the total contract price for the Project as set forth in the Acceptance, unless such excess shall have been approved in writing by the Owner.

(c) No payment shall be due while the Contractor is in default in respect of any of the provisions of this Contract and the Owner may withhold from the Contractor the amount of any claim by a third party against either the Contractor or the Owner based upon an alleged failure of the Contractor to perform the work hereunder in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.

(d) If no Sections are designated in Article II, Section 1 (c) the term "Section" shall mean for purposes of this subsection (a) and Article IV, Section 3 (b) only, a part of the Project as designated by the Owner which represents at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the total contract price as stated in the Acceptance.

(e) Interest at the rate of _ %) per annum shall be paid by the Owner to the Contractor on all unpaid balances due on monthly statements, commencing fifteen (15) days after the due date; provided the delay in payment beyond the due date is not caused by any condition within the control of the Contractor. The due date for purposes of such monthly payment shall be the fifteenth day of each calendar month provided (1) the Contractor on or before the fifth day of such month shall have submitted its certification of right-of-way clearing units completed during the preceding month and (2) the Owner on or before the fifteenth day of such month shall have approved such certification. If for reasons not due to the Contractor's fault, such approval shall not have been given on or before the fifteenth day of such month, the due date for purposes of this subsection (e) shall be the fifteenth day of such month notwithstanding the absence of the approval of the certification.

(f) Interest at the rate of ____ percent ² (___%) per annum shall be paid by the Owner to the Contractor on the final payment for the Project or any completed Section thereof, commencing fifteen (15) days after the due date. The due date for purposes of such final payment shall be the date of approval by the Owner of the Final Inventory and receipt of the Certificate of Contractor and Indemnity Agreement as conditions precedent to the making of final payment.

Section 2. Payments to Subcontractors. The Contractor shall pay each subcontractor, if any, within five (5) days after receipt of any payment from the Owner, the amount thereof allowed the Contractor for and on account of services performed by each subcontractor.

Article IV—Particular Undertakings of the Contractor

Section 1. Protection to Persons and Property. The Contractor shall at all times take all reasonable precautions for the safety of employees on the work and of the public, and shall comply with all applicable provisions of Federal, state, and municipal safety laws and building and construction codes, as well as the safety rules and regulations of the Owner. All machinery and equipment and other physical hazards shall be guarded in accordance with the "Manual of Accident Prevention in Construction" of the Associated General Contractors of America unless such instructions are incompatible with Federal, state, or municipal laws or regulations.

The following provisions shall not limit the generality of the above requirements:

(a) The Contractor shall so conduct work on the Project as to cause the least possible obstruction of public highways.

(b) The Contractor shall provide and maintain all such guard lights and other protection for the public as may be required by applicable statutes, ordinances, and regulations or by local conditions.

(c) The Contractor shall do all things necessary or expedient to properly protect any and all parallel, converging, and intersecting lines, joint line poles, highways, and any and all property of others from damage, and in the event that any such parallel, converging and intersecting lines, joint line poles, highways, or other property are damaged in the course of work on the Project the Contractor shall at its own expense restore any or all of such damaged property immediately to as good a state as before such damage occurred.

(d) Where the right-of-way of the Project traverses cultivated lands, the Contractor shall limit the movement of his crews and equipment so as to cause as little damage as possible to crops, orchards, or property and shall endeavor to avoid marring the lands. All fences which are necessarily opened or moved during work on the project shall be replaced in as good condition as they were found and precautions shall be taken to prevent the escape of livestock. The Contractor shall not be responsible for loss of or damage to crops, orchards, or property (other than livestock) on the right-of-way necessarily incident to work on the Project and not caused by negligence or inefficient operation of the Contractor. The Contractor shall be responsible for all other loss of or damage to crops, orchards, or property, whether on or off the right-of-way, and for all loss of or damage to livestock caused by work on the Project. The right-of-way for purposes of this said section shall consist of an area extending feet on both sides of the center line of the poles along the route of the Project lines, plus such area reasonably required by the Contractor for access to the route of the Project lines from public roads to carry on the work.

(e) The Project, from the commencement of work to completion, or to such earlier date or dates when the Owner may take possession and control in whole or in part as hereinafter provided, shall be under the charge and control of the Contractor and during such period of control by the Contractor all risks in connection with the work on the Project and the materials to be used therein shall be borne by the Contractor. The Contractor shall make good and fully repair all injuries and damages to the Project or any portion thereof under the control of the Contractor by reason of an act of God or

other casualty or cause whether or not the same shall have occurred by reason of the Contractor's negligence.

(i) To the maximum extent permitted by law, Contractor shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Owner and Owner's directors, officers, and employees from all claims, causes of action, losses, liabilities, and expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) for personal loss, injury, or death to persons (including but not limited to Contractor's employees) and loss, damage to or destruction of Owner's property or the property of any other person or entity (including but not limited to Contractor's property) in any manner arising out of or connected with the Contract, or the materials or equipment supplied or services performed by Contractor, its subcontractors and suppliers of any tier. But nothing herein shall be construed as making Contractor liable for any injury, death, loss, damage, or destruction caused by the sole negligence of Owner.

(ii) To the maximum extent permitted by law, Contractor shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Owner and Owner's directors, officers, and employees from all liens and claims filed or asserted against Owner, its directors, officers, and employees, or Owner's property or facilities, for services performed or materials or equipment furnished by Contractor, its subcontractors and suppliers of any tier, and from all losses, demands, and causes of action arising out of any such lien or claim. Contractor shall promptly discharge or remove any such lien or claim by bonding, payment, or otherwise and shall notify Owner promptly when it has done so. If Contractor does not cause such lien or claim to be discharged or released by payment, bonding, or otherwise, Owner shall have the right (but shall not be obligated) to pay all sums necessary to obtain any such discharge or release and to deduct all amounts so paid from the amount due Contractor.

(iii) Contractor shall provide to Owner's satisfaction evidence of Contractor's ability to comply with the indemnification provisions of subparagraphs i and ii above, which evidence may include but may not be limited to a bond or liability insurance policy obtained for this purpose through a licensed surety or insurance company.

(f) Any and all excess earth, rock, debris, underbrush, and other useless material shall be removed by the Contractor from the site of the Project as rapidly as practicable as the work progresses. The Contractor shall not deposit trash in streams or waterways, and shall not deposit herbicides or other chemicals or their containers in or near streams, waterways or pastures.

(g) Upon violation by the Contractor of any provisions of this section, after written notice of such violation given to the Contractor by the Owner, the Contractor shall immediately correct such violation. Upon failure of the Contractor so to do the Owner may correct such violation at the Contractor's expense.

(h) The Contractor shall submit to the Owner monthly reports in duplicate of all accidents, giving such data as may be prescribed by the Owner.

(i) The Contractor shall not proceed with the cutting of trees or clearing of right-of-way

¹The Owner shall insert a rate equal to the lowest "Prime Rate" listed in the "Money Rates" section of the Wall Street Journal on the date such invitation to bid is issued.

² See Footnote 1.