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Article 7

Duration of Agreement

Section 1. Effective Date

~~Per the parties' March 23, 2004 negotiated ground rules, T~~this Agreement (2005) will be implemented and become effective **per the parties July 15, 2009 Ground Rules MOU.** ~~when it has been approved and signed by the parties including union ratification and agency head review pursuant to Section 7114(c) of the CSRA of 1978.~~

Section 2. Duration of the Agreement

This Agreement will remain in full force and effect for 4 years from its effective date and automatically renew itself from year to year thereafter. However, either party may give written or electronic notice of its intent to add, amend, reopen, modify or terminate existing Articles of the Agreement not more than 120 or less than 90 calendar days prior to the expiration date. Such notice must be accompanied by a list of the Articles that either party intends to add, amend, reopen, modify or terminate. Ground rule negotiations will then begin no later than 30 calendar days after receipt of the notice provided by either party. Ground rule negotiations will be conducted in accordance with

24 Article 4, Section 2 1 (i.e., number of bargaining days, number of negotiators, payment of
25 travel and per diem).

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28 Section 3. Reopener

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30 Negotiations during the term of this Agreement to add to, amend or modify this

31 Agreement may be conducted only by mutual consent of the parties.