

VENDOR AGREEMENT
COPREHENSIVE ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The purpose of the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program ("CEAP") funded from the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program ("LIHEAP") grant is to maintain an energy supply to heat and cool the residences of eligible low-income clients.

The Energy Services provider, (or "Vendor,") agrees to honor the purpose of the CEAP grant and to accept pledges of payment from CEAP agencies only for certified customers to whom Vendor continues to provide energy services. The Energy Assistance Provider, (or "Agency") agrees to make payment only for eligible low-income clients.

This vendor Agreement is by and between:

Webb County, A political subdivision of the State of Texas for the Community Action Agency and Energy Assistance Provider (Agency)

Nueces Electric Cooperative *NEC Co-op Energy*
Electric Provider (Vendor)

Vendor and Agency agree to assist customers in the following counties: WEBB COUNTY

This agreement shall be effective from the 1ST day of Oct. 2017 for a period not to exceed two years from the effective date. Either party may terminate this agreement by written notice. Such written notice of termination shall not affect any obligation by either party incurred prior to the receipt of such notice. Notice shall be sent via certified mail with return receipt requested.

(Vendor Name)

Nueces Electric Cooperative *NEC Co-op Energy*

(Vendor Mailing Address)

*14353 Cooperative Ave.
Robstown, TX 78380*

WEBB COUNTY c/o Webb County CAA

(Name of Agency)

520 Reynolds St. St., Second Floor, Laredo, TX. 78040

(Agency Mailing Address)

The Agency name above represents and warrants to Vendor that it is sub recipient of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs ("TDHCA") and as such is authorized and has received funding from the TDHCA to provide bill payment assistance service for eligible low income households.

The Vendor name above represents and warrants that it will apply any payments received from Agency to the account of the customer that the Agency has determined to be eligible under the CEAP guideline and such is a "Certified Customer".

Vendor will, with reference to a Certified Customer:

- Extend the CEAP applicant's energy service for up to five business day while the Agency determines whether the CEAP applicant is eligible pursuant to the CEAP guidelines.
- Upon accepting pledges from Agency for Certified Customer, continue or restore energy service to Certified Customer with no increases in charges, service charges or other charges affecting the total cost of the bill, except as allowed by the state tariff cost registered with the Public Utility Commission "PUC" and/or Texas Railroad Commission.
- In the event the full past due balance is not paid by the Agency, the Certified Customer must pay the remaining balance on or before the disconnect date stated in the customer's Disconnect Notice required by PUC regulations in order to avoid disconnection or be eligible for reconnection. Nothing in this agreement requires the Vendor to reconnect the customer upon receipt of a pledge that does not cover the full past due balance or if the customer has already been disconnected by the time the pledge is received by the vendor.
- Invoice the Certified Customer in accordance with Vendor's normal billing practices.
- Upon verbal or written request from Agency, provide at no cost to the Agency the Certified customer's billing and usage history for previous twelve month, or available history plus monthly estimates if less than twelve months of billing history and usage is available. Vendor will transmit such billing history via electronic mail or facsimile as soon as possible, but no later than forty-eight hours following the request.
- Work with Agency and Certified Customer to explore the feasibility of offering flexible payment arrangements that may include, without limitation waiving security deposits, reconnect fees, application fees, and all other fees whenever possible;

- Not discriminate against Certified Customer in price or services, including the availability of deferred payment plan, level or average payment plans, discount, budget, advance payment or other credit plans.
- Not refuse to provide energy service or otherwise discriminate in the marketing and provision of energy service to any Certified Customer because of race, creed, color nation origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, lawful source of income, level of income disability, financial status, location of customer in an economically distressed geographic area, or qualification for low-income or energy-efficiency service.
- Allow Agency forty-five days from the date of the pledge to forward payment to the Vendor. Vendor agrees not to consider the portion of the Certified Customer's account to be paid by the Agency delinquent if said payment is received within the above mention forty-five days of identifying a certified. Customer.
- Not interrupt service if Certified Customer is eligible under PUC regulations and enters into an agreement with the Vendor concerning how the Certified Customer will pay the balance owed vendor and the Certified Customer is meeting the obligation under such agreement.

The Agency will:

- Obtain written permission for Agency to request and have access to customer information, including confidential or personal account information, credit and payment history, from customer seeking Agency's assistance. Social Security Numbers are not required for the CEAP program and may not be disclosed to Agency.
- Provide to Vendor, at Vendor's request, customer's written permission for Agency's access to customer information as stated above.
- Not provide pledges on behalf of a Certified Customer to Vendor without having adequate funds to pay such pledges.
- Pay pledges within forty-five days of making pledge to Vendor.
- Determine if customer is a Certified Customer within five days of contacting Vendor.\
- Provide Vendor a list of names, telephone numbers and e-mail Address of Agency staff designated to make pledges on behalf of the Agency and Certified Clients, if requested from Vendor.

The terms of confidential transaction under this agreement or any other information exchanged by the Agency and Vendor relating to any transaction shall not be disclosed to any person not employed or retained by the Agency or Vendor, their affiliated, or brokers, except to the extent disclosure is 1) required by law; 2) necessary to disclosed to the other party in connection with a dispute between the parties; 3) otherwise permitted by written consent of the other party; 4) required by guarantors to be disclosed; 5) information which must be disclosed to a third party to transmit energy; 6) to meet reliability council, regulatory, administrative, judicial, governmental,

or regulated commodity exchange requirements where necessary; or 7) of information which was or is hereafter in the public domain (except by breach of this Agreement).

NEC Co-op Energy

Frank Wilson

Frank Wilson

Authorized Vendor Signature

Date: Agreement 10/2/17

Type Name of Authorized Signature

Vendor: (Area Code) Telephone Number

Frank Wilson

~~(361)-387-2581~~

Title of Authorized Signature:

855-632-7348

Chief Retail Officer

fax 361-387-2919

Vendor Email Address:

fwilson@neccoopenergy.com

Authorized Agency Signature

Date Agreement Signed

Tano E. Tijerina

Authorized Agency Name

Webb County Judge

Authorized Agency Title

(956)523-4620

Agency (Area Code) Telephone Number

**Request for Taxpayer
Identification Number and Certification**

Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.

1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.
MUECES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above
MEC CO-OP ENERGY

3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification; check only one of the following seven boxes:
 Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC
 C Corporation
 S Corporation
 Partnership
 Trust/estate
 Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C-C corporation, S-S corporation, P-partnership) ▶
NOT FOR PROFIT
 Note. For a single-member LLC that is disregarded, do not check LLC; check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner.
 Other (see instructions) ▶

4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain individuals; see instructions on page 3).
 Exempt payee code (if any)
 Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any)
 (Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)

5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)
14353 COOPERATIVE AVE

6 City, state, and ZIP code
ROBSTOWN TX 78380

7 List account number(s) here (optional)

Requester's name and address (optional)

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN* on page 3.

Note. If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1 and the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number

or

Employer identification number

7	4	-	0	8	1	1	7	7	2
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Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 3.

Sign Here

Signature of U.S. person ▶ *Adam J. ...*

Date ▶ *06.14.17*

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.
Future developments. Information about developments affecting Form W-9 (such as legislation enacted after we release it) is at www.irs.gov/irg.

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)
- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (block or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)

- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
 - Form 1099-C (cancelled debt)
 - Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)
- Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.
 If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See *What is backup withholding?* on page 2.

- By signing the filled-out form, you:
- Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued).
 - Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
 - Claim exemption from backup withholding (if you are a U.S. exempt payee, if applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person you do not have any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income, and
 - Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting, is correct. See *What is FATCA reporting?* on page 2 for further information.