

**STANDARD  
& POOR'S**

55 Water Street, 38th Floor  
New York, NY 10041-0003  
tel 212 438-2074  
reference no.: 40311432

September 27, 2010

Assured Guaranty Municipal Corp.  
31 West 52nd Street  
New York, NY 10019  
Attention: Mr. Richard Bauerfeld, Managing Director

Re: *\$14,430,000 The County of Union, Illinois, General Obligation Bonds consisting of (i) \$1,070,000 Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2010A (Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds (Direct Payment)), (ii) \$12,635,000 Taxable General Obligation Bonds, Series 2010B (Build America Bonds (Direct Payment)) and (iii) \$725,000 Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2010C, dated: September 29, 2010, due: September 1, 2011-2026, 2041, Term Bonds due: September 1, 2030, September 1, 2040 and September 1, 2042, (POLICY #212642-N)*

Dear Mr. Bauerfeld:

Pursuant to your request for a Standard & Poor's rating on the above-referenced obligations, we have reviewed the information submitted to us and, subject to the enclosed *Terms and Conditions*, have assigned a rating of "AAA". The rating reflects our assessment of the likelihood of repayment of principal and interest based on the bond insurance policy your company is providing. Therefore, rating adjustments may result from changes in the financial position of your company or from alterations in the documents governing the issue.

The rating is not investment, financial, or other advice and you should not and cannot rely upon the rating as such. The rating is based on information supplied to us by you but does not represent an audit. We undertake no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information. The assignment of a rating does not create a fiduciary relationship between us and you or between us and other recipients of the rating. We have not consented to and will not consent to being named an "expert" under the applicable securities laws, including without limitation, Section 7 of the Securities Act of 1933. The rating is not a "market rating" nor is it a recommendation to buy, hold, or sell the obligations.

This letter constitutes Standard & Poor's permission to you to disseminate the above-assigned rating to interested parties. Standard & Poor's reserves the right to inform its own clients, subscribers, and the public of the rating.

Standard & Poor's relies on the issuer and its counsel, accountants, and other experts for the accuracy and completeness of the information submitted in connection with the rating. This rating is based on financial information and documents we received prior to the issuance of this letter. Standard & Poor's must receive complete documentation relating to this issue no later than 90

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days after the date of this letter. Standard & Poor's assumes that the documents you have provided to us are final. If any subsequent changes were made in the final documents, you must notify us of such changes by sending us the revised final documents with the changes clearly marked.

Standard & Poor's is pleased to be of service to you. For more information please visit our website at [www.standardandpoors.com](http://www.standardandpoors.com). If we can be of help in any other way, please contact us. Thank you for choosing Standard & Poor's and we look forward to working with you again.

Sincerely yours,

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services  
a Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC business

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Standard and Poor's" followed by a stylized monogram or initials.

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## **Standard & Poor's Ratings Services Terms and Conditions Applicable To Ratings**

You understand and agree that:

General. The ratings and other views of Standard & Poor's Ratings Services ("Ratings Services") are statements of opinion and not statements of fact. A rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold, or sell any securities nor does it comment on market price, marketability, investor preference or suitability of any security. While Ratings Services bases its ratings and other views on information provided by issuers and their agents and advisors, and other information from sources it believes to be reliable, Ratings Services does not perform an audit, and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification, of any information it receives. Such information and Ratings Services' opinions should not be relied upon in making any investment decision. Ratings Services does not act as a "fiduciary" or an investment advisor. Ratings Services neither recommends or will recommend how an issuer can or should achieve a particular rating outcome nor provides or will provide consulting, advisory, financial or structuring advice.

All Rating Actions in Ratings Services' Sole Discretion. Ratings Services may assign, raise, lower, suspend, place on CreditWatch, or withdraw a rating, and assign or revise an Outlook, at any time, in Ratings Services' sole discretion. Ratings Services may take any of the foregoing actions notwithstanding any request for a confidential rating or a withdrawal of a rating, or termination of this Agreement. Ratings Services will not convert a public rating to a confidential rating.

Publication. Ratings Services reserves the right to use, publish, disseminate, or license others to use, publish or disseminate the rating provided hereunder and any analytical reports, including the rationale for the rating, unless you specifically request in connection with the initial rating that the rating be assigned and maintained on a confidential basis. If, however, a confidential rating or the existence of a confidential rating subsequently becomes public through disclosure other than by an act of Ratings Services or its affiliates, Ratings Services reserves the right to treat the rating as a public rating, including, without limitation, publishing the rating and any related analytical reports. Any analytical reports published by Ratings Services are not issued by or on behalf of you or at your request. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Ratings Services reserves the right to use, publish, disseminate or license others to use, publish or disseminate analytical reports with respect to public ratings that have been withdrawn, regardless of the reason for such withdrawal. Ratings Services may publish explanations of Ratings Services' ratings criteria from time to time and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as limiting Ratings Services' ability to modify or refine its ratings criteria at any time as Ratings Services deems appropriate.

Information to be Provided by You. For so long as this agreement is in effect, in connection with the rating provided hereunder, you warrant that you will provide, or cause to be provided, as promptly as practicable, to Ratings Services (i) all information requested by Ratings Services in accordance with its published ratings criteria, and (ii) any other information relevant to the rating and, if applicable, surveillance of the rating, including, without limitation, information on material changes to information previously provided by you, your agents or advisors to Ratings Services, other than information you reasonably believe is not material to the rating or such surveillance. The rating, and the maintenance of the rating, may be affected by Ratings Services' opinion of the information received from you or your agents or advisors. You further warrant that all information provided to Ratings Services by you or your agents or advisors regarding the rating or, if applicable, surveillance of the rating, contains no untrue statement of material fact and does not omit a material fact necessary in order to make such information, in light of the circumstances in which it was provided, not misleading. A material breach of the warranties in this paragraph shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement. To the extent permitted by applicable law, you will be liable to Rating Services and its affiliates for all losses, damages, liabilities, judgments, costs, charges and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) ("Losses") (x) resulting from a material breach of the warranties in this paragraph, including but not limited to all Losses arising from claims asserted by any third party against Ratings Services, or (y) that arise out of or relate to any claim that the information provided by you

or your agents or advisors infringes or violates the intellectual property rights of a third party, except in either case, to the extent such Losses are judicially determined to result from gross negligence or willful misconduct of Ratings Services.

Confidential Information. For purposes of this Agreement, “Confidential Information” shall mean information that you or your agents or advisors have provided to Ratings Services and, in a specific and particularized manner, have marked or otherwise indicated in writing that such information is “Proprietary and Confidential.” Notwithstanding the foregoing, information disclosed by you or your agents or advisors to Ratings Services shall not be deemed to be Confidential Information, and Ratings Services shall have no obligation to treat such information as Confidential Information, if such information (i) was known by Ratings Services or its affiliates at the time of such disclosure and was not known by Ratings Services to be subject to a prohibition on disclosure, (ii) was known to the public at the time of such disclosure, (iii) becomes known to the public (other than by an act of Ratings Services or its affiliates) subsequent to such disclosure, (iv) is disclosed to Ratings Services or its affiliates by a third party subsequent to such disclosure and Ratings Services reasonably believes that such third party’s disclosure to Ratings Services or its affiliates was not prohibited, (v) is developed independently by Ratings Services or its affiliates without reference to the Confidential Information, (vi) is approved in writing by you for public disclosure, or (vii) is required by law or regulation to be disclosed by Ratings Services or its affiliates or publicly disclosed by you.

Ratings Services’ Use of Information. Except as otherwise provided herein, Ratings Services shall not disclose Confidential Information to third parties. Ratings Services may use Confidential Information to assign, raise, lower, suspend, place on CreditWatch, or withdraw a rating, and assign or revise an Outlook, and may share Confidential Information with its affiliates engaged in the ratings business, provided that, in each case, the Confidential Information is not presented publicly in a way that can be attributed to you and such affiliates are bound by appropriate confidentiality obligations. Ratings Services may also use, publish and share Confidential Information with any of its affiliates or agents engaged in the ratings or other financial services businesses who are bound by appropriate confidentiality obligations (“Relevant Affiliates and Agents”), for modelling, benchmarking and research purposes, provided that, in each case, Confidential Information is not presented publicly in a way that can be attributed to you. With respect to structured finance ratings not maintained on a confidential basis, Ratings Services may publish data aggregated from Confidential Information, excluding data that is specific to and identifies individual debtors (“Relevant Data”), and share such Confidential Information with any of its Relevant Affiliates and Agents for general market dissemination of Relevant Data; you confirm that, to the best of your knowledge, there are no third parties whose rights would be adversely affected by any such publication. Ratings Services and its affiliates reserve the right to use, publish, disseminate, or license others to use, publish or disseminate any non-Confidential Information provided by you, your agents or advisors.

Ratings Services Not an Expert, Underwriter or Seller under Securities Laws. Ratings Services has not consented to and will not consent to being named an “expert” or any similar designation under any applicable securities laws or other regulatory guidance, rules or recommendations, including without limitation, Section 7 of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933. Ratings Services is not an “underwriter” or “seller” as those terms are defined under applicable securities laws or other regulatory guidance, rules or recommendations, including without limitation Sections 11 and 12(a)(2) of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933. Rating Services has not performed the role or tasks associated with an “underwriter” or “seller” under the United States federal securities laws or other regulatory guidance, rules or recommendations in connection with this engagement.

Office of Foreign Assets Control. Neither you nor the issuer (if you are not the issuer) is subject to economic, trade, or transactional sanctions imposed by the United States Government or any state government. None of you, the issuer (if you are not the issuer), or any of your or the issuer’s owners, directors, officers, employees, or group companies appears on any list of known or suspected terrorists, terrorist organizations or other prohibited persons maintained by any agency of the United States Government or of any other jurisdiction in which you or the issuer or any of your or the issuer’s group of companies are doing business, including but not limited to the List of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Neither you nor the issuer (if you are not the issuer) is owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any entity subject to such sanctions or appearing on such lists. For so long as this agreement is in effect, you will promptly notify Ratings Services if any of these circumstances change.

Ratings Services’ Use of Confidential Ratings. Ratings Services may use confidential ratings in its analysis of the debt issued by collateralized debt obligation (CDO) and other investment vehicles. Ratings Services may disclose a

confidential rating as a confidential credit estimate to the managers of CDO and similar investment vehicles. Ratings Services may permit CDO managers to use and disseminate credit estimates on a limited basis and subject to various restrictions; however, Ratings Services cannot control any such use or dissemination.

Entire Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent Ratings Services from acting in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and Ratings Services' policies as published from time to time. Subject to the prior sentence, this Agreement constitutes the complete and entire agreement between the parties regarding its subject matter. The terms of this Agreement supersede any other terms and conditions relating to information provided to Ratings Services by you or your agents and advisors, including without limitation, terms and conditions of websites through which you or your agents and advisors make such information available to Ratings Services, and such terms and conditions shall not apply to Ratings Services.

Limitation on Damages. Ratings Services does not and cannot guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or timeliness of the information relied on in connection with a rating or the results obtained from the use of such information. RATINGS SERVICES GIVES NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE. Ratings Services, its affiliates or third party providers, or any of their officers, directors, shareholders, employees or agents shall not be liable to you, your affiliates or any person asserting claims on your behalf, directly or indirectly, for any inaccuracies, errors, or omissions, in each case regardless of cause, actions, damages (consequential, special, indirect, incidental, punitive, compensatory, exemplary or otherwise), claims, liabilities, costs, expenses, legal fees or losses (including, without limitation, lost income or lost profits and opportunity costs) in any way arising out of or relating to the rating provided hereunder or the related analytic services even if advised of the possibility of such damages or other amounts except to the extent such damages or other amounts are judicially determined to result from gross negligence or willful misconduct of Ratings Services. In furtherance and not in limitation of the foregoing, Ratings Services will not be liable to you, your affiliates or any person asserting claims on your behalf in respect of any decisions alleged to be made by any person based on anything that may be perceived as advice or recommendations. In the event that Ratings Services is nevertheless held liable to you, your affiliates, or any person asserting claims on your behalf for monetary damages under this Agreement, in no event shall Ratings Services be liable in an aggregate amount in excess of three times the aggregate fees paid to Ratings Services for the rating giving rise to the cause of action during the twelve-months preceding the date the alleged claim has arisen, up to a maximum of US\$1,000,000 except to the extent such limitation is unenforceable by law. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply regardless of the form of action, damage, claim, liability, cost, expense, or loss, whether in contract, statute, tort (including, without limitation, negligence), or otherwise. Neither party waives any protections, privileges, or defenses it may have under law, including but not limited to, the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America.

Termination of Agreement. This Agreement may be terminated by either party at any time upon written notice to the other party. Except where expressly limited to the term of this Agreement, these Terms and Conditions shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

No Third-Party Beneficiaries. Nothing in this Agreement, or the rating when issued, is intended or should be construed as creating any rights on behalf of any third parties, including, without limitation, any recipient of the rating. No person is intended as a third party beneficiary of this Agreement or of the rating when issued.

Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding on, and inure to the benefit of, the parties hereto and their successors and assigns.

Severability. In the event that any term or provision of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, then the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected, impaired, or invalidated, and each such term and provision shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Amendments. This Agreement may not be amended except in a writing signed by authorized representatives of both parties.

Governing Law. This Agreement and the rating letter shall be governed by the internal laws of the State of New York. The parties irrevocably agree that the state and federal courts of New York located in the County of New York shall be

the exclusive forums for any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement and the parties hereby consent to the personal jurisdiction of such courts.