

INCREASE OR DECREASE RIDER

This Endorsement forms a part of Bond No. 141543781 issued by

Western Surety Company

(Surety)

State of North Dakota PSC

(Obligee)

on behalf of Equity Cooperative Elevator Co., Sheyenne, ND

(Principal)

dated the 1st day of August, 1996

Effective the 1st day of August, 2005

It is understood and agreed that the amount of the above described bond shall be and is hereby **INCREASED**

From:

Three Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$310,000)

To:

Three Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$315,000)

It is also understood and agreed that in no event shall the liability, embodied in this bond be cumulative.

Nothing herein contained shall vary, alter or extend any of the provisions, conditions or other terms of this bond except as above stated.

Signed, sealed and dated this 27th day of June, 2005.

Equity Cooperative Elevator Co

(Principal)

X [Signature]
By: _____
(Title)

President
(Title)

Western Surety Company

By: Jayne M. Buchan

(Attorney-in-Fact)

Accepted:

By: [Signature]
(Title)

Western Surety Company

POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men By These Presents, That WESTERN SURETY COMPANY, a South Dakota corporation, is a duly organized and existing corporation having its principal office in the City of Sioux Falls, and State of South Dakota, and that it does by virtue of the signature and seal herein affixed hereby make, constitute and appoint

William M Gleason, Julie L Johnson, Audette Karan, Corwin F Tufte, Jeanne M Buchan, Debra Buckner, Barbara K Sachi, Individually

of Inver Grove Heights, MN, its true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute for and on its behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature

- In Unlimited Amounts -

and to bind it thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by a duly authorized officer of the corporation and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the By-Law printed on the reverse hereof, duly adopted, as indicated, by the shareholders of the corporation.

In Witness Whereof, WESTERN SURETY COMPANY has caused these presents to be signed by its Senior Vice President and its corporate seal to be hereto affixed on this 15th day of March, 2004.



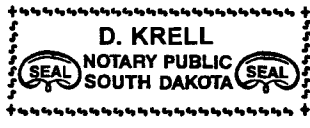
WESTERN SURETY COMPANY

Paul T. Bruflat, Senior Vice President

State of South Dakota }
County of Minnehaha } ss

On this 15th day of March, 2004, before me personally came Paul T. Bruflat, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the City of Sioux Falls, State of South Dakota; that he is the Senior Vice President of WESTERN SURETY COMPANY described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seal of said corporation; that the seal affixed to the said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Board of Directors of said corporation and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporation.

My commission expires
November 30, 2006



D. Krell, Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, L. Nelson, Assistant Secretary of WESTERN SURETY COMPANY do hereby certify that the Power of Attorney hereinabove set forth is still in force, and further certify that the By-Law of the corporation printed on the reverse hereof is still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of the said corporation this 27th day of June, 2005



WESTERN SURETY COMPANY

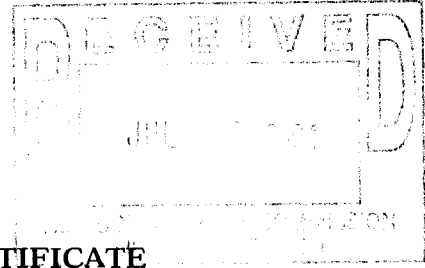
L. Nelson, Assistant Secretary

Authorizing By-Law

ADOPTED BY THE SHAREHOLDERS OF WESTERN SURETY COMPANY

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the shareholders of the Company.

Section 7. All bonds, policies, undertakings, Powers of Attorney, or other obligations of the corporation shall be executed in the corporate name of the Company by the President, Secretary, and Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, or any Vice President, or by such other officers as the Board of Directors may authorize. The President, any Vice President, Secretary, any Assistant Secretary, or the Treasurer may appoint Attorneys in Fact or agents who shall have authority to issue bonds, policies, or undertakings in the name of the Company. The corporate seal is not necessary for the validity of any bonds, policies, undertakings, Powers of Attorney or other obligations of the corporation. The signature of any such officer and the corporate seal may be printed by facsimile.



ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITY CERTIFICATE

Obligee: State of ND Public Serv. Comm. Grain Elev. Div. 12th Fl 600 E. Boulevard Ave. Bismarck, ND 58505

Principal: Equity Cooperative Elevator Co. PO Box Sheyenne, ND 58374

Effective 08/01/2004 this Certificate assumes liability on Bond Number 141543781

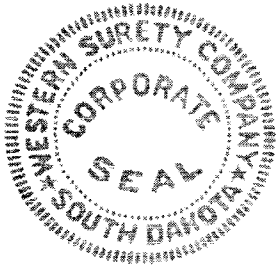
executed and previously filed by American Casualty Company of Reading, PA (\$310,000),

hereinafter referred to as the Company, in favor of the above-named Obligee.

This certifies that, in consideration of the Agreements and covenants herein contained and other good and valuable consideration, WESTERN SURETY COMPANY hereby assumes liability as surety under the above described bond.

BY ISSUANCE OF THIS CERTIFICATE IT IS AGREED:

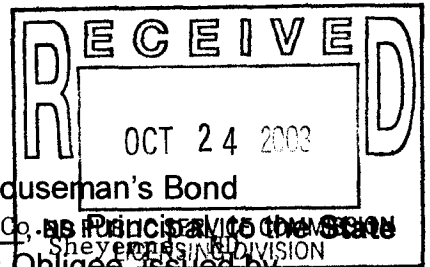
1. That the liability of WESTERN SURETY COMPANY under said bond (a) shall be subject to all of the terms, conditions, limitations and warranties contained in said bond and any amendment thereto or agreement between the Obligee and the Company affecting the same; and (b) shall in no event be greater than would have been the liability of the Company had this Certificate not been issued.
2. That all rights of the Company, which would have been available to the Company by reason of its suretyship under the aforementioned bond, or otherwise, if this Certificate had not been executed, shall inure to the benefit of and be fully enforceable by WESTERN SURETY COMPANY.
3. Signed and dated this 6th day of July, 2004.



BY: Paul T. Bruflat
Paul T. Bruflat, Senior Vice President
Western Surety Company

Certified Mail No. 7003-1680-0002-0652-8240

ENDORSEMENT FOR INCREASE OR DECREASE



This endorsement forms a part of Grain Elevator Warehouseman's Bond No. 141543781 written on behalf of Equity Cooperative Elevator Co. as Principal to the State of North Dakota, Public Service Commission, Bismarck, ND, as Obligor, issued by American Casualty Company of Reading, PA, as Surety, with liability commencing August 1st, 19 96.

Effective October 13th, 2003, it is understood and agreed that the amount of the above described bond shall be and is hereby **INCREASED** from:

Three Hundred Ten Thousand----- (\$310,000.00)

to:

Three Hundred Twenty Five Thousand----- (\$325,000.00)

Effective January 13th 2004, it is hereby understood and agreed that coverage under the attached bond is **DECREASED** from:

Three Hundred Twenty Five Thousand----- (\$325,000.00)

to:

Three Hundred Ten Thousand----- (\$310,000.00)

It is also understood and agreed that in no event shall the liability, embodied in this bond, be cumulative.

Nothing herein contained shall vary, alter or extend any of the provisions, conditions or other terms of this bond except as above stated.

Signed, sealed and dated this 13th day of October, 2003.

Equity Cooperative Elevator Co.
BY: Thomas Smith (Principal)
mgr. (Title)

American Casualty Company of Reading, PA

BY: Jeanne Buckan
Jeanne Buckan, Attorney-In-Fact

ACCEPTED BY ND
Public Service Commission
BY: Susan A. Richter
(Title)

POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men By These Presents, That Continental Casualty Company, National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, and American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania (herein called "the CNA Companies"), are duly organized and existing corporations having their principal offices in the City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, and that they do by virtue of the signatures and seals herein affixed hereby make, constitute and appoint

Corwin F. Tufte, William M. Gleason, Jeanne M. Buchan, Irma Vandelac, Audette Karan, Individually

of St. Paul, Minnesota
their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute for and on their behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature
--- In Unlimited Amounts ---

and to bind them thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by a duly authorized officer of their corporations and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given is hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the By-Law and Resolutions, printed on the reverse hereof, duly adopted, as indicated, by the Boards of Directors of the corporations.

In Witness Whereof, the CNA Companies have caused these presents to be signed by their Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed on this 7th day of September, 2001.



Continental Casualty Company
National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford
American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania

Michael Gengler

Michael Gengler

Group Vice President

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss:

On this 7th day of September, 2001, before me personally came Michael Gengler to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the City of Chicago, State of Illinois; that he is a Group Vice President of Continental Casualty Company, National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, and American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; that they were so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Boards of Directors of said corporations and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporations.



My Commission Expires June 5, 2004

Eileen T. Pachuta

Eileen T. Pachuta

Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, Mary A. Ribikawskis, Assistant Secretary of Continental Casualty Company, National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, and American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania do hereby certify that the Power of Attorney herein above set forth is still in force, and further certify that the By-Law and Resolution of the Board of Directors of the corporations printed on the reverse hereof is still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of the said corporations this 13th day of

October, 2002



Continental Casualty Company
National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford
American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania

Mary A. Ribikawskis

Mary A. Ribikawskis

Assistant Secretary

Authorizing By-Laws and Resolutions

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article IX—Execution of Documents

Section 3. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors, may, at any time, revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 3 of Article IX of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article VI—Execution of Obligations and Appointment of Attorney-in-Fact

Section 2. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 2 of Article VI of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD:

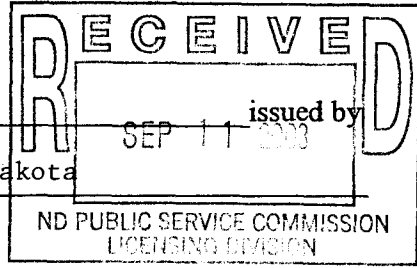
This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following Resolution duly adopted on February 17, 1993 by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"RESOLVED: That the President, an Executive Vice President, or any Senior or Group Vice President of the Corporation may, from time to time, appoint, by written certificates, Attorneys-in-Fact to act in behalf of the Corporation in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such Attorney-in-Fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Corporation by their signature and execution of any such instrument and to attach the seal of the Corporation thereto. The President, an Executive Vice President, any Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any Attorney-in-Fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"RESOLVED: That the signature of the President, an Executive Vice President or any Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to the Resolution adopted by this Board of Directors on February 17, 1993 and the signature of a Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power, and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Corporation. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed, shall with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Corporation."

**ENDORSEMENT FOR INCREASE
OR DECREASE**



This Endorsement forms a part of Bond No. 141543781

American Casualty Company of Reading, PA to State of North Dakota
(Surety) (Obligee)

on behalf of Equity Cooperative Elevator Co., Sheyenne, ND
(Principal)

dated the 1st day of August, 1996

Effective 4th day of September, 2003

It is understood and agreed that the amount of above described bond shall be and is hereby
INCREASED

From:

Three Hundred Five Thousand Dollars (\$ 305,000.00)

To:

Three Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$ 310,000.00)

It is also understood and agreed that in no event shall the liability, embodied in this bond, be cumulative.

Nothing herein contained shall vary, alter or extend any of the provisions, conditions or other terms of this bond except as above stated.

Signed, sealed and dated this 4th day of September, 2003

Equity Cooperative Elevator Co.
(Principal)

By: [Signature]
(Title)

American Casualty Company of Reading, PA

By: Jeanne Buchan
Jeanne Buchan (Attorney-in-Fact)

Accepted:

By: [Signature]
(Title)

POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men By These Presents, That Continental Casualty Company, National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, and American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania (herein called "the CNA Companies"), are duly organized and existing corporations having their principal offices in the City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, and that they do by virtue of the signatures and seals herein affixed hereby make, constitute and appoint

Corwin F. Tufte, William M. Gleason, Jeanne M. Buchan, Irma Vandelac, Audette Karan, Individually

of St. Paul, Minnesota
their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute for and on their behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature
--- In Unlimited Amounts ---

and to bind them thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by a duly authorized officer of their corporations and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given is hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the By-Law and Resolutions, printed on the reverse hereof, duly adopted, as indicated, by the Boards of Directors of the corporations.

In Witness Whereof, the CNA Companies have caused these presents to be signed by their Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed on this 7th day of September, 2001.



Continental Casualty Company
National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford
American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania

Michael Gengler

Michael Gengler

Group Vice President

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss:

On this 7th day of September, 2001, before me personally came Michael Gengler to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the City of Chicago, State of Illinois; that he is a Group Vice President of Continental Casualty Company, National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, and American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; that they were so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Boards of Directors of said corporations and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporations.



My Commission Expires June 5, 2004

Eileen T. Pachuta

Eileen T. Pachuta

Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, Mary A. Ribikawskis, Assistant Secretary of Continental Casualty Company, National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, and American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania do hereby certify that the Power of Attorney herein above set forth is still in force, and further certify that the By-Law and Resolution of the Board of Directors of the corporations printed on the reverse hereof is still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of the said corporations this 4th day of

September, 2003



Continental Casualty Company
National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford
American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania

Mary A. Ribikawskis

Mary A. Ribikawskis

Assistant Secretary

Authorizing By-Laws and Resolutions

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article IX—Execution of Documents

Section 3. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors, may, at any time, revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 3 of Article IX of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article VI—Execution of Obligations and Appointment of Attorney-in-Fact

Section 2. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

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"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 2 of Article VI of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following Resolution duly adopted on February 17, 1993 by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"RESOLVED: That the President, an Executive Vice President, or any Senior or Group Vice President of the Corporation may, from time to time, appoint, by written certificates, Attorneys-in-Fact to act in behalf of the Corporation in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such Attorney-in-Fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Corporation by their signature and execution of any such instrument and to attach the seal of the Corporation thereto. The President, an Executive Vice President, any Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any Attorney-in-Fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"RESOLVED: That the signature of the President, an Executive Vice President or any Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to the Resolution adopted by this Board of Directors on February 17, 1993 and the signature of a Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power, and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Corporation. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed, shall with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Corporation."

INCREASE OR DECREASE RIDER

This Rider forms a part of **Bond No. 141543781** issued by

AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PA

(Surety)

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

(Obligee)

on behalf of **EQUITY COOPERATIVE ELEVATOR CO OF SHEYENNE**

(Principal)

dated the 1st day of AUGUST , 1996

Effective the 1st day of AUGUST , 1999

It is understood and agreed that the amount of the above described bond shall be and is hereby
DECREASED

From:

*****Five Hundred Fifty Five Thousand AND NO/100 Dollars*** Dollars (\$***555,000.00***)**

To:

*****Three Hundred Five Thousand AND NO/100 Dollars*** Dollars (\$***305,000.00***)**

It is also understood and agreed that in no event shall the liability, embodied in this bond be cumulative.

Nothing herein contained shall vary, alter or extend any of the provisions, conditions or other terms of this bond except as above stated.

Signed, sealed and dated this 7th day of JULY, 1999.

EQUITY COOPERATIVE ELEVATOR CO- SHEYENNE

(Principal)

By: Norman Smith (Mgr)

(Title)

AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PA

By: Jeanne Schanzenbach

Jeanne Schanzenbach

(Attorney in fact)

Accepted:

By: Susan H. Richter

North Dakota Public Service Commission

Authorizing By-Laws and Resolutions

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article IX—Execution of Documents

Section 3. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors, may, at any time, revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 3 of Article IX of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article VI—Execution of Obligations and Appointment of Attorney-in-Fact

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This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 2 of Article VI of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following Resolution duly adopted on February 17, 1993 by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"RESOLVED: That the President, an Executive Vice President, or any Senior or Group Vice President of the Corporation may, from time to time, appoint, by written certificates, Attorneys-in-Fact to act in behalf of the Corporation in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such Attorney-in-Fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Corporation by their signature and execution of any such instrument and to attach the seal of the Corporation thereto. The President, an Executive Vice President, any Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any Attorney-in-Fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"RESOLVED: That the signature of the President, an Executive Vice President or any Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to the Resolution adopted by this Board of Directors on February 17, 1993 and the signature of a Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power, and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Corporation. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed, shall with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Corporation."

POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men By These Presents, That CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, an Illinois corporation, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, a Connecticut corporation, AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA, a Pennsylvania corporation (herein collectively called "the CCC Surety Companies"), are duly organized and existing corporations having their principal offices in the City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, and that they do by virtue of the signature and seals herein affixed hereby make, constitute and appoint Corwin F. Tufte, William G. Gleason, Jeanne M. Schanzenbach Irma Vandelac, Audette Karan, Individually

of St. Paul, Minnesota

their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute for and on their behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature

- In Unlimited Amounts -

and to bind them thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by a duly authorized officer of their corporations and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the By-Laws and Resolutions, printed on the reverse hereof, duly adopted, as indicated, by the Boards of Directors of the corporations.

In Witness Whereof, the CCC Surety Companies have caused these presents to be signed by their Group Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed on this 22nd day of February, 1999



CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

Marvin J. Cashion

Marvin J. Cashion Group Vice President

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss:

On this 22nd day of February, 1999, before me personally came Marvin J. Cashion, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the City of Chicago, State of Illinois; that he is a Group Vice President of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; that they were so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Boards of Directors of said corporations and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporations.



My Commission Expires March 6, 2000

Mary Jo Abel

Mary Jo Abel Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, Mary A. Ribikawskis, Assistant Secretary of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA do hereby certify that the Power of Attorney herein above set forth is still in force, and further certify that the By-Law and Resolution of the Board of Directors of each corporation printed on the reverse hereof are still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seals of the said corporations this 7th day of JULY, 1999



CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

Mary A. Ribikawskis

Mary A. Ribikawskis Assistant Secretary

ENDORSEMENT FOR INCREASE

This Endorsement forms a part of Bond No. 141543781 issued by

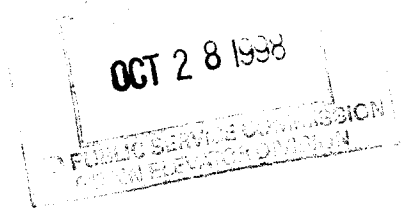
American Casualty Company

(Surety)

North Dakota Public Service Commission

(Obligee)

on behalf of Equity Coop Elevator Company



(Principal)

dated the 1st day of August, 1996

Effective the 29th day of September, 1998

It is understood and agreed that the amount of the above described bond shall be and is hereby **INCREASED**

From:

Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars AND 00/100 Dollars (\$550,000.00**)

To:

Five Hundred Fifty Five Dollars AND 00/100 Dollars (\$555,000.00**)

It is also understood and agreed that in no event shall the liability, embodied in this bond be cumulative.

Nothing herein contained shall vary, alter or extend any of the provisions, conditions or other terms of this bond except as above stated.

Signed, sealed and dated this 5TH day of OCTOBER, 1998

EQUITY COOP ELEVATOR COMPANY

(Principal)

By: *Monna Smith* Manager
(Title)

AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY

By: *Irma Vandelac*
Irma Vandelac (Attorney)

Accepted:

By: *Susan H. Richter*
(Title)

POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men By These Presents, That CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, an Illinois corporation, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, a Connecticut corporation, AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA, a Pennsylvania corporation (herein collectively called "the CNA Surety Companies"), are duly organized and existing corporations having their principal offices in the City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, and that they do by virtue of the signature and seals herein affixed hereby make, constitute and appoint Corwin F. Tufte, William G. Gleason, Jeanne M. Schanzenbach, Irma Vandelac, Individually

of St. Paul, Minnesota

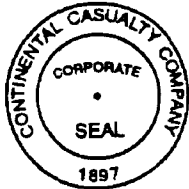
their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute for and on their behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature

- In Unlimited Amounts -

and to bind them thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by a duly authorized officer of their corporations and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the By-Laws and Resolutions, printed on the reverse hereof, duly adopted, as indicated, by the Boards of Directors of the corporations.

In Witness Whereof, the CNA Sureties Companies have caused these presents to be signed by their Group Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed on this 1st day of January, 1996.



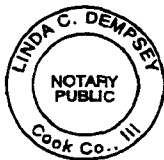
CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

M.C. Vonnahme Group Vice President

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss:

On this 1st day of January, 1996, before me personally came

M. C. Vonnahme, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the Village of Darien, State of Illinois; that he is a Group Vice President of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; that they were so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Boards of Directors of said corporations and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporations.



My Commission Expires October 19, 1998

Linda C. Dempsey Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, John M. Littler, Assistant Secretary of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA do hereby certify that the Power of Attorney herein above set forth is still in force, and further certify that the By-Law and Resolution of the Board of Directors of each corporation printed on the reverse hereof are still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seals of the said corporations this 5 day of October, 1998



CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

John M. Littler Assistant Secretary

Authorizing By-Laws and Resolutions

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article IX—Execution of Documents

Section 3. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors, may, at any time, revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact.

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 3 of Article IX of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article VI—Execution of Obligations and Appointment of Attorney-in-Fact

Section 2. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 2 of Article VI of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD:

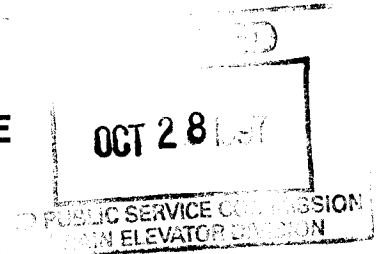
This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following Resolution duly adopted on February 17, 1993 by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"RESOLVED: That the President, an Executive Vice President, or any Senior or Group Vice President of the Corporation may, from time to time, appoint, by written certificates, Attorneys-in-Fact to act in behalf of the Corporation in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such Attorney-in-Fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Corporation by their signature and execution of any such instrument and to attach the seal of the Corporation thereto. The President, an Executive Vice President, any Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any Attorney-in-Fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"RESOLVED: That the signature of the President, an Executive Vice President or any Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to the Resolution adopted by this Board of Directors on February 17, 1993 and the signature of a Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power, and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Corporation. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed, shall with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Corporation."

ENDORSEMENT FOR INCREASE OR DECREASE



This endorsement forms a part of Grain Elevator Warehouseman's Bond No. 141543781 written on behalf of Equity Coop Elevator Company as Principal, to the **State of North Dakota, Public Service Commission, Bismarck, ND**, as Obligee, issued by **American Casualty Company of Reading, PA**, as Surety, with liability commencing August 1st, 1996.

Effective October 20, 1997, it is understood and agreed that the amount of the above described bond shall be and is hereby **INCREASED / DECREASED**

From:

Five hundred forty-five thousand and no/100 (\$ 545,000.00--)

To:

Five hundred fifty thousand and nc/100----- (\$ 550,000.00----)

It is also understood and agreed that in no event shall the liability, embodied in this bond, be cumulative.

Nothing herein contained shall vary, alter or extend any of the provisions, conditions or other terms of this bond except as above stated.

Signed, sealed and dated this 22nd day of October, 1997.

Equity Coop Elevator Company

BY: [Signature] (Principal)
(Title)

American Casualty Company of Reading, PA

BY: Jeanne M. Schanzenbach
Jeanne M Schanzenbach, Attorney-In-Fact

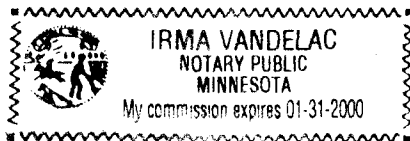
ACCEPTED BY ND
Public Service Commission

BY: [Signature]
(Title)

CORPORATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

State of MINNESOTA
} SS:
County of RAMSEY

On this TWENTY-SECOND day of OCTOBER , 1997,
before me personally come JEANNE M. SCHANZENBACH
to me know, who being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that s/he resides in
 FOREST LAKE, MN , that s/he is the Attorney In Fact of the AMERICAN
CASUALTY COMPANY the corporation described in and which
executed the foregoing instrument; that s/he knows the seal of the said corporation;
that the seal affixed to the said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed
by order of the Board of Directors of the said corporation, and that s/he signed his/her
name to the said instrument by like order; and that the liabilities of said corporation do
not exceed its assets as ascertained in the manner provided by law.



Irma Vandellac
Notary Public

My Commission expires 1-31-2000

POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men By These Presents, That CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, an Illinois corporation, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, a Connecticut corporation, AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA, a Pennsylvania corporation (herein collectively called "the CNA Surety Companies"), are duly organized and existing corporations having their principal offices in the City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, and that they do by virtue of the signature and seals herein affixed hereby make, constitute and appoint Corwin F. Tufte, William G. Gleason, Jeanne M. Schanzenbach, Irma Vandelac, Individually

of St. Paul, Minnesota

their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute for and on their behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature - In Unlimited Amounts -

and to bind them thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by a duly authorized officer of their corporations and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the By-Laws and Resolutions, printed on the reverse hereof, duly adopted, as indicated, by the Boards of Directors of the corporations.

In Witness Whereof, the CNA Sureties Companies have caused these presents to be signed by their Group Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed on this 1st day of January, 1996.



CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

[Handwritten signature of M.C. Vonnahme]

M.C. Vonnahme Group Vice President

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss:

On this 1st day of January, 1996, before me personally came M. C. Vonnahme, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the Village of Darien, State of Illinois; that he is a Group Vice President of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; that they were so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Boards of Directors of said corporations and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporations.



My Commission Expires October 19, 1998

[Handwritten signature of Linda C. Dempsey]

Linda C. Dempsey Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, John M. Littler, Assistant Secretary of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA do hereby certify that the Power of Attorney herein above set forth is still in force, and further certify that the By-Law and Resolution of the Board of Directors of each corporation printed on the reverse hereof are still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seals of the said corporations this 20th day of October, 1997.



CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

[Handwritten signature of John M. Littler]

John M. Littler Assistant Secretary

Authorizing By-Laws and Resolutions

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article IX—Execution of Documents

Section 3. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors, may, at any time, revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact.

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 3 of Article IX of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article VI—Execution of Obligations and Appointment of Attorney-in-Fact

Section 2. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 2 of Article VI of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following Resolution duly adopted on February 17, 1993 by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"RESOLVED: That the President, an Executive Vice President, or any Senior or Group Vice President of the Corporation may, from time to time, appoint, by written certificates, Attorneys-in-Fact to act in behalf of the Corporation in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such Attorney-in-Fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Corporation by their signature and execution of any such instrument and to attach the seal of the Corporation thereto. The President, an Executive Vice President, any Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any Attorney-in-Fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"RESOLVED: That the signature of the President, an Executive Vice President or any Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to the Resolution adopted by this Board of Directors on February 17, 1993 and the signature of a Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power, and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Corporation. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed, shall with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Corporation."

ENDORSEMENT FOR INCREASE OR ~~DECREASE~~

OCT - 6

This endorsement forms a part of Grain Elevator Warehouseman's Bond No. 141543781 written on behalf of Equity Coop Elevator Company, as Principal, to the **State of North Dakota, Public Service Commission, Bismarck, ND**, as Obligee, issued by **American Casualty Company of Reading, PA**, as Surety, with liability commencing August 1, 19 96.

Effective October 10, 19 97, it is understood and agreed that the amount of the above described bond shall be and is hereby **INCREASED / DECREASED**

From:

Five hundred thirty-five thousand and no/100----- (\$ 535,000.00)

To:

Five hundred forty-five thousand and no/100----- (\$ 545,000.00)

It is also understood and agreed that in no event shall the liability, embodied in this bond, be cumulative.

Nothing herein contained shall vary, alter or extend any of the provisions, conditions or other terms of this bond except as above stated.

Signed, sealed and dated this 10th day of October, 19 97.

Equity Coop Elevator Company

BY: [Signature] (Principal)
mgr
(Title)

American Casualty Company of Reading, PA

BY: [Signature]
Jeanne M Schanzenbach, Attorney-in-Fact

ACCEPTED BY ND
Public Service Commission

BY: [Signature]
(Title)

POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men By These Presents, That CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, an Illinois corporation, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, a Connecticut corporation, AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA, a Pennsylvania corporation (herein collectively called "the CNA Surety Companies"), are duly organized and existing corporations having their principal offices in the City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, and that they do by virtue of the signature and seals herein affixed hereby make, constitute and appoint Corwin F. Tufte, William G. Gleason, Jeanne M. Schanzenbach, Irma Vandelac, Individually

of St. Paul, Minnesota

their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute for and on their behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature

- In Unlimited Amounts -

and to bind them thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by a duly authorized officer of their corporations and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the By-Laws and Resolutions, printed on the reverse hereof, duly adopted, as indicated, by the Boards of Directors of the corporations.

In Witness Whereof, the CNA Sureties Companies have caused these presents to be signed by their Group Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed on this 1st day of January, 1996.



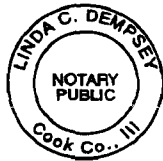
CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

[Signature of M.C. Vonnahme]

M.C. Vonnahme Group Vice President

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss:

On this 1st day of January, 1996, before me personally came M. C. Vonnahme, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the Village of Darien, State of Illinois; that he is a Group Vice President of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; that they were so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Boards of Directors of said corporations and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporations.



My Commission Expires October 19, 1998

[Signature of Linda C. Dempsey]

Linda C. Dempsey Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, John M. Littler, Assistant Secretary of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA do hereby certify that the Power of Attorney herein above set forth is still in force, and further certify that the By-Law and Resolution of the Board of Directors of each corporation printed on the reverse hereof are still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seals of the said corporations this 10th day of October, 1997.



CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

[Signature of John M. Littler]

John M. Littler Assistant Secretary

Authorizing By-Laws and Resolutions

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article IX—Execution of Documents

Section 3. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors, may, at any time, revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact.

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 3 of Article IX of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article VI—Execution of Obligations and Appointment of Attorney-in-Fact

Section 2. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 2 of Article VI of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following Resolution duly adopted on February 17, 1993 by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"RESOLVED: That the President, an Executive Vice President, or any Senior or Group Vice President of the Corporation may, from time to time, appoint, by written certificates, Attorneys-in-Fact to act in behalf of the Corporation in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such Attorney-in-Fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Corporation by their signature and execution of any such instrument and to attach the seal of the Corporation thereto. The President, an Executive Vice President, any Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any Attorney-in-Fact."

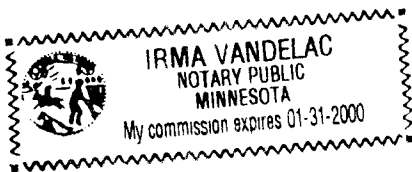
This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"RESOLVED: That the signature of the President, an Executive Vice President or any Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to the Resolution adopted by this Board of Directors on February 17, 1993 and the signature of a Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power, and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Corporation. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed, shall with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Corporation."

CORPORATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

State of MINNESOTA } SS:
County of RAMSEY

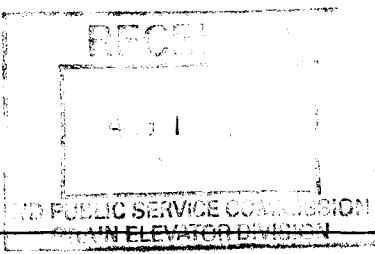
On this THIRTEENTH day of OCTOBER, 1997,
before me personally come JEANNE M. SCHANZENBACH
to me know, who being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that s/he resides in
FOREST LAKE, MN, that s/he is the Attorney In Fact of the AMERICAN
CASUALTY COMPANY the corporation described in and which
executed the foregoing instrument; that s/he knows the seal of the said corporation;
that the seal affixed to the said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed
by order of the Board of Directors of the said corporation, and that s/he signed his/her
name to the said instrument by like order; and that the liabilities of said corporation do
not exceed its assets as ascertained in the manner provided by law.



Irma Vandelac
Notary Public

My Commission expires 1-31-2000

**ENDORSEMENT FOR INCREASE
OR DECREASE**



This Endorsement forms a part of Bond No. 141543781 issued by
American Casualty Company of Reading, PA to ND Public Service Commission - Grain Elevator Div.
(Surety) (Obligee)

on behalf of Equity Coop Elevator Company Sheyenne, ND
(Principal)

dated the 1st day of August, 19 95.

It is understood and agreed that the amount of above described bond shall be and is hereby **INCREASED /
DECREASED**

From:

Five hundred thirty thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$ 530,000.00)

To:

Five hundred thirty five thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$ 535,000.00)

It is also understood and agreed that in no event shall the liability, embodied in this bond, be cumulative.

Nothing herein contained shall vary, alter or extend any of the provisions, conditions or other terms of this bond except as above stated.

Signed, sealed and dated this 1st day of August, 1997.

Equity Coop Elevator Company
(Principal)
By: [Signature] (manager)
(Title)

American Casualty Company of Reading, PA
(Surety)

By: Jeanne M. Schanzenbach
Jeanne M. Schanzenbach (Attorney)

Accepted:

By: [Signature]
(Title)

POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men By These Presents, That CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, an Illinois corporation, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, a Connecticut corporation, AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA, a Pennsylvania corporation (herein collectively called "the CNA Surety Companies"), are duly organized and existing corporations having their principal offices in the City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, and that they do by virtue of the signature and seals herein affixed hereby make, constitute and appoint Corwin F. Tufte, William G. Gleason, Jeanne M. Schanzenbach, Irma Vandelac, Individually

of St. Paul, Minnesota

their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute for and on their behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature

- In Unlimited Amounts -

and to bind them thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by a duly authorized officer of their corporations and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the By-Laws and Resolutions, printed on the reverse hereof, duly adopted, as indicated, by the Boards of Directors of the corporations.

In Witness Whereof, the CNA Sureties Companies have caused these presents to be signed by their Group Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed on this 1st day of January, 1996.



CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

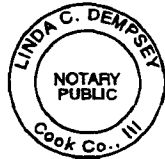
[Handwritten signature of M.C. Vonnahme]

M.C. Vonnahme

Group Vice President

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss:

On this 1st day of January, 1996, before me personally came M. C. Vonnahme, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the Village of Darien, State of Illinois; that he is a Group Vice President of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; that they were so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Boards of Directors of said corporations and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporations.



[Handwritten signature of Linda C. Dempsey]

My Commission Expires October 19, 1998

Linda C. Dempsey

Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, John M. Littler, Assistant Secretary of CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, and AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA do hereby certify that the Power of Attorney herein above set forth is still in force, and further certify that the By-Law and Resolution of the Board of Directors of each corporation printed on the reverse hereof are still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seals of the said corporations this 1st day of August, 1997.



CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY
NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD
AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

[Handwritten signature of John M. Littler]

John M. Littler

Assistant Secretary

Authorizing By-Laws and Resolutions

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article IX—Execution of Documents

Section 3. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors, may, at any time, revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact.

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 3 of Article IX of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Article VI—Execution of Obligations and Appointment of Attorney-in-Fact

Section 2. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 2 of Article VI of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD:

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following Resolution duly adopted on February 17, 1993 by the Board of Directors of the Company.

"**RESOLVED:** That the President, an Executive Vice President, or any Senior or Group Vice President of the Corporation may, from time to time, appoint, by written certificates, Attorneys-in-Fact to act in behalf of the Corporation in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such Attorney-in-Fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, shall have full power to bind the Corporation by their signature and execution of any such instrument and to attach the seal of the Corporation thereto. The President, an Executive Vice President, any Senior or Group Vice President or the Board of Directors may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any Attorney-in-Fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"**RESOLVED:** That the signature of the President, an Executive Vice President or any Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to the Resolution adopted by this Board of Directors on February 17, 1993 and the signature of a Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Corporation may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power, and any power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Corporation. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed, shall with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Corporation."

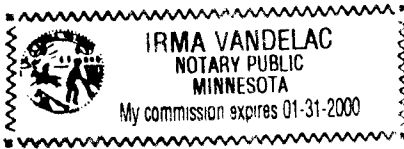
CORPORATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

State of MINNESOTA

} SS:

County of RAMSEY

On this FIRST day of AUGUST, 1997, before me personally come JEANNE M. SCHANZENBACH to me know, who being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that she resides in FOREST LAKE, MN, that h/she is the Attorney In Fact of the AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY the corporation described in and which executed the foregoing instrument; that h/she knows the seal of the said corporation; that the seal affixed to the said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed by order of the Board of Directors of the said corporation, and that h/she signed his/her name to the said instrument by like order; and that the liabilities of said corporation do not exceed its assets as ascertained in the manner provided by law.



Irma Vandelas
Notary Public

My Commission expires 1-31-97

CNA INSURANCE COMPANIES

MINNEAPOLIS
700 PIPER JAFFRAY TOWER (55402)
P.O. BOX 9322
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440

FIREMEN'S INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEWARK, NJ BOND NO. BNS 1272361

AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA
BOND NO. 141543781

ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITY CERTIFICATE

OBLIGEE: ND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
GRAIN ELEVATOR DIVISION
CAPITOL BLDG - 12TH FLOOR
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0165

PRINCIPAL: EQUITY COOP ELEVATOR COMPANY - SHEYENNE, ND = \$530,000. WAREHOUSEMAN'S BOND

THIS CERTIFICATE ASSUMES LIABILITY ON BOND NUMBER BNS 1272361 EXECUTED AND PREVIOUSLY FILED BY FIREMEN'S INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEWARK, NJ, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE COMPANY, IN FAVOR OF THE CAPTIONED OBLIGEE, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 1996.

THIS CERTIFIES THAT AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE AGREEMENTS AND CONVENANTS HEREIN CONTAINED AND OTHER GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, ASSUMES LIABILITY UNDER THE ABOVE DESCRIBED BOND.

BY ISSUANCE OF THIS CERTIFICATE IT IS AGREED:

1. THAT LIABILITY OF AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA UNDER SAID BOND (A) SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ALL OF THE TERMS, CONDITIONS, LIMITATIONS AND WARRANTIES CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE DESCRIBED BOND AND ANY AMENDMENT THERETO OR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OBLIGEE AND THE COMPANY AFFECTING THE SAME; AND (B) SHALL IN NO EVENT BE GREATER THAN WOULD HAVE BEEN THE LIABILITY OF THE COMPANY HAD THIS CERTIFICATE NOT BEEN ISSUED.

2. THAT ALL RIGHTS OF THE COMPANY, WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN AVAILABLE TO THE COMPANY, BY REASON OF ITS SURETYSHIP UNDER THE AFOREMENTIONED BOND, OR OTHERWISE, IF THIS CERTIFICATE HAD NOT BEEN EXECUTED, SHALL INURE TO THE BENEFIT OF AND BE FULLY ENFORCEABLE BY AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA.

3. THAT THIS CERTIFICATE ASSUMES LIABILITY UNDER AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA BOND NO. 141543781 FOR LIABILITY ACCRUED UNDER FIREMEN'S INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEWARK, NJ BOND NO. BNS 1272361.

AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

BY: Lois E. Wynnecoop
ATTORNEY-IN-FACT



For All the Commitments You Make®

OBLIGEE

American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania



For All the Commitments You Make®

Offices/Chicago, Illinois

POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men by these Presents, That AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and having its principal office in the City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, does hereby make, constitute and appoint Lois E. Wynecoop, Individually

of Minneapolis, Minneapolis its true and lawful Attorney-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute in its behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature

- In Unlimited Amounts -

and to bind AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by the duly authorized officers of AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following By-Law duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company.

Article VI—Execution of Obligations and Appointment of Attorney-in-Fact

Section 2. Appointment of Attorney-in-fact. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may, from time to time, appoint by written certificates attorneys-in-fact to act in behalf of the Company in the execution of policies of insurance, bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of like nature. Such attorneys-in-fact, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority shall have full power to bind the Company by their signature and execution of any such instruments and to attach the seal of the Company thereto. The President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President may at any time revoke all power and authority previously given to any attorney-in-fact."

This Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting duly called and held on the 17th day of February, 1993.

"Resolved, that the signature of the President or any Executive, Senior or Group Vice President and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney granted pursuant to Section 2 of Article VI of the By-Laws, and the signature of the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any certificate of any such power and any such power or certificate bearing such facsimile signature and seal shall be valid and binding on the Company. Any such power so executed and sealed and certified by certificate so executed and sealed shall, with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, continue to be valid and binding on the Company."

In Witness Whereof, AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA has caused these presents to be signed by its Group Vice President and its corporate seal to be hereto affixed this 25th day of October, 1994.

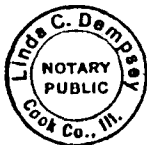
State of Illinois } ss
County of Cook }



AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

M.C. Vonnahme Group Vice President.

On this 25th day of October, 1994, before me personally came M.C. Vonnahme, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the Village of Darien, State of Illinois; that he is a Group Vice President of AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA, the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seal of said Corporation; that the seal affixed to the said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Board of Directors of said corporation and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporation.



Linda C. Dempsey Notary Public
My Commission Expires October 19, 1998

CERTIFICATE

I, John M. Littler, Assistant Secretary of AMERICAN CASUALTY COMPANY OF READING PENNSYLVANIA, do certify that the Power of Attorney herein above set forth is still in force, and further certify that Section 2 of the Article VI of the By-Laws of the Company and the Resolution of the Board of Directors, set forth in said Power of Attorney are still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of the said Company this 11th day of July, 1996.



John M. Littler Assistant Secretary.