

Sonoma County Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund Agreement

This Agreement is entered into by the Cities of Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol and Sonoma, and the Town of Windsor (collectively, the "Committed Cities").

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, historically, municipal solid waste from throughout Sonoma County was deposited at the Central Disposal Site and one or more of the Former Landfills. Environmental liabilities exist for both the Central Disposal Site and the Former Landfills. Sonoma County has taken the position that the cities within the County are liable for their share of the costs to address the environmental liabilities associated with the Central Disposal Site and the Former Landfills. The Committed Cities dispute their individual responsibility for these alleged environmental liabilities and have taken the position that the County is responsible for such liabilities as the owner and operator of the Central Disposal Site and the Former Landfills. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committed Cities have entered into a Settlement Agreement, the "Central Disposal Site and Former Landfills Settlement Agreement between the County of Sonoma and the Committed Cities" ("Settlement Agreement"), to resolve their disputes with the County and avoid the significant time and expense associated with resolving their disputes through litigation; and

WHEREAS, the County, on April 23, 2013, entered into a Master Operations Agreement with Republic Services of Sonoma County ("Republic") whereby Republic will operate the Central Disposal Site, and, upon the exhaustion of its capacity, will close the site and assume all responsibility for environmental liabilities on the site and release the Committed Cities from and indemnify the Committed Cities against all environmental liabilities associated with the Central Disposal Site in perpetuity, with the exception of liabilities (a) associated with other operators at the Central Disposal Site who are not under the control of, or in contract with, Republic (e.g., compost facility and household hazardous waste facility) and (b) related to facts and events pertaining to the Central Disposal Site and arising after the effective date of the Waste Delivery Agreement between the Committed Cities and Republic. Republic has also provided a parent guarantee and posted bonds as required by the State of California and the County for performance of its obligations under the Master Operations Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Central Disposal Site and Former Landfills Settlement Agreement between the County of Sonoma and the Committed Cities provides, in general, that the Committed Cities commit their solid waste to the Central Disposal Site and pay Base Concession Payments on each ton thereof that go to the County as part of the costs of disposal at the Central Disposal Site to be used for closure and post closure costs at the Former Urban Landfills and/or Central Disposal Site in addition to LEAK funds and other reserves previously established for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the County agrees to release and indemnify the Committed Cities

for environmental liabilities for the Former Rural Landfills and has agreed to a covenant not to sue on the Former Urban Landfills; however, the County is not granting the Committed Cities a release nor indemnifying the Committed Cities for any liabilities associated with the Central Disposal Site or the Former Urban Landfills. Thus, if Republic should default on its obligations and the County has insufficient funds and has been unable to recover from Republic, its parent corporation or its sureties sufficient funds to satisfy the environmental liabilities of the Central Disposal Site, then the County may pursue the Committed Cities for their alleged shares of that environmental liability; and

WHEREAS, the Committed Cities desire to each accumulate a fund entirely under the control of the Committed Cities to protect themselves and their rate payers against such contingent liability and against any other source of unanticipated environmental liability for solid waste disposal. The County has agreed to collect and hold, in addition to the Base Concession Payment, a fee of up to \$5 per ton, adjusted in accordance with the Settlement Agreement and this Agreement, to be designated as the "Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund" (sometimes "CCCL Fund"), described in the Central Disposal Site and Former Landfills Settlement Agreement. This Agreement is solely between the Committed Cities and governs the setting of the fee, expenditures from the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund and the termination of the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund.

Now, therefore, the parties agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

1. Definitions.

Except as otherwise provided for herein, the definitions of capitalized terms in this Agreement shall have the same meaning as provided for in the Central Disposal Site and Former Landfills Settlement Agreement between the County of Sonoma and the Committed Cities which definitions are incorporated herein by reference.

2. Recitals.

The Recitals, above, are true and are incorporated into this Agreement.

3. Governance of the Fund.

3.1. Committed Cities' Representatives.

Each Committed City shall designate a representative to speak for and act on behalf of that Committed City with regard to decisions related to the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund. That representative shall be conclusively presumed to have the actual authority to speak for and act on behalf of his or her Committed City unless and until each of the other committed Cities have been given written notice of a

limitation on that representative's authority, the revocation of that representative's authority or the appointment of a different representative. The initial representative of each Committed City shall be its City Manager.

3.2. Voting.

A. Voting Power.

Each committed City shall have one vote on any matter related to the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund.

B. Supermajority Votes Required.

The following decisions shall require the assent of at least seven of the eight Committed Cities subject to the provisions set forth in Section 4:

- Changing the amount of the fee to be charged and collected by Republic on each ton of Committed City waste and paid to the County to be held in the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund. This does not apply to the automatic adjustments to the fee under the Master Operations Agreement and the Central Disposal Site and Former Landfills Settlement Agreement. The parties agree that the initial amount of the fee to be collected shall be \$5.00 per ton.
- Reduction or increase in the amount of the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund surcharge.
- The termination of the CCCL Fund. Provided however that any individual Committed City or Cities may request the County and/or Republic to continue to collect funds on its behalf.

C. Unanimous Vote.

The Committed Cities may unanimously agree to such other disbursements from the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund for purposes identified in this Agreement for the hiring of consultants, hiring of legal counsel or payment of any claims asserting Environmental Liability against the Committed Cities.

Any Committed City may call for a meeting as set forth below to discuss any interim disbursement from the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund.

3.3. Meetings.

A. Calling Meetings.

Any Committed City may call a meeting of the Committed Cities

by giving at least 30 days' written notice to all of the representatives of the Committed Cities of the date, time and place of the meeting. Prior to calling such a meeting, the Committed City calling the meeting must consult with the representatives of the other Committed Cities to ascertain their availability to attend the meeting. Representatives may attend meetings by teleconference or video conference as long as those attending remotely may hear those present and those present may hear those attending remotely. Noticing of such meeting shall comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act if applicable.

B. Quorum.

Representatives of six or more of the Committed Cities attending a meeting in person or remotely shall be a quorum. Proxy votes are not permitted.

C. Chairing the Meeting.

The representative who called the meeting shall act as Chair of the meeting.

3.4. Secretary.

The Committed Cities shall choose one of their representatives to act as Secretary. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to take and keep minutes of each meeting, to keep in the minute book copies of Actions in Writing, and to keep records of each Committed City's reports of fees paid into the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund as required by section 4.1, below. The Secretary shall serve until resignation, election of a new secretary, or removal of the Secretary as representative of his or her Committed City.

4. Shares of the Fund.

4.1. Determination of Each City's Share.

Each Committed City shall have a share of the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund equal to the proportion of the fees paid into the CCCL Fund from each Committed City's solid waste deliveries to the Central Disposal Site. The Committed Cities shall be provided with an annual accounting by the County of the amount and proportion of fees allocated to each Committed City.

4.2. Disbursement of Each City's Share.

Upon the termination of the CCCL Fund, the money in the CCCL Fund shall be disbursed among the Committed Cities in proportion to each City's share. If, during the life of the CCCL Fund, any disbursements or expenditures are made for the benefit of fewer than all of the Committed Cities, the disbursements shall be credited against the

share in the CCCL Fund of each City which was disbursed said funds, and, on the termination of the CCCL Fund, only each Committed City's remaining share, if any, shall be distributed to each Committed City.

No City's share of funds shall be disbursed without that City's consent to distribution or payment from its share of the CCCL Fund. If other cities elect to terminate this Agreement, any Committed City or group of Committed Cities shall have the right to request the County to continue to collect fees on behalf of that jurisdiction (or on behalf of those jurisdictions) on its or their Committed Waste.

5. Uses of the Fund.

The Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund and the money therein may be used only for the benefit of the Committed Cities' solid waste ratepayers. Whether a use is for the benefit of the Committed Cities' solid waste ratepayers is entirely within the reasonable discretion of the Committed Cities and their representatives to the CCCL Fund.

6. Notices.

All notices given pursuant to this Agreement or involving the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund shall be in writing, and shall be delivered in person, transmitted by email, facsimile, certified mail or recognized courier service (such as Federal Express or UPS). Notices shall be effective upon delivery at the address provided for each representative of each Committed City as confirmed by reply email, electronic confirmation of facsimile delivery, certified mail receipt or on-line tracking data. The initial addresses for notices are set forth below the signature lines for each Committed City, and may be changed by giving notice as provided in this section.

7. Dispute Resolution.

Any dispute among the Committed Cities or any of them involving the Committed Cities Contingent Liability Fund shall be subject to binding arbitration as provided in section 10.3 of the Central Disposal Site and Former Landfills Settlement Agreement between the County of Sonoma and the Committed Cities.

8. Miscellaneous.

8.1. Severability.

If any provision of this Agreement or application thereof to any person, party or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement or the application of such provision to any person, party or circumstance other than those as to which it is held invalid or unenforceable shall not be affected thereby and each remaining provision of this Agreement shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

City of Cloverdale

Dated: _____ By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

City of Cotati

Dated: _____ By: _____

Name: Dianne Thompson

Title: City Manager

Address: 201 West Sierra Avenue
Cotati, CA 94931

Telephone: (707) 792-4600

E-mail: dthompson@cotaticity.org

City of Healdsburg

Dated: _____ By: _____

Name: Marjie Pettus

Title: City Manager

Address: 401 Grove Street
Healdsburg, CA 95448

Telephone: (707) 431-3317

E-mail: mpettus@ci.healdsburg.ca.us

City of Rohnert Park

Dated: _____ By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

City of Santa Rosa

Dated: _____ By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____
E-mail: _____

City of Sebastopol

Dated: _____ By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____
E-mail: _____

City of Sonoma

Dated: _____ By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____
E-mail: _____

Town of Windsor

Dated: September 30, 2014 By: Linda Kelly

Name: Linda Kelly
Title: Town Manager
Address: 9291 Old Redwood Highway, Building 400
Windsor, CA 95492
Telephone: (707) 838-5313
E-mail: lkelly@townofwindsor.com