HB3216

The OPEC Fund for International Development

LOAN NO. 837P

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT (PHASE II)

LOAN AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

AND

THE OPEC FUND FOR
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DATED

MAY 22, 2001

The OPEC Fund for International Development

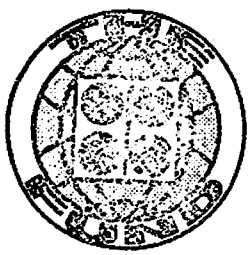
AGREEMENT dated May 22, 2001, between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (hereinafter called the Borrower) and the OPEC Fund for International Development (hereinafter called the Fund).

Whereas OPEC Member States, being conscious of the need for solidarity among all developing countries and aware of the importance of financial cooperation between them and other developing countries, have established the Fund to provide financial support to the latter countries on concessional terms, in addition to the existing bilateral and multilateral channels through which OPEC Member States extend financial assistance to other developing countries;

And whereas the Borrower has requested assistance from the Fund in the financing of the Project described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement;

And whereas the Governing Board of the Fund has approved the extension of a loan to the Borrower in the amount of Ten Million US Dollars (US$ 10,000,000) upon the terms and conditions set forth hereinafter;

Now, therefore, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:



Article 1
DEFINITIONS

1.01 Wherever used in this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Fund" means the OPEC Fund for International Development established by the Member States of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) by virtue of the Agreement signed in Paris on January 28, 1976, as amended.

(b) "Fund Management" means the Director-General of the Fund or his authorized representative.

(c) "Loan" means the loan provided by virtue of this Agreement.

(d) "Dollar" or the sign "$" means the currency of the United States of America.

(e) "Project" means the project for which the Loan is granted as described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement and as the description thereof may be amended from time to time by agreement between the Borrower and the Fund Management.

(f) "Goods" means equipment, supplies and services required for the Project. Reference to the cost of goods shall be deemed to include also the cost of importing such goods in the territories of the Borrower.

(g) "Executing Agency" means the ODA Projects Management Board of Quang Nam Province of the Borrower or such other agency as may hereafter be agreed upon between the Borrower and the Fund Management.

(h) "Closing Date" means the date specified under or pursuant to Section 2.10 of this Agreement.

(i) "Effective Date" means the date on which this Agreement shall come into force and effect.

* * *

Article 2
THE LOAN

2.01 A loan in the amount of Ten Million Dollars ($ 10,000,000) is hereby extended by the Fund to the Borrower on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

2.02 The Borrower shall pay interest at the rate of one per cent (1%) per annum on the principal amount of the Loan withdrawn and outstanding from time to time.

2.03 The Borrower shall pay from time to time a service charge at the rate of one per cent (1 %) per annum on the principal amount of the Loan withdrawn and outstanding, to meet the expenses of administering the Loan.

2.04 Interest and service charges shall be paid in Dollars semi-annually on June 15 and December 15 in each year into an account of the Fund designated for this purpose by the Fund Management.

2.05 After this Agreement has been declared effective pursuant to Section 7.01, and unless the Borrower and the Fund shall otherwise agree, the proceeds of the Loan may be withdrawn from time to time to meet expenditures made after March 27, 2001, or to be made on later dates in respect of the reasonable cost of goods required for the Project which are to be financed out of the Loan proceeds as outlined in Schedule 2 to this Agreement and in the amendments of such a Schedule duly approved by the Fund Management.

2.06 Except as the Fund Management shall otherwise agree, withdrawals from the Loan may be made in the currencies in which the expenditures referred to in Section 2.05 have been paid or are payable. In case payment shall be requested in a currency other than Dollars, such payment shall be effected on the basis of the actual Dollar cost incurred by the Fund in meeting the request. The Fund Management shall act in the purchase of currencies as the Borrower's agent. Withdrawals in respect of expenditures in the currency of the Borrower, if any, shall be made in Dollars according to the official rate of exchange at the time of withdrawal, and in the absence of such a rate, according to a reasonable rate as the Fund Management shall, from time to time, decide upon.

2.07 All applications for withdrawal shall be prepared in conformity with "The OPEC Fund for International Development Disbursement Procedures" as approved in May 1983, a copy of which has been furnished to the Borrower. An original copy of each such withdrawal application shall thereafter be submitted to the Fund by the representative of the Borrower designated in, or in accordance with, Section 8.02. Every application so submitted shall be accompanied with such documents and other evidence sufficient in form and substance to satisfy the Fund Management that the Borrower is entitled to withdraw from the Loan the amount applied for and that the amount to be withdrawn will be used exclusively for the purposes specified in this Agreement.

2.08 The Borrower shall repay the principal of the Loan in Dollars, or in any other freely convertible currency acceptable to the Fund Management in an amount equivalent to the Dollar amount due, according to the market exchange rate prevailing at the time and place of repayment. Repayment shall be effected in thirty semi-annual instalments commencing on June 15, 2006, after a grace period running up to that date, and thereafter in accordance with the Amortization Schedule annexed to this Agreement. Each instalment shall be in the amount of Three Hundred Thirty Three Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Dollars ($ 333,330) except for the last and thirtieth instalment which shall be in the amount of Three Hundred Thirty Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Dollars ($ 333,430). All such instalments shall be transferred on the date of repayment to the Fund's Account as requested by the Fund Management.

2.09 (a) The Borrower undertakes to ensure that no other external debt shall have priority over this Loan in the allocation, realization or distribution of foreign exchange held under the control or for the benefit of the Borrower. To that end, if any lien shall be created on any public assets (as defined in Section 2.09(c)), as security for any external debt, which will or might result in a priority for the benefit of the creditor of the external debt in the allocation, realization or distribution of foreign exchange, the lien shall, ipso facto and at no cost to the Fund, equally and ratably secure the principal of, and the charges on, the Loan, and the Borrower, in creating or permitting the creation of such lien, shall make express provision to that effect; provided, however, that if for any constitutional or other legal reason that provision cannot be made with respect to any lien created on assets of any of its political or administrative subdivisions, the Borrower shall promptly and at no cost to the Fund secure the principal of, and the charges on, the Loan by an equivalent lien on other public assets satisfactory to the Fund.

(b) The foregoing undertaking shall not apply to:

(i) any lien created on property, at the time of purchase thereof, solely as security for payment of the purchase price of that property; and

(ii) any lien arising in the ordinary course of banking transactions and securing a debt maturing not more than one year after its date.

(c) As used in this Section, the term "public assets" means assets of the Borrower, or of any political or administrative subdivision thereof or of any entity owned or controlled by, or operating for the account or benefit of, the Borrower or any such subdivision, including gold and other foreign exchange assets held by any institution performing the functions of a central bank or exchange stabilization fund, or similar functions, for the Borrower.

2.10 The Borrower's right to make withdrawals from the loan proceeds shall terminate on December 31, 2004, or such later date as shall be established by the Fund Management. The Fund Management shall promptly inform the Borrower of such later date.

* * *

Article 3
EXECUTION OF THE PROJECT; PROCUREMENT

3.01 The Borrower shall carry out the Project with due diligence and efficiency and in conformity with sound administrative, financial and engineering practices, and shall provide, promptly as needed, the funds, facilities, services and other resources, in addition to the proceeds of the Loan, required for the purpose.

3.02 The Borrower shall ensure that the activities of its departments and agencies with respect to the carrying out of the Project are conducted and coordinated in accordance with sound administrative policies and procedures.

3.03 (a) The Borrower undertakes to insure, or make adequate provision for the insurance of, the imported goods to be financed out of the Loan against hazards incident to the acquisition, transportation and delivery thereof to the place of use or installation, and for such insurance any indemnity shall be payable in a currency freely usable by the Borrower to replace or repair such goods.

(b) Except as the Fund shall otherwise agree, all the goods and services financed out of the proceeds of the Loan shall be used exclusively for the Project.

(c) Unless otherwise agreed between the Borrower and the Fund, the "Procurement Guidelines under Loans Extended by the OPEC Fund" as approved on November 2, 1982, a copy of which has been furnished to the Borrower, shall apply to the procurement of goods under this Agreement.

3.04 (a) The Borrower shall furnish to the Fund Management, promptly upon their preparation, the plans, specifications, contract documents and construction and procurement schedules for the Project and any material modifications thereof or additions thereto, in such detail as the Fund Management shall reasonably request.

(b) The Borrower:

(i) shall maintain records and procedures adequate to record and monitor the progress of the Project (including its cost and the benefits to be derived from it), to identify the goods and services financed out of the proceeds of the Loan, and to disclose their use in the Project;

(ii) shall enable the Fund Management's representatives to visit the facilities and construction sites included in the Project and to examine the goods and works financed out of the proceeds of the Loan and any relevant records and documents; and

(iii) shall furnish to the Fund Management at regular intervals all such information as the Fund Management shall reasonably request concerning the Project, its cost and, where appropriate, the benefits to be derived from it, the expenditure of the proceeds of the Loan and the goods, works and services financed out of such proceeds as well as a quarterly report on the progress in the implementation of the Project.

(c) Promptly after completion of the Project, but in any event not later than six months after the Closing Date or such later date as may be agreed for this purpose between the Borrower and the Fund Management, the Borrower shall prepare and furnish to the Fund Management a report, of such scope and in such detail as the Fund Management shall reasonably request, on the execution and initial operation of the Project, its cost and the benefits derived and to be derived from it, the performance by the Borrower and the Fund of their respective obligations under this Agreement and the accomplishment of the purposes of the Loan.

3.05 The Borrower shall maintain or cause to be maintained records adequate to reflect in accordance with consistently maintained appropriate accounting practices, the operations, resources and expenditures, in respect of the Project, of the departments or agencies of the Borrower responsible for carrying out of the Project or any part thereof and shall make such records available to the Fund Management upon request.

3.06 (a) The Borrower and the Fund shall cooperate fully to ensure that the purposes of the Loan will be accomplished.

(b) The Borrower shall promptly inform the Fund Management of any condition which interferes with, or threatens to interfere with, the progress of the Project, the performance of its obligations under this Agreement, or the accomplishment of the purposes of the Loan.

(c) The Borrower and the Fund shall from time to time, at the request of either party, exchange views through their representatives with regard to any matters relating to the Project and the Loan.

3.07 All references to the Borrower in this Article shall, mutatis mutandis, be construed as including references to the Executing Agency.

* * *

Article 4
EXEMPTIONS

4.01 This Agreement and any supplementary agreement between the Parties to it shall be free from any taxes, levies or duties levied by, or in the territory of, the Borrower on or in connection with the execution, delivery or registration thereof.

4.02 The principal of, the interest and the service charges on, the Loan shall be paid without deduction for, and free from, any charges and restrictions of any kind imposed by or in the territory of the Borrower.

4.03 All Fund documents, records, correspondence and similar material shall be considered as confidential by the Borrower, unless otherwise agreed by the Fund.

4.04 The Fund and its assets shall not be subject to any measures of expropriation, nationalization, sequestration, custody or seizure in the territory of the Borrower.

* * *

Article 5
ACCELERATION OF MATURITY; SUSPENSION AND CANCELLATION

5.01 If any of the following events shall occur and shall continue for the period specified below, then at any subsequent time during the continuance of that event, the Fund Management may by notice to the Borrower declare the principal of the Loan then outstanding to be due and payable immediately together with the interest and service charges thereon and in that case the principal, together with the interest and all charges, shall become due and payable immediately:

(a) A default shall occur and continue for a period of thirty days in the payment of any instalment of the principal or the interest or of the service charges under this Agreement or under any other agreement by virtue of which the Borrower has or shall have received a loan from the Fund;

(b) A default shall occur in the performance of any other obligation on the part of the Borrower under this Agreement or under the Project Agreement, if any, and such default shall continue for a period of sixty days after notice thereof shall have been given by the Fund to the Borrower.

5.02 The Borrower may by notice to the Fund cancel any amount of the Loan which the Borrower shall not have withdrawn prior to the giving of such notice. The Fund may by notice to the Borrower suspend or terminate the Borrower's right to make withdrawals from the loan if any of the events mentioned in Section 5.01(a) and (b) shall occur or if any other extraordinary situation shall have arisen which shall make it improbable for the Project to be successfully carried out or for the Borrower to be able to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

5.03 Notwithstanding the acceleration of maturity of the Loan pursuant to Section 5.01 or its suspension or cancellation pursuant to Section 5.02, all the provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect except as specifically provided in this Article.

5.04 Unless otherwise agreed upon between the Borrower and the Fund Management, any cancellation shall be applied pro rata to the several maturities of the principal amount of the Loan which shall mature after the date of such cancellation.

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Article 6
ENFORCEABILITY, TERMINATION OF FUND, ARBITRATION

6.01 The rights and obligations of the Parties to this Agreement shall be valid and enforceable in accordance with their terms notwithstanding any local law to the contrary. No party to this Agreement shall be entitled under any circumstances to assert any claim that any provision of this Agreement is invalid or unenforceable for any reason.

6.02 The Fund Management shall promptly inform the Borrower whenever any decision is taken for the dissolution of the Fund in accordance with the Agreement Establishing the Fund. In the event of such dissolution, this Loan Agreement shall remain in force and the Fund Management shall advise the Borrower of any substitute arrangements for the repayment of the Loan as may be devised by the appropriate authority of the Fund on such occasion.

6.03 The Parties to this Agreement shall endeavour to settle amicably all disputes or differences between them, arising out of this Agreement or in connection therewith. If the dispute or difference cannot be amicably settled, it shall be submitted to arbitration by the Arbitral Tribunal as hereinafter provided:

(a) Arbitration proceedings may be instituted by the Borrower against the Fund or vice versa. In all cases, arbitration proceedings shall be instituted by a notice given by the complainant party to the respondent party.

(b) The Arbitral Tribunal shall consist of three arbitrators appointed as follows: one by the claimant party, a second by the respondent party and the third (hereinafter called the Umpire) by agreement of the two arbitrators. If within thirty days after notice of the institution of arbitration proceedings the respondent party fails to appoint an arbitrator, such arbitrator shall be appointed by the President of the International Court of Justice upon the request of the party instituting the proceedings. If the two arbitrators fail to agree on the Umpire within sixty days after the date of the appointment of the second arbitrator, such Umpire shall be appointed by the President of the International Court of Justice.

(c) The Arbitral Tribunal shall convene at the time and place fixed by the Umpire. Thereafter, it shall determine where and when it shall sit. The Arbitral Tribunal shall determine all questions of procedure and questions relating to its competence.

(d) All decisions of the Arbitral Tribunal shall be reached by majority vote. The award of the Tribunal, which may be rendered even if one party defaults, shall be final and binding on both parties to the arbitration proceedings.

(e) Service of any notice or process in connection with any proceedings under this Section or in connection with any proceedings to enforce any award rendered pursuant to this Section shall be made in the manner provided in Section 8.01.

(f) The Arbitral Tribunal shall decide on the manner in which the cost of arbitration shall be borne by either or both parties to the dispute.

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Article 7
EFFECTIVE DATE; TERMINATION OF THIS AGREEMENT

7.01 This Agreement shall become effective on the date upon which the Fund dispatches to the Borrower notice of its acceptance of the evidence required by Sections 7.02 and 7.03.

7.02 The Borrower shall furnish the Fund with satisfactory evidence that the execution and delivery of this Agreement on behalf of the Borrower have been duly authorized and ratified according to the constitutional requirements of the Borrower;

7.03 In keeping with Section 7.02, the Borrower shall also furnish the Fund with a certificate issued by the Minister of Justice, or the Attorney General, or the Government's competent legal department showing that this Agreement has been duly authorized and ratified by the Borrower and constitutes a valid and binding obligation of the Borrower in accordance with its terms.

7.04 If this Agreement shall not have come into force and effect by August 31, 2001, this Agreement and all obligations of the parties hereunder shall terminate, unless the Fund, after consideration of the reasons for the delay, shall establish a later date for the purposes of this Section.

7.05 When the entire principal amount of the Loan shall have been repaid and the interest and all charges which shall have accrued on the Loan shall have been paid, this Agreement and all obligations of the parties thereunder shall forthwith terminate.

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Article 8
NOTICE; REPRESENTATION, MODIFICATION

8.01 Any notice or request required or permitted to be given or made under this Agreement shall be in writing. Such notice or request shall be deemed to have been duly given or made when it has been delivered by hand, mail, cable, telex or telefax to the party to which it is required to be given or made, at the party's address specified below or at any other address as the party shall have specified in writing to the party giving the notice or making the request.

8.02 Any action required or permitted to be taken, and any documents required or permitted to be executed under this Agreement on behalf of the Borrower shall be taken or executed by the Minister-Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam or another officer authorized by him in writing.

8.03 Any modification of the provisions of this Agreement may be agreed to on behalf of the Fund by the Chairman of the Fund's Governing Board and on behalf of the Borrower by written instrument executed on behalf of the Borrower by the representative designated by, or pursuant to, Section 8.02; provided that in the opinion of such representative the modification is reasonable in the circumstances and will not substantially increase the obligations of the Borrower under this Agreement. The Fund may accept the execution by such representative of any such instrument as conclusive evidence that in the opinion of the Borrower the modification or amplification requested by such instrument will not substantially increase the obligations of the Borrower thereunder.

8.04 Any document delivered pursuant to this Agreement shall be in the English language. Documents in any other language shall be accompanied by an English translation thereof certified as being an approved translation and such approved translation shall be conclusive between the parties hereto.

* * *

IN WITNESS whereof the parties hereto, acting through their duly authorized representatives, have caused this Agreement to be signed and delivered at Vienna in three copies in the English language, each considered an original and all to the same and one effect as of the day and year first above written.

FOR THE BORROWER:

Name: H.E. Hoang Van Nha
Ambassador of Vietnam to the Republic of Austria

Address: State Bank of Vietnam
47 – 49, Ly Thai To Street
Hanoi
Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Cable: VIETBANK
Telex: 412 248 NHTW VT
Telefax: 84-47-50612

FOR THE OPEC FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Name: H.E. Dr. Saleh Al-Omair
Chairman of the Governing Board

Address: The OPEC Fund for International Development
P.O. Box 995
A-1011 Vienna
Austria

Cable: OPECFUND
Telex: 131734 FUND A
Telefax: 5139238

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SCHEDULES

Schedule 1: Description of the Project

Schedule 2: Loan Allocation

Schedule 3: Amortization Schedule

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The OPEC Fund for International Development

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT (PHASE II)

SCHEDULE 1
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

The Project constitutes the second phase of the Borrower's rural electrification program and aims at reinforcing and expanding electrification in rural and mountainous areas of the Quang Nam Province - Da Nang City in Central Vietnam by supplying an additional 45,000 households and associated agricultural and industrial loads with access to electricity and thus serving to combat rural poverty and promote economic growth. The Project consists of the following components:

(a) High voltage lines, covering the installation of 445 km of 22kV lines, including conductors, insulators, fittings and protection equipment as well as poles, structures and foundations;

(b) Substations, relaing to the installation of a number of substations of different voltage levels in various locations in the Project area;

(c) Distribution lines, embracing the installation of about 570 km of low voltage lines together with low voltage conductors, insulators, fittings, meters and service equipment as well as related poles, structures and foundations;

(d) Service lines and construction, encompassing the installation of PVC covered copper conductors, fixed house wirings, power outlets and fluorescent tube fittings for consumers;

(e) Compensation, concerning the payment of compensation to households affected by Project activities and extending to the removal or trimming of fruit, plantation and other trees as well as for construction and maintenance access;

(f) Project preparation and design, consisting of the engagement of consultancy services to undertake detailed surveys, preparation of designs and bidding documents together with the related procurement activities; and

(g) Project implementation unit, comprising the coverage of the operating costs of the Executing Agency, including the construction of a new office building, provision of office equipment, maintenance and consumables as well as vehicles.

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The OPEC Fund for International Development

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT (PHASE II)

SCHEDULE 2
LOAN ALLOCATION

1. Unless otherwise agreed between the Borrower and the Fund Management, the table below sets forth the components to be financed out of the proceeds of the Loan, the allocation of amounts of the Loan to each component and the percentage of total expenditures for items so to be financed in respect of each component:

	Component	Amount of the Loan Allocated (Expressed in US Dollars)	Percentage of Total Expenditures to be Financed
(a)	High Voltage Lines	3,007,000	100.0
(b)	Substations	1,302,000	100.0
(c)	Distribution Lines	3,493,000	100.0
(d)	Service Lines & Construction	1,208,000	78.4
(e)	Compensation	---	---
(f)	Project Preparation and Design	699,000	100.0
(g)	Project Implementation Unit	291,000	90.7
	Total:	10,000,000	

2. Notwithstanding the allocation of an amount of the Loan or the disbursement percentages set forth in the table in paragraph 1 above, if the Fund Management has reasonably estimated that the amount of the Loan then allocated to any component will be insufficient to finance the agreed percentage of all expenditures in that component, the Fund Management may, by notice to the Borrower: (i) reallocate to such component, to the extent required to meet the estimated shortfall, proceeds of the Loan which

are then allocated to another component and which in the opinion of the Fund Management are not needed to meet other expenditures; and (ii) if such reallocation cannot fully meet the estimated shortfall, reduce the disbursement percentage then applicable to such expenditures in order that further withdrawals in respect of such component may continue until all expenditures thereunder shall have been made.



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THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT (PHASE II)

SCHEDULE 3
AMORTIZATION SCHEDULE

Date of Repayment	Amount Due (Expressed in US Dollars)
June 15, 2006	333,330
December 15, 2006	333,330
June 15, 2007	333,330
December 15, 2007	333,330
June 15, 2008	333,330
December 15, 2008	333,330
June 15, 2009	333,330
December 15, 2009	333,330
June 15, 2010	333,330
December 15, 2010	333,330
June 15, 2011	333,330
December 15, 2011	333,330
June 15, 2012	333,330
December 15, 2012	333,330
June 15, 2013	333,330
December 15, 2013	333,330
June 15, 2014	333,330
December 15, 2014	333,330
June 15, 2015	333,330
December 15, 2015	333,330
June 15, 2016	333,330
December 15, 2016	333,330
June 15, 2017	333,330
December 15, 2017	333,330
June 15, 2018	333,330
December 15, 2018	333,330
June 15, 2019	333,330
December 15, 2019	333,330
June 15, 2020	333,330
December 15, 2020	333,430
Total	10,000,000