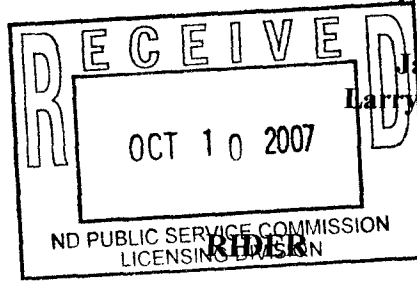




Larry Ash Agency Inc
PO Box 388
Jamestown, ND 58402
Larry Ash, Agent



License No. 656151

To be attached to and form part of Bond No. 400JX6162.

Issued on behalf of Embden Grain Co. as Principal, and in favor of ND Public Service Commission as Obligee.

It is agreed that:

1. The Surety hereby gives its consent to change the Name:

from:
to:

2. The Surety hereby gives its consent to change the Address

from:
to:

3. The Surety hereby gives its consent to change the Bond Amount

from: **\$270,000.00**
to: **\$280,000.00**

4. This rider shall become effective as of 10/9/07:

PROVIDED, however, that the liability of the Surety under the attached bond as changed by this Rider shall not be cumulative.

Signed, sealed and dated 10/9/07.

Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America

By: *Ruby Eilich*

Attorney-in-Fact

or **Embden Grain Co.**

Principal

Accepted: **ND Public Service Commission**

Obligee

By: *Susan K. Richter*

By: _____



POWER OF ATTORNEY

Farmington Casualty Company
Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company
Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc.
Seaboard Surety Company
St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company

St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company
St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company
Travelers Casualty and Surety Company
Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America
United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company

Attorney-In Fact No. 219019

Certificate No. 001897502

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That Seaboard Surety Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of New York, that St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company and St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company are corporations duly organized under the laws of the State of Minnesota, that Farmington Casualty Company, Travelers Casualty and Surety Company, and Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America are corporations duly organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut, that United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Maryland, that Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Iowa, and that Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc. is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Wisconsin (herein collectively called the "Companies"), and that the Companies do hereby make, constitute and appoint

Larry E. Ash

of the City of Jamestown, State of North Dakota, their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, each in their separate capacity if more than one is named above, to sign, execute, seal and acknowledge any and all bonds, recognizances, conditional undertakings and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof on behalf of the Companies in their business of guaranteeing the fidelity of persons, guaranteeing the performance of contracts and executing or guaranteeing bonds and undertakings required or permitted in any actions or proceedings allowed by law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Companies have caused this instrument to be signed and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed, this 14th day of August, 2007.

Farmington Casualty Company
Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company
Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc.
Seaboard Surety Company
St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company

St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company
St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company
Travelers Casualty and Surety Company
Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America
United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company



State of Connecticut
City of Hartford ss.

By: [Signature]
George W. Thompson, Senior Vice President

On this the 14th day of August, 2007, before me personally appeared George W. Thompson, who acknowledged himself to be the Senior Vice President of Farmington Casualty Company, Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company, Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc., Seaboard Surety Company, St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, Travelers Casualty and Surety Company, Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America, and United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, and that he, as such, being authorized so to do, executed the foregoing instrument for the purposes therein contained by signing on behalf of the corporations by himself as a duly authorized officer.

In Witness Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal. My Commission expires the 30th day of June, 2011.



[Signature]
Marie C. Tetreault, Notary Public

This Power of Attorney is granted under and by the authority of the following resolutions adopted by the Boards of Directors of Farmington Casualty Company, Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company, Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc., Seaboard Surety Company, St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, Travelers Casualty and Surety Company, Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America, and United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, which resolutions are now in full force and effect, reading as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Chairman, the President, any Vice Chairman, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President, any Vice President, any Second Vice President, the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Corporate Secretary or any Assistant Secretary may appoint Attorneys-in-Fact and Agents to act for and on behalf of the Company and may give such appointee such authority as his or her certificate of authority may prescribe to sign with the Company's name and seal with the Company's seal bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking, and any of said officers or the Board of Directors at any time may remove any such appointee and revoke the power given him or her; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman, the President, any Vice Chairman, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President or any Vice President may delegate all or any part of the foregoing authority to one or more officers or employees of this Company, provided that each such delegation is in writing and a copy thereof is filed in the office of the Secretary; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any bond, recognizance, contract of indemnity, or writing obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking shall be valid and binding upon the Company when (a) signed by the President, any Vice Chairman, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President or any Vice President, any Second Vice President, the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Corporate Secretary or any Assistant Secretary and duly attested and sealed with the Company's seal by a Secretary or Assistant Secretary; or (b) duly executed (under seal, if required) by one or more Attorneys-in-Fact and Agents pursuant to the power prescribed in his or her certificate or their certificates of authority or by one or more Company officers pursuant to a written delegation of authority; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the signature of each of the following officers: President, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President, any Vice President, any Assistant Vice President, any Secretary, any Assistant Secretary, and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any power of attorney or to any certificate relating thereto appointing Resident Vice Presidents, Resident Assistant Secretaries or Attorneys-in-Fact for purposes only of executing and attesting bonds and undertakings and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signature or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power so executed and certified by such facsimile signature and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding on the Company in the future with respect to any bond or understanding to which it is attached.

I, Kori M. Johanson, the undersigned, Assistant Secretary, of Farmington Casualty Company, Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company, Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc., Seaboard Surety Company, St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, Travelers Casualty and Surety Company, Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America, and United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Power of Attorney executed by said Companies, which is in full force and effect and has not been revoked.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seals of said Companies this 9th day of October, 20 07.


Kori M. Johanson, Assistant Secretary



To verify the authenticity of this Power of Attorney, call 1-800-421-3880 or contact us at www.travelersbond.com. Please refer to the Attorney-In-Fact number, the above-named individuals and the details of the bond to which the power is attached.



Security Insurance Agency
PO Box 850,
Jamestown, ND 58402
Larry Ash, Agent

License No. 656151

RIDER

To be attached to and form part of Bond No. 400JX6162.

Issued on behalf of Embden Grain Co. as Principal, and in favor of North Dakota Public Service Commission as Obligee.

It is agreed that:

1. The Surety hereby gives its consent to change the Name:

from:
to:

2. The Surety hereby gives its consent to change the Address

from:
to:

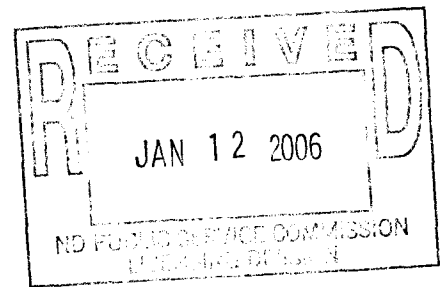
3. The Surety hereby gives its consent to change the Bond Amount

from: **\$290,00.00**
to: **\$270,000.00**

4. This rider shall become effective as of 01/11/06:

PROVIDED, however, that the liability of the Surety under the attached bond as changed by this Rider shall not be cumulative.

Signed, sealed and dated 01/11/06.



Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America

By: _____

Attorney-in-Fact

Accepted: North Dakota Public Service Commission

Obligee

or Embden Grain Co.

Principal

By: _____

By: _____

**TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA
TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY
FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY
Hartford, Connecticut 06183-9062**

POWER OF ATTORNEY AND CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY(S)-IN-FACT

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY, corporations duly organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut, and having their principal offices in the City of Hartford, County of Hartford, State of Connecticut, (hereinafter the "Companies") hath made, constituted and appointed, and do by these presents make, constitute and appoint: Larry E. Ash, Steven J. Ondracek, Lennell M. Guertin, Blaine P. Stockert, of Jamestown / Valley City, North Dakota, their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, execute and acknowledge, at any place within the United States, the following instrument(s): by his/her sole signature and act, any and all bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking and any and all consents incident thereto and to bind the Companies, thereby as fully and to the same extent as if the same were signed by the duly authorized officers of the Companies, and all the acts of said Attorney(s)-in-Fact, pursuant to the authority herein given, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This appointment is made under and by authority of the following Standing Resolutions of said Companies, which Resolutions are now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That the Chairman, the President, any Vice Chairman, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President, any Vice President, any Second Vice President, the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Corporate Secretary or any Assistant Secretary may appoint Attorneys-in-Fact and Agents to act for and on behalf of the company and may give such appointee such authority as his or her certificate of authority may prescribe to sign with the Company's name and seal with the Company's seal bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking, and any of said officers or the Board of Directors at any time may remove any such appointee and revoke the power given him or her.

VOTED: That the Chairman, the President, any Vice Chairman, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President or any Vice President may delegate all or any part of the foregoing authority to one or more officers or employees of this Company, provided that each such delegation is in writing and a copy thereof is filed in the office of the Secretary.

VOTED: That any bond, recognizance, contract of indemnity, or writing obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking shall be valid and binding upon the Company when (a) signed by the President, any Vice Chairman, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President or any Vice President, any Second Vice President, the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Corporate Secretary or any Assistant Secretary and duly attested and sealed with the Company's seal by a Secretary or Assistant Secretary, or (b) duly executed (under seal, if required) by one or more Attorneys-in-Fact and Agents pursuant to the power prescribed in his or her certificate or their certificates of authority or by one or more Company officers pursuant to a written delegation of authority.

This Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority is signed and sealed by facsimile (mechanical or printed) under and by authority of the following Standing Resolution voted by the Boards of Directors of TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY, which Resolution is now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That the signature of each of the following officers: President, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President, any Vice President, any Assistant Vice President, any Secretary, any Assistant Secretary, and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any power of attorney or to any certificate relating thereto appointing Resident Vice Presidents, Resident Assistant Secretaries or Attorneys-in-Fact for purposes only of executing and attesting bonds and undertakings and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signature or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power so executed and certified by such facsimile signature and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company in the future with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY have caused this instrument to be signed by their Senior Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed this 16th day of April, 2005.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

}SS. Hartford

COUNTY OF HARTFORD

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA
TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY
FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY



By 
George W. Thompson
Senior Vice President

On this 16th day of April, 2005 before me personally came **GEORGE W. THOMPSON** to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he/she is **Senior Vice President** of **TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY**, the corporations described in and which executed the above instrument; that he/she knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; and that he/she executed the said instrument on behalf of the corporations by authority of his/her office under the Standing Resolutions thereof.




Marie C Tetreault
My commission expires June 30, 2006 Notary Public
Marie C. Tetreault

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, **Senior Vice President** of **TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY**, stock corporations of the State of Connecticut, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority remains in full force and has not been revoked; and furthermore, that the Standing Resolutions of the Boards of Directors, as set forth in the Certificate of Authority, are now in force.

Signed and Sealed at the Home Office of the Company, in the City of Hartford, State of Connecticut. Dated this 14 day of January, 2006.

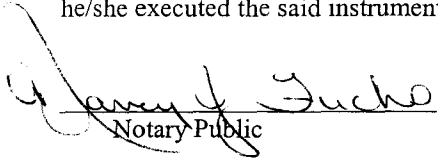


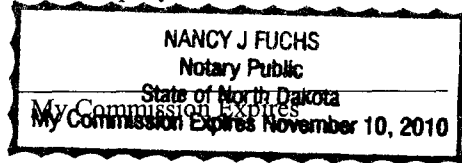
By 
Nicholas Seminara
Senior Vice President

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

State of North Dakota
County of Stutsman

On this 11th day of January, 2006, before me, a Notary Public, within and for said County and State personally appeared Larry E. Ash, to me personally known, and known to me to be the Attorney-in-Fact of and for the Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America a corporation, created, organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Connecticut upon oath did say that the corporate seal affixed to the attached instrument is the seal of the said company; that the seal was affixed and the said instrument was executed by the authority of its Board of Directors; and he/she did also acknowledge that he/she executed the said instrument as the free act and deed of said Company.

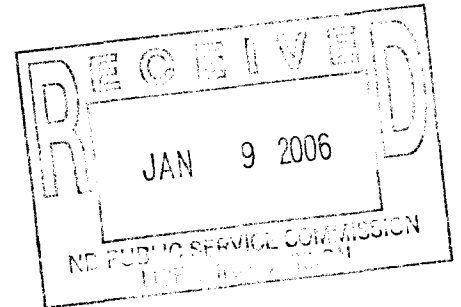

Notary Public





CHANGE IN SURETY COMPANY RIDER

To: **STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE CAPITOL, 12TH FLOOR
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58505-0480**



To be attached to and form part of: Bond Number **400JX6162**
Former Bond Number
Bond Limit **\$290,000.00**

Issued on behalf of: **EMBDEN GRAIN COMPANY
4215 145TH AVENUE S.E.

EMBDEN, NORTH DAKOTA 58079**

And in favor of: **STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE CAPITOL, 12TH FLOOR
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58505-0480**

The purpose of this Rider is to:


CHANGE IN SURETY COMPANY

Effective August 01, 2005, the surety on the above referenced bond is Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America. Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America replaces St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company as surety. The termination of liability under the St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company bond is a condition precedent to the change of surety.

Signed, sealed and dated this 06 day of January, 2006.

Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America



By: 

Joseph L. Nespor, Attorney-In-Fact

Obligee Copy

**TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA
TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY
FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY
Hartford, Connecticut 06183-9062**

POWER OF ATTORNEY AND CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY(S)-IN-FACT

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY, corporations duly organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut, and having their principal offices in the City of Hartford, County of Hartford, State of Connecticut, (hereinafter the "Companies") hath made, constituted and appointed, and do by these presents make, constitute and appoint: **Joseph L. Nespor, of Hartford, Connecticut,** their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, execute and acknowledge, at any place within the United States, the following instrument(s): by his/her sole signature and act, any and all bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking and any and all consents incident thereto and to bind the Companies, thereby as fully and to the same extent as if the same were signed by the duly authorized officers of the Companies, and all the acts of said Attorney(s)-in-Fact, pursuant to the authority herein given, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This appointment is made under and by authority of the following Standing Resolutions of said Companies, which Resolutions are now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That the Chairman, the President, any Vice Chairman, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President, any Vice President, any Second Vice President, the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Corporate Secretary or any Assistant Secretary may appoint Attorneys-in-Fact and Agents to act for and on behalf of the company and may give such appointee such authority as his or her certificate of authority may prescribe to sign with the Company's name and seal with the Company's seal bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking, and any of said officers or the Board of Directors at any time may remove any such appointee and revoke the power given him or her.

VOTED: That the Chairman, the President, any Vice Chairman, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President or any Vice President may delegate all or any part of the foregoing authority to one or more officers or employees of this Company, provided that each such delegation is in writing and a copy thereof is filed in the office of the Secretary.

VOTED: That any bond, recognizance, contract of indemnity, or writing obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking shall be valid and binding upon the Company when (a) signed by the President, any Vice Chairman, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President or any Vice President, any Second Vice President, the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Corporate Secretary or any Assistant Secretary and duly attested and sealed with the Company's seal by a Secretary or Assistant Secretary, or (b) duly executed (under seal, if required) by one or more Attorneys-in-Fact and Agents pursuant to the power prescribed in his or her certificate or their certificates of authority or by one or more Company officers pursuant to a written delegation of authority.

This Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority is signed and sealed by facsimile (mechanical or printed) under and by authority of the following Standing Resolution voted by the Boards of Directors of TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY, which Resolution is now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That the signature of each of the following officers: President, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President, any Vice President, any Assistant Vice President, any Secretary, any Assistant Secretary, and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any power of attorney or to any certificate relating thereto appointing Resident Vice Presidents, Resident Assistant Secretaries or Attorneys-in-Fact for purposes only of executing and attesting bonds and undertakings and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signature or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power so executed and certified by such facsimile signature and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company in the future with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY have caused this instrument to be signed by their Senior Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed this 12th day of October, 2004.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

}SS. Hartford

COUNTY OF HARTFORD

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA
TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY
FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY



By *George W. Thompson*
George W. Thompson
Senior Vice President

On this 12th day of October, 2004 before me personally came **GEORGE W. THOMPSON** to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he/she is **Senior Vice President** of **TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY**, the corporations described in and which executed the above instrument; that he/she knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; and that he/she executed the said instrument on behalf of the corporations by authority of his/her office under the Standing Resolutions thereof.



Marie C Tetreault
My commission expires June 30, 2006 Notary Public
Marie C. Tetreault

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, **Senior Vice President** of **TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA, TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY and FARMINGTON CASUALTY COMPANY**, stock corporations of the State of Connecticut, **DO HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing and attached Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority remains in full force and has not been revoked; and furthermore, that the Standing Resolutions of the Boards of Directors, as set forth in the Certificate of Authority, are now in force.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seals of said Companies this 06 day of January, 2006.

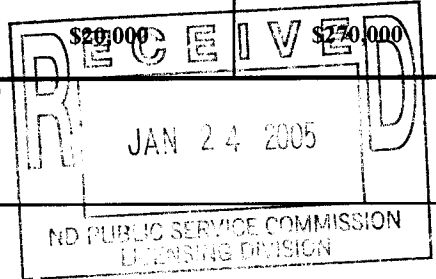


By *Peter Schwartz*
Peter Schwartz
Senior Vice President

Surety

**STIPULATION
(Penalty DECREASE)**

ATTACHED TO AND FORMING PART OF BOND NO.	EFFECTIVE DATE OF BOND	EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS STIPULATION	AMOUNT OF DECREASE	NEW PENALTY AMOUNT
400JX6162	08/01/97	01/17/2005	\$20,000	\$270,000
ISSUED ON BEHALF OF EMBDEN GRAIN CO		ISSUED IN FAVOR OF State of NorthDakota		



We, St Paul Mercury Insurance Company, Surety on the above Bond, hereby stipulate and agree that from and after the effective date of this Stipulation the penalty of said Bond shall be

increased

decreased

Check One - by the amount stated above but the total liability of St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company

under said Bond and this Stipulation shall not exceed the sum of Two hundred seventy thousand dollars and no/100
dollars (\$270,000).

St Paul Mercury Insurance Company

by *[Signature]*, Attorney-in-fact

REQUEST FOR STIPULATION (DECREASE)

We Embden Grain Co, Principal , hereby request execution of the foregoing Stipulation by St Paul Mercury Insurance Company.

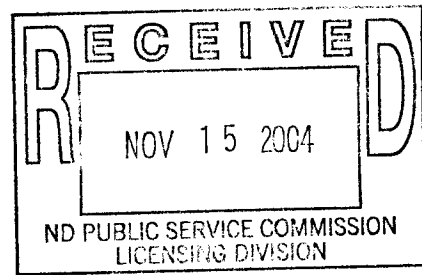
Embden Grain Co

By *[Signature]*

The **StPaul**

Surety

**STIPULATION
(Penalty INCREASE)**



ATTACHED TO AND FORMING PART OF BOND NO.	EFFECTIVE DATE OF BOND	EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS STIPULATION	AMOUNT OF INCREASE	NEW PENALTY AMOUNT
400JX6162	08/01/97	11/12/04	\$20,000	\$290,000
ISSUED ON BEHALF OF EMBDEN GRAIN CO		ISSUED IN FAVOR OF State of NorthDakota		

We, St Paul Mercury Insurance Company, Surety on the above Bond, hereby stipulate and agree that from and after the effective date of this Stipulation the penalty of said Bond shall be

increased

decreased

Check One - by the amount stated above but the total liability of St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company

under said Bond and this Stipulation shall not exceed the sum of Two hundred ninty thousand dollars and no/100
dollars (\$290,000).

St Paul Mercury Insurance Company

by *[Signature]*, Attorney-in-fact

REQUEST FOR STIPULATION (INCREASE)

We Embden Grain Co, Principal , hereby request execution of the foregoing Stipulation by St Paul Mercury Insurance Company.

Embden Grain Co

By _____

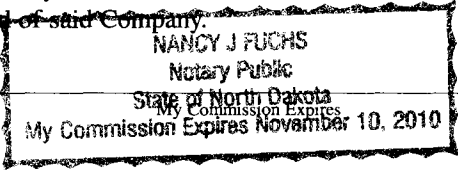
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

STATE OF North Dakota
COUNTY OF Stutsman } ss.

On this 12th day of November 19 2004, before me, a Notary Public, within and for said

County and State, personally appeared Larry Ash to me personally known, and known to me to be the Attorney-in-Fact of and for the ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY, Saint Paul, Minnesota, a corporation, created, organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Minnesota, upon oath did say that the corporate seal affixed to the attached instrument is the seal of the said Company; that the seal was affixed and the said instrument was executed by the authority of its Board of Directors; and he/she did also acknowledge that he/she executed the said instrument as the free act and deed of said Company.

Nancy J. Fuchs
Notary Public



Seaboard Surety Company
St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company
St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company
St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company

United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company
Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company
Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc.

Power of Attorney No. 20836

Certificate No. 399541

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That Seaboard Surety Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of New York, and that St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company and St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company are corporations duly organized under the laws of the State of Minnesota, and that United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Maryland, and that Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Iowa, and that Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc. is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Wisconsin (herein collectively called the "Companies"), and that the Companies do hereby make, constitute and appoint

Larry E. Ash and Steven H. Steinborn

of the City of Jamestown State North Dakota, their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, each in their separate capacity if more than one is named above, to sign its name as surety to, and to execute, seal and acknowledge any and all bonds, undertakings, contracts and other written instruments in the nature thereof on behalf of the Companies in their business of guaranteeing the fidelity of persons, guaranteeing the performance of contracts and executing or guaranteeing bonds and undertakings required or permitted in any actions or proceedings allowed by law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Companies have caused this instrument to be signed this 4th day of August, 1999

Seaboard Surety Company
St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company
St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company
St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company

United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company
Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company
Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc.



Michael B. Keegan
MICHAEL B. KEEGAN, Vice President

Michael R. McKibben
MICHAEL R. MCKIBBEN, Assistant Secretary

State of Maryland
City of Baltimore

On this 4th day of August, 1999, before me, the undersigned officer, personally appeared Michael B. Keegan and Michael R. McKibben, who acknowledged themselves to be the Vice President and Assistant Secretary, respectively, of Seaboard Surety Company, St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company, and Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc. and that they, as such, being authorized so to do, executed the foregoing instrument for the purposes therein contained by signing the names of the corporations by themselves as duly authorized officers.

In Witness Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.
My Commission expires the 13th day of July, 2002.



Rebecca Easley-Onokala
REBECCA EASLEY-ONOKALA, Notary Public

This Power of Attorney is granted under and by the authority of the following resolutions adopted by the Boards of Directors of Seaboard Surety Company, St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company, and Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc. on September 2, 1998, which resolutions are now in full force and effect, reading as follows:

RESOLVED, that in connection with the fidelity and surety insurance business of the Company, all bonds, undertakings, contracts and other instruments relating to said business may be signed, executed, and acknowledged by persons or entities appointed as Attorney(s)-in-Fact pursuant to a Power of Attorney issued in accordance with these resolutions. Said Power(s) of Attorney for and on behalf of the Company may and shall be executed in the name and on behalf of the Company, either by the Chairman, or the President, or any Vice President, or an Assistant Vice President, jointly with the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary, under their respective designations. The signature of such officers may be engraved, printed or lithographed. The signature of each of the foregoing officers and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any Power of Attorney or to any certificate relating thereto appointing Attorney(s)-in-Fact for purposes only of executing and attesting bonds and undertakings and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and subject to any limitations set forth therein, any such Power of Attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signature or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company, and any such power so executed and certified by such facsimile signature and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is validly attached; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that Attorney(s)-in-Fact shall have the power and authority, and, in any case, subject to the terms and limitations of the Power of Attorney issued them, to execute and deliver on behalf of the Company and to attach the seal of the Company to any and all bonds and undertakings, and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and any such instrument executed by such Attorney(s)-in-Fact shall be as binding upon the Company as if signed by an Executive Officer and sealed and attested to by the Secretary of the Company.

I, Michael R. McKibben, Assistant Secretary of Seaboard Surety Company, St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Company, and Fidelity and Guaranty Insurance Underwriters, Inc. do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Power of Attorney executed by said Companies, which is in full force and effect and has not been revoked.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 12th day of November, 2004



Michael R. McKibben
Michael R. McKibben, Assistant Secretary

To verify the authenticity of this Power of Attorney, call 1-800-421-3880 and ask for the Power of Attorney clerk. Please refer to the Power of Attorney number, the above-named individuals and the details of the bond to which the power is attached.



STIPULATION
(Penalty Increase or Decrease)

JUL 00

Table with 5 columns: ATTACHED TO AND FORMING PART OF BOND NO., EFFECTIVE DATE OF BOND, EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS STIPULATION, AMOUNT OF INCREASE/DECREASE, NEW PENALTY AMOUNT. Rows include bond number 400 JX 6162, dates 8-1-97 and 8-1-99, amounts \$250,000 and \$270,000, and parties EMBDEN GRAIN COMPANY and NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

We, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, Surety on the above Bond, hereby stipulate and agree that from and after the effective date of this Stipulation the penalty of said Bond shall be

Check One by the amount stated above but the total liability of St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company
[X] decreased

under said Bond and this Stipulation shall not exceed the sum of Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars

dollars (\$270,000).

St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company
[Signature]
Attorney-in-Fact

REQUEST FOR STIPULATION (INCREASE)

We, Principal hereby request St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company to execute the foregoing Stipulation.

By

CONSENT TO STIPULATION (DECREASE)

We, EMBDEN Grain Co., Oblige, hereby consent to the foregoing Stipulation decreasing the Bond amount.

By, [Signature]

STATE OF North Dakota
COUNTY OF Stutsman } ss.

On this 19th day of July 19 99, before me, a Notary Public, within and for said

County and State, personally appeared Lanny Ash to me personally known, and known to me to be the Attorney-in-Fact of and for the ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY, Saint Paul, Minnesota, a corporation, created, organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Minnesota, upon oath did say that the corporate seal affixed to the attached instrument is the seal of the said Company; that the seal was affixed and the said instrument was executed by the authority of its Board of Directors; and he/she did also acknowledge that he/she executed the said instrument as the free act and deed of said Company.

Danla Church
Notary Public

PAULI A. CHURCH
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
My Commission Expires FEBRUARY 9, 2001

CERTIFIED COPY NO.

For verification of the authenticity of this Power of Attorney, you may telephone toll free 1-800-421-3880 and ask for the Power of Attorney Clerk. Please refer to the Certificate of Authority No. and the named individual(s).

397562

GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY - CERTIFIED COPY
(Original on File at Home Office of Company. See Certification.)

M-14953

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Minnesota, having its principal office in the City of St. Paul, Minnesota, does hereby constitute and appoint:

Larry E. Ash and Steven H. Steinborn, individually, Jamestown, North Dakota

its true and lawful attorney(s)-in-fact to execute, seal and deliver for and on its behalf as surety, any and all bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, which are or may be allowed, required or permitted by law, statute, rule, regulation, contract or otherwise,

NOT TO EXCEED IN PENALTY THE SUM OF FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000) EACH

and the execution of all such instrument(s) in pursuance of these presents, shall be as binding upon said **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**, as fully and amply, to all intents and purposes, as if the same had been duly executed and acknowledged by its regularly elected officers at its principal office.

This Power of Attorney is executed, and may be certified to and may be revoked, pursuant to and by authority of Article V.-Section 6(C), of the By-Laws adopted by the Shareholders of **ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY** at a meeting called and held on the 28th day of April, 1978, of which the following is a true transcript of said Section 6 (C):

- "The President or any Vice President, Assistant Vice President, Secretary or Service Center General Manager shall have power and authority
- (1) To appoint Attorneys-in-fact, and to authorize them to execute on behalf of the Company, and attach the Seal of the Company thereto, bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and
 - (2) To appoint special Attorneys-in-fact, who are hereby authorized to certify to copies of any power-of-attorney issued in pursuance of this section and/or any of the By-Laws of the Company, and
 - (3) To remove, at any time, any such Attorney-in-fact or Special Attorney-in-fact and revoke the authority given him."

Further, this Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile pursuant to resolution of the Board of Directors of said Company adopted at a meeting duly called and held on the 12th day of December, 1967, of which the following is a true excerpt:

"Now therefore the signatures of such officers and the seal of the Company may be affixed to any such power of attorney or any certificate relating thereto by facsimile, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signatures or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power so executed and certified by facsimile signatures and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company in the future with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached."

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company** has caused this instrument to be signed and its corporate seal to be affixed by its authorized officer, this 30th day of November, A.D. 1990.

ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY



STATE OF NEW JERSEY } ss.
County of Somerset

Kenneth J. Ryan
KENNETH J. RYAN, Secretary

On this **22nd** day of **May**, 19 **97**, before me came the individual who executed the preceding instrument, to me personally known, and, being by me duly sworn, said that he/she is the therein described and authorized officer of **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**; that the seal affixed to said instrument is the Corporate Seal of said Company; that the said Corporate Seal and his/her signature were duly affixed by order of the Board of Directors of said Company.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal, at the township of Bedminster, New Jersey, the day and year first above written.



Linda Smethers
LINDA SMETHERS, Notary Public, Middlesex, NJ
My Commission Expires December 16, 2001

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned officer of **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of the Power of Attorney and affidavit, and the copy of the Section of the By-Laws of said Company as set forth in said Power of Attorney, with the **ORIGINALS ON FILE IN THE HOME OFFICE OF SAID COMPANY**, and that the same are correct transcripts thereof, and of the whole of the said originals, and that the said Power of Attorney has not been revoked and is now in full force and effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
19th day of July, 19 99



Michael W. Anderson
MICHAEL W. ANDERSON, Secretary

Only a certified copy of Power of Attorney bearing the Certificate of Authority No. printed in red on the upper right corner is binding. Photocopies, carbon copies or other reproductions of this document are invalid and not binding upon the Company.

ANY INSTRUMENT ISSUED IN EXCESS OF THE PENALTY AMOUNT STATED ABOVE IS TOTALLY VOID AND WITHOUT ANY VALIDITY.

STIPULATION
(Penalty Increase or Decrease)

4109

ATTACHED TO AND FORMING PART OF BOND NO.	EFFECTIVE DATE OF BOND	EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS STIPULATION	AMOUNT OF INCREASE/DECREASE	NEW PENALTY AMOUNT
400 JX 6162	8-1-97	12-31-98	\$ 20,000	\$ 520,000
ISSUED ON BEHALF OF EMBDEN GRAIN CO		ISSUED IN FAVOR OF NORTH DAKOTA Public Service Commission		

We, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, Surety on the above Bond, hereby stipulate and agree that from and after the effective date of this Stipulation the penalty of said Bond shall be

increased }
 decreased } Check One by the amount stated above but the total liability of St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company

under said Bond and this Stipulation shall not exceed the sum of Five hundred twenty thousand dollars

 dollars (\$ 520,000).

St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company
[Signature]

 Attorney-in-Fact

REQUEST FOR STIPULATION (INCREASE)

We....., Principal hereby request St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company to execute the foregoing Stipulation.

By.....

CONSENT TO STIPULATION (DECREASE)

We....., Oblige, hereby consent to the foregoing Stipulation decreasing the Bond amount.

By.....

**CERTIFIED
COPY NO.**

For verification of the authenticity of this Power of Attorney, you may telephone toll free 1-800-421-3880 and ask for the Power of Attorney Clerk. Please refer to the Certificate of Authority No. and the named individual(s).

397560

M-14953

GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY - CERTIFIED COPY
(Original on File at Home Office of Company. See Certification.)

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Minnesota, having its principal office in the City of St. Paul, Minnesota, does hereby constitute and appoint:

Larry E. Ash and Steven H. Steinborn, individually, Jamestown, North Dakota

its true and lawful attorney(s)-in-fact to execute, seal and deliver for and on its behalf as surety, any and all bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, which are or may be allowed, required or permitted by law, statute, rule, regulation, contract or otherwise,

NOT TO EXCEED IN PENALTY THE SUM OF FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000) EACH

and the execution of all such instrument(s) in pursuance of these presents, shall be as binding upon said **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**, as fully and amply, to all intents and purposes, as if the same had been duly executed and acknowledged by its regularly elected officers at its principal office.

This Power of Attorney is executed, and may be certified to and may be revoked, pursuant to and by authority of Article V, Section 6(C), of the By-Laws adopted by the Shareholders of **ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY** at a meeting called and held on the 28th day of April, 1978, of which the following is a true transcript of said Section 6 (C):

"The President or any Vice President, Assistant Vice President, Secretary or Service Center General Manager shall have power and authority

- (1) To appoint Attorneys-in-fact, and to authorize them to execute on behalf of the Company, and attach the Seal of the Company thereto, bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and
- (2) To appoint special Attorneys-in-fact, who are hereby authorized to certify to copies of any power-of-attorney issued in pursuance of this section and/or any of the By-Laws of the Company, and
- (3) To remove, at any time, any such Attorney-in-fact or Special Attorney-in-fact and revoke the authority given him."

Further, this Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile pursuant to resolution of the Board of Directors of said Company adopted at a meeting duly called and held on the 12th day of December, 1967, of which the following is a true excerpt:

"Now therefore the signatures of such officers and the seal of the Company may be affixed to any such power of attorney or any certificate relating thereto by facsimile, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signatures or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power so executed and certified by facsimile signatures and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company in the future with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached."



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company** has caused this instrument to be signed and its corporate seal to be affixed by its authorized officer, this 30th day of November, A.D. 1990.

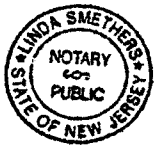
ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY

Kenneth J. Ryan
KENNETH J. RYAN, Secretary

STATE OF NEW JERSEY } ss.
County of Somerset

On this 22nd day of May, 19 97, before me came the individual who executed the preceding instrument, to me personally known, and, being by me duly sworn, said that he/she is the therein described and authorized officer of **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**; that the seal affixed to said instrument is the Corporate Seal of said Company; that the said Corporate Seal and his/her signature were duly affixed by order of the Board of Directors of said Company.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal, at the township of Bedminster, New Jersey, the day and year first above written.



Linda Smethers
LINDA SMETHERS, Notary Public, Middlesex, NJ
My Commission Expires December 16, 2001

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned officer of **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of the Power of Attorney and affidavit, and the copy of the Section of the By-Laws of said Company as set forth in said Power of Attorney, with the **ORIGINALS ON FILE IN THE HOME OFFICE OF SAID COMPANY**, and that the same are correct transcripts thereof, and of the whole of the said originals, and that the said Power of Attorney has not been revoked and is now in full force and effect.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this

30 day of December, 19 98

Michael W. Anderson
MICHAEL W. ANDERSON, Secretary

Only a certified copy of Power of Attorney bearing the Certificate of Authority No. printed in red on the upper right corner is binding. Photocopies, carbon copies or other reproductions of this document are invalid and not binding upon the Company.

ANY INSTRUMENT ISSUED IN EXCESS OF THE PENALTY AMOUNT STATED ABOVE IS TOTALLY VOID AND WITHOUT ANY VALIDITY.

STATE OF North Dakota
COUNTY OF Stutsman } ss.

On this 30 day of December 19 98, before me, a Notary Public, within and for said

County and State, personally appeared Lanny Ash to me personally known, and known to me to be the Attorney-in-Fact of and for the ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY, Saint Paul, Minnesota, a corporation, created, organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Minnesota, upon oath did say that the corporate seal affixed to the attached instrument is the seal of the said Company; that the seal was affixed and the said instrument was executed by the authority of its Board of Directors; and he/she did also acknowledge that he/she executed the said instrument as the free act and deed of said Company.

Pamela Yunker
Notary Public

PAMELA YUNKER
Notary Public, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
My Commission Expires FEBRUARY 9, 2001
My Commission Expires



**STIPULATION
(Penalty Increase or Decrease)**

NOV 5

ATTACHED TO AND FORMING PART OF BOND NO. <i>400 JX 6162</i>	EFFECTIVE DATE OF BOND <i>8-1-97</i>	EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS STIPULATION <i>10-26-98</i>	AMOUNT OF INCREASE/DECREASE <i>\$ 20,000</i>	NEW PENALTY AMOUNT <i>\$ 540,000</i>
ISSUED ON BEHALF OF <i>EMBDEN Grain Co.</i>		ISSUED IN FAVOR OF <i>North Dakota Public Service Commission</i>		

We, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, Surety on the above Bond, hereby stipulate and agree that from and after the effective date of this Stipulation the penalty of said Bond shall be

increased }
 decreased }
 Check One
 by the amount stated above but the total liability of St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company

under said Bond and this Stipulation shall not exceed the sum of *Five hundred forty thousand dollars*

 dollars (\$ *540,000*).

St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company
Mary Ann

 Attorney-in-Fact

REQUEST FOR STIPULATION (INCREASE)

We *EMBDEN Grain Co.* , Principal hereby request St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company to execute the foregoing Stipulation.

By *William E. Pfeigster*

CONSENT TO STIPULATION (DECREASE)

We , Oblige, hereby consent to the foregoing Stipulation decreasing the Bond amount.

By



STIPULATION (Penalty Increase or Decrease)

OCT 29

Table with 5 columns: ATTACHED TO AND FORMING PART OF BOND NO., EFFECTIVE DATE OF BOND, EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS STIPULATION, AMOUNT OF INCREASE/DECREASE, NEW PENALTY AMOUNT. Includes handwritten entries for bond number 400 JY 6162, dates 8-1-97 and 10-26-98, amounts \$20,000 and \$540,000, and parties EMBOEN GRAIN CO and North Dakota Public Service Commission.

We, St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, Surety on the above Bond, hereby stipulate and agree that from and after the effective date of this Stipulation the penalty of said Bond shall be

Check One } increased by the amount stated above but the total liability of St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company

under said Bond and this Stipulation shall not exceed the sum of Five hundred forty thousand dollars (\$ 540,000).

St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company

Handwritten signature of Attorney-in-Fact

REQUEST FOR STIPULATION (INCREASE)

We, Embden Grain Co., Principal hereby request St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company to execute the foregoing Stipulation.

By: Glenn E. Pfenninger

CONSENT TO STIPULATION (DECREASE)

We, Oblige, hereby consent to the foregoing Stipulation decreasing the Bond amount.

By:

STATE OF North Dakota
COUNTY OF Siegsmeier } ss.

On this 26th day of October 19 98, before me, a Notary Public, within and for said

County and State, personally appeared Larry Ash to me personally known, and known to me to be the Attorney-in-Fact of and for the ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY, Saint Paul, Minnesota, a corporation, created, organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Minnesota, upon oath did say that the corporate seal affixed to the attached instrument is the seal of the said Company; that the seal was affixed and the said instrument was executed by the authority of its Board of Directors; and he/she did also acknowledge that he/she executed the said instrument as the free act and deed of said Company.

Pamela Yirnick
Notary Public

PAMELA YIRNICK
Notary Public, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
My Commission Expires FEBRUARY 9, 2001

CERTIFIED
COPY NO.

For verification of the authenticity of this Power of Attorney, you may telephone toll free 1-800-421-3880 and ask for the Power of Attorney Clerk. Please refer to the Certificate of Authority No. and the named individual(s).

397559

M-14953

GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY - CERTIFIED COPY
(Original on File at Home Office of Company. See Certification.)

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Minnesota, having its principal office in the City of St. Paul, Minnesota, does hereby constitute and appoint:

Larry E. Ash and Steven H. Steinborn, individually, Jamestown, North Dakota

its true and lawful attorney(s)-in-fact to execute, seal and deliver for and on its behalf as surety, any and all bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, which are or may be allowed, required or permitted by law, statute, rule, regulation, contract or otherwise,

NOT TO EXCEED IN PENALTY THE SUM OF FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000) EACH

and the execution of all such instrument(s) in pursuance of these presents, shall be as binding upon said **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**, as fully and amply, to all intents and purposes, as if the same had been duly executed and acknowledged by its regularly elected officers at its principal office.

This Power of Attorney is executed, and may be certified to and may be revoked, pursuant to and by authority of Article V, -Section 6(C), of the By-Laws adopted by the Shareholders of **ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY** at a meeting called and held on the 28th day of April, 1978, of which the following is a true transcript of said Section 6 (C):

- "The President or any Vice President, Assistant Vice President, Secretary or Service Center General Manager shall have power and authority
- (1) To appoint Attorneys-in-fact, and to authorize them to execute on behalf of the Company, and attach the Seal of the Company thereto, bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and
 - (2) To appoint special Attorneys-in-fact, who are hereby authorized to certify to copies of any power-of-attorney issued in pursuance of this section and/or any of the By-Laws of the Company, and
 - (3) To remove, at any time, any such Attorney-in-fact or Special Attorney-in-fact and revoke the authority given him."

Further, this Power of Attorney is signed and sealed by facsimile pursuant to resolution of the Board of Directors of said Company adopted at a meeting duly called and held on the 12th day of December, 1967, of which the following is a true excerpt:

"Now therefore the signatures of such officers and the seal of the Company may be affixed to any such power of attorney or any certificate relating thereto by facsimile, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signatures or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power so executed and certified by facsimile signatures and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company in the future with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached."



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company** has caused this instrument to be signed and its corporate seal to be affixed by its authorized officer, this 30th day of November, A.D. 1990.

ST. PAUL MERCURY INSURANCE COMPANY

Kenneth J. Ryan
KENNETH J. RYAN, Secretary

STATE OF NEW JERSEY } ss.
County of Somerset

On this 22nd day of May, 19 97, before me came the individual who executed the preceding instrument, to me personally known, and, being by me duly sworn, said that he/she is the therein described and authorized officer of **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**; that the seal affixed to said instrument is the Corporate Seal of said Company; that the said Corporate Seal and his/her signature were duly affixed by order of the Board of Directors of said Company.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal, at the township of Bedminster, New Jersey, the day and year first above written.



Linda Smethers
LINDA SMETHERS, Notary Public, Middlesex, NJ
My Commission Expires December 16, 2001

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned officer of **St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company**, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of the Power of Attorney and affidavit, and the copy of the Section of the By-Laws of said Company as set forth in said Power of Attorney, with the **ORIGINALS ON FILE IN THE HOME OFFICE OF SAID COMPANY**, and that the same are correct transcripts thereof, and of the whole of the said originals, and that the said Power of Attorney has not been revoked and is now in full force and effect.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
26th day of October, 19 98.

Michael W. Anderson
MICHAEL W. ANDERSON, Secretary

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