

PROJECT COMPLETION AND RECAPTURE AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, dated as of February 1, 2024 is made by **ELG UTICA ALLOYS HOLDING CORP.**, a New York Business Corporation having an address of 378 Gros Boulevard, Herkimer, New York 13350 (the “Owner” or “Company”) and **ELG UTICA ALLOYS, INC.**, a New York Business Corporation having an address of 378 Gros Boulevard, Herkimer, New York 13350 (the “Sublessee”) for the benefit of the **HERKIMER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**, an industrial development agency and a public benefit corporation of the State of New York having its principal office at 420 E. German Street, Suite 101A, Herkimer, New York 13350 (the “Agency”).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Title 1 of Article 18 A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York (the “Act”) was duly enacted into law as Chapter 1030 of the Laws of 1969 of the State of New York (the “State”); and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes the creation of industrial development agencies for the benefit of the several counties, cities, villages and towns in the State and empowers such agencies, among other things, to acquire, construct, reconstruct, lease, improve, maintain, equip and sell land and any building or other improvement, and all real and personal properties, including, but not limited to, machinery and equipment deemed necessary in connection therewith, whether or not now in existence or under construction, which shall be suitable for manufacturing, warehousing, research, housing, commercial or industrial facilities, including industrial pollution control facilities, in order to advance job opportunities, health, general prosperity and the economic welfare of the people of the State and to improve their standard of living; and

WHEREAS, the Act further authorizes each such industrial development agency to lease any or all of its facilities at such rentals and on such other terms and conditions as it deems advisable, to issue its bonds for the purpose of carrying out any of its corporate purposes and, as security for the payment of the principal and redemption price of, and interest on, any such bonds so issued and any agreements made in connection therewith, to mortgage any or all of its facilities and to pledge the revenues and receipts from the leasing of its facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Company and Sublessee have requested that the Agency (the “Agency”) undertake a project (the “Project”) consisting of the following: (A) acquisition, construction, leasing and equipping of a manufacturing and distribution facility and office space (collectively, the “Facility”); (B) the granting of certain “financial assistance” (within the meaning of Section 854(14) of the General Municipal Law) with respect to the foregoing, including potential exemptions from sales taxes, exemptions from mortgage recording taxes and reduction of real property taxes (collectively, the “Financial Assistance”); (C) the lease of the Facility to Agency and leaseback of the Facility to the Company or such other person as may be designated by the Company and agreed upon the Agency; and (D) the sublease of the Facility to ELG Utica Alloys, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide such Financial Assistance to the Company and/or Sublessee under the Act, the Agency requires, among other things, that the Owner and the Agency enter into certain lease/leaseback transactions and other associated agreements dated of even date herewith (collectively, the “Transaction Documents”); and

WHEREAS, based upon representations made by the Company and Sublessee in its Application for Financial Assistance, the Agency determined that the Project will promote employment opportunities and prevent economic deterioration in Herkimer County by filling the demand for warehousing/commercial facilities and for attracting a quality workforce to the region; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has appointed the Company and its agents and designees as its agent for the purposes of acquiring the Land and construction and equipping the Facility; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Lease Agreement dated of even date herewith between the Owner as Lessor and the Agency as Lessee (the “Lease Agreement”), the Company has agreed to lease the Facility to the Agency commencing February 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2034 (the “Lease Term”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Leaseback Agreement dated as of February 1, 2024 (the “Leaseback Agreement”), the Agency is leasing the Facility back to the Owner for the Lease Term; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Sublease Addendum to the Lease Agreement between the Company and Sublessee, the Sublessee will operate the Facility; and

WHEREAS, the Agency wishes to condition the Financial Assistance upon the Company completing the Facility as described.

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration and in consideration of the Owner entering into the Lease and Leaseback Agreement, the Company and Sublessee hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. Representations and Covenants. The Company and Sublessee make the following representations and covenants as the basis for the undertakings on its part herein contained:
 - (a) It has power to enter into and to execute and deliver this Agreement.
 - (b) Neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement, the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby nor the fulfillment of or compliance with the provisions of this Agreement will conflict with or result in a breach of any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any corporate restriction or any agreement or instrument to which the Company or Sublessee is a party or by which it is bound, or will constitute a default under any of the foregoing, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien of any nature upon any of the property of the Company or Sublessee under the terms of any such instrument or agreement.

- (c) Except as previously disclosed to the Agency, the providing of the Facility by the Agency and the leasing thereof by the Agency to the Company will not result in the removal of a plant facility or another commercial activity of the Company or Sublessee from one area of the State to another area of the State nor result in the abandonment of one or more plants or facilities of the Company or Sublessee located within the State.
 - (d) The operation of the Facility will conform in all material respects with all applicable zoning, planning, building and environmental laws and regulations of governmental authorities having jurisdiction over the Facility, and the Company and Sublessee shall defend, indemnify and hold the Agency harmless from any liability or expenses resulting from any failure by the Company or Sublessee to comply with the provisions of this subsection (d).
 - (e) There is no litigation pending or, to the knowledge of the Company or Sublessee, threatened, in any court, either state or federal, to which the Company or Sublessee is a party, and in which an adverse result would materially diminish or adversely impact on the ability of the Company and/or Sublessee to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement.
2. Project and Investment Obligations. The financial assistance granted by the Agency is conditioned upon the Applicants constructing its Project as represented in its Application within two years of the date of this Agreement (the "Project Obligation"). If, after two years or upon completion of the Project, the Project is not completed in accordance with the Project Obligation, it may subject the Applicants to recapture of Financial Assistance. After acceptance by the Agency of the Company's Final Project Report (more particularly described below) confirming compliance with the Project Obligation, the Company shall have no further obligation with respect to the Project Obligation and shall not be liable for any of the payments described below. The Company further acknowledges that the Financial Assistance was granted based upon the representation that ELG Utica Alloys Holding Corp. would create or cause to be created, approximately 40 construction jobs over the period of construction (the "Employment Obligation"). In addition, the Company estimates generating 10 full time jobs by virtue of a sublease to ELG Utica Alloys, Inc., as well as fringe benefits to the community via food and fuel sales, motel rental and sales tax. The Company and/or Sublessee (as the case may be) shall also refrain from seeking additional real property tax abatement. The Company and/or Sublessee (as the case may be) shall file with the Agency, on or before January 31, commencing January 31, 2025 of each calendar year, an annual employment report setting forth the number of full time jobs created and maintained during the preceding year.
3. Final Project Review. The Company will be required to submit to the Agency a certificate attesting to completion of the Project Obligation, together with copies of all Certificates of Occupancy (the "Final Project Report") within ten (10) days of receiving a Certificate of Occupancy for all units, or at least ten days before the end of the Lease Term, whichever is soonest. The Agency reserves the right to inspect the Facility, with reasonable notice to the Company and so long as such inspection does not unreasonably interfere with Company's

operations at the Facility. Upon receipt of the Final Project Report, the Agency will evaluate the Project again using the same criteria considered at the time of the initial project application.

4. Remedies. If the Employment Obligation is not met on or before the first (1st) anniversary of the date of this Agreement, or maintained in any year thereafter, the Agency may notify the Company and/or Sublessee in writing of its intention to recapture Financial Assistance and the Company and/or Sublessee will have thirty (30) days to respond to the letter citing the reason or reasons ELG Utica Alloys Holding Corp. or ELG Utica Alloys, Inc. failed to achieve its Employment Obligation, including any request to appear before the Agency. If the Agency then determines that ELG Utica Alloys Holding Corp. or ELG Utica Alloys, Inc.'s reasons for failing to achieve the Employment Obligation are not acceptable to the Agency, the Agency, at its sole discretion, may:

a. Take no action if it is determined that the reason or reasons for failing to achieve the Project Obligation are temporary or, in the sole opinion of the Agency, it is in the best interest of economic development of Herkimer County; or

b. Reduce the benefit granted to the Company and/or Sublessee and recapture payment(s) from the Company and/or Sublessee for Payment in Lieu of Taxes, Sales Tax and Mortgage Tax as follows:

Within two (2) years of Certificate of Occupancy:	100%
Within three (3) years:	80%
Within four (4) years:	60%
Within five (5) years:	40%
Within six (6) years:	30%
Within seven (7) years:	20%
Within eight (8) years:	10%
Eight (8) years or more:	0%

c. Such other remedies as permitted under the Agency's Tax Exempt Policy which is incorporated herein by reference.

5. The Agency retains all rights to impose, delay or waive penalties and the right to deviate from these recapture provisions. Notwithstanding this right, the Agency is obligated to recapture New York State sales tax benefits where:

a) The Project is not entitled to receive those benefits; or

b) The exemptions exceed the amount authorized, or are claimed for unauthorized property or services; or

c) The Company and/or Sublessee fail to use property or services in the manner required by the Leaseback Agreement.

6. The Company and Sublessee acknowledge the value of:
- a) The sales and use tax exemption currently authorized by the Agency is limited to no more than \$286,301.00; or
 - b) Mortgage Recording Tax exemption is not to exceed \$ n/a ; or
 - c) Real Property Tax Abatement is estimated at \$53,072.09.
7. Notices. All notices, certificates and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently given and shall be deemed given when delivered and, if delivered by mail, shall be sent by certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

To the Agency: Herkimer County Industrial Development Agency
420 E. German Street - Suite 101A
Herkimer, New York 13350
Attention: John J. Piseck, Jr., Chief Executive Officer

With a Copy to: Felt Evans, LLP
4-6 North Park Row
Clinton, New York 13323
Attention: Anthony G. Hallak, Esq.

To the Company: ELG Utica Alloys Holding Corp.
378 Gros Boulevard
Herkimer, New York 13350
Attn: Jay Williams, Vice President of Operations

With a Copy to: Phillips Lytle LLP
620 Eighth Avenue - 38th Floor
New York, New York 10018
Attn: Milan K. Tyler, Esq.

8. Binding Effect: This agreement shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the Agency, the Company and Sublessee and their respective successors and permitted assigns.
9. Severability: In the event any provision of this Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision hereof.
10. Amendments, Changes and Modifications. This Agreement may not be amended, changed, modified, altered or terminated without the concurring written consent of the parties hereto.
11. Execution of Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

12. Applicable Law. This Agreement shall be governed exclusively by the applicable laws of the State of New York.
13. Survival of Obligation. This Agreement shall survive the performance of the obligations of the Company to make payments required by Section 2.6 of the Leaseback Agreement and all indemnities shall survive any termination or expiration of the Leaseback Agreement as to matters occurring during the period of the Company's occupancy of the Facility.
14. Section Headings Not Controlling. The headings of the several sections in this Agreement have been prepared for convenience of reference only and shall not control, affect the meaning or be taken as an interpretation of any provision of this Agreement.
15. Merger of the Agency.
 - (a) Nothing contained in this Agreement shall prevent the consolidation of the Agency with, or merger of the Agency into, or assignment by the Agency of its rights and interests hereunder to, any other body corporate and political and public instrumentality of the State of New York or political subdivision thereof which has the legal authority to perform the obligations of the Agency hereunder, provided that upon any such consolidation, merger or assignment, the due and punctual performance and observance of all the agreements and conditions of this Agreement to be kept and performed by the Agency shall be expressly assumed in writing by the public instrumentality or political subdivision resulting from such consolidation or surviving such merger or to which the Agency's rights and interests hereunder shall be assigned.
 - (b) As of the date if any such consolidation, merger or assignment, the Agency shall give notice thereof in reasonable detail to the Company and Sublessee. The Agency shall promptly furnish to the Company and Sublessee such additional information with respect to any such consolidation, merger or assignment as the Company and Sublessee reasonably may request.
16. No Assignment. This agreement may not be assigned by the Company or Sublessee except with the written consent of the Agency, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no consent from the Agency shall be required if an assignment of this Agreement is made by the Company or Sublessee to the Company's or Sublessee's parent, any direct or indirect subsidiary or affiliate of the Company or Sublessee, or a successor to the Company or Sublessee by way of merger, consolidation, corporate reorganization, or the purchase of all or substantially all of the Company's or Sublessee's assets.
17. Agreement to Pay Attorney's Fees and Expenses. In the event the Company or Sublessee should default under any of the provisions of this Agreement beyond any notice and cure period and the Agency should employ attorneys or incur other expenses for the collection of amounts payable hereunder or the enforcement of performance or observance of any obligations or agreements on the part of the Company or Sublessee herein contained, the


Company or Sublessee shall, on demand therefor, pay to the Agency the reasonable fees of such attorneys and such other expenses so incurred.

18. No Additional Waiver Implied By One Waiver. In the event any agreement contained herein should be breached by any party and thereafter waived by any other party, such waiver shall be limited to the particular breach so waived and shall not be deemed to waive any other breach hereunder.
19. Inducement Agreement. The Transaction Documents represent the entire agreements of the Agency, the Company and Sublessee and supersede the terms of the Inducement Agreement executed as of December 12, 2023, between the same parties.
20. Successors and Assigns. The rights and obligations of the Company and Sublessee hereunder shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of its respective successors and assigns.

[signature page follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company and Sublessee have executed and delivered this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

HERKIMER COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

By: 
Vincent J. Bono, Chairman

ELG UTICA ALLOYS HOLDING CORP.

By: 
Jay Williams, Vice President of Operations

ELG UTICA ALLOYS, INC.

By: 
Jay Williams, Vice President of Operations


STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF HERKIMER) ss.:

On this 20th day of February, 2024, before me, a notary public in and for said State, did personally appear **Vincent J. Bono**, to me personally known or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.


Notary Public, State of New York
Qualified in Herkimer County
No. 01BE5004336
My Commission Expires: 11/16/2026

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF Herkimer) ss.:

On this 13 day of February, 2024, before me, a notary public in and for said State, did personally appear **Jay Williams**, to me personally known or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.


Notary Public

Tracy J. Herringshaw
Notary Public - State of New York
No. 01HE6380383
Qualified in Herkimer County
Commission Expires September 4, 2026