K. G. "Rusty" Smith, Jr. District #1

Ken Ard District #2

Alphonso Bradley District #3

Mitchell Kirby District #4

Johnnie D. Rodgers, Jr. District #5

AGENDA FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 803 180 NORTH IRBY STREET FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2008 9:00 A. M.

Russell W. Culberson District #6

Waymon Mumford District #7

James T. Schofield District #8

H. Morris Anderson District #9

I. CALL TO ORDER:

K. G. RUSTY SMITH, JR., CHAIRMAN

- II. INVOCATION: H. MORRIS ANDERSON, SECRETARY/CHAPLAIN
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG:
 WAYMON MUMFORD, VICE CHAIRMAN
- IV. WELCOME: K. G. RUSTY SMITH, JR., CHAIRMAN

V. <u>PUBLIC HEARINGS:</u>

1

Council will hold public hearing on the following item to receive public comment:

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2008/09

An Ordinance Classifying Facilities Engaged In The Area Of Research And Development For The Purposes Of Section 53-1-130 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Or To Operations Involving A Customer Service Center And/Or Call Center, And Suspending The Application Of The Work Prohibitions Contained In Chapter 1 Of Title 53 With Respect To Such Facilities Pursuant To Section 53-1-160 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

i

VI. ORDINANCES IN POSITION:

SECOND READING

1. ORDINANCE NO. 04-2008/09

2

An Ordinance Classifying Facilities Engaged In The Area Of Research And Development For The Purposes Of Section 53-1-130 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Or To Operations Involving A Customer Service Center And/Or Call Center, And Suspending The Application Of The Work Prohibitions Contained In Chapter 1 Of Title 53 With Respect To Such Facilities Pursuant To Section 53-1-160 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

2. ORDINANCE NO. 05-2008/09

6

An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee In Lieu Of Tax Agreement By And Between Florence County, South Carolina (The "County") And General Electric Company (The "Company"); And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

VII. ADJOURN:

FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

July 24, 2008

AGENDA ITEM: Public Hearings

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: County Council

ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Council will hold a public hearing to receive public comment with regard to the following:

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2008/09

An Ordinance Classifying Facilities Engaged In The Area Of Research And Development For The Purposes Of Section 53-1-130 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Or To Operations Involving A Customer Service Center And/Or Call Center, And Suspending The Application Of The Work Prohibitions Contained In Chapter 1 Of Title 53 With Respect To Such Facilities Pursuant To Section 53-1-160 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

July 24, 2008

AGENDA ITEM: Second Reading of Ordinance No. 04-2008/09

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: County Council

ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

(Classifying Facilities Engaged In The Area of Research and Development For The Purposes Of Section 53-1-130 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Or To Operations Involving A Customer Service Center And/Or Call Center, And Suspending The Application Of The Work Prohibitions Contained In Chapter 1 Of Title 53 With Respect To Such Facilities Pursuant To Section 53-1-160 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, And Other Matters Relating Thereto.)

OPTIONS:

- 1. (Recommended) Approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 04-2008/09.
- 2. Provide an Alternate Directive

ATTACHMENTS:

A copy of Ordinance No. 04-2008/09.

Sponsor(s) : County Council First Reading/Introduction : July 17, 2008 Committee Referral : N/A Council Clerk, certify that this Committee Consideration Date : N/A Ordinance was advertised for Committee Recommendation : N/A Public Hearing on _____. Public Hearing : July 24, 2008 Second Reading : July 24, 2008 Third Reading Effective Date : Immediately

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2008/09

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR FLORENCE COUNTY

(Classifying Facilities Engaged In The Area of Research and Development For The Purposes Of Section 53-1-130 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Or To Operations Involving A Customer Service Center And/Or Call Center, And Suspending The Application Of The Work Prohibitions Contained In Chapter 1 Of Title 53 With Respect To Such Facilities Pursuant To Section 53-1-160 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, And Other Matters Relating Thereto.)

WHEREAS:

- 1. The provisions of Chapter 1 of Title 53 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended (the "Code") prohibit the engagement in work, labor, or ordinary business on Sundays prior to 1:30 p.m., subject to numerous exceptions and exemptions; and
- 2. Such exceptions and exemptions include, among other things, research and development operations of any person including the support services necessary for those operations for which the economical operation must engage in a continuous process; and
- 3. Section 53-1-160(A) of the Code also provides that a county governing body may, by ordinance, suspend the application of Sunday work prohibitions contained in Chapter 1 of Title 53 of the Code; and
- 4. Florence County (the "County") is home to numerous businesses engaged in research and development, customer service centers, and call centers, on behalf of themselves and other businesses, which businesses employ hundreds of residents in the County and are an integral part of the County's economy; and
- 5. Officials of the County have been advised that, in light of the current global, e-commerce environment, operations of certain research and development, customer service centers, and call centers, must be carried out continuously to ensure a timely, efficient, and competitive delivery of such services, and thus must take place between midnight and 1:30 p.m. on Sunday; and
- 6. Officials of the County have been advised that research and development centers have heretofore been considered exempt from Sunday work prohibitions of Chapter 1 of Title 53 pursuant to Section 53-1-130 of the Code in that they are involved in research and development; and
- 7. In addition to such exemption, Florence County Council, the governing body of Florence County ("Council"), in order to foster a competitive, pro-business environment in the County by retaining

and attracting research and development, customer service centers, and call centers and the jobs they entail, has determined to provide an express suspension of the application of Sunday work prohibitions contained in Chapter 1 of Title 53 of the Code pursuant to Section 53-1-160(A) of the Code with respect to all research and development, customer service center, and call center facilities in the County; and

8. Council has determined that such a suspension of Sunday work prohibitions contained in Chapter 1 of Title 53 of the Code with respect to research and development, customer service center, and call center facilities is essential to the operation of such facilities in the County; that it will promote a healthy and competitive local economy, preserve existing jobs and encourage the creation of new jobs; and that the operation of such facilities prior to 1:30 p.m. on Sunday is consistent with other express exemptions to Sunday work prohibitions contained in Chapter 1 of Title 53 of the Code and will not impair the policy objectives of Chapter 1 of Title 53 of the Code in light of the existing exemptions set forth above.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

Article I

Classification and Exemption of Existing Research and Development, Customer Service Center and Call Center Entities

Section 1.01 Classification and Exemption Pursuant to Section 53-1-130 of the Code

All facilities engaged in research and development operations including support services necessary for those operations requiring continuous and uninterrupted operation for which economical operation must engage in a continuous process are hereby classified as facilities exempt from work restrictions on Sunday as set forth in Section 53-1-130 of the Code.

Article II

Suspension of Sunday Work Prohibitions with Respect to Customer Centers and Call Center Facilities

Section 2.01 Suspension of Prohibitions

Pursuant to the authorization contained in Section 53-1-160(A) of the Code, Council by this ordinance suspends the application in the County of the Sunday work prohibitions contained in Chapter 1 of Title 53 of the Code with respect to the operation of all facilities engaged in customer service center or call center entities, either on behalf of the owner of such facility or another business and industry.

Section 2.02 Other Prohibitions to Remain in Effect

All other Sunday work prohibitions not otherwise exempted by statute or previous action of Council shall remain in full force and effect.

Article III Miscellaneous

Section 3.01 <u>Severability</u>

If any provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed unlawful or otherwise ineffective, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3.02 <u>Time Effective</u>

This Ordinance shall take effect upon third reading.

ATTEST:	SIGNED:
Connie Y. Haselden, Council Clerk	K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr., Chairman COUNCIL VOTE:
Approved as to Form and Content	OPPOSED: ABSENT:
James C. Rushton, III, County Attorney	

FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

July 24, 2008

AGENDA ITEM: Second Reading - Ordinance No. 05-2008/09

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>: County Council

ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

(An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee In Lieu Of Tax Agreement By And Between Florence County, South Carolina (The "County") And General Electric Company (The "Company"); And Other Matters Relating Thereto.)

OPTIONS:

- 1. (Recommended) Approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 05-2008/09.
- 2. Provide an Alternate Directive

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Ordinance No. 05-2008/09.
- 2. Fee Agreement between Florence County and General Electric Company.

: County Council Introduction : July 17, 2008 I,
ng : July 24, 2008 g :

ORDINANCE NO. 05-2008/09

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR FLORENCE COUNTY

(An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee In Lieu Of Tax Agreement By And Between Florence County, South Carolina (The "County") And General Electric Company (The "Company"); And Other Matters Relating Thereto.)

WHEREAS:

- 1. Florence County, South Carolina (the "County"), acting by and through its County Council (the "County Council"), is authorized and empowered under and pursuant to the provisions of Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended (the "Act"), to cause to be acquired, properties (which such properties constitute "projects" as defined in the Act) and to enter into agreements with any industry to provide for the construction, operation, maintenance and improvement of such projects; to enter into or allow financing agreements with respect to such projects; and, to accept any grants for such projects through which powers the industrial development of the State of South Carolina (the "State") will be promoted and trade developed by inducing manufacturing and commercial enterprises to locate and remain in the State and thus utilize and employ the manpower, agricultural products and natural resources of the State and benefit the general public welfare of the County by providing services, employment, recreation or other public benefits not otherwise provided locally; and
- 2. The County is authorized by the Act to execute a fee in lieu of tax agreement, as defined in the Act, with respect to any such project; and
- 3. General Electric Company, a company duly qualified to transact business in South Carolina, and known to County Council at the time of enactment of this Ordinance (referred to hereinafter as the "Company"), has requested the County to participate in executing an Inducement and Millage Rate Agreement (the "Inducement Agreement"), and a fee in lieu of tax agreement, (the "Fee Agreement") pursuant to the Act for the purpose of authorizing and of acquiring, by purchase and construction and installation of, certain machinery, equipment, fixtures and furnishings for the purpose of the operation of such facilities related to the business and other legal activities of the Company and its affiliates (the "Project"), all as more fully set forth in the Fee Agreement attached hereto; and
- 4. The Project involves a minimum capital investment by the Company in the County of at least Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000); and
- 5. The Company anticipates that upon completion the Project will allow the Company to maintain employment for its employees in the County; and

- 6. The County has determined that the Project would benefit the general public welfare of the County by providing service, employment, recreation or other public benefits not otherwise provided locally; and, that the Project gives rise to no pecuniary liability of the County or incorporated municipality or a charge against the general credit or taxing power of either; and, that the purposes to be accomplished by the Project, i.e., economic development, creation of jobs, and addition to the tax base of the County, are proper governmental and public purposes; and, that the inducement of the location or expansion of the Project within the County and State is of paramount importance; and, that the benefits of the Project will be greater than the costs; and
- 7. The County has determined on the basis of the information supplied to it by the Company that the Project would be a "project" as that term is defined in the Act and that the Project would subserve the purposes of the Act; and
- 8. The County Council has previously determined to enter into and execute the aforesaid Inducement Agreement and the Fee Agreement with the Company and to that end has, by its Resolution adopted on July 17, 2008, authorized the execution of an Inducement Agreement; and
- 9. It appears that the instruments above referred to, which are now before this meeting, are in appropriate form and are appropriate instruments to be executed and delivered by the County for the purposes intended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. In order to promote industry, develop trade and utilize and employ the manpower, agricultural products and natural resources of the State by assisting the Company in the acquisition and installation by the Company of various machinery, equipment, furnishings and fixtures in the Company's existing manufacturing facilities, all as a part of the Project to be utilized for the purpose of its manufacturing operations, is hereby authorized, ratified and approved.

Section 2. It is hereby found, determined and declared by the County Council, as follows:

- (a) Based solely upon representations of the Company, the Project will constitute a "project" as said term is referred to and defined in the Act and the County's actions herein will subserve the purposes and in all respects conform to the provisions and requirements of the Act;
- (b) The Project and the payments in lieu of taxes set forth herein are beneficial to the County;
- (c) The terms and provisions of the Inducement Agreement are incorporated herein and made a part hereof;
- (d) The Project will benefit the general public welfare of the County by providing service, employment, recreation or other public benefits not otherwise provided locally;
- (e) The Project gives rise to no pecuniary liability of the County or incorporated municipality or a

charge against the general credit or taxing power of either;

- (f) The purposes to be accomplished by the Project, i.e., economic development, maintaining jobs, and addition to the tax base of the County, are proper governmental and public purposes;
- (g) The inducement of the location or expansion of the Project within the County and State is of paramount importance; and,
- (h) The benefits of the Project will be greater than the costs.

Section 3. The forms, terms and provisions of the Fee Agreement presented to this meeting and filed with the Clerk of the County Council are hereby approved and all of the terms, provisions and conditions thereof are hereby incorporated herein by reference as if the Fee Agreement were set out in this Ordinance in its entirety. The Chairman of the County Council and the County Administrator are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to execute, acknowledge and deliver the Fee Agreement in the name of and on behalf of the County, and thereupon to cause the Fee Agreement to be delivered to the Company. The Fee Agreement is to be in substantially the form now before this meeting and hereby approved, or with such minor changes therein as shall be approved by the officials of the County executing the same, their execution thereof to constitute conclusive evidence of their approval of any and all changes or revisions therein from the form of the Fee Agreement now before this meeting.

Section 4. The Chairman of the County Council and the County Administrator, for and on behalf of the County, are hereby authorized and directed to do any and all things necessary to effect the execution and delivery of the Fee Agreement and the performance of all obligations of the County under and pursuant to the Fee Agreement.

<u>Section 5</u>. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be separable and if any section, phrase or provisions shall for any reason be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the sections, phrases and provisions hereunder.

Section 6. All orders, resolutions, ordinances and parts thereof in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed and this Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

ATTEST:	SIGNED:
Connie Y. Haselden, Council Clerk	K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr., Chairman
	COUNCIL VOTE: OPPOSED:
Approved as to Form and Content James C. Rushton, III, County Attorney	ABSENT:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) COUNTY OF FLORENCE)				
I, the undersigned Clerk of the Florence County Council, State and County aforesaid, do hereby				
certify as follows:				
1. The foregoing constitutes a true, correct and verbatim copy of a Resolution adopted by the				
Florence County Council at a duly called and properly conducted meeting on, 2008.				
2. The original of the attached Resolution is duly entered in the permanent records of				
minutes of meetings of the Florence County Council which are in my custody as Clerk.				
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of Florence County on this				
day of, 2008.				
Connie Y. Haselden				
Clerk to County Council [SEAL]				

FEE AGREEMENT

between

FLORENCE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

and

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

Dated as of ________, 2008

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FEE AGREEMENT

THIS FEE AGREEMENT (this "Fee Agreement") is made and entered into as of ______, 2008, by and between FLORENCE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (the "County"), a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, acting by and through the FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL (the "County Council") as the governing body of the County, and GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY (together with any of its subsidiaries or affiliates which may become parties to this Fee Agreement, the "Company"), a corporation duly qualified to do business in the State of South Carolina (the "State") and known to the County Council at the time of execution of this Fee Agreement.

WITNESSETH:

Recitals.

The County is authorized by Title 12, Chapter 44, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended (the "Act") to enter into a fee agreement with manufacturing entities meeting the requirements of such Act which identifies certain property of such manufacturers as economic development property to induce such industries to locate in the State and to encourage industries now located in the State to expand their investments and thus make use of and employ manpower and other resources of the State.

Pursuant to the Act, the County finds that (a) the Project (as defined herein) is anticipated to benefit the general public welfare of the County by providing services, employment, recreation, or other public benefit not otherwise provided locally; (b) the Project gives rise to no pecuniary liability of the County or incorporated municipality or to no charge against its general

credit or taxing power; (c) the purposes to be accomplished by the Project are proper governmental and public purposes; and (d) the benefits of the Project to the public are greater than the costs to the public.

Pursuant to an Ordinance adopted on August 21, 2008 (the "Ordinance"), as an inducement to the Company to develop the Project, the County Council authorized the County to enter into this Fee Agreement, which identifies the Company as a manufacturer and the property comprising the Project as economic development property under the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION of the respective representations and agreements hereinafter contained, the parties hereto agree as follows, with the understanding that no obligation of the County described herein shall create a pecuniary liability or charge upon its general credit or taxing powers, but shall be payable solely out of the

sources of payment described herein and shall not under any circumstances be deemed to constitute a general obligation of the County:

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

The terms defined in this Article shall for all purposes of this Fee Agreement have the meaning herein specified, unless the context clearly requires otherwise. Except where the context requires otherwise, words importing the singular number shall include the plural number and vice versa.

Act:

"Act" shall mean Title 12, Chapter 44, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, and all future acts supplemental thereto or amendatory thereof.

Authorized Company Representative:

"Authorized Company Representative" shall mean any person designated from time to time to act on behalf of the Company as evidenced by a written certificate or certificates furnished to the County containing the specimen signature of each such person, signed on behalf of the Company by its _______. Such certificates may designate an alternate or alternates, and may designate different Authorized Company Representatives to act for the Company with respect to different sections of this Fee Agreement.

Chairman:

"Chairman" shall mean the Chairman of the County Council of Florence County, South Carolina.

Closing:

"Closing" or "Closing Date" shall mean the date of the execution and delivery hereof.

Code:

"Code" shall mean the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended.

Company:

"Company" shall mean General Electric Company, a corporation duly qualified to transact business in the State of South Carolina, and its subsidiaries, affiliates and permitted successors and assigns.

County:

"County" shall mean Florence County, South Carolina, a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, its successors and assigns, acting by and through the County Council.

County Administrator:

"County Administrator" shall mean the County Administrator of Florence County, South Carolina.

County Council:

"County Council" shall mean the Florence County Council, the governing body of the County.

Diminution of Value:

"Diminution of Value" in respect of any Phase of the Project shall mean any reduction in the value based on original fair market value as determined in Step 1 of Section 4.1(a) of this Fee Agreement, of the items which constitute a part of the Phase which may be caused by (i) the Company's removal of equipment pursuant to Section 4.7 of this Fee Agreement, (ii) a casualty

to the Phase of the Project, or any part thereof, described in Section 4.8 of this Fee Agreement or (iii) a condemnation to the Phase of the Project, or any part thereof, described in Section 4.9 of this Fee Agreement.

Economic Development Property:

"Economic Development Property" shall mean all items of real and tangible personal property comprising the Project which are eligible for inclusion as economic development property under the Act, become subject to the Fee Agreement, and which are identified by the Company in connection with its annual filing of a SCDOR PT-100 (or comparable form) with the South Carolina Department of Revenue (as such filing may be amended from time to time) for each year within the Investment Period. Title to all Economic Development Property shall at all times remain vested in the Company or its permitted successors and assigns.

Environmental Claims:

"Environmental Claims" shall mean any and all damages, penalties, fines, claims, liens, suits, liabilities, costs (including monitoring and cleanup costs), judgments and expenses (including attorneys', consultants' or experts' fees and expenses) of every kind and nature suffered or asserted as a direct or indirect result of (i) any violation of any Environmental Laws (as hereinafter defined), or (ii) the falsity in any material respect of any warranty or representation made by the Company.

Environmental Laws:

"Environmental Laws" shall mean, collectively, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, as

amended, the South Carolina Pollution Control Act, the South Carolina Hazardous Waste Management Act, any other "Superfund" or Superlien" law or any other federal, state or local statute, law, ordinance, code, rule, regulation, order or decree relating to, or imposing liability or standards of conduct concerning, any hazardous, toxic or industrial waste, substance or material, as now or at any time hereafter in effect.

Equipment:

"Equipment" shall mean all of the machinery, equipment and fixtures, together with any and all additions, accessions, replacements and substitutions thereto or therefor to the extent such machinery, equipment and fixtures become a part of the Project under this Fee Agreement.

Event of Default:

"Event of Default" shall mean any Event of Default specified in Section 4.14 of this Fee Agreement.

Fee Agreement or Agreement:

"Fee Agreement" or "Agreement" shall mean this Fee Agreement.

Fee Payments:

"Fee Payments" shall mean the payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes to be made by the Company to the County pursuant to Section 4.1 hereof.

Fee Term or Term:

"Fee Term" or "Term" shall mean the period from the date of delivery of this Fee Agreement until the last Phase Termination Date unless sooner terminated or extended pursuant to the terms of this Fee Agreement.

Improvements:

"Improvements" shall mean improvements to real property, together with any and all additions, accessions, replacements and substitutions thereto or therefor, but only to the extent such additions, accessions, replacements, and substitutions are deemed to become part of the Project under the terms of this Fee Agreement.

<u>Inducement Agreement:</u>

"Inducement Agreement" shall mean the Inducement and Millage Rate Agreement entered into between the County and the Company dated as of ________, 2008 which was authorized by the Inducement Resolution.

Inducement Resolution:

"Inducement Resolution" shall mean the Resolution of the County Council adopted on July 17, 2008, authorizing the County to enter into the Inducement Agreement.

Investment Period:

"Investment Period" shall mean the period commencing January 1, 2008 and ending on the last day of the fifth property tax year following the earlier of the first property tax year in which economic development property is placed in service or the property tax year in which this Agreement is executed; provided a later date may be agreed to by the County pursuant to Section 12-44-30(13) of the Act.

Phase:

"Phase" or "Phases" in respect of the Project shall mean the Equipment, Improvements and Real Property, if any, placed in service during each year of the Investment Period.

Phase Termination Date:

"Phase Termination Date" shall mean with respect to each Phase of the Project the day twenty years after the date each such Phase of the Project becomes subject to the terms of this Fee Agreement; provided, however, that in the event such twentieth anniversary date does not fall on December 30, the Term with respect to such Phase shall be extended to the December 30 immediately following such anniversary date. Anything contained herein to the contrary notwithstanding, the last Phase Termination Date shall be no later than December 30 of the year of the expiration of the maximum period of years that the annual fee payment is available to the Company under the Act, as amended.

Plant:

"Plant" shall mean the Company's manufacturing facility located in Florence County, South Carolina.

Project:

"Project" shall mean the Equipment, Improvements, and Real Property, together with the acquisition, construction, installation, design and engineering thereof, in phases, to be used by the Company as a manufacturer and which shall constitute expansions or improvements of the Plant. Based on the representations of the Company, the Project involves an initial investment of sufficient sums to qualify under the Act.

Real Property:

"Real Property" shall mean real property, together with all and singular the rights, members and hereditaments and appurtenances belonging or in any way incident or appertaining thereto to the extent such become part of the Project under the terms of this Fee Agreement; all Improvements now or hereafter situated thereon; and all fixtures now or hereafter attached

thereto, but only to the extent such Improvements and fixtures are deemed to become part of the Project under the terms of this Fee Agreement.

Removed Components:

"Removed Components" shall mean the following types of components or Phases of the Project or portions thereof, all of which the Company shall be entitled to remove from the Project with the result that the same shall no longer be subject to the terms of the Fee Agreement: (a) components or Phases of the Project or portions thereof which the Company, in its sole discretion, determines to be inadequate, obsolete, worn-out, uneconomic, damaged, unsuitable, undesirable or unnecessary; or (b) components or Phases of the Project or portions thereof which the Company in its sole discretion, elects to remove pursuant to Section 4.7(c) or Section 4.8(c) of this Fee Agreement.

Replacement Property:

"Replacement Property" shall mean any property which is placed in service as a replacement for any item of Equipment or any Improvement which is scrapped or sold by the Company and treated as a Removed Component under Section 4.7 hereof regardless of whether such property serves the same function as the property it is replacing and regardless of whether more than one piece of property replaces any item of Equipment or any Improvement.

State:

" State" shall mean the State of South Carolina.

Any reference to any agreement or document in this Article I or otherwise in this Fee Agreement shall be deemed to include any and all amendments, supplements, addenda, and modifications to such agreement or document.

ARTICLE II

REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

<u>Section 2.1</u> <u>Representations of the County</u>. The County hereby represents and warrants to the Company as follows:

- (a) The County is a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State which acts through the County Council as its governing body and, by the provisions of the Act, is authorized and empowered by the provisions of the Act to enter into the transactions contemplated by this Fee Agreement and to carry out its obligations hereunder. The County has duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Fee Agreement and any and all other agreements described herein or therein.
- (b) Based on the representations of the Company, the Project constitutes a "project" within the meaning of the Act.
- (c) By due corporate action, the County has agreed that, subject to compliance with applicable laws, each item of real and tangible personal property comprising the Project shall be considered Economic Development Property under the Act.
- Section 2.2 Representations of the Company. The Company hereby represents and warrants to the County as follows:
- (a) The Company is duly incorporated and in good standing under the laws of the state of New York, is qualified to do business in the State, has power to enter into this Fee Agreement, and by proper corporate action has duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Fee Agreement.
- (b) The Company's execution and delivery of this Fee Agreement and its compliance with the provisions hereof will not result in a default, not waived or cured, under any corporate

restriction or any agreement or instrument to which the Company is now a party or by which it is bound.

- (c) The Company intends to operate the Project as a manufacturer and as a "project" within the meaning of the Act as in effect on the date hereof. The Company intends to operate the Project for the purpose of manufacturing ______ and to conduct other legal activities and functions with respect thereto, and for such other purposes permitted under the Act as the Company or its permitted successors and assigns may deem appropriate.
- (d) The availability of the payment in lieu of taxes with regard to the Economic Development Property authorized by the Act have induced the Company to move forward with the Project within the County and the State.
- (e) Inasmuch as at present the Company anticipates that the Cost of the Project will exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000), the cost of the Project will exceed the minimum investment required by the Act.

Section 2.3 Environmental Indemnification. The Company shall indemnify and hold the County harmless from and against any and all Environmental Claims, except those resulting from the acts of the County or its successors, suffered by or asserted against the Company or the County as a direct or indirect result of the breach by the Company, or any party holding possession through the Company or its predecessors in title, of any Environmental Laws with regard to any real property owned by the Company which is subject to the terms of this Fee Agreement, or as a direct or indirect result of any requirement under any Environmental Laws which require the County, the Company or any transferee of the Company to eliminate or remove any hazardous materials, substances, wastes or other environmentally regulated

substances contained in any real property subject to the terms of this Fee Agreement as a result of the action or omissions of the Company or its predecessors in title.

The Company's obligations hereunder shall not be limited to any extent by the terms of this Fee Agreement, and, as to any act or occurrence prior to fulfillment of the terms of this Fee Agreement which give rise to liability hereunder, shall continue, survive, and remain in full force and effect notwithstanding fulfillment of the terms of this Fee Agreement.

ARTICLE III

COMMENCEMENT AND COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT

Section 3.1 The Project. The Company has made plans for the acquisition, purchase, construction and/or installation of certain machinery, equipment furnishings and fixtures which comprise the Project to be located at the Plant.

Pursuant to the Act, the Company and the County hereby agree that the property comprising the Project shall be Economic Development Property as defined under the Act. Anything contained in this Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, the Company shall not be obligated to complete the acquisition of the Project provided it makes the payments required hereunder.

Section 3.2 Diligent Completion. The Company agrees to use its reasonable efforts to cause the acquisition, construction and installation of the Project to be completed as soon as practicable, but in any event on or prior to the end of the Investment Period. Anything contained in this Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, the Company shall not be obligated to complete the acquisition of the Project in the event that it pays all amounts due by it under the terms of this Fee Agreement.

Section 3.3 Investment by Affiliates. The County and the Company agree that, to the extent permitted by Section 12-44-130 of the Act, investments in the Project may also be made by subsidiaries or affiliates of the Company, which shall qualify for the benefits provided to the Company hereunder; provided that such subsidiaries or affiliates are approved in writing by the County and such subsidiaries or affiliates agree to be bound by the provisions of this Fee Agreement. At any time and from time to time hereafter, the Company may request approval from the County for subsidiaries or affiliates of the Company to be permitted to make investments in the Project and obtain the benefits provided to the Company hereunder. Any approval by the County shall be made by the Chairman of the County Council and the County Administrator, which approval shall be in writing. The Company agrees to notify the South Carolina Department of Revenue of the identity of all subsidiaries or affiliates making investments in the Project as required by Section 12-44-130(B) of the Act.

ARTICLE IV

PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

Section 4.1 Negotiated Payments. Pursuant to Section 12-44-50 of the Act, the Company is required to make payments to the County with respect to the Project in lieu of ad valorem taxes. Inasmuch as the Company anticipates the Project will involve an initial investment of sufficient sums to qualify as a "minimum investment" as defined under the Act, the County and the Company have negotiated the amount of the payments in lieu of taxes in accordance therewith. In accordance therewith, the Company shall make payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes on all real and personal property which comprises the Project and is placed in service for a period of twenty (20) years with respect to each Phase until the Phase Termination Date for such Phase, as follows: the Company shall make payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes with respect to

each Phase of the Project placed in service on each December 30 through the end of the Investment Period, said payments to be made annually and to be due and payable and subject to penalty assessments on the same dates and in the same manner as prescribed by the County for ad valorem taxes. The amount of such equal annual payments in lieu of taxes shall be determined by the following procedure (subject, in any event, to the required procedures under the Act):

- Step 1: Determine the fair market value of the Phase of the Project placed in service in any given year for such year and for the following 19 years using original income tax basis for State income tax purposes for any Real Property (provided, if any Real Property is constructed for the fee or is purchased in an arms length transaction, fair market value is deemed to equal the original income tax basis, otherwise, the Department of Revenue will determine fair market value by appraisal) and original income tax basis for State income tax purposes less depreciation for each year allowable to the Company for any personal property as determined in accordance with Title 12, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended and in effect on December 30 of the year in which each Phase becomes subject to the Fee Agreement, except that no extraordinary obsolescence shall be allowable but taking into account all applicable property tax exemptions which would be allowed to the Company under State law, if the property were taxable, except those exemptions specifically disallowed under Section 12-44-50(A)(2) of the Act, as amended and in effect on December 30 of the year in which each Phase becomes subject to the Fee Agreement.
- Step 2: Apply an assessment ratio of six (6%) percent to the fair market value as determined for each year in Step 1 to establish the taxable value of each Phase of the Project in the year it is placed in service and in each of the nineteen years thereafter.
- Step 3: Using the millage rate applicable to the Project site on June 30, 2007 (which the parties understand to be 251.3 mills), determine the amount of the payments in lieu of taxes which would be due in each of the twenty years listed on the payment dates prescribed by the County for such payments.
- Step 4: Combine the annual payment for each Phase of the Project to determine the total annual payment in lieu of taxes to be made by the Company to the County for each year of the Fee Term.

(b) In the event that it is determined by a final order of a court of competent jurisdiction or by agreement of the parties that the minimum payment in lieu of taxes applicable to this transaction is to be calculated differently than described above, the payment shall be reset at the minimum permitted level so determined, but never lower than the payment levels agreed upon herein unless so approved in writing by the County Council then in office.

In the event that the Act and/or the above-described payments in lieu of taxes are declared invalid or unenforceable, in whole or in part, for any reason, the parties express their intentions that such payments be reformed so as to most closely effectuate the legal, valid, and enforceable intent thereof and so as to afford the Company with the benefits to be derived herefrom, it being the intention of the County to offer the Company a strong inducement to locate the Project in the County. If the Project is deemed to be subject to ad valorem taxation, the payment in lieu of ad valorem taxes to be paid to the County by the Company shall become equal to the amount which would result from taxes levied on the Project by the County, municipality or municipalities, school district or school districts, and other political units as if the Project did not constitute economic development property under the Act, but with appropriate reductions equivalent to all tax exemptions which would be afforded to the Company if the Project was and had not been economic development property under the Act. In such event, any amount determined to be due and owing to the County from the Company, with respect to a year or years for which payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes have been previously remitted by the Company to the County hereunder, shall be reduced by the total amount of payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes made by the Company with respect to the Project pursuant to the terms hereof.

Section 4.2 Cost of Completion

(a) At the same time that the Company files its annual property tax return

(Form PT-300) with the South Carolina Department of Revenue, the Company shall furnish to the County on an annual basis through the end of the Investment period a report on the total amount invested by the Company with respect to the Project through such period, together with a copy of the Company's Form PT-300 for such year. The Company shall also make all other fillings required by Section 12-44-90 of the Act.

(b) In the event that the cost of completion of the Project has not exceeded Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000) by the end of the Investment Period, beginning with the payment due for the last year of such Investment Period, the Fee Payments to be paid to the County by the Company shall become equal to the amount as would result from taxes levied on the Project by the County, municipality or municipalities, school district or school districts, and other political units as if the Project were taxable, but with appropriate reductions equivalent to all tax exemptions which would be afforded to the Company if the Project were taxable. In addition to the foregoing, the Company shall pay to the County an amount which is equal to the excess, if any, of (i) the total amount of ad valorem taxes that would have been payable to the County with respect to the Project for tax years through and including the last year of the Investment Period, taking into account and calculating appropriate reductions for all applicable exemptions and allowable depreciation and taking into account and calculating appropriate reductions for the benefit which the Florence County School District, its successors and assigns, experiences by receiving larger Education Finance Act allocations as a result of the Project being taxed with a 6% assessment ratio as opposed to the smaller Education Finance Act allocations it would have received if the Project had been taxed with a 10.5% assessment ratio, over (ii) the total amount of Fee Payments

actually made by the Company with respect to the Project for tax years through and including the last year of the Investment Period.

Section 4.3 Payments in Lieu of Taxes on Replacement Property. If the Company elects to replace any Removed Components and to substitute such Removed Components with Replacement Property as a part of the Project, then, pursuant and subject to Section 12-44-60 of the Act, the Company shall make statutory payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes with regard to such Replacement Property as follows:

to the extent that the income tax basis of the Replacement Property (the (i) "Replacement Value") is less than or equal to the original income tax basis of the Removed Components (the "Original Value") the amount of the payments in lieu of taxes to be made by the Company with respect to such Replacement Property shall be calculated in accordance with Section 4.1 hereof; provided, however, in making such calculations, the original cost to be used in Step 1 of Section 4.1 shall be equal to the lesser of (x) the Replacement Value and (y) the Original Value, and the number of annual payments to be made with respect to the Replacement Property shall be equal to twenty (20) minus the number of annual payments which have been made with respect to the Removed Components; and provided, further, however, that in the event a varying number of annual payments have been made with respect to such Removed Components as a result of such Removed Components being included within more than one Phase of the Project, then the number of annual payments which shall be deemed to have been made shall be the greater of such number of annual payments; and

(ii) to the extent that the Replacement Value exceeds the Original Value of the Removed Components (the "Excess Value"), the payments in lieu of taxes to be made by the Company with respect to the Replacement Property to the County shall be equal to the payment that would be due if the property were not Economic Development Property.

Section 4.4 Reductions in Payments of Taxes Upon Removal, Condemnation or Casualty. In the event of a Diminution in Value of any Phase of the Project due to removal, condemnation, casualty, or otherwise, the payment in lieu of taxes with regard to that Phase of the Project shall be reduced in the same proportion as the amount of such Diminution in Value bears to the original fair market value of that Phase of the Project as determined pursuant to Step 1 of Section 4.1 hereof; provided, however, that if at any time subsequent to the end of the Investment Period, the total value of the Project based on the original income tax basis of the Equipment, Real Property and Improvements contained therein, without deduction for depreciation, is less than Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000), beginning with the next payment due hereunder and continuing until the end of the Fee Term, the Company shall make payments equal to the payments which would be due if the property were not Economic Development Property.

Section 4.5 Place and Allocation of Payments in Lieu of Taxes. The Company shall make the above-described payments in lieu of taxes directly to the County in accordance with applicable law. The County shall be responsible for allocating the payments in lieu of taxes among the County, any municipality or municipalities, school districts and other political units entitled under applicable law to receive portions of such payments.

Section 4.6 Removal of Equipment. Provided that no Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing under this Fee Agreement, the Company shall be entitled upon written notice to the County to remove the following types of components or Phases of the Project from the Project with the result that said components or Phases (the "Removed Components") shall no longer be considered a part of the Project and shall no longer be subject to the terms of this Fee Agreement: (a) components or Phases which become subject to statutory payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes; or (b) components or Phases of the Project or portions thereof which the Company, in its sole discretion, determines to be inadequate, obsolete, uneconomic, worn-out, damaged, unsuitable, undesirable or unnecessary; or (c) components or Phases of the Project or portions thereof which the Company, in its sole discretion, elects to remove pursuant to Section 4.7(c) or Section 4.8(c) hereof.

Section 4.7 Damage or Destruction of Project.

- (a) <u>Election to Terminate</u>. In the event the Project is damaged by fire, explosion, or any other casualty, the Company shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement.
- (b) Election to Rebuild. In the event the Project is damaged by fire, explosion, or any other casualty, and if the Company does not elect to terminate this Agreement, the Company may commence to restore the Project with such reductions or enlargements in the scope of the Project, changes, alterations and modifications (including the substitution and addition of other property) as may be desired by the Company. All such restorations and replacements shall be considered substitutions of the destroyed portions of the Project and shall be considered part of the Project for all purposes hereof, including, but not limited to any amounts due by the Company to the County under Section 4.1 hereof.

- (c) <u>Election to Remove</u>. In the event the Company elects not to terminate this Agreement pursuant to subsection (a) and elects not to rebuild pursuant to subsection (b), the damaged portions of the Project shall be treated as Removed Components.
- (d) <u>Effect of Election</u>. The Company's election under this Section 4.7 shall not operate to relieve the Company of its obligation to pay any amounts that may become due under Section 4.2(b) hereof or other amounts then due and payable to the County under this Agreement.

Section 4.8 Condemnation.

- (a) <u>Complete Taking</u>. If at any time during the Fee Term title to or temporary use of the entire Project should become vested in a public or quasi-public authority by virtue of the exercise of a taking by condemnation, inverse condemnation or the right of eminent domain, or by voluntary transfer under threat of such taking, or in the event that title to a portion of the Project shall be taken rendering continued occupancy of the Project commercially infeasible in the judgment of the Company, the Company shall have the option to terminate this Fee Agreement as of the time of vesting of title by sending written notice to the County within a reasonable period of time following such vesting.
- (b) Partial Taking. In the event of a partial taking of the Project or a transfer in lieu thereof, the Company may elect: (i) to terminate this Fee Agreement; or (ii) to repair and restore the Project, with such reductions or enlargements in the scope of the Project, changes, alterations and modifications (including the substitution and addition of other property) as may be desired by the Company; or (iii) to treat the portions of the Project so taken as Removed Components.
- (c) <u>Effect of Election</u>. The Company's election under this Section 4.8 shall not operate to relieve the Company of its obligation to pay any amounts that may become due under

Section 4.2(b) hereof or other amounts then due and payable to the County under this Agreement.

Section 4.9 Maintenance of Existence. The Company agrees that it shall not take any action which will materially impair the maintenance of its corporate existence and maintain its good standing under all applicable provisions of its state of incorporation and State law.

Section 4.10 Indemnification Covenants. The Company shall and agrees to indemnify and save the County harmless against and from all claims by or on behalf of any person, firm or corporation arising from the County's entry into this Agreement. The Company shall indemnify and save the County harmless from and against all costs and expenses incurred in or in connection with any such claim arising as aforesaid or in connection with any action or proceeding brought thereon, and upon notice from the County, the Company shall defend them in any such action, prosecution or proceeding. The Company also agrees to pay all other reasonable and necessary out of pocket expenses of the County in administration of this Agreement, including attorney's fees.

Section 4.11 Confidentiality/Limitation on Access to Project. The County acknowledges and understands that the Company utilizes confidential and proprietary "state of the art" manufacturing equipment and techniques and that any disclosure of any information relating to such equipment or techniques, including but not limited to disclosures of financial or other information concerning the Company's operations could result in substantial harm to the Company and could thereby have a significant detrimental impact on the Company's employees and also upon the County. Therefore, the County agrees that, except as required by law, neither the County nor any employee, agent or contractor of the County: (i) shall request or be entitled to receive any such confidential or proprietary information concerning the Project; (ii) shall

request or be entitled to inspect the Projector any property associated therewith, unless the County must do so in order to collect the fee payments due hereunder or to enforce applicable laws relating to the collection of property taxese generally; or (iii) shall knowingly and intentionally disclose or otherwise divulge any such clearly marked confidential or proprietary information to any other person, firm, governmental body or agency, or any other entity unless specifically required to do so by State law. Prior to disclosing any confidential or proprietary information or allowing inspections of the Project, the Plant or any property associated therewith, the Company may require the execution of reasonable, individual, confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements by any officers, employees or agents of the County or any supporting or cooperating governmental agencies who would gather, receive or review such information or conduct or review the results of any inspections.

Section 4.12 Assignment and Subletting. This Fee Agreement may be assigned in whole or in part and the Project may be subleased as a whole or in part by the Company so long as such assignment or sublease is made in compliance with Section 12-44-120 of the Act, or any successor provision. No consent of the County to such assignment or subletting shall be required for financing related transfers.

Section 4.13 Events of Default. The following shall be "Events of Default" under this Fee Agreement, and the term "Events of Default" shall mean, whenever used with reference to this Fee Agreement, any one or more of the following occurrences:

(a) Failure by the Company to pay, upon levy, the payments in lieu of taxes described in Section 4.1 hereof; provided, however, that the Company shall be entitled to all redemption rights granted by applicable statutes;

- (b) Failure by the Company to make the minimum investment required by the Act within the Investment Period, or to maintain such minimum level of investment, without regard to depreciation as required by the Act after the Investment Period has expired;
- (c) Failure by the Company to perform any of the other material terms, conditions, obligations or covenants of the Company hereunder, which failure shall continue for a period of ninety (90) days after written notice from the County to the Company specifying such failure and requesting that it be remedied, unless the County shall agree in writing to an extension of such time prior to its expiration.

Section 4.14 Remedies on Default. Whenever any Event of Default shall have occurred and shall be continuing, the County may take any one or more of the following remedial actions:

- (a) Terminate the Fee Agreement; or
- (b) Take whatever action at law or in equity may appear necessary or desirable to collect the other amounts due and thereafter to become due or to enforce performance and observance of any obligation, agreement or covenant of the Company under this Fee Agreement.

Section 4.15 Remedies Not Exclusive. No remedy conferred upon or reserved to the County under this Fee Agreement is intended to be exclusive of any other available remedy or remedies, but each and every remedy shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to every other lawful remedy now or hereafter existing. No delay or omission to exercise any right or power accruing upon any continuing default hereunder shall impair any such right or power or shall be construed to be a waiver thereof, but any such right and power may be exercised from time to time and as often as may be deemed expedient. In order to entitle the County to exercise any remedy reserved to it, it shall not be necessary to give notice, other than such notice as may be

herein expressly required and such notice required at law or equity which the Company is not competent to waive.

Section 4.16 Reimbursement of Legal Fees and Expenses. If the Company shall default under any of the provisions of this Fee Agreement and the County shall employ attorneys or incur other reasonable expenses for the collection of payments due hereunder or for the enforcement of performance or observance of any obligation or agreement on the part of the Company contained herein, the Company will, within thirty (30) days of demand therefor, reimburse the reasonable fees of such attorneys and such other reasonable expenses so incurred by the County.

Section 4.17 No Waiver. No failure or delay on the part of the County in exercising any right, power or remedy hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right, power or remedy preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power or remedy hereunder. No waiver of any provision hereof shall be effective unless the same shall be in writing and signed by the County.

ARTICLE V

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 5.1 Notices. Any notice, election, demand, request or other communication to be provided under this Fee Agreement shall be effective when delivered to the party named below or when deposited with the United States Postal Service, certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, addressed as follows (or addressed to such other address as any party shall have previously furnished in writing to the other party), except where the terms hereof require receipt rather than sending of any notice, in which case such provision shall control:

AS TO THE COUNTY:

Florence County, South Carolina

180 N. Irby Street Florence, SC 29501

Attention: County Administrator

WITH A COPY TO:

James C. Rushton, III Florence County Attorney 180 N. Irby Street

Florence, SC 29501

AS TO THE COMPA	N	ſΥ	:
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General Elec	tric Company
Attention:	
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WITH A COPY TO:

Leatherwood Walker Todd & Mann, P.C.

Post Office Box 87 Greenville, SC 29602

Attention: Richard L. Few, Jr., Esq.

Section 5.2 Binding Effect. This Fee Agreement and each document contemplated hereby or related hereto shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Company and the County and their respective successors and assigns. In the event of the dissolution of the County or the consolidation of any part of the County with any other political subdivision or the transfer of any rights of the County to any other such political subdivision, all of the covenants, stipulations, promises and agreements of this Fee Agreement shall bind and inure to the benefit of the successors of the County from time to time and any entity, officer, board, commission, agency or instrumentality to whom or to which any power or duty of the County has been transferred.

Section 5.3 Counterparts. This Fee Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and all of the counterparts taken together shall be deemed to constitute one and the same instrument.

<u>Section 5.4</u> <u>Governing Law</u>. This Fee Agreement and all documents executed in connection herewith shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State.

Section 5.5 <u>Headings</u>. The headings of the articles and sections of this Fee Agreement are inserted for convenience only and shall not be deemed to constitute a part of this Fee Agreement.

<u>Section 5.6</u> <u>Amendments</u>. The provisions of this Fee Agreement may be modified or amended in writing by any agreement or agreements entered into between the parties.

Section 5.7 Further Assurance. From time to time the County agrees to execute and deliver to the Company such additional instruments as the Company may reasonably request to effectuate the purposes of this Fee Agreement.

Section 5.8 Severability. If any provision of this Fee Agreement is declared illegal, invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions hereof shall be unimpaired and such illegal, invalid or unenforceable provision shall be reformed so as to most closely effectuate the legal, valid and enforceable intent thereof and so as to afford the Company with the maximum benefits to be derived herefrom, it being the intention of the County to offer the Company a strong inducement to locate the Project in the County.

Section 5.9 Limited Obligation. ANY OBLIGATION OF THE COUNTY CREATED BY OR ARISING OUT OF THIS FEE AGREEMENT SHALL BE A LIMITED OBLIGATION OF THE COUNTY, PAYABLE BY THE COUNTY SOLELY FROM THE PROCEEDS DERIVED UNDER THIS FEE AGREEMENT AND SHALL NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE DEEMED TO CONSTITUTE A GENERAL OBLIGATION OF THE COUNTY WITHIN THE MEANING OF ANY CONSTITUTIONAL OR STATUTORY LIMITATION.

Section 5.10 Force Majeure. Company shall not be responsible for any delays or non-performance caused in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, by strikes, accidents, freight embargoes, fire, floods, inability to obtain materials, conditions arising from government orders or regulations, war or national emergency, acts of God, and any other cause, similar or dissimilar, beyond Company's reasonable control; provided, however, nothing contained in this Section 5.10 shall aabsolve the Company on a permanent basis from its payment obligations to the County under Article IV hereof.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County, acting by and through the County Council, has caused this Fee Agreement to be executed in its name and behalf by the County Council Chairman and the County Administrator and to be attested by the Clerk to County Council; and the Company has caused this Fee Agreement to be executed by its duly authorized officers, all as of the day and year first above written.

WITNESSES:			
		FLOR	ENCE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
		By:	
			K.G. "Rusty" Smith, Jr., Chairman
			Florence County Council
	and	By:	
			Richard A. Starks, Administrator
		-Se	Florence County Council
Attest:		ŧ	
Connie Y. Haselden, Clerk		1	
Florence County Council			
WITNESSES:		GENE	RAL ELECTRIC COMPANY
		By:	
	Çi.	Its:	

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
COUNTY OF FLORENCE)	PROBATE

PERSONALLY appeared the undersigned witness and made oath that (s)he saw the within named Florence County, South Carolina, by K.G. "Rusty" Smith, Jr., County Council Chairman, Richard A. Starks, County Administrator and Connie Y. Haselden, Clerk to Florence County Council, sign, seal and as its act and deed, deliver the within written Fee Agreement and that (s)he, with the other witness subscribed above, witnessed the execution thereof.

SWORN to before me this	
day of,	
Notary Public for South Carolina My commission expires:	(SEAL)

STATE OF)	
)	PROBATE
COUNTY OF)	

PERSONALLY appeared the undersigned witness and made oath that (s)he saw the within named GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, by its duly authorized officer(s), sign, seal and as its act and deed, deliver the within written Fee Agreement and that (s)he, with the other witness subscribed above, witnessed the execution thereof.

SWORN to before me this	
day of,	
Notary Public for (SEAL)	
My commission expires:	