

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D. C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): June 26, 2017

**MGP Ingredients, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**KANSAS**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**0-17196**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**45-4082531**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**Cray Business Plaza**  
**100 Commercial Street**  
**Box 130**  
**Atchison, Kansas 66002**  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

**(913) 367-1480**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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## **Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.**

On June 26, 2017, a wholly-owned subsidiary of MGP Ingredients, Inc. ("MGP" or "Company") entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger ("Merger Agreement") that would result in a sale of its thirty percent equity ownership interest in Illinois Corn Processing, LLC ("ICP") to Pacific Ethanol Central, LLC ("Pacific Ethanol").

ICP produces high quality food grade alcohol, chemical intermediates, and fuel at its Pekin, Illinois facility. Illinois Corn Processing Holdings, Inc., an affiliate of SEACOR Holdings, Inc., holds the remaining equity in ICP and is also a party to the Merger Agreement.

At the closing of the transaction, the aggregate \$76.0 million purchase price will be paid in proportion to the ICP members' equity ownership percentage in a combination of \$30.0 million in cash (less a \$2.0 million deposit paid at the signing of the Merger Agreement, which will be retained) and through the issuance of secured promissory notes with an aggregate principal amount of \$46.0 million. Pacific Ethanol has the option to increase the cash portion of the consideration to \$76.0 million and eliminate the obligation to deliver secured promissory notes at the closing of the transaction. MGP is expected to receive at the closing cash consideration of \$9.0 million, less its share of transaction expenses and after the adjustments referenced below, as well as a separate secured promissory note in the principal amount of \$13.8 million (the "Note"). The purchase price is subject to customary pre- and post-closing adjustments, including an adjustment based on the working capital of ICP. The Merger Agreement also contemplates a special distribution of all of ICP's cash and cash equivalents to equity owners prior to the closing. On June 26, 2017, ICP's Board of Directors approved an initial distribution of \$22.0 million. In addition, MGP anticipates another smaller distribution at the time of closing.

The principal amount of the Note to be received at the closing will be subject to adjustment based on the working capital of ICP as of the closing date. At the closing, ICP Merger Sub and ICP will merge, with ICP surviving and becoming the obligor on the Note. The Note will be secured by, among other things, all of the limited liability company interests issued by ICP, as well as all of the property and assets of ICP following the closing. The Note will bear interest at LIBOR plus an applicable margin. The margin is 5% for the first three months the Note is outstanding, 8% for the next three months, and 10% at all times thereafter. The Note matures 18 months from the closing of the merger transaction. The Note may be prepaid without penalty or premium. The Note requires mandatory prepayment in certain circumstances as a result of the receipt of cash proceeds by the maker from the sale or other disposition of the property which is collateral under the Note. The Note includes customary representations and warranties and events of default.

The Agreement contains customary representations, warranties and covenants, including covenants with respect to the operation of ICP prior to the closing of the merger transaction. Many of the representations made by MGP and the other seller are subject to and qualified by materiality or similar concepts. The Merger Agreement includes indemnification provisions pursuant to which, among other things, MGP and the other seller have agreed to indemnify Pacific Ethanol for losses arising from certain breaches of the Merger Agreement, subject to customary limitations set forth in the Merger Agreement.

The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, including (1) the receipt of all required governmental approvals, (2) the absence of any law or order which has the effect of restraining, enjoining or otherwise prohibiting or making illegal the consummation of the transaction and (3) there not being any event, circumstance or occurrence that has or would reasonably be likely to have a material adverse effect on ICP's business, operations or assets.

The above description of the Merger Agreement is qualified in its entirety by the terms of the Merger Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit 10.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

On June 27, 2017, MGP issued a press release announcing its entry into the Merger Agreement. A copy of the press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

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In connection with the receipt of the initial net cash proceeds from the merger transaction together with the funds received in a cash distribution from ICP (\$6.6 million was declared on June 26, 2017) prior to the merger, MGP expects that its Board of Directors will declare a special dividend of approximately \$0.85 per share of common stock outstanding, or approximately \$14.5 million in the aggregate.

### Effects of Transaction in 2017

Income from MGP's ownership interest in ICP is reported as equity method investment earnings. The transaction will not affect MGP's sales or operating income, but will reduce MGP's net income by eliminating equity method investment earnings after the date of closing. For the quarter ended March 31, 2017, MGP reported equity method investment earnings of \$471,000 or \$0.02 per share. For the year ended December 31, 2016, MGP reported equity method investment earnings of \$4.0 million from its ownership of ICP, or \$0.17 per share.

The transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement would result in a gain on sale of equity method investment, net of tax, of approximately \$8.0 million. This pro forma financial information is presented for illustrative purposes only, is based on certain assumptions that we believe are reasonable, and is not necessarily indicative of the results of the contemplated transaction.

### Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This Current Report on Form 8-K contains forward-looking statements as well as historical information. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included in this filing regarding the closing of the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, and our prospects, plans (including special dividend plans), financial position, business strategy, guidance on growth in operating income, revenue, gross margin, and future effective tax rate may constitute forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are usually identified by or are associated with such words as "intend," "plan," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "anticipate," "hopeful," "should," "may," "will," "could," "encouraged," "opportunities," "potential" and/or the negatives or variations of these terms or similar terminology. They reflect management's current beliefs and estimates and are not guarantees of future performance. All such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the relevant forward-looking statement. The risks and uncertainties in connection with such forward-looking statements related to the proposed transactions include, but are not limited to, the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could delay the closing of the proposed transactions; the possibility of non-consummation of the proposed transactions and the termination of the Merger Agreement; the failure to satisfy any of the conditions to the closing of the merger in the Merger Agreement; adverse effects on the Company's common stock because of the failure to complete the proposed merger transaction; and the dependence of the proposed special dividend of the consummation of the merger transaction. For further information on other risks and uncertainties that may affect our business see Item 1A. Risk Factors of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

2.1 Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated June 26, 2017, by and among Pacific Ethanol Central, LLC, ICP Merger Sub, LLC, Illinois Corn Processing, LLC, Illinois Corn Processing Holdings Inc., and MGPI Processing, Inc. \*

99.1 Press release dated June 27,  
2017

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\*The Agreement and Plan of Merger filed as Exhibit 2.1 omits certain exhibits and the disclosure schedules to the Merger Agreement pursuant to Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K promulgated by the SEC. The Company agrees to furnish on a supplemental basis a copy of the omitted exhibits and schedules to the SEC upon request.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

MGP INGREDIENTS, INC.

Date: June 27, 2017

By: /s/ Thomas K. Pigott

Thomas K. Pigott, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER

by and among

PACIFIC ETHANOL CENTRAL, LLC,

ICP MERGER SUB, LLC,

ILLINOIS CORN PROCESSING, LLC,

ILLINOIS CORN PROCESSING HOLDINGS INC.

and

MGPI PROCESSING, INC.

Dated as of June 26, 2017

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Schedule 11.9(a) – Sellers Knowledge Individuals

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## AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER

THIS AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER (this “Agreement”) is made and entered into as of June 26, 2017, by and among Pacific Ethanol Central, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (“Buyer”), ICP Merger Sub, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Buyer (“Merger Sub”), Illinois Corn Processing, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (the “Company”), Illinois Corn Processing Holdings Inc., a Delaware corporation (“Holdings”), and MGPI Processing, Inc., a Kansas corporation (“MGP” and, collectively with Holdings, the “Sellers”). Capitalized terms used in this Agreement and not otherwise defined shall have the respective meanings given to such terms in Article II.

WHEREAS, the Sellers, constituting the only members of the Company, have (i) declared the advisability of this Agreement and (ii) approved and adopted this Agreement;

WHEREAS, the sole member of Merger Sub has (i) declared the advisability of this Agreement and (ii) approved and adopted this Agreement;

WHEREAS, Buyer has approved and adopted this Agreement for itself and in its capacity as the sole member of Merger Sub;

WHEREAS, this Agreement contemplates the merger of Merger Sub with and into the Company, with the Company as the surviving company (the “Surviving Company”), upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement and the applicable provisions of the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act (the “Act”), pursuant to which the membership interests in the Company (the “Membership Interests”) will be converted into the right to receive the Merger Consideration (as defined herein), with each Seller being entitled to receive such Seller’s Proportionate Percentage thereof; and

WHEREAS, Sellers, Buyer, Merger Sub and the Company desire to make certain representations, warranties, covenants and agreements in connection with the Merger, and also to prescribe various conditions to the Merger, as set forth in, and subject to the provisions of, this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, representations and warranties made herein and of the mutual benefits to be derived therefrom, the parties hereto, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

### ARTICLE I THE MERGER

Section 1.1 The Merger. At the Effective Time and subject to and upon the terms and conditions of this Agreement and the applicable provisions of the Act, Merger Sub shall be merged with and into the Company, the separate existence of Merger Sub shall cease, and the Company shall continue as the Surviving Company and as a direct, wholly-owned Subsidiary of Buyer (the “Merger”).

Section 1.2 The Closing and the Effective Time. The closing of the Transaction (the “Closing”) shall take place at the offices of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP (“Milbank”), 28 Liberty Street, New York, New York, at 10:00 a.m. local time on the third (3rd) Business Day after the satisfaction or waiver of all conditions set forth in Article VII (other than those conditions which by their terms can only be satisfied at the Closing, but subject to the satisfaction or waiver of such conditions at the Closing), or on such other date, at such other time, or at such other location as may be mutually agreed between Buyer and the Sellers’ Representative. The date of the Closing is referred to herein as the “Closing Date.” Upon the terms and subject to the conditions of this Agreement, the parties shall cause the Merger to be consummated by filing, on the Closing Date or such other date as may be mutually agreed between Buyer and the Sellers’ Representative, the Certificate of Merger, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A (the “Certificate of Merger”), with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, as required by, and executed in accordance with, the applicable provisions of the Act (the time of such filing with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, or such later time as may be agreed upon in writing by Buyer and the Sellers’ Representative and specified in the Certificate of Merger, shall be referred to herein as the “Effective Time”).

Section 1.3 Effect of the Merger. At the Effective Time, the effect of the Merger shall be as provided in the applicable provisions of the Act. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, and subject thereto, at the Effective Time, except as otherwise agreed to pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, all of the property, rights, privileges, powers and franchises of the Company and Merger Sub shall vest in the Surviving Company, and all debts, liabilities and duties of the Company and Merger Sub shall attach and become the debts, liabilities and duties of the Surviving Company.

Section 1.4 Organizational Documents of the Surviving Company. Unless otherwise determined by Buyer prior to the Effective Time, at the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger and without any action on the part of Merger Sub or the Company, the limited liability company agreement of the Surviving Company shall be the limited liability company agreement of Merger Sub, as in effect immediately prior to the Effective Time until duly amended as provided therein or by applicable Laws, except that all references to Merger Sub in such limited liability company agreement shall be changed to refer to the Surviving Company.

(b) Unless otherwise determined by Buyer prior to the Effective Time, the certificate of formation of the Company shall be amended and restated as of the Effective Time (and, as so amended and restated, shall be the certificate of formation of the Surviving Company at the Effective Time) to be identical to the certificate of formation of Merger Sub as in effect immediately prior to the Effective Time, until thereafter amended in accordance with applicable Law and as provided in such certificate of formation.

Section 1.5 Officers of the Surviving Company. Unless otherwise determined by Buyer prior to the Effective Time, the officers of Merger Sub immediately prior to the Effective Time shall become the officers of the Surviving Company immediately after the Effective Time, each to hold such office in accordance with the provisions of the limited liability company agreement of the Surviving Company.

Section 1.6 Effect of the Merger on the Company Units and Merger Sub.

(a) Effect on the Membership Interests. At the Effective Time, by virtue of the Merger and without any action on the part of Buyer, Merger Sub, the Company or the Sellers, the Membership Interests issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement, will be cancelled and extinguished and be converted automatically into Sellers' right to receive (without interest and less any applicable Tax withholding) the Merger Consideration as set forth herein.

(b) Merger Consideration. The consideration payable to the Sellers upon the Merger shall consist of (i) \$30,000,000 (the "Cash Consideration Amount") and (ii) Merger Sub's issuance to Sellers of secured promissory notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$46,000,000, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B (the "Promissory Notes"), subject to adjustment of such aggregate principal amount as provided in Section 1.6(d) (as so adjusted, the "Merger Consideration"); provided, that, at the election of Merger Sub in accordance with Section 1.6(g), the entire Merger Consideration may be paid in cash.

(c) Deposit.

(i) Concurrently with the execution of this Agreement, Buyer shall deposit, by wire transfer of immediately available funds, \$2,000,000 to such accounts as shall be specified by the Sellers' Representative in writing, with each Seller receiving an amount thereof equal to such Seller's Proportionate Percentage (the "Deposit").

(ii) If the Closing occurs, the Deposit shall be credited toward and reduce the Cash Consideration Amount otherwise payable at the Closing.

(iii) If this Agreement is terminated by Buyers or Sellers pursuant to Section 10.1(b) (End Date) or Section 10.1(e) (HSR Date) (except, in each case, in the event the transactions contemplated hereby shall not have been consummated prior to the End Date or HSR Date, as applicable, solely as a result of the failure of the condition to Closing of Buyer set forth in Section 7.1(c) (closing deliverables), Section 7.1(d) (Material Adverse Effect), Section 7.1(g) (title commitment) or Section 7.1(h) (Wells Fargo lien) to have been satisfied or waived) or if this Agreement is terminated by Sellers pursuant to Section 10.1(d) (Buyer or Merger Sub breach or failure to perform), the Deposit shall be forfeited and retained by Sellers free and clear of any claims by Buyer with respect thereto and without prejudice to any other rights or remedies of the Sellers arising out of or relating to such transaction.

(iv) If this Agreement is terminated by Buyers or Sellers pursuant to Section 10.1 under any circumstances other than the circumstances described in Section 1.6(c)(iii) above, each of the Sellers shall, within three Business Days after the date of such termination, pay to Buyer its Proportionate Percentage of the Deposit by wire transfer of immediately available funds to such account as shall be specified by Buyer in writing.

(d) Payment of Merger Consideration.

(i) Delivery of Purchase Consideration. On the Closing Date, (i) Sellers shall be paid the Cash Consideration Amount *minus* the amount of the Deposit by wire transfer of immediately available funds to such accounts as shall be specified by the Sellers' Representative in writing at least one (1) Business Day prior to the Closing Date, with each Seller receiving an amount equal to such Seller's Proportionate Percentage of the total Cash Consideration Amount; and (ii) subject to Section 1.6(g), the Promissory Notes shall be issued by Merger Sub to Sellers with each Seller receiving a Promissory Note in a principal amount thereof equal to such Seller's Proportionate Percentage of the aggregate principal amount of the Promissory Notes; provided, however, that subject to Section 1.6(g), the aggregate principal amount of the Promissory Notes issued at the Closing shall be increased by the Estimated Excess Amount, if any, or reduced by the Estimated Shortfall Amount, if any.

(ii) Post-Closing Adjustment.

(A) Within three Business Days following the completion of the determination of the Final Working Capital pursuant to Section 1.7, in the event the Promissory Notes are outstanding on such date, (A) if an Adjusted Excess Amount exists, the aggregate principal of the Promissory Notes shall be increased by the Adjusted Excess Amount in accordance with the terms set forth in the Promissory Notes and (B) if an Adjusted Shortfall Amount exists, the aggregate principal amount of the Promissory Notes shall be reduced by the Adjusted Shortfall Amount in accordance with the terms set forth in the Promissory Notes.

(B) Within three Business Days following the completion of the determination of the Final Working Capital pursuant to Section 1.7, in the event the Promissory Notes were not issued in accordance with Section 1.6(g) or were paid in full on or prior to such date, (x) if an Adjusted Excess Amount exists, the Surviving Company shall pay to each Seller an amount equal to such Seller's Proportionate Percentage of such Adjusted Excess Amount by wire transfer of immediately available funds to such accounts as shall be specified in writing in advance by the Sellers' Representative, or (y) if an Adjusted Shortfall Amount exists, each Seller shall pay to the Surviving Company an amount in cash equal to such Seller's Proportionate Percentage of the Adjusted Shortfall Amount by wire transfer of immediately available funds to an account(s) as shall be specified in writing in advance by Buyer.

(e) Sellers Deliveries at Closing. At the Closing, Sellers shall deliver or cause to be delivered to Buyer the following:

(i) non-foreign affidavits in form and substance required under the Treasury Regulations issued pursuant to Section 1445 of the Code stating that neither Seller is a “foreign person” as defined in such section of the Code;

(ii) all revocations of powers of attorney listed on Schedule 1.6(e)(ii), which shall be in full force and effect;

(iii) all Consents listed on Schedule 1.6(e)(iii), which shall be in full force and effect;

(iv) all originals or copies of the files, books and records maintained by or in the possession of either Seller used in the conduct of the Company’s business;

(v) originals of the Ancillary Agreements, to which one or both of the Sellers are parties duly executed by the applicable Seller;

(vi) the Transition Services Agreement, duly executed by the parties thereto; and

(vii) a UCC-3 and pay-off letter evidencing the termination of the JPM Facility and the extinguishment of any related Liens concurrently with the Closing.

(f) Buyer, Merger Sub and Surviving Company Deliveries at Closing. At the Closing, Buyer, Merger Sub and/or the Surviving Company, as the case may be, shall deliver or cause to be delivered the following:

(i) Buyer shall deliver to Sellers copies of documentation of Buyer and Merger Sub, in form and substance reasonably acceptable to Sellers, evidencing the appropriate approvals and authorizations of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement;

(ii) Buyer shall deliver to Merger Sub funds sufficient for the Surviving Company to pay the Cash Consideration Amount;

(iii) Buyer, Merger Sub and the Surviving Company shall deliver to Sellers originals, duly executed by Buyer, Merger Sub and the Surviving Company (as applicable) of (A) the Promissory Notes, with each Seller receiving a Promissory Note with a principal amount equal to such Seller’s Proportionate Percentage of the aggregate principal amount of the Promissory Notes, and (B) a Mortgage in the form of Exhibit C (the “Mortgage”) with the Mortgage to be recorded at Closing); together with any and all other documents required to be executed and delivered pursuant to the terms of the Promissory Notes; and

(iv) Merger Sub shall deliver to Sellers the Cash Consideration Amount as provided in Section 1.6(d)(i).

(g) Financing of Purchase Price. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Section 1.6, Merger Sub may, in lieu of issuing the Promissory Notes, increase the Cash Consideration Amount by \$46,000,000 subject to adjustment as follows:

(i) in lieu of issuing any adjustment to the Promissory Notes provided in Section 1.6(d)(i), the Cash Consideration Amount shall be increased by the Estimated Excess Amount, if any, or reduced by the Estimated Shortfall Amount, if any; and

(ii) in lieu of the post-closing adjustments to the Promissory Notes provided in Section 1.6(d)(ii), within three Business Days following the completion of the determination of the Final Working Capital pursuant to Section 1.7, (A) if an Adjusted Excess Amount exists, the Surviving Company shall pay to each Seller an amount equal to such Seller's Proportionate Percentage of such Adjusted Excess Amount by wire transfer of immediately available funds to such accounts as shall be specified in writing in advance by the Sellers' Representative, or (B) if an Adjusted Shortfall Amount exists, each Seller shall pay to the Surviving Company an amount in cash equal to such Seller's Proportionate Percentage of the Adjusted Shortfall Amount by wire transfer of immediately available funds to an account(s) as shall be specified in writing in advance by Buyer.

Section Merger Consideration Adjustment for Final Working Capital.

1.7

(a) No later than two Business Days prior to the date on which the Closing is expected to occur, the Sellers' Representative shall furnish to Buyer a statement, prepared in reasonable detail, (i) reflecting Sellers' Representative's good faith determination of Working Capital as of the Closing Date (the "Estimated Working Capital") calculated in accordance with GAAP and the Accounting Principles and the methodologies and normalizations set forth on Exhibit D and the Estimated Excess Amount or Estimated Shortfall Amount based thereon, (ii) setting forth the Transaction Related Expenses as of the Closing Date, and (iii) signed by the chief financial officer of the Sellers' Representative.

(b) As promptly as practicable, but no later than thirty (30) days after the Closing, Buyer will cause to be prepared and delivered to the Sellers' Representative a statement setting forth Buyer's good faith calculation of the Working Capital as of the Closing Date (such statement the "Draft Closing Statement"), as calculated in accordance with GAAP and the Accounting Principles and the methodologies and normalizations set forth in Exhibit D. The Draft Closing Statement shall (i) be signed by Buyer or the Company's chief financial officer, (ii) fairly present the Buyer's good faith calculation of the Working Capital as of the Closing Date, and (iii) specifically identify the respective amounts of each line item as set forth on Exhibit D that was used for Buyer's calculations in the Draft Closing Statement.

(c) If the Sellers' Representative disagrees with Buyer's calculation of one or more of the items set forth on the Draft Closing Statement, the Sellers' Representative may, within thirty (30) days after receipt of the Draft Closing Statement, deliver a written notice to Buyer disagreeing with some or all of such calculation and setting forth the basis thereof and the Sellers' Representative calculation of such disputed amount(s) and the adjustment the Sellers' Representative believes should be made (the "Sellers Objection"). The Sellers Objection shall specify those items or amounts

as to which the Sellers' Representative disagrees as well as the reasons for such disagreement, and Sellers shall otherwise be deemed to have agreed with all other items and amounts contained in the Draft Closing Statement and Buyer's calculation of any of the undisputed items. If the Sellers' Representative fails to deliver a Sellers Objection within such 30-day period, or if the Sellers' Representative notifies Buyer that the Sellers' Representative has no objection to the Draft Closing Statement, all calculations and valuations of Working Capital set forth on the Draft Closing Statement shall be final, binding, conclusive and non-appealable for all purposes of this Agreement.

(d) If a Sellers Objection shall be duly delivered pursuant to Section 1.7(c), the Sellers' Representative and Buyer shall, during the thirty (30) days following such delivery, use all reasonable efforts to reach agreement on the disputed items or amounts in order to determine, as may be required, the amount of any such disputed item. If, at the conclusion of such period or any mutually agreed extension thereof, the Sellers' Representative and Buyer are unable to reach an agreement, either party may submit to Deloitte LLP or, if such firm is unwilling or unable to serve, such other accounting firm or Person as may be agreed to by Buyer and the Sellers' Representative (the firm ultimately chosen, the "Accounting Referee") all items remaining in dispute. The Accounting Referee shall promptly review this Section 1.7 and the disputed items or amounts for the purpose of determining such disputed items or amounts. In making such determination, the Accounting Referee shall consider only those items or amounts in Buyer's calculation of disputed items or amounts as to which the Sellers' Representative has disagreed solely in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and not by independent review. In no event shall the Accounting Referee's determination be outside of the range of amounts claimed by the respective parties with respect to those items in dispute. The Sellers' Representative and Buyer shall make available to the Accounting Referee, at reasonable times, all relevant books and records and any work papers (including those of the parties' respective accountants) relating to the Draft Closing Statement, the Sellers Objection and all other items reasonably requested by the Accounting Referee. The Sellers' Representative and Buyer agree to execute, if requested by the Accounting Referee, a reasonable engagement letter, including customary indemnification provisions in favor of the Accounting Referee. The Accounting Referee shall deliver to the Sellers' Representative and Buyer, as promptly as practicable, but in no event later than forty-five (45) calendar days after its engagement, a report setting forth such calculation. Such report shall be final, binding, conclusive and non-appealable for all purposes hereunder. The fees, costs and expenses of the Accounting Referee shall be borne by Buyer, on the one hand, and Sellers, on the other hand, as the case may be, in inverse proportion as they may prevail on such amounts in dispute and the remainder of such expenses and fees shall be borne by the other party. The proportionate allocation shall be determined by the Accounting Referee and included in its report.

(e) The Sellers' Representative and Buyer agree that they will, and Buyer agrees to cause its and the Company's independent accountants to cooperate and assist in the preparation and review of the Draft Closing Statement and the calculation of the items or amounts therein, including the making available of books, records, work papers and personnel at such reasonable times as are reasonably requested.

(f) Following the determination of the Final Working Capital pursuant to this Section 1.7, the Merger Consideration shall be adjusted as provided in Section 1.6(d)(ii) or 1.6(g).



Section 1.8 Merger Consideration Allocation The parties agree to treat the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, if no Promissory Notes are issued, as a sale of interests in a partnership by Sellers and a purchase of assets by Buyer for U.S. federal income Tax purposes pursuant to Revenue Ruling 99-6, 1999-1 C.B. 187, and that, as a result of the sale and purchase of the Membership Interests, the Company shall terminate for U.S. federal income Tax purposes under Section 708(b)(1)(A) of the Code as of the end of the Closing Date, or if the Promissory Notes are issued, as a sale by Sellers of a portion of their interests in a partnership to Buyer in exchange for the Cash Consideration Amount and the principal amount of the Promissory Notes as representing Sellers' rights to receive distributions in liquidation of their remaining interests in the partnership under Section 736(b) of the Code, and in each case that neither they nor their Affiliates will take any position inconsistent with such treatment in notices to or filings with taxing authorities, in audit or other proceedings with respect to Taxes, or in other documents or notices relating to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement unless required to do so by a "determination" as defined in Section 1313 of the Code. Within sixty (60) days after the Closing Date, Buyer shall prepare and provide to the Sellers' Representative a proposed allocation of the Cash Consideration Amount and any liabilities properly included for U.S. federal income Tax purposes, among the assets of the Company (the "Allocation Statement"). The Sellers' Representative shall provide notice to Buyer of any disagreement with Buyer's proposed Allocation Statement within sixty (60) days of receipt of the same. If the Sellers' Representative does not notify Buyer of any disagreement with Buyer's proposed Allocation Statement within such sixty (60) day period, such proposed Allocation Statement will represent the parties' agreement as to the final allocation of the Merger Consideration. If the Sellers' Representative notifies Buyer of any disagreement with Buyer's proposed Allocation Statement within such sixty (60) day period, Buyer and the Sellers' Representative shall cooperate in good faith to resolve any such disagreement. If the parties fail to resolve their differences over the disputed items within such sixty (60) day period, Buyer and the Sellers' Representative shall forthwith jointly request that the Accounting Referee make a binding determination as to the disputed items in accordance with this Agreement, which determination shall be binding on the parties. The fees and expenses of the Accounting Referee shall be borne 50% by Buyer and 50% by Sellers (pro rata in accordance with their Proportionate Percentages). The Allocation Statement will be adjusted as appropriate to reflect any adjustments to the Merger Consideration. The parties agree to, and agree to cause their Affiliates to, prepare all relevant Tax Returns, including IRS Form 8594 (if required), consistent with any agreed-upon Allocation Statement or allocation determined by the Accounting Referee. The parties shall not take any position that is inconsistent with such methodology or agreed-upon Allocation Statement, unless required to do so by a change in applicable Law or pursuant to the good faith resolution of a taxing authority. Buyer agrees to promptly advise the Sellers' Representative, and the Sellers' Representative agrees to promptly advise Buyer, regarding the existence of any Tax audit, controversy or litigation related to such reporting position.

Section 1.9 Sellers' Representative. By signing this Agreement, MGP, for itself and its successors and assigns, irrevocably constitutes and appoints, effective from and after the date hereof, Holdings, as its exclusive agent and attorney-in-fact (the "Sellers' Representative"), to negotiate, execute and deliver and take all action required or permitted to be taken by the Sellers' Representative under this Agreement, including (i) giving and receiving of all waivers, notices and consents, the receipt of service of process and the execution and delivery of all documents and agreements

hereunder, including any waivers, notices and consents which the Sellers' Representative may provide hereunder and (ii) taking any and all actions which the Sellers' Representative believes are necessary or appropriate under this Agreement for and on behalf of Sellers, including consenting to, compromising or settling any such claims, conducting negotiations with Buyer and the Surviving Company regarding such claims; provided, that the Sellers' Representative shall not have the power or authority to take any action that disproportionately affects MGP without the consent of MGP.

(b) Any Person shall have the right to rely, without investigation or inquiry, upon all actions taken or omitted to be taken (including any notice to be delivered or omitted to be delivered) by the Sellers' Representative pursuant to this Agreement, all of which actions or omissions shall be legally binding upon Sellers.

## ARTICLE II DEFINITIONS

Section 2.1 Specific Definitions. As used in this Agreement and the Schedules hereto, the following terms have the following meanings:

“Accounting Principles” means the accounting principles and methodologies set forth on Exhibit D hereto.

“Accounting Referee” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.7(d).

“Act” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Adjusted Excess Amount” means the amount, if positive, equal to the difference of (a) the Final Working Capital, *minus* (b) the Estimated Working Capital, plus an amount equal to interest thereon at the rate per annum published on the Closing Date by *The Wall Street Journal* as the “prime rate” at large U.S. money center banks from the Closing Date through and including the date of payment.

“Adjusted Shortfall Amount” means the amount, if negative, equal to the difference of (a) the Final Working Capital, *minus* (b) the Estimated Working Capital, plus an amount equal to interest thereon at the rate per annum published on the Closing Date by *The Wall Street Journal* as the “prime rate” at large U.S. money center banks from the Closing Date through and including the date of payment.

“Affiliate” means with respect to any Person, a Person that directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with such Person. “control” (including the terms “controlled by” and “under common control with”) means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or credit arrangement, as trustee or executor, or otherwise.

“Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the preamble.

“Allocation Statement” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.8.

“Ancillary Agreements” means the Transition Services Agreement, the Promissory Notes and the Mortgage.

“Audited Financial Statements” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.4.

“Base Amount” means \$15,000,000.

“Business Day” means any day other than Saturday, Sunday or other day on which the Federal Reserve Bank of New York is closed.

“Buyer” has the meaning set forth in the preamble.

“Buyer Group” means, collectively, the Buyer, the Company and each of their respective Affiliates.

“Buyer Indemnified Party” means Buyer, its Affiliates, and their respective equity holders, managers, officers, directors, employees, agents, successors and assigns.

“Buyer Subject Marks” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.4(a).

“Cap” has the meaning set forth in Section 9.1(c)(ii).

“Cash and Cash Equivalents” means cash and cash equivalents as calculated in accordance with GAAP.

“Cash Consideration Amount” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.6(b).

“Cause” with respect to a Key Company Employee means: (i) gross negligence or willful misconduct by the Key Company Employee in connection with his employment duties; (ii) failure by the Key Company Employee to perform his duties or responsibilities required pursuant to his employment, after written notice and an opportunity to cure; (iii) misappropriation by the Key Company Employee of the assets or business opportunities of Buyer or its Affiliates; (iv) embezzlement or other financial fraud committed by the Key Company Employee; (v) the Key Company Employee knowingly allowing any third-party to commit any of the acts described in any of the preceding clause (iii) or (iv); or (vi) the Key Company Employee’s indictment for, conviction of, or entry of a plea of no contest with respect to, any felony.

“Certificate of Merger” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.2.

“Claim Notice” has the meaning set forth in Section 9.2(a).

“Closing” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.2.

“Closing Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.2.

“Code” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

“Company” has the meaning set forth in the preamble.

“Company Employee” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.3(a).

“Company Environmental Permits” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.18(a).

“Company Indemnified Party” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.1(a).

“Company Intellectual Property” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.15(a).

“Company LLC Agreement” means that certain Limited Liability Company Agreement of the Company, dated as of November 20, 2009, by and between MGP and Holdings.

“Company Permits” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.11.

“Confidential Information” means, with respect to a Person, any information concerning the businesses and affairs of such Person, including any trade secrets or confidential business or technical information of such Person or its products, customers, licensees, suppliers or development or alliance partners or vendors, regardless of when or how such Person may have acquired such information, product development methods and business techniques, work plans, formulas, test results and information, applications, algorithms, technical information, manufacturing information, design information, cost or pricing information, know-how, technology, prototypes, ideas, inventions, improvements, training, sales volume service and business manuals, unpublished promotional materials, development partnerships and other alliances, customer lists, prospective customer lists and other business information, materials and property; provided, that such Confidential Information shall not include information that (a) has become generally available and publicly known (except, with respect to a Person required to maintain the confidentiality of such information, if such information becomes publicly known as a result of a wrongful act or breach of any obligation of confidentiality by such Person) or (b) was approved in writing for release by such Person.

“Confidentiality Agreement” means the Confidentiality Agreement, dated as of December 14, 2015, between the Company and Pacific Ethanol, Inc.

“Consent” means any consent, approval, authorization, action, Permit, exception, waiver or other Order of, action by, filing, registration, designation or declaration with, or notification to any Governmental Entity or other Person.

“Deductible” has the meaning set forth in Section 9.1(c)(i).

“Deposit” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.6(c)(i).

“Direct Claim” has the meaning set forth in Section 9.3.

“Direct Claim Notice” has the meaning set forth in Section 9.3.

“DOJ” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.7(b).

“Draft Closing Statement” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.7(b).

“Effective Time” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.2.

“End Date” means the date that is 60 calendar days after the date hereof, subject to extension as provided in Section 6.7(c).

“Environmental Law” means any Law relating to the protection of the environment.

“EPA” means the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

“EPA Registration” means the registration of the Company for participation in the EPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) Fuels Program as a transportation fuel producer and to generate and trade Renewable Identification Numbers (RINS) under the Renewable Fuel Standard. The Company is registered under CDX OTAQREG (Facility ID # 70073).

“EPA Registration Update” means the Company Update Requests submitted by Buyer on June 13, 2017 to the EPA providing updates with respect to the EPA Registration required as a result of the Merger.

“ERISA” means the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

“ERISA Affiliate” means any Person with whom the Company is treated at the relevant time as a single employer under Section 414(b), (c), (m), (n), (o) or (t) of the Code.

“Estimated Excess Amount” means the amount, if any, by which the Estimated Working Capital exceeds the Base Amount, as set forth in the Sellers’ Representative’s statement furnished to Buyer pursuant to Section 1.7(a).

“Estimated Shortfall Amount” means the amount, if any, by which the Base Amount exceeds the Estimated Working Capital, as set forth in the Sellers’ Representative’s statement furnished to Buyer pursuant to Section 1.7(a).

“Estimated Working Capital” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.7(a).

“Final Working Capital” means the Working Capital of the Company as of the Closing Date (a) as shown in Buyer’s calculation delivered pursuant to Section 1.7(b), if no Sellers Objection is duly delivered pursuant to Section 1.7(c), or (b) if a Sellers Objection is delivered, (i) as agreed by the Sellers’ Representative and Buyer pursuant to Section 1.7(d) or (ii) in the absence of such agreement, as shown in the Accounting Referee’s report delivered pursuant to Section 1.7(e).

“Financial Statements” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.4.

“Financing” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.10.

“FTC” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.7(b).

“Fundamental Representations” means the representations and warranties of Sellers and the Company (as applicable) contained in Section 3.1 (Organization), Section 3.2 (Authorization, etc.), Section 3.4 (Title to Interests), Section 4.1 (Limited Liability Company Status, etc.), Section 4.2 (Capitalization), Section 5.1 (Organization), Section 5.2 (Authorization, etc), Section 5.5 (Purchase for Investment) and Section 5.8 (Inspections; No Other Representations).

“GAAP” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.4.

“Governmental Approvals” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.7(a).

“Governmental Entity” means any court, tribunal, arbitrator, authority, agency, commission, official or other instrumentality of the United States, any foreign country or any domestic or foreign state, country, city or other political subdivision.

“Hazardous Substance” means any substance defined as a hazardous waste, hazardous substance, hazardous material, pollutant or contaminant pursuant to any Environmental Law, including any petroleum or petroleum products, asbestos or polychlorinated biphenyl.

“Holdings” has the meaning set forth in the preamble.

“HSR Acquisition Price” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.7(b).

“HSR Act” means the Hart Scott Rodino Antitrust Improvement Act of 1976, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

“HSR Date” means the date that is 180 calendar days after the later of (i) the date on which Buyer’s HSR Person files the notifications required of such HSR Person under the HSR Act in connection with the Transaction pursuant to Section 6.7(b)(ii) and (ii) the date on which the Company’s HSR Person files the notifications required of such HSR Person under the HSR Act in connection with the Transaction pursuant to Section 6.7(b)(ii).

“HSR FMV” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.7(b).

“HSR Person” means a “person” as defined under the HSR Act.

“Indebtedness” means with respect to any Person (without duplication): (a) all obligations for borrowed money, including the principal, accreted value, accrued and unpaid interest, unpaid fees or expenses and other monetary obligations of such Person or other interest-bearing indebtedness, whether current or funded, secured or unsecured, (b) all obligations evidenced by a note, bond or debenture, (c) all obligations of such Person for

deferred purchase price of any property or services, (d) all obligations created or arising under any conditional sale or other title retention agreement with respect to property acquired by such Person, (e) all obligations of such Person secured by a purchase money mortgage or other lien to secure all or part of the purchase price of property subject to such mortgage or lien, (f) all obligations of such Person under leases which shall have been or should be, in accordance with GAAP, recorded as capital leases, (g) all obligations of such Person in respect of bankers' acceptances, letters of credit or similar credit transactions, (h) all obligations secured by liens on property acquired by such Person, whether or not such obligations were assumed by such Person at the time of acquisition of such property, (i) any off balance sheet financial obligations in the nature of indebtedness, including synthetic leases and project financing, (j) any surety bonds, performance bonds or security deposits, (k) all obligations of a type referred to above which are directly or indirectly guaranteed by such Person or which such Person has agreed (contingently or otherwise) to purchase or otherwise acquire or in respect of which it has otherwise assured a credit against loss, and (l) all refinancings of or costs and expenses to terminate any of the foregoing obligations, including break fees.

“Indemnified Party” means any Person claiming indemnification under any provision of Article IX.

“Indemnified Taxes” means Taxes (including those imposed as a transferee, successor, by contract or by operation of law) of the Company for taxable periods ending on or before the Closing Date or for the portion of a Straddle Period ending on the Closing Date. Taxes for a Straddle Period shall be allocated to the portion of the period ending on the Closing Date (i) ratably based on the number of days in the period if they are property or ad valorem Taxes and (ii) based on an interim closing of the books in the case of all other Taxes; provided, that exemptions, allowances or deductions that are calculated on an annual basis (including depreciation and amortization deductions) shall be apportioned on a per diem basis.

“Indemnifying Party” means any Person against whom a claim for indemnification is being asserted under any provision of Article IX.

“Intellectual Property” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.15(a).

“Interim Financial Statements” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.4.

“Inventory” means all inventories of raw materials (including but not limited to corn, denaturants, enzymes, ingredients, botanicals, and chemicals), work-in-process (including but not limited to any and all alcohol or spirits held at any and all proofs, fermenter product, beer still product, corn mash, fusel oils, distillers grains, corn oil, stillage, and any and all products which are classified as off-specification product but are being held for future blending, re-distillation, or re-processing for eventual conversion into a finished product), finished goods sold in the ordinary course of business (including but not limited to finished goods alcohol or spirits held at proofs in excess of 190, distillers grains, corn oil and/or other co-products or by-products of the alcohol production process), in transit finished goods

which are in transit within the United States of America or between the continental United States of America and United States territories and evidenced by a bill of lading or other shipping document, spare or replacement parts, packaging materials and other accessories related thereto which are held at, or are in transit from or to, the locations at which the Company's business is conducted and/or customer-delivery destinations, which are used or held for use by Sellers in the conduct of the business, including any of the foregoing purchased subject to any conditional sales or title retention agreement in favor of any other Person, together with all rights of Sellers against suppliers of such inventories.

“IRS” means the United States Internal Revenue Service.

“JPM Facility” means the Credit Agreement, dated as of April 9, 2015, by and among the Company, the other loan parties thereto, the lender parties thereto and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

“Key Company Employee” means each of the following Company Employees: Gregory Dare, Steven Haines, Jack Healy, Charles Hundt, Matthew Keech, Donald Oldham, Don Shippy and Dave Riber.

“Law” means any provision of any federal, state, local, foreign, international, municipal or administrative order, constitution, law, common law and the law of equity, ordinance, judicial decision, writ, injunction, license, permit, regulation, rule, code, plan, statute or treaty of, and the departmental or regulatory policies and guidelines of, a Governmental Entity.

“Leases” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.13.

“Liability” means any liability or obligation, known or unknown, asserted or unasserted, accrued or unaccrued, absolute or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, or otherwise, and whether due or to become due.

“Licenses” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.15(b).

“Lien” means any mortgage, pledge, deed of trust, hypothecation, claim, security interest, title defect, encumbrance, burden, charge or other similar restriction, lease, sublease, claim, title retention agreement, option, easement, covenant, encroachment or other adverse claim.

“Loss” means any and all claims, damages, deficiencies, fines, fees, losses, Liabilities, obligations, penalties, payments (including those arising out of any settlement, judgment or compromise relating to any legal proceeding), and reasonable costs and expenses (including, without limitation, interest, court costs, reasonable fees of attorneys, accountants and other experts or other expenses incurred in investigating, preparing, defending, avoiding or settling any claim, default or assessment).

“M&A Qualified Beneficiaries” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.3(f).



“Major Business Partners” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.22.

“Material Adverse Effect” means any event, circumstance, occurrence, state of fact, change in, or effect that, individually or in the aggregate with other events, circumstances, occurrences, states of fact, changes in, or effects, has or would reasonably be likely to have a material adverse effect on (x) the business, operations, assets, Liabilities, condition (financial or otherwise) or results of operations of the Company or the Membership Interests, or (y) the ability of Sellers to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby; provided, that a Material Adverse Effect shall exclude any adverse changes or circumstances as and to the extent such changes or circumstance relate to or result from (i) public or industry knowledge of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement (including, without limitation, any action or inaction of the Company’s employees, customers and vendors), (ii) general business, economic, political, regulatory or other conditions, including such conditions generally affecting the industries in which the Company competes or generally affecting the securities, financial or credit markets, including changes in interest rates or the availability of financing that do not disproportionately affect or specifically relate to the Company relative to other companies operating in the same industry, (iii) national or international political or social conditions, including the engagement of the United States in hostilities, whether or not pursuant to the declaration of a national emergency or war, or the occurrence of any military or terrorist attack on the United States, or any of its territories or possessions that do not disproportionately affect or specifically relate to the Company relative to other companies operating in the same industry, (iv) changes in Law or GAAP after the date hereof, except to the extent such changes are specifically related to or disproportionately impact the Company relative to other companies operating in the industries in which the Company operates, (v) the taking of any action expressly required by this Agreement and the other agreements contemplated hereby, (vi) the taking of any action by the Company with the express prior written consent of Buyer, (vii) the failure by the Company to meet internal projections or forecasts or revenue or earnings predictions for any period ending on or after the date hereof, or (viii) pandemics, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornados or other natural disasters that do not disproportionately affect or specifically relate to the Company relative to other companies operating in the same industry.

“Material Contracts” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.16(a).

“Membership Interests” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Merger” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.1.

“Merger Consideration” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.6(b).

“Merger Sub” has the meaning set forth in the preamble.

“Merger Sub Obligations” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.14(a).

“MGP” has the meaning set forth in the preamble.

“Milbank” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.2.

“Monthly Balance Sheet” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.7(b).

“Mortgage” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.6(f)(iii).

“Most Recent Balance Sheet Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.4.

“Multiemployer Plan” means a “multiemployer plan” within the meaning of Section 3(37) of ERISA contributed to or required to be contributed to by the Company or with respect to which the Company has any Liability, including as the result of any ERISA Affiliate or any guaranty or other contract or agreement.

“Order” means any judgment, injunction, order, writ, decree (including a consent decree), ruling or charge that is issued by a Governmental Entity.

“Ordinary Course” means the ordinary course of business consistent with past custom and practice (including with respect to frequency and amount) of the Company.

“Organizational Documents” means (a) with respect to any corporation or limited liability company, its articles or certificate of incorporation or memorandum and articles of association and by-laws, (b) with respect to any other entity, its analogous governing documents, and (c) with respect to any trust, its trust agreement.

“Owned Real Property” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.12(a).

“Pacific Ethanol Common Stock” means the common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, of Pacific Ethanol, Inc.

“Parent” has the meaning set forth in the definition of Subsidiary.

“Permits” means any licenses, permits, orders, approvals, concessions, clearances, registrations, certificates (including certificates of occupancy), qualifications and other evidence of authority.

“Permitted Liens” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.12(b).

“Person” means any natural person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, trust, business trust, Governmental Entity or other entity.

“Plans” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.10(a).

“Post-Closing Taxes” means Taxes of the Company for taxable periods beginning after the Closing Date or for the portion of a Straddle Period beginning after the Closing Date. Taxes for a Straddle Period shall be allocated to the portion of the period ending after the Closing Date (i) ratably based on the number of days in the period if they are property or ad valorem Taxes and (ii) based on an interim closing of the books in the case of all other

Taxes; provided, that exemptions, allowances or deductions that are calculated on an annual basis (including depreciation and amortization deductions) shall be apportioned on a per diem basis.

“Privileged Communications” has the meaning set forth in Section 11.17(b).

“Proceeding” means any demand, action, suit, litigation, hearing, examination, notice of investigation, notice of violation, arbitration, mediation, written citation, or, to the knowledge of Sellers, any complaint, claim or audit.

“Promissory Notes” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.6(b).

“Proportionate Percentage” means, for each Seller, the percentage listed opposite such Seller’s name on Exhibit E.

“Release” means any release, spill, emission, leaking, pumping, pouring, injection, escaping, deposit, discharge, disposal, dumping or leaching into the environment, including the movement of substances through the air, soil, surface water or groundwater.

“Second Request” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.7(c).

“Seller Indemnified Parties” means Sellers and their officers, board advisors, employees, agents and Affiliates.

“Sellers” has the meaning set forth in the preamble.

“Sellers Objection” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.7(c).

“Sellers Subject Marks” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.4(b).

“Sellers’ Representative” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.9.

“Special Representations” means the representations and warranties of Sellers and the Company (as applicable) contained in Section 3.5 (Brokers and Finders), Section 4.18 (Environmental Matters), Section 4.27 (Brokers and Finders), and Section 5.7 (Brokers and Finders).

“Straddle Period” means a taxable period that includes, but does not end on, the Closing Date.

“Subsidiary” means with respect to any Person (the “Parent”), any other Person (other than a natural person), whether incorporated or unincorporated, of which more than 50% of the securities or ownership interests having by their terms ordinary voting power to elect a majority of the board of directors or other Persons performing similar functions is directly or indirectly owned or controlled by the Parent or by one or more of its respective Subsidiaries or by the Parent and any one or more of its respective Subsidiaries.

“Surety Bonds” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.15.

“Surviving Company” has the meaning set forth in the Recitals.

“Surviving Company Obligations” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.14(b).

“Tangible Property” has the meaning set forth in Section 4.14.

“Tax” means any federal, state, provincial, local or foreign income, alternative minimum, accumulated earnings, personal holding company, franchise, capital stock, profits, windfall profits, gross receipts, sales, use, value added, transfer, registration, stamp, premium, excise, customs duties, severance, real property, personal property, ad valorem, environmental (including taxes under Section 59A of the Code), occupancy, license, occupation, employment, payroll, social security (or similar), disability, unemployment, workers’ compensation, withholding, estimated or other similar tax, assessment or other governmental charge of any kind whatsoever including any interest, penalty, or addition thereto, whether disputed or not.

“Tax Return” means any return, report, declaration, form, claim for refund or information return or statement relating to Taxes, including any schedule or attachment thereto, and including any amendment thereof that relates to the Company.

“Third Party Claim” has the meaning set forth in Section 9.2(a).

“Third Party Defense” has the meaning set forth in Section 9.2(b).

“Title Company” means Fidelity National Title Insurance Company or such other nationally recognized title insurance company acceptable to Buyer.

“Transaction” means the Merger and the other transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

“Transaction Related Expenses” means any expenses, other than expenses paid by the Company or Sellers prior to the Closing or Transfer Taxes, incurred or payable by Sellers, the Company or any Affiliate of the Company to the extent the Company is liable therefor in connection with the negotiation, preparation and execution of this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements and any other agreements and documents contemplated hereby, the performance of its and their obligations hereunder and thereunder, and the consummation of the Transaction, including (a) the fees and disbursements of the independent accountants and the legal counsel and investment bankers of the Company, brokers, and finders or other advisors to Sellers, the Company or their Affiliates in connection with the Transaction to the extent payable by the Company and (b) any expenses incurred by Sellers or the Company or their Affiliates in connection with the Transaction for which the Company is liable under this Agreement, but in all events excluding any Liabilities under or in connection with any (i) termination of employment upon or following the Closing or (ii) Plan or Multiemployer Plan.

“Transfer Taxes” has the meaning set forth in Section 6.2(g).

“Transition Services Agreement” means the transition services agreement by and between SEACOR Holdings Inc. and the Company, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit F.

“Treasury Regulations” means the regulations prescribed under the Code.

“Working Capital” means current assets less current liabilities other than short-term debt or the current portion of long-term debt, as determined in accordance with GAAP consistently applied.

Section Other Definitional Provisions.

2.2

(a) The words “hereof”, “herein” and “hereunder” and words of similar import, when used in this Agreement, refer to this Agreement as a whole and not to any particular provision of this Agreement.

(b) Terms defined in the singular have the same meaning when used in the plural, and vice versa.

(c) References to “Sections,” “Exhibits” and “Schedules” refer to Sections of, and Exhibits and Schedules to, this Agreement, unless otherwise specified.

(d) The words “include”, “includes”, or “including” and words of similar import, when used in this Agreement, shall be deemed to be followed by the words “without limitation”, whether or not they are in fact followed by those words or words of like import.

(e) Any reference to a Law shall include any amendment thereof or any successor thereto and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, unless the context otherwise requires.

ARTICLE III  
REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES AS TO SELLERS

Except as otherwise indicated on the Schedules, each Seller represents and warrants to Buyer, solely with respect to such Seller, as follows:

Section 3.1 Organization. Such Seller is a limited liability company or corporation as applicable, duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the Laws of its jurisdiction of formation or incorporation, as applicable.

Section 3.2 Authorization, etc. Such Seller has full power and authority to enter into this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which it is party and to perform its obligations hereunder and thereunder. The execution and delivery by such Seller of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which it is party, and the consummation by such Seller of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby, have been duly authorized by all requisite corporate or limited liability company action of such Seller. Each of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to

which such Seller is party has been duly executed and delivered by such Seller and (assuming due authorization, execution and delivery by Buyer and the other Seller) constitutes the legal, valid and binding obligations of such Seller enforceable against such Seller in accordance with its terms, except as limited by Laws affecting the enforcement of creditor's rights generally or by general equitable principles.

Section Conflicts, Consents, Subsequent Actions.

3.3

(a) Conflicts. Except as set forth in Schedule 3.3(a), the execution and delivery by such Seller of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which such Seller is party, and the consummation by such Seller of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby, do not and will not (i) conflict with or constitute a violation of or default or event of default under (or any event that, with or without notice or lapse of time or both, would constitute a default or event of default under), or give rise to a right of termination, cancellation or acceleration of any obligation or to loss of a benefit under, or create in any Person additional rights or compensation under, or require notice to or the Consent of any Person under any provision of (A) such Seller's Organizational Documents or (B) any mortgage, indenture, loan agreement, bond, deed of trust, other agreement, commitment or obligation for the borrowing of money or the obtaining of credit, will, lease or other agreement or instrument to which such Seller is a party or by which such Seller or the Membership Interests owned by such Seller may be bound, (ii) conflict with any Law or Order applicable or relating to such Seller or to the Membership Interests to be sold by such Seller or (iii) result in the creation or imposition of any Lien on the Membership Interests other than, in the case of clause (i)(B), any conflicts, violations or defaults that would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

(b) Consents. Except (i) as set forth in Schedule 3.3(b) and (ii) as may be required under the HSR Act, no Consent of or with any Governmental Entity or third Person is required to be obtained or made by such Seller in connection with the execution and delivery by such Seller of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreements to which such Seller is party or consummation by such Seller of the transactions contemplated herein or therein.

Section 3.4 Title to the Membership Interests. At the Closing, such Seller is the owner, beneficially and of record of all right, title and interest in and to its Proportionate Percentage of the Membership Interests, free and clear of any Liens other than any Lien arising pursuant to applicable securities laws. Upon the delivery of and payment for its Proportionate Percentage of the Membership Interests and completion of the Closing as provided in this Agreement, such Seller shall have transferred to Buyer good and valid title to its Proportionate Percentage of the Membership Interests, free and clear of any Liens other than any Lien arising as a result of the regulatory status of Buyer or pursuant to applicable securities Laws. Except for this Agreement and the Company LLC Agreement, such Seller is not (a) a party to any option, warrant, right, contract, call, put or other agreement or commitment providing for the disposition or acquisition of any of the Membership Interests or (b) a party to any voting trust, proxy or other agreement or understanding with respect to any of the Membership Interests.

Section 3.5 Brokers and Finders. Except as set forth on Schedule 3.5, such Seller has not employed any broker or finder in connection with the transactions contemplated that will give

rise to any claim against Buyer or the Company for any brokerage or finder's commission, fee or similar compensation.

Section 3.6 Litigation. There is no Proceeding pending or, to the knowledge of such Seller, threatened against such Seller related to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement to which such Seller is party.

ARTICLE IV  
REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES AS TO THE COMPANY

Except as otherwise indicated on the Schedules, each of the Sellers represents and warrants to Buyer with respect to the Company as follows:

Section Limited Liability Company Status, etc.  
4.1

(a) Organization. The Company is a limited liability company duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the Laws of the State of Delaware, and has full limited liability company power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to carry on its business as presently conducted.

(b) Organizational Documents and Corporate Records. The Company has previously delivered or made available to Buyer true and complete copies of each of the (i) Organizational Documents of the Company, as amended and in effect on the date hereof and (ii) minute books and stock record books of the Company. All documents and records of the Company (x) are in the possession or under the control of the Company and (y) have been properly kept in all material respects. The Company is not in material default or violation of any provision of its Organizational Documents.

(c) Qualification. The Company is duly qualified to do business and in good standing as a foreign limited liability company in each of the jurisdictions specified in Schedule 4.1, which includes each jurisdiction in which the nature and operations of its business or the properties owned, leased or operated by it makes such qualification necessary except where failure to be so qualified would not be reasonably expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

Section Capitalization.  
4.2

(a) The Company. The entire economic and ownership interest in the Company is represented by the Membership Interests. All of the issued and outstanding Membership Interests are (i) duly authorized and validly issued, and (ii) owned of record and beneficially by the Sellers in the Proportionate Percentages set forth on Exhibit E. There is no existing option, warrant, call, right or contract of any character to which the Company is a party requiring, and there are no securities of the Company outstanding which upon conversion or exchange would require, the issuance of any equity interests of the Company or other securities convertible into, exchangeable for or evidencing the right to subscribe for or purchase equity interests of the Company.

(b) Subsidiaries. The Company has no Subsidiaries.

(c) Agreements with Respect to Equity. Except as set forth in the Company LLC Agreement, there are no (i) preemptive or similar rights on the part of any holders of any class of securities of the Company, (ii) subscriptions, options, warrants, conversion, exchange or other rights, agreements or commitments of any kind obligating the Company to issue or sell, or cause to be issued and sold, any equity interests of the Company or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for any such shares or other equity interests, or (iii) stockholder agreements, voting trusts or other agreements or understandings to which the Company is a party or to which the Company is bound relating to the voting, purchase, redemption or other acquisition of any equity interests of the Company.

(d) Equity Interests. The Company does not own any capital stock of or other equity securities or interests in any other Person. The Company is not a party to any stockholder agreements, voting trusts or other written agreements or understandings relating to the voting, purchase, redemption or other acquisition of any shares of capital stock or equity interests in any other Person.

#### Section 4.3 Conflicts, Consents, Subsequent Actions.

##### 4.3

(a) Conflicts. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.3(a), the execution and delivery of this Agreement by each Seller, and the consummation by each Seller of the transactions contemplated hereby, do not and will not (i) conflict with or constitute a violation of or default or event of default under (or any event that, with or without notice or lapse of time or both, would constitute a default or event of default under), or give rise to a right of termination, cancellation or acceleration of any obligation or to loss of a benefit under, or create in any Person additional rights or compensation under, or require notice to or the Consent of any Person under any provision of (A) the Organizational Documents of the Company, (B) any mortgage, indenture, loan agreement, note, bond, deed of trust, other agreement, commitment or obligation for the borrowing of money or the obtaining of credit, material lease or other material agreement, contract, license, franchise, Permit or instrument to which the Company is a party or by which the Company may be bound, in each case other than a Plan, (ii) conflict with any Law or Order applicable to or relating to the Company or to the Membership Interests to be sold by Sellers, (iii) result in the creation or imposition of any Lien, other than Permitted Liens, on any of the assets of the Company or (iv) result in the creation or imposition of any Lien, other than Permitted Liens, on the Membership Interests, other than, in the case of clauses (i)(B) and (iii), any conflicts, violations, defaults that, individually or in the aggregate, would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

(b) Consents. Except (i) as set forth in Schedule 4.3(b), and (ii) as may be required under the HSR Act, no Consent of or with any court, Governmental Entity or third Person is required to be obtained by the Company in connection with the execution and delivery of this Agreement by either Seller or the consummation by either Seller of the transactions contemplated hereby, other than Consents which if not obtained would not reasonably be expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect.

Section 4.4 Reports and Financial Statements. The Company has made available to Buyer true and complete copies of the Company's (a) audited balance sheets dated December 31, 2016, December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, and the related audited statements of income, cash flows and members' equity for each of the years then ended, in each case including notes



thereto (collectively, the “Audited Financial Statements”) and (b) unaudited balance sheet dated March 31, 2017 (the “Most Recent Balance Sheet Date”), and the related unaudited statements of income, cash flows and members’ equity for the three-month period then ended (collectively, the “Interim Financial Statements” and together with the Audited Financial Statements, the “Financial Statements”). The Financial Statements (i) are in accordance with the books and records of the Company in all material respects, (ii) have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles of the United States of America consistently applied (“GAAP”) (except as may be indicated in the notes thereto) throughout the periods indicated and (iii) present fairly in all material respects the assets, liabilities, and financial condition of the Company as of such dates and the results of the operations of the Company for such periods.

Section 4.5 Absence of Undisclosed Liabilities; Indebtedness. Except for (a) liabilities reflected or reserved against in accordance with GAAP in the Interim Financial Statements, (b) liabilities reflected in Schedule 4.5(a), or (c) liabilities that were incurred after the Most Recent Balance Sheet Date in the Ordinary Course that would not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, the Company does not have any Liabilities (whether accrued, absolute, contingent or otherwise) required to be disclosed on a balance sheet prepared in accordance with GAAP. Set forth on Schedule 4.5(b) is a true and complete list of any and all Indebtedness of the Company.

Section 4.6 Events Subsequent to Latest Interim Financial Statements. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.6, since the Most Recent Balance Sheet Date, other than in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, the Company has conducted its business in the Ordinary Course, there has been no Material Adverse Effect, and the Company has not:

(a) suffered any casualty, loss or damage to its assets or property (whether or not covered by insurance) that would reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, or suffered any material change in the amount and scope of insurance coverage with respect to the Company;

(b) amended its Organizational Documents;

(c) split, combined or reclassified any of its equity interests;

(d) issued, sold or otherwise disposed of any of its equity interests, or granted any notes, bonds or other debt securities or any equity securities, securities convertible, exchangeable or exercisable into equity securities, or warrants, options, or other rights to purchase or obtain (including upon conversion, exchange or exercise) any of its equity interests;

(e) (i) declared or paid any dividends or distributions on or in respect of any of its equity interests, other than any cash or cash equivalent dividends or distributions declared and paid in respect of any of its equity interests on or after the date of this Agreement, or (ii) redeemed, purchased or acquired, directly or indirectly, any of its equity interests; provided, however, that dividends or distributions of cash or cash equivalents to the Sellers in proportion to their Proportionate Percentage are expressly permitted to be made at any time and in any amount prior to the Closing and with the expectation that all of the cash and cash equivalents of the Company will be paid by dividend or distributed to the Sellers prior to the Closing;

- (f) announced, implemented or effected any reduction in labor force, lay-off, early retirement program, severance program or other program or effort concerning the termination of one or more groups of employees of the Company;
- (g) increased or announced any increase in the compensation payable or benefits to be provided to any officer or employee of the Company or changed the employment terms of any employees of the Company, other than in the Ordinary Course, as required to satisfy any contractual obligations disclosed on Schedule 4.10(a) or 4.16(a), or to comply with applicable Law;
- (h) entered into, adopted, amended, modified or terminated any Plan, other than in the Ordinary Course, as required to satisfy any contractual obligations disclosed on Schedule 4.10(a) or 4.16(a), or to comply with applicable Law;
- (i) entered into, adopted, amended, modified or terminated any insurance policies;
- (j) entered into any lease of capital equipment or real estate involving rental in excess of \$200,000 per annum;
- (k) entered into any material amendment or modification with respect to or terminated (in whole or in part) or granted any material waiver under or given any material Consent with respect to any Material Contract;
- (l) except as required by a concurrent change to GAAP, made any material change in its accounting principles or the methods by which such principles are applied for financial accounting purposes;
- (m) changed any annual Tax accounting period, adopted or changed any method of Tax accounting, entered into any material Tax closing agreement, or settled any material Tax claim, audit or assessment, in each case, related to the Company;
- (n) prepared or filed any Tax Return inconsistent with past practice or, on any Tax Return, made any election or adopted any method of accounting inconsistent with elections made or methods used in preparing or filing its most recent Tax Returns, in each case that would materially adversely impact the Company in any taxable period (or portion thereof) beginning after the Closing Date, except in each case as otherwise required by applicable Law;
- (o) sold, leased or otherwise disposed of any assets having a value in excess of \$100,000 in any individual case or \$200,000 in the aggregate other than in the Ordinary Course;
- (p) incurred any Indebtedness other than intercompany Indebtedness incurred in the Ordinary Course;
- (q) mortgaged, pledged or subjected to any Lien, other than Permitted Liens, any of its properties or assets, except for Liens incurred in the Ordinary Course;
- (r) made capital expenditures or commitments therefor in excess of \$200,000 in the aggregate;

(s) commenced any Proceeding other than for the routine collection of bills, or settled or compromised or agreed to settle or compromise any pending or threatened Proceeding;

(t) acquired by merger or consolidation with, or by purchase of a substantial portion of the assets or stock of, or by any other manner, any business or any Person or any division thereof;

(u) adopted any plan of merger, consolidation, liquidation, dissolution, restructuring, recapitalization or other reorganization or filed a petition in bankruptcy under any provisions of federal or state bankruptcy Law or consented to the filing of any bankruptcy petition against it under any similar Law; or

(v) entered into any agreement to take any of the actions described in clauses (a) through (w).

Section Tax Matters. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.7:  
4.7

(a) Filing of Returns and Payment of Taxes. All material Tax Returns required to be filed on or before the Closing Date by or with respect to the Company have (or by the Closing Date will have) been duly filed or the time for filing such Tax Returns shall have been validly extended to a date after the Closing Date. All such Tax Returns were prepared in substantial compliance with applicable law and were complete and correct in all material respects. The Company has paid all Taxes shown due on such Tax Returns.

(b) Extensions, etc. As of the date hereof, there is no written agreement or other document extending, or having the effect of extending, the period of assessment or collection of any material Taxes of the Company that remains in full force other than pursuant to extensions of time to file Tax Returns obtained in the Ordinary Course, and no power of attorney with respect to any such Taxes, has been executed or filed with the IRS or any other taxing authority that remains in force.

(c) Audits, etc. As of the date hereof no audits or other administrative proceedings or court proceedings are presently pending with respect to any Taxes of the Company.

(d) Withholding. All material Taxes required to be withheld by the Company have been duly and timely withheld, and such withheld Taxes have been duly and timely paid to the appropriate Governmental Entity.

(e) Tax Liens. There are no material Tax liens upon the assets of the Company except liens for Taxes not yet due or for Taxes being contested in good faith through appropriate proceedings.

(f) Entity Status. The Company is treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

(g) Other Jurisdictions. No written claim has been made during the past three years by a Tax authority in a jurisdiction in which the Company does not file Tax Returns that the Company is or may be subject to taxation by that jurisdiction.

(h) Tax Sharing. The Company is not a party to any agreement the primary purpose of which is the indemnification of Taxes or the sharing or allocation of Tax benefits or liabilities.

(i) The representations and warranties made in this Section 4.7 (other than Section 4.7(f)) refer only to the past activities of the Company and are not intended to serve as representations to, or a guarantee of, nor can they be relied upon with respect to, Taxes attributable to any Tax periods (or portions thereof) beginning after, or Tax positions taken after, the Closing Date.

Section 4.8 Litigation. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.8, (a) no Governmental Entity has notified in writing the Company of a pending investigation or an intention to conduct an investigation, (b) there is no Proceeding pending or, to the knowledge of Sellers, threatened against the Company and (c) there are no Orders of any Governmental Entity or arbitrator outstanding against the Company, except, in the case of each of clauses (a), (b) and (c), as would not be adverse to the Company in any material respect.

Section 4.9 Compliance with Laws. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.9, the business of the Company is not being, and, to Sellers' knowledge, since January 1, 2015 has not been, conducted in violation of any applicable Law or Order, except for possible violations which would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. Since January 1, 2015, the Company has not received any written communication from any Governmental Entity alleging that the Company is not in compliance with any Laws, except as would not be adverse to the Company in any material respect. This Section 4.9 does not relate to Section 4.7 (Tax Matters), Section 4.10 (Employee Benefits), Section 4.18 (Environmental Matters) or Section 4.19 (Labor Matters).

#### Section Employee Benefits

##### 4.10

(a) Schedule 4.10(a) contains a complete and accurate list of all "employee benefit plans," within the meaning of Section 3(3) of ERISA, whether or not subject to ERISA, all employment, consulting, change in control, bonus, incentive or deferred compensation, pension, retirement, profit-sharing, savings, stock option or other equity-based compensation, severance, medical, life, disability, accident, fringe benefit and other benefit plans, policies, programs, arrangements and agreements providing compensation or benefits of any kind, in each case maintained, sponsored, contributed to, or required to be contributed to by the Company, or with respect to which the Company would be reasonably likely to have any Liability following the Closing, including as the result of any ERISA Affiliate of the Company prior to the Closing or any guaranty or other contract or agreement in effect prior to the Closing (collectively, but excluding any Multiemployer Plans, the "Plans").

(b) The Company has provided or made available to Buyer, to the extent applicable, copies of (i) each Plan and all amendments thereto, (ii) any related trust agreement, insurance policy or other funding instrument, (iii) in the case of any Plan that is intended to be qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code, a copy of the most recent determination, opinion or advisory letter from the IRS (or a copy of any pending application for a determination letter and any related correspondence from the IRS), (iv) the most recently filed Form 5500 for each Plan, (v) the most recent summary plan description for each Plan and any subsequent summaries of material modifications, (vi) any filings relating to any Plan with any Governmental Entity within the last three years, and (vii) any

material correspondence between the Company and any Governmental Entity relating to any Plan within the last three years.

(c) Each Plan has been established, funded, operated and administered in all material respects in accordance with its terms and with applicable Law, including ERISA and the Code, where applicable. Each Plan which is intended to be qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code has received a favorable determination letter from the IRS or the current form of the Plan or an application for a determination letter is currently pending with the IRS, or such Plan is a prototype or volume submitter plan with respect to which the IRS has issued a favorable opinion letter, and the Company is not aware of any circumstances likely to result in the revocation of any such favorable determination or opinion letter. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.10(c), there is no pending or, to the knowledge of Sellers, threatened material legal action, suit or claim relating to the Plans (other than routine claims for benefits) nor, to the Sellers' knowledge, is there any basis for one. The Company has not engaged in, and does not have any Liability with respect to, a transaction with respect to any Plan that, assuming the taxable period of such transaction expired as of the date hereof, would reasonably be expected to subject the Company to a material tax or penalty imposed by either Section 4975 of the Code or Section 502(i) of ERISA.

(d) Neither the Company nor any ERISA Affiliate is sponsoring, contributing to, or required to contribute to, or has or has had in the past six years any material Liability with respect to, (i) any multiemployer plan as defined in Section 3(37) or Section 4001(a)(3) of ERISA or Section 414(f) of the Code, (ii) any plan that is subject to Section 302 or Title IV of ERISA or Sections 412 or 430 of the Code, (iii) any "multiple employer welfare arrangement" within the meaning of Section 3(40) of ERISA or (iv) any multiple employer plan within the meaning of Sections 4063 or 4064 of ERISA or Section 413(c) of the Code. The Company will not have any Liability following the Closing as the result of any entity that was an ERISA Affiliate of the Company prior to the Closing.

(e) Except as set forth on Schedule 4.10(e), no Plan provides current or former employees of the Company or their spouses, dependents or beneficiaries with post-employment health or welfare benefits by reason of employment with the Company, other than as mandated by Section 4980B of the Code or other applicable Law.

(f) All Plans subject to and not exempt from Section 409A of the Code comply in all material respects in both form and operation with Section 409A of the Code and the rules and regulations thereunder. The Company has no obligation to any Person to cause any Plan subject to and not exempt from Section 409A of the Code to provide any "gross-up" or similar payment to any Person in the event any such Plan fails to be exempt from or comply with Section 409A of the Code. The Company does not sponsor, maintain or administer any arrangements that constitute split dollar life insurance arrangements.

(g) All contributions and other remittances have been made when due with respect to each Plan or are properly accrued on the books of the Company if not yet due. All (i) insurance premiums required to be paid with respect to, (ii) benefits, expenses and other amounts due and payable under, and (iii) contributions or payments required to be made to, any Plan prior to the Closing Date will have been paid, made or accrued on or before the Closing Date. With respect to any insurance policy providing funding for benefits under any Plan, to the knowledge of Sellers,

there is no material Liability of the Company in the nature of a retroactive rate adjustment or other actual or contingent material Liability, nor, to the knowledge of Sellers, would there be any such Liability if such insurance policy was terminated on the Closing Date.

(h) Each Plan of the Company or any benefit plan of any ERISA Affiliate that is a group health plan within the meaning of Section 607(l) of ERISA and Section 4980B of the Code is in compliance in all material respects with (i) the continuation coverage requirements of Section 501 of ERISA and Section 4980B of the Code and (ii) the applicable requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended.

(i) Except as set forth on Schedule 4.10(g), (i) the execution and performance of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements (either alone or in connection with any other event) will not (A) constitute a stated triggering event under any Plan that will result in any payment (whether of severance or otherwise) becoming due from the Company to any current or former officer, employee, director, manager or consultant (or dependents of such Persons) of the Company or (B) accelerate the time of payment or vesting, or increase the amount of compensation due to any current or former officer, employee, director, manager or consultant (or the dependents of such Persons) of the Company; and (ii) no amount payable (whether in cash or property or the vesting of property) as a result of any of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements with respect to any employee, officer, director or manager of the Company who is a “disqualified individual” (as such term is defined in Section 1.280G-1 of the Treasury Regulations) under any Plan would be characterized as an “excess parachute payment” (as such term is defined in Section 280G(b)(1) of the Code). The Company has no obligation to any Person to provide any “gross-up” or similar payment to any Person as the result of any such “excess parachute payment.”

(j) The Company does not maintain, contribute to or is otherwise obligated under, any benefit plan that is maintained outside of the United States of America for the benefit of employees of the Company employed outside of the United States of America, including any mandatory government or social security pension or welfare arrangement that is contributed to, but not adopted, maintained or operated, by the Company.

Section 4.11 Permits. Schedule 4.11 sets forth a true, correct and complete list of all Permits that are necessary for the Company to conduct its operations in the manner in which they are presently conducted (collectively, “Company Permits”). The Company has all Permits that are necessary for it to conduct its operations in the manner in which they are presently conducted, other than Permits the failure of which to have would not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. All Company Permits are in full force and effect. No event has occurred or other fact exists with respect to the Company Permits that allows, or after notice or lapse of time or both would allow, revocation or termination of any of the Company Permits. There is not pending or, to the knowledge of Sellers, threatened, a Proceeding that challenges or questions the validity of or any rights of the holder under any Company Permit, except as would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. This Section 4.11 does not relate to environmental matters, which are instead the subject of Section 4.18.

Section Owned Real Property.

4.12

(a) Schedule 4.12(a) contains a true and complete list of all real property currently owned by the Company (the “Owned Real Property”).

(b) The Company is the fee simple owner and has good and marketable title to the Owned Real Property free and clear of any and all Liens, except (i) those Liens set forth in Schedule 4.12(b), (ii) Liens for taxes and assessments not yet due and payable, (iii) those Liens identified in Schedule 4.12(b) as being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings and being adequately reserved against as set forth in the Financial Statements, (iv) non-delinquent, inchoate Liens of carriers, warehousemen, mechanics and materialmen (and any other non-delinquent inchoate similar statutory Liens) incurred in the Ordinary Course by the Company and (v) easements, rights of way, title imperfections and restrictions, zoning ordinances and other similar encumbrances affecting real property that do not materially interfere with the operation of the real property that such encumbrances affect (collectively, the “Permitted Liens”).

(c) There are no outstanding options or rights of first refusal to purchase the Owned Real Property, or any portion thereof or interest therein.

(d) The Owned Real Property, together with easements appurtenant thereto, includes all of the real property used or held for use in connection with or otherwise required to carry on the business of the Company as conducted in the Ordinary Course.

(e) The Company has not received written notice of a proceeding in eminent domain or other similar proceeding affecting the Owned Real Property or written notice of any property casualty losses.

Section 4.13 Leases. The Company is not a lessee of any real property. Schedule 4.13(a) contains a true and complete list of all real property leases to which the Company is a lessor (the “Leases”). The Company has made available to Buyer true and complete copies of the Leases. Except as disclosed in Schedule 4.13(a), (i) each of the Leases is in full force and effect and is enforceable against the lessee which is party thereto in accordance with its terms, and (ii) none of the Company, and to the Sellers’ knowledge, no other party, is in default under any Lease, except (x) in the case of clause (i), as such enforceability may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization and similar Laws affecting creditors generally and by the availability of equitable remedies, and (y) in the cases of clauses (i) and (ii), for such failures to be enforceable or such defaults as would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

Section 4.14 Personal Property; Sufficiency of Assets; Condition of Assets. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.14 and subject to the Transition Services Agreement, the Company has good title to, or a valid leasehold interest in, all personal properties, machinery, equipment and other tangible assets of its business (the “Tangible Property”) necessary for the conduct of the business as presently conducted by the Company. All Tangible Property owned by the Company is owned free and clear of all Liens other than Permitted Liens. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.14, the Company’s assets, properties and rights, whether tangible or intangible and including the structures, improvements and fixtures at or upon the Owned Real Property are in the possession or control of

the Company are in good operating condition, subject to normal wear and tear, have no material deferred maintenance obligation and have been maintained in material compliance with all applicable warranties.

Section Intellectual Property.

4.15

(a) Schedule 4.15(a) sets forth a true and complete list, as of the date hereof, of all Company Intellectual Property. The term “Intellectual Property” means all trademarks, service marks, trade names, copyrights, trade secrets, domain names, software (other than commercially available software) and patents, including patent applications, including registrations and applications to register or renew the registration of any of the foregoing. The term “Company Intellectual Property” means Intellectual Property owned by the Company that is used or held for use in or necessary for the conduct of the business of the Company. To the knowledge of Sellers, except as set forth in Schedule 4.15(a), (i) the conduct of the business of the Company as currently conducted does not infringe on the Intellectual Property rights of any third-party, and (ii) to Sellers’ knowledge, there is no claim of any Person that challenges the rights of the Company in respect of any Intellectual Property; except, in each case, for infringements or claims that would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

(b) Schedule 4.15(b) sets forth a true and complete list, as of the date hereof, of all Licenses. The term “Licenses” means all material written licenses to which the Company is a party, pursuant to which (i) the Company grants any Person any royalty-bearing or exclusive right to use any of the Company Intellectual Property, or (ii) any Person or entity grants the Company the right to use Intellectual Property not owned by the Company. The Company has furnished or made available to Buyer true and correct copies of the Licenses listed in Schedule 4.15(b) (other than commercially available software). None of the Company, or, to the knowledge of Sellers, any other party thereto, is in default under any License, and each License is in full force and effect as to the Company, and to the knowledge of Sellers, as to each other party thereto, except for such defaults and failures to be so in full force and effect as would not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

Section Material Contracts.

4.16

(a) Schedule 4.16(a) contains a true and complete list, as of the date hereof, of all Material Contracts. The term “Material Contracts” means all of the following types of contracts and agreements to which the Company is a party:

(i) all written contracts and agreements with current officers, board advisors, other employees, consultants, advisors, or sales representatives of the Company, other than (A) contracts and agreements that by their terms may be terminated or canceled by the Company with notice of not more than the greater of 120 days and the period of notice required under applicable Law, in each case, without penalty, (B) contracts and agreements relating to severance payments not in excess of \$100,000 in any one case, and (C) contracts and agreements that provide for payments based solely on sales and require no minimum payments;



- (ii) all collective bargaining agreements or other agreements with any labor union currently representing employees of the Company;
- (iii) all mortgages, indentures, security agreements, notes, loan or credit agreements or guarantees of the Indebtedness of a third-party (other than the Company);
- (iv) any hedging arrangement;
- (v) joint venture, limited partnership, teaming agreements or profit or loss sharing agreements and agreements or commitments to make an equity investment in any Person;
- (vi) contracts, agreements and other instruments and arrangements (or group of related contracts, agreements or other instruments and arrangements) for the purchase by the Company of materials, supplies, products or services, and contracts, agreements and other instruments or arrangements (or group of related contracts, agreements or other instruments and arrangements) for the sale or provision by the Company of materials, supplies, products or services, in each case, not to be fully performed within 180 days or less and not terminable on notice of 90 days or less without penalty, and under which the amount that would reasonably be expected to be paid or received by the Company exceeds \$250,000 per annum or \$250,000 in the aggregate;
- (vii) all contracts, agreements and other instruments and arrangements, for the purchase by the Company of materials, supplies, products or services under which such supplier is a sole source supplier and under which the amount that would reasonably be expected to be paid by the Company exceeds \$250,000 per annum or \$250,000 in the aggregate;
- (viii) any lease (or group of related leases with the same Person or for the same materials, products, equipment, services or supplies) other than the Leases under which the Company is lessor or lessee and which requires the Company to make annual payments in excess of \$100,000 and that is not terminable on notice of 90 days or less without penalty;
- (ix) any agreement or series of related agreements, including any option agreement, relating to the acquisition or disposition by the Company of any business, a material amount of stock or assets of any other Person or any material real property (whether by merger, sale of stock, sale of assets or otherwise);
- (x) any agreement that (i) limits the freedom of the Company to knowingly solicit any Person or compete in any line of business or with any Person or in any area or that would so limit the freedom of the Company after the Closing, or (ii) contains exclusivity obligations or restrictions binding on the Company;
- (xi) any non-disclosure or confidentiality agreement not entered into in the Ordinary Course (other than any such agreement entered into in connection with a potential sale of the Company or the Membership Interests);

(xii) stockholder agreements, voting trusts, limited liability company or operating agreements or other agreements or understandings to which the Company is a party or to which the Company is bound relating to the voting, purchase, redemption or other acquisition of any membership interests of Company;

(xiii) any license agreement, either as licensor or licensee, involving payments of \$100,000 in the aggregate or more, or any distributor, dealer, reseller, franchise, manufacturer's representative, or sales agency or any other similar contract or commitment involving payments of \$100,000 in the aggregate or more;

(xiv) any agreement granting exclusive rights to, or providing for the sale of, all or any portion of any rights in or to the Intellectual Property owned, maintained, or utilized by the Company which requires the Company to make annual payments in excess of \$250,000;

(xv) any agreement or commitment for the acquisition, construction or sale of fixed assets owned or to be owned by the Company that involves future payments of more than \$100,000;

(xvi) any agreement or commitment providing for capital expenditures in excess of \$100,000 in any one year;

(xvii) any power of attorney or similar grant of agency by the Company;

(xviii) any agreements made by the Company with any of the customers or suppliers set forth on Schedule 4.22; and

(xix) any contract or agreement (not otherwise required to be included in Schedule 4.16(a) pursuant to Section 4.16(a)(i)-(xviii) above) involving aggregate payments in excess of \$250,000 to be made by or to the Company after the date hereof.

(b) The Company has delivered or made available to Buyer true and complete copies of each Material Contract. Except as set forth on Schedule 4.16(b), each Material Contract is valid and binding on the Company and, to Sellers' knowledge, each other party thereto and is in full force and effect and enforceable in accordance with its terms (except as such enforceability may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization and similar Laws affecting creditors generally and by the availability of equitable remedies) and none of the Company or, to the knowledge of Sellers, any other party thereto, has materially breached any provision of, or materially defaulted under the terms of any such contract and no event has occurred that, with the passage of time or the giving of notice or both, would constitute a material default or breach by the Company or, to Sellers' knowledge, constitute a material breach or default of any other party to such contract, or would permit material modification or acceleration or termination of any such contract, or result in the creation of a material Lien on any of the assets of the Company or the Membership Interests. To Sellers' knowledge, no party to any such contract has repudiated in writing any of the terms thereof or threatened in writing to terminate, cancel or not renew such contract.

Section 4.17 Insurance. Schedule 4.17 sets forth a true and complete list of all of the policies of insurance carried by the Company within the three years preceding the date of this Agreement for the benefit of or in connection with the business of the Company and the applicable termination or renewal dates of such policies. Each such policy is in full force and effect and no notice of termination or cancellation of any such policy has been received by the Company. There is no breach by the Company or, to the knowledge of Sellers, by any other party of any term or condition of any policy. All policy premiums due and payable prior to the Closing have been or will be (on or prior to the Closing Date) paid up to and through the Closing.

Section Environmental Matters.

4.18

(a) Schedule 4.18(a) sets forth a list of all Permits that are currently required pursuant to Environmental Law for the Company to conduct its operations in the manner in which they are presently conducted (collectively, "Company Environmental Permits").

(b) Except as described in Schedule 4.18(b) or as would not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect:

(i) the Company is, and to the knowledge of Sellers, has been since January 1, 2015, in compliance with all Environmental Laws;

(ii) no Governmental Entity has notified in writing the Company of a pending investigation or an intention to conduct an investigation with respect to any violation of Environmental Laws;

(iii) there is no Proceeding pending or, to the knowledge of Sellers, threatened against the Company by any Governmental Entity with respect to any violation of Environmental Laws;

(iv) to the knowledge of Sellers, no Release has occurred at or from any Owned Real Property and no Hazardous Substances are present in, on, or under the Owned Real Property for which the Company would reasonably be expected to be required, pursuant to Environmental Law, to conduct any cleanup or other response action;

(v) to the knowledge of Sellers, the Company has not received any written notice, or request for information regarding any liability under Environmental Laws with regard to the presence of Hazardous Substances at any Owned Real Property or at any third-party facility at which the Company disposed of, arranged for or permitted the disposal of, any Hazardous Substances; and

(vi) (A) the Company is, and to the knowledge of Sellers, has been since January 1, 2015, in compliance with all Company Environmental Permits, (B) all Company Environmental Permits are in full force and effect, (C) to the knowledge of Sellers, no event has occurred or other fact exists with respect to the Company Environmental Permits that allows, or after notice or lapse of time or both would allow, revocation or termination of any of the Company Environmental Permits and (D) there is not pending or, to the knowledge

of Sellers, threatened, a Proceeding that challenges or questions the validity of or any rights of the holder under any Company Environmental Permit.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the representations and warranties made in this Section 4.18 and Section 4.11 contain the sole and exclusive representations and warranties of the Company relating to Environmental Laws and environmental matters.

Section Labor Matters.  
4.19

(a) As of the date hereof, the Company is a party to the collective bargaining agreements set forth in Schedule 4.19(a).

(b) Except as set forth in Schedule 4.19(b), (a) there is no labor strike, material labor dispute, or concerted work stoppage currently pending or, to the knowledge of Sellers, threatened, and, since the Most Recent Balance Sheet Date, the Company has not experienced any labor strike or material concerted labor dispute and (b) the Company has complied with all applicable labor and employment Laws, including under ERISA and the Code, in connection with the employment of its employees (including correct classification of all individuals who perform services for the Company for all purposes), except for any failure to comply that would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

Section 4.20 Affiliate Transactions. Schedule 4.20 sets forth a list of all services provided by Sellers or any Affiliate of Sellers (other than the Company) to the Company. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.20, (i) none of the Company or its officers, managers, board advisors or members are party to any agreement with Sellers or any Affiliate of Sellers (other than the Company) and (ii) Sellers do not have any interest in any of assets or property owned by the Company or used in the conduct of the Company's businesses and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, no Indebtedness (actual or contingent) is outstanding between the Company, on the one hand, and Sellers or an Affiliate of Sellers (other than the Company) on the other hand.

Section 4.21 Accounts Receivable. The accounts receivable of the Company reflected in the Financial Statements and such additional accounts receivable as are reflected on the books of the Company on the date hereof (a) are valid, genuine and subsisting, arise out of bona fide sales and deliveries of goods, performance of services or other business transactions and are not subject to defenses, set-offs or counterclaims, and (b) have not been assigned or pledged to any Person. Schedule 4.21 sets forth all accounts receivable (including the account receivable debtor) that have been outstanding for more than 120 days.

Section 4.22 Customers and Suppliers. Schedule 4.22 sets forth the 10 largest suppliers (in terms of dollars spent by the Company) and the 10 largest customers (in terms of dollars billed by the Company) of the Company during the calendar year 2016 and from January 1, 2017 to the date hereof, together with the dollar amount of goods purchased by the Company from each such supplier and the dollar amount billed by the Company to each customer during each such period (the "Major Business Partners"). Except as otherwise set forth in Schedule 4.22, the Company maintains good relations with its respective Major Business Partners, and no such party has canceled,

terminated or materially modified or, to the knowledge of Sellers, made any threat in writing to cancel, terminate or otherwise materially modify its relationship with or to decrease its services or supplies to or its direct or indirect purchase or usage of the products or services of the Company. No material rebates (volume or otherwise), discounts or benefits are due, accruing due or payable to any customer of the Company except in the Ordinary Course. Except as set forth on Schedule 4.22, no supplier of the Company is a sole source supplier, nor during the last 12 months, has the Company been dependent upon any one supplier for more than 10% by value of its purchases.

Section 4.23 Inventory. All of the Inventory consists of a quality and quantity usable and salable in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice, subject to normal and customary allowances in the industry for spoilage and damage. All items included in the Inventory are the property of Sellers, free and clear of any Lien other than Permitted Liens, have not been pledged as collateral and conform in all material respects to all standards applicable to such inventory or its use or sale imposed by Governmental Entities.

Section 4.24 Bank and Brokerage Accounts. Schedule 4.24 sets forth (a) a true and complete list of the names and locations of all banks, trust companies, securities brokers and other financial institutions at which the Company has an account or safe deposit box or maintains a banking, custodial, trading or other similar relationship and (b) a true and complete list and description of each such account, box and relationship, indicating in each case the account number and the names of the respective officers, employees, agents or other similar representatives of the Company having signatory power with respect thereto.

Section 4.25 No Powers of Attorney. Except as set forth in Schedule 4.25, the Company does not have any powers of attorney or comparable delegations of authority outstanding.

Section 4.26 Certain Business Practices. Neither the Company nor, to the Sellers' knowledge, any of its directors, officers, agents, employees or any other Persons acting on the Company's behalf has, in connection with the operation of its businesses, (a) used any corporate or other funds for unlawful contributions, payments, gifts or entertainment, or made any unlawful expenditures relating to political activity to government officials, candidates or members of political parties or organizations, or established or maintained any unlawful or unrecorded funds in violation of Section 104 of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, as amended, or any other similar applicable foreign, federal or state Law, (b) paid, accepted or received any unlawful contributions, payments, expenditures or gifts, or (c) violated or operated in noncompliance with any export restrictions, anti-boycott regulations, embargo regulations or other applicable domestic or foreign Laws.

Section 4.27 Brokers and Finders. Other than Guggenheim Securities, LLC, the Company has not employed any broker or finder in connection with the transactions contemplated herein so as to give rise to any claim against Buyer or the Company for any brokerage or finder's commission, fee or similar compensation.

ARTICLE V  
REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES  
OF BUYER AND MERGER SUB

Except as otherwise indicated on the Schedules, each of Buyer and Merger Sub represents and warrants to Sellers as follows:

Section 5.1 Organization. Each of Buyer and Merger Sub is a limited liability company duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the Laws of the State of Delaware.

Section 5.2 Authorization, etc. Each of Buyer and Merger Sub has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which it is a party, and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby and to perform its obligations hereunder and thereunder. The execution and delivery of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which it is a party, and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby have been duly authorized by all requisite action on the part of Buyer and Merger Sub. This Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements have been duly executed and delivered by Buyer and/or Merger Sub (as applicable) and constitute (assuming due authorization, execution and delivery by Sellers with respect to the Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which they are parties) the legal, valid and binding obligations of Buyer and/or Merger Sub enforceable against Buyer and/or Merger Sub in accordance with their respective terms, except as limited by Laws affecting the enforcement of creditor's rights generally or by general equitable principles.

Section Conflicts, Consents.

5.3

(a) Conflicts. The execution and delivery by Buyer and Merger Sub of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which it is a party, and the consummation by Buyer and Merger Sub of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby, will not conflict with or result in any violation of or default under (or any event that, with notice or lapse of time or both, would constitute a default under), or give rise to a right of termination, cancellation or acceleration of any obligation or to loss of a benefit under, any provision of (i) the Organizational Documents of Buyer or Merger Sub, (ii) any mortgage, indenture, loan agreement, note, bond, deed of trust, other agreement, commitment or obligation for the borrowing of money or the obtaining of credit, material lease or other material agreement, contract, license, franchise, permit or instrument to which Buyer and/or Merger Sub is a party or by which it may be bound, or (iii) any Law or Order applicable to Buyer and/or Merger Sub, other than, in the case of clause (ii), any conflicts, violations or defaults that would not reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on the ability of Buyer and/or Merger Sub to consummate the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements.

(b) Consents. Except as may be required under the HSR Act, no Consent of or with any Governmental Entity or third Person is required to be obtained by Buyer and/or Merger Sub in connection with the execution and delivery by Buyer and Merger Sub of this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements to which it is a party, or the consummation by Buyer and Merger Sub of the transactions contemplated hereby or thereby.

Section 5.4 Litigation. There is no Proceeding pending or, to Buyer's knowledge, threatened against Buyer and/or Merger Sub that would have a material adverse effect on the ability of Buyer and/or Merger Sub to consummate the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements.

Section 5.5 Purchase for Investment. Pursuant to the Transaction, Buyer is, in effect, acquiring the Membership Interests for its own account for investment and not with a view toward any resale or distribution thereof except in compliance with the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Section 5.6 Sufficient Funds. At the Closing, Buyer will provide Merger Sub with sufficient funds to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby and to pay (i) the Cash Consideration Amount, and (ii) all fees and expenses related to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement with respect to which Buyer or any of its Affiliates are responsible.

Section 5.7 Brokers and Finders. Neither Buyer nor any of its Affiliates have employed any broker or finder in connection with the transactions contemplated herein so as to give rise to any claim against Sellers or the Company for any brokerage or finder's commission, fee or similar compensation.

Section 5.8 Inspections; No Other Representations. Each of Buyer and Merger Sub is an informed and sophisticated purchaser, and has engaged advisors, experienced in the evaluation and purchase of companies such as the Company as contemplated hereunder. Each of Buyer and Merger Sub has undertaken such investigation and has been provided with and has evaluated such documents and information as it has deemed necessary to enable it to make an informed and intelligent decision with respect to the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which it is a party. Each of Buyer and Merger Sub acknowledges that Sellers and the Company have given Buyer and Merger Sub access to the key employees, documents and facilities of the Company. Each of Buyer and Merger Sub will undertake prior to the Closing such further investigation and request such additional documents and information as it deems necessary. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, each of Buyer and Merger Sub acknowledges that neither Seller has made or makes any representation or warranty, either expressed or implied, except as exclusively set forth in this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements or any certificates delivered pursuant to this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements including without limitation, with respect to (a) any projections, estimates or budgets delivered to or made available to Buyer or Merger Sub of future revenues, future results of operations (or any component thereof), future cash flows or future financial condition (or any component thereof) of the Company or the future business and operations of the Company or (b) any other information or documents made available to Buyer or Merger Sub or their counsel, accountants or advisors with respect to the Company or its respective businesses or operations, except as expressly set forth in this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements.

## ARTICLE VI

### COVENANTS

#### Section Board Advisors and Officers.

6.1

(a) From, and for a period of six years following, the Closing Date, Buyer shall, or shall cause the Surviving Company to, indemnify and hold harmless each present and former board advisor and officer of the Company and the Surviving Company (each, a “Company Indemnified Party”, collectively, the “Company Indemnified Parties”), who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any claim, action, suit, proceeding or investigation, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that such Company Indemnified Party is or was a board advisor, officer, employee or agent of the Company or Surviving Company, against any and all costs or expenses (including, without limitation, travel expenses and reasonable attorneys’ fees), judgments, fines, losses, claims, damages, Liabilities and amounts paid in defense or settlement or otherwise arising out of or pertaining to any facts or events existing or occurring at or prior to the Closing Date to the extent permitted as of the date hereof by applicable Law and by the Organizational Documents of the Surviving Company. Buyer shall, or shall cause the Surviving Company to, advance expenses to a Company Indemnified Party, as incurred, to the extent such advances are permitted as of the date hereof by applicable Law and by the Organizational Documents of the Surviving Company; provided, that the Company Indemnified Party to whom expenses are advanced provides an undertaking to repay such advances if it is ultimately determined that such Company Indemnified Party is not entitled to indemnification. In the event of any such claim, action, suit, proceeding or investigation (whether arising before or after the Closing Date), (i) the Company Indemnified Parties shall promptly notify Buyer and the Surviving Company thereof, (ii) any counsel retained by the Company Indemnified Parties for any period after the Closing Date shall be subject to the consent of Buyer and the Surviving Company (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed), (iii) none of Buyer and the Surviving Company shall be obligated to pay for more than one firm of counsel for all Company Indemnified Parties, except to the extent that (A) a Company Indemnified Party has been advised by counsel that there are conflicting interests between it and any other Company Indemnified Party or (B) local counsel, in addition to such other counsel, is required to effectively defend against such action or proceedings, and (iv) neither Buyer nor the Surviving Company shall be liable for any settlement effected without its written consent (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed). Neither Buyer nor the Surviving Company shall have any obligation hereunder to any Company Indemnified Party when and if a court of competent jurisdiction shall ultimately determine (and such determination shall have become final and non-appealable) that the indemnification of such Company Indemnified Party in the manner contemplated hereby is prohibited by applicable Law.

(b) If Buyer or the Surviving Company or any of their successors or assigns (i) shall merge or consolidate with or merge into any other corporation or entity and shall not be the surviving or continuing corporation or entity of such consolidation or merger or (ii) shall transfer all or substantially all of their respective properties and assets to any individual, corporation or other entity, then in each such case, proper provisions shall be made so that the successors or assigns of Buyer or the Surviving Company shall assume all of the obligations set forth in Section 6.1(a).

(c) Prior to the Closing Date, the Company shall purchase a single tail insurance policy covering each Person currently covered by the Company’s “directors and officers” insurance policy, with respect to matters or circumstances occurring at or prior to the Closing Date. All amounts paid



or payable by the Company pursuant to this Section 6.1 shall be treated as a Transaction Related Expense of the Company for purposes of this Agreement.

Section Tax Matters.

6.2

(a) After the Closing Date, the Sellers' Representative shall prepare or cause to be prepared and file or cause to be filed all federal income Tax Returns of the Company (and all state and local income Tax Returns for jurisdictions where the Company is treated as a partnership for income Tax purposes) for periods ending on or before the Closing Date. Buyer shall, and shall cause the Company to, provide to Sellers' Representative such cooperation and information as may be reasonably requested in connection with the filing of any such Tax Return or in conducting any audit, litigation or other proceeding with respect thereto.

(b) Buyer shall prepare and file as required by applicable Law with the appropriate Governmental Entity (or cause to be prepared and filed) in a timely manner all Tax Returns of the Company, other than those described in Section 6.2(a), that are required to be filed after the Closing Date. Buyer shall prepare any such Tax Returns relating to Taxes for which Sellers may have an indemnification obligation to Buyer under this Agreement or where the Company is treated as a partnership for income Tax purposes consistent with Sellers' and the Company's recent past practices, except as otherwise required by applicable Law, and make any Tax Returns relating to Taxes for which Sellers may have an indemnification obligation under this Agreement or where the Company is treated as a partnership for income Tax purposes available for review by Sellers' Representative no later than 30 days prior to the due date for filing such Tax Returns to provide Sellers' Representative with a meaningful opportunity to analyze and comment on such Tax Returns and for such Tax Returns to be modified, as appropriate, before filing. Buyer will consider any comments of Sellers' Representative relating to Tax Returns described in the preceding sentence. In the event of any disagreement between Buyer and Sellers' Representative relating to any such Tax Returns, such disagreement shall be resolved by an Accounting Referee, and any such determination by the Accounting Referee shall be final. The fees and expenses of the Accounting Referee shall be borne equally by Buyer, on the one hand, and Sellers, on the other hand. Subject to the limitations set forth in Article IX, each Seller shall pay to Buyer its Proportionate Percentage of the Indemnified Taxes with respect to any Tax Return subject to this Section 6.2(b) no later than five calendar days before the due date for such Tax Return. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, if the Promissory Notes are issued, (i) the Company shall not allocate to Sellers any item of net or gross income, gain, loss, expense or deduction of the Company that accrues after the Closing Date and (ii) in determining each Seller's allocable share of taxable income of the Company for the portion of the Company's current taxable year ending on the Closing Date, the Company shall utilize the interim closing method and the calendar day convention pursuant to Treasury Regulation Section 1.706-4.

(c) After the Closing, Buyer and its Affiliates shall not amend any Tax Return of the Company that could affect the Tax liability of Sellers or increase any indemnification obligation of Sellers pursuant to this Agreement, without Sellers' Representative's consent, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld in the case of non-income Tax Returns.

(d) Buyer covenants that without obtaining the prior written consent of Sellers' Representative, it will not, and will not cause or permit the Company to, take any action on the Closing Date after the Closing other than in the Ordinary Course that could reasonably be expected to give rise to any liability for Taxes of Sellers or any indemnification obligation of Sellers.

(e) Buyer and Sellers shall (and shall cause their respective Affiliates to) (i) provide the other party and its Affiliates with such assistance as may be reasonably requested in connection with the preparation of any Tax Return or any audit or other examination by any taxing authority or any judicial or administrative proceeding relating to Taxes and (ii) retain (and provide the other party and its Affiliates with reasonable access to) all records or information which may be relevant to such Tax Return, audit, examination or proceeding, provided, that the foregoing shall be done in a manner so as not to interfere unreasonably with the conduct of the business of the parties.

(f) All refunds (or credits in lieu of refunds) of Taxes (including interest actually received thereon from a relevant taxing authority) paid prior to the Closing, or for which Sellers have provided indemnification pursuant to this Agreement shall be for the account of Sellers, and Buyer shall promptly pay such amounts, less Buyer's reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, including professional fees, incurred in connection with obtaining any such refund or credit and less any Taxes incurred by Buyer, its Affiliates or the Company in connection with the receipt of any such refund, credit or interest, to Sellers if such refunds or credits are utilized or received by Buyer or the Company.

(g) Buyer shall be liable for all transfer, documentary, sales, use, stamp, registration, value added and other similar Taxes and fees (including any penalties and interest) incurred in connection with transactions contemplated by this Agreement (including any real property transfer tax and any similar Tax) ("Transfer Taxes"). Buyer shall file all Tax Returns relating to Transfer Taxes.

(h) The Company shall elect pursuant to Section 754 of the Code to adjust the basis of the Company's property.

#### Section Employee Benefits.

##### 6.3

(a) Buyer shall, or shall cause the Surviving Company to, provide each employee of the Company immediately prior to the Closing Date who continues in the employment of Buyer or any of its Subsidiaries (including the Surviving Company) on or following the Closing Date (each, a "Company Employee") with compensation and benefits that are not less favorable than such Company Employee's compensation and benefits as in effect immediately prior to the Closing. In addition, Buyer shall offer to enter into an employment agreement with each Key Company Employee, which employment agreement shall be based on Buyer's standard form of employment agreement for management personnel, shall be effective as of the Closing, and shall provide that if Buyer or the Surviving Company (x) reduces such Key Company Employee's base salary within one year following the Closing Date, (y) requires such Key Company Employee to relocate within one year following the Closing Date, or (z) terminates such Key Company Employee within one year from the Closing Date for any reason other than for Cause, then Buyer or the Surviving Company shall pay to such Key Company Employee severance in an amount equal to such Key Company

Employee's annual base salary as in effect immediately prior to the Closing; provided that Buyer, in its sole discretion, may elect not to offer such an employment agreement to any particular Key Company Employee if Buyer instead terminates the employment of such Key Company Employee within five days following the Closing Date and pays to such Key Company Employee severance in an amount equal to such Key Company Employee's annual base salary as in effect immediately prior to the Closing; and provided further that any such severance payment shall be payable in one lump sum, less applicable withholding Taxes, within thirty (30) days following the applicable termination of employment (but in all events in the later calendar year if such 30-day payment period spans two calendar years). In order for a Key Company Employee to receive any severance payment contemplated by the immediately preceding sentence, the Key Company Employee must execute a reasonable and customary release of claims agreement in favor of the Surviving Company, Sellers, Buyer, their respective Affiliates, and all of their respective officers, employees, directors, parents and Affiliates; provided that in no event shall such release of claims agreement contain any (or any increased, whether in scope or duration) restrictive covenant, similar obligation, or other post-termination requirement

(b) The Company shall be responsible for giving notice of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement to any labor union or labor organization that is party to any collective bargaining contract with the Company prior to the Closing Date and shall engage in any "effects" bargaining with such labor union or labor organization, if and to the extent required by applicable Law.

(c) With respect to each employee benefit plan maintained by Buyer or its Subsidiaries in which a Company Employee becomes a participant, Buyer shall, or shall cause the Surviving Company to, fully credit each participating Company Employee for all purposes under such employee benefit plan for such Company Employee's service with the Company prior to the Closing Date; provided, that no such service credit need be given for purposes of benefit accruals under any defined benefit pension plan or where such credit would result in a duplication of benefits.

(d) With respect to each employee benefit plan in which any Company Employee becomes a participant, Buyer shall, or shall cause the Surviving Company to, (i) fully credit each participating Company Employee for any coinsurance, copayments and deductibles paid and for amounts paid toward any out-of-pocket maximums under any similar or comparable Plan prior to the date the Company Employee becomes a participant in such employee benefit plan with respect to the calendar year in which such participation commences and (ii) waive all limitations as to pre-existing conditions and exclusions with respect to participation and coverage requirements applicable to such Company Employees.

(e) Buyer shall not and shall cause the Surviving Company not to take any action following the Closing that could result in Liability to Sellers under the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act or any similar or comparable Law.

(f) From and after the Closing, Buyer and the "buying group" (as defined in Treasury Regulation Section 54.4980B-9, Q&A-2(c)) of which it is a part shall be solely responsible for providing COBRA continuation coverage pursuant to (i) Section 4980B(f) of the Code, Part 6 of Subtitle B of Title I of ERISA and similar state Law to those individuals who are M&A qualified beneficiaries (as defined in Treasury Regulation Section 54.4980B-9, Q&A-4(b)) with respect to

the transactions contemplated by this Agreement (the “M&A Qualified Beneficiaries”), and (ii) Title III of Division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as amended, and all guidance promulgated thereunder, to the extent applicable with respect to the M&A Qualified Beneficiaries.

(g) Nothing in this Section 6.3 shall (i) create any third-party beneficiary rights in any Person, including any Company Employee (and any beneficiary or dependent thereof); (ii) obligate the Surviving Company, Buyer, Sellers or any of their respective Affiliates to retain the employment of any particular employee; or (iii) be deemed to modify, amend, terminate or otherwise affect any employee benefit plan, program, contract, agreement, policy or arrangement, including any Plan.

Section Use of Names.

6.4

(a) As soon as reasonably practicable but in no event later than six months following the Closing Date, Sellers shall, and shall cause their respective Affiliates to (i) cease to use the name “Illinois Corn Processing, LLC” or any service marks, trademarks, trade names, identifying symbols, logos, emblems, signs or insignia related thereto or containing or comprising the foregoing, including any name or mark confusingly similar thereto (collectively, the “Buyer Subject Marks”) and (ii) remove, strike over or otherwise obliterate all Buyer Subject Marks from all materials including, without limitation, any vehicles, business cards, schedules, stationery, packaging materials, displays, signs, promotional materials, manuals, forms, computer software and other materials.

(b) As soon as reasonably practicable but in no event later than six months following the Closing Date, Buyer shall, and shall cause its Affiliates to (i) cease to use the name “SEACOR”, “MGP” or any service marks, trademarks, trade names, identifying symbols, logos, emblems, signs or insignia related thereto or containing or comprising the foregoing, including any name or mark confusingly similar thereto (collectively, the “Sellers Subject Marks”) and (ii) remove, strike over or otherwise obliterate all Sellers Subject Marks from all materials including, without limitation, any vehicles, business cards, schedules, stationery, packaging materials, displays, signs, promotional materials, manuals, forms, computer software and other materials.

Section Confidential Information; Access to Information.

6.5

(a) Confidential Information.

(i) Prior to the Closing Date and after any termination of this Agreement, Buyer and its Affiliates will hold in confidence, pursuant and subject to the terms of the Confidentiality Agreement, all confidential documents and information concerning the Company furnished to, or prepared by, Buyer or its Affiliates in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

(ii) For a period of two years following the Closing Date, Sellers agree to, and shall instruct Sellers’ agents, representatives and Affiliates to, treat and hold as confidential, and not disclose, furnish, disseminate, publish, or make available, any Confidential Information of the Company possessed by or known to Sellers, whether procured before or after the Closing Date. Either Seller may disclose any such Confidential Information to

such Seller's representatives and agents as may be reasonably necessary in order to enable such Seller to carry out the provisions of this Agreement; provided, that before any such disclosure, such Seller shall make those representatives and agents aware of such Seller's obligations of confidentiality under this Agreement and shall be responsible for any non-compliance by, those representatives or agents with such confidentiality obligations.

(A) Notwithstanding the foregoing, Sellers shall be permitted to disclose any and all Confidential Information (1) to prepare the Sellers' annual and interim financial statements, (2) to comply with reporting, disclosure, filing or other requirements imposed on the Sellers (including under applicable securities and Tax Laws) by a Governmental Entity having jurisdiction over the Sellers or (3) for use in any other judicial, regulatory, administrative or other Proceeding or in order to satisfy audit, accounting, claims, regulatory, litigation or other similar legal or regulatory requirements.

(B) Sellers specifically acknowledge (1) that the Confidential Information of the Company derives independent economic value from not being readily known to or ascertainable by proper means by others who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use, (2) that reasonable efforts have been made by the Company prior to Closing to maintain the secrecy of such information and (3) upon Closing, such information is the sole property of the Company and Buyer.

(C) In the event that Sellers or anyone to whom Sellers disclosed any Confidential Information shall be legally compelled or required by any Governmental Entity to disclose any Confidential Information of the Company, Sellers agree, except as may be prohibited by Law, to promptly provide written notice to Buyer to enable Buyer, at Buyer's cost and expense, to seek a protective order, in camera process or other appropriate remedy to avoid public or third-party disclosure of such Confidential Information. In the event that such protective order or other remedy is not obtained, Sellers shall furnish only so much of such Confidential Information as it is legally compelled to disclose (upon advice of such Seller's legal counsel) and shall exercise Sellers' commercially reasonable efforts to obtain reliable assurance that confidential treatment will be accorded such Confidential Information. Such Confidential Information shall otherwise remain subject to the provision of this Section 6.5. Sellers shall cooperate with and assist Buyer in seeking any protective order or other relief requested pursuant to this Section 6.5.

(iii) The parties hereto hereby agree that, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Confidentiality Agreement, the Confidentiality Agreement is hereby terminated in its entirety effective immediately upon the Closing.

(b) Access to Information.

(i) Prior to the Closing, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Confidentiality Agreement, and to the extent permitted by applicable Law, the Company shall permit Buyer and its representatives after the date of execution of this Agreement to have reasonable

access, during regular business hours, to the properties, books and records in its possession or control relating to the Company as Buyer may reasonably request; provided, that Buyer shall not be entitled to any such access to any Owned Real Property for the purposes of conducting any environmental audit or assessment without the prior written consent of the Company and Sellers and in no event shall Buyer be allowed to conduct any intrusive soil or groundwater sampling or investigation. All information provided or obtained pursuant to the foregoing shall be held by Buyer in accordance with and subject to the terms of the Confidentiality Agreement. Buyer hereby agrees that the provisions of the Confidentiality Agreement will apply to any properties, books, records, data, documents and other information relating to the Company and Sellers provided to Buyer or its Affiliates or any of their respective advisers or employees pursuant to this Agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, neither Sellers nor the Company shall be required to disclose any information to Buyer if such disclosure would, in Sellers' sole discretion (A) cause significant competitive harm to Sellers, the Company and their respective businesses if the transactions contemplated by this Agreement are not consummated, (B) jeopardize any attorney-client or other privilege or (C) contravene any applicable Law, fiduciary duty or binding agreement entered into prior to the date of this Agreement.

(ii) For a period of three years following the Closing Date or, in the case of Taxes, until the expiration of the relevant statute of limitations:

(A) Buyer, agrees to use reasonable efforts to provide, or cause to be provided, to Sellers, as soon as reasonably practicable after written request therefor, any information in the possession or under the control of the Buyer which Sellers reasonably need (1) to prepare Sellers' annual and interim financial statements, (2) to comply with reporting, disclosure, filing or other requirements imposed on Sellers (including under applicable securities and Tax Laws) by a Governmental Entity having jurisdiction over Sellers or (3) for use in any other judicial, regulatory, administrative or other proceeding or in order to satisfy audit, accounting, claims, regulatory, litigation or other similar legal or regulatory requirements.

(B) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Buyer Group shall use reasonable efforts to cooperate with Sellers' information requests to enable (1) Sellers to meet their respective timetables for dissemination of its earnings releases, financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of its disclosure controls and procedures and its internal control over financial reporting in accordance with Items 307 and 308, respectively, of Regulation S-K and (2) Sellers' respective auditors to timely complete their review of the quarterly financial statements and audit of the annual financial statements, including, to the extent applicable, the audit of Sellers' internal control over financial reporting and management's assessment thereof in accordance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 and the Securities and Exchange Commission's and Public Company Accounting Oversight Board's rules and auditing standards thereunder. Buyer acknowledges that Holdings is a "large accelerated filer" and MGP is an

“accelerated filer,” each as defined in Rule 12b-2(b) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(C) The Buyer Group agrees to use commercially reasonable efforts to retain all such information in its possession or control in accordance with its ordinary course practices.

Section 6.6 Conduct of the Company. Except (a) as set forth in Schedule 6.6, (b) for entering into and performing this Agreement or any of the Ancillary Agreements, (c) for the effect of the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, (d) as contemplated by the Company’s budget heretofore made available to Buyer, or (e) as otherwise consented to by Buyer in writing, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed, from the date hereof until the Closing or the earlier termination of this Agreement in accordance with Section 10.1, the Company shall (i) conduct its business in the ordinary course in substantially the same manner in which it previously has been conducted, (ii) not take any action that would, if it occurred prior to the date hereof, have been required to be disclosed pursuant to Section 4.6 (provided, however, that, for the avoidance of doubt, dividends or distributions of cash and cash equivalents to the Sellers in proportion to their Proportionate Percentage are expressly permitted to be made at any time and in any amount prior to the Closing and with the expectation that all of the cash and cash equivalents of the Company will be paid by dividend or distributed to the Sellers prior to the Closing, provided, further, that the Sellers’ Representative shall promptly notify Buyer of the declaration or payment of any such dividends or distributions) and (iii) not enter into any contract or agreement that would have been a Material Contract had such contract or agreement been in effect on the date of this Agreement.

Section 6.7 Further Action; Reasonable Best Efforts; Regulatory Approvals.

(a) Upon the terms and subject to the conditions of this Agreement, each of the parties hereto shall use its reasonable best efforts to take, or cause to be taken, all appropriate action, and to do, or cause to be done, all things necessary, proper or advisable under applicable Laws or otherwise to consummate and make effective the Transaction, including, without limitation, using its reasonable best efforts to: (i) cause the conditions to the Transaction set forth in Article VII to be satisfied; (ii) obtain all necessary actions or nonactions, waivers, consents, clearances, approvals, and expirations or terminations of waiting periods, from Governmental Entities (“Governmental Approvals”) including, without limitation, any Governmental Approval from the EPA with respect to the EPA Registration Update; and (iii) obtain all consents, approvals or waivers from parties to contracts with the Company as are necessary for the consummation of the Transaction.

(b) (i) As of the date of this Agreement and based on information currently available to Buyer, Buyer’s HSR Person has determined that neither the Transaction’s “acquisition price” (as determined under the HSR Act) (“HSR Acquisition Price”), to the extent determined, nor the Transaction’s “fair market value” (as determined under the HSR Act) (“HSR FMV”), exceeds \$80,800,000. Sellers shall cause the Company to provide Buyer subsequent to each month-end prior to the Closing a true and complete copy of the unaudited balance sheet of the Company at such month-end promptly after the same becomes available (each, a “Monthly Balance Sheet”).

(ii) In the event that at or prior to the Closing Buyer's HSR Person redetermines HSR Acquisition Price or HSR FMV (in either case solely on account of a Monthly Balance Sheet provided by Company under clause (i) above) to exceed \$80,800,000, then, Buyer shall promptly so notify the Sellers' Representative; and, in that event, as promptly as practicable after the date of such notice (but in no event later than ten (10) Business Days after the date of such notice), Buyer shall cause Buyer's HSR Person, and Sellers' Representative shall cause the Company's HSR Person, to prepare and file with the United States Federal Trade Commission (the "FTC") and the United States Department of Justice (the "DOJ") the notifications required of such respective HSR Person under the HSR Act in connection with the Transaction; and such notifications shall include a request for early termination of the HSR Act waiting period(s) relating thereto. The applicable filing fee(s) for such notifications shall be paid as provided in Section 11.1.

(c) Each party shall: (i) reasonably cooperate with the other in connection with the preparation, if applicable pursuant to Section 6.7(b), of the applicable notifications and the review thereof by the FTC and the DOJ; (ii) promptly inform the other of any communication to or from the FTC, the DOJ or any other Governmental Entity regarding the transactions contemplated by this Agreement; (iii) give the other prompt notice of the commencement of any investigation, litigation or other proceeding, whether judicial, administrative or otherwise, by or before any Governmental Entity with respect to the Transaction; (iv) keep the other party (if not also a party to such investigation, litigation or other proceeding) reasonably informed as to the status of any such investigation, litigation or other proceeding; and (v) take, or cause to be taken, all other reasonable actions and do, or cause to be done, all other reasonable things necessary, proper or advisable to consummate and make effective the Transaction, including such reasonable action as may be necessary to resolve such objections, if any, that any Governmental Entity may assert with respect to the Transaction, and, subject to Section 6.7(d) below, to avoid or eliminate each and every impediment under any Law that may be asserted by any Governmental Entity with respect to the Transaction so as to enable the Closing to occur as soon as reasonably possible (and in any event no later than the Closing Date). Each party shall use its reasonable best efforts to respond as promptly as practicable with any request for additional information or documentary material issued by a Governmental Entity in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement (a "Second Request") and to certify substantial compliance with any Second Request as promptly as practicable after the date of issuance of such Second Request.

(d) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 6.7, no party to this Agreement, nor any Affiliate of any such party, shall be required to: (i) license, divest, dispose of or hold separate any assets or businesses; (ii) take or commit to take any other action that limits its freedom of action with respect to any assets or businesses that, in the reasonable opinion of such party, would be adverse to such party in any material respect; or (iii) pay more than de minimis amounts (whether characterized as fees, penalties or other consideration) in connection with seeking or obtaining such consents, approvals, waivers and authorizations as may be necessary or appropriate to complete the Transaction under applicable Laws (including antitrust Laws) or contracts (including the Material Contracts), excluding, however, any mandatory filing fees and reasonable and customary costs and expenses associated with the seeking of Governmental Approvals.



(e) In the event that notifications shall be required under the HSR Act in accordance with subsection (b) above and any related HSR waiting period(s) would expire within two Business Days prior to the “End Date” that would apply in the absence of such waiting period(s), or would expire on or at any time after that “End Date”, then the “End Date” that otherwise would apply shall be extended to the earlier of: (i) the third Business Day after the date on which all waiting periods applicable to the consummation of the Transaction under the HSR Act have expired or been terminated; and (ii) the HSR Date.

Section 6.8 Publicity. Except for any disclosure made by either of the Sellers or Pacific Ethanol, Inc., the corporate parent of Buyer, pursuant to reports filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or as required by applicable Law, Buyer shall not, directly or indirectly, make or cause to be made any public announcement or issue any notice in respect of this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby without the prior written consent of Sellers and the Company, and Sellers and the Company shall not, directly or indirectly, make or cause to be made any such public announcement or issue any notice without the prior written consent of Buyer. The Company, Sellers and Buyer shall consult with each other prior to issuing any press releases or otherwise making public statements, other than any disclosure contemplated by the previous sentence, with respect to the transactions contemplated hereby and prior to making any filings with any Governmental Entity or with any national securities exchange with respect thereto and shall agree to the form of any such press release or filings to be issued in connection with the execution of this Agreement.

Section 6.9 Contact with Customers, Suppliers and Other Third Parties. From the date hereof to the Closing or the earlier termination of this Agreement in accordance with Section 10.1, Buyer (and all of its agents, representatives and Affiliates and any employees, directors and officers thereof) shall not contact or communicate with the employees, other than those employees listed on Schedule 6.9, customers, suppliers and licensors of the Company in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby without the prior written consent of Sellers, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, provided that such consent may be conditioned upon officers of the Company, Sellers or other representatives of Sellers being present at any such meeting or conference.

Section 6.10 Financing. Buyer shall use its, and shall cause its Affiliates to use their, commercially reasonable best efforts to secure financing from a financial institution as soon as practicable in an amount necessary to (i) consummate the transactions contemplated by this Agreement at the Closing without the issuance of the Promissory Notes as contemplated by Section 1.6(g) and (ii) if such financing is not secured prior to the Closing, to prepay the Promissory Notes as soon as practicable thereafter (the “Financing”).

Section 6.11 Financing Cooperation. During the period commencing with the execution and delivery of this Agreement and continuing until the earlier to occur of the termination of this Agreement pursuant to Section 10.1 and the Closing Date, the Company and Sellers shall, at Buyer’s sole expense, reasonably cooperate in connection with the arrangement of the Financing as may be reasonably requested by Buyer. Such cooperation by the Company and Sellers shall include, at the reasonable request of Buyer:

(a) agreeing to enter into such agreements, and to use its commercially reasonable efforts to deliver such officer's certificates of the Company, as are reasonably required and customary in financings of such type and as are, in the good faith determination of the persons executing such officer's certificates, accurate, and agreeing to pledge, grant security interests in, and otherwise grant liens on, the Company's assets pursuant to such agreements as may be reasonably requested;

(b) providing to Buyer's Financing sources financial and other information relevant to Buyer's Financing in the Company's or Sellers' possession or that is reasonably available or that the Company prior to the date hereof in the ordinary course of business would have produced (and in accordance with the timeframe in which such information would have been produced) (including audited and unaudited financial statements as of and for periods both before and after the date hereof, provided that such financial statements shall be provided in a manner as is consistent with the Company's existing practices), assisting in the preparation of any pro forma financial information or projections, making the Company's senior officers available at reasonable times and for a reasonable number of meetings to assist Buyer's Financing sources; provided that the Company's senior officers shall be required to participate in no more than one marketing session and one due diligence session;

(c) assisting Buyer and its counsel with information required for customary legal opinions required to be delivered in connection therewith and cooperating in obtaining any necessary valuations; and

(d) furnishing all documentation and other information about the Company that the potential Financing sources have reasonably determined is required by regulatory authorities under applicable "know your customer" and anti-money laundering rules and regulations.

Section 6.12 Market Standoff. Each Seller hereby agrees that it will not, for a period beginning on the date hereof and ending on the Closing Date or the date this Agreement is terminated pursuant to Section 10.1, without the prior written consent of Buyer, directly or indirectly purchase, offer to purchase, contract to purchase, sell, offer to sell, assign, transfer, pledge, contract to sell (including, without limitation, any short sale), grant any option to purchase or otherwise acquire, transfer or dispose of any shares of Pacific Ethanol Common Stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for Pacific Ethanol Common Stock.

Section 6.13 Continuing Contract. From and after the date hereof, Sellers shall use commercially reasonable efforts to (i) cause the Company to maintain in full force and effect each of the agreements listed on Schedule 6.13 and (ii) cause the Company not to, without the prior written consent of the Buyer, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed, terminate or amend any such agreements.

Section 6.14 Buyer Guarantee.

(a) Buyer hereby irrevocably, absolutely and unconditionally guarantees (as the primary obligor and not merely as surety) to the Sellers the prompt and full discharge by the Merger Sub of each of the Merger Sub's covenants, agreements, obligations and liabilities under this Agreement (collectively, the "Merger Sub Obligations"), in accordance with the terms hereof. The Buyer

acknowledges and agrees that, with respect to all the Merger Sub Obligations to pay money pursuant to this Agreement, such guaranty shall be a guaranty of payment and performance and not of collection and shall not be conditioned or contingent upon the pursuit of any remedies against Merger Sub. For the avoidance of doubt, the Merger Sub Obligations that are guaranteed by Buyer under this Agreement do not include any of Merger Sub's covenants, agreements, obligations or liabilities under the Promissory Notes and nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to expand Buyer's limited recourse guarantee of Merger Sub's covenants, agreements, obligations and liabilities under the Promissory Notes pursuant to the terms thereof.

(b) Buyer hereby irrevocably, absolutely and unconditionally guarantees (as the primary obligor and not merely as surety) to the Sellers the prompt and full discharge by the Surviving Company of its covenants, agreements, obligations and liabilities under this Agreement (collectively, the "Surviving Company Obligations"), in accordance with the terms hereof. The Buyer acknowledges and agrees that, with respect to all the Surviving Company Obligations to pay money pursuant to this Agreement, such guaranty shall be a guaranty of payment and performance and not of collection and shall not be conditioned or contingent upon the pursuit of any remedies against Surviving Company. For the avoidance of doubt, the Surviving Company Obligations that are guaranteed by Buyer under this Agreement do not include any of the Surviving Company's covenants, agreements, obligations or liabilities under the Promissory Notes and nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to expand Buyer's limited recourse guarantee of the Surviving Company's covenants, agreements, obligations and liabilities under the Promissory Notes pursuant to the terms thereof.

Section 6.15 Surety Bonds. With respect to each surety bond set forth on Schedule 6.15 (each, a "Surety Bond"), Buyer shall use its commercially reasonable efforts to, as of the Closing, (i) replace such Surety Bond or (ii) obtain the agreement of the issuer of such Surety Bond to accept indemnification by Buyer in place of the indemnification by SEACOR Holdings, Inc. in respect thereof.

## ARTICLE VII CONDITIONS TO CLOSING

Section 7.1 Conditions to the Obligation of Buyer. The obligation of Buyer to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby shall be subject to the satisfaction or waiver by Buyer on or prior to the Closing Date of each of the following conditions:

(a) Each of the representations and warranties of Sellers contained in Article III shall be true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date as if made at and as of such date (except for those representations and warranties that are made as of a specific date, which representations and warranties shall be true and correct as of such respective specific date), with the same effect as though those representations and warranties had been made on and as of the Closing Date; and each of the covenants and agreements of Sellers to be performed on or prior to the Closing Date shall have been duly performed in all material respects.

(b) Each of the representations and warranties of Sellers as to the Company contained in Article IV shall (i) in the case of those representations and warranties that are qualified by Material

Adverse Effect, be true and correct in all respects as of the Closing Date as if made at and as of such date (except for those representations and warranties that are made as of a specific date, which representations shall be true and correct at and as of such respective specific date) and (ii) in the case of those representations and warranties that are not qualified by Material Adverse Effect, be true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date as if made at and as of such date (except for those representations and warranties that are made as of a specific date, which representations shall be true at and as of such respective specific date); and each of the covenants and agreements of Sellers and the Company to be performed on or prior to the Closing Date shall have been duly performed in all material respects.

(c) Each of the deliverables set forth in Section 1.6(e) shall have been delivered or paid, as the case may be, by Sellers.

(d) Since the Most Recent Balance Sheet Date, there shall not have been a Material Adverse Effect.

(e) Buyer shall have been furnished with a certificate executed by an authorized officer of the Sellers' Representative, dated as of the Closing Date, certifying that the conditions contained in Sections 7.1(a), 7.1(b) and 7.1(d) have been fulfilled.

(f) Buyer shall have received confirmation, whether in written, oral or electronic form, that the EPA has either approved or pre-approved the EPA Registration Update.

(g) Buyer shall have received a written commitment (which commitment shall be unconditional except for payment of the premium, the amount of which shall not be taken into account for purposes of interpreting this condition) from the Title Company to, upon Closing, issue to the Surviving Company a 2006 ALTA extended coverage Owner's Title Insurance Policy consistent in all material respects with that certain Pro Forma Policy issued by Title Company on June 23, 2017, Policy Number XXXX-XXXXXXXXXX-XXX, including the endorsements identified therein and subject no new additional exceptions other than Permitted Liens.

(h) Buyer shall have received evidence reasonably satisfactory to it that any security interests in or liens on the assets of the Company granted to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. or any of its Affiliates in connection any credit facility with MGP Ingredients, Inc. or any of its Affiliates has been terminated and released.

Section 7.2 Conditions to the Obligation of Sellers. The obligation of Sellers to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby shall be subject to the satisfaction or waiver by Sellers on or prior to the Closing Date of each of the following conditions:

(a) Each of the representations and warranties of Buyer and Merger Sub contained in Article V shall be true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date as if made at and on such date (except for those representations and warranties that are made at a specific date, which representations and warranties shall be true and correct at and as of such respective specific date), with the same effect as though those representations and warranties had been made on and as of

the Closing Date; and each of the covenants and agreements of Buyer and Merger Sub to be performed on or prior to the Closing Date shall have been duly performed in all material respects.

(b) Each of the deliverables set forth in Section 1.6(f) shall have been delivered or paid, as the case may be.

(c) Sellers shall have been furnished with a certificate executed by an authorized officer of Buyer, dated as of the Closing Date, certifying that the conditions contained in Section 7.2(a) have been fulfilled.

(d) SEACOR Holdings, Inc. and its Affiliates (other than the Company) shall have been fully and unconditionally released from any and all obligations under the Surety Bonds.

Section 7.3 Conditions to the Obligation of Sellers and Buyer. The obligations of the parties to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby shall be subject to the satisfaction or waiver by all parties on or prior to the Closing Date of each of the following conditions:

(a) Any applicable waiting period under the HSR Act relating to the Transaction shall have expired or been earlier terminated and all required Governmental Approvals shall have been obtained.

(b) Consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby shall not have been restrained, enjoined or otherwise prohibited or made illegal by any applicable Law or Order of any Governmental Entity.

(c) The Merger shall become effective concurrent with the Closing.

#### ARTICLE VIII

#### SURVIVAL OF REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES AND COVENANTS

Section 8.1 Survival of Representations and Warranties. Each of the Fundamental Representations shall survive the Closing indefinitely. The representations contained in Section 4.7 (Tax Matters) shall survive the Closing for the full period of all applicable statutes of limitations (giving effect to any waiver, mitigation or extension thereof) plus sixty (60) days. Each of the Special Representations shall survive the Closing until the second anniversary thereof. All other representations and warranties contained in this Agreement shall survive the Closing for a period of 12 months; provided, that any representation or warranty that would otherwise terminate in accordance with this Section 8.1 will continue to survive if a Claim Notice or Direct Claim Notice shall have been timely given under Article IX on or prior to such termination date, until the related claim for indemnification has been satisfied or otherwise resolved as provided in Article IX. The covenants shall survive the Closing for the period contemplated by their respective terms.

#### ARTICLE IX

#### INDEMNIFICATION

Section Indemnification.

9.1

(a) Subject to the limitations of this Section 9.1 and the other sections of this Article IX, Buyer and the Surviving Company shall indemnify the Seller Indemnified Parties on a joint and several basis in respect of, and hold each of them harmless from and against, any and all (i) Losses suffered, incurred or sustained by any of them or to which any of them becomes subject, resulting from, arising out of or relating to any breach of any representation or warranty or nonfulfillment of or failure to perform any covenant or agreement on the part of Buyer, Merger Sub or the Surviving Company contained in this Agreement and (ii) Transfer Taxes and any Post-Closing Taxes.

(b) Subject to the limitations of this Section 9.1 and the other sections of this Article IX, each Seller shall indemnify the Buyer Indemnified Parties, and hold each of them harmless from and against, any and all Losses suffered, incurred or sustained by any of them or to which any of them becomes subject resulting from, arising out of or relating to (i) any breach of any representation and warranty of such Seller contained in this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements or any certificates delivered pursuant to this Agreement, (ii) any breach of, nonfulfillment of or failure to perform any covenant or agreement of such Seller contained in this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements, (iii) Indemnified Taxes and (iv) the fatality of a person on Company property that occurred on or about November 30, 2015.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision hereof to the contrary,

(i) no amounts of indemnity shall be payable in the case of a claim by a Buyer Indemnified Party under Section 9.1(b)(i) unless and until the aggregate amount of Losses that Buyer Indemnified Parties have suffered, incurred, sustained or become subject to exceeds \$760,000 in the aggregate (the “Deductible”), in which event the Buyer Indemnified Parties shall be entitled to recover indemnity for the amount of all Losses in excess of the Deductible,

(ii) the maximum aggregate amount of Losses which may be recovered by the Buyer Indemnified Parties in respect of claims made under Section 9.1(b)(i) shall be equal to 10% of the Merger Consideration (the “Cap”); provided, that the Deductible and the Cap shall not apply to (A) any claim by a Buyer Indemnified Party for a breach of any Fundamental Representation, and (B) any claim by a Buyer Indemnified Party for indemnification under Section 9.1(b)(ii), Section 9.1(b)(iii) or Section 9.1(b)(iv).

(iii) each Seller shall be solely liable for any Losses arising out of or relating to the breach of any representation or warranty of such Seller contained in Article III.

(iv) each Seller shall be severally (and not jointly) liable for such Seller’s Proportionate Percentage of any Losses arising out of or relating to any obligation to indemnify the Buyer Indemnified Parties under Section 9.1(b) or any other sections of this Article IX (except the applicable Seller shall be solely responsible for the representations and warranties it makes with respect to such Seller contained in Article III), and

(v) the total indemnification obligation of each Seller hereunder shall in no event exceed such Seller’s Proportionate Percentage of the Merger Consideration.

(d) In addition to the foregoing, there shall be no Liability for Losses of a Buyer Indemnified Party with respect to (i) any indirect, special, incidental, exemplary, consequential or punitive damages relating to the breach of this Agreement or (ii) any Loss with respect to any matter to the extent that such Loss was reflected in the determination of Final Working Capital. In addition to the limitations set forth in Section 9.1(c), with respect to any claim for indemnification regarding any breach of the representation and warranty set forth in Section 4.18 there shall be no obligation to indemnify any Buyer Indemnified Party for any Loss (A) unless the Loss arises out of (x) a Third Party Claim that is not instigated or encouraged by any Buyer Indemnified Party, or (y) a condition discovered in the Ordinary Course, and then (B) only to the extent such Loss was incurred to comply with applicable Environmental Laws using, in the case of any remedial measures taken by or on behalf of Buyer (including the Company) after the Closing, reasonable and recognized remediation protocols and techniques that are economically reasonable in relation to other remediation protocols and techniques; provided, that there shall be no liability for any additional Losses to the extent that any Buyer Indemnified Party contributed to the condition or circumstance forming the basis of such additional Loss after Closing.

Section 9.2 Indemnification Procedure for Third Party Claims.

(a) In the event that any Proceeding for which an Indemnifying Party may be liable to an Indemnified Party hereunder is asserted or sought to be collected by a third-party ("Third Party Claim"), the Indemnified Party shall promptly notify the Indemnifying Party in writing of such Third Party Claim ("Claim Notice"); provided, that the failure to provide prompt notice shall not release the Indemnifying Party from any obligations hereunder except to the extent such Indemnifying Party is materially prejudiced by such failure and shall not relieve such Indemnifying Party from obligations it may otherwise have under this Article IX. The Claim Notice shall specify in reasonable detail the amount of the Loss, if known, and contain a reference to the provision(s) of this Agreement in respect of which such right of indemnification is claimed or arises. The Indemnified Party shall enclose with the Claim Notice a copy of all papers served with respect to such Third Party Claim, if any, and any other documents evidencing such Third Party Claim. For all purposes of this Article IX, the Sellers' Representative shall be considered the "Indemnifying Party" for purposes of receiving any notices related to claims for indemnification by Buyer Indemnified Parties.

(b) The Indemnifying Party shall have the right to assume the defense or prosecution of such Third Party Claim and any litigation resulting therefrom (a "Third Party Defense") by written notice to the Indemnified Party, including (i) the employment of counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Sellers' Representative, in the case of Seller Indemnified Parties, or Buyer, in the case of Buyer Indemnified Parties, (ii) the obligation to pay all expenses in connection therewith and (iii) the right to settle or compromise the Third Party Claim with the consent of the Indemnified Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed, provided that no such consent shall be required if the settlement or compromise does not include remedies other than the payment of monetary damages or an admission of culpability. The Indemnified Party shall have the right to employ separate counsel in any such Proceeding and to participate in the Third Party Defense thereof, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the Indemnified Party's expense, unless (i) the Indemnifying Party has agreed to pay the fees and expenses of such counsel, (ii) the

Indemnifying Party shall have failed promptly (after notice thereof from any Indemnified Party) to assume the defense of such Proceeding and employ counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Indemnified Party in any such Proceeding or (iii) the named parties to any such Proceeding (including any impleaded parties) include both the Indemnifying Party and the Indemnified Party, and such Indemnified Party reasonably believes that there may be one or more legal defenses available to such Indemnified Party that are different from or additional to those available to the Indemnifying Party (in which case, if the Indemnified Party notifies the Indemnifying Party that it elects to employ separate counsel at the expense of the Indemnifying Party, the Indemnifying Party shall not have the right to assume the defense of such Proceeding on behalf of the Indemnified Party); it being understood, however, that the Indemnifying Party shall not, in connection with any one such Proceeding or separate but substantially similar or related Proceedings in the same jurisdiction arising out of the same general allegations or circumstances, be liable for the reasonable fees and expenses of more than one separate firm of attorneys (together with appropriate local counsel) at any time for such Indemnified Party, which firm shall be designated by the Sellers' Representative, in the case of Seller Indemnified Parties, or Buyer, in the case of Buyer Indemnified Parties, and shall be reasonably satisfactory to the Indemnifying Party. If the Indemnified Party so assumes the Third Party Defense of any Proceeding, the Indemnified Party will not, without the Indemnifying Party's prior written consent, settle, compromise or consent to the entering of any judgment in respect of which indemnity may be sought hereunder.

Section 9.3 Indemnification Procedures for Direct Claims. The Indemnified Party shall notify the Indemnifying Party in writing (a "Direct Claim Notice") promptly of its discovery of any matter for which it is entitled to indemnification hereunder that does not involve a Third Party Claim (a "Direct Claim"), such notice to contain the information set forth in the following sentence. The Direct Claim Notice shall specify in reasonable detail the amount of the Loss, if known, and contain a reference to the provision(s) of this Agreement in respect of which such right of indemnification is claimed or arises. Failure to provide a Direct Claim Notice shall not release the Indemnifying Party from any obligations hereunder except to the extent such Indemnifying Party is materially prejudiced by such failure and shall not relieve such Indemnifying Party from obligations it may otherwise have under this Article IX. If the Indemnifying Party does not notify the Indemnified Party that it disputes such claim within 30 days following receipt of the Direct Claim Notice, the claim specified therein shall be deemed a Liability of the Indemnifying Party hereunder (subject to the limitations set forth in this Article IX, as applicable). The Indemnified Party will reasonably cooperate and assist the Indemnifying Party in determining the validity of any claim for indemnity by the Indemnified Party and in otherwise resolving such matters. Such assistance and cooperation will include providing reasonable access, during normal business hours and upon reasonable advance notice, to and copies of information, records and documents relating to such matters, providing access, during normal business hours and upon reasonable advance notice, to employees to assist in the investigation, defense and resolution of such matters.

#### Section 9.4 Calculation of Indemnity Payments.

(a) The Indemnified Party agrees to use its commercially reasonable efforts to pursue and collect on any recovery available under any insurance policies. The amount of Losses payable under this Article IX by the Indemnifying Party in respect of a Third Party Claim or Direct Claim



shall be reduced by any and all amounts actually recovered by the Indemnified Party under applicable insurance policies or from any other Person alleged to be responsible therefor in respect of the Losses to which such Third Party Claim or Direct Claim relates. If the Indemnified Party receives any amounts under applicable insurance policies or from any other Person alleged to be responsible for any Losses in respect of a Third Party Claim or Direct Claim, subsequent to an indemnification payment by the Indemnifying Party in respect of a Third Party Claim or Direct Claim, then such Indemnified Party shall promptly pay to the Indemnifying Party for any payment made or expense incurred by such Indemnifying Party in connection with providing such indemnification up to the amount received by the Indemnified Party, net of any expenses incurred by such Indemnified Party in collecting such amount.

(b) The amount of Losses incurred by an Indemnified Party shall be reduced to take account of any net Tax benefit realized or reasonably expected to be realized by the Indemnified Party arising from the incurrence or payment of any such indemnified amount.

(c) For purposes of determining whether a breach of or inaccuracy of any representation or warranty in this Agreement has occurred and in calculating the amount of Losses subject to indemnification hereunder, in each case, all qualifications as to materiality, including “Material Adverse Effect,” “material” or any similar term, limitation or qualification shall be disregarded.

Section 9.5 Exclusive Remedy. Except for (a) actions seeking specific performance of this Agreement, (b) such equitable remedies as may be available to enforce the provisions of Section 6.4 (Use of Names) and Section 6.5 (Confidential Information; Access to Information), (c) such remedies provided under Section 1.6(c), and (d) actions relating to fraud, willful misconduct or intentional misrepresentation, each party understands and agrees that resort to the indemnity pursuant to this Article IX shall constitute its sole right and exclusive remedy against the other party with respect to any matters arising from this Agreement or the transactions contemplated thereby.

Section 9.6 Adjustment to Merger Consideration. Sellers and Buyer agree to treat all payments made by Sellers for the benefit of Buyer or payments made by Buyer for the benefit of Sellers under all of the indemnification provisions of this Agreement as adjustments to the Merger Consideration for Tax purposes and that such treatment shall govern for purposes hereof except to the extent that the Laws of a particular jurisdiction provide otherwise.

## ARTICLE X TERMINATION

Section 10.1 Termination. This Agreement may be terminated at any time prior to the Closing Date:

(a) By the written agreement of Buyer and Sellers;

(b) By Sellers, on the one hand, or Buyer, on the other hand, by written notice to the other party after 5:00 p.m. New York City time on the End Date, if the transactions contemplated hereby shall not have been consummated pursuant hereto, unless such date is extended by the mutual written consent of Sellers and Buyer; provided, that the right to terminate this Agreement pursuant

to this Section 10.1(b) shall not be available to any party whose material breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement set forth in this Agreement has been the cause of the failure of the transactions contemplated hereby to be consummated by the End Date;

(c) By either Buyer or Merger Sub, by written notice to the Sellers' Representative if the Sellers shall have breached or failed to perform in any material respect any of their representations, warranties, covenants or other agreements contained in this Agreement, which breach or failure to perform (i) would result in a failure of a condition set forth in Section 7.1(a) or Section 7.1(b) and (ii) cannot be cured by the End Date or, if curable, is not cured (A) within thirty (30) days following Buyer's and/or Merger Sub's delivery of written notice to the Sellers' Representative of such breach (which notice shall specify in reasonable detail the nature of such breach or failure) or (B) within any shorter period of time that remains between the date Buyer and/or Merger Sub delivers the notice described in the foregoing subclause (A) and the day prior to the End Date; provided that Buyer or Merger Sub is not then in material breach of any representation, warranty, agreement or covenant contained in this Agreement; or

(d) By the Sellers' Representative, by written notice to Buyer, if Buyer or Merger Sub shall have breached or failed to perform in any material respect any of their representations, warranties, covenants or other agreements contained in this Agreement, which breach or failure to perform (i) would result in a failure of a condition set forth in Section 7.2(a) or failure of the Closing to occur and (ii) cannot be cured by the End Date or, if curable, is not cured (A) within thirty (30) days following the Sellers' Representative's delivery of written notice to Buyer of such breach (which notice shall specify in reasonable detail the nature of such breach or failure) or (B) within any shorter period of time that remains between the date the Sellers' Representative delivers the notice described in the foregoing subclause (A) and the day prior to the End Date; provided that the Sellers are not then in material breach of any representation, warranty, agreement or covenant contained in this Agreement.

(e) In the event that notifications shall be required under the HSR Act in accordance with Section 6.7(b), by Sellers, on the one hand, or Buyer, on the other hand, by written notice to the other party anytime after 5:00 p.m. New York City time on the HSR Date.

Section 10.2 Effect of Termination. In the event of the termination of this Agreement pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.1, (a) the Deposit will either be retained by Sellers in accordance with Section 1.6(c)(iii) or paid by Sellers to Buyer in accordance with Section 1.6(c)(iv), and (b) this Agreement shall become void and have no effect, without any liability to any Person in respect hereof or of the transactions contemplated hereby on the part of any party hereto, or any of its directors, officers, partners, members, representatives, stockholders or Affiliates, except (i) as provided in Sections 6.5 (Confidential Information; Access to Information), 6.8 (Publicity), this 10.2 (Effect of Termination), 11.1 (Expenses) 11.13 (Governing Law), 11.15 (Consent to Jurisdiction; etc) and 11.16 (Waiver of Punitive and Other Damages and Jury Trial), (ii) nothing herein will relieve any party from Liability for any breach of any representation or failure to perform any covenant set forth in this Agreement prior to such termination, and (iii) all Confidential Information received by Buyer with respect to Sellers and Sellers' Affiliates shall be treated in

accordance with the Confidentiality Agreement which shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding the termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE XI  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section Expenses.

11.1

(a) Except as specifically set forth in this Agreement, all costs and expenses incurred in connection with this Agreement shall be paid by the party incurring such cost or expense, including, without limitation, all professional fees and related expenses for services rendered by counsel, actuaries, auditors, accountants, investment bankers, experts, consultants and other advisors.

(b) Notwithstanding the foregoing in Section 11.1(a), in the event that (i) any Transaction Related Expenses are not paid by Sellers or the Company at or before the Closing and Final Working Capital was not reduced by the amount thereof, each Seller shall, after receiving notice thereof from Buyer, promptly pay or reimburse the Company for its Proportionate Percentage of the amount thereof, and (ii) the parties are required to make any filings with the DOJ and the FTC as contemplated by Section 6.7, the amount of such filings fees shall be borne equally by Buyer, on the one hand, and Sellers (in accordance with each Seller's Proportionate Percentage), on the other hand.

Section 11.2 Further Actions. Each party shall execute and deliver such certificates and other documents and take such other actions as may reasonably be requested by the other party in order to consummate or implement the transactions contemplated hereby.

Section 11.3 Post-Closing Access. Buyer shall, upon the request and at the expense of Sellers, permit Sellers and its representatives reasonable access at all reasonable times, during normal business hours and upon reasonable advance notice, to the books and records of the Company, and Buyer shall execute (and shall cause the Company to execute) such documents as Sellers may reasonably request to enable Sellers to file any required reports or Tax Returns relating to the Company. Buyer shall not dispose of such books and records during the seven-year period beginning with the Closing without Sellers' consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed. Following the expiration of such seven-year period, Buyer may dispose of such books and records at any time.

Section 11.4 Certain Limitations. It is the explicit intent and understanding of each of the parties that no party or any of its Affiliates, representatives or agents is making any representation or warranty whatsoever, oral or written, express or implied, other than those set forth in Articles III, IV and V and no party is relying on any statement, representation or warranty, oral or written, express or implied, made by another party or such other party's Affiliates, representatives or agents, including, without limitation, any statements set forth in any confidential information memorandum, the data room or the management presentations made available to Buyer, except for the representations and warranties set forth in such articles. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY SET FORTH IN THIS AGREEMENT, THE PARTIES EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OR REPRESENTATION AS TO CONDITION,

MERCHANTABILITY OR SUITABILITY AS TO ANY OF THE ASSETS OF THE BUSINESS. The parties agree that this is an arm's-length transaction in which the parties' undertakings and obligations are limited to the performance of their obligations under this Agreement. Buyer acknowledges that (a) it is a sophisticated investor, (b) it has undertaken a full investigation of the businesses of the Company and has been provided adequate information and access for such purpose, (c) it has relied solely on such investigation and the representations and warranties contained in Articles III and IV in making its decision to enter into this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated herein, (d) it has only a contractual relationship with Sellers, based solely on the terms of this Agreement and (e) there is no special relationship of trust or reliance between Buyer and Sellers.

Section 11.5 Notices. All notices, requests, demands, waivers and other communications required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given if (a) delivered personally (with written confirmation of receipt), (b) mailed, certified or registered mail with postage prepaid (receipt requested), (c) sent by next-day or overnight mail or delivery, or (d) sent by facsimile (with confirmation of transmission) or e-mail, addressed to the respective parties at the following addresses or numbers (or such other address or numbers for a party as shall be specified by like notice), as follows:

- (i) if to Holdings or the Sellers' Representative,

Illinois Corn Processing Holdings Inc.  
c/o SEACOR Holdings Inc.  
2200 Eller Drive  
Port Everglades Station  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
Fax: (281) 670-1401  
Telephone: (954) 627-5206  
Email: blong@ckor.com  
Attention: William C. Long

with a copy to (which shall not constitute notice):

Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, LLP  
28 Liberty Street  
New York, New York 10005  
Fax: (212) 822-5003  
Email: Dzeltner@milbank.com  
Telephone: (212) 530-5003  
Attention: David E. Zeltner

- (ii) if to MGP

MGPI Processing, Inc.  
100 Commercial Street  
Atchison, KS 66002

Fax: 913-360-5635  
Telephone: 913-360-5435  
Email: Tom.Pigott@mgpingredients.com  
Attention: Tom Pigott

with a copy to (which shall not constitute notice):

Stinson Leonard Street  
1201 Walnut Street, Suite 2900  
Kansas City, MO 64106  
Fax: 816-412-1159  
Telephone: 816-691-3188  
Email: John.Granda@stinsonleonard.com  
Attention: John Granda

(iii) if to Buyer

Pacific Ethanol Central, LLC  
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 2060  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: (916) 403-2785  
Telephone: (916) 403 - 2130  
Email: cwright@pacificethanol.com  
Attention: Christopher W. Wright, General Counsel

with a copy to (which shall not constitute notice):

Troutman Sanders LLP  
5 Park Plaza, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Irvine, CA 92614  
Fax: (949) 622-2739  
Telephone: (949) 622-2710  
Email: larry.cerutti@troutmansanders.com  
Attention: Larry A. Cerutti

(iv) if to Merger Sub

ICP Merger Sub, LLC  
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 2060  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: (916) 403-2785  
Telephone: (916) 403 - 2130  
Email: cwright@pacificethanol.com  
Attention: Christopher W. Wright, General Counsel

with a copy to (which shall not constitute notice):

Troutman Sanders LLP  
5 Park Plaza, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Irvine, CA 92614  
Fax: (949) 622-2739  
Telephone: (949) 622-2710  
Email: larry.cerutti@troutmansanders.com  
Attention: Larry A. Cerutti

or, in each case, at such other address as may be specified in writing to the other parties hereto.

All such notices, requests, demands, waivers and other communications shall be deemed to have been received (a) if by personal delivery on the day after such delivery, (b) if by certified or registered mail, on the seventh Business Day after the mailing thereof, (c) if by next-day or overnight mail or delivery, on the day delivered, or (d) if by facsimile or email and if sent during normal business hours of the recipient, that Business Day, and if not, then the next Business Day if sent after normal business hours of the recipient.

Section 11.6 Assignment, Successors. This Agreement shall not be assignable by any party hereto without the prior written consent of all of the other parties and any attempt to assign this Agreement without such consent shall be void and of no effect. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding on and enforceable against, the parties hereto and the successors and permitted assigns of the respective parties hereto. Nothing in this Agreement, expressed or implied, is intended or shall be construed to confer any right, remedy or claim under or by reason of this Agreement upon any Person other than (a) the parties and successors and assigns permitted by this Section 11.6, (b) a Company Indemnified Party under Section 6.1, (c) an Indemnified Party under Article IX, and (d) Milbank and Troutman Sanders LLP under Section 11.17.

Section 11.7 Amendment, Waivers, etc. No amendment, modification or discharge of this Agreement, and no waiver hereunder, shall be valid or binding unless set forth in writing and duly executed by the party against whom enforcement of the amendment, modification, discharge or waiver is sought. Any such waiver shall constitute a waiver only with respect to the specific matter described in such writing and shall in no way impair the rights of the party granting such waiver in any other respect or at any other time. Neither the waiver by any of the parties hereto of a breach of or a default under any of the provisions of this Agreement or to exercise any right or privilege hereunder, shall be construed as a waiver of any other breach or default of a similar nature, or as a waiver of any of such provisions, rights or privileges hereunder. The rights and remedies herein provided are cumulative and none is exclusive of any other, or of any rights or remedies that any party may otherwise have at Law or in equity.

Section Entire Agreement.

11.8

(a) This Agreement (including the Exhibits and Schedules referred to herein or delivered hereunder) constitutes the entire agreement and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral, between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof.

(b) The parties hereto have participated jointly in the negotiation and drafting of this Agreement and, in the event an ambiguity or question of intent or interpretation arises, this Agreement shall be construed as jointly drafted by the parties hereto and no presumption or burden of proof shall arise favoring or disfavoring any party by virtue of the authorship of any provision of this Agreement. Further, prior drafts of this Agreement or any ancillary agreements hereto or the fact that any clauses have been added, deleted or otherwise modified from any prior drafts of this Agreement or any ancillary agreements hereto shall not be used as an aide of construction or otherwise constitute evidence of the intent of the parties hereto; and no presumption or burden of proof shall arise favoring or disfavoring any party hereto by virtue of such prior drafts.

Section 11.9 Knowledge, Interpretation. For the purposes of this Agreement, the “knowledge” of Sellers or either of them shall be deemed to consist solely of the actual knowledge of those individuals listed in Schedule 11.9(a), after due inquiry. For the purposes of this Agreement, the “knowledge” of Buyer shall be deemed to consist solely of the actual knowledge of those individuals listed in Schedule 11.9(b), after due inquiry. The disclosure of any matter in the Schedules hereto shall be deemed to be a disclosure to such other section or sections of this Agreement to which it is readily apparent on the face of such disclosure that it applies. No disclosure on the schedules shall be deemed to constitute an admission by Sellers, the Company or Buyer, or to otherwise imply, that any such matter is material for purposes of this Agreement.

Section 11.10 Severability. If any provision, including any phrase, sentence, clause, section or subsection, of this Agreement is invalid, inoperative or unenforceable for any reason, such circumstances shall not have the effect of rendering such provisions in question invalid, inoperative or unenforceable in any other case or circumstance, or of rendering any other provision herein contained invalid, inoperative, or unenforceable to any extent whatsoever.

Section 11.11 Headings and Recitals. The headings contained in this Agreement are for purposes of convenience only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement. The recitals set forth at the beginning of this Agreement are incorporated by reference in, and made a part of, this Agreement.

Section 11.12 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which shall together constitute one and the same instrument. The signature of any party hereto to any counterpart hereof shall be deemed a signature to, and may be appended to, any other counterpart hereof. In the event that any signature to this Agreement or any ancillary agreement is delivered by facsimile transmission or by e-mail delivery of a “.pdf” format data file, such signature shall create a valid and binding obligation of the party executing (or on whose behalf such signature is executed) with the same force and effect as if such facsimile or “.pdf” signature page were an original thereof. Once signed, this Agreement may be delivered by facsimile or “.pdf” format, and any reproduction of this Agreement made by reliable means (e.g., photocopy, facsimile or portable document format) is considered an original.

Section 11.13 Governing Law. This Agreement and the rights and duties of the parties hereto hereunder shall be governed by and construed and interpreted in accordance with the Laws of the State of New York, without giving effect to its principles or rules of conflict of Laws to the

extent such principles or rules are not mandatorily applicable by statute and would require or permit the application of the Laws of another jurisdiction.

Section 11.14 Enforcement of Agreement. The parties agree that irreparable damage would occur in the event that any of the provisions of this Agreement are not performed in accordance with their specific terms or are otherwise breached. It is accordingly agreed that, in addition to any other applicable remedies at Law or in equity, the parties shall be entitled to an injunction or injunctions, without proof of damages, to specifically enforce the terms and provisions of this Agreement to prevent breaches or threatened breaches of, or to enforce compliance with, the covenants and obligations of the other party under this Agreement. Each party further agrees that no other party or any other Person shall be required to obtain, furnish or post any bond or similar instrument in connection with or as a condition to obtaining any remedy available pursuant to this Section 11.14, and each party irrevocably waives any right it may have to require the obtaining, furnishing or posting of any such bond or similar instrument in connection with or as a condition to obtaining any remedy available pursuant to this Section 11.14.

Section Consent to Jurisdiction, etc.  
11.15

(a) Each of the parties hereto hereby irrevocably and unconditionally submits, for itself and its property, to the exclusive jurisdiction of any New York State court or Federal court of the United States of America sitting in New York City, and any appellate court from any thereof, in any action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby or for recognition or enforcement of any judgment relating thereto, and each of the parties hereto hereby irrevocably and unconditionally agrees that all claims in respect of any such action or proceeding may be heard and determined in such New York State court or, to the extent permitted by Law, in such Federal court. Each of the parties hereto agrees that a final, non-appealable judgment in any such action or proceeding shall be conclusive and may be enforced in other jurisdictions by suit on the judgment or in any other manner provided by Law.

(b) Each of the parties hereto hereby irrevocably and unconditionally waives, to the fullest extent it may legally and effectively do so, any objection which it may now or hereafter have to the laying of venue of any suit, action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby in any New York State or Federal court. Each of the parties hereto hereby irrevocably waives, to the fullest extent permitted by Law, the defense of an inconvenient forum to the maintenance of such action or proceeding in any such court.

(c) Each of the parties hereto hereby irrevocably and unconditionally consents to service of process in the manner provided for notices in this Section 11.15. Nothing in this Agreement will affect the right of any party to this Agreement to serve process in any other manner permitted by Law.

Section Waiver of Punitive and Other Damages and Jury Trial  
11.16

(a) THE PARTIES TO THIS AGREEMENT EXPRESSLY WAIVE AND FOREGO ANY RIGHT TO RECOVER ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, EXEMPLARY, CONSEQUENTIAL OR PUNITIVE DAMAGES RELATING TO THE BREACH OF THIS



AGREEMENT, OR SIMILAR DAMAGES IN ANY ARBITRATION, LAWSUIT, LITIGATION OR PROCEEDING ARISING OUT OF OR RESULTING FROM ANY CONTROVERSY OR CLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY.

(b) EACH PARTY ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT ANY CONTROVERSY WHICH MAY ARISE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT IS LIKELY TO INVOLVE COMPLICATED AND DIFFICULT ISSUES, AND THEREFORE IT HEREBY KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY, INTENTIONALLY, IRREVOCABLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY WAIVES ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LITIGATION DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY.

(c) EACH PARTY CERTIFIES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT (I) NO REPRESENTATIVE, AGENT OR ATTORNEY OF ANY OTHER PARTY HAS REPRESENTED, EXPRESSLY OR OTHERWISE, THAT SUCH OTHER PARTY WOULD NOT, IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, SEEK TO ENFORCE THE FOREGOING WAIVER, (II) IT UNDERSTANDS AND HAS CONSIDERED THE IMPLICATIONS OF SUCH WAIVER, (III) IT MAKES SUCH WAIVER VOLUNTARILY, AND (IV) IT HAS BEEN INDUCED TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE MUTUAL WAIVER AND CERTIFICATIONS IN THIS SECTION 11.16.

Section Conflict of Interest; Legal Representation and Privileges.  
11.17

(a) If Sellers so desire, and without the need for any consent or waiver by the Company or Buyer, Milbank shall be permitted to represent Sellers after the Closing in connection with any matter, including, without limitation, anything related to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or any disagreement or dispute relating thereto. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, after the Closing, Milbank shall be permitted to represent Sellers, any of its agents and Affiliates, or any one or more of them, in connection with any negotiation, transaction or dispute (“dispute” includes litigation, arbitration or other adversary proceeding) with Buyer, the Company or any of its agents or affiliates under or relating to this Agreement, any transaction contemplated by this Agreement, and any related matter, such as claims for indemnification and disputes involving employment or noncompetition or other agreements entered into in connection with this Agreement. Upon and after the Closing, the Company shall cease to have any attorney-client relationship with Milbank, unless Milbank is specifically engaged in writing by the Company to represent such entity after the Closing and either such engagement involves no conflict of interest with respect to Sellers or Sellers consents in writing at the time to such engagement. Any such representation of the Company by Milbank after the Closing shall not affect the foregoing provisions hereof. For example, and not by way of limitation, even if Milbank is representing the Company after the Closing, Milbank shall be permitted simultaneously to represent Sellers in any matter, including any disagreement or dispute relating thereto. Furthermore, Milbank shall be permitted to withdraw from any representation of the Company in order to be able to represent or continue so representing Sellers, even if such withdrawal causes the Company or Buyer additional legal expense, delay or other prejudice.

(b) Each of Buyer, Merger Sub and the Company, for itself and its Affiliates, hereby irrevocably acknowledges and agrees that all communications among the Representative, the Sellers, the Company and Milbank primarily for purposes of the negotiation, preparation, execution, delivery and performance under, or any dispute or proceeding arising out of or relating to, this Agreement, any Ancillary Agreements or the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, or any matter relating to any of the foregoing, are privileged communications between such party and Milbank and from and after the Closing do not pass to the Surviving Company or Buyer notwithstanding the Merger and instead remain with and are controlled by the Representative (the “Privileged Communications”). Neither the Surviving Company, nor any Person purporting to act on behalf of or through Buyer or the Surviving Company or any of their Affiliates, will seek to obtain the same by any process. Buyer and the Surviving Company, together with any of their respective affiliates, subsidiaries, successors or assigns, agree that no Person may use or rely on any of the Privileged Communications, whether located in email accounts of the Surviving Company, or otherwise, in any action against or involving any of the parties after the Closing. From and after the Closing, each of Buyer and the Surviving Company, on behalf of itself and its Affiliates, will not assert any potentially applicable privilege or conflict of interest for the purpose of preventing Milbank from representing the Representative or any Seller with respect to the Privileged Communications occurring prior to the Closing in connection with any post-closing representation. Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted as a waiver, or as requiring a waiver, of the attorney-client privilege. Buyer acknowledges that the Company and Sellers and Milbank will be relying on the provisions of this Section 11.17 and that this Section 11.17 is intended for the benefit of, and to grant third party rights to Milbank to enforce this Section 11.17. Buyer further acknowledges that the waiver, consents and restrictions under this Section 11.17 are voluntary and informed, and that it has obtained independent legal advice with respect hereto. This Section 11.17 shall amend, restate and supersede any other conflict waiver entered by Buyer or one of its Affiliates in favor of Milbank in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, including without limitation any such conflict waiver in any confidentiality agreement or engagement letter.

(c) If Buyer so desires, and without the need for any consent or waiver by the Company or Sellers, Troutman Sanders LLP shall be permitted to represent Buyer and the Company after the Closing in connection with any matter, including, without limitation, anything related to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or any disagreement or dispute relating thereto. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, after the Closing, Troutman Sanders LLP shall be permitted to represent Buyer, any of its agents and Affiliates, or any one or more of them, in connection with any negotiation, transaction or dispute (“dispute” includes litigation, arbitration or other adversary proceeding) with Sellers, the Company or any of their agents or affiliates under or relating to this Agreement, any transaction contemplated by this Agreement, and any related matter, such as claims for indemnification and disputes involving employment or noncompetition or other agreements entered into in connection with this Agreement.

[Signatures on following page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have duly executed this Agreement as of the date first above written.

PACIFIC ETHANOL CENTRAL, LLC

By: /s/ Neil M. Koehler  
Name: Neil M. Koehler  
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

ICP MERGER SUB, LLC

By: /s/ Neil M. Koehler  
Name: Neil M. Koehler  
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

ILLINOIS CORN PROCESSING, LLC

By: /s/ Bruce P. Weins  
Name: Bruce Weins  
Title: Vice President and Treasurer

ILLINOIS CORN PROCESSING HOLDINGS INC.

By: /s/ Bruce P. Weins  
Name: Bruce Weins  
Title: Vice President and Treasurer

MGPI PROCESSING, INC.

By: /s/ Augustus C. Griffin  
Name: Augustus C. Griffin  
Title: President and CEO

[SIGNATURE PAGE TO AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER]



Cray Business Plaza  
100 Commercial St., P.O. Box 130  
Atchison, Kansas 66002-0130  
913.367.1480  
mgpingredients.com

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **MGP REACHES AGREEMENT TO SELL STAKE IN ICP JOINT VENTURE** *Board expects to declare special dividend of approximately \$0.85 per share after closing*

**ATCHISON, Kan., June 27, 2017 - MGP Ingredients, Inc. (Nasdaq/MGPI)** announced today that it has entered into a merger agreement with an affiliate of SEACOR Holdings, Inc. and Pacific Ethanol Central, LLC that would result in a sale of its thirty percent equity ownership interest in Illinois Corn Processing, LLC ("ICP") to Pacific Ethanol.

"The sale of ICP will enable MGP to fully focus on growing our core businesses of premium beverage alcohol and specialty ingredients products," said Gus Griffin, president and CEO of MGP. "This transaction is another step in our strategic plan to realize the full potential of MGP for our shareholders."

Total proceeds of \$76 million will be paid in a combination of \$30 million in cash and through the issuance of secured promissory notes with an aggregate principal amount of \$46 million to both of the ICP members in proportion to their ownership. The purchase price is subject to customary pre- and post-closing adjustments.

The transaction is subject to customary representations, warranties and covenants, including covenants with respect to the operation of ICP prior to the closing of the merger transaction. The transaction is also subject to customary closing conditions. Guggenheim Securities LLC acted as exclusive financial advisor to Illinois Corn Processing, LLC.

MGP expects that its Board of Directors will declare a special dividend of approximately \$0.85 per share of common stock outstanding, or \$14.5 million in the aggregate, to occur within 30 days of closing the merger transaction. This dividend will primarily be funded from the initial cash proceeds from the sale and cash received from a dividend distribution from ICP of \$6.6 million approved on June 26, 2017.

### **Effects of Transaction and Long Term Guidance**

Income from MGP's ownership of ICP is reported as equity method investment earnings. The transaction will not affect MGP's sales or operating income, but will reduce MGP's net income by eliminating equity method investment earnings after the date of closing. For the period ending March 31, 2017, MGP reported equity method investment earnings of \$471,000, or \$0.02 per share. For the year ended December 31, 2016, MGP had equity method investment earnings of \$4.0 million from its ownership of ICP, or \$0.17 per share.

The transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement would result in a gain on sale of equity method investment, net of tax, of approximately \$8.0 million. This pro forma financial information is presented for illustrative purposes only, is based on certain assumptions that we believe are reasonable, and is not necessarily indicative of the results of the contemplated transaction.

There is no change at this time to the Company's previously-issued guidance regarding revenue or operating income expectations. Additional details of the merger transaction can be found in the Company's Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 27, 2017.

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## **About Illinois Corn Processing (ICP)**

ICP produces high quality food grade alcohol, chemical intermediates, and fuel at its Pekin, Illinois facility. Illinois Corn Processing Holdings Inc., an affiliate of SEACOR Holdings, Inc., holds the remaining equity in ICP. MGP's share of the merger consideration will equal its proportionate ownership percentage.

## **About MGP Ingredients, Inc.**

MGP is a leading producer and supplier of premium distilled spirits and specialty wheat proteins and starches. Distilled spirits include premium bourbon and rye whiskeys, gins and vodkas, which are carefully crafted through a combination of art and science and backed by over 150 years of experience. The Company's proteins and starches are created in the same manner and provide a host of functional, nutritional and sensory benefits for a wide range of food products. MGP additionally is a producer of high quality industrial alcohol for use in both food and non-food applications. The Company is headquartered in Atchison, Kansas, where distilled alcohol products and food ingredients are produced. Premium spirits are also distilled and matured at the Company facility in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. For more information, visit [mgpingredients.com](http://mgpingredients.com).

## **Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

This news release contains forward-looking statements as well as historical information. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included in this filing regarding the closing of the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, and our prospects, plans (including special dividend plans), financial position, business strategy, guidance on growth in operating income, revenue, gross margin, and future effective tax rate may constitute forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are usually identified by or are associated with such words as "intend," "plan," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "anticipate," "hopeful," "should," "may," "will," "could," "encouraged," "opportunities," "potential" and/or the negatives or variations of these terms or similar terminology. They reflect management's current beliefs and estimates and are not guarantees of future performance. All such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the relevant forward-looking statement. The risks and uncertainties in connection with such forward-looking statements related to the proposed transactions include, but are not limited to, the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could delay the closing of the proposed transactions; the possibility of non-consummation of the proposed transactions and the termination of the Merger Agreement; the failure to satisfy any of the conditions to the closing of the merger in the Merger Agreement; adverse effects on the Company's common stock because of the failure to complete the proposed merger transaction; and the dependence of the proposed special dividend of the consummation of the merger transaction. For further information on other risks and uncertainties that may affect our business see Item 1A. Risk Factors of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

## **For More Information**

Investors & Analysts:

Bob Burton

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Media:

Greg Manis

913-360-5440 or [greg.manis@mgpingredients.com](mailto:greg.manis@mgpingredients.com)

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