

**STANDARD  
& POOR'S**

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New York, NY 10041-0003  
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issue no.: 1169499

April 19, 2011

Wise County  
P.O. Box 899  
Decatur, TX 76234  
Attention: Ms. Ann McCuiston, County Auditor

**Re: *US\$1 Wise County, Texas, Issuer Credit Rating, Series 2011, dated: Date of Delivery***

Dear Ms. McCuiston:

Thank you for your request for an Issuer Credit Rating from Standard & Poor's Rating Services for the above-referenced issuer. In accepting a Standard & Poor's rating, you agree to accept and comply with this letter and the enclosed Terms and Conditions.

Please return this executed engagement as soon as possible as no significant analytical work will commence until it is received. Return directly to me (Morna Lebron) at [PublicFinanceEngagementLtrs@sandp.com](mailto:PublicFinanceEngagementLtrs@sandp.com)

We will make every effort to provide you with the high level of analytical performance and knowledgeable service for which we've become known worldwide. You will be contacted directly by your assigned analytic team.

In consideration of our analytic review and issuance of the rating, you agree to pay us a fee of \$15,000. Standard & Poor's reserves the right to adjust the fee if the proposed par amount changes. Payment of the fee is not conditioned on Standard & Poor's issuance of any particular rating. You will reimburse Standard & Poor's for reasonable travel and legal expenses if such expenses are not included in the fee. Should the rating not be issued, you agree to compensate us based on our time, effort, and charges incurred through the date upon which it is determined that the rating will not be issued.

Note Regarding Private and Confidential Ratings: If you request a private rating (other than a confidential rating) under this Agreement, Standard & Poor's will make such rating and related report available by email or through a password-protected website or third-party private document exchange to a limited number of third parties you identify, and you agree not to disclose such rating to any third party other than your professional advisors who are bound by appropriate confidentiality obligations. You also agree to maintain the list of third-parties authorized to access the private rating current and to notify Standard & Poor's in writing of any changes to that list. Standard & Poor's may make access to the private rating subject to certain terms and conditions, and disclose on its public website the fact that the rated entity or obligations (as applicable) has been assigned a private rating.

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Ms. Ann McCuiston

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In the attached Terms & Conditions, any reference to “confidential rating” shall be read to include “private rating”, and any reference to “confidential basis” shall be read to include “private basis”.

If you request a confidential rating under this Agreement, you agree that the rating will be exclusively for your internal use, and not to disclose it to any third party other than your professional advisors who are bound by appropriate confidentiality obligations.

Please sign below to indicate your acceptance of this letter and the enclosed terms and conditions and return the signed original of this letter to me as soon as possible.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions about our fee policies. In addition, please visit our web site at [www.standardandpoors.com](http://www.standardandpoors.com) for our ratings definitions and criteria, research highlights, and related information. We appreciate your business and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely yours,

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services  
a Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC business



By: Morna Lebron  
Manager Fee Administration

bp  
cc: Honorable Bill McElhaney  
Mr. Leon D. Johnson

SE  
2011

Ms. Ann McCuiston

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CONFIRMED, AGREED AND ACCEPTED  
AS OF THE DATE FIRST ABOVE WRITTEN

Wise County

By Permission of County Judge 4-20-11

By: Ann McCuiston  
Name: Ann McCuiston  
Title: Wise County Auditor  
4-20-11

Approved: Bill McElhane  
COUNTY JUDGE  
BILL McELHANEY  
04/20/11

# STANDARD & POOR'S

## **Standard & Poor's Ratings Services Terms and Conditions Applicable To Public Finance Ratings**

You understand and agree that:

General. The ratings and other views of Standard & Poor's Ratings Services ("Ratings Services") are statements of opinion and not statements of fact. A rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold, or sell any securities nor does it comment on market price, marketability, investor preference or suitability of any security. While Ratings Services bases its ratings and other views on information provided by issuers and their agents and advisors, and other information from sources it believes to be reliable, Ratings Services does not perform an audit, and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification, of any information it receives. Such information and Ratings Services' opinions should not be relied upon in making any investment decision. Ratings Services does not act as a "fiduciary" or an investment advisor. Ratings Services neither recommends nor will recommend how an issuer can or should achieve a particular rating outcome nor provides or will provide consulting, advisory, financial or structuring advice.

All Rating Actions in Ratings Services' Sole Discretion. Ratings Services may assign, raise, lower, suspend, place on CreditWatch, or withdraw a rating, and assign or revise an Outlook, at any time, in Ratings Services' sole discretion. Ratings Services may take any of the foregoing actions notwithstanding any request for a confidential or private rating or a withdrawal of a rating, or termination of this Agreement. Ratings Services will not convert a public rating to a confidential or private rating, or a private rating to a confidential rating.

Publication. Ratings Services reserves the right to use, publish, disseminate, or license others to use, publish or disseminate the rating provided hereunder and any analytical reports, including the rationale for the rating, unless you specifically request in connection with the initial rating that the rating be assigned and maintained on a confidential or private basis. If, however, a confidential or private rating or the existence of a confidential or private rating subsequently becomes public through disclosure other than by an act of Ratings Services or its affiliates, Ratings Services reserves the right to treat the rating as a public rating, including, without limitation, publishing the rating and any related analytical reports. Any analytical reports published by Ratings Services are not issued by or on behalf of you or at your request. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Ratings Services reserves the right to use, publish, disseminate or license others to use, publish or disseminate analytical reports with respect to public ratings that have been withdrawn, regardless of the reason for such withdrawal. Ratings Services may publish explanations of Ratings Services' ratings criteria from time to time and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as limiting Ratings Services' ability to modify or refine its ratings criteria at any time as Ratings Services deems appropriate.

Information to be Provided by You. For so long as this agreement is in effect, in connection with the rating provided hereunder, you warrant that you will provide, or cause to be provided, as promptly as practicable, to Ratings Services all information requested by Ratings Services in accordance with its applicable published ratings criteria. The rating, and the maintenance of the rating, may be affected by Ratings Services' opinion of the information received from you or your agents or advisors. You further warrant that all information provided to Ratings Services by you or your agents or advisors regarding the rating or, if applicable, surveillance of the rating, as of the date such information is provided, (i) contains no untrue statement of material fact and does not omit a material fact necessary in order to make such information, in light of the circumstances in which it was provided, not misleading and (ii) does not infringe or violate the intellectual property rights of a third party. A material breach of the warranties in this paragraph shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement.

Confidential Information. For purposes of this Agreement, "Confidential Information" shall mean verbal or written information that you or your agents or advisors have provided to Ratings Services and, in a specific and particularized manner, have marked or otherwise indicated in writing (either prior to or promptly following such disclosure) that such

information is "Proprietary and Confidential." Notwithstanding the foregoing, information disclosed by you or your agents or advisors to Ratings Services shall not be deemed to be Confidential Information, and Ratings Services shall have no obligation to treat such information as Confidential Information, if such information (i) was known by Ratings Services or its affiliates at the time of such disclosure and was not known by Ratings Services to be subject to a prohibition on disclosure, (ii) was known to the public at the time of such disclosure, (iii) becomes known to the public (other than by an act of Ratings Services or its affiliates) subsequent to such disclosure, (iv) is disclosed to Ratings Services or its affiliates by a third party subsequent to such disclosure and Ratings Services reasonably believes that such third party's disclosure to Ratings Services or its affiliates was not prohibited, (v) is developed independently by Ratings Services or its affiliates without reference to the Confidential Information, (vi) is approved in writing by you for public disclosure, or (vii) is required by law or regulation to be disclosed by Ratings Services or its affiliates. Ratings Services acknowledges that it is aware that U.S. and state securities laws impose restrictions on trading in securities when in possession of material, non-public information and has adopted securities trading policies to that effect.

Ratings Services' Use of Information. Except as otherwise provided herein, Ratings Services shall not disclose Confidential Information to third parties. Ratings Services may (i) use Confidential Information to assign, raise, lower, suspend, place on CreditWatch, or withdraw a rating, and assign or revise an Outlook, and (ii) share Confidential Information with its affiliates engaged in the ratings business who are bound by appropriate confidentiality obligations; in each case, subject to the restrictions contained herein, Ratings Services and such affiliates may publish information derived from Confidential Information. Ratings Services may also use, and share Confidential Information with any of its affiliates or agents engaged in the ratings or other financial services businesses who are bound by appropriate confidentiality obligations ("Relevant Affiliates and Agents"), for modelling, benchmarking and research purposes; in each case, subject to the restrictions herein, Ratings Services and such affiliates may publish information derived from Confidential Information. With respect to structured finance ratings not maintained on a confidential or private basis, Ratings Services may publish data aggregated from Confidential Information, excluding data that is specific to and identifies individual debtors ("Relevant Data"), and share such Confidential Information with any of its Relevant Affiliates and Agents for general market dissemination of Relevant Data; you confirm that, to the best of your knowledge, such publication would not breach any confidentiality obligations you may have toward third parties. Ratings Services will comply with all applicable U.S. and state laws, rules and regulations protecting personally-identifiable information and the privacy rights of individuals. Ratings Services acknowledges that you may be entitled to seek specific performance and injunctive or other equitable relief as a remedy for Ratings Services' disclosure of Confidential Information in violation of this Agreement. Ratings Services and its affiliates reserve the right to use, publish, disseminate, or license others to use, publish or disseminate any non-Confidential Information provided by you, your agents or advisors.

Ratings Services Not an Expert, Underwriter or Seller under Securities Laws. Ratings Services has not consented to and will not consent to being named an "expert" or any similar designation under any applicable securities laws or other regulatory guidance, rules or recommendations, including without limitation, Section 7 of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933. Ratings Services is not an "underwriter" or "seller" as those terms are defined under applicable securities laws or other regulatory guidance, rules or recommendations, including without limitation Sections 11 and 12(a)(2) of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933. Rating Services has not performed the role or tasks associated with an "underwriter" or "seller" under the United States federal securities laws or other regulatory guidance, rules or recommendations in connection with this engagement.

Office of Foreign Assets Control. As of the date of this Agreement, (a) neither you nor the issuer (if you are not the issuer) or any of your or the issuer's subsidiaries, or any director or corporate officer of any of the foregoing entities, is the subject of any U.S. sanctions administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("OFAC Sanctions"), (b) neither you nor the issuer (if you are not the issuer) is 50% or more owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any person or entity ("parent") that is the subject of OFAC Sanctions, and (c) to the best of your knowledge, no entity 50% or more owned or controlled by a direct or indirect parent of you or the issuer (if you are not the issuer) is the subject of OFAC sanctions. For so long as this agreement is in effect, you will promptly notify Ratings Services if any of these circumstances change.

Ratings Services' Use of Confidential and Private Ratings. Ratings Services may use confidential and private ratings in its analysis of the debt issued by collateralized debt obligation (CDO) and other investment vehicles. Ratings Services may disclose a confidential or private rating as a confidential credit estimate or assessment to the managers of CDO and similar investment vehicles. Ratings Services may permit CDO managers to use and disseminate credit estimates or

assessments on a limited basis and subject to various restrictions; however, Ratings Services cannot control any such use or dissemination.

**Entire Agreement.** Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent Ratings Services from acting in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and Ratings Services' policies as published from time to time. Subject to the prior sentence, this Agreement, including any amendment made in accordance with provisions hereof, constitutes the complete and entire agreement between the parties on all matters regarding the rating provided hereunder. The terms of this Agreement supersede any other terms and conditions relating to information provided to Ratings Services by you or your agents and advisors hereunder, including without limitation, terms and conditions found on, or applicable to, websites or other means through which you or your agents and advisors make such information available to Ratings Services, regardless if such terms and conditions are entered into before or after the date of this Agreement. Such terms and conditions shall be null and void as to Ratings Services.

**Limitation on Damages.** Ratings Services does not and cannot guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or timeliness of the information relied on in connection with a rating or the results obtained from the use of such information. RATINGS SERVICES GIVES NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE. Ratings Services, its affiliates or third party providers, or any of their officers, directors, shareholders, employees or agents shall not be liable to you, your affiliates or any person asserting claims on your behalf, directly or indirectly, for any inaccuracies, errors, or omissions, in each case regardless of cause, actions, damages (consequential, special, indirect, incidental, punitive, compensatory, exemplary or otherwise), claims, liabilities, costs, expenses, legal fees or losses (including, without limitation, lost income or lost profits and opportunity costs) in any way arising out of or relating to the rating provided hereunder or the related analytic services even if advised of the possibility of such damages or other amounts except to the extent such damages or other amounts are finally determined by a court of competent jurisdiction in a proceeding in which you and Ratings Services are parties to result from gross negligence or willful misconduct of Ratings Services. In furtherance and not in limitation of the foregoing, Ratings Services will not be liable to you, your affiliates or any person asserting claims on your behalf in respect of any decisions alleged to be made by any person based on anything that may be perceived as advice or recommendations. In the event that Ratings Services is nevertheless held liable to you, your affiliates, or any person asserting claims on your behalf for monetary damages under this Agreement, in no event shall Ratings Services be liable in an aggregate amount in excess of seven times the aggregate fees paid to Ratings Services for the rating giving rise to the cause of action, up to a maximum of US\$5,000,000 except to the extent such monetary damages directly result from Ratings Services' intentional wrongdoing or willful misconduct. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply regardless of the form of action, damage, claim, liability, cost, expense, or loss, whether in contract, statute, tort (including, without limitation, negligence), or otherwise. Neither party waives any protections, privileges, or defenses it may have under law, including but not limited to, the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America.

**Termination of Agreement.** This Agreement may be terminated by either party at any time upon written notice to the other party. Except where expressly limited to the term of this Agreement, these Terms and Conditions shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

**No Third-Party Beneficiaries.** Nothing in this Agreement, or the rating when issued, is intended or should be construed as creating any rights on behalf of any third parties, including, without limitation, any recipient of the rating. No person is intended as a third party beneficiary of this Agreement or of the rating when issued.

**Binding Effect.** This Agreement shall be binding on, and inure to the benefit of, the parties hereto and their successors and assigns.

**Severability.** In the event that any term or provision of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, then the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected, impaired, or invalidated, and each such term and provision shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**Amendments.** This Agreement may not be amended or superseded except by a writing that specifically refers to this Agreement and is executed manually or electronically by authorized representatives of both parties.

Governing law. You irrevocably agree that this Agreement and the rating letter, for purposes of any claim against Rating Services that may be asserted by you, your affiliates or any person asserting claims on your behalf, shall be governed by the internal laws of the State of New York. You irrevocably agree that, for purposes of any claim against Rating Services that may be asserted by you, your affiliates or any person asserting claims on your behalf in any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement, the state courts of New York located in the County of New York or the U.S. federal court for the Southern District of New York shall be the exclusive forums for such disputes and the parties hereby consent to the personal jurisdiction of such courts. For purposes of any claim against you that Rating Services may assert in any dispute arising out of or relating to the Agreement, neither party waives its right to contest the applicable governing law or the appropriate forum, including in connection with any assertion of sovereign immunity.