

Charters - E. Alford

20348
RECORDATION NO. FILED 1996

NOV 4 1996 11 05 AM

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RECORDATION NO. 20348-A
FILED 1996

NOV 4 1996 11 05 AM

November 4, 1996

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423

NOV 4 11 03 AM '96

RECEIVED
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION
BOARD

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed for recordation pursuant to the provisions of 49 U.S.C. Section 11301(a), are two (2) copies of a Locomotive Lease Agreement, dated as of January 11, 1996, a primary document as defined in the Board's Rules for the Recordation of Documents, and two (2) copies of a Chattel Paper and Equipment Purchase Agreement, dated October 14, 1996, a secondary document related thereto.

The names and addresses of the parties to the enclosed documents are:

Locomotive Lease Agreement

Lessor: Relco Locomotives, Inc.
113 Industrial Avenue
Minooka, Illinois 60447

Lessee: Columbia Grain
900 - 2nd Avenue North
Great Falls, Montana

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
November 4, 1996
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Chattel Paper and Equipment Purchase Agreement

Seller Relco Locomotive, Inc
 113 Industrial Avenue
 Minooka, Illinois 60447

Buyer Charter Financial, Inc
 153 East 53rd Street
 New York, New York 10022

A description of the railroad equipment covered by the enclosed documents is
two (2) EMD locomotives RE 513 and RE 514

Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$44 00 payable to the order of the
Surface Transportation Board covering the required recordation fee

Kindly return stamped copies of the enclosed documents to the undersigned

Very truly yours,



Robert W Alvord

RWA/bg
Enclosures

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20423-0001

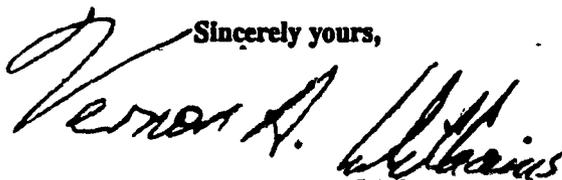
11/4/96

Robert W. Alvord
Alvord And Alvord
918 Sixteenth Street, NW., Ste. 200
Washington, DC., 20006-2973

Dear Sir:

The enclosed document(s) was recorded pursuant to the provisions of Section 11303 of the Interstate Commerce Act, 49 U.S.C. 11303, on 11/4/96 at 11:05AM, and assigned recordation number(s). 20348 and 20348-A.

Sincerely yours,

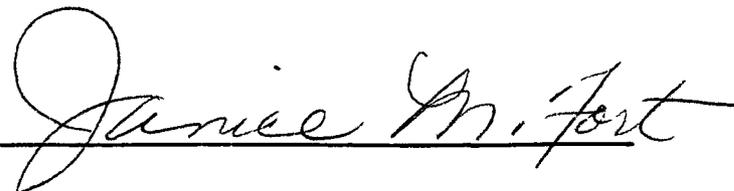


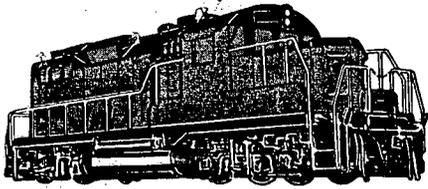
Vernon A. Williams
Secretary

Enclosure(s)

\$ 44.00 The amount indicated at the left has been received in payment of a fee in connection with a document filed on the date shown. This receipt is issued for the amount paid and in no way indicates acknowledgment that the fee paid is correct. This is accepted subject to review of the document which has been assigned the transaction number corresponding to the one typed on this receipt. In the event of an error or any questions concerning this fee, you will receive a notification after the Commission has had an opportunity to examine your document.

Signature





RELCO LOCOMOTIVES, INC.

113 INDUSTRIAL AVENUE • MINOOKA, IL 60447-0058 • 815-467-3030 • FAX 815-467-6060

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LOCOMOTIVE LEASE AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this eleventh day of January, 1996 by and between RELCO LOCOMOTIVES, INC., an Illinois Corporation, having its principle office in the city of Minooka, Illinois (hereinafter referred to as "Lessor") and **Columbia Grain** whose address is in Great Falls, Montana (hereinafter referred to as the "Lessee").

WITNESSED:

WHEREAS, Lessee desires to lease from Lessor for use in its business operations, the locomotives hereinafter described upon the terms and conditions herein set forth; and

WHEREAS, Lessor agrees to furnish the locomotives hereinafter described and is willing to lease the same to Lessee upon the terms and conditions herein set forth.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties hereto, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises herein set forth and other good and valuable consideration, receipt and sufficiency of which is acknowledged, agree as follows;

1. LOCATION OF USE AND DESCRIPTION OF LOCOMOTIVES. Lessor leases and lets unto Lessee and Lessee accepts and takes from Lessor for use at its Conrad and Plentywood facility the locomotives identified as two E.M.D. cabless, SW1, Radio Remote Control, 600 H.P., 100 ton locomotives.

RE 513
RE 514

2. RENT. Commencing on the date Lessee takes possession of the aforesaid locomotives, and thereafter during the term hereof and until possession of said locomotives is surrendered to Lessor, Lessee shall pay to Lessor for rental of said locomotives the sum as calculated for in the following table:

LOCOMOTIVES MONTHLY LEASE RATE

E.M.D.-SW1, 600 H.P., 100 ton locomotives
Base Monthly Rate: \$1,600.00 each

LOCOMOTIVES MONTHLY MAINTENANCE RATE SCHEDULE

Each Locomotive

First 1 - 50 hours at \$22.50 per hour
Next 51 - 100 hours at \$18.00 per hour
Next 101 - 200 hours at \$ 8.25 per hour
Next 201 - 744 hours at \$ 5.25 per hour

(Locomotives Monthly Maintenance Rate Schedule is based on the hours of operation on each locomotive during each calendar month.)

The base monthly rate will remain fixed for the term of the lease; however, the hourly/fixed maintenance charges will be adjusted annually at a rate equal to the national rate of inflation as published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The first payment of the base rate is due on or before the date Lessee takes possession of the aforesaid locomotives. The base monthly rental is due on the first day of each month and in addition to said base monthly rental, the Lessee shall pay to Lessor at the end of each month the hourly rate charge for each hour the Diesel engine of the locomotives was in operation during the month. The Lessee shall furnish to Lessor, not later than the first day of each month during the term of their lease, the current engine hour meter reading. In the event the locomotives are out of service for repairs for more than one day during any month during the term of this lease, the base monthly rental charge for any such month will be reduced one thirtieth for each full day the locomotives are out of service. This credit will not apply if the repairs are necessitated by damage caused by the Lessee's negligence or abuse of the locomotives.

3a. LEASE TERM. This locomotive lease shall extend for an initial term of 5 years commencing with taking possession of the locomotives by Lessee, and shall continue from year to year after the conclusion of such initial term until terminated by either party hereto by such party giving to the other party thirty days notice in writing of its election to terminate this lease. In such event, this lease shall terminate at the expiration of said thirty day period following notice.

3b. ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE. This lease shall be assignable by Lessor and by its assigns without the consent of Lessee, but Lessee shall not be obligated to any assignee of Lessor except upon written notice of such assignment from Lessor or such assignee. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the obligation of lessee to pay Rental to such assignee shall be absolute and unconditional and shall not be affected by any circumstances whatsoever and such payment shall be made without interruption or abatement notwithstanding any event or circumstance whatsoever, including, without limitation, the bankruptcy or insolvency of Lessee or any disaffirmance of this Lease by or on behalf of Lessee, and notwithstanding any defense, setoff recoupment or counterclaim or any other right whatsoever, whether by reason of breach of this Lease or otherwise which Lessee may now or hereafter have against Lessor and whether any such event shall be by reason of any act or omission of lessor or otherwise provided however, that nothing herein contained shall effect any right of Lessee to enforce against Lessor any claim which lessee may have against Lessor in any manner other than by abatement, attachment or recoupment of interference with, or set-off, counterclaim or defense against, the aforementioned payments to be made to such assignee. Lessee's undertaking herein to pay the Rental to and to perform the other obligations of Lessee hereunder for the benefit of an assignee of Lessor shall constitute a direct, independent and unconditional obligation of Lessee to said assignee. Lessee also acknowledges and agrees that any assignee of Lessor's interest in this lease shall have the right to exercise all rights, privileges and remedies (either in its own name or in the name of Lessor) which by terms of this lease are permitted to be exercised by Lessor.

4. MAINTENANCE BY LESSOR. Lessor shall, at its expense, maintain the locomotives in good running condition. Lessor shall supply all replacement parts, lubricants and filters, and shall perform all major maintenance repairs, and periodic inspections, lubrications, and filter changes. For purposes of this Lease, a major maintenance repair is a repair that requires more than two man hours of work to complete.

5. INSPECTION/MAINTENANCE BY LESSEE. The Lessee will supply the locomotives with fuel, water/anti-freeze and sand, in accordance with Lessor's specifications as may be needed. The Lessee will perform minor repairs (i.e. repairs requiring two man hours or less per occasion), daily inspections (per Lessor's "Daily Inspection Form #223" - schedule A), such routine maintenance as addition of lubricating oils and adjustment of brake piston travel, when needed, and will protect the locomotives cooling water from freezing.

6. LESSEE'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGE TO LOCOMOTIVES. The Lessee shall be responsible for all physical damage to the locomotives from any cause, other than normal wear, while the locomotives are in the possession of Lessee. This shall include, but not necessarily be limited to damages resulting from collisions, accidents, derailments, vandalism and from the negligence on the part of the Lessee or Lessee's employees, agents or subcontractors or from the acts or omissions of the Lessee or its employees, agents or subcontractors. Lessee's liability for damage to the locomotives shall not exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 per incident or occurrence.

7. NOTICE OF DEFECTS. Lessee shall notify Lessor promptly of any defects requiring repairs as observed by the Lessee. Lessee will permit Lessor's employees or agents on Lessee's property for the purpose of making inspections of or repairs to the locomotives.

8. OPERATION BY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL. Lessee is solely responsible for the safe operation of the locomotives and for insuring that all personnel involved in any way with the locomotives, including but not limited to those involved in the operation and maintenance of the locomotives are fully qualified and properly supervised.

9. OPERATION ONLY IN SAFE LOCATION. Lessee is solely responsible for determining where and when the locomotives shall be operated. Lessee acknowledges and fully understands that there is severe danger of fire or explosion if the locomotives are operated in any area or building in which a spark or flame could cause an explosion or fire, and Lessee assumes all risk of loss due to explosion or fire in any way resulting from or connected with the operation of the locomotives while in Lessee's possession.

10. **LESSEE'S DEFAULT.** Time is of the essence of this agreement. Lessor, at its option, may by written notice to Lessee declare this lease in default on the happening of any of the following:

- (a) Default by Lessee in payment or performance of any of its obligations under this lease.
- (b) Voluntary assignment of Lessee's interest herein.
- (c) Involuntary transfer of Lessee's interest herein.
- (d) Expiration or cancellation of any policy of insurance agreed to be paid for by Lessee, or the cessation in force according to its original terms of such insurance, or of any extension or renewal of such insurance, during the entire term of this lease.

On declaration by Lessor that the lease is in default, the locomotives then subject to this lease shall be surrendered and delivered to Lessor, and Lessor may take possession of the locomotives wherever it may be found, with or without process of law, and for that purpose may enter on the premises of Lessee. On default, Lessee and Lessee's successor in interest, whether by operation of law or otherwise, shall have no right, title or interest in the locomotives leases under this lease, or the possession or use of such vehicles, and lessor shall retain all rents and other sums paid by Lessee under this lease with respect to all such locomotives and shall be entitled to such other remedies as may be provided by law.

11. **RISK OF LOSS AND INSURANCE.**

(a) All risk of loss or damage to the locomotives shall be borne by the Lessee.

(b) Prior to the effective date of this agreement, Lessee shall cause Lessor to be named as a primary additional insured on a broad form policy of comprehensive general liability insurance, issued by a company rated "A" or better by Best's Insurance Services, and otherwise reasonably acceptable to Lessor, and shall deliver to Lessor a certificate of insurance, and endorsement to the underlying policy or policies, evidencing compliance with this requirement. Said certificate and endorsement shall provide that the policy of insurance represented thereby shall not be canceled or altered without thirty (30) days notice to Lessor, and shall evidence an insurance of not less than \$5 million for injury or death to one person; of not less than \$10 million for injury or death to two or more persons as a result

of any one accident or incident; and for damage or destruction to the locomotives, which is the subject matter of this lease, as stipulated in paragraph 6.

It is a condition of this lease that Lessee provide Lessor with evidence of annual renewal of said insurance during the term of this lease. Lessee shall maintain such insurance during the entire term of this lease, and for a period of two years following the termination of the lease, as to matters occurring during the term of the lease.

12. TAXES, LICENSES. The Lessee shall pay all license fees, sales taxes, use taxes, excise taxes, personal property taxes, assessments, ad valorem taxes, stamp and documentary taxes, and all other governmental charges, fees, fines or penalties whatsoever, whether payable by the Lessor or the Lessee or others, on or relating to the possession, control, use or operation of the locomotives, and shall file all returns required therefore and furnish copies thereof to the Lessor. Upon demand, the Lessee shall reimburse the Lessor for any such taxes, assessments, charges, fines, or penalties, which the Lessor may be compelled to pay in connection with the equipment. The Lessor will cooperate with the Lessee and furnish the Lessee with any information available to the Lessor in connection with the Lessee's obligations under this paragraph.

13. LESSOR'S INDEMNITY.

(a) The Lessee shall indemnify, protect and hold harmless the Lessor, its agents, servants, successors and assign from and against all losses, damages, injuries, claims, demands, and expenses, including legal expenses, of whatever nature, arising out of, incident to, connected with or in any way caused by the possession, control, use or operation of the locomotives by the Lessee, its employees, agents, servants, or subcontractors, or operation of the locomotives, regardless of where, how, and by whom operated, except for any damage or loss resulting directly from the negligence of Lessor.

(b) The Lessee shall assume the settlement of, and the defense of any suit or other legal proceedings brought to enforce all such losses, damages, injuries, claims, demands and expenses, and shall pay all judgments entered in any such suit or suits or other legal proceedings.

(c) The indemnities and assumptions of liabilities and obligation herein provided for shall continue in full force and effect notwithstanding the termination to the Lease Agreement, whether by expiration of time, by operation of law or otherwise.

(d) The Lessee is an independent contractor and nothing contained in this Lease Agreement shall authorize the Lessee or any other person to operate any item of equipment so as to incur or impose any liability or obligation for or on behalf of the Lessor.

14. FREIGHT. Lessee shall pay all inbound freight charges, incurred in delivery of the locomotives to the Lessee's siding. Lessor will pay the outbound freight charges when the locomotives are shipped outbound. If for any reason this Lease Agreement is terminated before it has been in effect for five years, and Lessor is not in default, the Lessee shall reimburse the Lessor an amount equal of the actual outbound freight charges to the destination designated by the Lessor.

15. POSSESSION. Possession of the locomotives shall pass to Lessee as of the moment the locomotives arrive on Lessee's railroad siding track. Possession of the locomotive shall be reacquired by Lessor when the locomotives leave the Lessee's siding under the control of Lessor or its agents or employees after the termination of this Lease for whatever reason.

16. TITLE TO LOCOMOTIVES. Title to the locomotives which is the subject matter of this lease shall be and remain in Lessor at all times during the term of this Lease. Lessee shall not remove or permit to be removed any serial number, model, name or other indicia showing ownership of the locomotives in Lessor.

17. INVALID PROVISION. Any provision of this Lease Agreement found to be prohibited by law shall be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition without invalidating the rest of this Lease Agreement.

18. CONSTRUCTION. The validity, construction, and enforcement of this Lease Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the state of Illinois.

19. CONSENT TO JURISDICTION. By execution of this Lease, Lessor and Lessee hereby submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the state of Illinois.

20. COMPLETE AGREEMENT. This Lease Agreement contains the entire understanding of the parties, and such understanding may not be modified or terminated except in writing signed by the parties.

21. NOTICES. All notices shall be in writing and delivered in person to an officer of the party to which such notice is being given or mailed by registered mail to such party at the address first above written, or to such other address as may be hereafter specified by like notice by either party to the other.

22. BINDING EFFECT. This lease shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto, their successors, legal representatives, and assigns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Lessor and the Lessee have caused these presents to be duly executed the day and year first above written.

LESSOR:
RELCO LOCOMOTIVES, INC.
113 Industrial Ave.
Minooka, IL 60447

ATTEST: _____ BY: Donald L. Beckman, President

LESSEE:
Columbia Grain
900-2nd Avenue North
Great Falls, MT 59401

ATTEST: Karen L. Heikkila BY: [Signature]

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY CERTIFIES that the copy of the Locomotive Lease Agreement is a true and correct copy of those which have been delivered to Charter Financial, Inc. by Relco Locomotives, Inc. in connection with Locomotive Lease Agreement by and between Relco Locomotives, Inc., an Illinois corporation, as Lessor and Columbia Grain, Inc. a Oregon corporation.

Dated this 22nd day of October, 1996

CHARTER FINANCIAL, INC.

By: Stewart Abramson
Stewart Abramson

Title: Vice President

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK

ss:

On the 22nd day of October, 1996 before me personally came Stewart Abramson to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say that he is the Vice President of Charter Financial, Inc., the corporation described in and which executed the foregoing instrument; that he knows the seal of said corporation; that the seal affixed to said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed by order of the board of directors of said corporation, and that he signed his name thereto by like order.

Roberta Arnone

Notary Public

ROBERTA ARNONE
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 02AR5044142
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires May 22, 1997

