

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

ANIMAS-LA PLATA PROJECT
COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT

REPAYMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE

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11 REPAYMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
12 THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE
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15 THIS REPAYMENT CONTRACT (Contract), entered into this 4th day of December,
16 2024, pursuant to the Act of Congress approved June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388), and acts
17 amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, all of which acts are commonly known and
18 referred to as the Federal Reclamation Laws, between the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
19 hereinafter referred to as the United States, represented by the officer executing this Contract,
20 and THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE, hereinafter referred to as the Tribe, (individually as
21 “Party” and collectively as “the Parties” to this Contract) acting through their representatives.

22 WITNESSETH, That:

23 WHEREAS, the following statements are made in explanation:

24 (a) The Act of Congress approved April 11, 1956 (70 Stat. 105), authorized the planning
25 and investigation of the Animas-La Plata Project (Project), as a participating project of the
26 Colorado River Storage Project; subsequently, the construction, operation, and maintenance of
27 the Animas-La Plata Project was authorized by Title V of the Colorado River Basin Project Act
28 of September 30, 1968 (82 Stat. 896), and the United States has investigated, planned, and
29 constructed the said Project for the diversion, storage, salvage, and delivery of the waters of the
30 Animas River, which the Project has among its authorized purposes the furnishing of water for
31 municipal, industrial, domestic, and other beneficial purposes. The water rights settlement
32 purposes of the Project were authorized by the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act
33 of 1988, Public Law 100-585 (102 Stat. 2973), as amended by the Colorado Ute Settlement Act
34 Amendments of 2000, Public Law 106-554 (114 Stat. 2763) (hereinafter referred to as the
35 Settlement Act).

1 (b) The Settlement Act authorized the Secretary to settle the outstanding claims of the Tribe
2 on the Animas and La Plata Rivers, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to
3 complete construction of, and operate and maintain Project Works with sufficient capacity to
4 divert and store, and use water from the Animas River to provide for an average annual depletion
5 of 57,100 acre-feet of water to be used for a municipal and industrial (M&I) water supply.

6 (c) Pursuant to the Settlement Act, the United States agrees to deliver through the use of
7 Project Works, or make available for delivery to the Tribe, an M&I water allocation with an
8 average annual depletion not to exceed 16,525 acre-feet for its present and future needs.

9 (d) The Secretary has determined in accordance with Section 6(a)(2) of the Settlement Act,
10 the Tribe's construction costs allocable to the Project Works that are required to deliver the
11 Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation shall be nonreimbursable to the United States.

12 (e) Reclamation has completed the Animas-La Plata Final Supplemental Environmental
13 Impact Statement (FSEIS) dated July 2000, and subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) dated
14 September 25, 2000, for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The Tribe
15 acknowledges that as a result of this regulatory compliance, and the terms of this Contract, it is
16 limited in this Contract to an M&I water allocation with an average annual depletion not to
17 exceed 16,525 acre-feet of water.

18 (f) Water rights for the Project have been obtained in Colorado and New Mexico.

19 (g) The Tribe has an interest in contracting for the water supply allocated to the Ute
20 Mountain Ute Tribe pursuant to the Settlement Act.

21 (h) The Project will be used to provide a dependable long-term supply of M&I water and
22 water storage for the Tribe as described in the FSEIS and the ROD.

23 (i) It is the intent of both Parties that any rights granted by this Contract are not limited to a
24 specific term but would instead continue in full force and effect pursuant to Section 9(c)(1) of the
25 Reclamation Project Act of 1939, 43 U.S.C. § 485h. This Contract will remain in full force and
26 effect for the useful Project life, or until mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

27 (j) The Tribe concurs with the method of payment in which the Secretary shall pay,
28 directly to the Project Operator, the Tribe's pro-rata portion of the unused fixed annual operation,
29 maintenance, and replacement (OM&R) costs, pursuant to Section 6 (a)(4)(A) of the Settlement
30 Act. The parties acknowledge that the Settlement Act provides that construction costs allocable

1 to the UMUT for the Project Works are nonreimbursable to the United States.

2 (k) The construction of the Project Works, the allocation of the water supply from those
3 facilities to the Colorado Ute Tribes, the provision of funds to the Colorado Ute Tribes, and the
4 issuance of an amended final consent decree by the State of Colorado, as contemplated in the
5 Settlement Act, shall constitute final settlement of the Colorado Ute Tribe claims to water rights
6 on the Animas and La Plata Rivers in the State of Colorado.

7 (l) The Parties hereto desire to enter into this Contract in order to secure this M&I water
8 supply pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Settlement Act for the use of such water in
9 and for the benefit of the Tribe as hereinafter provided.

10
11 NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual and dependent covenants and
12 conditions contained herein, the Parties hereto agree as to the following:

13
14 1. GENERAL DEFINITIONS

15 For the purposes of this Contract only, unless otherwise distinctly expressed or manifestly
16 incompatible with the intent hereof, the term:

17 (a) "Appurtenant Facilities" includes, but is not limited to, transmission lines, roads,
18 buildings, and other facilities related to the Project Works constructed as a part of the Project.

19 (b) "Association" means the Animas-La Plata Operations, Maintenance, and Replacement
20 Association, established by the Project sponsors who are signatories to the Intergovernmental
21 Agreement (IGA) dated March 4, 2009, pursuant to the Colorado Uniform Unincorporated
22 Nonprofit Association Act, 7-30-101 et seq., CRS (2006), to carry out the OM&R activities and
23 responsibilities of the Project.

24 (c) "Average Annual Depletion" means the depletion of Project Water accounted for over an
25 interval of time as a whole or by an individual Project participant, pursuant to the Settlement Act,
26 to be determined by the United States in cooperation with Project participants and consistent
27 with applicable State of Colorado Decrees.

28 (d) "Colorado Ute Tribes" means the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and the Southern Ute Indian
29 Tribe, both federally recognized Indian tribes.

30 (e) "Consultation" or "consultation" refers to an ongoing obligation of both parties to

1 implement the provisions of this Contract with a full exchange of information so as to assure that
2 each party is provided full participation in the decision making process. Consultation shall be
3 required of each party with respect to each section of the Contract regardless of whether the
4 section itself sets forth a Consultation requirement. The Consultation required shall be
5 reasonable under the circumstances, and except in exigent circumstances, Consultation shall be
6 undertaken in advance of decision making. In the event that agreement cannot be reached, and
7 the United States makes a decision, appeals are available to the extent allowed under applicable
8 laws. This will not prohibit any formal consultation between the Tribe and United States,
9 consistent with Executive Order 13175 and other applicable federal law and policy.

10 (f) "Contracting Officer" or "Secretary" or "United States" means the Secretary of the
11 United States, Department of the Interior or their duly authorized representative to administer
12 this Contract.

13 (g) "First Use" means the date on which water is first used either by the Tribe or pursuant to
14 a water use contract with the Tribe. First Use of water shall be deemed to occur in any water
15 year in which the Tribe actually takes delivery of Project Water or when a third party pays the
16 Tribe and accepts delivery of water under the terms of the water use contract. A water use
17 contract pursuant to which the only income to the Tribe is in the nature of a standby charge is
18 deemed not to be a First Use of water. The Tribe's First Use shall not be triggered when a
19 portion of its Statutory Water Allocation is used for emergency purposes, including, fire,
20 contamination of the water in the Animas River or in Lake Nighthorse, or in other circumstances
21 in which the parties mutually agree to an emergency release of water. Water administered by
22 agreement between the Tribe and the Secretary or the state of Colorado for the purposes of
23 drought response, compact compliance, water conservation including forbearance from use of
24 water, or other programs not prohibited by federal, or State of Colorado law shall not be
25 considered First Use, regardless of whether the Tribe receives compensation for such uses. Use
26 of the joint pool by others, as provided in Exhibit A of the IGA, is not to be considered as First
27 Use, provided the Tribe does not receive compensation for such use, beyond that identified in
28 Exhibit A of the IGA. However, use of the Tribe's water by another Project participant pursuant
29 to an agreement between the Project participant and the Tribe as provided in 4.08 of Exhibit A of
30 the IGA shall be considered First Use.

1 (h) "Fixed OM&R Costs" includes, but are not limited to costs of labor, materials and
2 equipment required to maintain Project Works; Project administration and overhead, energy
3 consumption and power demand costs attributable to the pumping of water to Lake Nighthorse to
4 account for testing, evaporation and seepage losses, and annual payments to reserve fund(s).

5 (i) "IGA" means the intergovernmental agreement, effective March 4, 2009, which has been
6 executed by and among the Colorado Water Resource and Power Development Authority, the
7 San Juan Water Commission, a political subdivision of the state of New Mexico, the La Plata
8 Conservancy District, a political subdivision of the state of New Mexico, the Southern Ute
9 Indian Tribe, a federally recognized Indian tribe, the Navajo Nation, a federally recognized
10 Indian tribe, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, a federally recognized Indian tribe, and their
11 authorized assignees, that have been identified by the Settlement Act to receive a water
12 allocation that established the Association to carry out OM&R activities and responsibilities of
13 the Project.

14 (j) "Operation and Maintenance Facilities" means those facilities necessary to support
15 OM&R obligations, including a permanent operating facility with associated office space,
16 shop(s) for repair and housing of the maintenance support equipment, storage place for supplies,
17 and equipment yard.

18 (k) "Point of Delivery" means the point where the water is released at the outlet works of
19 Ridges Basin Dam or bypassed at the Durango Pumping Plant, or other location where water is
20 diverted directly from Lake Nighthorse or in the Animas River below the Durango Pumping
21 Plant, or any other location pursuant to and consistent with applicable law.

22 (l) "Project Operator" means the Association, pursuant to Operation, Maintenance, and
23 Replacement Contract No. 10-WC-40-370, or the United States.

24 (m) "Project Storage Water" means Project Water stored in Lake Nighthorse, the storage
25 component of the Project.

26 (n) "Project Water" means all water released from storage through the Animas-La Plata
27 Project or bypassed and measured from the natural flow of the Animas River, at the Point of
28 Delivery, as part of the Project participant's statutory water allocation.

29 (o) "Project Works" means all works or facilities as described in the Settlement Act,
30 including a reservoir, a pumping plant, a reservoir inlet conduit, and Appurtenant Facilities, not

1 including recreation facilities, with sufficient capacity to divert and store water from the Animas
2 River for an average annual depletion of 57,100 acre-feet of water to be used for an M&I water
3 supply, together with lands and rights-of-way for such works, as described in Article 2.

4 (p) "Settlement Act" means the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act of 1988,
5 Public Law 100-585 (102 Stat. 2973), as amended by the Colorado Ute Settlement Act
6 Amendments of 2000, Public Law 106-554 (114 Stat. 2763), the Energy and Water Development
7 Appropriations Act of 2006, Public Law 109-103 (119 Stat. 2268), and the Consolidated
8 Appropriations Act of 2008, Public Law 110-161 (121 Stat. 2123).

9 (q) "Tribe" or "Tribal" means the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe of the Ute Mountain Ute
10 Reservation, headquartered in Towaoc, Colorado, a body politic and federally recognized Indian
11 Tribe as provided in Section 104 of the Act of November 2, 1994 (Pub. L. 103-454; 108 Stat.
12 4791, 4792).

13 (r) "Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation" means the M&I water allocation with an average
14 annual depletion not to exceed 16,525 acre-feet of water, pursuant to Section 6(a)(1)(A)(ii)(II) of
15 the Settlement Act.

16 (s) "Use of water" is deemed to occur in any water year in which the Tribe actually uses
17 water or during the term of any water use contract in which a third party uses water.

18 (t) "Variable OM&R Costs" are the costs of power including energy consumption and that
19 share of power demand costs for the pumping of water not designated as Fixed OM&R costs.

20 (u) "Water Use Contract" is any contract pursuant to which the Tribe authorizes use of all or
21 a portion of the Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation from the Project by a third party, consistent
22 with the terms of the Settlement Act.

23
24 2. PROJECT WORKS

25 Subject to the terms and conditions of this and other applicable contracts related specifically to
26 this Project, the United States has constructed the Project Works and Appurtenant Facilities,
27 acquired lands, and provided certain moveable property and equipment to the Project Operator
28 needed to carry out OM&R activities and responsibilities as necessary for Project purposes.

29 (a) The Project Works are presently identified as the following:

30 (1) Ridges Basin Dam and Lake Nighthorse are located on Basin Creek approximately 3

1 miles southwest of Durango, Colorado. The reservoir has a total storage capacity of
2 123,541 acre-feet.

3 (2) Durango Pumping Plant is located adjacent to the Animas River and pumps water
4 from the Animas River for storage in Lake Nighthorse.

5 (3) Ridges Basin Inlet Conduit extends from the Durango Pumping Plant to Lake
6 Nighthorse.

7 (4) Operation and Maintenance Facilities have been constructed, as determined necessary
8 by the United States, for the required OM&R of Project Works.

9 (b) The United States, after Consultation with the Tribe, shall have the right at any time to
10 increase the capacity of the Project Works, or any unit or feature thereof, for other than currently
11 authorized project purposes without additional capital or OM&R costs to the Tribe; provided,
12 that the Tribe's use of the Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation shall not be impaired thereby. The
13 right of use of such increased capacity is reserved to the United States.

14 (c) Any additions, changes to, or operation of Project Works or changes in use of the Tribe's
15 Statutory Water Allocation from that stated in the FSEIS, and subsequent ROD, will, if required
16 by law, be subject to further compliance with applicable environmental statutes, which shall
17 include an analysis of potential impacts on other Project participants.

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19
20 3. WATER DELIVERY PROVISIONS

21 (a) Pursuant to the Settlement Act, the United States agrees to deliver or make available for
22 delivery to the Tribe an M&I water allocation with an average annual depletion not to exceed
23 16,525 acre-feet from the Project.

24 (b) The Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation includes both Project Storage Water and Project
25 Water.

26 i) Project Storage Water shall be measured at the outlet works of Ridges Basin Dam, or
27 from additional Points of Delivery directly from Lake Nighthorse to be measured by
28 the Project Operator. The Tribe may take its water from additional Points of Delivery
29 directly from Lake Nighthorse after consultation and approval of the United States.

30 ii) Project Water shall be delivered and measured consistent with applicable federal and
31 state law.

1 (c) Project Water will be available at the outlet works of Ridges Basin Dam, additional
2 Points of Delivery on Lake Nighthorse, or the Animas River in such quantities as the Tribe
3 determines, subject to the availability of water and the capacity limitations of the relevant
4 facilities, to ensure that the Tribe receives the Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation.

5 (d) Project Water shall remain subject to the authority of the United States pursuant to
6 Section 4 (b) the Settlement Act.

7 (e) Once Project Water is made available to the Tribe, the United States will not be
8 responsible for the control, carriage, handling, use, disposal, or distribution of the Tribe's
9 Statutory Water Allocation, or for any damage of any nature whatsoever arising out of or
10 connected to the control, carriage, handling, transportation loss, treatment, use, disposal of the
11 Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation, except when caused by the direct action of the United States.

12 (f) All facilities required for taking the water furnished under this Contract from the points
13 of delivery and putting it to use by the Tribe and its users or third-party Contractors will be
14 acquired, constructed, or installed, and operated and maintained by the Tribe, its users, or third-
15 party Contractors at their sole expense, unless otherwise agreed to by the United States.

16
17 4. ALLOCATION AND USE OF PROJECT WATER

18 (a) The Tribe shall have the right of up to 38,108.5 acre-feet of storage capacity in Lake
19 Nighthorse to supplement the amount of direct flow diversion as necessary to fulfill the Tribe's
20 Statutory Water Allocation. Unused allocations of Project Storage Water supply in the Joint
21 Storage Pool shall not be carried over in the annual accounting from year to year. Allocations of
22 Project Storage Water supply shall be based on the current water year without regard to the
23 volume of water used by the Tribe in previous years. Consistent with the IGA, annual
24 conservation measures may be established to maintain carryover in the joint pool, for the benefit
25 of the Project.

26
27 (b) The Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation may be used for any purpose authorized by
28 applicable Federal and state law, including for compact compliance purposes or by exchange or
29 augmentation.

1 (c) The United States, after compliance with applicable environmental compliance statutes
2 and consistent with appropriate land use regulations, shall cooperate with the Tribe, its
3 subcontractors, or assignees, to provide appropriate means for access to land needed for delivery
4 of Project Water through non-Project Works.

5 5. LIMITED RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISTRIBUTION

6 Upon delivery, as specified under Article 3 herein, the Tribe shall hold the United States,
7 its officers, agents, employees, and successors or assigns, harmless from every claim for
8 damages to persons or property, direct or indirect, and of whatever nature, arising out of or in
9 any manner connected with the control, carriage, handling, distribution, or use of such water
10 beyond the Point of Delivery.

11 6. TRUST RESPONSIBILITIES

12 Nothing in this Contract may be construed to terminate, waive, modify, or reduce the
13 trust responsibility of the United States to the Tribe. The Secretary shall act in good faith in
14 upholding such trust responsibility.

15 7. WATER RIGHT PROVISIONS

16 (a) The Tribe, and the United States shall take all authorized and appropriate measures
17 reasonably necessary to protect their interest in the Project water supply.

18
19 8. PROCEDURE TO INITIATE PROJECT WATER DELIVERY

20 (a) Effective upon the date of execution of this Contract, the Tribe's Statutory Water
21 Allocation shall be available for authorized use by the Tribe upon their request for Project Water
22 delivery, as provided herein. The initial request by the Tribe for any new delivery of a specified
23 quantity of Project Water (rounded to the nearest acre-foot) shall be conducted in the following
24 two ways:

25 (1) Delivery of the Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation to the Tribe, for use by the Tribe,
26 shall be accomplished through written notice to Reclamation, pursuant to Article 17, and
27 the Project Operator. The written notice shall include the quantity of water to be diverted,
28 a description of the use, the location of the Point of Delivery, and the estimated depletion
29 amount of the Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation. The date the water is taken at a Point

1 of Delivery will establish the date of First Use by the Tribe of that portion of the Tribe's
2 Statutory Water Allocation as stipulated under Section 6(a)(4)(A) of the Settlement Act.

3 (2) Delivery of the Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation under Water Use Contracts shall
4 be accomplished as provided under Article 9.

5
6 9. WATER USE CONTRACTS

7 (a) Any contract entered into between the Tribe and any third-party for the beneficial use of
8 the Tribe's Statutory Water Allocation under this Contract shall be subject to written approval by
9 the United States. United States' approval will be based on a determination that the Water Use
10 Contract will not negatively affect Project operations, benefits, or authorized purposes, and is
11 consistent with applicable federal law and commitments. Nothing in these Water Use Contracts
12 may interfere with other contractual, legal, or regulatory obligations of the United States. The
13 Water Use Contract will require the third-party to be bound to the provisions of this Contract
14 including, but not be limited to, terms of measurement, operations, environmental compliance,
15 and the impact of defaults on Project Works.

16 (b) The Water Use Contract will state the total amount of water to be diverted, description
17 of use, location of Point of Delivery of water, the initial estimated depletion amount, any amount
18 of water under terms of a standby option, and the water delivery schedule, all consistent with the
19 Average Annual Depletion.

20 (c) Approval by the United States shall not be unreasonably withheld. The United States
21 shall have 60 days after receipt of the proposed Water Use Contract to inform the Tribe of its
22 approval or denial of the Water Use Contract. If additional environmental compliance is
23 required, the Tribe and the United States will develop a schedule for approval. Water made
24 available under Water Use Contracts shall be delivered from the Tribe's Statutory Water
25 Allocation. The Tribe will be the responsible Party to pay the applicable share of the OM&R
26 costs of the contracted water to the Project Operator.

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10. CONSTRUCTION CHARGE OBLIGATION

Pursuant to Sections 6(a)(2) of the Settlement Act, all construction and all interest costs allocated to the Tribe’s Statutory Water Allocation are declared non-reimbursable and hereby waived.

11. COST PROVISIONS

(a) Pursuant to Section 6(a)(4)(A) of the Settlement Act, and with respect to the Tribe’s Statutory Water Allocation, until that water is put to First Use the Secretary shall pay the annual Fixed OM&R Costs allocable to the Tribe’s M&I water allocation in accordance with the Settlement Act.

(b) Pursuant to Section 6(a)(5)(B) of the Settlement Act, the Tribe is obligated to pay its pro rata share of the allocable annual OM&R costs. That obligation commences upon the Tribe’s First Use of an increment of the Tribe’s Statutory Water Allocation. As provided under Articles 8 and 9, the Tribe shall bear all Variable costs and its pro rata share of annual Fixed OM&R costs associated with all increments of water in use. Upon First Use of the Tribe’s Statutory Water Allocation in any water year, the Tribe shall pay one hundred percent (100%) of its pro rata share of Fixed OM&R costs of such use from that point in time and for each subsequent year water is used. During the period prior to the Tribe’s First Use of the entirety of its Statutory Water Allocation in any water year, the pro rata share of the Tribe’s total annual Fixed OM&R Costs to be borne by the Tribe will be based upon the formula:

$$\text{Pro Rata Share of Total Tribal Fixed OM\&R Obligation} = \frac{\text{Increments Established Under First Use}}{\text{Statutory Water Allocation}}$$

Thereafter, the Tribe shall pay its pro rata share of the Variable costs and Fixed OM&R costs based upon its Statutory Water Allocation and the Secretary shall be relieved of any such obligation, *except* the Secretary may defer all or part of the Tribe’s OM&R obligations pursuant to Article 11(f) below and Section 6(d) of the Settlement Act.

(c) During the period in which the Secretary is paying any portion of the Tribe’s Fixed OM&R costs, Reclamation, in conjunction with the three-year and one-year OM&R work plans required under its OM&R Contract with the Association, will confer with the Tribe.

1 Reclamation will continue to confer with the Tribe on the Association's annual OM&R budget
2 until the Tribe has assumed the responsibility to pay 100 percent of its OM&R costs.

3 (d) As long as the IGA is in effect, the Tribe and the Secretary shall follow the terms and
4 conditions set forth in the IGA. The Secretary shall pay the Tribe's share of Fixed OM&R costs
5 for the Tribe's water not established under First Use in accordance with the procedures set forth
6 by the Association. The Tribe's share of Fixed OM&R Costs of the multipurpose facilities, as
7 identified in the IGA, is 35.5% of the total Fixed OM&R Costs for the Project Works. The
8 Tribe's share of Variable OM&R Costs include actual costs of replacing Project Storage Water
9 released or diverted from Lake Nighthorse by request of the Tribe, or any third-party contractor.

10
11 (e) In the event that the IGA is voided or otherwise terminated, the OM&R costs allocated
12 to the Tribe will be comprised of the Tribe's share of Fixed OM&R Costs, as defined by the final
13 cost allocation, and the Tribe's share of Variable OM&R Costs. The procedures for the payment
14 to the Project Operator of the Tribe's OM&R obligation by the Secretary for the Tribe's
15 Statutory Water Allocation not established under First Use, and by the Tribe for the Tribe's
16 Statutory Water Allocation established under First Use are as follows:

- 17 (1) The Tribe's share of Fixed OM&R costs will be established by the final cost
18 allocation for the Project which will base that share on a proration of the Tribe's
19 38,108.5 acre-feet of storage capacity to the total active capacity of 95,030 acre-
20 feet.
- 21 (2) The Tribe's share of Variable OM&R costs include actual costs of replacing
22 Project Storage Water released or diverted from Lake Nighthorse by request of
23 the Tribe, or any third-party contractor.
- 24 (3) The Tribe under this Contract shall have 38,108.5 acre-feet of storage capacity
25 allocated for its exclusive use in Lake Nighthorse annually. The Project
26 Operator shall fill and refill the Tribe's storage capacity space as often as direct
27 flow is legally available from the Animas River to fill said space under the
28 Project diversion right issued in the State of Colorado, or as free river conditions
29 allow. The Project participants recognize, however, that at times it may be
30 preferable to delay pumping water to replace the Project water supply in Lake

1 Nighthorse until power costs are less expensive and thus that the Lake
2 Nighthorse may not be full at all times.

3 (4) An OM&R charge notice shall be furnished annually by the Project Operator, in
4 advance, to the Secretary and the Tribe stating the Tribe's share of OM&R costs
5 associated with said Project Works.

6 (5) Payment will be made to the Project Operator, within a reasonable amount of
7 time, in advance, for the Tribe's share of the OM&R costs associated with said
8 Project Works.

9 (f) It is the intent of both parties that the Tribe will pay its obligations under this Contract
10 and the Tribe agrees to take all reasonable actions to ensure adequate funds are available to pay
11 the amounts as required under this Article. In the event that the Tribe demonstrates to
12 Reclamation and the Secretary that it is unable to pay in whole or in part its Project OM&R
13 obligations from the gross revenues which could be generated from a water use contract because
14 the contract has expired, the contractor has defaulted, or other similar reasons, or from the
15 Tribe's own use of its Statutory Water Allocation, Reclamation will acknowledge that the Tribe
16 is unable to satisfy its pro-rata share of O&M costs associated with that increment of water. The
17 Secretary may then defer or bear all or part of the Tribe's share of O&M obligations. In
18 determining whether to defer or bear the Tribe's share of O&M obligations, the Secretary shall
19 engage with the Tribe in consultation and meaningful collaboration in the Secretary's decision-
20 making process in furtherance of U.S. trust obligations to the Tribe pursuant to E.O. 13175 and
21 other applicable federal law and policy.

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23
24 12. WATER SUPPLY SHORTAGE

25 (a) With respect to water made available from the Project under the terms of this Contract,
26 the Tribe shall share proportionally in any water shortages to the Project, consistent with all
27 applicable law.

28 (b) In the unlikely event that the IGA is voided or otherwise terminated, in any year in which
29 there may occur a shortage from any cause, the United States reserves the right to apportion the
30 available water allocation pursuant to the Settlement Act, as amended, and applicable laws,

1 including the Animas-La Plata Project Compact, among the Tribe and others entitled to receive
2 water from the Project in accordance with determinations of the Contracting Officer.

3
4 13. TITLE TO PROJECT

5 Title to the Project Works shall be held by the United States, unless specifically provided
6 otherwise by Congress, notwithstanding transfer of the OM&R of any said works to the Project
7 Operator.

8
9 14. SEVERABILITY

10 If any provisions of this Contract shall, for any reason be determined to be illegal or
11 unenforceable, the Parties, nevertheless, intend that the remainder of this Contract shall remain in
12 full force and effect. Furthermore, any adjustments or variations to this Contract necessitated by
13 future negotiations with other Project beneficiaries can be accomplished by amending this
14 Contract. In the event that unforeseen issues arise, the Tribe and the United States will work
15 together to attempt to resolve the issue by either amending this Contract, entering into a
16 memorandum of understanding or other appropriate means.

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STANDARD ARTICLES

15. CHARGES FOR DELINQUENT PAYMENTS

(a) The Tribe shall be subject to interest, administrative, and penalty charges on delinquent payments. If a payment is not received by the due date, the Tribe shall pay an interest charge on the delinquent payment for each day the payment is delinquent beyond the due date. If a payment becomes 60 days delinquent, the Tribe shall pay, in addition to the interest charge, an administrative charge to cover additional costs of billing and processing the delinquent payment. If a payment is delinquent 90 days or more, the Tribe shall pay, in addition to the interest and administrative charges, a penalty charge for each day the payment is delinquent beyond the due date, based on the remaining balance of the payment due at the rate of 6 percent per year. The Tribe shall also pay any fees incurred for debt collection services associated with a delinquent payment.

(b) The interest rate charged shall be the greater of either the rate prescribed quarterly in the Federal Register by the Department of the Treasury for application to overdue payments, or the interest rate of 0.5 percent per month. The interest rate charged will be determined as of the due date and remain fixed for the duration of the delinquent period.

(c) When a partial payment on a delinquent account is received, the amount received shall be applied first to the penalty charges, second to the administrative charges, third to the accrued interest, and finally to the overdue payment.

16. GENERAL OBLIGATION – BENEFITS CONDITIONED UPON PAYMENT

(a) The obligation of the Tribe to pay the Project Operator as provided in this contract is a general obligation of the Tribe notwithstanding the manner in which the obligation may be distributed among the Tribe's water users and notwithstanding the default of individual water users in their obligations to the Tribe.

(b) The payment of charges becoming due pursuant to this contract is a condition precedent to receiving benefits under this contract. The Project Operator shall not make water available to the Tribe through Animas-La Plata project facilities during any period in which the Tribe is in arrears in the advance payment of any operation and maintenance charges due the Project Operator. The Tribe shall not deliver water under the terms and conditions of this contract for lands or parties that are in arrears in the advance payment of operation and maintenance charges as levied or established by the Tribe.

17. NOTICES

Any notice, demand, or request authorized or required by this contract shall be deemed to have been given, on behalf of the Tribe, when mailed, certified postage prepaid, or delivered to the Area Manager, Western Colorado Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation, 445 West Gunnison Ave., Suite 221, Grand Junction, CO 81501; and on behalf of the United States, when mailed, certified postage prepaid, or delivered to the Tribal Chairman, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, 124 Mike Wash Rd, Towaoc, CO 81334. The designation of the addressee or the address may be changed by notice given in the same manner as provided in this article for other notices.

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2 18. CONTINGENT ON APPROPRIATION OR ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS

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4 The expenditure or advance of any money or the performance of any obligation of the
5 United States under this contract shall be contingent upon appropriation or allotment of funds.
6 Absence of appropriation or allotment of funds shall not relieve the Tribe from any obligations
7 under this contract. No liability shall accrue to the United States in case funds are not
8 appropriated or allotted.
9

10 19. OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT

11
12 No Member of or Delegate to the Congress, Resident Commissioner, or official of the
13 Tribe shall benefit from this contract other than as a water user or landowner in the same manner
14 as other water users or landowners.
15

16 20. ASSIGNMENT LIMITED – SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OBLIGATED

17
18 The provisions of this contract shall apply to and bind the successors and assigns of the
19 parties hereto, but no assignment or transfer of this contract or any right or interest therein by
20 either party shall be valid until approved in writing by the other party.
21

22 21. BOOKS, RECORDS, AND REPORTS

23
24 The Secretary and the Tribe shall jointly establish and maintain accounts and other books
25 and records pertaining to administration of the terms and conditions of this contract as are
26 necessary to operate the subject facilities, including the Tribe's financial transactions; water
27 supply data; project operation, maintenance, and replacement logs; and other matters that the
28 Contracting Officer may require as it pertains to the obligations under this contract. Reports
29 shall be furnished to the Contracting Officer in such form and on such date or dates as the
30 Contracting Officer may require. Subject to applicable Federal laws and regulations, each party
31 to this contract shall have the right during office hours to examine and make copies of the other
32 party's books and records relating to matters covered by this contract.
33

34 22. RULES, REGULATIONS, AND DETERMINATIONS

35
36 (a) The parties agree that the delivery of water or the use of Federal facilities pursuant to
37 this contract is subject to Federal reclamation law, as amended and supplemented, and the rules
38 and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior under Federal reclamation law.

39 (b) The Contracting Officer shall have the right to make determinations necessary to
40 administer this contract that are consistent with its expressed and implied provisions, the laws of
41 the United States and the state of Colorado, and the rules and regulations promulgated by the
42 Secretary of the Interior. Such determinations shall be made in Consultation with the Tribe.
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2 23. PROTECTION OF WATER AND AIR QUALITY

3
4 (a) Project facilities used to make available and deliver water to the Tribe shall be operated
5 and maintained in the most practical manner to maintain the quality of the water at the highest
6 level possible as determined by the Contracting Officer: Provided, That the United States does
7 not warrant the quality of the water delivered to the Tribe and is under no obligation to furnish or
8 construct water treatment facilities to maintain or improve the quality of water delivered to the
9 Tribe.

10 (b) The Tribe shall comply with all applicable water and air pollution laws and regulations
11 of the United States and the state of Colorado; and shall obtain all required permits or licenses
12 from the appropriate federal, state, or local authorities necessary for the delivery of water by the
13 Tribe; and shall be responsible for compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local water
14 quality standards applicable to surface and subsurface drainage and/or discharges generated
15 through the use of Federal or Tribe facilities or project water provided by the Tribe within the
16 Tribe's Project Water Service Area.

17 (c) This article shall not affect or alter any legal obligations of the Secretary to provide
18 drainage or other discharge services.

19
20 24. WATER CONSERVATION

21
22 Prior to the delivery of water provided from or conveyed through federally constructed or
23 federally financed facilities pursuant to this contract, the Tribe shall develop a water
24 conservation plan, which shall contain definite water conservation objectives, appropriate
25 economically feasible water conservation measures, and time schedules for meeting those
26 objectives.

27
28 25. INDIAN EMPLOYMENT – EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

29
30 (a) In accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-2(i), the Tribe will give preference in
31 employment to Indians. The Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Employment Assistance will be
32 notified of employment opportunities 48 hours before any positions are advertised to the general
33 public.

34 (b) The following language is required by Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24,
35 1965, in all government contracts unless and until it is superseded or amended.

36 Except as provided by clause (a), during the performance of this contract the Tribe agrees
37 as follows:

38 (1) The Tribe will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment
39 because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national
40 origin. The Tribe will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and
41 that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color,
42 religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Such action shall
43 include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or
44 transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or
45 other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The

1 Tribe agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for
2 employment, notices to be provided by the Contracting Officer setting forth the
3 provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

4 (2) The Tribe will, in all solicitations or advancements for employees placed by or on
5 behalf of the Tribe; state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for
6 employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender
7 identity, or national origin.

8 (3) The Tribe will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any
9 employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant has inquired
10 about, discussed, or disclosed the compensation of the employee or applicant or another
11 employee or applicant. This provision shall not apply to instances in which an employee
12 who has access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a
13 part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the compensation of such other
14 employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such
15 information, unless such disclosure is in response to a formal complaint or charge, in
16 furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation
17 conducted by the employer, or is consistent with the contractor's legal duty to furnish
18 information.

19 (4) The Tribe will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which he
20 has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice, to be
21 provided by the agency Contracting Officer, advising the labor union or workers'
22 representative of the Tribe's commitments under section 202 of Executive Order No.
23 11246 of September 24, 1965, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places
24 available to employees and applicants for employment.

25 (5) The Tribe will comply with all provisions of Executive Order No. 11246 of Sept.
26 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.

27 (6) The Tribe will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order No.
28 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary
29 of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts
30 by the Contracting Agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to
31 ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.

32 (7) In the event of the Tribe's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this
33 contract or with any of such rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled,
34 terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the Tribe may be declared ineligible for
35 further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive
36 Order No. 11246 of Sept. 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed, and
37 remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, or
38 by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

39 (8) The Tribe will include the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (8) in every
40 subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by the rules, regulations, or orders of the
41 Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to section 204 of Executive Order No. 11246 of
42 September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or
43 vendor. The Tribe will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order
44 as may be directed by the Secretary of Labor as a means of enforcing such provisions,
45 including sanctions for noncompliance: Provided, however, that in the event the Tribe
46 becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a

1 result of such direction, the Tribe may request the United States to enter into such
2 litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

3
4 26. COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS AND REGULATIONS

5
6 (a) The Tribe shall comply to the extent applicable with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of
7 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352; 42 U.S.C. § 2000d), the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Pub. L. 93-112,
8 Title V, as amended; 29 U.S.C. § 791, et seq.), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (Pub. L. 94-
9 135, Title III; 42 U.S.C. § 6101, et seq.), [Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of
10 1990 (Pub. L. 101-336; 42 U.S.C. § 12131, et seq.),] [Title III of the Americans with Disabilities
11 Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-336; 42 U.S.C. § 12181, et seq.),] and any other applicable civil rights
12 laws, and with the applicable implementing regulations and any guidelines imposed by the
13 U.S. Department of the Interior and/or Bureau of Reclamation.

14 (b) These statutes prohibit any person in the United States from being excluded from
15 participation in, being denied the benefits of, or being otherwise subjected to discrimination
16 under any program or activity receiving financial assistance from the Bureau of Reclamation on
17 the grounds of race, color, national origin, disability, or age. By executing this contract, the
18 Tribe agrees to immediately take any measures necessary to implement this obligation, including
19 permitting officials of the United States to inspect premises, programs, and documents.

20 (c) The Tribe makes this agreement in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining
21 any and all Federal grants, loans, contracts, property discounts, or other Federal financial
22 assistance extended after the date hereof to the Tribe by the Bureau of Reclamation, including
23 installment payments after such date on account of arrangements for Federal financial assistance
24 which were approved before such date. The Tribe recognizes and agrees that such Federal
25 assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this article
26 and that the United States reserves the right to seek judicial enforcement thereof.

27 (d) Complaints of discrimination against the Tribe shall be investigated by the Contracting
28 Officer's Office of Civil Rights.

29
30 27. MEDIUM FOR TRANSMITTING PAYMENTS

31
32 (a) All payments from the Tribe to the Project Operator under this contract shall be by the
33 medium requested by the Project Operator on or before the date payment is due. The required
34 method of payment may include checks, wire transfers, or other types of payment specified by
35 the Project Operator.

36 (b) Upon execution of the contract, the Tribe shall furnish the Contracting Officer with the
37 Tribe's taxpayer's identification number (TIN). The purpose for requiring the Tribe's TIN is for
38 collecting and reporting any delinquent amounts arising out of the Tribe's relationship with the
39 United States.

40
41 28. CONTRACT DRAFTING CONSIDERATIONS

42
43 This Contract has been, negotiated and reviewed by the parties hereto, each of whom is
44 sophisticated in the matters to which this Contract pertains. Articles 1 through 14 of this
45 Contract have been drafted, negotiated, and reviewed by the parties, and no one party shall be
46 considered to have drafted the stated articles.

1


2 29. CONSTRAINTS ON THE AVAILABILITY OF WATER

3 (a) In its operation of the Project, the Contracting Officer will use all reasonable means to
4 guard against a condition of shortage in the quantity of water to be made available to the Tribe
5 pursuant to this Contract. In the event the Contracting Officer determines that a condition of
6 shortage appears probable, the Project Operator will notify the Tribe of said determination as
7 soon as practicable.


8 (b) If there is a condition of shortage because of inaccurate runoff forecasting or other
9 similar operational errors affecting the Project; drought and other physical or natural causes
10 beyond the control of the Contracting Officer; or actions taken by the Contracting Officer to
11 meet current and future legal obligations, then no liability shall accrue against the United States
12 or any of its officers, agents, or employees for any damage, direct or indirect, arising therefrom.
13

1 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have signed their names this day and year
2 first written above.

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6 As to legal sufficiency:

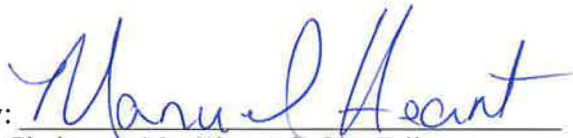
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10 Office of the Solicitor

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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14 By: 
15 Commissioner
16 Bureau of Reclamation

17 Attest:

18 By: _____
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By: 
Chairman, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

DATE: November 26, 2024



RESOLUTION No. 2024-180

**RESOLUTION OF THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBAL COUNCIL
REFERENCE: APPROVING THE ANIMAS-LA PLATA PROJECT REPAYMENT
CONTRACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE
TRIBE**

WHEREAS, the Constitution and By-Laws of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, approved June 6, 1940, and subsequently amended, provides in Article III that the governing body of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe ("Tribe") is the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Council and sets forth in Article V the powers of the Tribal Council exercised in this Resolution;

WHEREAS; the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Council is responsible for the advancement and protection of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe's interests, the interests of its tribal members, and its water and natural resources;

WHEREAS, the Animas- La Plata Project (ALP) was authorized by the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act of 1988, and later amended by the Colorado Ute Settlement Act Amendments of 2000;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the Settlement Act, as amended, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe negotiated an agreement to contribute to the project's share of the annual operation, maintenance, and replacement (OM&R) costs of ALP before the Tribe may use its ALP water;

WHEREAS, Negotiations of the Agreement has taken many years, with favorable compromises made for the Tribe in the last year with the Bureau of Reclamation;

WHEREAS, Reclamation and Tribe have committed to signing the Agreement on December 4th at the Colorado River Water Users Association Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada;

WHEREAS, the action taken by this Resolution is in the best interests of the Tribe.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council hereby approves the Animas-La Plata Project Repayment Contract between the United States and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Ute Mountain Tribal Council authorizes the Chairman to sign this Resolution and further authorizes him to take such action as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

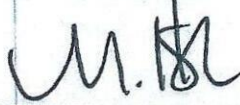
The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted this 26th day of November, 2024.

Handwritten signature of Manuel Heart in blue ink.

Manuel Heart, Chairman

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that there was a quorum of 6 Tribal Council members present at a regular meeting of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Council held on November 26, 2024, that 5 voted for and 0 opposed this resolution and that this resolution was duly adopted.



Marilynn House, Recording Secretary
Ute Mountain Tribal Council