

REQUEST FOR AGENDA PLACEMENT FORM

Submission Deadline - Tuesday, 12:00 PM before Court Dates

SUBMITTED BY: Steve Watson TODAY'S DATE: 9/30/2021

DEPARTMENT: Auditor

SIGNATURE OF DEPARTMENT HEAD: 

REQUESTED AGENDA DATE: 10/8/2021

SPECIFIC AGENDA WORDING:

Consideration of Engagement Letter with S&P Global Rating for credit rating services and authorization for County Judge to sign.

COMMISSIONERS COURT

OCT 08 2021

Approved

PERSON(S) TO PRESENT ITEM:

Steve Watson

SUPPORT MATERIAL: (Must enclose supporting documentation)

TIME: 5
(Anticipated number of minutes needed to discuss item)

ACTION ITEM:
WORKSHOP:
CONSENT:
EXECUTIVE:

STAFF NOTICE:

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

IT DEPARTMENT:

AUDITOR:

PURCHASING DEPARTMENT:

PERSONNEL:

PUBLIC WORKS:

BUDGET COORDINATOR:

OTHER:

This Section to be completed by County Judge's Office

ASSIGNED AGENDA DATE: _____

REQUEST RECEIVED BY COUNTY JUDGE'S OFFICE:

COURT MEMBER APPROVAL: _____

DATE: _____

September 29, 2021

Johnson County
Johnson County Courthouse
2 North Main Street, Room 312
Cleburne, TX 76033
Attention: Mr. Steve Watson, County Auditor

Re: *US\$16,200,000 Johnson County, Texas, General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2021, dated: November 15, 2021, due: February 15, 2035, Public*

Dear Mr. Watson:

Thank you for your request for a S&P Global Ratings credit rating as described above. We agree to provide the credit rating in accordance with this letter and the rating letter, and you agree to perform your obligations set out in sections 1, 2 and 3 of this letter. Unless otherwise indicated, the term "issuer" in this letter means both the issuer and the obligor if the obligor is not the issuer.

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

1. Fees and Termination.

In consideration of our analytic review and issuance of the credit rating, you agree to pay us the following fees:

Rating Fee. You agree to pay us a credit rating fee of **\$20,500** plus all applicable value-added, sale, use and similar taxes. S&P Global Ratings reserves the right to adjust the credit rating fee if the proposed par amount changes. Payment of the credit rating fee is not conditioned on S&P Global Ratings issuance of any particular credit rating.

Other Fees and Expenses. You will reimburse S&P Global Ratings for reasonable travel and legal expenses. Should the credit 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 credit rating will not be issued.

Termination of Engagement. This engagement may be terminated by either party at any time upon written notice to the other party.

2. Private and Confidential Credit Ratings.

Unless you request otherwise, the credit rating provided under this Agreement will be a public credit rating.

If you request a confidential credit rating under this Agreement, you agree that the credit 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 or as otherwise required by law or regulation or for regulatory purposes.

If you request a private credit rating under this Agreement, S&P Global Ratings will make such credit 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 credit rating to any third party other than (A) to your professional advisors who are bound by appropriate confidentiality obligations, (B) as required by law or regulation or for regulatory purposes, or (C) for the purpose of preparing required periodic reports relating to the assets owned by a special purpose vehicle that has purchased the rated obligation, provided that the preparer(s) of the reports must agree to keep the information confidential and the private credit rating shall not be referred to or listed in the reports under the heading "credit rating," "rating" or "S&P rating", and shall be identified only as an "S&P Global Ratings implied rating" or similar term. If a third-

party private document exchange is used, you agree to pay a one time administrative fee of \$10,000 in addition to the fees outlined in this Agreement. You also agree to maintain the list of third-parties authorized to access the private credit rating current and to notify S&P Global Ratings in writing of any changes to that list. S&P Global Ratings may make access to the private credit 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 credit rating.

3. Information to be Provided by You.

To assign and maintain the credit rating pursuant to this letter, S&P Global Ratings must receive all relevant financial and other information, including notice of material changes to financial and other information provided to us and in relevant documents, as soon as such information is available. Relevant financial and other information includes, but is not limited to, information about direct bank loans and debt and debt-like instruments issued to, or entered into with, financial institutions, insurance companies and/or other entities, whether or not disclosure of such information would be required under S.E.C. Rule 15c2-12. You understand that S&P Global Ratings relies on you and your agents and advisors for the accuracy, timeliness and completeness of the information submitted in connection with the credit rating and the continued flow of material information as part of the surveillance process. You also understand that credit ratings, and the maintenance of credit ratings, may be affected by S&P Global Ratings opinion of the information received from issuers and their agents and advisors.

4. Other.

S&P Global Ratings 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. S&P Global Ratings has not performed and will not perform 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 a credit rating engagement.

S&P Global Ratings has established policies and procedures to maintain the confidentiality of certain non-public information received from issuers, their agents or advisors. For these purposes, "Confidential Information" shall mean verbal or written information that the issuer, its agents or advisors have provided to S&P Global Ratings 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 "Confidential."

S&P Global Ratings does not and cannot guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or timeliness of the information relied on in connection with a credit rating or the results obtained from the use of such information. S&P GLOBAL RATINGS GIVES NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE. S&P Global Ratings, its affiliates or third party providers, or any of their officers, directors, shareholders, employees or agents shall not be liable to any person 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 a credit rating or the related analytic services even if advised of the possibility of such damages or other amounts.

With respect to each rating that you have asked S&P Global Ratings (a "nationally recognized statistical rating organization") to rate under this Agreement, you understand that S&P Global Ratings is required under Rule 17g-7(a)(1)(ii)(J)(1) through (2) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (hereafter "J1/J2"), to determine, ahead of publication of the rating, the entity paying for credit rating services, the role that entity undertakes, and whether the entity paying for credit rating services has also paid S&P Global Ratings for ancillary services during the most recently ended fiscal year. You acknowledge that the undersigned contracted party is the entity responsible for payment of credit rating services, and will, by default, be the legal entity S&P Global Ratings uses for its J1/J2 disclosures, unless otherwise indicated by you. To the extent that you do not expect to pay the fees due under this Agreement directly, you undertake to notify S&P Global Ratings, in writing and in advance of any credit rating publication, of a) the full legal name, address and role of the entity that will be the recipient ("bill-to") of S&P Global Ratings invoices due under this Agreement and b) where different to the bill-to entity, the full legal name, address and role of the entity that will be the payer of invoices; you understand that we cannot use a paying agent or similar intermediary for the purpose of the disclosure. You understand, as contracting party, your role in enabling S&P Global Ratings to accurately present the disclosure of its credit ratings.

Please feel free to contact Michael Abad at michael.abad@spglobal.com if you have any questions or suggestions about our fee policies. In addition, please visit our web site at 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,
Blakely Fishlin

By :

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Blakely Fishlin". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the right of the "By :" text.

Name: Blakely D. Fishlin

Title: Director, Sr. Lead, Product Management & Development
ma

cc:

Ms. Penny Brooker, Administrative Associate
Hilltop Securities Inc.

S&P Global Ratings - Data Protection Appendix to Terms and Conditions

1. **This Appendix:** This Data Protection Appendix (“**Appendix**”) is incorporated into the Engagement Letter and S&P Global Ratings Terms and Conditions (together, the “**Agreement**”) between S&P Global Ratings and you. In the event of conflict, this Appendix takes priority over the provisions of the Agreement but solely to the extent of the conflict.

2. **Definitions:** All words, terms or phrases, the meaning of which are defined in the Agreement, shall have the same meaning where used in this Appendix. In this Appendix, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

“**controller**”, “**processor**”, “**data subject**”, “**personal data**”, “**processing**”, “**process**”, “**special categories of personal data**” and “**joint controller**” shall have the meanings given in Applicable Data Protection Law; where these terms are not defined in the Applicable Data Protection Law, they shall have the meaning given to them in the GDPR;

“**Analytical Data**” means underlying personal data contained within the information which is provided to S&P Global Ratings for the purposes of the provision of the Services, such as the personal data of individuals who have financial products in place which are relevant to the issuing of a rating;

“**Applicable Data Protection Law**” shall mean, as applicable, the **EU General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation 2016/679)** (as may be amended, superseded or replaced) (“**GDPR**”) and all other supplemental or implementing laws relating to data privacy in the relevant European Union member state, including where applicable the guidance and codes of practice issued by the relevant supervisory authority, and/or all applicable data protection and privacy laws, regulations, binding guidance and mandatory codes of practice of other countries;

“**Client Data**” means personal data of data subjects, such as your employees, associates or partners, that is provided to S&P Global Ratings during the provision by S&P Global Ratings of the Services to you, such as name, job title, name of employer, office email address, office physical address, internet protocol address, office telephone number and language selection (and excludes special categories of personal data);

“**Data**” means Analytical Data and Client Data;

“**Destination Jurisdiction**” means a jurisdiction in respect of which additional safeguards are required under Applicable Data Protection Law of the Origin Jurisdiction in order lawfully to transfer personal data overseas to that jurisdiction;

“**Origin Jurisdiction**” means any of the following: a jurisdiction within the European Economic Area, the United Kingdom, Switzerland or Dubai International Financial Centre;

“**Permitted Purpose**” means processing in accordance with Applicable Data Protection Law:

(A) by employees, officers, consultants, agents and advisors of S&P Global Ratings or its affiliates of Data: (i) to provide ratings and other products and services (the “**Services**”) to you, (ii) to communicate with you regarding the Services that may be of interest to you, (iii) as described in the S&P Global Ratings’ Use of Information section of the Agreement and (iv) as otherwise permitted in the Agreement;

(B) of personal data by you to access and use the Services;

“**Restricted Transfer**” means a transfer of Data from within an Origin Jurisdiction, or that is otherwise subject to Applicable Data Protection Law of an Origin Jurisdiction, to a Destination Jurisdiction;

“**Standard Contractual Clauses**” means the standard contractual clauses (as adopted by European Commission Decision 2021/914 on 4 June 2021) for the transfer of personal data to third countries pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council (a copy of the current version of which is accessible at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2021/914/oj), as completed in the form available at: https://www.spglobal.com/assets/documents/ratings/ratings_scc_controller_to_controller_final.pdf, and which shall be deemed incorporated into this Appendix by reference solely for purposes of Clause 8 of this Appendix and within which you are the “**Data Exporter**” and S&P Global Ratings is the “**Data Importer**.”

3. **Disclosure of data:** Each party will only disclose personal data to each other to process strictly for the Permitted Purpose.

4. Relationship of the parties: Except as may be specifically otherwise agreed, the parties acknowledge that you are a **controller** of the Data you disclose to S&P Global Ratings and that S&P Global Ratings will process the Data you disclose to S&P Global Ratings as a separate and independent controller strictly for the Permitted Purpose. In no event will the parties process the Data as joint controllers. Each party shall be individually and separately responsible for complying with the obligations that apply to it as a controller under Applicable Data Protection Law. Please see our Customer Privacy Policy (available at <https://www.spglobal.com/corporate-privacy-policy>) and Cookie Notice (available at <https://www.spglobal.com/corporate-privacy-policy/corporate-privacy-and-cookie-notice>) for further information regarding how personal data that you provide to S&P Global Ratings in connection with the Services will be used and maintained.

5. Notifications: Except where and to the extent prohibited by applicable law, each party (“**Notifier**”) will inform the other promptly after any inquiry, communication, request or complaint relating to Notifier's processing of the personal data transferred by the other party to the Notifier under this Appendix which is received from: (i) any governmental, regulatory or supervisory authority, (ii) any data subject or (iii) any other person or entity alleging unlawful or unauthorized processing.

6. Use and Restrictions on Use: Notwithstanding the information that you are entitled to use from the Services and distribute to third parties to the extent permitted by the Agreement, you shall not distribute or use any personal data to which you have had access when receiving the Services other than for the Permitted Purpose.

7. Security: The parties shall implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect the Data from: (i) accidental, unauthorized or unlawful destruction and (ii) loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure or access to the Data.

8. International Transfer of Data:

8.1 S&P Global Ratings may process (or permit to be processed) any Data in any jurisdiction (including any Destination Jurisdiction) or receive and make Restricted Transfers in relation to any Data provided that it does so in accordance with Applicable Data Protection Law.

8.2 To the extent that you are subject to Applicable Data Protection Law, the Standard Contractual Clauses shall: (i) apply, to the extent permitted by Applicable Data Protection Law, to Restricted Transfers by you (as Data Exporter) to S&P Global Ratings (as Data Importer); (ii) be deemed to be populated with your details as set out in the Agreement; (iii) be incorporated into and made a part of this Appendix; and (iv) be deemed to be executed by you executing the Agreement.

8.3 To the extent that the Standard Contractual Clauses apply between S&P Global Ratings and you:

(a) Where the Origin Jurisdiction is not within the European Economic Area, the Standard Contractual Clauses shall be construed in light of the equivalent provisions of relevant Applicable Data Protection Law of the Origin Jurisdiction insofar as Applicable Data Protection Law permits, and in particular references within the Standard Contractual Clauses: (i) to provisions of the GDPR shall be read as being references to any equivalent provisions in the Applicable Data Protection Law of the Origin Jurisdiction; (ii) to Member States and the Union shall be read as being references to the relevant Origin Jurisdiction; and (iii) to third countries shall be read as being references to the relevant Destination Jurisdiction, in each case as the context requires;

(b) Each party shall perform its obligations under the Standard Contractual Clauses at its own cost; and

(c) If the Standard Contractual Clauses are amended or replaced, the parties agree to take steps to put in place any amended or replacement version between them, as required by Applicable Data Protection Law.

9. Survival: This Appendix shall survive termination or expiry of the Agreement. Upon termination or expiry of the Agreement, S&P Global Ratings may continue to process the Data, provided that such processing complies with the requirements of this Appendix and Applicable Data Protection Law.

Paula G. Reid

From: Paula G. Reid
Sent: Friday, October 8, 2021 11:56 AM
To: USPFEengagementLtrs@spglobal.com; County Judge (public address)
Cc: Steven Watson; penny.brooker@hilltopsecurities.com
Subject: RE: Johnson Cnty - S&P Engagement Letter, 967565

From: USPFEengagementLtrs@spglobal.com <USPFEengagementLtrs@spglobal.com>
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 10:25 AM
To: County Judge (public address) <countyjudge@johnsoncountytexas.org>
Cc: Steven Watson <swatson@johnsoncountytexas.org>; penny.brooker@hilltopsecurities.com
Subject: Johnson Cnty - S&P Engagement Letter, 967565

Some people who received this message don't often get email from uspfeengagementltrs@spglobal.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*** External sender - use caution with links or attachments ***

Attached is a revised engagement letter for the transaction that you recently requested be rated by S&P Global Ratings. You must indicate that you are ready to proceed with this rating engagement for S&P Global Ratings to begin the analytical rating process.

If you are ready to proceed with the rating engagement, please mark an X in the first bracket below. Please note the X must be capitalized and in black font, and do not send any attachments (e.g. a signed engagement letter) when replying as additional documentation is not required. Other formatting variations and attachments may delay your engagement.

If you have any comments or questions, please use the Comments section below.

Please respond via this email at your earliest convenience if you are ready to proceed with the rating engagement.

Please mark with an X to indicate you're ready to proceed and reply to: USPFEengagementLtrs@spglobal.com

The engagement letter is received and we are ready to proceed with the rating engagement

Do not proceed with the rating engagement

Enter any questions or comments in the space provided below.

Comments:

Roger Harmon, County Judge

Please do not send or copy your reply to a member of the analytic team.

S&P Global Ratings maintains a separation of commercial and analytical activities. Our analysts are not permitted to engage in discussions about fees.

Thank you for choosing S&P Global.

Regards,

S&P Global
Ratings

Please use our Ratings Request Platform at <https://platform.spgi.spglobal.com/>. This easy-to-use tool allows you to share all the relevant transactional details and documentation, indicate time frames, and set up meetings directly with the ratings team. If you don't already have an ID and password, kindly visit <https://www.spglobalratings360.com/r360/requestaccess> to request one. A welcome letter with your credentials will be sent to you within 24 hours. If you require additional assistance, please email us at Ratings360@spglobal.com.