

Exhibit A

AGREEMENT TO PAY ASSESSMENT AND FINANCE IMPROVEMENTS

CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE COMMUNITIES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY CALIFORNIAFIRST (COUNTY OF _____)

This AGREEMENT TO PAY ASSESSMENT AND FINANCE IMPROVEMENTS (this "**Agreement**") is made and entered into as of this _____ day of _____, 20____, by and between the California Statewide Communities Development Authority, a joint exercise of powers authority (the "**Authority**"), and the record owner(s) (the "**Property Owner**") of the fee title to the real property identified on Exhibit A (the "**Property**").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Authority is a joint exercise of powers authority the members of which include numerous cities and counties in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has established the CaliforniaFIRST program (the "**CaliforniaFIRST Program**") to allow the financing of certain renewable energy, energy efficiency and water efficiency improvements that are permanently fixed to real property (the "**Authorized Improvements**") through the levy of contractual assessments pursuant to Chapter 29 of Division 7 of the Streets & Highways Code ("**Chapter 29**") and the issuance of improvement bonds under the Improvement Bond Act of 1915 (Streets and Highways Code Sections 8500 and following) (the "**1915 Act**") upon the security of the unpaid contractual assessments; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 29 provides that assessments may be levied under its provisions only with the free and willing consent of the owner of each lot or parcel on which an assessment is levied at the time the assessment is levied pursuant to a contract between the property owner and the public agency; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has conducted the proceedings required by Chapter 29 with respect to the territory within the boundaries of the County of _____ (the "**County**"); and

WHEREAS, the Property is located in the boundaries of [the City of _____ (the "**City**")][the County], and the [City/County] has consented to (i) owners of property within its jurisdiction (the "**Participating Property Owners**") participating in the CaliforniaFIRST Program and (ii) the Authority conducting assessment proceedings under Chapter 29 and issuing bonds under the 1915 Act to finance the Authorized Improvements; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 29, the Authority and the Property Owner wish to enter into a contract pursuant to which the Property Owner would agree to pay an assessment in order to finance the installation on the Property of the Authorized Improvements described in Exhibit B (the "**Improvements**") and the Authority would agree to provide financing, all on the terms set forth in this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the material covenants hereinafter contained, the Property Owner and the Authority formally covenant, agree and bind themselves and their successors and assigns as follows:

AGREEMENT

Section 1. Purpose. The Property Owner and the Authority are entering into this Agreement for the purpose of financing the installation of the Improvements identified on Exhibit B on the Property.

Section 2. The Property. This Agreement relates to the real property identified on Exhibit A. The Property Owner has supplied to the Authority current evidence of its ownership of fee title to the Property and possesses all legal authority necessary to execute this Agreement on behalf of the Property Owner.

Section 3. Agreement to Pay Assessment; Prepayment; Non-Completion Assessment.

(a) Payment of Initial Assessment. The Property Owner hereby freely and willingly agrees to pay the initial assessment set forth on Exhibit C (the “**Initial Assessment**”). Except as otherwise set forth in this Agreement, the Initial Assessment will be paid in the installments set forth on Exhibit C.

(b) Payment of Non-Completion Assessment. The Property Owner hereby freely and willingly agrees to pay the additional assessment (the “**Non-Completion Assessment**”; together with the Initial Assessment, the “**Assessment**”) identified on Exhibit A in the event that, following issuance of bonds by the Authority to finance installation of the Improvements, the Property Owner fails to install the Improvements in compliance with the CaliforniaFIRST Program rules or otherwise fails to meet the conditions established by the Authority for financing through the CaliforniaFIRST Program. The Property Owner acknowledges that the purpose of the Non-Completion Assessment is to provide for redemption of the related bonds. The Property Owner further acknowledges that the Non-Completion Assessment will be levied in full by the Authority as set forth in Section 5898.30 of Chapter 29 in the first fiscal year in which the Authority is able to cause the Non-Completion Assessment to be placed on the County property tax roll.

(c) Prepayment of the Assessment. The Assessment may be prepaid, in whole or in part, at any time upon the payment of (a) the whole or a portion of the unpaid principal component of the Assessment, (b) the accrued but unpaid interest component of the whole or applicable portion of the unpaid principal component of the Assessment through the prepayment date, (c) a prepayment premium in the amount set forth on Exhibit A and (d) the reasonable costs of the Authority related to such prepayment.

(d) Absolute Obligation. The Property Owner hereby agrees that the Assessment will not be subject to reduction, offset or credit of any kind in the event that the bonds secured thereby are refunded or for any other reason.

Section 4. Collection of Assessment; Lien. The Assessment, and the interest and penalties thereon as a result of a delinquency in the payment of any installment of the Assessment, shall constitute a lien against the Property until they are paid and shall be collected and shall have the lien priority as set forth in Chapter 29.

The Property Owner acknowledges that if any Assessment installment is not paid when due, the Authority has the right to have the delinquent installment and its associated penalties and interest stripped off the secured property tax roll and immediately enforced through a judicial foreclosure action that could result in a sale of the Property for the payment of the delinquent installments, associated penalties and interest, and all costs of suit, including attorneys' fees. The Property Owner acknowledges that, if bonds are sold to finance the Improvements, the Authority may obligate itself, through a covenant with the owners of the bonds, to exercise its foreclosure rights with respect to delinquent Assessment installments under specified circumstances.

Section 5. Financing of the Improvements.

(a) Agreement to Finance Improvements. The Authority hereby agrees to use the Assessment to finance the Improvements, including the payment of the Authority's reasonable costs of administering the CaliforniaFIRST Program.

(b) Assessment Installments. The Property Owner agrees to the issuance of bonds by the Authority to finance the installation of the Improvements. The interest rate used to calculate the Initial Assessment installments set forth on Exhibit C is identified on Exhibit A. If the Authority determines in its reasonable discretion that the Initial Assessment installments may be reduced because the applicable interest rate on the bonds issued to finance installation of the Improvements is lower than the interest rate specified in Exhibit A, then the Authority may substitute a revised Exhibit C for the attached Exhibit C, shall provide a copy of such revised Exhibit C to the Property Owner and shall cause a notice of such revision to be recorded in the office of the County Recorder.

Section 6. Term. Except as otherwise set forth in this Agreement, this Agreement shall expire upon the final payment or prepayment of the Assessment.

Section 7. Recordation of Documents. The Property Owner hereby authorizes and directs the Authority to cause to be recorded in the office of the County Recorder the various notices and other documents required by Chapter 29 and other applicable laws to be recorded against the Property.

Section 8. Notice. To the extent required by applicable law, the Property Owner hereby agrees to provide written notice to any subsequent purchaser of the Property of the obligation to pay the Assessment pursuant to this Agreement.

Section 9. Waivers, Acknowledgment and Agreement. The Property Owner hereby waives its right to repeal the Assessment by initiative or any other action, or to file any lawsuit or other proceeding to challenge the Assessment or any aspect of the proceedings of the Authority undertaken in connection with the CaliforniaFIRST Program. The Property Owner hereby agrees that the Property Owner and its successors in interest to fee title in the Property shall be solely responsible for the installation, operation and maintenance of the Improvements. The Property Owner hereby acknowledges that the Property will be responsible for payment of the Assessment regardless of whether the Improvements are properly installed, operated or maintained as expected.

The Property Owner hereby agrees that the Authority is entering into this Agreement solely for the purpose of assisting the Property Owner with the financing of the installation of the

Improvements, and that the Authority and [the City/County] have no responsibility of any kind for, and shall have no liability arising out of, the installation, operation, financing, refinancing or maintenance of the Improvements. Based upon the foregoing, the Property Owner hereby waives the right to recover from and fully and irrevocably releases the Authority, the [City/County] and any and all agents, employees, attorneys, representatives and successors and assigns of the Authority and the [City/County] from any and all losses, liabilities, claims, damages (including consequential damages), penalties, fines, forfeitures, costs and expenses (including all reasonable out-of-pocket litigation costs and reasonable attorney's fees), relating to the subject matter of this Agreement that the Property Owner may now have or hereafter acquire against the Authority, the [City/County] and any and all agents, employees, attorneys, representatives and successors and assigns of the Authority or the [City/County].

To the extent that the foregoing waivers and agreements are subject to Section 1542 of the California Civil Code or similar provisions of other applicable law, it is the intention of the Property Owner that the foregoing waivers and agreements will be effective as a bar to any and all losses, liabilities, claims, damages (including consequential damages), penalties, fines, forfeitures, costs and expenses (including all reasonable out-of-pocket litigation costs and reasonable attorney's fees), of whatever character, nature and kind, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and Property Owner agrees to waive any and all rights and benefits conferred upon the Property Owner by the provisions of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code or similar provisions of applicable law. Section 1542 reads as follows:

"A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR."

By initialing below, the Property Owner agrees to waive the provisions of Section 1542 in connection with the matters that are the subject of the foregoing waivers and releases.

Property Owner's Initials: _____

The waivers, releases and agreements set forth in this Section 9 shall survive termination of this Agreement.

Section 10. Indemnification. The Property Owner agrees to indemnify, defend, protect, and hold harmless the Authority, the [City/County] and any and all agents, employees, attorneys, representatives and successors and assigns of the Authority or the [City/County], from and against all losses, liabilities, claims, damages (including consequential damages), penalties, fines, forfeitures, costs and expenses (including all reasonable out-of-pocket litigation costs and reasonable attorney's fees) and any demands of any nature whatsoever related directly or indirectly to, or arising out of or in connection with, (i) the Assessment, (ii) the financing by the Authority of the Improvements, (iii) the Improvements, (iv) or any other fact, circumstance or event related to the subject matter of this Agreement, regardless of whether such losses, liabilities, claims, damages (including consequential damages), penalties, fines, forfeitures, costs and expenses (including all reasonable out-of-pocket litigation costs and reasonable attorney's fees) accrue before or after the date of this Agreement.

The provisions of this Section 10 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

Section 11. Amendment. Except as set forth in Section 5(b), this Agreement may be modified only by the written agreement of the Authority and the Property Owner.

Section 12. Binding Effect; Assignment. This Agreement inures to the benefit of and is binding upon the Authority, the Property Owner and their respective successors and assigns.

The Authority has the right to assign any or all of its rights and obligations under this Agreement without the consent of the Property Owner. The obligation to pay the Assessment set forth in this Agreement is an obligation of the Property and no agreement or action of the Property Owner will be competent to impair in any way the Authority's rights, including, but not limited to, the right to pursue judicial foreclosure of the Assessment lien or the right to enforce the collection of the Assessment or any installment thereof against the Property.

Section 13. Exhibits. The Exhibits to this Agreement are incorporated into this Agreement by this reference as if set forth in their entirety in this Agreement.

Section 14. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding will not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision of this Agreement.

Section 15. Corrective Instruments. The Authority and the Property Owner agree that they will, from time to time, execute, acknowledge and deliver, or cause to be executed, acknowledged and delivered, such supplements hereto and such further instruments as may reasonably be required in order to carry out the expressed intention of this Agreement.

Section 16. Governing Law; Venue. This Agreement is governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Any legal action brought under this Agreement must be instituted in the Superior Court of the County of Sacramento, State of California; provided, however, actions to foreclose delinquent installments of the Assessment will be instituted in the superior court of the County or as otherwise provided by law.

Section 17. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which is an original and all of which constitutes one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Authority and the Property Owner have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives, all as of the date first above written.

**CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE COMMUNITIES
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

By: _____

Its: _____

The following are the authorized signatories of the Property Owner:

| | |
|--|--|
| Name: _____ By: _____ Its: _____ | Name: _____ By: _____ Its: _____ |
| Name: _____ By: _____ Its: _____ | Name: _____ By: _____ Its: _____ |

EXHIBIT A

Agreement Number: _____

Property Owner: _____

Property (APN/Legal Description): _____

Prepayment Premium: _____

Interest Rate Used to Calculate Initial Assessment Installments (prior to issuance of Bonds): _____

Non-Completion Assessment: An amount equal to _____% of the Initial Assessment identified on Exhibit C

EXHIBIT B
IMPROVEMENTS

The Improvements are described on the attached documentation.

[Attach notary pages]