

GUARANTEED ENERGY SAVINGS CONTRACT

THIS GUARANTEED ENERGY SAVINGS CONTRACT (this “Agreement”) is made and effective **11/12/2024** (the “Effective Date”), by and between **Vermilion County, Illinois** (“Owner”), with an address at **201 N Vermilion St Danville, IL 61832**, and **Centrica Business Solutions Services, Inc.** (“Centrica”), with an address at **2111 Ellsworth Blvd, Malta, New York 12020**. Owner and Centrica are sometimes referred to herein, individually, as a “Party”, and, collectively, as the “Parties”.

RECITALS

- A. Owner is a County incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, and is a Unit of Local Government within the meaning of the Illinois Local Government Energy Conservation Act, 50 ILCS 515 (the “Act”).
- B. Owner owns and operates certain facilities described on the attached Schedule 1 (the “Facilities”), and desires to procure long-term energy cost savings and reduce related expenses in the operation of such Facilities.
- C. Centrica is a New York Corporation and is duly authorized to do business in the State of Illinois, and is a Qualified Provider within the meaning of the Act, engaged in the business of and having experience and capabilities in providing energy efficiency services, including Energy Conservation Measures (“ECMs”), as defined in the Act.
- D. Heretofore, Owner is a registered member of TIPS (The Interlocal Purchasing System) and, through utilizing the RFQ issued by TIPS for Contract #220104 Energy Savings Performance Contracts, Owner selected Centrica as the most highly qualified vendor best meeting its needs herein.
- E. Thereafter, and pursuant to Owner’s selection of Centrica, Centrica and Owner entered into an Investment Grade Audit Agreement, pursuant to which Centrica conducted an investment grade audit and delivered to Owner a detailed engineering and economic report (the “IGA Report”) that specifically identifies the ECMs that are recommended to be installed and/or implemented at the Facilities.
- F. Pursuant to the IGA Report, Owner now desires to enter into this Agreement with Centrica as a Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract for the installation and implementation of the ECMs at the Facilities (the “Project”).

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

1.1 INCORPORATION. The Recitals set forth above are hereby incorporated into the body of this Agreement and made a binding part hereof.

1.2 THE IGA REPORT The IGA Report is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Owner acknowledges that it has approved and accepted the IGA Report, which identifies all ECMs to be performed under this Agreement.

1.3 CONTRACT DOCUMENTS. The entire agreement of the Parties with respect to the Project is contained in the “Contract Documents”, which consist of: 1) this Agreement ii) any Change Orders or other amendments to this Agreement, and iii) the following Exhibits and Schedules:

- Exhibit A: The IGA Report
- Exhibit B: Certificate of Substantial Completion

- Schedule 1: The Facilities
- Schedule 2A: Scope of ECM Work
- Schedule 2B: Scope of Services
- Schedule 3: ECM Work Schedule
- Schedule 4: As-Built Drawings Requirements
- Schedule 5: Energy Savings Schedule
- Schedule 6A: ECM Work Schedule of Values
- Schedule 6B: Services Schedule of Values

The provisions of this Agreement shall control in the event of any conflict between its terms and those contained in any of the Exhibits or Schedules

ARTICLE II **SCOPE AND TERM**

2.1 SCOPE OF THE PROJECT. The Project shall consist of two phases: 1) the “Construction & Installation Phase”, in which the Equipment (as hereinafter defined) will be designed, constructed and/or installed into the Facilities and the ECMs shall be otherwise implemented (the “ECM Work”), and 2) the “Ongoing Services Phase”, in which Centrica will provide ongoing energy savings monitoring and reporting services, and management and/or modification of the Equipment (the “MM&V and O&M Services”). The full scope of the ECM Work and the MM&V and O&M Services are set forth and detailed, respectively, on the “Scope of ECM Work” attached as Schedule 2A, and the “Scope of Services” attached as Schedule 2B. Centrica shall be responsible for the professional and technical accuracy of the ECM Work and the MM&V and O&M Services, whether performed by Centrica or by subcontractors or others on its behalf.

2.2 TERM. Subject to Section 2.1(A), the term of this Agreement (the “Term”) shall commence on the Effective Date, and, unless sooner terminated in accordance with the terms hereof, shall continue for a period of eight (8) years from the MM&V Services Commencement Date (as hereinafter defined), but subject to the termination rights provided in Sections 2.2.1.

2.2.1 RIGHT TO PARTIAL TERMINATION. At any time following the first (1st) anniversary of the MM&V Services Commencement Date, and upon at least sixty (60) days' prior written notice to Centrica, Owner shall have the right to terminate non-required MM&V Services set forth on Schedule 2B. If Owner so elects to partially terminate, all of the then-applicable terms and provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect, except that the MM&V Services Fee shall be equitably adjusted by the Parties in a manner consistent with Schedule 6B.

ARTICLE III **THE ECM WORK**

3.1 CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF THE ECM WORK. Subject to the other provisions of this Agreement, Centrica will act as a turn-key design-builder assuming total responsibility for the design, procurement of labor and materials for the improvements to the Facilities, and the installation and start-up of the energy efficiency equipment (the "Equipment"), as set forth in and in accordance with the Scope of ECM Work.

3.1.1 CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE. The Construction and Installation Phase will commence upon either the issuance by Owner of a written notice to proceed or the written agreement of the Parties fixing such commencement date. The performance of the ECM Work shall be carried out and proceed in accordance with the schedule (the "ECM Work Schedule") attached as Schedule 3. The ECM Work Schedule may be amended from time to time by the Parties due to changes in the ECM Work or other events affecting the completion of the ECM Work.

3.1.2 STATUTORY COMPLIANCE. In the performance of the ECM Work, including the installation of the Equipment, Centrica shall, and shall require all of its contractors, subcontractors, and all subcontractors under them to, as applicable, comply with the requirements of all applicable statutes and regulations. Without limiting the foregoing, Centrica shall otherwise give all notices and comply with all laws and ordinances legally enacted at the date of execution of the Agreement that govern the proper performance of the ECM Work.

3.1.3 PERMITS AND APPROVALS. Centrica shall be responsible for obtaining all necessary permits and approvals for the ECM Work, including the installation of the Equipment, and shall pay any and all permit fees. Owner shall use its best efforts to assist Centrica in obtaining all such necessary permits and approvals. The Equipment and the operation of the Equipment by Centrica shall conform to all federal, state and local code requirements in effect at the time of installation. Before Centrica commences any portion of the ECM Work that requires a permit or license, Centrica shall furnish copies of each such, approvals, permits or license to Owner.

3.1.4 PERFORMANCE. Owner and Centrica shall coordinate the activities associated with the installation of the Equipment by Centrica with any ECM Work or installations of Owner, its employees and agents. Centrica shall not commit or permit any act that will materially interfere with the performance of business activities conducted by

Owner or its employees without the prior written approval of Owner, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, and provided that the ECM Work Schedule shall be modified if Owner requires Centrica to delay or re-sequence the ECM Work in order to accommodate Owner's operations. Centrica shall perform all of the ECM Work in such a manner so as not to harm the structural integrity of the Facilities or their operating systems. Centrica shall repair and restore to its original condition any area of damage caused by Centrica's performance under this Agreement. Owner reserves the right to review the ECM Work and to direct Centrica to take corrective action if, in the reasonable opinion of Owner, the structural integrity of the Facilities or its systems is or will be harmed. In addition, Centrica shall be responsible for the professional and technical accuracy of all ECM Work performed, whether by its own forces or by its subcontractors or others on its behalf. Centrica is responsible for general broom cleaning, and shall, to the fullest extent practicable, at all times keep the Facilities clean and free of debris, rubbish and dust. At the completion of the ECM Work, Centrica shall remove from the worksite all construction equipment, tools, surplus materials, waste materials and debris.

3.2 DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS. Drawings, specifications, and other documents, including those in electronic form, furnished or utilized by Centrica are instruments of service (the "Instruments of Service"). Centrica shall retain all common law, statutory and other reserved rights, including copyrights in the Instruments of Service. Drawings, specifications, and other documents and materials and electronic data are furnished for use solely with respect to the Project.

3.2.1 Centrica grants to Owner a non-exclusive license to reproduce and use the Instruments of Service solely in connection with the Project, provided that Owner shall comply with all obligations, including prompt payment of sums when due. Owner shall not assign or transfer any license herein to another party without prior written agreement of Centrica. Any unauthorized reproduction or use of the Instruments of Service by Owner or others shall be at Owner's sole risk and expense without liability to Centrica, and its design professionals. Termination of this Agreement due to the default of Owner shall terminate this license. If this Agreement is terminated for any reason other than the default of Owner, Owner shall have a non-exclusive license to use the Instruments of Service for the completion, use and maintenance of the Project. Submission or distribution of Centrica's documents to meet official regulatory requirements or for similar purposes in connection with the Project is not to be construed as publication in derogation of the rights reserved here.

3.2.3 Centrica shall pay all royalties and license fees that may be due on the inclusion of any patented or copyrighted materials, methods or systems selected by Centrica and incorporated in the ECM Work. Centrica shall defend, indemnify and hold Owner harmless from all suits or claims for infringement of any patent rights or copyrights arising out of such selection. Owner agrees to defend, indemnify and hold Centrica harmless from all suits or claims of infringement of any patent rights or copyrights arising out of any patented or copyrighted materials, methods or systems specified by Owner.

3.2.4 Centrica shall prepare and submit to Owner final marked up as-built drawings to the extent and as set forth in the attached Schedule 4.

3.3 WARRANTIES.

3.3.1 Centrica warrants that all materials and equipment furnished under the Construction and Installation Phase of this Agreement will be new unless otherwise specified, of good quality, in conformance with the Scope of ECM Work and all documents associated therewith, and free from defective workmanship and materials. Warranties with respect to the ECM Work, or applicable portion of the ECM Work, as the case may be, shall commence on the date of Substantial Completion thereof (as hereinafter defined). Centrica agrees to correct all ECM Work that is defective in workmanship or materials within a period of one (1) year from the date of Substantial Completion, or such longer periods of time as may be set forth with respect to specific warranties required hereunder.

3.3.2 Centrica shall collect, deliver, and, to the extent permissible, assign all manufacturers' warranties and Equipment manuals to Owner. There are no warranties that extend beyond the description on the face of any such warranty.

3.3.3 EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN SECTIONS 3.3.1 AND 3.3.2, ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING THE WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY AND THE WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMED. In addition, the warranties under this Section 3.3 shall be void and do not extend to any ECM Work that has been abused, altered, or misused, or that has been repaired by Owner or third parties without the supervisions or prior written approval of Centrica.

3.4 **SAFETY OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY.** Centrica shall endeavor to avoid injury, loss or damage to persons or property by taking reasonable steps to protect: a) its employees and other persons at the worksite, and b) and materials, supplies and equipment stored at the worksite for use in performance of the ECM Work. Centrica shall also oversee the safety precautions and programs of its subcontractors and suppliers at the worksite.

3.5 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

3.5.1 A "Hazardous Material" is any substance or material identified now or in the future as hazardous under any federal, state or local law or regulation, or any other substance or material that may be considered hazardous or otherwise subject to statutory or regulatory requirements governing handling, disposal and/or clean-up. Centrica shall not be obligated to commence or continue the ECM Work until all Hazardous material discovered at the Project site has been removed, rendered or determined to be harmless by Owner as certified by an independent testing laboratory approved by the appropriate government agency.

3.5.2 If after the commencement of the ECM Work, Hazardous Material is discovered at the Project site, Centrica shall be entitled to immediately stop ECM Work in the affected area. Centrica shall report the condition to Owner and, if required, the government agency

with jurisdiction. Owner shall be responsible for retaining any independent testing laboratory to determine the nature of the materials encountered and whether it is a Hazardous Material requiring corrective measures and/or remedial action. Such measures shall be the sole responsibility of Owner, and shall be performed in a manner minimizing any adverse effects upon the ECM Work. Centrica shall resume ECM Work in the area affected by any Hazardous Material only upon written agreement between the Parties after the Hazardous Material has been removed or rendered harmless and only after approval, if necessary, of the governmental agency or agencies with jurisdiction.

3.5.3 Centrica shall not be required to perform any ECM Work relating to or in the area of Hazardous Material without written mutual agreement.

3.5.4 If Centrica incurs additional costs and/or is delayed due to the presence or remediation of Hazardous Material, Centrica shall be entitled to an equitable adjustment in compensation and/or the ECM Work Schedule.

3.5.5 To the extent not caused by the negligent acts or omissions of Centrica, or its subcontractors or suppliers, and their agents, officers, and employees of each of them, Owner shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless Centrica, its subcontractors, suppliers, and their agents, officers and employees, from and against any and all claims, damages, penalties, losses, expenses, and other liabilities, including attorney's fees, arising out of or relating to the performance of the ECM Work in any area affected by Hazardous Material.

3.5.6 During the performance of the ECM Work, Centrica shall be responsible for the proper handling of all materials brought by it to the worksite. The provisions of this Section 3.5 shall also apply to the MM&V Services, and, without limiting the foregoing, on and after the MM&V Services Commencement Date, Owner shall be responsible under this Section 3.5 for materials and substances brought to the site by Centrica if such materials or substances are required by the Contract Documents.

3.5.7 The terms of this Section 3.5 shall survive the completion of the ECM Work and the termination of this Agreement.

3.6 SYSTEMS START-UP AND TRAINING.

3.6.1 Upon Substantial Completion of the ECM Work, with the assistance of Owner's personnel, Centrica shall direct the checkout of Equipment and start-up operations, and adjusting and balancing of Equipment and for readiness. Centrica shall also secure required certificates of inspection, testing or approval and deliver them to Owner.

3.6.2 Centrica shall conduct the training program described in Schedule 2A. The training specified in Schedule 2A shall be completed prior to Final Completion (as hereinafter defined) of the ECM Work.

3.7 SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION/FINAL COMPLETION

3.7.1 “Substantial Completion” means that stage in the progress of the ECM Work when the ECM Work, or designated portion thereof, is sufficiently complete in accordance with this Agreement so that Owner can use or occupy the Facilities and utilize the ECM Work or designated portion thereof for its intended use. Upon Substantial Completion, the Parties shall execute a Certificate of Substantial Completion fixing the date of Substantial Completion and listing all unfinished items of ECM Work, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit B.

3.7.2 “Final Completion” means the point when all of the ECM Work is fully and finally complete in accordance with the requirements of this Agreement, and Owner has accepted the ECM Work, which acceptance shall not be unreasonably delayed or conditioned by Owner.

ARTICLE IV **THE MM&V SERVICES**

4.1 COMMENCEMENT OF THE MM&V SERVICES. The date of the commencement of Centrica’s obligations under the MM&V Services Phase (the “MM&V Services Commencement Date”) shall be the date that: (i) Substantial Completion has been achieved for all portions of the ECM Work, and (ii) the systems start-up and training obligations under Section 3.6 have been completed. Centrica’s obligations under the MM&V Services Phase shall thereafter continue until the conclusion of the Term or any earlier termination of this Agreement.

4.2 THE MM&V SERVICES.

4.2.1 During the MM&V Services Phase Centrica shall perform those MM&V Services set forth in and in accordance with the Scope of MM&V Services. Without limiting the foregoing, Centrica shall perform and carry out the duties and obligations set forth below in Section 4.2.2.

4.2.2 For each year of the Term after the MM&V Services Commencement Date, within sixty (60) days of the anniversary date of the MM&V Services Commencement Date, Centrica shall provide Owner with an annual energy savings guarantee reconciliation report (the “Savings Reconciliation Report”) in substantially the form annexed hereto as Exhibit C, that calculates annual energy savings according to the Energy Savings Methodologies defined in the “Energy Savings Schedule” attached hereto as Schedule 5. Centrica will provide Owner with an explanation as to any variations between annual energy savings and the Guaranteed Energy Savings (as hereinafter defined) shown in the Savings Reconciliation Report. The Savings Reconciliation Report shall initially be submitted by Centrica to Owner in draft form whereupon Centrica and Owner shall use their best efforts to resolve any discrepancies in the draft Savings Reconciliation Report as soon as possible so as to arrive at mutually acceptable Savings Reconciliation Report. Centrica and Owner will indicate their acceptance of the Savings Reconciliation Report by signing at the end thereof. Failure of Owner to respond within 60 days of receipt of the report shall indicate Owner’s acceptance of the report.

4.3 GUARANTEED ENERGY SAVINGS.

4.3.1 Centrica has formulated and hereby guarantees the energy and operations savings (the “Guaranteed Energy Savings”) to be achieved as a result of the installation and operation of the ECM Work and the provisions of the MM&V Services, as set forth in the Energy Savings Schedule (Schedule 5). The amount of the Guaranteed Energy Savings is subject to modification based upon i) changes in the ECM Work after the Effective Date, ii) changes in the MM&V Services after the Effective Date, iii) Material Changes, and iv) force majeure and the Parties shall reflect all such modifications by revising accordingly the Guaranteed Energy Savings and any other applicable portions of the Energy Savings Schedule.

4.3.2 Commencing with the first twelve (12) month period following the MM&V Services Commencement Date, and for each twelve (12) month period within the Term thereafter, where the energy savings, as calculated using the method defined in the Energy Savings Schedule, are less than the Guaranteed Energy Savings, Centrica agrees to pay to Owner the difference between the Guaranteed Energy Savings and the sum of the actual energy savings as calculated. Centrica will make any such Guaranteed Energy Savings payment within ninety (90) days of the date of Owner’s acceptance of the Savings Reconciliation Report pursuant to Section 4.3.1.

4.4 EQUIPMENT SERVICE AND MODIFICATION.

4.4.1 Owner shall not move, remove, modify, alter, or change the Equipment or any part thereof (“Alterations”) in any way without the prior written approval of Centrica, except in the event of a *bona fide* emergency where it is not reasonably possible to notify Centrica before carrying out Alterations. In the event of such an emergency, Owner shall take reasonable steps to protect the Equipment from damage or injury, shall follow any instructions for emergency action provided in advance by Centrica, and shall notify Centrica within three (3) business days of such emergency. Any telephonic notice of such emergency shall be followed within one (1) business day by written notice to Centrica from Owner. Owner agrees to maintain the Facilities in good repair and to protect and preserve all portions thereof that may in any way affect the operation or maintenance of the Equipment.

4.4.2 In the event that any actions of Owner, including but not limited to the carrying out of Alterations, affect the performance of the Equipment, the Guaranteed Energy Savings shall be adjusted to reflect the impact of such actions. If Owner unreasonably delays in notifying Centrica of changes resulting from an emergency and/or Owner does not receive written approval to carry out Alterations, all Guaranteed Energy Savings obligations of Centrica under Section 4.3 and elsewhere in this Agreement shall automatically cease and be of no further force or effect.

4.4.3 At all times during the Term, Centrica shall have the right, subject to Owner’s prior written approval, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, to change the Equipment or any related energy automation management systems, revise any procedures for the operation thereof, and/or implement other energy saving actions in the Facilities,

provided that: (i) such modifications are necessary, in Centrica's reasonable judgment, to enable Centrica to achieve the Guaranteed Energy Savings at the Facilities, and (ii) any cost incurred relative to such modifications, additions or replacement of the Equipment, or operational changes or new procedures shall be the responsibility of Centrica. All such modifications, additions or replacements of the Equipment or revisions to operating or other procedures shall be described in a supplemental schedule to be provided to Owner.

ARTICLE V **OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

5.1 GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

5.1.1 Upon request of Centrica, Owner shall provide all available information in a timely manner regarding requirements for the Project, including all existing reports or studies regarding the physical characteristics of the site (such as surveys, site evaluations and existing conditions reports), legal descriptions, plans and drawings, building controls, systems, apparatus, equipment and machinery.

5.1.2 Owner shall promptly notify Centrica of all known unusual or materially change operating conditions that affect any Facilities, or any condition that may affect the ECM Work or the MM&V Services.

5.1.3 Owner shall appoint an authorized representative to facilitate Centrica's performance of the ECM Work and the MM&V Services. The representative shall:

- a) be fully acquainted with the ECM Work and the MM&V Services;
- b) agree to furnish the information and MM&V Services required of Owner so as not to delay Centrica's performance of its obligations under this Agreement; and
- c) shall have authority to bind Owner in all matters requiring Owner's approval, authorization or written notice. If Owner changes its representative or the representative's authority as listed above, Owner shall notify Centrica in advance.

5.1.4 Owner shall perform any Owner obligations set out in the Schedules to this Agreement as if such obligations were set out in full in this Section 5.1.4.

5.2 RESPONSIBILITIES DURING CONSTRUCTION & INSTALLATION PHASE.

5.2.1 Owner shall review the ECM Work Schedule as set forth in Section 3.1.1, timely approve any milestone dates set forth, and timely respond to its obligations thereunder.

5.2.2 Owner shall provide sufficient space at the site for the performance of the EPC Work. Owner shall provide access to the site and Facilities for Centrica to perform any function related to this Agreement during regular business hours, and at such other

reasonable times as may be requested by Centrica. Owner shall not unreasonably restrict Centrica's access to the site or Facilities to make emergency repairs or corrections as Centrica may determine are needed.

5.2.3 Owner shall provide inspection and testing services during construction as required by law or as mutually agreed.

5.2.2 If Owner becomes aware of any error, omission or failure to meet the requirements of this Agreement or any fault or defect in the ECM Work, Owner shall give prompt written notice to Centrica.

5.3 RESPONSIBILITIES DURING THE MM&V SERVICES PHASE.

5.3.1 Owner shall provide Centrica with complete energy usage information and energy-using equipment information, as requested by Centrica. This information will include, but not be limited to:

- a) Copies of all utility and fuel bills for the Facilities; for the two years prior to the MM&V Services Commencement Date and ongoing throughout the Term.
- b) Direct access, by telephone modem or other reasonable means installed at Centrica's expense, to any and all energy management systems or building automation systems installed in or used in connection with the Facilities, with permission granted to Centrica to download any and all information from these systems and to store such information for the Term;
- c) Permission to install, at Centrica's expense, add-on devices to any and all utility and energy use meters, to enable Centrica to directly observe Facility utility usage, with permission granted to Centrica to download any and all information from these systems and to store such information for the Term;
- d) Permission, as an agent of Owner, to obtain and utilize any and all energy usage information from any and all utilities or energy suppliers providing service to the Facilities, with permission granted to Centrica to download any and all information from these systems and to store such information for the Term. In connection herewith, Owner agrees to execute such permission or authorization forms, which utilities or energy suppliers may from time to time require to release such information to Centrica; and
- e) Copies of any and all energy-using equipment repair orders or invoices for repairs or maintenance ECM Work not subject to the direct control of Centrica.

5.3.2 Failure by Owner to provide the information required in this Section 5.3 or otherwise comply with its obligations under this Agreement in timely fashion, will suspend the Energy Savings Guarantee described in the Energy Savings Schedule until the information is provided or other obligation is met. The failure of Owner to provide this

information within ninety (90) days of the end of the applicable annual period shall be deemed a material breach of this Agreement in accordance with Section 8.2.1(d) hereof.

ARTICLE VI COMPENSATION AND PAYMENT

6.1 COMPENSATION FOR THE ECM WORK.

6.1.1 For the performance of the ECM Work, and all obligations in connection therewith under this Agreement, Owner agrees to pay Centrica the following sum (the "ECM Work Price"): **Three million four hundred and twenty thousand and nine hundred twenty-two dollars (\$3,420,922)**. A detailed "ECM Work Schedule of Values", setting forth the breakdown of the total ECM Work Price, is attached hereto as Schedule 6A.

6.1.2 Based upon itemized applications for payment submitted to Owner by Centrica during the Construction and Installation Phase, Owner shall make payment to Centrica of the ECM Work Price as follows:

- a) The period covered by each application for payment shall be one calendar month ending on the last day of the month. Provided an application for payment is received by Owner not later than the 5th day of a month, Owner shall make payment pursuant to such application to Centrica not later than the 20th day of the same month. If an application for payment is received by Owner after the application date fixed above, payment shall be made by Owner not later than twenty (20) days after receipt of the application for payment.
- b) Each application for payment shall provide such detail and back-up information or data as Owner may reasonably require, and shall be based upon the ECM Work completed and materials stored on site and/or at locations approved by Owner in its reasonable discretion for the period ending on the last day of the applicable month. The ECM Work Schedule of Values shall be used in establishing percentages of completion in payment applications.
- c) Final payment, constituting the entire unpaid balance of the ECM Work Price, shall be made by Owner to Centrica within fifteen (15) days of the date of Final Completion.
- d) Payments due and unpaid shall bear interest from the date due at the legal rate prevailing from time to time at the place where the Project is located.

6.2 COMPENSATION FOR THE MM&V and O&M SERVICES.

6.2.1 For the performance of the MM&V and O&M Services during the Term, Owner agrees to pay Centrica the following fee in the sum of (the "MM&V Services Fee"): **eight thousand six hundred and forty six dollars (\$8,646)**. A detailed "Services Schedule of

Values”, setting forth the annual breakdown of the total MM&V and O&M Services Fee for each item of Services, is attached hereto as Schedule 6B.

6.2.2 Effective as of each anniversary of the Services Commencement Date, the MM&V and O&M Services Fee shall be increased by an amount equal to three (3%) percent of the amount of the Service Fee for the immediately preceding one (1) year period.

6.2.3 The Service Fee shall be paid in arrears in equal annual installments on the first (1st) day of the month in which the anniversary of the MM&V Services Commencement Date occurs.

ARTICLE VII CHANGES

7.1 CHANGE ORDERS. Changes in the ECM Work or MM&V Services that are within the general scope of this Agreement, and that are not minor changes in the ECM Work or MM&V Services, shall be accomplished without invalidating this Agreement by a written instrument executed by both Parties in accordance with this Article VII (a “Change Order”). Centrica may request or Owner may order changes in the ECM Work or MM&V Services within the general scope of this Agreement consisting of adjustment to the ECM Work Price and/or MM&V Services Fee, respectively, or the ECM Work Schedule. All such changes in the ECM Work shall be authorized by applicable Change Order.

7.1.1 Centrica shall be entitled to an equitable adjustment to the ECM Work Price, MM&V Services Fee and/or the ECM Work Schedule. Acceptance of the Change Order and any adjustment in the ECM Work Price, MM&V Services Fee and/or ECM Work Schedule shall not be unreasonably withheld. An increase or decrease in the ECM Work Price or MM&V Services Fee resulting from a change in the scope of the ECM Work or MM&V Services shall be determined by one or more of the following methods:

- a) unit prices set forth in this Agreement or as subsequently agreed;
- b) a mutually accepted, itemized lump sum; or
- c) if an increase or decrease cannot be agreed upon as set forth in this Section 7.1, the adjustment in the ECM Work Price or MM&V Services Fee shall be determined by the reasonable expense and savings of the performance of the ECM Work resulting from the change. If there is a net increase in the ECM Work Price or MM&V Services Fee, then a reasonable adjustment shall be made for Centrica’s overhead and profit. In the case of a net decrease in cost, the amount of the decrease in the ECM Work Price or MM&V Services Fee shall not include reduction for overhead and profit.

7.2 MINOR CHANGES IN THE ECM WORK. Centrica may make minor changes in the design and construction of the ECM Work consistent with the intent of this Agreement that do not involve an adjustment in the ECM Work Price or MM&V Services Fee or the ECM Work

Schedule, so long as such changes do not materially and adversely affect the ECM Work, the quality of the materials or equipment specified herein, the performance of any materials, equipment or systems specified herein, or the quality of the workmanship required by this Agreement.

7.3 CHANGES AFFECTING THE GUARANTEED ENERGY SAVINGS. The Parties acknowledge that changes that negatively or positively affect the scope of the ECM Work will necessarily affect the Guaranteed Energy Savings set forth in Section 4.3. Change Order documents containing such scope changes shall also delineate the corollary Guaranteed Energy Savings adjustments.

7.4 UNKNOWN CONDITIONS. If in the performance of the ECM Work or the MM&V Services Centrica finds latent, concealed or other conditions that materially differ from the conditions Centrica reasonably anticipated, or if the physical conditions are different from those normally encountered and generally recognized as inherent in the kind of ECM Work or MM&V Services provided for in this Agreement, then the ECM Work Price or the MM&V Services Fee shall be equitably adjusted, and, as applicable, the ECM Work Schedule and Guaranteed Energy Savings shall be appropriately modified, by a Change Order within a reasonable time after the conditions are first observed. Centrica shall provide Owner with written notice of its discovery of any of the foregoing conditions as soon as practicable after such discovery.

7.5 EMERGENCIES. In any emergency affecting the safety of persons or property, Centrica shall act, at its discretion, to prevent threatened damage, injury or loss. Any change in the ECM Work Price, MM&V Services Fee or ECM Work Schedule on account of such emergency ECM Work shall be determined as provided in this Article VII.

7.6 CHANGES IN LAW AND FORCE MAJEURE. In the event that either: (i) any changes in laws or regulations affecting the performance of the ECM Work are enacted after the date of this Agreement; and/or (ii) Section 12.3 (*Force Majeure*) applies, the ECM Work Price, the MM&V Services Fee and/or the ECM Work Schedule or Guaranteed Savings shall be equitably adjusted by Change Order.

7.7 MATERIAL CHANGES.

7.7.1 Definition. A "Material Change" is any change in or to the Facilities, whether structural, operational or otherwise in nature that reasonably can be expected, in the judgment of Owner and Centrica to decrease annual energy savings in accordance with the provisions and procedures set forth in the Energy Savings Schedule (Schedule 5) after adjustments for climatic variations. Actions by Owner that may result in a Material Change include, but are not limited to the following;

- a) The manner of use of the Facilities by Owner;
- b) The hours of operation for the Facilities or for any Equipment or energy using systems operating at the Facilities;

- c) Permanent changes in the comfort and service parameters set forth in Scope of ECM Work (Schedule 2A);
- d) Occupancy of the Facilities;
- e) The structure of the Facilities;
- f) The types and quantities of equipment used at the Facilities;
- g) The modification, renovation or construction at the Facilities (other than the ECM Work);
- h) Owners' failure to provide maintenance of and repairs to the Equipment; or
- i) Any other conditions other than climate affecting energy use at the Facilities.

7.7.2 Reported Material Changes. Owner shall use best efforts to deliver to Centrica a written notice describing all actual or proposed Material Changes at least thirty (30) days prior to the implementation of such Material Change, or as soon as is practicable after an emergency or other unplanned event. After Centrica's review of the notice, the Parties shall meet as soon as practicable to agree upon adjustments to the Energy Savings Schedule and the MM&V Services Fee, which adjustments shall be set forth in a Change Order.

ARTICLE VIII **TERMINATION**

8.1 TERMINATION BY OWNER FOR CAUSE. Upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice to Centrica, Owner may terminate this Agreement for Cause (as hereinafter defined) if after giving Centrica written notice of such Cause, Centrica fails to cure the same within thirty (30) days following receipt of such notice or, if such cure cannot reasonably be effected within thirty (30) days, such cure is undertaken within such time period and is thereafter continued diligently until completion.

8.1.1 For purposes of this Agreement, "Cause" shall mean the occurrence of any of the following:

- a) Any material failure on the part of Centrica to perform or comply with the terms and conditions of this Agreement; or
- b) The commencement by or on behalf of Centrica of any voluntary or involuntary case or matter relating to or associated with the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, or for liquidation, reorganization, or an arrangement pursuant to any other U.S. or state bankruptcy Laws, or Centrica being adjudicated a debtor or declared bankrupt or insolvent under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, or any other U.S. Federal or state laws relating to bankruptcy, insolvency, winding-up, or adjustment of debts, or Centrica making a general assignment for the benefit of

creditors, or admitting in writing its inability to pay its debts generally as they become due, and/or if a custodian, receiver, trustee or liquidator of Centrica, all or substantially all of the assets or business of Centrica or of Centrica's interest in this Agreement, is appointed in any proceeding.

8.1.2 If termination occurs during the Construction and Installation Phase, Owner shall be responsible for paying for all ECM Work performed by Centrica through the effective date of termination, and Owner may deduct from the amount due to Centrica the reasonable cost to Owner of any necessary remediation required with respect to the matters resulting in such termination. In the event that Centrica is terminated by Owner under this provision and it is later determined that such termination was improper, Centrica shall be entitled to the remedies set forth in Section 8.3 below.

8.1.3 If termination occurs during the MM&V Services Phase, Owner shall be responsible for paying for all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by Centrica under Section 4.4 hereof prior to the effective date of termination, but subject to Owner's right to deduct its remediation costs in the same manner as provided in Section 8.1.2.

8.2 TERMINATION BY CENTRICA

8.2.1 Upon ten (10) days' advance written notice to Owner, Centrica may, in addition to any other rights or remedies, terminate this Agreement for any of the following reasons:

- a) If the ECM Work has been stopped for at least thirty-day period under court order or order of other governmental authorities having jurisdiction, or as a result of the declaration of a national emergency or other governmental act during which, through no fault of Centrica, materials, supplies, tools, and construction equipment and machinery for the ECM Work are not available;
- b) If Owner has failed to pay any compensation due to Centrica in accordance with this Agreement for a period of thirty (30) days or more;
- c) If the ECM Work has been suspended for any reason by Owner for a continuous period exceeding sixty (60) days;
- d) If Owner has materially hindered or delayed Centrica in the performance of any of its obligations, or Owner has otherwise has materially breached any covenant, agreement, warranty or representation set forth in this Agreement, and if after giving Owner written notice of thereof Owner fails to cure the same within thirty (30) days following receipt of such notice or, if such cure cannot reasonably be effected within thirty (30) days, such cure is undertaken within such time period and is thereafter continued diligently until completion.

8.2.2 Upon such termination, Centrica shall be entitled to recover from Owner as provided in Section 8.3.

Upon the payment of amounts due under this Section 8.2, neither Party shall have any further liability to the other except for those obligations expressly specified in this Agreement to survive its termination.

8.3 TERMINATION BY OWNER WITHOUT CAUSE.

8.3.1 If Owner terminates this Agreement other than pursuant to Section 8.1, Centrica shall be entitled to recover from Owner as follows:

- a) If termination occurs during the Construction and Installation Phase, Owner shall be responsible for paying for all ECM Work performed by Centrica through the effective date of termination;
- b) If termination occurs during the MM&V Services Phase, Owner shall be responsible for paying for all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by Centrica under Section 4.2 hereof prior to the effective date of termination;
- c) Owner shall pay for all demobilization costs incurred by Centrica, and purchase or rental costs incurred by Centrica, for any equipment acquired by the Centrica in connection with the ECM Work and MM&V Services;

8.3.2 In addition to the foregoing, Owner shall further assume and become liable for obligations, commitments, and unsettled claims that Centrica has previously undertaken or incurred in good faith on behalf of Owner in connection with the Project hereof.

8.4 GUARANTEED ENERGY SAVINGS. Upon the termination of this Agreement pursuant to either Section 8.2 or Section 8.3, all Guaranteed Energy Savings obligations of Centrica under Section 4.3 and elsewhere in this Agreement shall automatically cease and be of no further force or effect.

ARTICLE IX **INDEMNIFICATION/INSURANCE/BONDING/WAIVERS**

9.1 INDEMNIFICATION.

9.1.1 Centrica shall indemnify and hold Owner harmless from and against all third party claims, losses, or damages arising from the performance of the ECM Work or the MM&V Services provided that the same are attributable to bodily injury, death and/or damage to property, but only to the extent caused by the negligent or reckless acts or omissions of Centrica. In no event shall this indemnification apply to liability to the extent caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the party to be indemnified or held harmless. This indemnification shall not be limited to damages, compensation or benefits payable under insurance policies, any worker's compensation act, or other employee benefit acts.

9.2 CENTRICAS INSURANCE. At all times during the Term, Centrica shall provide and maintain the insurance set forth in this Section 9.2. All insurers shall be authorized and licensed to provide insurance in the State of Illinois, and shall be rated as A- or better by A.M. Best

9.2.1 Workers' Compensation. Centrica shall obtain and maintain Worker's Compensation insurance with statutory limits and Employers' Liability insurance in the amount \$1,000,000 per accident/occurrence.

9.2.2 Commercial General Liability. Centrica shall obtain and maintain Commercial General Liability Insurance written on an occurrence basis, with the following limits:

Each Occurrence Limit:	\$1,000,000
General Aggregate Limit:	\$2,000,000
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate Limit:	\$2,000,000
Personal and Advertising Injury Limit:	\$1,000,000
Medical Pay:	\$5,000

9.2.3 Automobile Liability. Centrica shall obtain and maintain Business Automobile Liability Insurance covering owned, non-owned, and hired automobiles, with the following limits:

Combined Single Limit Bodily Injury and Property Damage:	\$1,000,000 Each Occurrence
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9.2.4 Professional Liability. Centrica shall obtain and maintain professional liability or errors & omissions insurance for claims arising from the negligent performance of any professional MM&V Services under this Agreement, which shall be General Office Coverage, with the following limits:

Per claim:	\$1,000,000
Aggregate:	\$2,000,000

9.2.5 Excess Umbrella. All liability insurance may be arranged under a single policy for the full limits required or by a combination of primary, excess, and/or umbrella liability policies.

9.2.6 Policy Terms. Owner shall be named as loss payee on all coverage obtained by Centrica under all liability policies except Professional Liability and Workers'

Compensation, on a primary and non-contributory with respect to any liability coverage maintained by Owner. The foregoing policies shall contain a provision that coverage will not be cancelled or not renewed until at least thirty (30) days' prior written notice has been given to Owner. Upon request, a certificates of insurance showing such coverage will be provided.

9.3 OWNER'S INSURANCE.

9.3.1 Liability Insurance. Owner shall obtain and maintain its own liability insurance for protection against claims arising out of the performance of this Agreement.

9.3.2 Property Insurance.

- a) Owner shall obtain and maintain Builder's Risk or equivalent property insurance in a form reasonably acceptable to Centrica upon the entire Project, including the Equipment and the Facilities and all other existing structures in which any of the ECM Work is to be performed, as well as all Project structures that are fully or partially owned or occupied by Owner or its affiliates, for the full cost of replacement at the time of any loss. This insurance shall include as insureds Owner, Centrica, Centrica's subcontractors, and all other subcontractors and suppliers, as their interests may appear. This insurance shall insure against loss from the perils of fire and extended coverage, and shall include "all risk" coverage including at a minimum coverage for theft, vandalism, malicious mischief, inland transit, collapse, temporary buildings, debris removal, flood, earthquake, wind, testing, and damage resulting from defective design, workmanship, or material. Owner shall increase limits of coverage, if necessary, to reflect estimated replacement cost. Owner shall be responsible for all premiums and any co-insurance penalties, exclusions, sublimits, or deductibles.
- b) On or before the MM&V Services Commencement Date, Owner shall procure and thereafter maintain at all times during the Term, at its sole cost and expense a policy or policies of property damage insurance on all fixtures and improvements and betterments to the Facilities, including the Equipment, against any peril generally included within the classification "all risks", including, but not limited to, risks covered by fire, extended coverage, vandalism and malicious mischief, in amounts at least equal to the full replacement cost thereof (without deduction for depreciation). Such coverage shall include boiler and machinery and equipment breakdown insurance. Centrica shall be included as an insured or loss payee on all such policies, as its interests may appear.

9.3.3 Policies. Upon Centrica's request, Owner shall provide Centrica with a copy of all policies including all endorsements thereto. Centrica shall be given thirty (30) days' prior written notice of cancellation, non-renewal, or any endorsements restricting or reducing coverage.

9.3.4 Loss Adjustment. Any insured loss shall be adjusted with Owner and Centrica and made payable to Owner as trustee for the insureds, as their interests may appear, subject to any applicable mortgagee clause.

9.4 WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND SUBROGATION.

9.4.1 Property Damage. Owner and Centrica waive all claims and other rights they may have against each other for loss of and/or damage to (i) the Project, including the Equipment and Facilities, (ii) all materials, machinery, equipment, and other items used in accomplishing the ECM Work and/or to be incorporated into the Project, while the same are in transit, at the Project site, during erection, and otherwise, and (c) all property owned by or in the custody of Owner and its affiliates, however such loss or damage shall occur, except the rights each Party has to the proceeds of such insurance held by Owner as trustee in accordance with Section 9.3.4.

9.4.2 Waiver of Subrogation. Owner and Centrica shall have their respective insurers waive all rights of subrogation they may have against one another for claims arising thereunder. If the policies of insurance referred to in this Article IX require an endorsement to provide for continued coverage where there is a waiver of subrogation, the Parties will cause them to be so endorsed.

9.4.3 Damages Waiver. Owner agrees to waive all claims against Centrica for all special, indirect, consequential, remote, punitive, exemplary, or similar damages that may arise out of or relate to this Agreement. This waiver includes, but is not limited to, Owner's loss of use of the Facilities, all rental expenses incurred, loss of services of employees, or loss of reputation, loss of profits not related to this Project, or loss of reputation. The provisions of this Section 9.4.3 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

9.4.4 Limitation of Liability The Parties have discussed the risk and rewards associated with the ECM Work, as well as Centrica's compensation for the MM&V Services. The Parties agree that Centrica shall procure and maintain insurance policies with such coverages and amounts and for such periods of time as required by this Agreement. In light of the foregoing, Owner agrees that Centrica's liability under or in connection with this Agreement, regardless of the form of action, shall in no event exceed the amount of the compensation actually received by Centrica pursuant to Section 6.1 and Section 6.2 of this Agreement, unless and only to the extent that such liability is covered by a policy of insurance procured pursuant to this Agreement. The provisions of this Section 9.4.4 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

9.5 BONDING.

9.5.1 Performance and Payment Bonds are required of Centrica as a condition to the commencement and performance of the ECM Work and the MM&V Services. All Bonds must be acceptable to Owner, and its reasonable discretion, and shall: i) be issued by good

and sufficient sureties licensed in the State of Illinois, ii) fully comply with the requirements of the Illinois Public Construction Bond Act (30 ILCS 550).

ARTICLE X
CASUALTY AND CONDEMNATION

10.1 CASUALTY.

10.1.1 After the MM&V Services Commencement Date, Owner assumes and shall bear the risk of damage, loss, theft, or destruction, partial or complete, of the Equipment and the Facilities (a "Casualty Loss"), however arising, except to the extent that the same may be caused by the negligent or willful acts or omissions of Centrica that are not covered by insurance to be procured pursuant to this Agreement. If Owner fails to repair or replace any Casualty Loss within a reasonable time, and in no event more than one hundred twenty (120) days from its occurrence (except to the extent that the same is the responsibility of Centrica in accordance with the foregoing), Centrica may, at its option: (i) terminate this Agreement by delivery of a written notice to Owner, and such termination shall be deemed a termination without Cause and will be subject to the provisions of Section 8.3 hereof, or (ii) require Owner to amend this Agreement in a manner that equitably accounts for the loss of such Equipment and/or Facilities.

10.1.2 In the event of a Casualty Loss caused by the negligent or willful acts or omissions of Centrica that is not covered by insurance to be procured pursuant to this Agreement, Owner may require Centrica to promptly repair or replace the damaged or destroyed Equipment and/or Facilities, and in the event of Centrica's failure to do so, Owner may, at its option: (i) repair or replace such items and recover the reasonable cost thereof from Centrica, or (ii) terminate this Agreement for Cause pursuant to Section 8.1 hereof.

10.2 CONDEMNATION.

10.2.1 In the event of the condemnation resulting in a taking of substantially all of the Facilities, this Agreement shall terminate upon the effective date of such taking, and such termination shall be deemed a termination without Cause in accordance with Section 8.3 hereof, provided, however, that the proceeds of such condemnation shall belong to Owner.

10.2.2 In the event of a condemnation resulting in a taking of less than substantially all of the Facilities, the Parties shall amend this Agreement in a manner that equitably accounts for such taking.

ARTICLE XI
COMPLIANCE OBLIGATIONS

11.1 STATUTORY AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE. Centrica will comply with all applicable provisions of federal, state and local law when performing the ECM Work AND the MM&V Services. Where required by law, all drawings, plans, reports, and other documents delivered to Owner as part of the ECM Work must bear the stamp or seal of architects or engineers licensed by the State of Illinois. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Centrica shall, to the extent applicable, comply with the following:

- i) The Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5);
- ii) The Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130);
- iii) The Public Construction Bond Act (30 ILCS 550);
- iv) The Public Works Preference Act (30 ILCS 560);
- v) The Employment of Illinois Workers on Public Works Act (30 ILCS 570);
- vi) The Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140);
- vii) The Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120);
- viii) The Illinois Architecture Practice Act of 1989 (225 ILCS 305);
- ix) The Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989 (225 ILCS 325);
- x) The Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989 (225 ILCS 340);
- xi) The Local Government Professional Services Selection Act (50 ILCS 510);
- xii) The Contractor Unified License and Permit Bond Act (50 ILCS 830);
- xiii) All Anti-Terrorism Laws, including Executive Order No. 13224 on Terrorist Financing and regulations of the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) related to Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Person (SND's OFAC Regulations), and/or the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-56);
- xiv) All "Anti-Kickback" laws and regulations, including the "Anti-Kickback" Act of 1986, 41 U.S.C. §§ 51-58 (1992); 18 U.S.C. § 874 (1992); 40 U.S.C. § 276c (1986) and the Illinois Criminal Code of 1961 720 ILCS 5/33E-1 et seq.; and
- xv) The Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq. (1990), as amended; the Discrimination in Public Contracts Act, 775 ILCS 10/0.01 et seq. (1990), as amended; the Environmental Barriers Act., 410 ILCS 25/1 et seq; and all federal non-discrimination laws and regulations.

11.2 FAILURE TO COMPLY. If Centrica performs and ECM Work or MM&V Services knowing or having reason to know that such Work or Services are contrary to applicable laws, rules and/or regulations, Centrica shall be responsible for payment of all reasonable costs and expenses arising therefrom.

ARTICLE XII GENERAL PROVISIONS

12.1 NOTICE. All notices required under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be given either by: (i) personal delivery; or (ii) a nationally-recognized overnight delivery service that provides proof of delivery and addressed to the other Party at such Party's address specified below. Such address may be changed by a Party giving notice thereof in accordance with this provision.

To Owner: Vermilion County
201 N Vermilion St
Danville, IL 61832
Attn: Larry Baughn Jr

To: Centrica Business Solutions Services, Inc.

2111 Ellsworth Blvd, Malta
New York 12020
Attn: Alex Coleman

12.2 INDEPENDENT CAPACITY. The Parties agree that Centrica is an independent contractor, and that Centrica and its employees and agents, shall act in an independent capacity in the performance of this Agreement, and shall not be construed as officers, employees, or agents of Owner. In addition, this Agreement shall not be construed as creating any partnership or joint venture between the Parties.

12.3 FORCE MAJEURE. If causes beyond a Party's reasonable control delay, impair or prevent the performance of any of such Party's obligations hereunder, expressly excepting, however, the payment of money, then: (i) the time for such performance shall be extended for a reasonable period of time commensurate with the time and nature of the cause; and (ii) the ECM Work Price, the MM&V Services Fee and/or the ECM Work Schedule or Guaranteed Savings shall be equitably adjusted by Change Order. Such causes shall include, but not be limited to: changes ordered in the ECM Work, acts or omissions of the other Party or others beyond the control of the Party whose performance is required, adverse weather conditions not reasonably anticipated, fire, unusual transportation delays, general labor disputes impacting the ECM Work, acts of governmental agencies, or unavoidable accidents or circumstances, Hazardous Materials or differing site conditions.

12.4 FURTHER DOCUMENTS. The Parties agree to execute and deliver all further documents and perform all further acts that may be reasonably necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Agreement.

12.5 GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Illinois, without regard to conflicts of laws rules or principles of this State or any other jurisdiction.

12.6 SEVERABILITY. The partial or complete invalidity of any one or more provisions of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or continuing force and effect of any other provision.

12.7 NO WAIVER OF PERFORMANCE. The failure of either Party to insist, in any one or more instances, on the performance of any of the terms, covenants or conditions of this Agreement, or to exercise any of its rights hereunder, shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of such term, covenant, condition or right with respect to further performance.

12.8 INTERPRETATION. The Parties agree that the following shall govern the interpretation of this Agreement:

12.8.1 Headings and captions are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of this Agreement.

12.8.2 The grouping of the articles in this Agreement and of specifications under the various headings is solely for the purpose of convenient organization and in no event shall

the grouping of provisions, the use of paragraphs or the use of headings be construed to limit or alter the meaning of any provisions.

12.8.3 The terms “herein,” “hereof” and “hereunder,” and words of similar import, refer to this Agreement as a whole and not to any particular Section, Subsection or Schedule or Exhibit.

12.8.4 The Parties have participated jointly in the negotiation and drafting of this Agreement, and no presumption or burden of proof shall arise favoring or disfavoring either Party by virtue of the authorship of any of the provisions hereof.

12.9 CENTRICA PROPERTY. All property used by Centrica in connection with the ECM Work and the MM&V Services, including equipment, tools, drawings, designs, documentation, schematics, test equipment, software, and associated media remain the exclusive property of Centrica. Owner agrees not to use such property for any purpose at any time. Owner agrees to allow Centrica personnel to retrieve and to remove all such materials remaining after the ECM Work has been completed or at the end of the Term. Owner acknowledges that any Centrica software included in the ECM Work is proprietary and will be delivered only after execution of and pursuant to a Centrica standard licensing agreement.

12.10 BINDING EFFECT. This Agreement and the Contract Documents shall inure to the benefit of, and be forever binding upon, the Parties and their respective successors, legal representatives and permitted assigns.

12.11 AMENDMENT. This Agreement may be amended, modified or supplemented only by written agreement signed by the Parties.

12.12 ASSIGNMENT. Neither Party may assign this Agreement in whole or in part to another person or entity, without the prior written approval of the other (such approval not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed).

12.13 ENTIRE AGREEMENT. This Agreement, including all Schedules and Exhibits hereto, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding of the Parties and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. Each Party acknowledges that no Party has made any promises, representations, warranties, covenants or understandings other than those expressly set forth herein.

12.14 EXECUTION. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which, when executed, shall be deemed to be an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. The transmission of the signature of a Party by facsimile, email or other electronic means shall be deemed an original thereof by the Party receiving such signature.

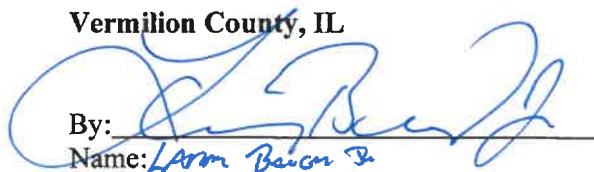
[Signature Page Immediately Follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized representatives as of the Effective Date.

**Centrica Business Solutions Services, Inc.
New York Corporation**

By: _____
Name: Cassandra Moore
Title: Head of Finance

Vermilion County, IL

By: 
Name: Laron Bacon Jr.
Title: Chairman

Agreement # 24-1101