



Control Number: 49871



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DOCKET NO. 49871

PETITION OF THE CITY OF RED OAK §
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT §
CORPORATION TO AMEND §
ROCKETT SPECIAL UTILITY §
DISTRICT'S WATER CERTIFICATE §
OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY §
IN DALLAS AND ELLIS COUNTIES §
BY EXPEDITED RELEASE §

2019 DEC -2 PM 2:13
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLEAR
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS

**REPLY TO ROCKETT SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT'S
RESPONSE AND OBJECTION TO PETITIONER'S MOTION
TO LIFT ABATEMENT AND MOTION TO DISMISS THE PETITION**

The City of Red Oak Industrial Development Corporation (Red Oak) replies to Rockett Special Utility District's (Rockett) Response and Objection to Petitioner's Motion to Lift Abatement and Motion to Dismiss the Petition (Response), filed herein on December 2, 2019.

In its Response, Rockett attempts again to demonstrate that it has a federally-guaranteed debt, but is unable to do so. A Conditional Commitment is not a guarantee. Rockett does not have a guarantee that entitles it to protection under 7 U.S.C. § 1926(b).

Rockett has a loan from CoBank, ACB, a private lender. It also has a Conditional Commitment from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utility Service to guarantee that loan, subject to conditions precedent.¹

Issuance of a Loan Note Guarantee by the Rural Utility Service may be made *only* after the conditions precedent listed in 7 C.F.R. §§ 1779.53 and 1779.63 are met. This requirement is reiterated in the Conditional Commitment.² Once those conditions precedent have occurred, the Rural Utility Service issues a Loan Note Guarantee in the form attached as Exhibit A.³

Rockett clearly does not have such a form; one would expect that if the Loan Note Guarantee existed, Rockett would have provided it by now.

¹ See Exhibit C of Rockett's Response.

² See 7 C.F.R. § 1779.64 (listing procedure for issuance of Lender's Agreement and Guarantee).

³ The Loan Note Guarantee attached as Exhibit A may be accessed on the USDA's website at the following link: <https://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/RD449-34.PDF>.

Even if a Conditional Commitment is an enforceable contract with the USDA, as Rockett alleges, it is a unilateral contract requiring the government to issue a guarantee in the future once certain conditions precedent occur. They have not yet occurred; Rockett does not dispute that.

Even though Rockett has received loan funds from a private lender, without a Loan Note Guarantee, Rockett does not have a federally-guaranteed loan triggering the protections of 7 U.S.C. § 1926(b).⁴ This is clearly illustrated by the fact that if Rockett were to default on the loan today, CoBank would have no recourse against the USDA because there is no guarantee for which all conditions precedent have occurred.

The only basis on which the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) abated this docket does not exist; Rockett has not demonstrated otherwise. Accordingly, Red Oak respectfully requests that the Commission lift the abatement imposed by Order No. 4. Red Oak also respectfully requests that its Petition be granted and Rockett's Motion to Dismiss be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

**LLOYD GOSSELINK ROCHELLE
& TOWNSEND, P.C.**

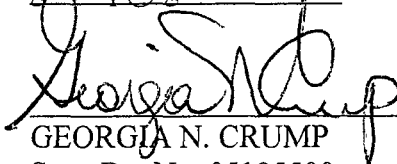
816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900

Austin, Texas 78701

(512) 322-5800

(512) 472-0532 (Fax)

gcrump@lglawfirm.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Georgia N. Crump", is written over a horizontal line.

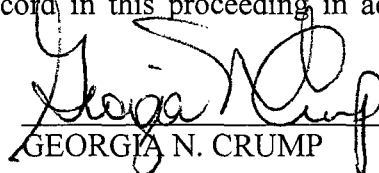
GEORGIA N. CRUMP
State Bar No. 05185500

ATTORNEY FOR CITY OF RED OAK
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

⁴ Red Oak objects to the Supporting Affidavit by Kay Phillips and its exhibits (attached to the Response as Exhibit 1) to the extent they are submitted as evidence of the Loan Note Guarantee on best evidence grounds. The best evidence of a Loan Note Guarantee is an executed Loan Note Guarantee. Rockett has not provided this document; the absence of which supports Red Oak's position that it does not exist. Further, Ms. Phillips' statement that the loan at issue "qualifies Rockett for 7 U.S.C. § 1926(b) protection" is a legal conclusion and not a statement of fact within her personal knowledge.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on December 2, 2019, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served on all parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with 16 Tex. Admin Code § 22.74.



GEORGIA N. CRUMP

USDA
Form RD 449-34
(Rev. 10-95)

LOAN NOTE GUARANTEE

Type of Loan: _____
Applicable 7 C.F.R. part 1980
subpart _____

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | State |
| | County |
| | Date of Note |
| Borrower | Government Loan Identification Number |
| Lender | Lender's IRS ID Tax Number |
| Lender's Address | Principal Amount of Loan |

The guaranteed portion of the loan is \$ _____ which is _____ (_____ %))

percent of loan principal. The principal amount of loan is evidenced by _____ note(s) (includes bonds as appropriate) described below. The guaranteed portion of each note is indicated below. This instrument is attached to note

_____ in the face amount of \$ _____ and is number _____ of _____ .

| <i>LENDER'S IDENTIFYING NUMBER</i> | <i>FACE AMOUNT</i> | <i>PERCENT OF TOTAL FACE AMOUNT</i> | <i>AMOUNT GUARANTEED</i> |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | \$ | % | \$ |

TOTAL \$ _____ 100%

\$ _____

In consideration of the making of the subject loan by the above named Lender. The United States of America, acting through the Consolidated Farm Service Agency, Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service, Rural Utilities Service, or Rural Housing and Community Development Service (herein called "Government"), pursuant to the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq), the Emergency Livestock Credit Act of 1974 (7 U.S.C. note preceding 1961 Pub. L. 93-357 as amended), the Emergency Agricultural Credit Adjustment Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C note preceding 1921 Pub. L. 95-334), or Title V of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1471 et seq) does hereby agree that in accordance with and subject to the conditions and requirements herein, it will pay to:

A. Any Holder 100 percent of any loss sustained by such Holder on the guaranteed portion and on interest due (including any loan subsidy) on such portion and any capitalized interest on such portion resulting from the restructuring of a Guaranteed Farm Credit Program loans but not exceeding statutory loan limits.

B. The Lender the lesser of 1. or 2. below:

1. Any loss sustained by such Lender on the guaranteed portion including:

- Principal and interest indebtedness as evidenced by said note(s) or by, assumption agreement(s), and
- Any loan subsidy due and owing, and
- Principal and interest indebtedness on secured protective advances for protection and preservation of collateral made with Government's authorization, including but not limited to, advances for taxes, annual assessments, any ground rents, and hazard or flood insurance premiums affecting the collateral, or
- and, Capitalized interest on such portion resulting from the restructuring of a Guaranteed Farm Credit Programs loans and not exceeding statutory loan limits, or

2. The guaranteed principal advanced to or assumed by the Borrower under said note(s) or assumption agreement(s) and any interest due (including any loan subsidy) thereon and any capitalized interest resulting from the restructuring of a Guaranteed Farm Credit Programs loans and not exceeding statutory loan limits.

If Government conducts the liquidation of the loan, loss occasioned to a Lender by accruing interest (including any loan subsidy) after the date Government accepts responsibility for liquidation will not be covered by this Loan Note Guarantee. If Lender conducts the liquidation of the loan accruing interest (including any loan subsidy) shall be covered by this Loan Note Guarantee to date of final settlement when the lender conducts the liquidation expeditiously in accordance with the liquidation plan approved by Government.

Definition of Holder.

The Holder is the person or organization other than the Lender who holds all or part of the guaranteed portion of the loan with no servicing responsibilities. Holders are prohibited from obtaining any part(s) of the Guaranteed portion of the loan with proceeds from any obligation, the interest on which is excludable from income, under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended (IRC). When the Lender assigns a part(s) of the guaranteed loan to an assignee, the assignee become a Holder only when Form RD 449-36, "Assignment Guarantee Agreement," is used.

Definition of Lender.

The Lender is the person or organization making and servicing the loan which is guaranteed under the provisions of the applicable subpart of 7 C.F.R. part 1980. The Lender is also the party requesting a loan guarantee.

CONDITIONS OF GUARANTEE**1. Loan Servicing.**

Lender will be responsible for servicing the entire loan, and Lender will remain mortgagee and/or secured party of record notwithstanding the fact that another party may hold a portion of the loan. When multiple notes are used to evidence a loan, Lender will structure repayments as provided in the loan agreement. In the case of Farm Ownership, Soil and Water, or Operating Loans, the Lender agrees that if liquidation of the account becomes imminent, the Lender will consider the Borrower for an Interest Rate Buydown under Exhibit C of subpart B of 7 C.F.R. part 1980, and request a determination of the Borrower's eligibility by Government. The Lender may not initiate foreclosure action on the loan until 60 days after a determination has been made with respect to the eligibility, of the Borrower to participate in the Interest Rate Buydown Program.

2. Priorities.

The entire loan will be secured by the same security with equal lien priority for the guaranteed and unguaranteed portions of the loan. The unguaranteed portion of the loan will not be paid first nor given any preference or priority over the guaranteed portion.

3. Full Faith and Credit.

The Loan Note Guarantee constitutes an obligation supported by the full faith and credit of the United States and is incontestable except for fraud or misrepresentation of which Lender or any Holder has actual knowledge at the time it became such Lender or Holder or which Lender or any Holder participates in or condones. If the note to which this is attached or relates provides for the payment of interest on interest, then this loan Note Guarantee is void. However, in the case of the Farm Credit Programs loans, the capitalization of interest when restructuring loans will not void this Loan Note Guarantee. In addition, the Loan Note Guarantee will be unenforceable by Lender to the extent any loss is occasioned by the violation of usury laws, negligent servicing, or failure to obtain the required security regardless of the time at which Government acquires knowledge of the foregoing. Any losses occasioned will be unenforceable to the extent that loan funds are used for purposes other than those specifically approved by Government in its Conditional Commitment for Guarantee. Negligent servicing is defined as the failure to perform those services which a reasonably prudent lender would perform in servicing its own portfolio of loans that are not guaranteed. The term includes not only the concept of a failure to act but also not acting in a timely manner or acting in a manner contrary to the manner in which a reasonably prudent lender would act up to the time of loan maturity or until a final loss is paid.

4. Rights and Liabilities.

The guarantee and right to require purchase will be directly enforceable by Holder notwithstanding any fraud or misrepresentation by Lender or any unenforceability of this Loan Note Guarantee by Lender. Nothing contained herein will constitute any waiver by Government of any rights it possesses against the Lender will be liable for and will promptly pay to Government any payment made by Government to Holder which if such Lender had held the guaranteed portion of the loan, Government would not be required to make.

5. Payments.

Lender will receive all payments of principal, or interest, and any loan subsidy on account of the entire loan and will promptly remit to Holder(s) its pro rata share thereof determined according to its respective interest in the loan, less only Lender's servicing fee.

6. Protective Advances.

Protective advances made by Lender pursuant to the regulations will be guaranteed against a percentage of loss to the same extent as provided in this Loan Note Guarantee notwithstanding the guaranteed portion of the loan that is held by another.

7. Repurchase by Lender.

The Lender has the option to repurchase the unpaid guaranteed portion of the loan from the Holder(s) within 30 days of written demand by the Holder(s) when: (a) the borrower is in default not less than 60 days on principal or interest due on the loan or (b) the Lender has failed to remit to the Holder(s) its pro rata share of any payment made by the borrower or any loan subsidy within 30 days of its receipt thereof. The repurchase by the Lender will be for an amount equal to the unpaid guaranteed portion of principal and accrued interest (including any loan subsidy) less the Lender's servicing fee. The Loan Note Guarantee will not cover the note interest to the Holder on the guaranteed loan(s) accruing after 90 days from the date of the demand letter to the Lender requesting the repurchase. Holder(s) will concurrently send a copy of demand to Government. The Lender will accept an assignment without recourse from the Holder(s) upon repurchase. The Lender is encouraged to repurchase the loan to facilitate the accounting for funds, resolve the problem, and to permit the borrower to cure the default, where reasonable. The Lender will notify the Holder(s) and Government of its decision.

8. Government Purchase.

If Lender does not repurchase as provided by paragraph 7 hereof, Government will purchase from Holder the unpaid principal balance of the guaranteed portion together with accrued interest (including any loan subsidy) to date of repurchase less Lender's servicing fee, within thirty (30) days after written demand to Government from Holder. The Loan Note Guarantee will not cover the note interest to the Holder on the guaranteed loan(s) accruing after 90 days from the date of the original demand letter of the Holder to the Lender requesting the repurchase. Such demand will include a copy of the written demand made upon the Lender. The Holder(s) or its duly authorized agent will also include evidence of its right to require payment from Government. Such evidence will consist of either the original of the Loan Note Guarantee properly endorsed to Government or the original of the Assignment Guarantee Agreement properly assigned to Government without recourse including all rights, title, and interest in the loan. Government will be subrogated to all rights of Holder(s). The Holder(s) will include in its demand the amount due including unpaid principal, unpaid interest (including any loan subsidy) to date of demand and interest (including any loan subsidy) subsequently accruing from date of demand to proposed payment date. Unless otherwise agreed to by Government, such proposed payment will not be later than 30 days from the date of demand.

The Government will promptly notify the Lender of its receipt of the Holder(s)'s demand for payment. The Lender will promptly provide the Government with the information necessary for Government determination of the appropriate amount due the Holder(s). Any discrepancy between the amount claimed by the Holder(s) and the information submitted by the Lender must be resolved before payment will be approved. Government will notify both parties who must resolve the conflict before payment by Government will be approved. Such conflict will suspend the running of the 30 day payment requirement. Upon receipt of the appropriate information, Government will review the demand and submit it to the State Director for verification. After reviewing the demand the State Director will transmit the request to the Government Finance Office for issuance of the appropriate check. Upon issuance, the Finance Office will notify the office servicing the borrower and State Director and remit the check(s) to the Holder(s).

9. Lender's Obligations.

Lender consents to the purchase by Government and agrees to furnish on request by Government a current statement certified by an appropriate authorized officer of the Lender of the unpaid principal and interest then owed by Borrowers on the loan and the amount including any loan subsidy then owed to any Holder(s). Lender agrees that any purchase by Government does not change, alter or modify any of the Lender's obligations to Government arising from said loan or guarantee nor does it waive any of Government's rights against Lender, and that Government will have the right to set-off against Lender all rights inuring to Government as the Holder of this instrument against Government's obligation to Lender under the Loan Note Guarantee.

10. Repurchase by Lender for Servicing.

If, in the opinion of the Lender, repurchase of the guaranteed portion of the loan is necessary to adequately service the loan, the Holder will sell the portion of the loan to the Lender for an amount equal to the unpaid principal and interest (including any loan subsidy) on such portion less Lender's servicing fee. The Loan Note Guarantee will not cover the note interest to the Holder on the guaranteed loans accruing after 90 days from the date of the demand letter of the Lender or Government to the Holder(s) requesting the Holder(s) to tender their guaranteed portion(s).

- a. The Lender will not repurchase from the Holder(s) for arbitrage purposes or other purposes to further its own financial gain.
- b. Any repurchase will only be made after the Lender obtains Government written approval.
- c. If the Lender does not repurchase the portion from the Holder(s), Government at its option may purchase such guaranteed portions for servicing purposes.

11. Custody of Unguaranteed Portion.

The Lender may retain, or sell the unguaranteed portion of the loan only through participation. Participation, as used in this instrument, means the sale of an interest in the loan wherein the Lender retains the note, collateral securing the note, and all responsibility for loan servicing and liquidation.

12. When Guarantee Terminates.

This Loan Note Guarantee will terminate automatically (a) upon full payment of the guaranteed loan; or (b) upon full payment of any loss obligation hereunder; or (c) upon written notice from the Lender to Government that the guarantee will terminate 30 days after the date of notice, provided the Lender holds all of the guaranteed portion and the Loan Note Guarantee(s) are returned to be cancelled by Government.

13. Settlement.

The amount due under this instrument will be determined and paid as provided in the applicable subpart of 7 C.F.R. part 1980 in effect on the date of this instrument.

14. Loan Subsidy.

*In addition to the interest rate of the note attached hereto, Government will pay a loan subsidy of _____ percent per year. Payments will be made annually.

15. Interest Capitalization.

In the case of Farm Credit Programs loans, the Lender/Holder(s) may capitalize interest only when the note is restructured. When delinquent interest is so treated as principal, the new principal amount may exceed the principal amount of the loan listed herein, but may not exceed statutory loan limits. The new principal amount and new guaranteed portion will be identified at restructuring in an addendum to this Loan Note Guarantee. Such capitalized interest will be covered by this loan Note Guarantee. References to "principal and interest" and "principal advanced" herein, therefore, shall include any capitalized interest on the guaranteed portion of the loan resulting from the restructuring of a Guaranteed Farm Credit Programs loans and not exceeding statutory loan limits.

16. Notices.
All notices will be initiated through the Government

for _____ (State) with mailing address at the day of this instrument:

**If not applicable delete paragraph prior to execution of this instrument.*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(insert applicable agency)

By: _____

(Date)

Title: _____

Assumption Agreement by _____ dated _____ , _____

Assumption Agreement by _____ dated _____ , _____