of the Project. The Borrower shall proceed diligently to complete the Project in accordance with the Plans and Specifications, and in accordance with any requirements set forth in the construction and NPDES permits. The Borrower shall satisfy all applicable Requirements for operation of the Project by the completion of the Project, and shall commence operation of the Project promptly upon its completion. No substantial changes may be made to the Plans and Specifications, the general construction contract or the Project Budget, or in the construction of the Project without the prior written approval of the Administration in its discretion. The Borrower shall pay any amount required for the acquisition, construction and equipping of the Project in excess of the amount available to be loaned to the Borrower hereunder. Upon the completion of the Project, the Borrower shall deliver to the Administration a certificate of the Borrower certifying that the Project was completed as of the date set forth in such certificate.

(e) Cancellation of Loan. As provided by Section 9-1606(e) of the Act, the Borrower acknowledges and agrees that its obligation to make the payments due hereunder and under the Note is cancelable only upon repayment in full of the Loan, and that neither the Administration, the Secretary of the Department, nor the Board is authorized to forgive the repayment of all or any portion of the Loan.

(f) Dedicated Source of Revenue. Pursuant to the Clean Water Act, the Borrower has established one or more dedicated sources of revenue for repayment of the Loan, as described in Exhibit E attached hereto as a part hereof.

(g) Indemnification. To the extent permitted by law, the Borrower releases the Administration, the Fund, the Department, the Board and the State from, agrees that the Administration, the Fund, the Department, the Board and the State shall not have any liability for, and agrees to protect, indemnify and save harmless the Administration, the Fund, the Department, the Board and the State from and against, any and all liabilities, suits, actions, claims, demands, losses, expenses and costs of every kind and nature incurred by, or asserted or imposed against, the Administration, the Fund, the Department, the Board or the State, as a result of or in connection with the Project or the financing thereof. To the extent permitted by law, all money expended by the Administration, the Fund, the Department, the Board or the State as a result of such liabilities, suits, actions, claims, demands, losses, expenses or costs, together with interest at the rate provided in the Note from the date of such payment, shall constitute an additional indebtedness of the Borrower and shall be immediately and without notice due and payable by the Borrower to the Administration.

(h) Non-discrimination. The Borrower certifies that it does not discriminate, and covenants that it shall not discriminate, on the basis of (1) political or religious opinion or affiliation, marital status, race, color, creed or national origin, or (2) sex or age, except where sex or age constitutes a bona fide occupational qualification, or (3) the physical or mental handicap of a qualified handicapped individual. At such times as the Administration requests, the Borrower

shall submit to the Administration information relating to the Borrower's operations, with regard to political or religious opinion or affiliation, marital status, physical or mental handicap, race, color, creed, sex, age, or national origin, on a form to be prescribed by the Administration.

(i) Compliance with Requirements. The Borrower acknowledges that the Loan and this Agreement are subject to, and the Borrower agrees to comply with, all Requirements applicable to the Project and the financing thereof, including (without limiting the generality of the foregoing) the Clean Water Act, the Act, and all other applicable State and federal statutes and such rules, regulations, orders and procedural guidelines as may be promulgated from time to time by the EPA, the Board, the Department, the Administration, or other Governmental Authority.

(j) Annual Audit. Within nine (9) months of the end of each Fiscal Year (unless such period is changed to comply with terms of the Administration's financings, or a Requirement, in which case the Administration shall notify the Borrower in writing), the Borrower shall cause financial statements of the Borrower to be prepared with respect to such Fiscal Year in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, applicable to governmental units, consistently applied, which financial statements shall be audited by, and accompanied by a report of, an Independent Public Accountant. Such financial statements and report shall be delivered upon completion to the Administration within the nine (9) month period or within thirty (30) days from receipt of a report from the auditor, whichever period is shorter.

(k) Bonds Not to Be Arbitrage Bonds. The Administration expects to deliver on each date of issuance of each series of Tax-Exempt Bonds a certificate (such certificate, as it may be amended and supplemented from time to time in accordance with the Indenture, being referred to herein as the "Section 148 Certificate") that complies with the requirements of Section 148 of the Code or applicable successor provisions ("Section 148") and that states the Administration's reasonable expectations as to relevant facts, estimates and circumstances relating to the use of the proceeds of such Tax-Exempt Bonds or of any monies, securities or other obligations on deposit to the credit of any of the funds and accounts created by the Indenture or this Agreement or otherwise that may be deemed to be proceeds of the Tax-Exempt Bonds within the meaning of Section 148 (collectively, "Bond Proceeds"). The Borrower covenants to provide, or cause to be provided, such facts and estimates as the Administration reasonably considers necessary to enable it to execute and deliver its Section 148 Certificate including (but not limited to) those updates required in the Loan Proceeds Questionnaire and Certificate. The Borrower further covenants that (i) such facts and estimates will be based on its reasonable expectations on the date of issuance of the Tax-Exempt Bonds and will be, to the best of the knowledge of the officers of the Borrower providing such facts and estimates, true, correct and complete as of that date, and (ii) the Borrower will make reasonable inquiries to ensure such truth, correctness and completeness.

The Borrower covenants that it will not make, or (to the extent that it exercises control or direction) permit to be made, any use of the Bond Proceeds that would cause any of the Tax-Exempt Bonds to be "arbitrage bonds" within the meaning of Section 148. The Borrower further covenants that it will comply with those provisions of Section 148 that are applicable to the Tax-Exempt Bonds on the date of issuance of such Tax-Exempt Bonds and with those provisions of Section 148 that may subsequently be lawfully made applicable to such Bonds.

The Administration and the Borrower shall hold and invest Bond Proceeds within their control (if such proceeds are invested) in accordance with the expectations of the Administration set forth in the Section 148 Certificate. If the Administration is of the opinion, upon receipt of advice of Bond Counsel, that it is necessary further to restrict or limit the yield on the investment of any Bond Proceeds in order to avoid any of the Tax-Exempt Bonds being considered "arbitrage bonds" within the meaning of Section 148, the Borrower shall take such action as is necessary to restrict or limit the yield on such investment, irrespective of whether the Borrower is of the same or a different opinion. Upon the request of the Borrower and receipt of advice of Bond Counsel, the Administration may, and upon receipt of an approving ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, the Administration shall, take such action as is necessary to remove or modify a restriction or limitation on the yield on the investment of any Bond Proceeds that was formerly deemed necessary. The Administration shall incur no liability in connection with action as contemplated herein so long as the Administration acts in good faith.

The Administration contemplates and will use its best efforts to provide for the payment of rebate or penalties in lieu of rebate with respect to the Tax-Exempt Bonds pursuant to Section 148 from the proceeds of the Tax-Exempt Bonds or investment earnings thereon. However, in the event that funds from this source are inadequate to provide for any such payment of rebate or such penalties, the Borrower agrees to pay to the Administration the portion of the rebate or penalties with respect to any Tax-Exempt Bonds fairly allocable to the Loan (as reasonably determined by the Administration) upon written request of the Administration accompanied by an explanation of the method for allocating any such penalties or rebate.

In addition, the Borrower covenants that it will not make, or (to the extent that it exercises control or direction) permit to be made, any use of the monies deemed to be proceeds of any other Tax-Exempt Bonds of the Administration that would cause any such Tax-Exempt Bonds to be "arbitrage bonds" within the meaning of Section 148. The Borrower further covenants that it will comply with those provisions of Section 148 that are applicable to such other Tax-Exempt Bonds on the date of issuance of such Tax-Exempt Bonds and with those provisions of Section 148 that may subsequently be lawfully made applicable to such Tax-Exempt Bonds. The Borrower shall have no obligation under this paragraph unless advised of such in writing by the Administration.

(l) Compliance With Loan Proceeds Questionnaire and Certificate. Without otherwise limiting the covenants or representations set forth in this Agreement or in the Loan Proceeds Questionnaire and Certificate, the representations set forth in Paragraphs 3 through 9, inclusive, and Paragraphs 11 through 14, inclusive, of the Loan Proceeds Questionnaire and Certificate are hereby incorporated as continuing representations of the Borrower, except to the extent that the Administration shall receive an opinion from Bond Counsel to the effect that any variation from such representations shall not adversely affect the excludability of interest on any Tax-Exempt Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The Borrower shall not take or permit to be taken any action or actions which would cause any Tax-Exempt Bonds to be "arbitrage bonds" within the meaning of Section 148 of the Code or which would otherwise cause interest on any Tax-Exempt Bonds to be includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes.

(m) Additional Disclosure Information. The Borrower agrees to provide the Administration with such information regarding the Borrower and its finances as the Administration may from time to time request. The Borrower further acknowledges that the Administration may issue one or more series of Bonds pursuant to the Indenture, and that any or all of such Bonds may be secured in part by repayments of the Borrower with respect to the Loan. The Borrower accordingly agrees to provide to the Administration such information regarding the Borrower and its finances as the Administration may from time to time request for inclusion in the official statements or other offering documents to be distributed in connection with the sale of any such Bonds or any annual disclosure document or other informational document prepared from time to time by the Administration to be made available to prospective purchasers or holders of any of such Bonds. The Borrower shall also furnish to the Administration at its request a certificate of an Authorized Officer of the Borrower to the effect that any information so provided or included contains no material inaccuracy or omission in light of the purposes for which such information is provided or included. The Borrower agrees to notify the Administration promptly in writing of (a) any changes in the condition or affairs of the Borrower (financial or other) that would cause any information regarding the Borrower so provided or included in an official statement or any subsequent offering document, annual disclosure document or other informational document of the Administration that the Borrower has had an opportunity to review and certify as to its accuracy, to contain a material inaccuracy or omission in light of the purposes for which such information is so included, and (b) upon request from the Administration, any event set forth in Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(5)(i)(C), as such rule may be amended and supplemented.

(n) Related Financing. The Borrower agrees that the proceeds of any Related Financing shall be expended to pay costs of the Project on a monthly basis proportionately with the proceeds of the Loan, taking into account the total amount of the proceeds of such Related Financing available to pay costs of the Project and the maximum amount of the Loan Commitment. The Borrower agrees to provide the Administration upon its request with such information as the Administration deems reasonably necessary to determine whether the Borrower is in compliance with the provisions of this Section 2.02(n).

ARTICLE III

LOAN TO BORROWER; AMOUNTS PAYABLE; GENERAL AGREEMENTS

Section 3.01. The Loan. Subject to the provisions of Sections 3.02, 3.03 and 3.08 hereof, the Administration hereby agrees to advance amounts under this Agreement to the Borrower, and the Borrower agrees to borrow and accept from the Administration amounts

advanced under this Agreement, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed the maximum amount of the Loan Commitment set forth on Exhibit B attached hereto.

Section 3.02. Availability of Funds. The Administration expects to have, and shall use its best efforts to obtain and maintain, funds in an amount sufficient to make advances to the Borrower in accordance with the “Construction Cash Draw Schedule” included in Exhibit C attached hereto. The Borrower recognizes, however, that the Administration is a governmental entity with limited financial resources and that the Administration’s ability to make such advances may be adversely affected by events or circumstances beyond the Administration’s control. The Borrower accordingly assumes the risk that monies may not be available to make advances of the Loan to the Borrower, and, in such event, the Borrower specifically agrees that the Administration shall have no obligation to lend any amounts to the Borrower in excess of the amount theretofore advanced to the Borrower.

Section 3.03. Disbursements and Capitalized Interest.

(a) Requisitions and Disbursements. Amounts shall be loaned from time to time to pay, or reimburse the Borrower for the payment of, Eligible Project Costs, upon receipt of requisitions of the Borrower. Each such requisition shall (i) state the names of the payees, (ii) describe in reasonable detail the purpose of each payment, (iii) state the amount of each payment (supported by appropriate paid invoices or other evidence satisfactory to the Administration that the amount requisitioned has been paid or has been incurred by the Borrower and is then due), (iv) state that the amount so requisitioned constitutes a part of the Eligible Project Costs, and (v) state that no Default or Event of Default under this Agreement has occurred and is continuing; provided, that this section shall not apply to advances made or deemed to have been made as provided in Section 3.03(c) hereof. The Administration shall not be required to advance monies on more than one day in each month, and the Administration shall not be required to advance monies for the Project sooner than, or in an amount greater than, the schedule of disbursements for the Project shown on the “Construction Cash Draw Schedule” included in Exhibit C attached hereto. The Administration may require the Borrower to submit requisitions in advance of each such disbursement date in such manner as shall be reasonably acceptable to the Administration.

(b) Conditions Precedent. Before making the first advance of Loan proceeds, the Administration shall receive the following in form and content satisfactory to the Administration:

(i) copies of the Plans and Specifications and of any Change Orders issued through the date of such advance, the general construction contract, and the Project Budget;

(ii) a survey showing the location of existing and proposed easements, rights-of-way and improvements, and the perimeter boundaries of the land upon which the Project will be located, if any Loan proceeds are to be used for acquisition of the land;

(iii) copies of all building permits, if any, pertaining to the Project;

(iv) cost breakdown in trade form showing all subcontracts which represent at least 10 percent of the costs of the Project, and indicating use of the proceeds of the Loan therefor;

(v) a fully executed copy of any contract for the purchase of real property constituting a portion of the Eligible Project Costs described in Exhibit C; and

(vi) evidence satisfactory to the Administration that the conditions (if any) set forth in Exhibit A to this Agreement have been satisfied.

In addition, it shall be a condition precedent to the Administration's obligation to make any advance of Loan proceeds under this Agreement that no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing at the time of any such advance.

(c) Interest During Construction. In the event that the Administration has consented to permit the Borrower to pay interest on the Loan from proceeds of the Loan during all or a portion of the period of time related to construction of the Project (as itemized in Exhibit C) ("Construction Period Interest"), the Administration shall on each February 1 and August 1 during such period advance to the Borrower and immediately apply to the interest then due and owing, an amount equal to the interest on the Loan due on such February 1 or August 1 and not theretofore paid by the Borrower. Any such amount of Construction Period Interest advanced by the Administration shall constitute part of the principal amount of the Loan hereunder immediately upon its advance to the Borrower in accordance with this paragraph. Notwithstanding the advance of any Construction Period Interest to the Borrower in accordance with this Section, the Borrower shall pay directly to the Administration the Administrative Fee on the dates and in the amounts set forth in Section 3.04(c), and no amounts shall be advanced under the Loan for the payment of the Administrative Fee.

Section 3.04. Amounts Payable.

(a) Loan Payments. The Borrower shall punctually repay the Loan in installments on the dates, in the amounts, and in the manner specified in the Note. The outstanding amount of the Loan shall bear interest at a rate per annum equal to the rate or rates of interest set forth in Exhibit B, and shall be payable in accordance with the amortization schedule as specified in Exhibit B attached hereto and more particularly set out in the Note (which amortization schedule is subject to adjustment in accordance with this Agreement and the Note). On or prior to the Loan Closing Date, the Borrower shall execute the Note to evidence such obligation. In addition, the Borrower shall pay to the Administration an Administrative Fee in accordance with paragraph (c) of this Section.

(b) Late Charges. In addition to the payments of principal and interest on the Loan required by paragraph (a) of this Section, the Borrower shall pay (i) a late charge for any payment of principal or interest on the Loan that is received later than the tenth day following its due date, in an amount equal to 5% of such payment, and (ii) interest on overdue installments of

principal and (to the extent permitted by law) interest at a rate equal to the Default Rate set forth in Exhibit B. Amounts payable pursuant to this paragraph (b) shall be immediately due and payable to the Administration, and interest at the Default Rate shall continue to accrue on overdue installments of principal and (to the extent permitted by law) interest until such amounts are paid in full.

(c) Administrative Fee. (i) On the date specified in Exhibit B for the first payment of the Administrative Fee and on each August 1 thereafter that the Note remains outstanding and unpaid to and including the date of final maturity of the Note (each such date, an “Administrative Fee Payment Date”), the Borrower shall pay to the Administration an Administrative Fee. Subject to paragraph (iv) below, the Administrative Fee for any Administrative Fee Payment Date shall be (A) the Administrative Fee set forth in Exhibit B or (B) after any date on which the outstanding principal amount of the Loan Commitment is reduced by the Administration by a notice in writing to the Borrower in accordance with this Agreement (other than by reason of the repayment of the principal of the Loan), the Administrative Fee set forth in a notice from the Administration to the Borrower in connection with such reduction. Any adjustment of the Administrative Fee in accordance with the foregoing shall be prospective only, and the Administration shall in no event be obligated to refund any portion of any Administrative Fee payment theretofore received from the Borrower.

(ii) In prescribing the Administrative Fee for purposes of paragraph (i) above, the Administration shall employ the following formula, it being understood that any determinations as to the application of such formula shall be within the discretion of the Administration and any Administrative Fee Payment prescribed by the Administration in accordance with the foregoing shall be conclusive and binding upon the Administration and the Borrower: the Administrative Fee equals (A) the aggregate amount of all scheduled payments of principal of and interest on the Note, multiplied by the Percentage Rate (defined in paragraph (iii) below) then in effect, (B) divided by the total number of scheduled Administrative Fee Payment Dates. For example, if the aggregate amount of all scheduled payments of principal of and interest on the Note were \$5,000,000 and the Percentage Rate were 5%, and the total number of scheduled Administrative Fee Payment Dates were 31, the Administrative Fee to be paid each year would equal:

$$\frac{\$5,000,000 \times .05}{31} = \$8,064.52$$

(iii) The Percentage Rate for each Fiscal Year shall be fixed as a uniform rate for all borrowers receiving loans from the Fund in order to provide sufficient revenues to pay the expenses of the Administration, as approved in the operating budget of the State by the General Assembly of the State; provided, however, that in no event shall the Percentage Rate exceed five percent (5%). In each Fiscal Year, the Administration shall review the Percentage Rate then in effect and adjust it for the immediately succeeding Fiscal Year to reflect its approved budget for the immediately succeeding Fiscal Year, a retainage of not more than ten percent (10%) for an operating reserve within the Administration’s general account, and other factors as reasonably determined by the Secretary. No later than June 1 following the end of the Session of the General Assembly in each Fiscal Year, the Administration shall notify the Borrower of the newly established Percentage Rate, which shall be the Percentage Rate applicable to the immediately

succeeding Fiscal Year, and of any change in the amount of the Administrative Fee payable by the Borrower in such Fiscal Year as a result of the application of such Percentage Rate.

Section 3.05. Sources of Payment.

(a) Dedicated Revenues. In accordance with Section 2.02(f) hereof, the principal of and interest on the Note, and any other amounts due from time to time under this Agreement, shall be payable in the first instance from the dedicated source of revenues described in Exhibit E attached hereto.

(b) General Obligation. In addition, the Note constitutes a general obligation of the Borrower, to the payment of which the full faith and credit and taxing power of the Borrower are pledged.

(c) State Withholding. As further security for the payment of the Note and any other amounts due hereunder, the Borrower hereby pledges the following to the Administration and grants a security interest therein to the Administration: (i) as authorized by Section 9-1606(d) of the Act, the Borrower's share of any and all income tax revenues collected by the State from time to time that would otherwise be payable to the Borrower, and (ii) to the maximum extent permitted by law, any and all other tax revenues, grants, and other monies that the Borrower is or may from time to time be entitled to receive from the State or that may at any time be due from the State, or any department, agency, or instrumentality of the State, to the Borrower. The Borrower further agrees that, upon the occurrence of an Event of Default, among other things, the State Comptroller and the State Treasurer may (i) withhold any such amounts that the Borrower is then or may thereafter be entitled to receive and (ii) at the direction of the Administration, apply the amounts so withheld to the payment of any amounts then due or thereafter becoming due hereunder (including, without limitation, payments under the Note) until the Borrower's obligations hereunder have been fully paid and discharged.

Section 3.06. Unconditional Obligations. The obligations of the Borrower to make payments under the Note as and when due and all other payments required hereunder and to perform and observe the other agreements on its part contained herein shall be absolute and unconditional, and shall not be abated, rebated, set-off, reduced, abrogated, terminated, waived, diminished, postponed or otherwise modified in any manner or to any extent whatsoever, regardless of any contingency, act of God, event or cause whatsoever, including (without limitation) any acts or circumstances that may constitute failure of consideration, eviction or constructive eviction, the taking by eminent domain or destruction of or damage to the Project, commercial frustration of purpose, any change in the laws of the United States of America or of the State or any political subdivision of either or in the rules or regulations of any Governmental Authority, any failure of the Administration, the Department or the State to perform or observe any agreement, whether express or implied, or any duty, liability or obligation arising out of or connected with the Project, this Agreement, or otherwise or any rights of set-off, recoupment, abatement or counterclaim that the Borrower might otherwise have against the Administration, the Department or the State or any other party or parties; provided, however, that payments hereunder shall not constitute a waiver of any such rights.

Section 3.07. Loan Commitment. The Borrower acknowledges and agrees that the monies attributable to the Borrower's Loan Commitment are the property of the Administration and are held by the Administration to provide for advances to be made to the Borrower in accordance with this Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, the Borrower acknowledges and agrees that monies attributable to the Borrower's Loan Commitment may at the discretion of the Administration be pledged or applied to the payment of Bonds.

Section 3.08. Reduction of Loan Commitment. The Loan Commitment is subject to reduction in accordance with the provisions of this Section 3.08.

(a) Any portion of the Loan Commitment not advanced to the Borrower under Section 3.03 of this Agreement at the later of (1) two years from the date of this Agreement and (2) the earlier of one year following (i) actual completion of construction of the Project or (ii) the estimated completion date specified on Exhibit B attached hereto, shall no longer be available to be advanced to the Borrower and the amount of the Loan Commitment shall be reduced by an amount equal to the portion of the Loan Commitment not advanced, unless otherwise agreed to by the Administration in writing.

(b) The Administration may reduce the amount of the Loan Commitment if the Administration should for any reason determine that it will be unable to fund the full amount of the Loan Commitment (including, without limitation, a determination that the Eligible Project Costs to be paid with proceeds of the Loan are expected to be less than the maximum amount of the Loan Commitment), or if it determines that the Borrower is not proceeding satisfactorily and expeditiously with the Project in accordance with schedules and plans provided to the Administration, or if it determines that the Borrower is no longer able to make the certifications required under Section 3.03 in connection with the submission of requisitions.

(c) Any reduction in the amount of the Loan Commitment shall not affect the obligation of the Borrower to repay the Loan in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and the Note.

(d) The Administration shall advise the Borrower in writing of any reduction in the amount of the Loan Commitment. Such notice shall specify the reason for and the amount of the reduction. In the event of any such reduction, the Borrower shall repay the Loan in accordance with such revised principal amortization schedule (prepared by applying such amount to reduce the installments of principal due under the Note in inverse order of payment, such that any such reduction is applied first to the last installment of principal due under the Note) as may be prescribed by the Administration in accordance with the provisions of the Note executed in connection therewith. The Administration may require, and the Borrower shall deliver, such certificates, documents, opinions and other evidence as the Administration may deem necessary or advisable in connection with any such reduction in the Loan Commitment. If a new Note is delivered in connection with any such reduction, the Administration shall cancel the Note initially delivered to the Administration by the Borrower pursuant to this Agreement.

Section 3.09. Disclaimer of Warranties. The Administration makes no warranty or representation, either express or implied, as to the value, design, condition, merchantability or fitness for particular purpose or fitness for use of the Project or any portion thereof or any other warranty with respect thereto. In no event shall the Administration be liable for any incidental, indirect, special or consequential damages in connection with or arising out of this Agreement or the Project or the existence, furnishing, functioning or use of the Project or any item or products or services provided for in this Agreement.

Section 3.10. Prepayments. The Loan shall be subject to mandatory prepayment, in whole or in part, as, when and to the extent required by the EPA's State Revolving Fund Program Regulations. Otherwise, the Loan may be prepaid by the Borrower, in whole or in part, only at such times and in such amounts, and upon the payment by the Borrower of such prepayment premium or penalty, as the Director, in his or her discretion, may specify and approve.

Section 3.11. Assignment. Neither this Agreement nor the Note may be assigned by the Borrower for any reason without the prior written consent of the Administration. The Administration may transfer, pledge or assign the Note and any or all rights or interests of the Administration under this Agreement without the prior consent of the Borrower.

ARTICLE IV

EVENTS OF DEFAULT AND REMEDIES

Section 4.01. Events of Default. If any of the following events occur, it is hereby defined as and declared to be and to constitute an "Event of Default":

(a) failure by the Borrower to pay any amount required to be paid hereunder or under the Note when due, which failure shall continue for a period of 20 days;

(b) failure by the Borrower to observe and perform any covenant, condition or agreement on its part to be observed or performed under this Agreement, other than as referred to in paragraph (a) of this Section, which failure shall continue for a period of 30 days after written notice specifying such failure and requesting that it be remedied is given to the Borrower by the Administration, unless the Administration shall agree in writing to an extension of such time prior to its expiration; provided, however, that if the failure stated in such notice is correctable but cannot be corrected within the applicable period, the Administration will not unreasonably withhold its consent to an extension of such time if corrective action is instituted by the Borrower within the applicable period and diligently pursued until the Default is corrected;

(c) if (i) at any time any representation made by the Borrower in Section 2.01(f)(ii) is incorrect, or (ii) any other representation made by or on behalf of the Borrower contained in this Agreement, or in any instrument furnished in compliance with or with reference to this Agreement, the Loan Commitment or the Loan, is false or misleading in any material respect on the date on which such representation is made;

(d) if an order, judgment or decree is entered by a court of competent jurisdiction (i) appointing a receiver, trustee, or liquidator for the Borrower; (ii) granting relief in involuntary proceedings with respect to the Borrower under the federal bankruptcy act, or (iii) assuming custody or control of the Borrower under the provision of any law for the relief of debtors, and the order, judgment or decree is not set aside or stayed within 60 days from the date of entry of the order, judgment or decree; or

(e) if the Borrower (i) admits in writing its inability to pay its debts generally as they become due, (ii) commences voluntary proceedings in bankruptcy or seeking a composition of indebtedness, (iii) makes an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, (iv) consents to the appointment of a receiver, or (v) consents to the assumption of custody or control of the Borrower by any court of competent jurisdiction under any law for the relief of debtors.

Section 4.02. Notice of Default. The Borrower shall give the Administration prompt telephonic notice by contacting the Director of the Administration, followed by prompt written confirmation, of the occurrence of any event referred to in Section 4.01(d) or (e) hereof and of the occurrence of any other event or condition that constitutes a Default or an Event of Default at such time as any senior administrative or financial officer of the Borrower becomes aware of the existence thereof.

Section 4.03. Remedies on Default. Whenever any Event of Default referred to in Section 4.01 hereof shall have happened and be continuing, the Administration shall have the right to take one or more of the following remedial steps:

(a) declare all amounts due hereunder (including, without limitation, payments under the Note) to be immediately due and payable, and upon notice to the Borrower the same shall become immediately due and payable by the Borrower without further notice or demand; and

(b) take whatever other action at law or in equity that may appear necessary or desirable to collect the amounts then due and thereafter to become due hereunder or to enforce the performance and observance of any obligation, agreement or covenant of the Borrower hereunder.

Section 4.04. Attorneys' Fees and Other Expenses. The Borrower shall on demand pay to the Administration the reasonable fees and expenses of attorneys and the Trustee and other reasonable expenses incurred in the collection of any sum due hereunder or in the enforcement of performance of any other obligations of the Borrower upon an Event of Default.

Section 4.05. Application of Monies. Any monies collected by the Administration pursuant to Section 4.03 hereof shall be applied (a) first, to pay any attorneys' fees or other fees and expenses owed by the Borrower pursuant to Section 4.04 hereof, (b) second, to pay interest due on the Loan, (c) third, to pay principal due on the Loan, (d) fourth, to pay any other amounts due hereunder, and (e) fifth, to pay interest and principal on the Loan and other amounts payable hereunder as such amounts become due and payable.

Section 4.06. No Remedy Exclusive; Waiver; Notice. No remedy herein conferred upon or reserved to the Administration is intended to be exclusive 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. No delay or omission to exercise any right, remedy or power accruing upon any Default or Event of Default shall impair any such right, remedy or power or shall be construed to be a waiver thereof, but any such right, remedy or power may be exercised from time to time and as often as may be deemed expedient. In order to entitle the Administration 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 required in this Article.

ARTICLE V

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 5.01. Notices. All notices, requests, objections, waivers, rejections, agreements, approvals, disclosures and consents of any kind made pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing, unless expressly stated otherwise herein. Any such communication shall be sufficiently given and shall be deemed given when hand delivered or mailed by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, to the Borrower at the address specified on Exhibit B attached hereto and to the Administration at Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration, 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1718, Attention: Director.

Section 5.02. Binding Effect. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the Administration and the Borrower and their respective successors and assigns.

Section 5.03. Severability. In the event any provision of this Agreement shall be held illegal, invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not invalidate, render unenforceable or otherwise affect any other provision hereof.

Section 5.04. Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

Section 5.05. Applicable Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland.

Section 5.06. Captions. The captions or headings in this Agreement are for convenience only and shall not in any way define, limit or describe the scope or intent of any provisions or sections of this Agreement.

Section 5.07. Further Assurances. The Borrower shall, at the request of the Administration, execute, acknowledge and deliver such further resolutions, conveyances, transfers, assurances, financing statements, certificates and other instruments as may be necessary or desirable for better assuring, conveying, granting, assigning and confirming the rights, security interests and agreements granted or intended to be granted by this Agreement and the Note.

Section 5.08. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior oral and written agreements between the parties hereto with respect to the Loan. In the event of any inconsistency between the provisions of this Agreement and anything contained in the Application, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

Section 5.09. Amendment of this Agreement. This Agreement, or any part hereof, may be amended from time to time hereafter only if and to the extent permitted by the Indenture and only by an instrument in writing jointly executed by the Administration and the Borrower.

Section 5.10. Disclaimer of Relationships. The Borrower acknowledges that the obligation of the Administration is limited to making the Loan in the manner and on the terms set forth in this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement and no act of either the Administration or of the Borrower shall be deemed or construed by either of them, or by third persons, to create any relationship of third-party beneficiary, principal and agent, limited or general partnership, or joint venture, or of any association or relationship whatsoever involving the Borrower and the Administration.

Section 5.11. Effective Date. The effective date of this Agreement shall be the Loan Closing Date, provided this Agreement shall have been executed and delivered by all of the parties hereto on or prior to such date.

Section 5.12. Term of this Agreement. Unless sooner terminated pursuant to Article IV of this Agreement, or by the mutual consent of the Borrower and the Administration, this Agreement shall continue and remain in full force and effect until the Loan, together with interest and all other sums due and owing in connection with this Agreement or the Loan, have been paid in full to the satisfaction of the Administration. Upon payment in full of the Loan together with interest and all other sums due and owing in connection with this Agreement or the Loan from any source whatsoever, this Agreement shall be terminated.

Section 5.13. Delegation Not to Relieve Obligations. The delegation by the Borrower of the planning, construction or carrying out of the Project shall not relieve the Borrower of any obligations under this Agreement and any other documents executed in connection with the Loan.

Section 5.14. Additional Terms. This Agreement shall also be subject to the additional terms, if any, set forth in Exhibit A hereto. The terms, if any, set forth in Exhibit A shall be deemed to be a part of this Agreement as if set forth in full herein. In the case of any conflict between the terms set forth in Exhibit A and any term of this Agreement, the terms set forth in Exhibit A shall be controlling.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed and delivered as of the day and year first above written.

(SEAL)

LENDER:

WITNESS:

MARYLAND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE
FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

Name:
Title:

By: _____
Name: Jeffrey Fretwell
Title: Director

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

BORROWER:

Name:
Title:

By: _____
Name:
Title:

Approved for form and legal sufficiency
this ____ day of _____, 2024

Approved for form and legal sufficiency
this ____ day of _____, 2024

Name:
Local Attorney for Borrower

Name:
Assistant Attorney General

EXHIBIT A
to Loan Agreement

Borrower Name: County Commissioners of Washington County
Address: 100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4727
Attention: The Honorable John F. Barr, President
Project Name: Smithsburg WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion

CONDITIONS TO INITIAL ADVANCE UNDER SECTION 3.03(b)(vi) OF LOAN AGREEMENT:

NONE

ADDITIONAL TERMS APPLICABLE TO LOAN AGREEMENT:

The provisions of this Exhibit A shall be deemed to be a part of the foregoing Agreement as if set forth in full therein. In the case of any conflict between this Exhibit A and any provision thereof, the provisions of this Exhibit A shall be controlling, notwithstanding any other provisions contained in the Agreement.

1. The first regularly scheduled payment of interest on the Loan shall be due on February 1, 2025.
2. The Borrower agrees to comply with the Davis-Bacon Act requirements of Section 513 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act for the entirety of construction contract costs of the Project and shall include specific language regarding compliance in its contracts and subcontracts.
3. The Borrower agrees to comply with the Use of American Iron and Steel requirement of federal law, which provides that all of the iron and steel products used in the Project are produced in the United States, unless a waiver is granted.
4. The Borrower agrees to comply with EPA's Final Financial Assistance Conflict of Interest Policy and report any instances of actual or potential conflicts of interest in the award, administration, or monitoring of subawards arising from procurements or other actions. Any conflicts of interest must be immediately disclosed to the Administration within 30 days of discovery for further guidance. The EPA's Final Financial Assistance Conflict of Interest Policy is found at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epas-final-financial-assistance-conflict-interest-policy>

EXHIBIT A
to Loan Agreement

Borrower Name: County Commissioners of Washington County
Address: 100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4727
Attention: The Honorable John F. Barr, President
Project Name: Smithsburg WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion

ADDITIONAL TERMS APPLICABLE TO LOAN AGREEMENT (CONT.):

5. If this Project is financed with the use of federal funds under CFDA # 66.458, the Borrower may be subject to a single audit to be undertaken by an independent auditor in accordance with uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for federal awards, 2 C.F.R. § 200.501 (see generally, Subpart F – Audit Requirements of 2 C.F.R. Part 200). The Borrower hereby agrees to obtain such single audit, if required by the Single Audit Act.
6. Borrower agrees to comply with 2 CFR 200.216, which requires that EPA recipients and subrecipients, including borrowers under EPA funded revolving loan fund programs, are prohibited from obligating or expending loan or grant funds to procure or obtain; extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; or enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. As described in Public Law 115-232, section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
7. The Borrower agrees to comply with all federal requirements applicable to the assistance received (including those imposed by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law No. 117-58) which the Borrower understands includes, but is not limited to, the following requirements: that all of the iron and steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the Project are to be produced in the United States (“Build America, Buy America Requirements”) unless (i) the Borrower has requested and obtained a waiver pertaining to the Project that has been approved by the Administration, or the Project is otherwise covered by a general applicability waiver; or (ii) all of the contributing federal agencies have otherwise advised the Borrower in writing that the Build America, Buy America Requirements are not applicable to the Project.

EXHIBIT A
to Loan Agreement

Borrower Name: County Commissioners of Washington County
Address: 100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4727
Attention: The Honorable John F. Barr, President
Project Name: Smithsburg WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion

ADDITIONAL TERMS APPLICABLE TO LOAN AGREEMENT (CONT.):

8. The Borrower further agrees to comply with all record keeping and reporting requirements under all applicable legal authorities, including any reports required by EPA and/or the State, such as performance indicators of program deliverables, information on costs and project progress. The Borrower understands that (i) each contract and subcontract related to the Project is subject to audit by appropriate federal and state entities and (ii) failure to comply with the applicable legal requirements and this Agreement may result in a Default or Event of Default hereunder and the Administration may exercise remedies available to it on default, including but not limited to declaring all amounts due hereunder and under the Note immediately due and payable, terminating and/or requiring repayment of grants, cooperative agreements, direct assistance or other types of financial assistance, and/or other remedial actions.
9. The Borrower must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the EPA, the Administration, and the EPA Office of Inspector General all violations of civil False Claims Act violations and Federal criminal law violations involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations in connection with the Loan (including any contracts or subcontracts thereunder). The “credible evidence” standard shall be used. This is commonly defined as information “that is worthy of belief, trustworthy evidence.” Using this standard means that the Borrower does not need to make a firm legal determination that a civil or criminal law has been violated before they are required to disclose the violation to the Administration, EPA, and the EPA OIG. Disclosures to the EPA OIG should be made using the form located at https://www.epaoig.gov/sites/default/files/document/2023-04/disclosure_fillable_form_3-5-21.pdf. The form can be completed online or emailed to OIG.Hotline@epa.gov. The Borrower is also required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM.gov. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.339. (See also 2 CFR part 180, 31 U.S.C. 321, and 41 U.S.C. 2313).

EXHIBIT B
to Loan Agreement

Borrower Name: County Commissioners of Washington County
Address: 100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4727
Attention: The Honorable John F. Barr, President
Project Name: Smithsburg WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion

DESCRIPTION OF THE LOAN

- (1) Project Name: Smithsburg WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion
- (2) Maximum Principal Amount of Loan Commitment: \$ 4,488,552.00
- (3) Rate of Interest: TBD % (Based upon 50% of the TBD 2024 average of the Bond Buyer 11-Bond Index)
- (4) Amortization Schedule:
 - (a) 20 years
\$1,000 Mini Principal Payment Date: NA
Date of First of 20 Amortizing Principal Payments: February 1, 2026
 - (b) Level Principal _____; or
Level Debt Service X _____; or
Other _____
- (5) Annual Administrative Fee: \$ TBD, beginning August 1, 2025.
- (6) Estimated Completion Date of Project: July 2025
- (7) Default Rate: TBD % (Based upon the TBD 2024 average of the Bond Buyer 11-Bond Index)
- (8) Description of Project: The proposed project consists of the upgrade and expansion of the existing 0.333 million gallons per day (mgd) Smithsburg Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The WWTP upgrade involves planning, design, and construction of Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) facilities to achieve Total Nitrogen (TN) removal to a level of 3.0 mg/l and Total Phosphorus (TP) to 0.3 mg/l, while the expansion is to increase the existing WWTP capacity from 0.333 mgd to a permitted design capacity of 0.45 mgd to accommodate planned growth within Washington County.

**EXHIBIT B
to Loan Agreement**

Borrower Name: County Commissioners of Washington County
Address: 100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4727
Attention: The Honorable John F. Barr, President
Project Name: Smithsburg WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion

DESCRIPTION OF THE LOAN (CONT.)

- (9) Address for Borrower's Office(s) Where Books and Records Are Kept, if different from address printed above:

100 West Washington Street, Suite 3100
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4794

DRAFT

EXHIBIT C
to Loan Agreement

Borrower Name: County Commissioners of Washington County
Address: 100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4727
Attention: The Honorable John F. Barr, President
Project Name: Smithsburg WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion

PROJECT BUDGET

Breakdown of Eligible Project Costs:

A. Portion of Eligible Project Costs to be directly financed:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Allocated Amount of Loan*</u>
Eligible Project Costs include administrative and legal expenses, planning/design engineering fees, construction costs, construction phase engineering/inspection fees and contingencies	
Subtotal Loan:	<u>\$ 4,272,784.00</u>

B. Portion of Eligible Project Costs for which Borrower will be reimbursed at closing, which the Borrower hereby certifies were paid or incurred prior to the date of the Agreement, in anticipation of being reimbursed through a loan from the Administration (and subject to compliance with Sections 2.02(l) and 3.03(a) of the Agreement):

<u>Description</u>	<u>Allocated Amount of Loan</u>
Eligible Project Costs include administrative and legal expenses, planning/design engineering fees, construction costs, construction phase engineering/inspection fees and contingencies	

Total Reimbursement at Closing: \$ 215,768.00
Total Loan: \$ 4,488,552.00

EXHIBIT C
to Loan Agreement

Borrower Name: County Commissioners of Washington County
Address: 100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4727
Attention: The Honorable John F. Barr, President

Project Name: Smithsburg WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion

C. Construction Cash Draw Schedule*

<u>Federal Quarter</u>	<u>Cash Disbursements*</u>
FFY 24 Q4 (Jul 24 – Sep 24)	\$ 215,768.00
FFY 25 Q1 (Oct 24 – Dec 24)	\$ 906,392.00
FFY 25 Q2 (Jan 25 – Mar 25)	\$ 1,122,131.00
FFY 25 Q3 (Apr 25 – June 25)	\$ 1,122,131.00
FFY 25 Q4 (Jul 25 – Sep 25)	\$ 1,122,130.00
Total Disbursements:	<u>\$ 4,488,552.00</u>

* SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH CONSENT OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN ITS DISCRETION UNDER SECTION 2.02(d) OF THIS AGREEMENT

OPINION OF BORROWER'S COUNSEL

[LETTERHEAD OF COUNSEL TO BORROWER]

[CLOSING DATE]

Maryland Water Infrastructure
Financing Administration
1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1718

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are counsel to [NAME OF BORROWER], a [body politic and corporate and a political subdivision] [municipal corporation] [other appropriate description] of the State of Maryland (the "Borrower") in connection with the loan (the "Loan") by Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration (the "Administration") to the Borrower of funds to finance all or a portion of the costs of a project (the "Project") described in Exhibit B to the Loan Agreement dated as of _____, 2024 (the "Agreement") by and between the Administration and the Borrower.

In this connection, we have reviewed such records, certificates, and other documents as we have considered necessary or appropriate for the purposes of this opinion, including, without limitation, the Agreement and the Borrower's \$ _____ Water Quality Bond, Series 2024, dated _____, 2024 (the "Note"). The Agreement and the Note are referred to herein collectively as the "Loan Documents". Based on such review, and such other considerations of law and fact as we believe to be relevant, we are of the opinion that:

(a) The Borrower is a validly created and existing [body politic and corporate and a political subdivision] [municipal corporation] [other appropriate description] of the State of Maryland, possessing authority to acquire, construct and operate the Project and to enter into the Loan Documents and perform its obligations thereunder.

(b) The Borrower has duly authorized, executed and delivered the Loan Documents and, assuming due authorization, execution and delivery of the Agreement by the Administration, the Loan Documents constitute legal, valid and binding obligations of the Borrower enforceable in accordance with their respective terms.

(c) The Note is a general obligation of the Borrower to which its full faith and credit is pledged payable, if and to the extent not paid from other sources as described in the Agreement, from ad valorem taxes, unlimited as to rate and amount, which the Borrower is empowered to levy on all real and tangible personal property within its corporate limits subject to assessment for unlimited taxation by the Borrower.

(d) The Loan Documents and the enforceability thereof are subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, moratorium, reorganization and other state and federal laws affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights and to general principles of equity.

(e) To the best of our knowledge after reasonable investigation, the Borrower has all necessary licenses, approvals and permits required to date under federal, state and local law to own, construct and acquire the Project.

(f) Neither the execution and delivery of the Loan Documents, nor the consummation of the transactions contemplated thereby, nor the acquisition and construction of the Project, nor the fulfillment of or compliance with the terms and conditions of the Loan Documents, conflicts with or results in a breach of or default under any of the terms, conditions or provisions of the charter or laws governing the Borrower (including any limit on indebtedness) or, to the best of our knowledge after reasonable investigation, any agreement, contract or other instrument, or law, ordinance, regulation, or judicial or other governmental order, to which the Borrower is now a party or by which the Borrower or its properties are otherwise subject or bound, and the Borrower is not otherwise in violation of any of the foregoing in a manner material to the transactions contemplated by the Loan Documents.

(g) To the best of our knowledge after reasonable investigation, there is no action, suit, proceeding or investigation, at law or in equity, before or by any court, governmental agency or public board or body pending or threatened against or affecting the Borrower that, if adversely determined, would materially affect the ability of the Borrower to perform its obligations under the Loan Documents, which has not been disclosed in writing to the Administration.

We hereby authorize Bond Counsel to the Administration to rely on this opinion as if we had addressed this opinion to them in addition to you.

Very truly yours,

EXHIBIT E
to Loan Agreement

Borrower Name: County Commissioners of Washington County
Address: 100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4727
Attention: The Honorable John F. Barr, President
Project Name: Smithsburg WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion

DESCRIPTION OF DEDICATED REVENUES*

Water and sewer user charges, including any and all fees for use of the public water and sewer system or connection to it.

* The identification of the dedicated source or sources of revenues above is intended to specify a source or sources of revenues available in sufficient amount to provide for the payment of the costs of operating and maintaining the Project as well as the payment of the costs of debt service of any borrowing incurred to finance the Project. The specification of a dedicated source or sources of revenues above is not intended to constitute an undertaking by the Borrower to pledge, segregate or otherwise set aside any specific funds of the Borrower with the expectation that such funds would be used to pay the debt service on the Loan.

DRAFT

\$(MAX. AMT.)

R-1

REGISTERED

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF MARYLAND

[NAME OF BORROWER]
WATER QUALITY BOND, SERIES 2024
Dated _____, 2024

PAYMENTS OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON THIS BOND ARE MADE
BY CHECK, DRAFT OR ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER TO THE
REGISTERED OWNER AND IT CANNOT BE DETERMINED FROM THE
FACE OF THIS BOND WHETHER ALL OR ANY PART OF THE PRINCIPAL
OF OR INTEREST ON THIS BOND HAS BEEN PAID.

REGISTERED OWNER: Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing
Administration

_____, a [body politic and corporate] [municipal corporation] [other appropriate description] of the State of Maryland (the "Borrower"), hereby acknowledges itself obligated to pay to the Registered Owner shown above, the principal amount of \$_____ (the "Maximum Principal Amount") or so much thereof as shall have been advanced from time to time under the terms of the Loan Agreement dated as of _____, 2024 (the "Loan Agreement") by and between the Borrower and the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration (the "Administration"), plus interest on the unpaid principal advanced under the terms of the Loan Agreement at the rate of _____ per centum (___%) per annum.

The principal advanced under the Loan Agreement shall be paid in installments on the dates and in the amounts as set forth in the following schedule, as such schedule may be amended in accordance with the terms hereof:

<u>Due</u> <u>[February 1]</u>	<u>Principal</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Due</u> <u>[February 1]</u>	<u>Principal</u> <u>Amount</u>
2025		2035	
2026		2036	
2027		2037	
2028		2038	
2029		2039	
2030		2040	
2031		2041	
2032		2042	
2033		2043	
2034		2044	

If the Administration determines at any time to reduce the maximum amount of the Loan Commitment (as defined in the Loan Agreement) in accordance with Section 3.08 of the Loan Agreement, the Maximum Principal Amount shall be reduced accordingly and the Maximum Principal Amount as so reduced shall be amortized in accordance with Section 3.08 of the Loan Agreement. The Administration shall deliver, and the Borrower shall acknowledge in writing, a certificate setting forth such reamortized payment schedule, which shall be attached hereto and shall replace and supersede for all purposes the foregoing payment schedule. Any such reduction shall not affect the obligation of the Borrower to pay the principal of and interest on this bond as and when the same shall become due.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, all outstanding unpaid principal amounts advanced under the Loan Agreement, if not previously due hereunder, shall be due on that date which is the lesser of the useful life of the Project as determined by the Administration in its sole and absolute discretion or [20] years after the date of completion of the Project (as defined in the Loan Agreement), as certified by the Borrower to the Administration pursuant to Section 2.02(d) of the Loan Agreement.

Interest due on the unpaid principal amounts advanced under the Loan Agreement shall accrue on the basis of a 30-day month, 360-day year from the date of the respective advances of such principal amount, and shall be paid on _____, 20__, and semiannually thereafter on the 1st day of _____ and _____ in each year until the principal amount hereof has been paid.

This bond is subject to (i) a late charge for any payment of principal or interest that is received later than the tenth day following its due date and (ii) interest on overdue installments of principal and (to the extent permitted by law) interest at a rate equal to the Default Rate (as defined in the Loan Agreement) in accordance with Section 3.04(b) of the Loan Agreement. Interest at the Default Rate shall accrue on the basis of a 30-day month, 360-day year.

This bond is subject to prepayment only in accordance with Section 3.10 of the Loan Agreement.

Both the principal of and interest on this bond will be paid to the registered owner in lawful

money of the United States of America, at the time of payment, and will be paid by electronic funds transfer, or by check or draft mailed (by depositing such check or draft, correctly addressed and postage prepaid, in the United States mail before the payment date) to the registered owner at such address as the registered owner may designate from time to time by a notice in writing delivered to the [INSERT BORROWER'S AUTHORIZED OFFICER].

This bond is issued pursuant to and in full conformity with the provisions of [INSERT BORROWER'S LOCAL ACT(S)] and the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration Act (codified as Sections 9-1601 to 9-1622, inclusive, of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended), and by virtue of due proceedings had and taken by the Borrower, particularly [AN ORDINANCE AND OR A RESOLUTION] (numbered ____) [INSERT BORROWER'S AUTHORIZING ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION] (collectively, the "Resolution") adopted by Borrower.

This bond, together with the Loan Agreement, evidences the Loan (as defined in the Loan Agreement) to the Borrower from the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration. In accordance with the Loan Agreement, the principal amount of the Loan, being the amount denominated as principal under this bond, is subject to reduction or adjustment by the Administration in accordance with the Loan Agreement.

The full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the Borrower are hereby irrevocably pledged to the prompt payment of the principal of and interest on this bond according to its terms, and the Borrower does hereby covenant and agree to pay the principal of and interest on this bond at the dates and in the manner prescribed herein.

This bond is transferable only after the first principal payment date as set forth above or the date upon which the Maximum Principal Amount has been borrowed, whichever is earlier, upon the books of the Borrower at the office of the [INSERT BORROWER'S AUTHORIZED OFFICERS] by the registered owner hereof in person or by his attorney duly authorized in writing, upon surrender hereof, together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the [INSERT BORROWER'S AUTHORIZED OFFICER], duly executed by the registered owner or his duly authorized attorney. The Borrower shall, within a reasonable time, issue in the name of the transferee a new registered bond or bonds, in such denominations as the Borrower shall by resolution approve, in an aggregate principal amount equal to the unpaid principal amount of the bond or bonds surrendered and with the same maturities and interest rate. If more than one bond is issued upon any such transfer, the installment of principal and interest to be paid on each such bond on each payment date shall be equal to the product of the following formula: the total installment due on each payment date multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the principal amount of such bond and the denominator of which shall be the aggregate principal amount of bonds then outstanding and unpaid. The new bond or bonds shall be delivered to the transferee only after payment of any taxes on and any shipping or insurance expenses relating to such transfer. The Borrower may deem and treat the party in whose name this bond is registered as the absolute owner hereof for the purpose of receiving payment of or on account of the principal hereof and interest due hereon and for all other purposes.

It is hereby certified and recited that all conditions, acts and things required by the Constitution or statutes of the State of Maryland and the Resolution to exist, to have happened or

to have been performed precedent to or in the issuance of this bond, exist, have happened and have been performed, and that the issuance of this bond, together with all other indebtedness of the Borrower, is within every debt and other limit prescribed by said Constitution or statutes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this bond has been executed by the manual signature of the [INSERT AUTHORIZED OFFICERS] and the seal of the Borrower has been affixed hereto, attested by the manual signature of the [INSERT AUTHORIZED OFFICER], all as of the __ day of ____, 2024.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

[NAME OF BORROWER]

[AUTHORIZED OFFICER]

By: _____
[AUTHORIZED OFFICER]