

NWSA REQUEST FOR QUALILFICATION NO. 102025-1000 PROJECT NO.: 201173.01 WASHINGTON UNITED TERMINAL (WUT) SHORE POWER

Issued by
Northwest Seaport Alliance
One Sitcum Plaza
P.O. Box 1837
Tacoma, WA 98401-1837

RFQ INFORMATION			
Contact:	Michelle Walker, Procurement Analyst		
Email Addresses:	procurement@portoftacoma.com		
Phone:	(253) 888-4744		
Submittal Date	12/1/2025		
Questions Due Date	11/21/2025		

SUBMIT ALL QUESTIONS AND SOQS VIA THE PROCUREMENT PORTAL. (LINK LOCATED ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE PROCUREMENT WEB PAGE)

Northwest Seaport Alliance NWSA Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 102025-1000 <u>WUT Shore Power</u>

A. PURPOSE

The NWSA is soliciting Statements of Qualifications (**SOQ**) from firms interested in providing engineering design services in support of the construction and installation of ship-to-shore power capabilities for the WUT. The NWSA anticipates awarding one (1) Professional Service contract(s). The period of performance of the contract is three (3) years from the execution of the contract, with options for renewal at the sole discretion of the NWSA, for a possible total of five (5) years.

Interlocal Cooperation Act-RCW 39.34 allows cooperative purchasing between public agencies, and other political subdivisions. If a public agency files or has filed an Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with the Port of Tacoma, those agencies are eligible to purchase from Contracts established by the Port. Such agencies may ask Port of Tacoma Contractors to accept orders from the agency, citing the Port of Tacoma contract as the basis for the order. The Contractor may accept or decline such orders. If the Contractor accepts an order from another public agency using the Port of Tacoma contract as the basis, the Contractor agrees to sell additional items at the contract prices, terms, and conditions. The Port of Tacoma accepts no responsibility for the payment of the purchase price by other governmental agencies.

B. GRANT FUNDING

This project is currently partially federally grant funded by the Environmental Protection Agency "Attachment C". The NWSA may apply for federal and or state funding or other rebate alternatives. All work must be performed in accordance with associated grant requirements. Therefore, the contract that results from the RFQ and various work packages will be subject to the Terms and Conditions of each grant. See "Attachment D" for the generic Terms and Conditions, which may be updated per each grant.

C. BACKGROUND

Formed in 2015, The Northwest Seaport Alliance is a marine cargo operating partnership of the ports of Tacoma and Seattle. The NWSA is the fourth-largest container gateway in North America. Regional marine cargo facilities also are a major center for bulk, breakbulk, project/heavy-lift cargoes, automobiles and trucks.

The NWSA is governed by the two ports as equal Managing Members, with each Managing Member consisting of the five commissioners in each port. Each port's commissioners are elected at large by the citizens of their respective counties.

As part of the Northwest Ports Clean Air Strategy, the NWSA embraced an aspirational goal to install shore power at its major international container terminals. Based on commercial criteria and potential emission reductions, the WUT is the next terminal in line for shore power after T-5, Husky, and T-18.

The Washington United Terminal wharf was originally constructed in 1997 with an extension constructed in 2009. As part of the extension in 2009, 15KV switchgear at Substation #4 as well as conduit and a connection vault on the pier extension were installed with future ship to shore capabilities in mind.

The first phase of this project would be to develop a basis of design and cost estimate for a shore power system for two vessel berths at Washington United Terminal. Developing a basis of design will provide a complete understanding of the scope and cost of the project, which will be critical for future grant applications and incorporating the project into the CIP in future years.

Subsequent phases would develop the project through primary design and into construction.

To learn more about The Northwest Seaport Alliance, visit www.nwseaportalliance.com.

The NWSA's Standard Terms and Conditions are included with the Sample Personal Services Agreement (<u>Attachment B</u>) to this RFQ. By submitting a SOQ, the Proposer represents that it has carefully read and agrees to be bound by the NWSA's Standard Terms and Conditions. Identify during the question submittal and response period, any sections you consider onerous, clarify why you consider these sections onerous, propose alternative language and describe why it is in the NWSA's best interests to adopt the alternative language.

SOQs submitted with altered or conditioned Terms and Conditions without prior written agreement from the NWSA will be considered non-responsive and not considered for evaluation.

Proposers submit SOQs understanding all contract terms and conditions are mandatory. Response submittal is agreement to the Contract without exception. The NWSA reserves the right to negotiate changes to submitted SOQs and to change the NWSA's otherwise mandatory Contract form during negotiations. If the Proposer is awarded a contract and refuses to sign the attached Contract form, the NWSA may reject the Proposer from this and future solicitations for the same work. Under no circumstances shall Proposer submit its own boilerplate of terms and conditions.

D. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The overall Engineering Consultant scope of services will be to assist the Port in: developing preliminary and final design including plans, specifications, cost estimating, scheduling, obtaining permits, bid support and construction support. The selected Consultant will be expected to include structural, civil, survey, electrical, and geotechnical capabilities in their team's qualifications (sub consultant or organizational).

Design Stage

The Consultant's scope of services during the design stage will generally include:

- Completing field investigations as necessary
- Project coordination, refining the project schedule and cost estimates
- Preparing draft and final bid documents, including construction drawings and CSI Master Format specifications (BSD SpecLink-E)

 Assisting the Port in completing the City of Tacoma permit submittal packages

Bidding Stage

The Consultant will be expected to provide support services during bidding including:

- Review and responses to questions
- Preparation of addendums
- Attending the pre-bid meeting
- Assisting with bid evaluations

Construction Stage

During construction the Consultant will provide support services including but not limited to:

- RFI, submittal and change order proposal reviews and responses
- Cost estimating
- Issue resolutions
- Site observations
- Inspection services
- Administrative support
- Preparation of record drawings

Features to be considered for this project are as follows:

- Interruption of terminal operations shall be kept to a minimum;
- Maximizing the use of existing electrical system infrastructure.

E. DELIVERABLES:

Detailed design and bid documents consisting of:

- Permit document package for City of Tacoma
- Supporting electrical power system analysis
- Project schedule that accounts for project design, permitting, bidding and construction, including updates reflecting schedule revisions
- Construction drawings, technical specifications, and cost estimates at the 30%, 60%, 90% and 100% completion levels
- Issued for Bid drawings and technical specifications

Bid and Construction Support Services to include:

- RFI responses, submittal responses, and cost estimates
- Record drawings prepared from Contractor's redlined as-built plans
- Any other professional support or management required to meet the project's goals and intent

F. QUALIFICATIONS

Key team personnel shall have the appropriate licenses and/or certifications for the services to be provided. Personnel shall have demonstrable knowledge and expertise in Port/Maritime engineering, electrical systems design including shore power and familiarity with procedures related to grant funded projects.

G. SOQ ELEMENTS & EVALUATION CRITERIA

SOQs should present information in a straightforward and concise manner, while ensuring complete and detailed descriptions of the Vendor (to include the prime, key team members, and major sub-consultants) and the team's ability to meet the requirements and provide the requested services of this RFQ. Emphasis will be on completeness of content. The written SOQs should be prepared in the same sequential order as outlined below.

SOQs are limited to 10 numbered pages (8 ½ by 11 inch) excluding the cover letter and all appendices. All pages shall be in portrait orientation with 1-inch (1") margins. Font size shall be 10 point or larger. SOQs that do not follow this format may be rejected. Submittals need to be limited to 9 MB in total size.

The cover letter shall include the RFQ Number & Title in the subject line, and the Name, Title, Email Address, Phone Number, and current Address of the submitting team. SOQ's that do not follow this format may be rejected. The cover letter shall include the following information (even if the answer is None):

- Describe any claim submitted by any client against the prime firm within the past two (2) years related to the professional services provided by the firm or its key personnel. For purposes of this request, **claim** means a sum of money in dispute in excess of 10% of the firm's fee for the services provided.
- Any real or perceived conflicts of interest for team members, inclusive of the prime, sub-consultants, and key team members.

SOQs are to address, and will be evaluated upon, the following criteria:

INITIAL EVALUATION PHASE

1.	Qualifications & Experience	ce 70 PT	3
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Describe the qualifications and experience of the firm submitting the proposal, including:

- Provide a summary of proposing team's services, experience and expertise related
 to the design of low and medium voltage power systems and other services and
 deliverables identified in the Scope of Services. Identify key individuals (include
 working titles, degrees, certificates and licenses). Resumes of the key individuals
 may be included as an appendix and are not included in the total page count.
 Resumes are to be limited to one (1) single sided, letter-size page. Resumes
 exceeding this limit will not be reviewed. (30 Points)
- Describe recent projects (in the last five (5) years) which demonstrate team's unique capabilities to complete the requested services. Include port/maritime project experience if applicable. Include period of performance, list the proposed team's key personnel involved in the project, and a brief description of services relevant to this RFQ. Highlight key project accomplishments (e.g., project savings)

vs. original budget, completion of tasks ahead of schedule, innovative strategies that resulted in project success). Only projects completed by proposed key team members will be considered. **(40 Points)**

2. Project Approach Narrative30 PTS

SOQs should clearly outline the team's recommended approach and methodology for:

- Describe the effective approaches and methods that will be employed to accomplish the scope of services. Include a summary of innovative ideas and suggestions for enhancing project performance and deliverables. (20 Points)
- Explain company QA/QC process and note its benefits/advantages. (5 Points)
- Provide a plan for communications and coordination between the project team, the NWSA Project Manager, and the various Stakeholders. (5 Points)

FINAL EVALUATION PHASE (if applicable)

1. Oral Presentations (if requested) 100 PTS

Oral Presentations will be conducted with the top-ranked SOQ. Failure to participate in the process will result in the Vendor's disqualification from further consideration. Oral Presentations will be conducted by online video meeting.

2. References (if requested)......Pass/Fail

Reference checks may be performed on the selected firm, if based directly on the SOQ's received, or on shortlisted firms if Oral Presentations are being requested. The NWSA may evaluate the reference checks to assess the proposed Vendor's overall performance and success of previous, similar work. Reference checks may also be utilized to validate information contained in the SOQ.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A - INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSING (ATTACHED)

ATTACHMENT B – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TERMPLATE & TERMS AND CONDITIONS (ATTACHED)

ATTACHMENT C - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS (ATTACHED)

ATTACHMENT D - GRANT TERMS & CONDITIONS (ATTACHED)

PROCUREMENT PROCESS

SOLICITATION TIMELINE:

Issuance of RFQ	OCTOBER 31, 2025
*Last Day To Submit Questions	NOVEMBER 21, 2025 @ 2:00 PM
*SOQ packets due	DECEMBER 1, 2025 @ 2:00 PM
Review/Shortlist	DECEMBER 12, 2025
Oral Presentations (if required)	DECEMBER 17-19, 2025
*Final Selection	DECEMBER 30, 2025
*Execute Contract	JANUARY 9. 2026

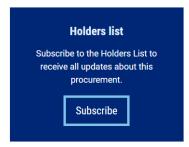
^{*}Dates are tentative and may be subject to change.

All status updates on the above solicitation timeline will be announced on the NWSA's website for this solicitation.

VENDOR OBLIGATION

The Northwest Seaport Alliance (**NWSA**) and Port of Tacoma's (**PORT**) Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals and Request for Qualifications can be accessed on the following websites, www.portoftacoma.com (**PORT**) under 'Business -> Contracting -> Procurement' or https://www.nwseaportalliance.com/ (**NWSA**) under 'Resources -> Procurement.'

When viewing the details page for this procurement on the NWSA's Website firms have the option of subscribing to the Holder's List.



By subscribing to the Holder's List, firms will automatically be notified when new documents or changes relating to this procurement occur.

*Only those who have subscribed to the Holder's List will receive notifications throughout the procurement process, up until a firm is selected.

COMMUNICATION / INQUIRES

All communications is to be sent through Michelle Walker, the Procurement Analyst.

Proposers who, relative to this scope of services, contact any individuals or Commission members representing the NWSA or the PORT, other than the Procurement Representative listed on the solicitation may be disqualified from consideration.

ATTACHMENT A - INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSING

Written questions about the meaning or intent of the Solicitation Documents shall only be submitted to the Procurement Department via the Procurement Portal (Portal link is accessible via this specific procurements website. See left side of page.).



Proposers who may have questions about provisions of these documents are to submit their questions by the date listed on the solicitation. The NWSA will respond to all written questions submitted by this deadline, and responses will be posted on the corresponding procurements website.

ADDENDA

The NWSA may make changes to this Solicitation. Oral or other interpretations, clarifications or submittal instructions will be without legal effect. Any information modifying a solicitation will be furnished in a formal, written addendum. If at any time, the NWSA changes, revises, deletes, increases, or otherwise modifies the Solicitation, the NWSA will issue a written Addendum to the Solicitation. Addenda will be posted to the NWSA's web site and conveyed to those potential submitters who have requested to be placed on the Holder's List.

SUBMITTAL PROCESS

Electronic Submittal:

SOQs must be received via the procurement portal on or before the date and time outlined on the front page of this RFQ.

Procurement Submission Portal Instructions:

Navigate to this procurements web page (referencing the number and name) via the following link Procurement | Port of Tacoma or Procurement | Northwest Seaport Alliance. While on the procurements page, click on the 'Procurement Submission Portal' link (located on the lefthand side of the page).

Full instructions on how to utilize the submission portal can be found on the NWSA's Procurement website.

Please submit SOQ, including all separate attachments and compensation in separate Adobe Acrobat PDF format. Submittals need to be limited to **9 MB in total size**. It is the Consultant's responsibility to verify the receipt of the submittal. Electronic verification will be provided.

*Late SOQs will not be accepted by the NWSA. SOQs received after the stated date and time will not be reviewed and shall be deemed non-responsive.

ATTACHMENT A - INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSING

All SOQs submitted shall be valid and binding on the submitting firm for a period of ninety (90) days following the submittal deadline and for any extension of time granted by the submitting firm.

EVALUATION AND AWARD PROCESS

An evaluation team, using the point method of award, will review each SOQ and evaluate all responses received based upon the criteria listed herein. The NWSA may request clarifications or additional information, if needed. After the evaluation team individually scores each SOQ, the scores are tallied, and the firms are ranked based on the scores. A selection may be made based on the SOQs and initial evaluation criteria alone. Alternatively, the evaluation team may create a short list of the top ranked firms and invite the short-listed firms in for interview and/or check references. Scores for reference checks and interviews will be tallied and added to the short-listed firm's initial evaluation scores. Final selection will be based on the accumulative score.

The NWSA intends to select the Proposer who represents the best value to the NWSA.

The NWSA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all information in its entirety or in part and to waive informalities and minor irregularities and to contract as the best interest of the NWSA may require. The NWSA reserves the right to reject any or all SOQs submitted as non-responsive or non-responsible.

PROCEDURE WHEN ONLY ONE SOQ IS RECEIVED

In the event that a single responsive SOQ is received, the Proposer shall provide any additional data required by the NWSA to analyze the SOQ. The NWSA reserves the right to reject such SOQs for any reason.

GENERAL INFORMATION

News releases pertaining to this RFQ, the services, or the project to which it relates, shall not be made without prior approval by, and then only in coordination with, the NWSA.

COSTS BORNE BY PROPOSERS

All costs incurred in the preparation of a SOQ and participation in this RFQ and negotiation process shall be borne by the proposing firms.

PROTEST PROCESS

A Bidder protesting for any reason the Bidding Documents, a Bidding procedure, the NWSA's objection to a Bidder or a person or entity proposed by the Bidder, including but not limited to a finding of non-Responsibility, the Award of the Contract or any other aspect arising from or relating in any way to the Bidding shall cause a written protest to be filed with the NWSA within two (2) business days of the event giving rise to the protest. (Intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are not counted as business days.) The written protest shall include the name of the protesting Bidder, the bid solicitation number and title under which the protest is submitted, a detailed description of the specific factual and legal grounds for the protest, copies of all supporting documents, evidence that the apparent low bidder has been given notice of the protest, and the specific relief requested. The written protest shall be sent by email to procurement@portoftacoma.com.

Consideration. Upon receipt of the written protest, the NWSA will consider the protest. The NWSA may, within three (3) business days of the NWSA's receipt of the protest,

ATTACHMENT A - INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSING

provide any other affected Bidder(s) the opportunity to respond in writing to the protest. If the protest is not resolved by mutual agreement of the protesting Bidder and the NWSA, the Contracts Director of the NWSA or his or her designee will review the issues and promptly furnish a final and binding written decision to the protesting Bidder and any other affected Bidder(s) within six (6) business days of the NWSA's receipt of the protest. (If more than one (1) protest is filed, the NWSA's decision will be provided within three (3), but no more than six (6) business days of the NWSA's receipt of the last protest.) If no reply is received from the NWSA during the six (6) business-day period, the protest will be deemed rejected.

Waiver. Failure to comply with these protest procedures will render a protest waived. Condition Precedent. Timely and proper compliance with and exhaustion of these protest procedures shall be a condition precedent to any otherwise permissible judicial consideration of a protest.

SMALL BUSINESS AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

The Port of Tacoma encourages participation in all its contracts by MWBE firms certified by the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (**OMWBE**). Participation may be either on a direct basis in response to this solicitation/invitation or as a subcontractor to a Bidder/Proposer. However, unless required by federal statutes, regulations, grants, or contract terms referenced in the contract documents, no preference will be included in the evaluation of bids/submittals, no minimum level of MWBE participation shall be required as a condition for receiving an award and bids/submittals will not be rejected or considered non-responsive on that basis. Any affirmative action requirements set forth in federal regulations or statutes included or referenced in the contract documents will apply. The selected firm will be required to show evidence of outreach.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

SOQs submitted under this Solicitation will be considered public documents and, with limited exceptions, will become public information and may be reviewed by appointment by anyone requesting to do so following the conclusion of the evaluation, negotiation, and award process. This process is concluded when a signed contract is completed between the NWSA and the selected Consultant.

If a firm considers any portion of its response to be protected under the law, the vendor shall clearly identify each such portion with words such as **CONFIDENTIAL**, **PROPRIETARY** or **TRADE SECRET** on each page for which the protection is sought. If a request is made for disclosure of such portion, the NWSA will notify the vendor of the request and allow the vendor not less than ten (10) days to seek a protective order from the Courts or other appropriate remedy and/or waive the claimed confidentiality. Unless such protective order is obtained and provided to the NWSA by the stated deadline, the NWSA will release the requested portions of the SOQ. By submitting a response, the vendor assents to the procedure outlined in this paragraph and shall have no claim against the NWSA on account of actions taken under such procedure.

ATTACHMENT B - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TEMPLATE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT NO. 102025-1000				
TITLE: Washington United Terminal (WUT) Shore Power				
Consultant: [VENDOR], [VE	NDORADD]			
CONTRACT OWNER: Kyle	Smith PROJI	JECT NO.: 201173.01		
Alliance (hereinafter referred	to as the NWSA a	by and between the <u>Northwest Seapor</u> and <u>[VENDOR]</u> (hereinafter referred to PTION] (hereinafter referred to as the	_	
The NWSA and Consultant	mutually agree as	s follows:		
SCOPE OF WORK				
[SOW]				
DELIVERABLES				
[DELIVERABLES]				
COMPENSATION				
\$[AMOUNT]				
<u>TERM</u>				
The term of the Agreement sl	nall be from the da	ate of execution through		
<u>AGREED</u>				
This agreement is expressly of	conditioned upon t	the Terms and Conditions attached		
Northwest Seaport	<u> Alliance</u>	[VENDOR]		
Ву		Ву		
[CM]	 Date	[VENDORSIGN] Da	ate	

Procurement Analyst

[VENDORTITLE]

1. Relationship of the Parties

Consultant and its employees are independent Contractors. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to create a relationship of employer and employee or of principal and agent.

2. Subconsultant and Supplier Relations

- Subconsultants at all tiers shall be approved by the Port prior to performing Services in support of this Agreement between Consultant and Port.
- b. The award of a subcontract does not create a contract between the Port and the subconsultant. Subconsultants shall have no rights whatsoever against the Port by reason of their contract with the Consultant. The foregoing provision shall apply with equal force to subconsultants, suppliers and all other persons or parties otherwise engaged by the Consultant to do any portion of the Services.
- c. The Consultant shall ensure every subcontract shall bind the subconsultant to the applicable terms of the Agreement. The Consultant shall appropriately monitor the activities of the subconsultant. In no event shall the activities of the subconsultant operate to release or reduce the liability of the Consultant to the Port for any breach in the performance of the Consultant's duties.

3. Conflicts of Interest

Consultant warrants that it has no direct or indirect economic interest which conflicts in any manner with its performance of the Services required under this Agreement. Consultant warrants that it has not retained any person to solicit this Agreement and has not agreed to pay such person any compensation or other consideration contingent upon the execution of this Agreement.

4. Compliance with Laws

- a. Consultant agrees to comply with all local, state, tribal, and federal laws and regulations applicable to the Services existing at the time this Agreement was executed or that became applicable subsequent to this Agreement's execution, and those regarding employee safety, the workplace environment, and employment eligibility verifications as required by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Consultant shall obtain and maintain all professional licenses and permits required to complete the Services.
- b. Consultant must comply with all Occupational Safety and Health Administration (**OSHA**), Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (**WISHA**), Department of Labor, Environmental Protection Agency and other applicable environmental standards as prescribed by

- law while on or occupying Port-owned properties.
- c. The Consultant is responsible for ensuring that all personnel performing Services are paid wages in accordance with federal, state and local laws when applicable.

5. Records and other Tangibles

- a. a. Port Data means any data, records, or information provided by or pertaining to Port of Tacoma and Northwest Seaport Alliance, collectively referred to as the Port Entities, including but not limited to operational, financial, and personal data.
- naintain access to, and be able to provide, records per RCW 40.14, RCW 42.56, and the Secretary of State's Local Government Common Records Retention Schedule (CORE) (Current Version at time of execution). Therefore, until the expiration of six (6) years after the term of this Agreement, consultant agrees to maintain accurate records of all activities done in providing the Services and to deliver such records to the NWSA upon termination of the Agreement or otherwise as requested by the NWSA.
- c. The NWSA or its designated agent, and federal and state auditing authorities have the right to audit this Agreement and access to all records and documents, including financial data, for a period of not less than six (6) years after Completion of all projects related to this Agreement or until resolution of any litigation related to this Agreement whichever occurs last.

6. Ownership of Intellectual Property (IP)

- The plans, specifications, models, programs, reports, and other products prepared by the Consultant in performing the Services are Instruments of Service for purposes of the copyright laws of the United States. The NWSA has ownership rights to the Instruments of Service. Consultant shall not be liable for changes made in the Instruments of Service by anyone other than the Consultant. Consultant shall have free right to retain, copy and use any tangible materials or information produced but only for its own internal purposes. Any patentable result or materials suitable for copyright arising out of this Agreement shall be owned by and made available to the NWSA for public use. unless the NWSA determines it is not in the public interest that it be owned or available.
- The Instruments of Service shall include all calculations, notes, draft documents, reports, drawings, specifications, electronic files, including e-mails, and any other

- materials, information or documentation developed or prepared in the performance of the Services and shall be owned by and treated as NWSA property. The Consultant shall obtain no proprietary rights or interest the Instruments of Service.
- c. Any items incorporated into the Instruments of Service that were developed by the Consultant prior to the execution of this Agreement, and not paid for by the NWSA, is not covered by this provision "Consultant Data."
- d. All information, materials, data and documentation furnished or made available to the Consultant by the NWSA for purposes of performing services pursuant to this Agreement on this project shall remain the property of the NWSA (Port Data). The Consultant shall obtain no proprietary rights or ownership interests to such Port Data. At the NWSA's written request, the Consultant shall return all such Port Data remaining in the Consultant's possession at the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

7. Disclosure

All information developed by the Consultant, all analyses or opinions reached by the Consultant (Instruments of Service) and all information made available to the Consultant by the Port Data, shall not be disclosed by the Consultant without the written consent of the NWSA.

8. Compensation

- As full compensation for the performance of its obligations of this Agreement and the Services, the NWSA shall pay Consultant as specified in the Agreement.
- Consultant is responsible for working within the agreement amount. Should the consultant incur costs beyond the agreement amount without an executed amendment to this agreement, the Consultant is solely responsible for the additional costs.

9. Invoices

a. Consultant shall submit detailed numbered invoices showing descriptions of the Services being invoiced, work order number, title of the Project, total authorized, total current invoice, balance of authorization, individual's names and titles, hours, hourly rate, and all authorized expenses, if allowed, for the month, itemized, with backup, in accordance with the NWSA's "Guidelines for Consultant Fees and Reimbursable Items", by the 10th of the following month to be paid by the end of the 30th, unless other terms are agreed to by the parties.

- Consultant agrees to submit timely invoices as the Services progress. Invoices that are submitted for payment ninety (90) days or more after the Services were completed are subject to non-payment.
- c. Un-invoiced Services performed through December 31 of each year shall be invoiced no later than the 7th day of January. If the Consultant is unable to provide an invoice, they shall advise the NWSA in writing with a summary of the work completed and the accrual amount to be invoiced through December 31 of that year.

10. Costs and Disbursements

Consultant is responsible for and shall pay all costs and disbursements required for the performance of the Services.

11. Standard of Care

- a. Consultant shall perform the Services to conform to generally accepted professional standards. Consultant shall be responsible for the professional quality, technical adequacy and accuracy, timely completion and coordination of all plans, designs, drawings and specifications prepared under this Agreement. Consultant shall, without additional compensation, correct or revise any errors or omissions in such Services.
- b. The NWSA's approval of plans, drawings and specifications shall not relieve Consultant of responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy thereof. The Consultant shall remain liable for damages and costs incurred by the NWSA arising from the Consultant's errors, omissions, or negligent performance of the Services.

12. <u>Time</u>

Time is a material consideration in the performance of the Services. The Consultant shall complete the Services within the agreed upon schedule, including any established milestones and task completion dates, and the overall period of performance. The completion dates for tasks may be modified by a written directive; however, the period of performance for the Agreement may only be modified through an amendment. The period of performance and contract milestones shall not be extended because of any unwarranted delays attributable to the Consultant. The period of performance and contract milestones may be extended in the event of a delay caused by the NWSA which results in a delay in the performance of an affected task, because of unavoidable delay caused by any governmental action, or other conditions beyond the control of the Consultant, which could not reasonably be anticipated and which results in a delay in the period of performance and contract schedule. Upon mutual agreement, the period of performance may be accelerated to meet Project requirements.

13. Assignability

The Consultant may not assign, transfer, or novate all or any portion of the Agreement, including but not limited to any claim or right to the Contract Sum, without the NWSA's prior written consent. If the Consultant attempts to make an assignment, transfer, or novation without the NWSA's consent, the assignment or novation, shall be of no effect, and the Consultant shall nevertheless remain legally responsible for all obligations under the Agreement. The Consultant also shall not assign or transfer to any third party any claims it may have against the NWSA arising under the Agreement or otherwise related to the Project.

14. Termination of Agreement

- a. Termination for Default:
 - i. The NWSA may terminate this Agreement, in writing, if the Consultant substantially fails to fulfill any or all of its material obligations under this Agreement through no fault of the NWSA; provided that the Consultant has been given an opportunity to cure.
 - 1. Cure Notice: If the NWSA determines that a breach of this Agreement has occurred, that is, the Consultant has failed to comply with any material terms or conditions of this Agreement or the Consultant has failed to provide in any manner the Services agreed to herein, and if the NWSA deems said breach to warrant corrective action, the following sequential procedure will apply:
 - ii. The NWSA will provide the Consultant with a written Cure Notice, notifying the Consultant of the nature of the breach.
 - iii. The Consultant shall respond within five (5) calendar days of the notification. The Consultant shall submit a corrective action plan indicating the steps to be taken to correct the specified deficiencies within fifteen (15) calendar days of the notification. The corrective action plan shall specify the proposed completion date for bringing this Agreement into compliance within the number of calendar days specified by the NWSA;

b. Show Cause Notice:

i. In the event that the Consultant does not respond within the appropriate time with a corrective action plan, the NWSA will provide the Consultant with a written Show Cause Notice; notifying the Consultant of their requirement to notify the NWSA in writing within seven (7) calendar days of any reason the NWSA

- should not terminate this Agreement. At the expiration of the seven (7) calendar day period the NWSA may commence termination of this Agreement in whole or in part.
- ii. The NWSA may withhold payment owed the Consultant, instruct the Consultant to stop work and to refrain from incurring additional costs until the NWSA is satisfied that the breach has been corrected.
- No increase in total price or period of performance shall result from breach of this Agreement; and
- iv. Nothing herein shall be deemed to affect or waive any other rights of the NWSA.

c. Notice of Termination:

- i. If the NWSA terminates this Agreement for default, the NWSA shall determine the amount of Services satisfactorily performed to the date of termination and the amount owing to the Consultant using the criteria set forth below; provided, that (a) no amount shall be allowed for anticipated profit on unperformed Services or other work and (b) any payment due to the Consultant at the time of termination may be adjusted to the extent of any additional costs the NWSA incurs because of the Consultant's default. In such event, the NWSA shall consider the actual costs incurred by the Consultant in performing this Agreement to the date of termination, the amount of Services originally required which was satisfactorily completed to the date of termination, whether the Services are in a form or of a type which is usable and suitable to the NWSA at the date of termination, the cost to the NWSA of completing the Services itself or of employing another firm to complete it and the inconvenience and time which may be required to do so, and other factors which affect the value to the NWSA of the Services performed to the date of termination. Under no circumstances shall payments made under this provision exceed the Total Price set forth in this Agreement. This provision shall not preclude the NWSA from filing claims and/or commencing litigation to secure compensation for damages incurred beyond that covered by withheld payments.
- ii. Upon receipt of a termination notice the Consultant shall at no additional cost to the NWSA:

- Promptly discontinue all Services (unless the notice directs otherwise);
- 2. No later than fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of termination, promptly deliver or otherwise make available to the NWSA all Instruments of Service and Port Data including data, drawings, electronic drawing files, specifications, calculations, reports, estimates, summaries, official Project documentation and other Project documentation, such other information and materials as the Consultant or subconsultants may have accumulated in performing this Agreement, whether completed or in progress and all equipment/materials purchased specifically for this Agreement where the NWSA has paid the Consultant for such items.
- 3. Upon termination, the NWSA may take over the Services and prosecute the same to completion by agreement with another party or otherwise.
- d. Termination for Convenience:
 - The NWSA may terminate this Agreement, for the convenience of the NWSA. The NWSA shall terminate by delivery to the Consultant a Notice of Termination specifying the termination and the effective date.
 - ii. If the NWSA terminates this Agreement for convenience, the NWSA shall pay the Consultant for the following items:
 - An amount for Direct Labor Costs and Indirect Costs in accordance with the Agreement for Services satisfactorily performed to the date of termination.
 - Reasonable invoiced Other Direct Costs as allowed by the Agreement, actually incurred before the date of termination;
 - Reasonable termination settlement costs the Consultant actually incurred unless the NWSA determines to assume said commitments. Reasonable termination settlement costs include settlement costs for subconsultants, and reasonable accounting and clerical costs

- actually incurred by the Consultant.
- iii. Upon receipt of a termination notice the Consultant shall at no additional cost to the NWSA:
 - Promptly discontinue all Services (unless the notice directs otherwise);
 - 2. No later than fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of termination, promptly deliver or otherwise make available to the NWSA all Instruments of Services and Port Data including drawings, specifications, calculations, reports, estimates, summaries, official Project documentation, other Project documentation, and such other information and materials as the Consultant may have accumulated in performing this Agreement, whether completed or in progress and all equipment/materials purchased specifically for this Agreement where the NWSA has reimbursed the Consultant for such costs;
 - Take any action necessary, or that the NWSA may direct, for the protection and preservation of property related to this Agreement that is in the possession of the Consultant and in which the NWSA has or may acquire an interest.
- iv. Within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of the notice of Termination for Convenience, the Consultant shall submit to the NWSA a Termination Settlement Proposal. The Termination Settlement Proposal shall include:
 - Request for Direct Labor Costs and Indirect Costs for services satisfactorily performed to the date of termination.
 - As allowed by the Agreement, Actual and reasonable Other Direct Costs incurred before the termination.
 - Documentation supporting all costs identified in the Termination Settlement Proposal; and
 - A statement certifying, under penalty of perjury, that the Termination Settlement Proposal is made in good faith, the Termination Settlement

Proposal and supporting data are true and accurate to the best of the Consultant's knowledge and belief, the Termination Settlement Proposal is fully supported by the accompanying data, and the amount requested accurately reflects the amount for which the Consultant believes the NWSA is responsible.

- v. Termination settlement costs and proposals are subject to audit verification by the NWSA.
- vi. Upon termination, the NWSA may take over the work and prosecute the same to completion by agreement with another party or otherwise.

15. Disputes

If a dispute arises relating to this Agreement and cannot be settled through direct discussions, the parties agree to endeavor to settle the dispute through a mediation firm acceptable to both parties, the cost of which shall be divided equally. The NWSA reserves the right to join any dispute under this Agreement with any other claim in litigation or other dispute resolution forum, and the Consultant agrees to such joinder, so that all disputes related to this Agreement may be consolidated and resolved in one forum.

16. Venue & Governing Law

Venue for any litigation shall be the Pierce County Superior Court of the State of Washington and the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover its costs and reasonable attorney(s) fees. This Agreement shall be interpreted under the laws of the State of Washington.

17. Integration and Merger/ Extent of Agreement

- a. This Agreement represents the entire and integrated understanding between the NWSA and Consultant, supersedes any previous written or oral representations and may be amended only by written instrument signed by both the NWSA and Consultant. No verbal agreement or conversation between any officer, agent, associate or employee of NWSA and any officer, agency, employee or associate of consultant prior to or following the execution of this Agreement shall affect or modify any of the terms or obligations contained in this Agreement.
- b. Authority to sign. Every signer of this Agreement warrants that they have the authority to enter into this Agreement and to bind the entity for which they represent.

18. Non-Discrimination

 Nondiscrimination in Employment and Provision of Services: During performance of this Agreement, the Consultant and all parties subcontracting under the authority of

- this Agreement agrees that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of the employee or applicant's age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability.
- b. Equal Employment Opportunity Efforts: The Consultant and all parties subcontracting under the authority of this Agreement agree to undertake equal employment opportunity efforts to ensure that applicants and employees are treated, without regard to their age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability.
- c. The Consultant and all parties subcontracting under the authority of this Agreement shall comply fully with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, executive orders and regulations that prohibit discrimination.

19. Indemnity / Hold Harmless Clause

- a. The Consultant shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Port of Tacoma and the Northwest Seaport Alliance and its officers, managing members, employees and agents from and against any liability, claims, damages, losses, expenses or actions, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs, arising out of the negligence, recklessness, or intentional wrongdoing of Consultant or its officers, employees. subcontractors, or agents; or arising out of a failure to comply with any applicable state, federal, local, law, statute, rule, regulation or act by the Consultant or its officers, employees, subcontractors, or agent's provided, however, that for any defense obligation related to a claim for which Contractor has insurance coverage under a professional liability policy, such obligation shall be limited to reimbursement by the Consultant for expenses incurred by the Port of Tacoma or the Northwest Seaport Alliance.
- b. This duty to indemnify, defend and hold harmless shall not apply to claims which arise solely out of negligence on the part of the Port of Tacoma and the Northwest Seaport Alliance, and this duty shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

- c. Consultant specifically assumes potential liability for actions brought by Consultant's own employees against the Port of Tacoma and the Northwest Seaport Alliance and, solely for the purpose of this indemnification and defense, Consultant specifically waives any immunity under the state industrial insurance law, Title 51 RCW. Consultant's indemnity obligations shall not be limited by any limitation on the amount or type of damages, compensation, or benefits payable to or for any third party under the Worker Compensation Acts, Disability Benefit Acts, or other employee benefit acts. Consultant recognizes that this waiver was the subject of mutual negotiation.
- d. Consultant shall indemnify and hold the Port of Tacoma and Northwest Seaport Alliance harmless from and against any liability, expense, fines, penalties, cost, demand, or other obligation, resulting from or out of any cyber-related risk that include theft, loss or misuse of data, release of private information as result of a network breach, penetration, compromise, or loss of IT systems control.
- e. The provisions of this Section 19 shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

20. General Insurance Requirements

The Consultant shall procure and maintain during the life of this Agreement such insurance as shall protect it from claims or damages for, IT Professional or Cyber Liability, bodily injury, including death resulting therefrom as well as from claims for property damage, and cyber-related risks such as theft, loss or misuse of data, release of private information as result of a network breach, penetration, compromise, or loss of IT systems control, which may arise from operations under this Agreement, whether such operations be by itself, its agents, or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them, and shall comply with any such Project specific insurance requirements as determined by the NWSA.

21. Miscellaneous Provisions

- a. Remedies Cumulative: Rights under this Agreement are cumulative and nonexclusive of any other remedy at law or in equity.
- Captions: All titles, including sections or subsections, are for convenience only and do not define or limit the contents.
- c. Severability: Any term or provision of this Agreement found to be prohibited by law shall be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition without invalidating the remainder of the Agreement.
- d. Waiver: No covenant, term, or the breach thereof shall be deemed waived, except by written consent of the Party against whom

- the waiver is claimed, and any waiver of the breach of any covenant, term or condition shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any preceding or succeeding breach of the same or any other covenant, term or condition. Neither the acceptance by NWSA of any performance by consultant after the time the same shall have become due nor payment to consultant for any portion of the Services shall constitute a waiver by NWSA of the breach or default of any covenant, term or condition unless otherwise this is expressly agreed to by NWSA, in writing. NWSA's failure to insist on performance of any of the terms or conditions herein or to exercise any right or privilege or NWSA's waiver of any breach hereunder shall not thereafter waive any other term, condition, or privilege, whether of the same or similar type.
- e. Negotiated Agreement: The Parties acknowledge that this is a negotiated Agreement, that they have had the opportunity to have this Agreement reviewed by respective legal counsel, and that terms and conditions are not construed against any Party on the basis of such Party's draftsmanship thereof.
- f. No Personal Liability: No officer, agent or authorized employee of either NWSA or Consultant shall be personally responsible for any liability arising under this Agreement, whether expressed or implied, nor for any statement or representation made herein or in any connection with this Agreement.

22. Key Personnel

The Consultant's key personnel, as described in the Consultant selection submittals, shall remain assigned for the duration of the Project unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the NWSA.

23. Insurance - Assumption of Risk

a. As a further consideration in determining compensation amounts, the Consultant shall procure and maintain, during the life of this Agreement, such commercial general liability insurance, professional liability insurance and environmental liability insurance including asbestos abatement liability and other insurance as required by contract for this project that shall protect Consultant and any subconsultant performing work under this Agreement from claims for damages from bodily injury, including death, resulting therefrom as well as from claims for property damage, economic damage or cleanup costs, which may arise under this Agreement, whether arising from operations conducted by the Consultant, any subconsultant, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them. Consultant recognizes that it is the

- obligation of the Consultant to ensure that all Subconsultants of any tier have insurance for the activities performed under this agreement. If this agreement requires that a Subconsultant perform ultra-hazardous operations the NWSA will require that it be named as an Additional Insured by endorsement on all Subconsultant insurance policies and waivers of subrogation shall be provided by endorsement. Workers Compensation and Professional Liability are exempted from the additional insured requirement.
- b. Consultant shall submit to the NWSA, prior to the commencement of services, certificates of insurance evidencing:
 - Commercial General Liability coverage on occurrence form CG0001 or equivalent with limits of \$2,000,000 per occurrence and \$4,000,000 aggregate. Coverage will include: Products and Completed Operations, Contractual Liability and Personal & Advertising Injury; and
 - ii. Automobile Liability covering owned, non-owned and hired vehicles of \$2,000,000 combined single limit per accident; and
 - iii. Professional Liability including environmental consulting services of not less than \$2,000,000 per claim and in the aggregate. If the scope of Professional Services includes environmental testing, consulting or other such professional services, the Consultant's Professional Liability policy shall include coverage for these services. If such coverage is written on a claims-made basis, any retroactive date on the policy shall be prior to the start of this contract. Coverage shall remain in effect for the term of this Agreement plus three years. Certificates of Insurance citing the contract and project number shall be provided to the NWSA on an annual basis for each of the three years.
 - iv. Workers Compensation Insurance: Statutory Workers Compensation Insurance as required by the State of Washington.
 - v. Stop Gap/Employers Liability Insurance shall be provided with a limit of not less than \$2,000,000 per claim.
 - vi. Protection and Indemnity Insurance/Jones Act: \$1,000,000 limits shall be provided covering all vessels and crew.

- vii. Maritime Employers Liability: \$1,000,000 limits shall be provided covering all divers.
- c. All policies shall be issued by a company having an A. M. Best Financial Strength Rating of A- and Financial Size Category of VIII or better. The Consultant shall be responsible for notifying the NWSA in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of notice of coverage being suspended, voided, cancelled or materially reduced. Except for professional liability, the Port of Tacoma and the Northwest Seaport Alliance shall be named as an additional insured on all policies by endorsement on ISO Form CG 20 10 Form B or equivalent. Except for Workers Compensation and Professional Liability, waivers of subrogation shall be provided by endorsement to all policies.
- d. Consultant is responsible for complying with the Washington State laws that pertain to industrial insurance (RCW 51). Consultant shall submit a current employer liability certificate as issued by the Washington Department of Labor and Industries that shows the status of Consultant's worker compensation account prior to contract execution, including those Consultants who are qualified self-insurers with the state. Consultant bears the responsibility to ensure that any out-of-state (non-Washington) employees and subconsultants have appropriate workers compensation coverage while working for the NWSA in Washington State. Consultant may be exempt from state worker compensation insurance requirements (RCW 51.12.020) such as if Consultant is a sole proprietor.
- e. Certain Services under this Agreement may require United States Longshoremen's and Harbor Worker's Act (USL&H) and Jones Act. The Consultant shall be solely responsible for determining the applicability of USL&H and Jones Act coverage. The failure of the Consultant to procure either USL&H or Jones Act coverage shall at no time create liability on the part of the NWSA. The Consultant shall bear all responsibility and shall indemnify and hold harmless the NWSA for any and all liability, cost and/or damages.

24. Payment Schedule

- a. Consultant shall submit detailed numbered invoices in accordance with the Agreement by the 10th of the month. After a complete and correct invoice has been received by the NWSA, payment will be made within thirty (30) days.
- b. Consultant shall submit detailed invoices showing the following:

- Invoice Number, Contract number, Title, Invoice Period.
- Summary page with a brief description of Services completed during the invoice period, deliverables provided during the invoice period, and forthcoming milestones / deliverables.
- iii. Further, provide a summary breakdown of all projects with the amount of the overall invoice to be charged to each project.
- iv. Current Amount Due, with a Time and Materials Breakdown: titles, hours, hourly rates, and all expenses itemized, with backup, in accordance with the Contract.
- v. Total amount of the Contract, and balance of Contract amount.
 Indicate "Final Invoice" when invoice is the final billing.

25. Compensation

- a. Consultant expenses will be reimbursed at cost with the exception of:
 - Subconsultant services will be reimbursed at cost plus negotiated markup.
 - ii. Services provided by a third party will be reimbursed at cost plus negotiated markup.
- b. <u>Costs</u> marked up by a sub-tier shall be passed through to higher tiers as a direct cost. In no case shall the mark up at any tier exceed the negotiated percentage.
- c. Reimbursable expenses by a sub-tier shall be passed through to higher tiers as a direct cost. In no case shall markup be applied to reimbursable expenses at any level.
- d. Rates: Rates are fully burdened and will remain in effect for the contract term unless renegotiated and agreed to by both parties in a written amendment.
 - Rates may be negotiated no more than once annually. Rate adjustments will be tied to the CPI for the Seattle, Tacoma/Bremerton area.
- e. Rates and Markup: are defined in the attached Rate Sheet and made a part of this contract.

26. Deliverables

All tangible materials produced as a result of this Agreement shall be prepared as specified by the NWSA's Project Manager. Delivery of materials produced shall consist both of the tangible materials and one copy of any computer files used in the creation of the tangible product in a PDF format or other format specified by the NWSA.

27. Drawing, Specification and GIS

 Consultant shall prepare specifications using BSD Speclink-E, Masterformat specification organization, latest edition.

- b. Consultant shall prepare specifications in accordance the NWSA's Specification Standards available at https://www.portoftacoma.com/business/con tracting/forms and from the Port Project Manager. The Port's Master format specifications are available at https://www.portoftacoma.com/business/con tracting/forms.
- c. All site plans, derivative drawings, record drawings, and bid plans shall be completed using Port GIS and CADD standards and layer/block protocols available at https://www.portoftacoma.com/business/con tracting/forms and from the NWSA Project Manager.

28. Security – Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC)

- a. The Services may require the consultant to work within a secured/restricted TWIC regulated terminal.
- b. TWIC is a credentialing program managed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), through the United States Coast Guard and the Transportation Security Administration. All credentialed merchant mariners and individuals who will need unescorted access to secure areas of a maritime regulated facility or vessel must obtain a TWIC. For more information on TWIC visit https://www.tsa.gov/forindustry/twic.
- c. The Consultant shall have a minimum of one TWIC compliant employee trained as an escort for every five workers not possessing TWIC cards working on a secured or restricted site. Each escort will be required to receive Terminal Operator provided escort training.

29. Existing Hazardous Material Information The NWSA shall furnish the Consultant with the information as required by the Hazard Communication standard for materials pre-existing on the Project. The Consultant is solely responsible for ensuring that this information is made available to the Consultant's personnel, subconsultants, and that relevant information is incorporated into work products including, but not limited to, reports, specifications, and contract documents.

30. Extent of Agreement

a. In the event the Consultant identifies something that may impact the Services, Project schedule, total price, task budget(s) or cost of performing the Services, the Consultant shall inform the Project Manager in writing prior to exceeding the task budget(s) and within seven (7) calendar days of the event and possible impacts to scope, schedule and cost or task budget.

- The Project Manager may, at any time, by written directive require the Consultant to perform the Services consistent with the Agreement; provided that this directive does not add scope or cost to the project.
- Any directive shall not constitute an amendment to the Agreement nor entitle the Consultant to any additional compensation or a time adjustment.

31. Prevailing Wages

- The Consultant shall ensure that all Subcontractors of any tier pay all prevailing wages and other wages (such as Davis-Bacon Act wages) applicable to the Project.
- b. Pursuant to RCW 39.12, "Prevailing Wages on Public Works," no worker, laborer, or mechanic employed in the performance of any part of the Work shall be paid less than the "prevailing rate of wage" in effect as of the date that bids are due.
- c. The applicable effective date for prevailing wages for this project is the execution date of this Amendment.
- d. The State of Washington prevailing wage rates applicable for this public works project, which is located in Pierce County, may be found at the following website address of the Department of Labor and Industries:

https://lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/public-works-projects/prevailing-wage-rates/

- e. The schedule of the prevailing wage rates is made a part of the Contract Documents by reference as though fully set forth herein; and a copy of the applicable prevailing wage rates are also available for viewing at the Port of Tacoma Administration Building, located at One Sitcum Plaza, Tacoma, WA 98421 (253-383-5841). Upon request to the Procurement Department at procurement@portoftacoma.com, the NWSA will email or mail a hard copy of the applicable Journey Level prevailing wages for this project.
- f. Questions relating to prevailing wage data should be addressed to the Industrial Statistician.
- g. Mailing Address:
- h. Department of Labor and Industries
- i. Prevailing Wage Office
- j. PO Box 44540, Olympia, WA 98504
- k. Telephone: (360) 902-5335
- I. Facsimile: (360) 902-5300
- m. If there is any discrepancy between the attached or provided schedule of prevailing wage rates and the published rates applicable under WAC 296-127-011, or if no schedule is attached, the applicable published rates shall apply with no increase in the Contract Sum. It is the Contractor's

- responsibility to ensure that the correct prevailing wage rates are paid.
- n. Prior to any payment being made by the NWSA under this Contract, the Contractor, and each Subcontractor of any tier, shall file a Statement of Intent to Pay Prevailing Wages under oath with the NWSA and certified by the Director of Labor and Industries. The statement shall include the hourly wage rate to be paid to each classification of workers entitled to prevailing wages, which shall not be less than the prevailing rate of wage, and the estimated number of workers in each classification employed on the Project by the Contractor or a Subcontractor of any tier, as well as the Contractor's contractor registration number and other information required by the Director of Labor and Industries. The statement, and any supplemental statements, shall be filed in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Labor and Industries. No progress payment shall be made until the NWSA receives such certified statement.
- o. The Contractor shall post in a location readily visible to workers at the Project site (1) a copy of the Statement of Intent to Pay Prevailing Wages approved by the Industrial Statistician of the Department of Labor and Industries and (2) the address and telephone number of the Industrial Statistician of the Department of Labor and Industries to whom a complaint or inquiry concerning prevailing wages may be directed.
- p. If a State of Washington prevailing wage rate conflicts with another applicable wage rate (such as Davis-Bacon Act wage rate) for the same labor classification, the higher of the two shall govern.
- q. Pursuant to RCW 39.12.060, if any dispute arises concerning the appropriate prevailing wage rate for work of a similar nature, and the dispute cannot be adjusted by the parties in interest, including labor and management representatives, the matter shall be referred for arbitration to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industries, and his or her decision shall be final and conclusive and binding on all parties involved in the dispute.
- r. The Contractor shall defend (at the Contractor's sole cost, with legal counsel approved by NWSA), indemnify and hold the NWSA harmless from all liabilities, obligations, claims, demands, damages, disbursements, lawsuits, losses, fines, penalties, costs and expenses, whether direct, indirect, including but not limited to

attorneys' fees and consultants' fees and other costs and expenses, from any violation or alleged violation by the Contractor or any Subcontractor of any tier of RCW 39.12 ("Prevailing Wages on Public Works") or Chapter 51 RCW ("Industrial Insurance"), including but not limited to RCW 51.12.050.

32. On-Call Definitions Supplementary Conditions (As Applicable)

- a. <u>Task Order</u>: The document that memorializes agreement between the Consultant and the NWSA, in accordance with the terms of the On-Call Contract. Task Orders are executed for defined Services under the On-Call Contract.
- b. <u>Contract Owner</u>: NWSA staff member responsible for managing the On-Call Contract and executing all Task Orders.
- c. <u>Project Manager</u>: NWSA staff member responsible for managing a specific Task Order.
- d. <u>Consultant Representative</u>: The Consultant staff member(s) delegated the authority to provide signature approval for Task Orders under the On-Call Contract.
- e. Task Order Proposals:
 - The Project Manager will request consultant to provide a fee proposal for the Services requested by the NWSA.
 - ii. The NWSA will not pay for time or materials associated with development of fee proposals, unless such costs are approved by the Project Manager and Contract Owner in advance.
 - iii. Task Order proposals shall be signed and submitted by the Consultant Representative to the NWSA's Project Manager in writing. Proposals shall include one of the following:
 - 1. Time and Materials Proposal
 - Description of Task Order scope and deliverables.
 - b. Consultant's Personnel Titles and Rates as negotiated.
 - c. Hours per person per task.
 - d. Sub-tier consultant scope and deliverables (when applicable).
 - e. Anticipated reimbursable costs.

f. Total proposal with Not to Exceed dollar amount.

f. Task Order Execution:

Executed Task Orders will be issued by the Contract Owner to the Consultant.

- g. Task Order Revision:
 - Revisions include when the Consultant becomes aware of the potential to exceed the executed amount or when changes are requested by the Project Manager.
 - ii. Consultant shall provide a revised proposal detailing all revisions per 2A and B above. Consultant shall not proceed with changed work until a revised Task Order is executed by the Contract Owner.

h. Payment Schedule:

- Each Task Order shall be invoiced separately. Consultant shall submit detailed invoices showing the following:
- ii. Invoice Number, Contract number, Title, Task Order Number and Title.
- iii. Summary page with a brief description of Services completed during the invoice period, deliverables provided during the invoice period, and forthcoming milestones / deliverables.
- iv. Current Amount Due:
- v. For Lump Sum Task Orders: Percentage of Services complete, percentage of completed Services billed.
 - For Time and Materials Task Orders: titles, hours, hourly rates, and all expenses itemized, with backup, in accordance with the contract.
- vi. Total amount of the Task Order, and balance of Task Order amount.
- vii. Indicate "Final Invoice" when invoice is the final billing for that Task Order.

i. Task Order Closure:

When the Services have been completed and final invoice processed by the NWSA, the Contract Owner will issue a Task Order Completion Notification to the Consultant Representative.

j. Task Order Termination:

The NWSA may terminate the Task Order at its convenience with or without cause. In such case, the Consultant shall be paid for all Services performed and reasonable expenses properly incurred in connection with the termination.

ATTACHMENT C

Environmental Protection Agency

General Terms and Conditions

Effective October 1, 2024

Revision History:

The Environmental Protection Agency's General Terms and Conditions <u>are published and become effective</u>

<u>October 1st at the start of the federal fiscal year.</u> Any additions, revisions, or changes to the terms and conditions after October 1 will be summarized below.

T&C Number	Effective Date	Description of Changes	
#54	4/03/2025	Added new T&C on Federal anti-discrimination laws.	
#3	4/03/2025	Added a new termination provision if the award no longer	
		effectuates the program goals or agency priorities.	
#27	4/03/2025	Updated pursuant to a <u>class exception to subparts of 40 CFR Part</u>	
		33 issued on March 17, 2025.	
#8, 42, 47	4/03/2025	Revised in accordance with administration priorities.	
#41	4/26/2025	Added a new T&C on the procurement of synthetic nucleic acids	
		and benchtop nucleic acid synthesis equipment.	
#15	3/12/2025	The Federal Subaward Reporting System (FSRS) was	
		decommissioned and replaced fully by the System for Award	
		Management (SAM.gov), all references to FSRS have been	
		replaced with SAM.gov to reflect this change.	
#18	11/26/2024 Added language on the de minimis rate for grants amer		
		incorporate the October 2024 Revisions to 2 CFR Part 200.	

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Preface

1. Introduction

- (a) These terms and conditions are in addition to the assurances and certifications made as part of the award and terms, conditions, and restrictions reflected on the official assistance award document. Recipients <u>must</u> review their official award document for additional administrative and programmatic requirements. Failure to comply with the general terms and conditions outlined below and those directly reflected on the official assistance award document may result in enforcement actions as outlined in <u>2 CFR 200.339</u> and <u>2 CFR 200.340</u>.
- (b) If the EPA General Terms and Conditions have been revised, EPA will update the terms and conditions when it provides additional funding (incremental or supplemental) prior to the end of the period of performance of this agreement. The recipient must comply with the revised terms and conditions after the effective date of the EPA action that leads to the revision. Revised terms and conditions do not apply to the recipient's expenditures of EPA funds or activities the recipient carries out prior to the effective date of the EPA action. EPA will inform the recipient of revised terms and conditions in the action adding additional funds.

2. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards

This award is subject to the requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Title 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500. 2 CFR 1500.2, Adoption of 2 CFR Part 200, states the EPA adopts the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards to Non-Federal Entities (subparts A through F of 2 CFR Part 200), as supplemented by 2 CFR Part 1500, as the EPA policies and procedures for financial assistance administration. 2 CFR Part 1500 satisfies the requirements of 2 CFR 200.110(a) and gives regulatory effect to the OMB guidance as supplemented by 2 CFR Part 1500. This award is also subject to applicable requirements contained in EPA programmatic regulations located in 40 CFR Chapter 1 Subchapter B.

3. Termination (Updated 4/03/2025)

Consistent with 2 CFR 200.340, EPA may terminate this award in part or its entirety:

- (a) If a recipient or subrecipient fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the award, including statutory or regulatory requirements;
- (b) With the consent of the recipient when both the recipient and the EPA agree upon the termination conditions, which include the effective date and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated;
- (c) If a recipient sends the EPA a written notification of the reasons for such termination, the effective date, and in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated; however, if the EPA determines that the remaining portion of the Federal award will not accomplish the

- purposes for which the Federal award was made, the EPA may terminate the award in its entirety; or
- (d) Pursuant to the programmatic terms and conditions specified in the Federal award.
- (e) By the EPA or pass-through entity to the extent authorized by law, if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities. This provision applies to all new awards and funding amendments (incremental and supplemental) made on or after April 3, 2025.

Financial Information

4. Reimbursement Limitation

EPA's financial obligations to the recipient are limited by the amount of federal funding awarded to date as reflected on the award document. If the recipient incurs costs in anticipation of receiving additional funds from EPA, it does so at its own risk. See 2 CFR 1500.9.

- 5. Automated Standard Application Payments (ASAP) and Proper Payment Draw Down Electronic Payments. Recipients must be enrolled or enroll in the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system to receive payments under EPA financial assistance agreements unless:
 - EPA grants a recipient-specific exception;
 - The assistance program has received a waiver from this requirement;
 - The recipient is exempt from this requirement under 31 CFR 208.4; or,
 - The recipient is a fellowship recipient pursuant to 40 CFR Part 46.

EPA will not make payments to recipients until the ASAP enrollment is completed or if recipients fall under one of the above categories. EPA's Research Triangle Park Finance Center (RTPFC) will initiate the ASAP enrollment based on the key contact information on the grant application. The "payee" on the key contacts form will receive an email from ASAP indicating the steps required for completing the enrollment. Recipients may request exceptions using the procedures below.

Under this payment mechanism, the recipient initiates an electronic payment request online via ASAP, which is approved or rejected based on the amount of available funds authorized by EPA in the recipient's ASAP account. Approved payments are credited to the account at the financial institution of the recipient organization set up by the recipient during the ASAP enrollment process.

Additional information concerning ASAP and enrollment can be obtained by contacting the EPA RTPFC, at rtpfc-grants@epa.gov, or by visiting: https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/asap/.

EPA will grant exceptions to the ASAP enrollment requirement only in situations in which the recipient demonstrates to EPA that receiving payment via ASAP places an undue administrative or financial management burden on the recipient or EPA determines that granting the waiver is in the public interest. Recipients may request an exception to the requirement by following the procedures specified in RAIN-2018-G06-R.

Proper Payment Drawdown (for recipients other than states)

- (a) As required by 2 CFR 200.305(b), the recipient must draw funds from ASAP only for the minimum amounts needed for actual and immediate cash requirements to pay employees, contractors, subrecipients or to satisfy other obligations for allowable costs under this assistance agreement. The timing and amounts of the drawdowns must be as close as administratively feasible to actual disbursements of EPA funds. Disbursement within 5 business days of drawdown will comply with this requirement and the recipient agrees to meet this standard when performing this award.
- (b) Recipients may not retain more than 5% of the amount drawn down, or \$1,000 whichever is less, 5 business days after drawdown to materially comply with the standard. Any EPA funds subject to this paragraph that remain undisbursed after 5 business days must be fully disbursed within 15 business days of draw down or be returned to EPA.
- (c) If the recipient draws down EPA funds in excess of that allowed by paragraph b., the recipient must contact rtpfc-grants@epa.gov for instructions on whether to return the funds to EPA. The recipient must comply with the requirements at 2 CFR 200.305(b)(11) regarding depositing advances of Federal funds in interest bearing accounts.
- (d) Returning Funds: Pay.gov is the preferred mechanism to return funds. It is free, secure, paperless, expedient, and does not require the recipient//vendor to create an account. Contact RTPFC-Grants at rttpfc-grants@epa.gov to obtain complete instructions. Additional information is available at the Pay.gov website. Information on how to repay EPA via check is available at https://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment. Instructions on how to return funds to EPA electronically via ASAP are available at https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/asap/.
- (e) Failure on the part of the recipient to materially comply with this condition may, in addition to EPA recovery of the un-disbursed portions of the drawn down funds, lead to changing the payment method from advance payment to a reimbursable basis. EPA may also take other remedies for noncompliance under 2 CFR 200.208 and/or 2 CFR 200.339.
- (f) If the recipient believes that there are extraordinary circumstances that prevent it from complying with the 5-business day disbursement requirement throughout the performance period of this agreement, recipients may request an exception to the requirement by following the procedures specified in RAIN-2018-G06-R. EPA will grant exceptions to the 5-business day disbursement requirement only if the recipient demonstrates that compliance places an undue administrative or financial management burden or EPA determines that granting the exception is in the public interest. EPA will grant exceptions to the 5-business day disbursement requirement only if the recipient demonstrates that compliance places an undue administrative or financial management burden or EPA determines that granting the exception is in the public interest.

Proper Payment Drawdown for State Recipients

In accordance with <u>2 CFR 200.305(a)</u>, payments are governed by Treasury-State Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA) agreements and default procedures codified <u>at 31 CFR Part 205, Subparts A and B</u> and <u>Treasury Financial Manual (TFM) 4A-2000, "Overall Disbursing Rules for All Federal Agencies"</u> unless a program specific regulation (e.g. 40 CFR 35.3160 or 40 CFR 35.3560) provides

otherwise. Pursuant to 31 CFR Part 205, <u>Subpart A—Rules Applicable to Federal Assistance Programs Included in a Treasury-State Agreement</u>, States follow their Treasury-State CMIA Agreement for major Federal programs listed in the agreement. For those programs not listed as major in the Treasury-State agreement, the State follows the default procedures in 31 CFR Part 205, <u>Subpart B—Rules Applicable to Federal Assistance Programs Not Included in a Treasury-State Agreement</u>, which directs State recipients to draw-down and disburse Federal financial assistance funds in anticipation of immediate cash needs of the State for work under the award. States must comply with <u>2 CFR 200.302(a)</u> in reconciling costs incurred and charged to EPA financial assistance agreements at time of close out unless a program specific regulation provides otherwise.

Selected Items of Cost

6. Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Service Equipment or Services
Prohibition on covered telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment is
effective on all obligations and expenditures of EPA financial assistance funding as of August 13,
2020, including awards made before that date.

As required by <u>2 CFR 200.216</u>, EPA recipients and subrecipients, including borrowers under EPA-funded revolving loan fund programs, are prohibited from obligating or expending Federal loan or grant funds to procure or obtain covered telecommunications equipment or services; extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain covered telecommunications equipment or services; or enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain covered telecommunications equipment or services. As described in section 889 of <u>Public Law 115-232</u>, "covered telecommunications equipment or services" means any of the following:

- **1.** Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities);
- 2. For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities);
- **3.** Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment;
- **4.** Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country.

Pursuant to <u>2 CFR 200.216(c)</u>, "covered telecommunications equipment or services" also include systems that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. Consistent with <u>2 CFR</u>

<u>200.471</u>, costs incurred for telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment such as phones, internet, video surveillance, and cloud servers are allowable except for the following circumstances:

- (a) Obligating or expending EPA funds for covered telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment or services as described in <u>2 CFR 200.216</u> to:
 - (1) Procure or obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain;
 - (2) Enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure; or
 - (3) Obtain the equipment, services, or systems.

Certain prohibited equipment, systems, or services, including equipment, systems, or services produced or provided by entities identified in section 889 of Public Law 115-232, are recorded in the System for Award Management exclusion list.

7. Consultant Cap

EPA participation in the salary rate (excluding overhead) paid to individual consultants retained by recipients or by a recipient's contractors or subcontractors shall be limited to the maximum daily rate for a Level IV of the Executive Schedule, available at: https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/, to be adjusted annually. This limit applies to consultation services of designated individuals with specialized skills who are paid at a daily or hourly rate. This rate does not include transportation and subsistence costs for travel performed (the recipient will pay these in accordance with their normal travel reimbursement practices).

Information on how to calculate the maximum daily rate and the daily pay limitation is available at the Office Of Personnel Management's <u>Fact Sheet: How to Compute Rates of Pay</u> and <u>Fact Sheet:</u> <u>Expert and Consultant Pay.</u> Specifically, to determine the maximum daily rate, follow these steps:

- (1) Divide the Level IV salary by 2087 to determine the hourly rate. Rates must be rounded to the nearest cent, counting one-half cent and over as the next higher cent (e.g., round \$18.845 to \$18.85).
- (2) Multiply the hourly rate by 8 hours. The product is the maximum daily rate.

Contracts and subcontracts with firms for services that are awarded using the procurement requirements in Subpart D of 2 CFR Part 200 are not affected by this limitation unless the terms of the contract provide the recipient with responsibility for the selection, direction and control of the individuals who will be providing services under the contract at an hourly or daily rate of compensation. See <u>2 CFR 1500.10</u>.

8. Establishing and Managing Subawards (Updated 4/03/2025)

If the recipient chooses to pass funds from this assistance agreement to other entities, the recipient must comply with applicable subaward provisions of 2 CFR Part 200 and the <u>EPA Subaward Policy</u>.

As a pass-through entity, the recipient agrees to:

- Select subrecipients and conduct subaward competitions, as appropriate, using a system that properly differentiates between subrecipients and procurement contractors consistent with the differentiating characteristics explained in 2 CFR 200.331 and EPA's supplemental guidance in <u>Appendix A of the EPA Subaward Policy</u>.
- **2.** Verify that the potential subrecipient is not excluded or disqualified in accordance with the verification methods provided in <u>2 CFR 180.300</u>, such as confirming in SAM.gov that a potential subrecipient is not suspended, debarred, or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal funds.
- **3.** Establish and follow a system that ensures all subaward agreements are in writing and contain all of the elements required by <u>2 CFR 200.332(b)</u>. EPA has developed a template for subaward agreements that is available in <u>Appendix D of the EPA Subaward Policy</u>.
- 4. Prior to making subawards, ensure that each subrecipient has a "Unique Entity Identifier" (UEI). The UEI is required by 2 CFR Part 25 and 2 CFR 200.332(b). Subrecipients are not required to complete full System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration to obtain a UEI. Information regarding obtaining a UEI is available at the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Internet site: http://www.sam.gov/SAM/ and in the General Condition of the pass-through entity's agreement with EPA entitled "System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements" T&C of the pass-through entity's agreement with the EPA.
- **5.** Ensure that subrecipients are aware of the requirements that apply to the subaward, including those that flow down from the recipient, as required by <u>2 CFR 200.332(b)</u> and monitor the activities of the subrecipient to ensure compliance with these requirements per <u>2 CFR 200.332(e)</u>. These requirements include, among others:
 - **a.** Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and other Federal statutes and regulations prohibiting discrimination in Federal financial assistance programs, as applicable, including provisions protecting free speech, religious liberty, public welfare, and the environment per <u>2 CFR 200.300(a)</u>, as well as regulations, including <u>2 CFR 200.300(b)</u> prohibiting discrimination based on sex.
 - b. Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation under Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) set forth in the General Condition pass-through entity's agreement with EPA entitled "Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation."
 - c. Limitations on individual consultant fees as set forth in <u>2 CFR 1500.10</u> and the General Condition of the pass-through entity's agreement with EPA entitled "Consultant Fee Cap."
 - **d.** EPA's prohibition on paying management fees as set forth in General Condition of the pass-through entity's agreement with EPA entitled "Management Fees."
 - **e.** The Procurement Standards in <u>2 CFR Part 200</u> including those requiring competition when the subrecipient acquires goods and services from

- contractors (including consultants) and Domestic preferences for procurements at 2 CFR 200.322.
- f. Other statutes, regulations and Executive Orders that may apply to subawards are described at <u>Information on Requirements that Pass-Through Entities must "Flow Down" to Subrecipients</u>. Many Federal requirements are agreement- or program-specific, and EPA encourages pass-through entities to review the terms of their assistance agreement carefully and consult with their EPA Project Officer for advice if necessary.
- 6. Establish and follow a system for evaluating subrecipient fraud risk and risk of noncompliance with a subaward to determine the appropriate monitoring described at 2 CFR 200.332(c) and consider whether, based on the evaluation of risk, additional monitoring tools may be useful as described in 2 CFR 200.332(f). When evaluating a subrecipient's risk, a pass-through entity should consider:
 - a. The subrecipient's prior experience with same or similar subawards;
 - **b.** Results of previous audits, including considering whether the subrecipient receives a Single Audit, in accordance with <u>2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F</u> and the extent to which the same or similar subawards have been audited as a major program;
 - **c.** Whether the subrecipient has new personnel or new or substantially change systems, and
 - **d.** The extent and results of any Federal agency monitoring (for example, if the subrecipient also receives Federal awards directly from the Federal agency).
- 7. Establish and follow a process for deciding whether to implement specific conditions in subawards based on risk factors, as described in <u>2 CFR 200.208</u>, and notify EPA of the specific conditions as required by <u>2 CFR 200.332(d)</u>. Examples of specific conditions, per 2 CFR 200.208, may include:
 - **a.** Requiring payments as reimbursements rather than advance payments;
 - **b.** Withholding authority to proceed to the next phase until receipt of evidence of acceptable performance;
 - c. Requiring additional or more detailed financial reports;
 - **d.** Requiring additional or project monitoring;
 - e. Requiring the recipient or subrecipient to obtain technical or management assistance; or
 - **f.** Establishing additional prior approvals.
- **8.** Establish and follow a system for monitoring subrecipient performance that includes the elements required at <u>2 CFR 200.332(e)</u>, such as reviewing financial and performance reports, and report the results of the monitoring in performance reports as provided in the reporting terms and conditions of this agreement.
- 9. Ensure that a subrecipient provides a plan for and takes corrective action on all significant developments that negatively affect the subaward. Per 2 CFR 200.332(e)(2), significant developments include Single Audit findings related to the subaward, other audit findings, site visits, and written notifications from a subrecipient of adverse conditions that will impact their ability to meet the

- milestones or objectives of the subaward.
- 10. Establish and maintain an accounting system which ensures compliance with the \$50,000 limitation at 2 CFR 200.1, Modified Total Direct Costs, if applicable, on including subaward costs in Modified Total Direct Costs for the purposes of distributing indirect costs. Recipients with Federally approved indirect cost rates that use a different basis for distributing indirect costs to subawards must comply with their Indirect Cost Rate Agreement.
- **11.** Work with EPA's Project Officer to obtain the written consent of EPA's Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA) prior to awarding a subaward to a foreign or international organization or a subaward to be performed in a foreign country, even if that subaward is described in a proposed scope of work.
- **12.** Obtain prior written approval from the EPA's Award Official for any subawards or subaward activities that are not described in the approved work plan in accordance with <u>2 CFR 200.308</u>. As provided in 2 CFR <u>200.308(f)(6)</u>, recipients must obtain prior approval to change a named subrecipient from the EPA Award Official if the pass-through entity described the original subrecipient's qualifications and/or performance history in the competitive application. Recipients must contact their Project Officer to begin the prior approval process.
- **13.** Obtain prior written approval from the EPA's Award Official before awarding a subaward to an individual if the EPA-approved scope of work does not include a description of subawards to individuals.
- **14.** Establish and follow written procedures under <u>2 CFR 200.302(b)(7)</u> for determining that subaward costs are allowable in accordance with <u>2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E</u> and the terms and conditions of this award. These procedures may provide for allowability determinations on a pre-award basis, through ongoing monitoring of costs that subrecipients incur, or a combination of both approaches provided the pass-through entity documents its determinations.
- **15.** Verify that the subrecipient is audited, as applicable, per <u>2 CFR part 200, Subpart F</u>, and establish and maintain a system under <u>2 CFR 200.332(g)</u> and <u>2 CFR 200.521</u> for issuing management decisions for audits of subrecipients that relate to the Federal award from the recipient. The recipient remains accountable to EPA for ensuring that unallowable subaward costs initially paid by EPA are either reimbursed or offset with allowable costs, regardless of whether the recipient recovers those costs from the subrecipient.
- **16.** As provided in <u>2 CFR 200.333</u>, pass-through entities must obtain EPA approval to make fixed amount subawards. Recipients should consult with their EPA Project Officer regarding how to obtain EPA approval.

By accepting this award, the recipient is certifying that it either has systems in place to comply

with the requirements described in Items 1 through 16 above or will refrain from making subawards until the systems are designed and implemented.

Subawards to Federal Agencies – Clarity on Applicable EPA Terms and Conditions: If the subrecipient is a Federal agency, the only provisions of the EPA General Terms and Conditions implementing 2 CFR Part 200 on subawards that apply are: (1) the requirement for the Federal agency to obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) in accordance with 2 CFR Part 25 as described in Item 4 above and (2) the requirement for the recipient to report on first-tier subawards as described in EPA General Term and Condition 15.1, "Reporting of first tier subawards."

As provided within 2 CFR 200.101(a)(2), all other provisions of 2 CFR Part 200, Subparts A through E, do not apply to subawards with federal agencies. Transactions between the recipient and the Federal agency subrecipient will be governed by the Federal agency subrecipient's cost reimbursement agreement with the recipient.

9. Management Fees

Management Fees or similar charges in excess of the direct costs and approved indirect rates are <u>not</u> allowable. The term "management fees or similar charges" refers to expenses added to the direct costs in order to accumulate and reserve funds for ongoing business expenses; unforeseen liabilities; or for other similar costs which are not allowable under this assistance agreement. Management fees or similar charges may not be used to improve or expand the project funded under this agreement, except to the extent authorized as a direct cost of carrying out the scope of work.

10. Federal Employee Costs

The recipient understands that none of the funds for this project (including funds contributed by the recipient as cost sharing) may be used to pay for the travel of Federal employees or for other costs associated with Federal participation in this project unless a Federal agency will be providing services to the recipient as authorized by a Federal statute.

11. Foreign Travel

EPA policy requires that all foreign travel must be approved by its Office of International and Tribal Affairs. The recipient agrees to obtain prior EPA approval before using funds available under this agreement for international travel unless the trip(s) are already described in the EPA approved budget for this agreement. Foreign travel includes trips to Mexico and Canada but does not include trips to Puerto Rico, the U.S. Territories or possessions. Recipients that request post-award approval to travel frequently to Mexico and Canada by motor vehicle (e.g., for sampling or meetings) may describe their proposed travel in general terms in their request for EPA approval. Requests for prior approval must be submitted to the Project Officer for this agreement.

12. The Fly America Act and Foreign Travel

The recipient understands that all foreign travel **funded under this assistance agreement** must comply with the Fly America Act. All travel must be on U.S. air carriers certified under 49 U.S.C. Section 40118, to the extent that service by such carriers is available even if foreign air carrier costs are less than the American air carrier.

13. Union Organizing

Grant funds may not be used to support or oppose union organizing, whether directly or as an offset for other funds.

Reporting and Additional Post-Award Requirements

14. System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements

- Requirement for System for Award Management (SAM) Unless exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR 25.110, the recipient must maintain current and active registrationSAM.gov. The recipient's registration must always be current and active until it submits all final reports required under this Federal award or receive the final payment, whichever is later. The recipient must review and update its information in SAM.gov at least annually from the date of its initial registration or any subsequent updates to ensure it is current, accurate, and complete. If applicable, this includes identifying the recipient's immediate and highest-level owner and subsidiaries and providing information about the recipient's predecessors that have received a Federal award or contract within the last three years.
- **14.2** Requirement for Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). If the recipient is authorized to make subawards under this award, the recipient:
 - **a.** Must notify potential subrecipients that no entity may receive a subaward unless the entity has provided its UEI to the recipient.
 - **b.** Must not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its UEI. Subrecipients are not required to complete full registration in SAM.gov to obtain a UEI.
- **14.3 Definitions.** For the Purpose of this award term:
 - a. System for Award Management (SAM.gov) means the Federal repository into which an entity must provide the information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found in SAM.gov (currently at: https://www.sam.gov).
 - **b.** Unique Entity Identifier means the universal identifier assigned by SAM.gov to uniquely identify an entity.
 - **c. Entity** is defined at <u>2 CFR 25.400</u> and includes all of the following types as defined in 2 CFR 200.1:
 - 1) Non-federal entity,
 - 2) Foreign organization;

- **3)** Foreign public entity;
- 4) Domestic for-profit organization; and
- **5)** Federal agency.
- d. Subaward has the meaning given in 2 CFR 200.1
- e. Subrecipient has the meaning given in <u>2 CFR 200.1</u>

15. Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation (Updated 3/12/2025)

15.1 Reporting of first tier subawards.

- **a. Applicability**. Unless the recipient is exempt as provided in paragraph 15.4. of this award term, the recipient must report each action that obligates \$30,000 or more in Federal funds for a subaward to an entity or Federal agency. The recipient must also report a subaward if a modification increases the Federal funding to an amount that equals or exceeds \$30,000.
- b. Reporting Requirements. (1) The entity or Federal agency must report each subaward described in paragraph 15.1.a of this award term at the System for Award Management (SAM.gov). (2) For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the subaward was made. (For example, if the subaward was made on any date during the month of November of a given year, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31 of that year.)

15.2 Reporting Total Compensation of Recipient Executives.

- a. Applicability. The recipient must report the total compensation for each of its five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if:
 15.2.a.1. The total Federal funding authorized to date under this award is \$30,000 or more;
 - **15.2.a.2.** In the preceding fiscal year, the recipient received: (i.) 80 percent or more of their annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal awards (and subawards) subject to the Transparency Act); (ii.) and \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal awards (and subawards) subject to the Transparency Act; and
 - **15.2.a.3.** The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 after receiving this subaward. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at: http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm.)
- **b.** Reporting Requirements. The recipient must report executive total compensation described in paragraph 15.2.a of this award term: (i.) As part of the recipient's registration profile at https://www.sam.gov/SAM/ (ii.) No later than the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter

(For example if this award was made on any date of November in a given year, the executive total compensation must be reported by no later than December 31 of that year.)

15.3 Reporting Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives.

- **a. Applicability**. Unless a first-tier subrecipient is exempt as provided in paragraph 15.4. of this award term, the recipient must report the executive total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if:
 - **15.3.a.1.** The total federal funding authorized to date under the subaward equals or exceeds \$30,000; and
 - **15.3.a.2.** In the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received: (i.) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal awards subject to the Transparency Act; and (ii.) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal awards (and subawards) subject to the Transparency Act; and
 - **15.3.a.3.** The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 after receiving this subaward. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at:
 - http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm.)
- b. Reporting Requirements. Subrecipients must report their executive total compensation described in paragraph 15.3.a. of this award term to the recipient. The recipient is required to submit this information to <u>SAM.gov</u> no later than the end of the month following the month in which the subaward was made. (For example, if a subaward was made on any date during the month of October of a given year, the subaward must be reported no later than November 30 of that year).

15.4 Exemptions

- **a.** If, in the previous tax year, the recipient had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, the recipient is exempt from the requirements to report:
 - **15.4.a.1.** (i) subawards, and (ii) the total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.
- **15.5 Definitions.** For purposes of this award term:
 - **a. Entity:** includes:
 - (1) whether for profit or nonprofit: (i) A corporation; (ii) An association; (iii) A partnership; (iv) A limited liability company; (v) A limited liability partnership; (vi) A sole proprietorship; (vii) Any other legal business entity; (viii) Another grantee or contractor that is not excluded by subparagraph (2); and (ix) Any State or locality.

- (2) It does not include: (i) An individual recipient of Federal financial assistance; or (ii) A Federal employee.
- **b.** Executive means an officer, managing partner, or any other employee holding a management position.
- c. Subaward: has the meaning given in 2 CFR 200.1
- **d.** Subrecipient has the meaning given in 2 CFR 200.1.
- e. Total compensation means the cash and noncash dollar value an executive earns during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year. This includes all items of compensation as prescribed in 17 CFR 229.402(c)(2)).

16. Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters – Reporting of Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

16.1 General Reporting Requirement

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to SAM.gov that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the responsibility/qualification information) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings described in paragraph 2 of this award term and condition. This is a statutory requirement under section 872 of Public Law 110-417, as amended (41 U.S.C. 2313). As required by section 3010 of Public Law 111-212, all information posted in the designated integrity and performance system on or after April 15, 2011, except past performance reviews required for Federal procurement contracts, will be publicly available.

16.2 Proceedings About Which You Must Report

Submit the information required about each proceeding that:

- **a.** Is in connection with the award or performance of a grant, cooperative agreement, or procurement contract from the Federal Government;
- **b.** Reached its final disposition during the most recent five-year period; and
- **c.** Is one of the following:
 - **16.2.c.1.** A criminal proceeding that resulted in a conviction, as defined in paragraph 5 of this award term and condition;
 - **16.2.c.2.** A civil proceeding that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and payment of a monetary fine, penalty, reimbursement, restitution, or damages of \$5,000 or more;
 - **16.2.c.3.** An administrative proceeding, as defined in paragraph 5. of this award term and condition, that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and your payment of either a monetary fine or penalty of \$5,000 or more or reimbursement, restitution, or damages in excess of \$100,000; or
 - **16.2.c.4.** Any other criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding if:

- **16.2.c.4.1.** It could have led to an outcome described in paragraph 16.2.c.1, 16.2.c.2, or 16.2.c.3 of this award term and condition;
- **16.2.c.4.2.** It had a different disposition arrived at by consent or compromise with an acknowledgment of fault on your part; and
- **16.2.c.4.3.** The requirement in this award term and condition to disclose information about the proceeding does not conflict with applicable laws and regulations.

16.3 Reporting Procedures

Enter in SAM.gov Entity Management area the information that SAM.gov requires about each proceeding described in paragraph 2 of this award term and condition. You do not need to submit the information a second time under assistance awards that you received if you already provided the information through SAM.gov because you were required to do so under Federal procurement contracts that you were awarded.

16.4 Reporting Frequency

During any period of time when you are subject to the requirement in paragraph 16.1 of this award term and condition, you must report proceedings information through SAM.gov for the most recent five-year period, either to report new information about any proceeding(s) that you have not reported previously or affirm that there is no new information to report. Recipients that have Federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10,000,000 must disclose semiannually any information about the criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings.

16.5 Definitions

For purposes of this award term and condition:

- a. Administrative proceeding means a non-judicial process that is adjudicatory in nature in order to make a determination of fault or liability (e.g., Securities and Exchange Commission Administrative proceedings, Civilian Board of Contract Appeals proceedings, and Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals proceedings). This includes proceedings at the Federal and State level but only in connection with performance of a Federal contract or grant. It does not include audits, site visits, corrective plans, or inspection of deliverables.
- b. Conviction, for purposes of this award term and condition, means a judgment or conviction of a criminal offense by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether entered upon a verdict or a plea, and includes a conviction entered upon a plea of nolo contendere.
- **c.** Total value of currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts includes
 - **16.5.c.1.** Only the Federal share of the funding under any Federal award with a recipient cost share or match; and
 - **16.5.c.2.** The value of all expected funding increments under a Federal award and options, even if not yet exercised.

17. Federal Financial Reporting (FFR)

Pursuant to <u>2 CFR 200.328</u> and <u>2 CFR 200.344</u>, EPA recipients must submit the Federal Financial Report (SF-425) at least annually and no more frequently than quarterly. EPA's standard reporting frequency is annual unless an EPA Region has included an additional term and condition specifying greater reporting frequency within this award document in accordance with <u>2 CFR 200.208</u>. EPA recipients must submit the SF-425 no later than 30 calendar days after the conclusion of each specified reporting period for quarterly and semi-annual reports and 90 calendar days for annual reports. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the conclusion of the period of performance of the award. Extension of reporting due dates may be approved by EPA when requested and justified by the recipient. The FFR form is available on the internet at: https://www.epa.gov/grants/sf-425-federal-financial-report. All FFRs must be submitted to the Research Triangle Park Finance Center (RTPFC) via email at rtpfc-grants@epa.gov or mail it to:

US Environmental Protection Agency RTP-Finance Center (Mail Code AA216-01) 4930 Page Rd. Durham, NC 27703

The RTPFC will make adjustments as necessary, to obligated funds after reviewing and accepting a final Federal Financial Report. Recipients will be notified and instructed by EPA if they must complete any additional forms for the closeout of the assistance agreement.

18. Indirect Cost Rate Agreements

This term and condition provides requirements for recipients using EPA funds for indirect costs and applies to all EPA assistance agreements unless there are <u>statutory or regulatory limits on IDCs.</u> See also <u>EPA's Indirect Cost Policy for Recipients of EPA Assistance Agreements</u> (IDC Policy).

In order for the assistance agreement recipient to use EPA funding for indirect costs, the IDC category of the recipient's assistance agreement award budget must include an amount for IDCs and at least one of the following must apply:

- With the exception of "exempt" agencies and Institutions of Higher Education as noted below, all recipients must have one of the following current (not expired) IDC rates, including IDC rates that have been extended by the cognizant agency:
 - Provisional
 - Final
 - Fixed rate with carry-forward
 - Predetermined
 - Grants awarded before October 1, 2024 10% de minimis rate of modified total direct costs authorized by 2 CFR 200.414(f)
 - Grants awarded on or after October 1, 2024 up to a 15% de minimis rate of modified total direct costs authorized by 2 CFR 200.414(f)
 - Grants amended to incorporate the October 2024 Revisions to 2 CFR 200 up to a

- 15% de minimis rate of modified total direct costs authorized by <u>2 CFR 200.414(f)</u>, effective as of the date of the amendment and going forward, cannot be applied retroactively
- EPA-approved use of an expired fixed rate with carry-forward on an exception basis, as detailed in section 6.4.a. of the IDC Policy
- "Exempt" state of local governmental departments or agencies are agencies that receive up
 to and including \$35,000,000 in Federal funding per the department or agency's fiscal year
 and must have an IDC rate proposal developed in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix
 VII, with documentation maintained and available for audit.
- Institutions of Higher Education must use the IDC rate(s) on the approved rate agreement in place at the time of award during the life of the assistance agreement (unless the rate was provisional at time of award, in which case the rate will change once it becomes final). As provided by 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix III(C)(7), the term "life of the assistance agreement", means each competitive segment of the project. If negotiated rate agreements do not extend through the life of the Federal award at the time of the initial award, then the negotiated rate for the last year of the Federal award must be extended through the end of the award. Additional information is available in the regulation.

IDCs incurred during any period of the assistance agreement that are not covered by the provisions above are not allowable costs and must not be drawn down by the recipient. Recipients may budget for IDCs if they have submitted a proposed IDC rate to their cognizant Federal agency, or requested an exception from EPA under subsection 6.4 of the IDC Policy. However, recipients may not draw down IDCs until their rate is approved, if applicable, or EPA grants an exception. IDC drawdowns must comply with the indirect rate corresponding to the period during which the costs were incurred. If the recipient's indirect cost rate has not been finalized within one year after the period of performance ends, the EPA Grants Management Officer is authorized to close the recipient's award using their most recently negotiated rate per 2 CFR 200.344(h).

This term and condition does not govern indirect rates for subrecipients or recipient procurement contractors under EPA assistance agreements. Pass-through entities are required to comply with 2 CFR 200.332(b)(4)(i) and (ii) when establishing indirect cost rates for subawards.

19. Audit Requirements

In accordance with <u>2 CFR 200.501(a)</u>, the recipient hereby agrees to obtain a single audit from an independent auditor, if their organization expends \$1,000,000 or more in total Federal funds in their fiscal year for that year.

The recipient must submit a single audit report within 9 months of the end of the recipient's fiscal year or 30 days after receiving the report from an independent auditor. The single audit report MUST be submitted using the Federal Audit Clearinghouse available at: https://fac.gov/. For complete information on how to accomplish the single audit submissions, the recipient will need to visit the Federal Audit Clearinghouse Web site: https://fac.gov/

20. Closeout Requirements

Reports required for closeout of the assistance agreement must be submitted in accordance with this agreement. Submission requirements and frequently asked questions can also be found at: https://www.epa.gov/grants/frequent-questions-about-closeouts

21. Suspension and Debarment

Recipient shall fully comply with Subpart C of 2 C.F.R. Part 180 entitled, "Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions Doing Business With Other Persons," as implemented and supplemented by 2 C.F.R. Part 1532. Recipient is responsible for ensuring that any lower tier covered transaction, as described in Subpart B of 2 C.F.R. Part 180, entitled "Covered Transactions," and 2 C.F.R. § 1532.220, includes a term or condition requiring compliance with 2 C.F.R. Part 180, Subpart C. Recipient is responsible for further requiring the inclusion of a similar term and condition in any subsequent lower tier covered transactions. Recipient acknowledges that failing to disclose the information required under 2 C.F.R. § 180.335 to the EPA office that is entering into the transaction with the recipient may result in the delay or negation of this assistance agreement, or pursuance of administrative remedies, including suspension and debarment. Recipients may access the SAM.gov exclusion list at https://sam.gov/SAM/ to determine whether an entity or individual is presently excluded or disqualified.

22. Representation by Corporations Regarding Delinquent Tax Liability or a Felony Conviction under any Federal Law

This award is subject to the provisions contained in an appropriations act(s) which prohibits the Federal Government from entering into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to any corporation having a delinquent Federal tax liability or a felony conviction under any Federal law, unless the agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government. A "corporation" is a legal entity that is separate and distinct from the entities that own, manage, or control it. It is organized and incorporated under the jurisdictional authority of a governmental body, such as a State or the District of Columbia. A corporation may be a for-profit or non-profit organization.

As required by the appropriations act(s) prohibitions, the Government will not enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee with any corporation that — (1) Has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government; or (2) Was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless an agency has

considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that this action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

By accepting this award, the recipient represents that it is not a corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability; and it is not a corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under a Federal law within the preceding 24 months.

Alternatively, by accepting this award, the recipient represents that it disclosed unpaid Federal tax liability information and/or Federal felony conviction information to the EPA. The recipient may accept this award if the EPA Suspension and Debarment Official has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation based on tax liabilities and/or Federal felony convictions and determined that suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the Government's interests.

If the recipient fails to comply with this term and condition, EPA will annul this agreement and may recover any funds the recipient has expended in violation of the appropriations act(s) prohibition(s). The EPA may also pursue other administrative remedies as outlined in <u>2 CFR 200.339</u> and <u>2 CFR 200.340</u> and may also pursue suspension and debarment.

23. Disclosing Conflict of Interest

23.1 For Awards to Recipients, Subrecipients, and Individuals (other than states and fellowship recipients under 40 CFR Part 46)

As required by <u>2 CFR 200.112</u>, EPA has established a policy (COI Policy) for disclosure of conflicts of interest (COI) that may affect EPA financial assistance awards. EPA's COI Policy is posted at https://www.epa.gov/grants/epas-financial-assistance-conflict-interest-policy. The posted version of EPA's COI Policy is applicable to new funding (initial awards, supplemental and incremental funding) awarded on or after October 1, 2015.

For competitive awards, recipients must disclose any competition related COI described in section 4.0(a) of the COI Policy that are discovered after award to the EPA Grants Specialist listed on the Assistance Agreement/Amendment within 30 calendar days of discovery of the COI. The Grant Specialist will respond to any such disclosure within 30 calendar days.

EPA's COI Policy requires that recipients have systems in place to address, resolve and disclose to EPA COIs described in sections 4.0(b), (c) and/or (d) of the COI Policy that affect any contract or subaward regardless of amount funded under this award. The recipient's COI Point of Contact for the award must disclose any COI to the EPA Grants Specialist listed on the Assistance Agreement/Amendment within 30 calendar days of the discovery of the potential COI and their approach for resolving the COI.

EPA's COI Policy requires that subrecipients have systems in place to address, resolve and disclose COI's described in section 4.0(b)(c) and (d) of the COI Policy regardless of the amount of the transaction. Recipients who are pass-through entities as defined at 2 CFR 200.1 must require that subrecipients being considered for or receiving subawards disclose COI to the pass-through entities in a manner that, at a minimum, is in accordance with sections 5.0(d) and 7.0(c) of EPA's COI Policy. Pass-through entities must disclose the subrecipient COI along with the approach for resolving the COI to the EPA Grants Specialist listed on the Assistance Agreement/Amendment within 30 calendar days of receiving notification of the COI by the subrecipient.

EPA only requires that recipients and subrecipients disclose COI's that are discovered under their systems for addressing and resolving COI. If recipients or subrecipients do not discover a COI, they do not need to advise EPA or the pass-through entity of the absence of a COI.

Upon notice from the recipient of a potential COI and the approach for resolving it, the Agency will then make a determination regarding the effectiveness of these measures within 30 days of receipt of the recipient's notice unless a longer period is necessary due to the complexity of the matter. Recipients may not request payment from EPA for costs for transactions subject to the COI pending notification of EPA's determination. Failure to disclose a COI may result in cost disallowances.

Disclosure of potential COI will not necessarily result in EPA disallowing costs, with the exception of procurement contracts that the Agency determines violate <u>2 CFR 200.318(c)(1)</u> or (2), provided the recipient notifies EPA of measures the recipient or subrecipient has taken to eliminate, neutralize or mitigate the conflict of interest when making the disclosure.

23.2 For Awards to States Including State Universities that are State Agencies or Instrumentalities

As required by <u>2 CFR 200.112</u>, EPA has established a policy (COI Policy) for disclosure of conflicts of interest (COI) that may affect EPA financial assistance awards. EPA's COI Policy is posted at: https://www.epa.gov/grants/epas-financial-assistance-conflict-interest-policy. The posted version of EPA's COI Policy is applicable to new funding (initial awards, supplemental, incremental funding) awarded on or after October 1, 2015.

For competitive awards, recipients must disclose any competition related COI described in section 4.0(a) of the COI Policy that are discovered after award to the EPA Grants Specialist listed on the Assistance Agreement/Amendment within 30 calendar days of discovery of the COI. The Grants Specialist will respond to any such disclosure within 30 calendar days.

States including state universities that are state agencies and instrumentalities receiving funding from EPA are only required to disclose subrecipient COI as a pass-through entity as

defined by <u>2 CFR 200.1</u>. Any other COI are subject to state laws, regulations, and policies. EPA's COI Policy requires that subrecipients have systems in place to address, resolve and disclose COIs described in section 4.0(b)(c) and (d) of the COI Policy that arise after EPA made the award regardless of the amount of the transaction. States who are pass-through entities as defined at <u>2 CFR 200.1</u> must require that subrecipients being considered for or receiving subawards disclose COI to the state in a manner that, as a minimum, in accordance with sections 5.0(d) and 7.0(c) of EPA's COI Policy. States must disclose the subrecipient COI along with the approach for resolving the COI to the EPA Grants Specialist listed on the Assistance Agreement/Amendment within 30 calendar days of receiving notification of the COI by the subrecipient.

EPA only requires that subrecipients disclose COI's to state pass-through entities that are discovered under their systems for addressing, resolving, and disclosing COI. If subrecipients do not discover a COI, they do not need to advise state pass-through entities of the absence of a COI.

Upon receiving notice of a potential COI and the approach for resolving it, the Agency will make a determination regarding the effectiveness of these measures within 30 days of receipt of the state's notice of a subrecipient COI unless a longer period is necessary due to the complexity of the matter. States may not request payment from EPA for costs for transactions subject to the COI pending notification of EPA's determination. A subrecipient's failure to disclose a COI to the state and EPA may result in cost disallowances.

Disclosure of potential subrecipient COI will not necessarily result in EPA disallowing costs, with the exception of procurement contracts that the Agency determines violate <u>2 CFR</u> <u>200.318(c)(1) or (2)</u>, provided the subrecipient has taken measures that EPA and the state agree eliminate, neutralize or mitigate the conflict of interest.

24. Transfer of Funds

24.1 Transfer of Funds

Applicable to all assistance agreements other than Continuing Environmental Program Grants subject to 40 CFR 35.114 and 40 CFR 35.514 when EPA's share of the total award exceeds the Simplified Acquisition Threshold. Simplified Acquisition Threshold is defined at 2 CFR 200.1 and is currently set at \$250,000 but the amount is subject to adjustment.

(1) As provided at <u>2 CFR 200.308(i)</u>, the recipient must obtain prior approval from EPA's Grants Management Officer if the cumulative amount of funding transfers among direct budget categories or programs, functions and activities exceeds 10% of the total budget, as last approved by EPA, including cost share. Recipients must submit requests for prior approval to the Grant Specialist and Grants Management Officer with a copy to the Project Officer for this agreement.

(2) Recipients must notify EPA's Grant Specialist and Project Officer of cumulative funding transfers among direct budget categories or programs, functions and activities that do not exceed 10% of the total budget for the agreement. Prior approval by EPA's Grants Management Officer is required if the transfer involves any of the items listed in 2 CFR 200.407 that EPA did not previously approve at time of award or in response to a previous post-award request by the recipient.

24.2 Post-Award Changes for Continuing Environmental Program Grants
Applicable to Continuing Environmental Program Grants subject to 40 CFR 35.114 and 40 CFR
35.514 when EPA's share of the total project costs exceeds the Simplified Acquisition Threshold.
Simplified Acquisition Threshold is defined at 2 CFR 200.1 and is currently set at \$250,000 but the amount is subject to adjustment.

To determine if a post-award change in work plan commitments is significant and requires prior written approval for the purposes of 40 CFR §35.114(a) or 40 CFR §35.514(a), the recipient agrees to consult the EPA Project Officer (PO) before making the change. The term work plan commitments is defined at 40 CFR §35.102. If the PO determines the change is significant, the recipient cannot make the change without prior written approval by the EPA Award Official or Grants Management Officer.

The recipient must obtain written approval from the EPA Award Official prior to transferring funds from one budget category to another if the EPA Award Official determines that such transfer significantly changes work plan commitment(s). All transfers must be reported in required performance reports. In addition, unless approved with the budget at the time of award, Continuing Environmental Program (CEP) recipients must also obtain prior written approval from the EPA Award Official or Grants Management Officer to use EPA funds for directly charging compensation for administrative and clerical personnel under 2 CFR 200.413(c) and the General Provisions for Selected Items of Cost allowability at 2 CFR 200.420 through 2 CFR 200.476 as supplemented by EPA's Guidance on Selected Items of Cost. The recipient is not required to obtain prior written approval from the EPA Award Official for other items requiring prior EPA approval listed in 2 CFR 200.407.

25. Electronic/Digital Signatures on Financial Assistance Agreement Form(s)/Document(s)

Throughout the life of this assistance agreement, the recipient agrees to ensure that any form(s)/document(s) required to be signed by the recipient and submitted to EPA through any means including but not limited to hard copy via U.S. mail or express mail, hand delivery or through electronic means such as e-mail are: (1) signed by the individual identified on the form/document, and (2) the signer has the authority to sign the form/document for the recipient. Submission of any signed form(s)/document(s) is subject to any provisions of law on making false statements (e.g., 18 U.S.C. 1001).

26. Extension of Project/Budget Period Expiration Date

EPA has not exercised the waiver option to allow automatic one-time extensions for non-research grants under 2 CFR 200.308(g)(2). Therefore, if a no-cost time extension is necessary to extend the period of availability of funds, the recipient must submit a written request to the EPA at least 10 calendar days before the conclusion of the period of performance as required by 2 CFR 200.308(f)(10). The written request must include: a justification describing the need for additional time, an estimated date of completion, and a revised schedule for project completion including updated milestone target dates for the approved workplan activities. In addition, if there are overdue reports required by the general, administrative, and/or programmatic terms and conditions of this assistance agreement, the recipient must ensure that they are submitted along with or prior to submitting the no-cost time extension request.

27. Utilization of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (Updated 4/03/2025) General Compliance, 40 CFR, Part 33

The recipient agrees to comply with the requirements of EPA's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program for procurement activities under assistance agreements, contained in <u>40 CFR, Part</u> <u>33</u>.

The following text provides updates to 40 CFR Part 33 based upon the associated class exception or highlights a requirement.

1) EPA MBE/WBE CERTIFICATION, 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart B

The EPA no longer certifies entities as Minority-Owned Business Entities (MBEs) or Women-Owned Business Entities (WBEs) pursuant to a class exception issued in October 2019. The class exception was authorized pursuant to the authority in <u>2 CFR, Section 1500.4(b)</u>.

2) SIX GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart C

Pursuant to 40 CFR Section 33.301, the recipient agrees to make good faith efforts whenever procuring construction, equipment, services and supplies under an EPA financial assistance agreement, and to require that sub-recipients, loan recipients, and prime contractors also comply. Records documenting compliance with the six good faith efforts shall be retained. The specific six good faith efforts can be found at: 40 CFR Section 33.301 (a)-(f).

However, in EPA assistance agreements that are for the benefit of Native Americans, the recipient must solicit and recruit Native American organizations and Native American-owned economic enterprises and give them preference in the award process prior to undertaking the six good faith efforts (40 CFR Section 33.304). If recruiting efforts are unsuccessful, the recipient must follow the six good faith efforts.

3) CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION PROVISIONS, 40 CFR, Section 33.302

The recipient agrees to comply with the contract administration provisions of <u>40 CFR Section</u> <u>33.302</u> (a)-(d) and (i).

4) BIDDERS LIST, 40 CFR Section 33.501(b) and (c)

Recipients of a Continuing Environmental Program Grant or other annual reporting grant, agree to create and maintain a bidders list. Recipients of an EPA financial assistance agreement to capitalize a revolving loan fund also agree to require entities receiving identified loans to create and maintain a bidders list if the recipient of the loan is subject to, or chooses to follow, competitive bidding requirements. Please see 40 CFR Section 33.501 (b) and (c) for specific requirements and exemptions.

5) FAIR SHARE OBJECTIVES, 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart D

The EPA is suspending negotiations of fair share objectives with recipients under 40 CFR Part 33, Subpart D pursuant to a class exception issued on March 17, 2025. The class exception was authorized pursuant to the authority in 2 CFR, Section 1500.4(b).

6) MBE/WBE REPORTING, 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart E

The EPA is suspending recipient reporting requirements under 40 CFR 33.502 pursuant to a class exception issued on March 17, 2025. The class exception was authorized pursuant to the authority in 2 CFR, Section 1500.4(b).

7) MBE/WBE RECORDKEEPING, 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart E

The EPA is suspending recipient recordkeeping requirements under 40 CFR Part 33, Subpart E pursuant to a class exception issued on March 17, 2025. The class exception was authorized pursuant to the authority in 2 CFR, Section 1500.4(b).

Programmatic General Terms and Conditions

28. Sufficient Progress

EPA will measure sufficient progress by examining the performance required under the workplan in conjunction with the milestone schedule, the time remaining for performance within the project period and/or the availability of funds necessary to complete the project. EPA may terminate the assistance agreement for failure to ensure reasonable completion of the project within the project period.

29. Copyrighted Material and Data

In accordance with <u>2 CFR 200.315</u>, EPA has the right to reproduce, publish, use and authorize others to reproduce, publish and use copyrighted works or other data developed under this assistance agreement for Federal purposes. This includes the right to require recipients and subrecipients to make such works available through agency-designated public access repositories.

Examples of a Federal purpose include but are not limited to: (1) Use by EPA and other Federal employees for official Government purposes; (2) Use by Federal contractors performing specific tasks for [i.e., authorized by] the Government; (3) Publication in EPA documents provided the document does not disclose trade secrets (e.g. software codes) and the work is properly attributed to the recipient through citation or otherwise; (4) Reproduction of documents for inclusion in

Federal depositories; (5) Use by State, Tribal and local governments that carry out delegated Federal environmental programs as "co-regulators" or act as official partners with EPA to carry out a national environmental program within their jurisdiction and; (6) Limited use by other recipients to carry out Federal grants provided the use is consistent with the terms of EPA's authorization to the other recipient to use the copyrighted works or other data.

Under Item 6, the recipient acknowledges that EPA may authorize another recipient(s) to use the copyrighted works or other data developed under this grant as a result of:

- The selection of another recipient by EPA to perform a project that will involve the use of the copyrighted works or other data, or
- Termination or expiration of this agreement.

In addition, EPA may authorize another recipient to use copyrighted works or other data developed with Agency funds provided under this grant to perform another grant when such use promotes efficient and effective use of Federal grant funds.

30. Patents and Inventions

Rights to inventions made under this assistance agreement are subject to federal patent and licensing regulations, which are codified at Title <u>37 CFR Part 401</u> and Title <u>35 USC Sections 200-212</u>.

Pursuant to the Bayh-Dole Act (set forth in 35 USC 200-212), EPA retains the right to a worldwide, nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to practice the invention owned by the assistance agreement holder, as defined in the Act. To streamline the invention reporting process and to facilitate compliance with the Bayh-Dole Act, the recipient must utilize the Interagency Edison extramural invention reporting system at https://www.nist.gov/iedison. Annual utilization reports must be submitted through the system. The recipient is required to notify the Project Officer identified on the award document when an invention report, patent report, or utilization report is filed at https://www.nist.gov/iedison. EPA elects not to require the recipient to provide a report prior to the close-out of a funding agreement listing all subject inventions or stating that there were none.

In accordance with Executive Order 12591, as amended, government owned and operated laboratories can enter into cooperative research and development agreements with other federal laboratories, state and local governments, universities, and the private sector, and license, assign, or waive rights to intellectual property "developed by the laboratory either under such cooperative research or development agreements and from within individual laboratories."

31. Acknowledgement Requirements for Non-ORD Assistance Agreements

The recipient agrees that any reports, documents, publications, or other materials developed for public distribution supported by this assistance agreement shall contain the following statement: "This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement (number) to (recipient). The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does the

Environmental Protection Agency endorse trade names or recommend the use of commercial products mentioned in this document, as well as any images, video, text, or other content created by generative artificial intelligence tools, nor does any such content necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency."

Recipients of EPA Office of Research Development (ORD) research awards must follow the acknowledgement requirements outlined in the research T&Cs available at: https://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/rtc.jsp. In accordance with the Research Terms and Conditions Overlay to the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), 2 CFR §200, recipients of EPA ORD research must abide by the research T&Cs.

32. Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility

Recipients are subject to the program accessibility provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, codified in 40 CFR Part 7, which includes an obligation to provide individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodations and an equal and effective opportunity to benefit from or participate in a program, including those offered through electronic and information technology ("EIT"). In compliance with Section 504, EIT systems or products funded by this award must be designed to meet the diverse needs of users (e.g., U.S. public, recipient personnel) without barriers or diminished function or quality. Systems shall include usability features or functions that accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities, including those who use assistive technology. At this time, the EPA will consider a recipient's websites, interactive tools, and other EIT as being in compliance with Section 504 if such technologies meet standards established under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, codified at 36 CFR Part 1194. While Section 508 does not apply directly to grant recipients, we encourage recipients to follow either the 508 guidelines or other comparable guidelines that concern accessibility to EIT for individuals with disabilities.

Recipients may wish to consult the latest Section 508 guidelines issued by the U.S. Access Board or W3C's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 (see https://www.access-board.gov/about/policy/accessibility.html).

33. Human Subjects

Human subjects research is any activity that meets the regulatory definitions of both research AND human subject. Research is a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Human subject means a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research: (i) Obtains information or biospecimens through intervention or interaction with the individual, and uses, studies, or analyzes the information or biospecimens; or (ii) Obtains, uses, studies, analyzes, or generates identifiable private information or identifiable biospecimens 40 CFR 26.102(e)(l).

No research involving human subjects shall be conducted under this agreement without prior written approval of the EPA Human Subject Research Review Official (HSRRO) to proceed with that research. If engaged in human subjects' research as part of this agreement, the recipient agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of EPA Regulation 40 CFR 26 (Protection of Human Subjects). This includes, at Subpart A, the Basic Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Research Subjects, also known as the Common Rule. It also includes, at Subparts B, C, and D, prohibitions and additional protections for children, nursing women, pregnant women, and fetuses in research conducted or supported by EPA.

The recipient further agrees to comply with EPA's procedures for oversight of the recipient's compliance with 40 CFR 26, as given in EPA Order 1000.17A (Policy and Procedures on Protection of Human Research Subjects in EPA Conducted or Supported Research). As per this order, no human subject may be involved in any research conducted under this assistance agreement, including recruitment, until the research has been approved or determined to be exempt by the EPA HSRRO after review of the approval or exemption determination of the Institutional Review Board(s) (IRB(s)) with jurisdiction over the research under 40 CFR 26.

For HSRRO approval, the recipient must forward to the Project Officer: (1) copies of all documents upon which the IRB(s) with jurisdiction based their approval(s) or exemption determination(s), (2) copies of the IRB approval or exemption determination letter(s), (3) copy of the IRB-approved consent forms and subject recruitment materials, if applicable, and (4) copies of all supplementary IRB correspondence.

Following the initial approvals indicated above, the recipient must, as part of the annual report(s), provide evidence of continuing review and approval of the research by the IRB(s) with jurisdiction, as required by 40 CFR 26.109(e). Materials submitted to the IRB(s) for their continuing review and approval are to be provided to the EPA HSRRO via the Project Officer upon IRB approval. During the course of the research, investigators must promptly report any unanticipated problems involving risk to subjects or others according to requirements set forth by the IRB. In addition, any event that is significant enough to result in the removal of the subject from the study should also be reported to the EPA HSRRO via the Project Officer, even if the event is not reportable to the IRB of record.

34. Animal Subjects

The recipient agrees to comply with the Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544), as amended, 7 USC 2131- 2156. Recipient also agrees to abide by the "U.S. Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals used in Testing, Research, and Training." (Federal Register 50(97): 20864-20865. May 20,1985). The nine principles can be viewed at https://olaw.nih.gov/policies-laws/phs-policy.htm. For additional information about the Principles, the recipient should consult the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, prepared by the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources, National Research Council.

35. Light Refreshments and/or Meals

(a) APPLICABLE TO ALL AGREEMENTS EXCEPT STATE CONTINUING ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS (AS DESCRIBED BELOW):

Unless the event(s) and all of its components are described in the approved workplan, the recipient agrees to obtain prior approval from EPA for the use of grant funds for light refreshments and/or meals served at meetings, conferences, training workshops and outreach activities (events). The recipient must send requests for approval to the EPA Project Officer and include:

- (1) An estimated budget and description for the light refreshments, meals, and/or beverages to be served at the event(s)
- (2) A description of the purpose, agenda, location, length, and timing for the event, and
- (3) An estimated number of participants in the event and a description of their roles

Costs for light refreshments and meals for recipient staff meetings and similar day-to-day activities are not allowable under EPA assistance agreements.

Recipients may address questions about whether costs for light refreshments, and meals for events may be allowable to the recipient's EPA Project Officer; however, the Agency Award Official or Grant Management Officer will make final determinations on allowability. Agency policy prohibits the use of EPA funds for receptions, banquets and similar activities that take place after normal business hours unless the recipient has provided a justification that has been expressly approved by EPA's Award Official or Grants Management Officer.

EPA funding for meals, light refreshments, and space rental may not be used for any discrete portion of an event or meeting, such as a reception, banquet, or another similar entertainment-oriented activity, where alcohol is served, purchased, or otherwise available as part of the discrete portion of the event or meeting, even if EPA funds are not used to purchase the alcohol. This restriction does not prohibit a recipient from using its own funds, private donations, or separate fees charged to the meeting attendees (that are not program income) for discrete portions of events or meetings, such as receptions, banquets, or another similar entertainment-oriented activity where alcohol is served.

Note: U.S. General Services Administration regulations define light refreshments for morning, afternoon, or evening breaks to include, but not be limited to, coffee, tea, milk, juice, soft drinks, donuts, bagels, fruit, pretzels, cookies, chips, or muffins. (41 CFR 301-74.7)

(b) FOR STATE CONTINUING ENVIROMENTAL PROGRAM GRANT RECIPIENTS EXCLUDING STATE UNIVERSITIES:

If the state maintains systems capable of complying with federal grant regulations at <u>2 CFR 200.432</u> and <u>2 CFR 200.438</u>, EPA has waived the prior approval requirements for the use of EPA funds for light refreshments and/or meals served at meetings, conferences, and training, as described in paragraph (a) above. The state may follow its own procedures without requesting prior approval from EPA. However, notwithstanding state policies, EPA funds may not be used for (1) Meetings

(e.g. routine staff meetings) that do not meet the definition of "Conference" in <u>2 CFR 200.432</u>, (2) evening receptions, or (2) other evening events (with the exception of working meetings). Examples of working meetings include those evening events in which small groups discuss technical subjects on the basis of a structured agenda or there are presentations being conducted by experts. EPA funds for meals, light refreshments, and space rental may not be used for any portion of an event (including evening working meetings) where alcohol is served, purchased, or otherwise available as part of the event or meeting, even if EPA funds are not used to purchase the alcohol.

By accepting this award, the state is certifying that it has systems in place (including internal controls) to comply with the requirements described above.

36. Tangible Personal Property

36.1 Reporting

Pursuant to <u>2 CFR 200.312</u> and <u>2 CFR 200.314</u>, property reports, if applicable, are required for Federally-owned property in the custody of a recipient or subrecipient upon completion of the Federal award or when the property is no longer needed. Additionally, upon termination or completion of the project, residual unused supplies with a total aggregate fair market value exceeding \$10,000 not needed for any other Federally-funded programs or projects must be reported. For Superfund awards under Subpart O, refer to <u>40 CFR 35.6340</u> and <u>40 CFR 35.6660</u> for property reporting requirements. Recipients should utilize the Tangible Personal Property Report form series (SF-428) to report tangible personal property.

36.2 Disposition

- **36.2.1. Most Recipients or Subrecipients.** Consistent with <u>2 CFR 200.313</u>, unless instructed otherwise on the official award document, this award term, or at closeout, the recipient or subrecipient, including a subrecipient of a State or an Indian Tribe, may keep the equipment and continue to use it on the project originally funded through this assistance agreement or on other federally funded projects whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by Federal funds.
- **36.2.2. State Agencies.** Per <u>2 CFR 200.313(b)</u>, recipients that are State agencies must manage and dispose of equipment acquired under this assistance agreement in accordance with state laws and procedures.
- **36.2.3. Indian Tribes.** Per 2 CFR 200.313(b), recipients that are Indian Tribes must manage and dispose of equipment acquired under this assistance agreement in accordance with tribal laws and procedures. If such laws and procedures do not exist, Indian Tribes, unless instructed otherwise on the official award document or at closeout, may keep the equipment and continue to use it on the project originally funded through this assistance agreement or on other federally funded projects whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by Federal funds.
- **36.2.4. Superfund Recipients.** Equipment purchased for Superfund projects under Subpart O is subject to specific disposal options in accordance with 40 CFR Part 35.6345.

37. Dual Use Research of Concern (DURC)

The recipient agrees to conduct all life science research* in compliance with *EPA's Order on the* Policy and Procedures for Managing Dual Use Research of Concern (EPA DURC Order) and United States Government Policy for Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern (iDURC Policy). If the recipient is an institution within the United States that receives funding through this agreement, or from any other source, the recipient agrees to comply with the iDURC Policy if they conduct or sponsor research involving any of the agents or toxins identified in Section 6.2.1 of the iDURC Policy. If the institution is outside the United States and receives funding through this agreement to conduct or sponsor research involving any of those same agents or toxins, the recipient agrees to comply with the iDURC Policy. The recipient agrees to provide any additional information that may be requested by EPA regarding DURC and iDURC. The recipient agrees to immediately notify the EPA Project Officer should the project use or introduce use of any of the agents or toxins identified in the iDURC Policy. The recipient's Institution/Organization must also comply with USG iDURC policy and EPA DURC Order and will inform the appropriate government agency if funded by such agency of research with the agents or toxins identified in Section 6.2.1 of the iDURC Policy. If privately funded the recipient agrees to notify the National Institutes of Health at DURC@od.nih.gov.

* "Life Sciences Research," for purposes of the EPA DURC Order, and based on the definition of research in 40 CFR §26.102(d), is a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge involving living organisms (e.g., microbes, human beings, animals, and plants) and their products. EPA does not consider the following activities to be research: routine product testing, quality control, mapping, collection of general-purpose statistics, routine monitoring and evaluation of an operational program, observational studies, and the training of scientific and technical personnel. [Note: This is consistent with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-11.]

38. Research Misconduct

In accordance with <u>2 CFR 200.329</u>, the recipient and subrecipient agree to notify the EPA Project Officer in writing about research misconduct involving research activities that are supported in whole or in part with EPA funds under this project. EPA defines research misconduct as fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results [65 FR 76262. I], or ordering, advising or suggesting that subordinates engage in research misconduct. The recipient agrees to:

- (1) Immediately notify the EPA Project Officer who will then inform the EPA Office of Inspector General (OIG) if, at any time, an allegation of research misconduct falls into one of the categories listed below:
 - **A.** Public health of safety is at risk
 - **B.** Agency resources or interests are threatened
 - **C.** Circumstances where research activities should be suspended
 - **D.** There is a reasonable indication of possible violations of civil or criminal law

- **E.** Federal action is required to protect the interests of those involved in the investigation
- **F.** The research entity believes that the inquiry or investigation may be made public prematurely so that appropriate steps can be taken to safeguard evidence and protect the rights of those involved
- **G.** Circumstances where the research community or public should be informed. [65 FR 76263.III]
- (2) Report other allegations to the OIG when they have conducted an inquiry and determined that there is sufficient evidence to proceed with an investigation. [65 FR 76263. III]

39. Scientific Integrity Terms and Conditions

The recipient agrees to comply with <u>EPA's Scientific Integrity Policy</u> when conducting, supervising, and communicating science and when using or applying the results of science. For purposes of this award condition scientific activities include, but are not limited to, computer modelling, economic analysis, field sampling, laboratory experimentation, demonstrating new technology, statistical analysis, and writing a review article on a scientific issue. The recipient agrees to:

39.1 Scientific Products

- **39.1.1.** Produce scientific products of the highest quality, rigor, and objectivity, by adhering to applicable EPA <u>information quality guidelines</u>, <u>quality policy</u>, and peer review policy.
- **39.1.2.** Prohibit all recipient employees, contractors, and program participants, including scientists, managers, and other recipient leadership, from suppressing, altering, or otherwise impeding the timely release of scientific findings or conclusions.
- **39.1.3.** Adhere to <u>EPA's Peer Review Handbook</u>, 4th <u>Edition</u>, for the peer review of scientific and technical work products generated through EPA grants or cooperative agreements which, by definition, are not primarily for EPA's direct use or benefit.

39.2 Scientific Findings

- **39.2.1.** Require that reviews regarding the content of a scientific product that are conducted by the project manager and other recipient managers and the broader management chain be based only on scientific quality considerations, e.g., the methods used are clear and appropriate, the presentation of results and conclusions is impartial.
- **39.2.2.** Ensure scientific findings are generated and disseminated in a timely and transparent manner, including scientific research performed by employees, contractors, and program participants, who assist with developing or applying the results of scientific activities.
- **39.2.3.** Include, when communicating scientific findings, an explication of underlying assumptions, accurate contextualization of uncertainties, and a description of the probabilities associated with both optimistic and pessimistic projections, if applicable.
- **39.2.4.** Document the use of independent validation of scientific methods.
- **39.2.5.** Document any independent review of the recipient's scientific facilities and testing activities, as occurs with accreditation by a nationally or internationally recognized sanctioning body.
- **39.2.6.** Make scientific information available online in open formats in a timely manner, including access to data and non-proprietary models.

39.3 Scientific Misconduct

- **39.3.1.** Prohibit intimidation or coercion of scientists to alter scientific data, findings, or professional opinions or non-scientific influence of scientific advisory boards. In addition, recipient employees, contractors, and program participants, including scientists, managers, and other leadership, shall not knowingly misrepresent, exaggerate, or downplay areas of scientific uncertainty.
- **39.3.2.** Prohibit retaliation or other punitive actions toward recipient employees who uncover or report allegations of scientific and research misconduct, or who express a differing scientific opinion. Employees who have allegedly engaged in scientific or research misconduct shall be afforded the due process protections provided by law, regulation, and applicable collective bargaining agreements, prior to any action. Recipients shall ensure that all employees and contractors of the recipient shall be familiar with these protections and avoid the appearance of retaliatory actions.
- **39.3.3.** Require all recipient employees, contractors, and program participants to act honestly and refrain from acts of research misconduct, including publication or reporting, as described in EPA's Policy and Procedures for Addressing Research Misconduct, Section 9.C. Research misconduct does not include honest error or differences of opinion. While EPA retains the ultimate oversight authority for EPA-supported research, grant recipients conducting research bear primary responsibility for prevention and detection of research misconduct and for the inquiry, investigation, and adjudication of research misconduct alleged to have occurred in association with their own institution.
- **39.3.4.** Take the actions required on the part of the recipient described in the EPA's Policy and Procedures for Addressing Research Misconduct, Sections 6 through 9, when research misconduct is suspected or found.

39.4 Additional Resources

For more information about the Scientific Integrity Policy, an introductory video can be accessed at: https://youtu.be/FQJCy8BXXq8. A training video is available at: https://youtu.be/Zc0T7fooot8.

40. Post-Award Disclosure of Current and Pending Support on Research Grants

The recipient is required to notify EPA if there has been a change in support for senior/key persons since submission of its application or the last reporting period in the performance report. If there has been a change, the recipient must report the change within 30 calendar days to the EPA Project Officer. The information should also be included in the next due performance report. If there has been a change, submit a revised current and pending support form (see 'EPA Current and Pending Support'). Senior/key persons must certify that the information contained in the updated current and pending support form is current, accurate, and complete. For additional details on what information needs to be disclosed, please see NSTC Pre-award and Post-award disclosures Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support at NSTC Research Security Subcommittee NSPM-33 Implementation Guidance Disclosure Requirements & Standardization.

EPA may consult with the Lead/Contact PI and the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR), if necessary, to determine the impact of the new information on the EPA-funded research grant and, where necessary, take appropriate action.

If the recipient discovers that a senior/key person on an active EPA grant failed to disclose current and pending support information or provided inaccurate information as part of the proposal submission process, it must submit a revised current and pending support form (see 'EPA Current and Pending Support') to the EPA Project Officer within 30 calendar days of the identification of the undisclosed or inaccurate current and pending information.

41. Procurement of Synthetic Nucleic Acids and Benchtop Nucleic Acid Synthesis Equipment (Effective 4/26/2025)

Beginning on April 26, 2025, the recipient must procure synthetic nucleic acids and benchtop nucleic acid synthesis equipment, as defined in the 2024 Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Framework for Nucleic Acid Synthesis Screening (Framework), from providers or manufacturers that attest to adhering to the Framework. The attestation may be posted on a public website or provided directly to the recipient upon request. The recipient must include this requirement in all lower tier agreements (for example subrecipients or subcontractors).

Public Policy Requirements

42. Civil Rights Obligations (Updated 4/03/2025)

This term and condition incorporates by reference the signed assurance provided by the recipient's authorized representative on: 1) EPA Form 4700-4, "Preaward Compliance Review Report for All Applicants and Recipients Requesting EPA Financial Assistance"; and 2) Certifications and Representations in SAM.gov or Standard Form 424D, as applicable.

These assurances and this term and condition obligate the recipient to comply fully with applicable civil rights statutes and implementing federal and EPA regulations.

(a) Statutory Requirements

- i. In carrying out this agreement, the recipient must comply with:
 - 1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, by entities receiving Federal financial assistance.
 - 2) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities by entities receiving Federal financial assistance; and
 - **3)** The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, which prohibits age discrimination by entities receiving Federal financial assistance.
- **ii.** If the recipient is an education program or activity (e.g., school, college, or university) or if the recipient is conducting an education program or activity under this agreement, it must also comply with:

- 1) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities operated by entities receiving Federal financial assistance. For further information about your compliance obligations regarding Title IX, see https://www.justice.gov/crt/title-ix
- **iii.** If this agreement is funded with financial assistance under the Clean Water Act (CWA), the recipient must also comply with:
 - 1) Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in CWA-funded programs or activities.

(b) Regulatory Requirements

- i. The recipient agrees to comply with all applicable EPA civil rights regulations, including:
 - 1) For Title IX obligations, 40 C.F.R. Part 5; and
 - 2) For Title VI, Section 504, Age Discrimination Act, and Section 13 obligations, 40 C.F.R Part7.

Note that for financial assistance awarded to any entity, including any subrecipient, in the State of Louisiana, pursuant to a permanent injunction issued by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana, EPA will not impose any disparate-impact or cumulative-impact-analysis requirements under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in any pre-award assurances or terms and conditions accompanying the application for and receipt of this grant award.

- 3) The statutory and national policy requirements at <u>2 CFR 200.300(a)</u>.
- 4) For Federal awards that are subject to a Federal statute prohibiting discrimination based on sex, the Federal agency or pass-through entity must ensure that the award is administered in accordance with 2 CFR 200.300.
- 5) As noted on the EPA Form 4700-4 signed by the recipient's authorized representative, these regulations establish specific requirements as applicable, including, but not limited to collecting, maintaining, and providing upon request compliance information, establishing grievance procedures, designating a Civil Rights Coordinator, and providing notices of non-discrimination.

(c) Title VI – Limited English Proficiency (LEP), Public Participation and Affirmative Compliance Obligation

- i. As a recipient of EPA financial assistance, you are required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act to take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to LEP individuals. In implementing that requirement, the recipient may refer to the EPA document entitled "Guidance to Environmental Protection Agency Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons." The Guidance can be found at:

 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2004/06/25/04-14464/guidance-to-environmental-protection-agency-financial-assistance-recipients-regarding-title-vi.
- **ii.** If the recipient is administering permitting programs under this agreement, the recipient may refer to EPA's "Title VI Public Involvement Guidance for EPA Assistance Recipients

- Administering Environmental Permitting Programs." The Guidance can be found at: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2006-03-21/pdf/06-2691.pdf.
- iii. In accepting this assistance agreement, the recipient acknowledges it has an affirmative obligation to implement effective federal civil rights compliance programs, as required by EPA's nondiscrimination regulations at 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7, and ensure that it does not discriminate in its programs and activities in violation of federal civil rights laws and regulations. The recipient must be prepared to demonstrate to EPA that such compliance programs exist and are being implemented, or to otherwise demonstrate how it is meeting its federal civil rights obligations. For further assistance on civil rights compliance, the recipient may refer to the EPA document entitled, "Civil Rights Guidance on Procedural Safeguards: Requirements and Best Practices." The Guidance can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/external-civil-rights/civil-rights-guidance-procedural-safeguards-august-2024.pdf.

43. Drug-Free Workplace

The recipient organization of this EPA assistance agreement must make an ongoing, good faith effort to maintain a drug-free workplace pursuant to the specific requirements set forth in Title 2 CFR Part 1536 Subpart B. Additionally, in accordance with these regulations, the recipient organization must identify all known workplaces under its federal awards and keep this information on file during the performance of the award.

Those recipients who are individuals must comply with the drug-free provisions set forth in Title $\underline{2}$ CFR Part 1536 Subpart C.

The consequences for violating this condition are detailed under Title <u>2 CFR Part 1536 Subpart E.</u> Recipients can access the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 2 Part 1536 at www.ecfr.gov/.

44. Hotel-Motel Fire Safety

Pursuant to U.S.C. 2225a, the recipient agrees to ensure that all space for conferences, meetings, conventions, or training seminars funded in whole or in part with federal funds complies with the protection and control guidelines of the Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act (PL 101-391, as amended). Recipients may search the Hotel-Motel National Master List at https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/hotel/ to see if a property is in compliance, or to find other information about the Act.

45. Lobbying Restrictions

- a) This assistance agreement is subject to lobbying restrictions as described below. Applicable to all assistance agreements:
 - The chief executive officer of this recipient agency shall ensure that no grant funds awarded under this assistance agreement are used to engage in lobbying of the Federal Government or in litigation against the U.S. unless authorized under existing law. The recipient shall abide by the Cost Principles available at 2 CFR Part 200 which generally

- prohibits the use of federal grant funds for litigation against the U.S. or for lobbying or other political activities.
- ii. The recipient agrees to comply with Title 40 CFR Part 34, New Restrictions on Lobbying. The recipient shall include the language of this provision in award documents for all subawards exceeding \$100,000 and require that subrecipients submit certification and disclosure forms accordingly.
- iii. In accordance with the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment, any recipient who makes a prohibited expenditure under Title 40 CFR Part 34 or fails to file the required certification or lobbying forms shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such expenditure.
- iv. Contracts awarded by a recipient shall contain, when applicable, the anti-lobbying provision as stipulated in the contract provisions provided in Appendix II to Part 200.
- v. By accepting this award, the recipient affirms that it is not a nonprofit organization described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as required by Section 18 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act; or that it is a nonprofit organization described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Code but does not and will not engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act. Nonprofit organizations exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities are ineligible for EPA subawards.

b) Applicable to assistance agreements when the amount of the award is over \$100,000:

- **i.** By accepting this award, the recipient certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief that:
 - 1) No Federal appropriated funds have been or will be paid, by or on behalf of the recipient, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
 - 2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, or any employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the recipient shall complete and submit the linked Standard Form -- LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
 - 3) The recipient shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards exceeding \$100,000 at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

ii. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each failure.

46. Recycled Paper

When directed to provide paper documents, the recipient agrees to use recycled paper and double-sided printing for all reports which are prepared as a part of this agreement and delivered to EPA. This requirement does not apply to reports prepared on forms supplied by EPA.

47. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (Updated 4/03/2025)

Consistent with goals of section 6002 of RCRA (42 U.S.C. 6962), State and local institutions of higher education, hospitals and non-profit organization recipients agree to give preference in procurement programs to the purchase of specific products containing recycled materials, as identified in 40 CFR Part 247.

a) Consistent with section 6002 of RCRA (42 U.S.C. 6962) and 2 CFR 200.323, the recipient or subrecipient that is a State agency or agency of a political subdivision of a State and its contractors are required to purchase certain items made from recycled materials, as identified in 40 CFR Part 247, when the purchase price exceeds \$10,000 during the course of a fiscal year or where the quantity of such items acquired in the course of the preceding fiscal year was \$10,000 or more. Pursuant to 40 CFR 247.2(d), the recipient or subrecipient may decide not to procure such items if they are not reasonably available in a reasonable period of time; fail to meet reasonable performance standards; or are only available at an unreasonable price.

48. Trafficking in Persons

- a) Provisions applicable to a recipient that is a private entity receiving funds under the award.
 - i. The recipient, the recipient's employees, subrecipients under this award, and subrecipients' employees may not engage in:
 - 1) Severe forms of trafficking in persons
 - 2) The procurement of a commercial sex act during the period of time that this award or any subaward is in effect;
 - 3) The use forced labor in the performance of this award or any subaward; or
 - **4)** Acts that directly support or advance trafficking in persons, including the following acts:
 - i. Destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or otherwise denying an employee access to that employee's identity or immigration documents;
 - **ii.** Failing to provide return transportation or pay for return transportation costs to an employee from a country outside the United States to the country from

which the employee was recruited upon the end of employment if requested by the employee, unless:

- **A.** Exempted from the requirement to provide or pay for such return transportation by the Federal department or agency providing or entering into the grant or cooperative agreements; or
- **B.** The employee is a victim of human trafficking seeking victim services or legal redress in the country of employment or a witness in a human trafficking enforcement action;
- **iii.** Soliciting a person for the purpose of employment, or offering employment, by means of materially false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises regarding that employment;
- iv. Charging recruited employees a placement or recruitment fee; or
- v. Providing or arranging housing that fails to meet the host country's housing and safety standards.
- ii. EPA may unilaterally terminate this award or take any remedial actions authorized by 22 U.S.C. 7104b(c), without penalty, if any private entity under this award:
 - 1) Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph 47.a.i. of this award term; or
 - 2) Has an employee that is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph 47.a.i. of this award term through conduct that is either:
 - i. Associated with the performance under this award; or
 - ii. Imputed to the recipient or subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in <u>2 CFR Part 180</u>, "OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non- procurement)," as implemented by EPA at <u>2 CFR Part 1532</u>.
- b) Provision applicable to a recipient other than a private entity. EPA may unilaterally terminate this award or take any remedial actions authorized by 22 U.S.C. 7104b(c), without penalty, if a subrecipient that is a private entity under this award:
 - i. Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph 48.a.i. of this award term; or
 - **ii.** Has an employee that is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph 48.a.i. of this award term through conduct that is either:
 - 1) Associated with the performance under this award; or
 - 2) Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR Part 180, "OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement)," as implemented by EPA at 2 CFR Part 1532.

c) Provisions applicable to any recipient

- i. The recipient must inform the EPA and the EPA's Office of Inspector General immediately of any information received from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph 48.a.i. of this award term.
- ii. The EPA's right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraphs 48.a. and 48.b.:
 - 1) Implements the requirements of 22 U.S.C. Chapter 78, and
 - 2) Is in addition to all other remedies for noncompliance that are available to the EPA under this award.
- **iii.** The recipient must include the requirements of paragraph 48.a.1. of this award term in any subaward made to a private entity.
- iv. If applicable, the recipient must also comply with the compliance plan and certification requirements in 2 CFR 175.105(b).
- **d) Definitions.** For purposes of this award term:
 - i. "Employee" means either:
 - 1) An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award; or
 - 2) Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award and not compensated by the recipient including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an inkind contribution toward cost sharing requirements.
 - "Private Entity" means any entity, including for-profit organizations, nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, and hospitals. The term does not include foreign public entities, Indian Tribes, local governments, or states as defined in <u>2 CFR</u> 200.1
 - iii. The terms "severe forms of trafficking in persons," "commercial sex act," "sex trafficking," "Abuse or threatened abuse of law or legal process," "coercion," "debt bondage," and involuntary servitude" have the meanings given at section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7102).
- 49. Build America, Buy America Required Use of American Iron, Steel, Manufactured Products, and Construction Materials (effective October 23, 2023, and forward)

Buy America Preference. Recipients of an award of Federal financial assistance from a program for infrastructure are hereby notified that none of the funds provided under this award may be used for an infrastructure project unless:

- (1) All iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States—this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States:
- (2) All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States— this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the

components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard that meets or exceeds this standard has been established under applicable law or regulation for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product; and

(3) All construction materials are manufactured in the United States—this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States. The construction material standards are listed below.

Incorporation into an infrastructure project. The Buy America Preference only applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America Preference apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project, but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

Categorization of articles, materials, and supplies. An article, material, or supply should only be classified into one of the following categories: (i) Iron or steel products; (ii) Manufactured products; (iii) Construction materials; or (iv) Section 70917(c) materials. An article, material, or supply should not be considered to fall into multiple categories. In some cases, an article, material, or supply may not fall under any of the categories listed in this paragraph. The classification of an article, material, or supply as falling into one of the categories listed in this paragraph must be made based on its status at the time it is brought to the work site for incorporation into an infrastructure project. In general, the work site is the location of the infrastructure project at which the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials will be incorporated.

Application of the Buy America Preference by category. An article, material, or supply incorporated into an infrastructure project must meet the Buy America Preference for only the single category in which it is classified.

Determining the cost of components for manufactured products. In determining whether the cost of components for manufactured products is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components, use the following instructions:

- (a) For components purchased by the manufacturer, the acquisition cost, including transportation costs to the place of incorporation into the manufactured product (whether or not such costs are paid to a domestic firm), and any applicable duty (whether or not a duty-free entry certificate is issued); or
- **(b)** For components manufactured by the manufacturer, all costs associated with the manufacture of the component, including transportation costs as described in paragraph (a), plus

allocable overhead costs, but excluding profit. Cost of components does not include any costs associated with the manufacture of the manufactured product.

Construction material standards. The Buy America Preference applies to the following construction materials incorporated into infrastructure projects. Each construction material is followed by a standard for the material to be considered "produced in the United States." Except as specifically provided, only a single standard should be applied to a single construction material.

- (1) Non-ferrous metals. All manufacturing processes, from initial smelting or melting through final shaping, coating, and assembly, occurred in the United States.
- **(2)** Plastic and polymer-based products. All manufacturing processes, from initial combination of constituent plastic or polymer-based inputs, or, where applicable, constituent composite materials, until the item is in its final form, occurred in the United States.
- (3) Glass. All manufacturing processes, from initial batching and melting of raw materials through annealing, cooling, and cutting, occurred in the United States.
- **(4)** Fiber optic cable (including drop cable). All manufacturing processes, from the initial ribboning (if applicable), through buffering, fiber stranding and jacketing, occurred in the United States. All manufacturing processes also include the standards for glass and optical fiber, but not for non-ferrous metals, plastic and polymer-based products, or any others.
- **(5)** Optical fiber. All manufacturing processes, from the initial preform fabrication stage through the completion of the draw, occurred in the United States.
- **(6)** Lumber. All manufacturing processes, from initial debarking through treatment and planing, occurred in the United States.
- (7) Drywall. All manufacturing processes, from initial blending of mined or synthetic gypsum plaster and additives through cutting and drying of sandwiched panels, occurred in the United States.
- **(8)** Engineered wood. All manufacturing processes from the initial combination of constituent materials until the wood product is in its final form, occurred in the United States.

Waivers. When supported by rationale provided in IIJA §70914, the recipient may submit a waiver request in writing to EPA. Recipients should request guidance on the submission instructions of an EPA waiver request from the EPA Project Officer for this agreement. A list of approved EPA waivers (general applicability and project specific) is available on the <u>EPA Build America</u>, <u>Buy America</u> website.

EPA may waive the application of the Buy America Preference when it has determined that one of the following exceptions applies:

- (1) applying the Buy America Preference would be inconsistent with the public interest;
- (2) the types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or
- (3) the inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

For questions regarding the Build America, Buy America Act requirements for this assistance agreement or to determine if there is an approved waiver in place, please contact the EPA Project Officer for this agreement.

Definitions. For legal definitions and sourcing requirements, the recipient must consult the <u>EPA Build America</u>, <u>Buy America website</u>, <u>2 CFR Part 184</u>, and the <u>Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Memorandum M-24-02 Implementation Guidance on Application of Buy America Preference in Federal Financial Assistance Programs for Infrastructure.</u>

50. Required Certifications and Consequences of Fraud

Per <u>2 CFR 200.415(a)</u>, financial reports must include a certification that must be signed by an official who is authorized to legally bind the recipient which reads as follows:

"By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of the Federal award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me to criminal, civil or administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims or otherwise. (U.S. Code Title 18, Section 1001 and Title 31, Sections 3729-3730 and 3801-3812)."

As outlined in <u>2 CFR 200.415(b)</u>, subrecipients of all tiers under the Federal award must certify to the pass-through entity whenever applying for funds, requesting payment, and submitting financial reports as follows:

"I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information provided herein is true, complete, and accurate. I am aware that the provision of false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative consequences including, but not limited to violations of U.S. Code Title 18, Sections 2, 1001, 1343 and Title 31, Sections 3729-3730 and 3801-3812."

The certifications must be maintained in accordance with the record retention requirements at $\underline{2}$ CFR 200.334.

51. Reporting Waste, Fraud and Abuse

Consistent with <u>2 CFR 200.113</u>, the recipient and any subrecipients of this award must promptly report in writing whenever there is credible evidence of the commission of a violation of Federal criminal law involving fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, or gratuity violations found in Title 18 of the United States Code or a violation of the civil False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. 3729-3733) to the EPA Project Officer, the pass-through entity (if applicable), and the <u>EPA Office of Inspector General (OIG)</u>. The methods to contact the EPA OIG are (1) online submission via the <u>EPA OIG Hotline Complaint</u>

<u>Form</u>; (2) email to <u>OIG Hotline@epa.gov</u>; (3) phone 1-888-546-8740; or (4) mail directed to Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Inspector General, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (2410T), Washington, DC 20460.

To support awareness of the OIG hotline, recipients and/or subrecipients receiving an EPA award or subaward of \$1,000,000 or more must display EPA OIG Hotline posters in facilities where the work is performed under the grant. EPA OIG Hotline posters may be <u>downloaded or printed</u> or may be obtained by contacting the OIG at 1- 888-546-8740. Recipients and subrecipients need not comply with this requirement if they have established a mechanism, such as a hotline, by which employees may report suspected instances of improper conduct and have provided instructions that encourage employees to make such reports.

Recipients and subrecipients are also required to report matters related to recipient integrity and performance in accordance with <u>Appendix XII to 2 CFR Part 200</u>.

52. Whistleblower Protections

This award is subject is to whistleblower protections, including the protections established at 41 U.S.C. 4712 and 2 CFR 200.217 providing that an employee of the recipient or subrecipient may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for disclosing to a person or body described in paragraph (a)(2) of 41 U.S.C. 4712 information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract, grant, or subaward, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract), grant. These covered persons or bodies include:

- **a.** A member of Congress or representative of a committee of Congress.
- **b.** An Inspector General.
- **c.** The Government Accountability Office.
- **d.** A Federal employee responsible for contract or grant oversight or management at the relevant agency.
- **e.** An authorized official of the Department of Justice or other law enforcement agency.
- **f.** A court of grand jury.
- **g.** A management official or other employee of the contractor, subcontractor, or grantee who has the responsibility to investigate, discover, or address misconduct.

Consistent with 41 U.S.C. 4712(d), the recipient and subrecipients must inform their employees in writing, in the predominant language of the workforce or organization, of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712. Additional information about whistleblower protections, including protections for such employees may be found at the <u>EPA Office of Inspector General's Whistleblower Protection page</u>.

53. Access to Records

In accordance with <u>2 CFR 200.337</u>, EPA, the pass-through entity, the EPA Office of Inspector General (OIG), and the Comptroller General of the United States have the right to access any records of the recipient and subrecipient pertinent to this award, to perform audits, execute site visits, or for any other official use. This right of access also includes timely and reasonable access to the recipient and subrecipient's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents or the Federal award in general. This right of access shall continue as long as the records are retained.

54. Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws (Added 4/03/2025; Updated 8/25/2025)

This term and condition applies to all new awards and funding amendments (incremental and supplemental) made on or after April 3, 2025.

By accepting this EPA financial assistance agreement, (A) the recipient agrees that its compliance in all respects with all applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws is material to the government's payment decisions for purposes of section 3729(b)(4) of title 31, United States Code; and (B) the recipient certifies that it does not operate any programs violating any applicable Federal anti-discrimination law or promoting any such violation.

Attachment D

"FLOW-DOWN" CLAUSES APPLICABLE TO PURCHASE ORDERS OR AGREEMENTS INVOLVING FUNDS FROM A FEDERAL GRANT

This Agreement/Order involves the use of funds from a Federal government grant or cooperative agreement—or funds from a subcontract at any tier relating to a Federal government grant or cooperative agreement—and the following clauses from the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards ("Uniform Guidance"), Appendix II are incorporated into and form a part of the terms and conditions of the Agreement/Order. The full text of the Uniform Guidance may be found at 2 CFR Part 200. Seller/Vendor agrees to flow down all applicable clauses from the Uniform Guidance to lower-tier subcontractors.

Seller/Vendor further agrees to comply with all applicable agency-specific terms and conditions, which may be found by selecting the applicable agency's procurement website at <u>Acquisition.gov</u>, and shall flow down all applicable clauses to lower-tier subcontractors.

- 1. Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, for all Orders that qualify as "federally assisted construction contracts" as defined in 41 CFR Part 60–1.3, Seller agrees to comply with the equal opportunity clause under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), incorporated herein by reference, and E.O. 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity," as amended by E.O. 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and as supplemented by regulations at 41 CFR Part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor."
- 2. Davis Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 3141—3148). If the Order is in excess of \$2,000 and pertains to construction or repair, and further, if required by Federal program legislation, Seller shall comply with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141 3144 and 3146-3148) and as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Governing Federally Financed and Assisted Construction"). Under this Act, Seller is required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the minimum wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, Seller shall be required to pay wages not less than once a week.
- 3. Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (40 U.S.C. 3145). If the Order is in excess of \$2,000 and pertains to construction or repair, Seller shall comply with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (40 U.S.C. 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 3, "Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States"). The Act provides in part that Seller shall be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which it is otherwise entitled.
- 4. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708). If the Order is in excess of \$100,000 and involves the employment of mechanics or laborers, Seller shall comply with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, Seller shall be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than 1½ times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic shall be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.
- 5. Bayh-Dole Act (35 U.S.C. 200-212). If the Order is for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work, under a "funding agreement" under 37 CFR 401.2(a) Seller shall provide for the rights of the Federal Government and Harvard in any resulting invention in accordance with 37 CFR Part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401 and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

- 6. Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401—7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251—1387), as amended. If the Order is in excess of \$150,000 Seller shall comply with all applicable standards, Orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401—7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251—1387). Violations shall be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- 7. Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201). Seller agrees to comply with all mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201).
- 8. Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352). If the Order is for \$100,000 or more, Seller and its subcontractors shall file the certification required by this statute and associated regulations. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier shall also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to Harvard.
- 9. Debarment and Suspension (E.O.s 12549 and 12689). Seller represents and warrants that it is not listed on the governmentwide Excluded Parties List System in the System for Award Management (SAM) in accordance with OMB guidelines at 2 CFR Part 180 that implement E.O.s 12549 and 12689, "Debarment and Suspension." This list contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, and contractors declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than E.O. 12549.

Seller must comply with 2 CFR Part 180, Subpart C and must include a requirement to comply with this regulation in any lower tier covered transaction it enters into.

Seller shall have an ongoing duty during the term of this Agreement to disclose to Harvard on an ongoing basis any occurrence that would prevent Seller from making the certifications contained in this Section 9. Such disclosure shall be made in writing to Harvard within five (5) business days of when Seller discovers or reasonably believes there is a likelihood of such occurrence.

This certification is a material representation of fact relied upon by Harvard. If it is later determined that Seller did not comply with 2 CFR Part 180, Subpart C, in addition to remedies available to Harvard, the Federal government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment.

- 10. Procurement of recovered materials. A non-federal entity that is a state agency or agency of a political subdivision of a state and its contractors must comply with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. If applicable, Seller shall comply with the requirements of Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.
- 11. Domestic preferences for procurements (2 CFR 200.322). As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the Seller should, to the greatest extent practicable, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The requirements of this Section 11 must be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this Order.

For purposes of this section:

- i. "Produced in the United States" means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.
- ii. "Manufactured products" means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.
- 12. Contracting with Small and Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms (2 CFR 200.321). Vendor shall take affirmative steps to include minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms when possible by:
 - a. Placing qualified small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises on solicitation lists;
 - b. Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
 - c. Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
 - d. Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
 - e. Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce; and
 - f. Requiring the prime contractor, if subcontracts are to be let, to take the affirmative steps listed in steps a. through e. of this Section 12.
- 13. Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment (2 CFR 200.216). Seller shall not obligate or expend funding provided under this Order to:
 - i. Procure or obtain;
 - ii. Extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain; or
 - iii. Enter into a contract (or extent or renew a contract) to procure or obtain equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. As described in Public Law 115-232, section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
 - a. For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
 - b. Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.
 - c. Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country.

CONFLICTS AMONG CLAUSES APPLICABLE TO THE ORDER

In the event of any conflict among the requirements of clauses applicable to the Order, the most stringent requirements of the clauses will apply.