



Vermont Agency of Transportation

219 North Main Street, Barre, VT 05641

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION

Statewide

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI)

Design-Build-Own-Operate-Maintain (DBOOM)

Request for Qualification Schedule	Deadlines
Issue Date	04/16/2024
Deadline to Submit Questions	04/29/2024 3:00PM (EST)
VTrans Responds to Questions	05/08/2024
Statement of Qualification Due	05/22/2024 3:00PM (EST)
Notification to Bidders of Short-List	06/05/2024 3:00 PM (EST)

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ALL NOTIFICATIONS, RELEASES, AND ADDENDA ASSOCIATED WITH THIS RFQ WILL BE POSTED AT: [https:// VTrans.vermont.gov/contract-admin/construction-contracting/design-build-own-operate-and-maintain](https://VTrans.vermont.gov/contract-admin/construction-contracting/design-build-own-operate-and-maintain)

The State of Vermont will make no attempt to contact interested parties with updated information. It is the responsibility of each bidder to periodically check the above webpage for any and all notifications, release and addendums associated with this RFQ.

STATE POINT OF CONTACT:
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VTrans Mission and Vision

Through excellent customer service, provide for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods in a socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable manner. A safe, reliable, and environmentally sustainable multimodal transportation system that grows the economy, is affordable to use and operate, and serves vulnerable populations.

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I. Introduction

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is requesting Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) from entities (Bidders) interested in being shortlisted (selected candidates from which a final choice is made) to bid and engage with VTrans in the design, construction, ownership, operation, and maintenance of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure along Vermont's Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs). The goal of which is to create a reliable, convenient network of fast EV charging stations for drivers nationwide to help speed up the adoption of electric vehicles and increase equitable access to infrastructure and economic opportunity. The shortlisted bidders will have the opportunity to submit proposals during the Request for Proposal phase(s).

Design-Build-Own-Operate-Maintain (DBO) is a procurement model that combines the design and construction responsibilities of design-build procurements with operations and maintenance as well as ownership.

No payments will be made for any Bidder's time, materials, or other associated costs for preparing and responding to this RFQ.

Point of Contact (POC):

VTrans' POC is the only individual authorized to discuss this RFQ and will only communicate with the Bidder's Authorized Representative. All communications with VTrans about the Project or this RFQ shall be in writing via email, as required by applicable provisions of this RFQ. To be considered an official communication, the subject line of any email communication shall start with the Project Name: DBO Statewide NEVI RFQ. VTrans disclaims the accuracy of information derived from any source other than VTrans' POC, and the use of any such information is at the sole risk of the Bidder. Communication with other VTrans personnel regarding this RFQ is prohibited and may result in the rejection of the SOQ.

Angie Farrington, Contracts Specialist IV

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II. Project Information/Scope of Work

1. Program Background:

The State of Vermont is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector and transitioning much of Vermont's motor vehicle fleet to use electricity as a cleaner source of energy. The Global Warming Solutions Act requires Vermont to reduce greenhouse gas pollution to 26% below 2005 levels by 2025 and the steps to meet this requirement are detailed in the [2021 Vermont Climate Action Plan](#), as well as climate action plans developed by local and regional partners across the state. The Climate Action Plan includes a priority of developing electric vehicle charging infrastructure to support transportation electrification. Despite its size, terrain, climate, and rural character, Vermont has been a leading state in deploying public charging stations to support its growing EV adoption, with even greater opportunity in corridor fast-charging deployment through use of the State's apportionment of new federal formula funds.

In November 2021, the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program was enacted through the Investment in Infrastructure and Jobs Act ("IIJA" or "BIL", Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) to build a convenient, consistent national network of public charging infrastructure throughout the country in

support of shared transportation decarbonization goals. Under this law, Vermont will receive \$21.2 million over five years, provided that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approves Vermont annual plan for EV charging along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors. In September 2022, the FHWA approved Vermont's initial plan for federal fiscal years 2022 and 2023, and in September 2023, approved its plan update for federal fiscal year 2024. The approved plans may be found on AOT's website: [https:// VTrans.vermont.gov/climate/charging/nevi](https://VTrans.vermont.gov/climate/charging/nevi).

The funding comes with a maximum federal share of 80% and minimum local match requirement of 20%, which shall be met with the private investment of third-party contractors. Encouraging private-sector providers to participate in the deployment of these public investments through a design-build-own-operate-maintain (DBOOM) approach is the most cost-effective and expeditious method of delivering an expanded network of public fast-charging. Other sources of federal funds like the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Program and the Carbon Reduction Program may also supplement charging infrastructure as necessary. With all funding sources, it is anticipated that the private sector (EV Charging providers) will provide the local match required (minimum of 20%), although it may be possible for companies to take advantage of the Inflation Reduction Act which renewed the [Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property \(EV Charging\) Tax Credit](#). Proposals that include the tax credit, and those proposing a private sector match above the 20% minimum, may score more highly in the Request for Proposals (RFP) process to encourage a greater private sector investment. The greater the private investment in charging infrastructure projects, the more widely and equitably federal funds may be distributed to projects across the state.

2. Project Description:

At this time, VTrans is looking to qualify Bidders to perform work outlined in Section 5. Project Specifications of this RFQ. Qualified Bidders will be invited to submit Proposals for providing electric vehicle charging hardware, installation, and network operations for publicly available, universal EV charging services to consumers in response to forthcoming Requests for Proposals (RFPs). The required scope of work covers hardware and software necessary to operate direct current fast charging (DCFC); equipment, materials, and infrastructure directly associated with the operation of DC fast-charging stations; design, engineering, construction, and installation of the specified charging stations; network operations; and ownership, maintenance, and support through the period of performance. The awarded Contractor(s) will be funded through the federal NEVI Formula program, and therefore the Project shall be required to comply with [Federal Highway Administration Title 23, CFR Chapter I, subchapter G, Part 680](#).

3. Project Goals:

The following goals have been established for the Project:

- a. Establish a network of fast chargers across Vermont as part of a larger nationwide network to accelerate the adoption of EVs and increase the confidence of long-distance travel using an EV.
- b. Make progress toward deploying the infrastructure necessary to support 126,000 plug-in electric passenger vehicles on Vermont roads by 2030.
- c. Reduce transportation related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 26% below 2005 levels by 2025 as required by the Global Warming Solutions Act.
- d. Position U.S.-based industries for global leadership in the vehicle electrification ecosystem.
- e. Ensure a convenient, reliable, affordable, accessible, and equitable charging experience for all users.
- f. Safety

- i. Provide a safe Project area for the traveling public and workers during execution of the Project.
- ii. Provide a solution consistent with current VTrans, FHWA, and AASHTO practices, guidelines, policies, and standards.
- g. Maximize federal and state funds and leverage private-sector expertise and investment to build out Vermont's fast charging network quickly and cost-effectively along designated corridors.
- h. Limit risk.
- i. Accelerate project delivery.
- j. Advance equity.

4. Project Location(s):

Areas prioritized for NEVI investments require a minimum of 4 CCS ports capable of charging at a rate of 150kW simultaneously. Charging locations must be available within less than fifty (50) miles along Vermont's designated corridors and within one (1) mile from the corridor exit or interchange. Corresponding maps of priority NEVI locations are included in the Exhibits at the end of this RFQ. Location data is also available for download on the [AOT NEVI webpage](#).

To receive formula funds from the NEVI program, stations must be located along federally designated Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFC) and be built out to a specified degree prior to expanding eligible uses of this funding to other areas beyond these corridors. Vermont aims to reach fully built-out status along its AFCs as rapidly as possible, having identified fifteen (15) priority locations in its initial NEVI Plan in 2022, and in 2023, nine (9) areas for "Chargehub" locations, sites which will serve electric freight travel and/or greater redundancy in the Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) network for passenger EVs with up to 8 ports, essentially doubling DCFC infrastructure at these locations.

5. Project(s) Specifications:

Projects must comply with the [National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Standards and Requirements](#) (Title 23 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 680 or 23 CFR 680). At minimum the contractor will be required to conduct the following:

Install

1. Installation:

- a. Obtain all applicable local, state, and federal permits required for installation.
- b. Ensure that the workforce installing, maintaining, and operating chargers have appropriate licenses, certifications, and training to ensure that the installation and maintenance of chargers is performed safely by a qualified and diverse workforce of licensed technicians and other laborers, and meet the following standards as required by [23 CFR 680.106\(j\)](#).
 - i. Except as provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, all electricians installing, operating, or maintaining EVSE must meet one of the following requirements:
 - 1. Certification from the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP).
 - 2. Graduation or a continuing education certificate from a registered apprenticeship program for electricians that includes charger-specific training and is developed as a part of a national guideline standard approved by the Department of Labor in consultation with the Department of Transportation.
 - ii. For projects requiring more than one electrician, at least one electrician must meet the requirements above, and at least one electrician must be enrolled in an electrical registered apprenticeship program.

- iii. All other onsite, non-electrical workers directly involved in the installation, operation, and maintenance of chargers must have graduated from a registered apprenticeship program or have appropriate licenses, certifications, and training as required by the State.
 - c. Ensure that all installation work as it pertains to site preparation, curbing, striping, signage, charging equipment, billing and networking systems, and electrical interconnections is installed:
 - i. Consistent with the manufacturers' specifications.
 - ii. Consistent with the project design and specifications proposed in the bid.
 - iii. In accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal zoning and code requirements.
 - iv. In accordance with the Vermont Agency of Transportation 2018 Standard Specifications for Construction, Section 213-Milled Rumble Strips and Section 646-Retroreflective Pavement Markings.
 - v. All equipment and software are working properly.
 - d. Coordinate the installation activities with the equipment manufacturer, host site, networking service, electric utility, and any sub-Contractors needed to complete the work.
- 2. Charging Equipment Requirements:**
- The charging equipment that is subject to a financial incentive must:
- a. Be new, and unused (not refurbished or remanufactured).
 - b. Meet the following minimum specifications for each site:
 - i. Not less than four (4) DCFC ports.
 - ii. Each port must be able to serve EVs using the CCS standard.
 - iii. Each site must be able to supply power according to an EV power delivery request up to at least 150kW to four (4) vehicles simultaneously.
 - c. Include all cables, connectors, interfaces, documentation for all components, and any other items necessary for full operation.
 - d. Be factory calibrated (as applicable) prior to, or during installation, in accordance with the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) standards.
 - e. Include all standard manufacturer accessories.
 - f. Use the most current software version available as of the time it is installed.
 - g. Have the ability to stop the flow of power when not in use; and should have overcurrent protection to prevent vehicles from drawing too much power.
 - h. Be certified by the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL), or another Occupational Safety and Health Administration Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory to the appropriate Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards for EV charging system equipment.
 - i. Be able to withstand extreme weather conditions, including temperature extremes, flooding, ice, heavy snow or rain, and high winds and is protected from malfunctions due to condensation.
 - j. Include barriers or other configuration to prevent damage from equipment used for snow removal.
 - k. Include screen displays that are user friendly and easy to operate (display should be LCD, LED or equivalent, or better and should be readable in direct sunlight, at night, and in all temperatures).
 - l. Be tamper-proof and deter vandalism.
 - m. Incorporate a cord management system or method to minimize the potential for cable entanglement, user injury, or connector damage from lying on the ground, and comply with National Electrical Code (NEC) article 625 as it applies to cord management systems.
 - n. Comply with all National Electrical Code and Federal Communications Commission regulations for safety and operation requirements.

- o. Provide sufficient safety and security for the traveling public and the equipment itself. Physical security and cybersecurity measures must be implemented to ensure charging station operations protect consumer data and protect against the risk of harm to, or disruption of, charging infrastructure and the grid.
 - i. Physical security strategies may include lighting; siting and station design to ensure visibility from onlookers; driver and vehicle safety; video surveillance; emergency call boxes; fire prevention; charger locks; and strategies to prevent tampering and illegal surveillance of payment devices.
 - ii. Cybersecurity strategies may include user identity and access management; cryptographic agility and support of multiple PKIs; monitoring and detection; incident prevention and handling; configuration, vulnerability, and software update management; third-party cybersecurity testing and certification; and continuity of operation when communication between the charger and charging network is disrupted.
 - p. Comply with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standards as adopted by Vermont state statute. All EVSE not operated by a public utility need to be “Legal for Trade” and comply with all the requirements in NIST [Handbook 44](#). EVSE units are categorized by the power supplied and speed at which they can charge a vehicle.
- 3. Interoperability and Charging Network Connectivity of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure:**

The Contractor must comply with the below requirements to ensure uninterrupted charger communication. The detailed requirements are described below per [23 CFR 680.108](#) and [23 CFR 680.114](#).

- a. Charger-to-EV Communication. Chargers must conform to ISO 15118-3 and must have hardware capable of implementing both ISO 15118-2 and ISO 15118-20. By February 28, 2024, charger software must conform to ISO 15118-2 and be capable of Plug and Charge. Conformance testing for charger software and hardware should follow ISO 15118-4 and ISO 15118-5, respectively.
- b. Charger-to-Charger-Network Communication. Chargers must conform to Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP) 1.6J or higher. By February 28, 2024, chargers must conform to OCPP 2.0.1. It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to test and verify that network connectivity is present, consistent, and strong, or to directly connect charging stations if it is not.
 - i. Chargers must communicate with a charging network via a secure communication method. See [23 CFR 680.108](#) for more information about OCPP requirements.
 - ii. Chargers must have the ability to receive and implement secure, remote software updates and conduct real-time protocol translation, encryption and decryption, authentication, and authorization in their communication with charging networks.
 - iii. Charging networks must perform, and chargers must support remote charger monitoring, diagnostics, control, and smart charge management.
 - iv. Chargers and charging networks must securely measure, communicate, store, and report energy and power dispensed, real-time charging-port status, real-time price to the customer, and historical charging-port uptime.
 - v. Charging-Network-to-Charging-Network Communication. By February 28, 2024, charging networks must be capable of communicating with other charging networks in accordance with Open Charge Point Interface (OCPI) 2.2.1. A charging network must be capable of communicating with other charging networks to enable an EV driver to use a single method of identification to charge at Charging Stations that are a part of multiple

charging networks. See [23 CFR 680.108](#) for more information about OCPI requirements.

- vi. Network Switching Capability. Chargers must be designed to securely switch charging network providers without any changes to hardware.
- vii. Charging-Network-to-Grid Communication. Charging networks must be capable of secure communication with electric utilities, other energy providers, or local energy management systems.
- viii. Disrupted Network Connectivity. Chargers must remain functional if communication with the charging network is temporarily disrupted, such that they initiate and complete charging sessions, providing the minimum required power level defined in [23 CFR 680.106\(d\)](#).

4. Performance Measures:

Please note that the Contractor must comply with requirements of [23 CFR 680.112](#) and [23 CFR 680.116](#), Per [23 CFR 680.112\(c\)](#) all data made public will be aggregated and anonymized to protect confidential business information.

- a. The Contractor shall ensure annual uptime of greater than 97% must be maintained for each charging port.
 - i. A charging port is considered “up” when its hardware and software are both online and available for use, or in use, and the charging port successfully dispenses electricity in accordance with requirements for minimum power level. See [23 CFR 680.106\(d\)](#).
Charging port uptime must be calculated on a monthly basis for the previous 12 months using the methodology described in [23 CFR 680.116\(b\)](#).
- b. Contractor will be required to submit accurate and timely quarterly reporting via Electric Vehicle Charging Analytics and Reporting Tool ([EV-ChART](#)), that must include but are not limited to the following: Please note that the EV-ChART reporting tool is hosted and managed by the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation.
 - i. Charging station name or identifier that the following data can be associated with. This must be the same charging station name or identifier used to identify the charging station in data made available to third-parties in [23 CFR 680.116\(c\)\(1\)](#).
 - ii. Charging port name or identifier. This must be the same charging port identifier used to identify the charging port in data made available to third-parties in [23 CFR 680.116\(c\)\(8\)\(ii\)](#).
 - iii. Charging session start time, end time, and any error codes associated with an unsuccessful charging session by port.
 - iv. Energy (kWh) dispensed to EVs per charging session by port.
 - v. Peak session power (kW) by port.
 - vi. Payment method associated with each charging session.
 - vii. Charging station port uptime, T_outage, and T_excluded calculated in accordance with the equation in [23 CFR 680.116\(b\)](#) for each of the previous 3 months.
 - viii. Duration (minutes) of each outage.
- c. Contractor will be required to submit accurate and timely annual reporting via Electric Vehicle Charging Analytics and Reporting Tool ([EV-ChART](#)) that must include but are not limited to the following:
 - i. Maintenance and repair cost per charging station for the previous year.
 - ii. Whether the charging station operator, installer, or maintenance organizations participate in any State or local business opportunity certification programs including but not limited to minority-owned businesses, Veteran-owned businesses, woman-owned businesses, and businesses owned by economically disadvantaged individuals.

- d. Contractor will be required to submit a one-time report, on a date determined by VTrans via Electric Vehicle Charging Analytics and Reporting Tool ([EV-ChART](#)) that must include but are not limited to the following:
 - i. The name and address of the private entity(ies) involved in the operation and maintenance of chargers.
 - ii. Distributed energy resource installed capacity, in kW or kWh as appropriate, of asset by type (e.g., stationary battery, solar, etc.) per charging station.
 - iii. Charging station real property acquisition cost, charging equipment acquisition and installation cost, and distributed energy resource acquisition and installation cost.
 - iv. Aggregate grid connection and upgrade costs paid to the electric utility as part of the project, separated into:
 1. Total distribution and system costs, such as extensions to overhead/underground lines, and upgrades from single-phase to three-phase lines.
 - e. Total service costs, such as the cost of including poles, transformers, meters, and on-service connection equipment.
- 5. Third Party Data Sharing:**
The Contractor must share the following data fields, free of charge and with third-party software developers via application programming interface (API). An API is a type of software interface that allows two or more computer programs or components to communicate with each other. The API allows funding providers to collect information from the chargers about their operations.
- a. Unique charging station name or identifier.
 - b. Address (street address, city, State, and zip code) of the property where the charging station is located.
 - c. Geographic coordinates in decimal degrees of exact charging station location.
 - d. Charging station operator name.
 - e. Charging network provider name.
 - f. Charging station status (operational, under construction, planned, or decommissioned).
 - g. Charging station access information:
 - i. Charging station access type (public or limited to commercial vehicles).
 - ii. Charging station access days/times (hours of operation for the charging station).
 - h. Charging port information:
 - i. Number of charging ports.
 - ii. Unique port identifier.
 - iii. Connector types available by port.
 - iv. Charging level by port (DCFC, AC Level 2, etc.).
 - v. Power delivery rating in kilowatts by port.
 - vi. Accessibility by vehicle with trailer (pull-through stall) by port (yes/no).
 - vii. Real-time status by port in terms defined by Open Charge Point Interface 2.2.1.
 - i. Pricing and payment information:
 - i. Pricing structure.
 - ii. Real-time price to charge at each charging port, in terms defined by Open Charge Point Interface 2.2.1.
 - iii. Payment methods accepted at charging station.
- 6. Payment Method for Each Charger:**
Contractor shall ensure each charger must:
- a. Provide for secure payment methods, accessible to persons with disabilities, which at a minimum shall be capable of processing payment through either a chip or swipe reader of

major debit and credit cards and provide either an automated toll-free phone number or a short message/messaging that provides the EV charging customer with the option to initiate a charging session and submit payment.

- b. Not require a membership for use. The Contractor shall not require any type of membership or special registration to allow for use of the equipment. All persons may use equipment without any memberships or related additional costs.
- c. Not delay, limit, or curtail power flow to vehicles based on payment method or membership.
- d. Provide access for users that are limited English proficient and accessibility for people with disabilities. Automated toll-free phone numbers and SMS payment options must clearly identify payment access for these populations [23 CFR 680.106\(f\)](#).

7. Customer Communication of Price:

- a. The price for charging must be displayed on the charging unit prior to initiating a charging transaction and be based on the price for electricity to charge in \$/kWh.
- b. The price for charging displayed and communicated via the charging network must be the real-time price (i.e., price at that moment in time). The price that is offered at the start of the session cannot be changed during the session.
- c. Price structure including any other fees in addition to the price for electricity to charge must be clearly displayed and explained.
- d. The chargers must have a point-of-sale and supporting network that is compatible with common payment methods used in Vermont and, to the greatest extent practicable, employs roaming agreements providing compatibility with systems most commonly used in adjacent jurisdictions, including the Electric Circuit used in Quebec; and
- e. For the first five years of the contract, the chargers must charge a rate or fee to the customer for each charging event equal to the starting rate that will be included in the executed contract, provided that the Contractor may increase the rate or fee during this five-year period by not more than the Consumer Price Index, as measured using the online CPI Inflation Calculator published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the period since the last time the rate or fee was increased.¹
- f. The method of sale and pricing for charging must comply with NIST Method of Sale: All electrical energy sold at retail as vehicle fuel must be sold in terms of kilowatt-hour (kWh), as required by [NIST Handbook 130](#) and [NIST Handbook 44](#), as adopted by law by the State of Vermont. Unit price for electricity must be displayed in terms of whole cent (e.g. \$0.32) or tenth of one cent (e.g. \$0.319). In addition to the fee for electrical energy, fees may be assessed for other services, such as parking or holdover fees. These additional charges can be fixed or based on time. These fees must be displayed to the consumer prior to services.
- g. Contractor agrees to charge customers no more than the amount that will be agreed upon in the executed contract unless it has provided a written justification for the proposed price increase and obtained written approval from VTrans to exceed the agreed-upon rate.
- h. Contractor agrees to review and satisfy State of Vermont Weights and Measures regulations for commercial EVSE, including procuring adequate licensing for EVSE operators and installers/maintainers when such licensing processes become available. Please refer to the [Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets website](#) for more information.

8. Customer Data Privacy:

- a. Contractor must collect, process, and retain only that personal information strictly necessary to provide the charging service to a consumer, including information to complete the charging transaction and to provide the location of charging stations to the consumer. Chargers and charging networks should be compliant with appropriate Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI DSS) for the processing,

¹ [CPI Inflation Calculator \(bls.gov\)](#)

transmission, and storage of cardholder data. Charging Station Operators must also take reasonable measures to safeguard consumer data.

9. **Traffic Control Devices or On-Premises Signs Acquired, Installed, or Operated:**
 - a. General Requirements: Signage must comply with all applicable local, state, and/or federal laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards.
 - b. On-Site: Signage and other traffic control devices for each Host Site must clearly identify to an approaching driver from any ingress, that the Host Site has an EV Charger(s) and the location(s) of the EV Charger(s). On-site signage should indicate that parking spaces associated with the chargers are reserved for electric vehicles only and where relevant, that certain spaces offer preference to persons with disabilities.
 - c. The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD) found at [23 CFR Part 655](#) and the Highway Beautification regulation at [23 CFR Part 750](#) address requirements about traffic control devices and on-premises signs.
 - i. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways. All traffic control devices must comply with [23 CFR Part 655](#).
 - ii. On-Premises Signs. On-property or on-premises advertising signs must comply with [23 CFR Part 750](#).
10. **Requirements for Accessibility and Availability:**

Contractor shall ensure the chargers:

 - a. Be available to the public 24 hours per day, seven (7) days a week, year-round.

Be accessible from a paved or hardscaped parking space that is clearly marked to designate the spaces as reserved for EV Charger parking, where the number of parking spaces reserved for EVs, within reach of the DCFC, is equal to the maximum number of EVs that can be charged simultaneously from chargers awarded pursuant to this contract.
 - b. Have dusk-to-dawn area lighting.
 - c. Be accessible to persons with disabilities, which will be satisfied if at least one of the parking spaces meets ADA requirements and is accessible according to U.S. Access Board Design Recommendations for Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (it will not be necessary for the ADA spaces to be ADA reserved).
 - d. Provide appropriate safety instructions for EV drivers regarding the proper use of the charging equipment.
 - e. Clearly provide contact information, including a phone number, and instructions on how to receive technical assistance using a charger or making payment at the device.

Ongoing Operation, Maintenance, and Customer Service Support

1. Operation and Maintenance:

Contractor shall:

- a. Own, operate, and maintain each EV Charger for at least five (5) years from the date the EV chargers developed under the executed contract becomes fully operational, in accordance with the terms of the contract. All responsibility in regard to maintaining, keeping clean and accessible remains with the Contractor before and after the transfer of ownership.
 - i. "Maintain" as used in this contract shall mean "to provide all needed repairs or desired and approved alteration, as well as regular maintenance needed to ensure optimal performance and minimize downtime. Equipment shall be kept safe and presentable."
- b. Be responsible for ensuring the maintenance of the chargers including cables, ancillary equipment, and any awnings, canopies, shelters, and information display kiosks for signage associated with the charger.
- c. Minimum Uptime. The Contractor must ensure that each charging port has an average annual uptime of greater than 97%.

- i. A charging port is considered “up” when its hardware and software are both online and available for use, or in use, and the charging port successfully dispenses electricity in accordance with requirements for minimum power level (see [23 CFR 680.106\(d\)](#)).²
 - ii. Charging port uptime must be calculated on a monthly basis for the previous 12 months using the methodology described in [23 CFR 680.116\(b\)](#).
 - d. In addition to the minimum uptime requirement defined above, the Contractor must ensure that downtime for each individual charging port does not exceed 72 consecutive hours. It is the Contractor’s responsibility to ensure the 97% uptime requirement is met for each individual charging port and that interruptions are remedied within 72 hours. For any interruption in service to any DCFC that has lasted or is expected to last more than four (4) hours:
 - i. Notify appropriate information sources including, but not limited to, website and application hosts, as appropriate so drivers are aware of the interruption.
 - ii. Inform VTrans via email within one business day to give VTrans notice of the event, when it started and to explain the cause of the interruption and the plan for and estimated time needed to restore service. Information must be sent to aot.climate@vermont.gov.
 - e. Develop and provide VTrans with a snow removal plan to ensure access during and after inclement weather.
 - f. List the EV chargers on PlugShare.com and the Alternative Fuels Data Center Electric Vehicle Charging Station Locator:
https://afdc.energy.gov/fuels/electricity_locations.html#/find/nearest?fuel=ELEC
 - g. Not, during the term of the contract, move an EV charger to another host site location, sell or permanently take an EV charger out of service at a given site for any reason, without prior written approval from VTrans.
 2. **Customer Support Services:**
 - a. The Contractor must ensure that EV charging customers have mechanisms to report outages, malfunctions, and other issues with charging infrastructure. Contractor must enable access to accessible platforms that provide multilingual services. Contractors must comply with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 requirements and multilingual access when creating reporting mechanisms. See [23 CFR 680.106\(k\)](#).
 - b. Be available 24 hours a day, seven (7) days per week via a toll-free telephone number posted on or near the EV chargers, that is clearly visible to the customer.
 - c. Provide customer support for the duration of the contract, with the ability to provide customer support/or extend after the completion of the contract.
 - d. Resolve customer issues over the telephone.

Site Host Agreement

1. The Contractor must have sufficient property rights to install, operate, and maintain the EV chargers at the selected site for the full five (5) -year term.
2. The Contractor shall be required to secure a written, enforceable lease or occupancy agreement (a “Site Host Agreement”) with the property owner unless the Contractor is also the property owner. The Contractor’s Site Host Agreement must, at a minimum, include:
 - a. All necessary rights for the Contractor to install, operate, and maintain the EV Chargers at the site for at least five (5) years.
 - b. Acknowledgement by the property owner of the VTrans security interest in the EV Charger equipment and a provision requiring the property owner to execute a Conditional

² <https://www.access-board.gov/tad/ev/>

- Assignment Lease that would allow VTrans to assume and succeed to the Contractor's rights under the Site Host Agreement if Contractor were to default.
- c. Execution by individuals who have the legal power and authority to enter into a Host Site Agreement; and identify the name, title, and capacity on behalf of the entity represented.
3. All changes, revisions or associated amendments to the Host Site Agreement shall be provided to VTrans by submitting a copy via email to AOT.Climate@vermont.gov within five (5) business days from execution or acceptance of changes. Any significant change that will affect the executed site host agreement must be agreed to in writing by VTrans prior to revising the Site Host Agreement.

Ownership

1. Upon completion of the installation and activation of the EV charging equipment and acceptance of contract requirements by VTrans, VTrans hereby acknowledges and agrees to the following:
 - a. Electric vehicle (EV) charging hardware and other necessary functions such as network operations are and shall remain the property and responsibility of the Contractor.
 - b. The Contractor is the owner of all tax attributes to the EV charging hardware.
 - c. The Contractor holds all rights, title, and interest in and to any funding and/or rebates received or may be received in the future in connection with the installation and or operation of the EV charging hardware.

Other Federal requirements. (23 CFR 680.118)

All applicable Federal statutory and regulatory requirements apply to the EV charger projects. These requirements include, but are not limited to the following:

1. All statutory and regulatory requirements that are applicable to funds apportioned under [chapter 1 of Title 23, United States Code](#), and the requirements of [2 CFR Part 200](#) apply. This includes the applicable requirements of 23, United States Code, and [Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations](#), such as the applicable Buy America requirements at [23 U.S.C. 313](#) and Build America, Buy America Act (Pub. L. No 117-58, div. G sections 70901-70927).
2. As provided at [23 U.S.C. 109\(s\)\(2\)](#), projects to install EV chargers are treated as if the project is located on a Federal-aid highway. As a project located on a Federal-aid highway, [23 U.S.C. 113](#) applies and Davis Bacon Federal wage rate requirements included at [subchapter IV of chapter 31 of Title 40, U.S.C.](#), must be paid for any project funded with NEVI Formula Program funds.
3. The American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and implementing regulations, apply to EV charging stations by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability by public and private entities. EV charging stations must comply with applicable accessibility standards adopted by the Department of Transportation into its ADA regulations ([49 CFR Part 37](#)) in 2006, and adopted by the Department of Justice into its ADA regulations ([28 CFR Parts 35](#) and [36](#)) in 2010.
4. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and implementing regulations, apply to this program to ensure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.
5. All applicable requirements of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act), and implementing regulations, apply to this program.
6. Although this project has no DBE Goal, VTrans' Civil Rights Department makes its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Directory and applicable Davis-Bacon Wage Rates available on-line at [http:// VTranscivilrights.vermont.gov/](http://VTranscivilrights.vermont.gov/). It is not a requirement of the contract to use or consider a DBE and is provided for informational purposes only.
7. The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act, and implementing regulations, apply to this program by establishing minimum standards for federally funded

programs and projects that involve the acquisition of real property (real estate) or the displacement or relocation of persons from their homes, businesses, or farms.

8. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA implementing regulations, and applicable agency NEPA procedures apply to this program by establishing procedural requirements to ensure that Federal agencies consider the consequences of their proposed actions on the human environment and inform the public about their decision making for major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

III. **General Statement of Qualifications Procedures and Requirements:**

This Section describes the requirements that all Bidders must satisfy in submitting Statements of Qualifications (SOQ). Failure of any Bidder to submit their SOQ in accordance with the RFQ may result in rejection of its submission.

1. **Pre-Submittal Responsibilities and Representations:**

- a. Each Bidder shall be solely responsible for examining the RFQ documents and all conditions which may affect its submission or the performance of the work on the Project, including but not limited to:
 - i. Examining and carefully studying the RFQ Documents, including any RFQ changes and other information or data identified in the RFQ documents.
 - ii. Becoming informed as to all federal, state, and local laws and regulations that may affect the cost, progress, or performance of its work on the Project.
 - iii. Determining that the RFQ documents clearly describe the terms and conditions of the work to be performed for the Project.
- b. Each Bidder is responsible for promptly providing VTrans' POC written notice of:
 - i. All conflicts, errors, ambiguities, or discrepancies that the Bidder discovers in the RFQ documents.
 - ii. Aspects of the RFQ documents that the Bidder does not understand.
- c. Any failure to do so shall be at the Bidder's sole risk, and no relief for error or omission will be provided by VTrans.
- d. By submitting a SOQ, the Bidder represents and warrants that, following review of the RFQ and associated documents, the Bidder has either resolved or not identified any conflicts, errors, ambiguities, or discrepancies and has no questions concerning the requirements of the RFQ and the Project.

2. **Statement of Qualification Delivery Requirements:**

- a. Bidders shall submit a Statement of Qualification via email to the POC by the due date set forth on the first page of this RFQ. Such Submission shall use the subject line "DBOOM-Statewide NEVI submission for (Insert Bidders Name).
- b. Bidders are responsible for effective delivery by the deadline and late submissions will be rejected without opening, consideration, or evaluation, and will be returned unopened to the sender. VTrans accepts no responsibility for misdirected or lost submissions.

3. **Statement of Qualification Format Requirements:**

- a. The SOQ shall be submitted as a single Portable Document File (PDF) with all pages sequentially numbered. All pages shall include page number references in the lower right-hand corner. It is acceptable for the page number to be within the page margins.
- b. The SOQ shall be separated by section with Sections corresponding to the order set forth as follows.
 - i. Introduction.
 - ii. Team Participants and Experience.
 - iii. Key Personnel.
 - iv. Organizational Structure and Project Management Approach.

- v. Legal and Financial.
- vi. Additional Considerations (Optional).

4. **SOQ Disqualification:** Any submission that is not delivered by the posted due date may not be considered. Bidder will be entirely responsible for any consequences, including disqualification of the submission that results from Bidder's failure to follow the instructions in the RFQ. A disqualified submission will be considered non-responsive. It is the Bidder's sole responsibility to see that its submission is received as required. Bidders shall provide responses to all information requested in the RFQ. Failure to respond or to provide requested information may result in a determination by VTrans in its sole discretion, that a submission is non-responsive.
5. If the Bidder is notified that any of the required information in Section IV: Statement of Qualification Submission Criteria is missing from its submission or inaccurate, the Bidder shall submit the requested information to VTrans within five (5) working days of such notification. If a Bidder fails to meet the requirements of this Section, then that submission may be deemed non-responsive and removed from further consideration.

IV. **Statement of Qualification (SOQ) Contents:**

The SOQ submission shall include the following information, compiled into a single PDF.

1. **Introduction:** Describe Bidder's team structure and composition, identify designated submission point of contact (that shall include, name, title, email, and phone), and summarize prior relevant experience. Provide information regarding Bidder's qualifications, including history of similar projects and references from prior work with government entities.

The Bidder is required to confirm via a written statement committing that the Key Personnel designated in the SOQ for the positions or roles described in this Section shall be available to serve the role so identified in connection with the Project. Bidders are advised that additional or changes in Key Personnel may be required to be identified at the RFP stage.

2. **Team Participants and Experience:** Parties expected to perform work outlined in the Section II.5: Project Specifications, whether performed by the Primary Bidder or subcontracting partner(s), should be identified with a description of the major functions to be performed (role), qualifications and capabilities, and relevant experience of all parties working on EVSE projects in recent years. Describe past performance on State-funded EVSE projects, including uptime and other performance metrics that will be required for NEVI-funded Projects.

If applicable, provide details on the successful EVSE projects the team has completed together in the past to demonstrate the efficacy of working relationship between parties listed in this SOQ.

While not a requirement of the NEVI program, please include in this section any efforts and/or commitments to inclusion in contracting and workforce opportunities. This may include considerations, where available, such as employing local labor or those from underrepresented groups.

3. **Key Personnel:** The listing below describes the suggested minimum key personnel for the Project ("Key Personnel"). Bidders may propose alternate plans to staff and manage the Project, which may be approved at VTrans' sole discretion. SOQs with alternate staffing plans

are required to include details (i.e. qualifications, experience, resumes) of the key staff and their roles and responsibilities in a manner similar to information requested in this RFQ.

The Bidder must demonstrate that Key Personnel meet the minimum qualifications and experience. Key Personnel will be evaluated, in part, based on the extent they meet and/or exceed minimum qualifications and experience. Any certifications required to meet the requirements of the RFQ shall be in place by the time the first notice to proceed is issued. One person may be proposed for more than one Key Personnel position, unless otherwise noted.

- a. **Project Manager(s)** – Responsible for the overall design, construction, operations, maintenance, quality management, and contract administration for the Project. Required to work with a third-party selected by VTTrans to verify work performed meets federal and state requirements.
- b. **Site Host Representative(s)** – Responsible charge of the Project site. Required to locally staff site to readily address any EVSE related issues.
- c. **Design Lead(s)** - Responsible for ensuring that the Project is designed in accordance with the Project requirements.
- d. **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) Certified Electrician(s)** - Responsible for the electrical site work during construction, operations, and maintenance of the Project. At least one licensed electrician/electrical contractor with EVITP certification that meets the requirements of the NEVI program must be included in Key Personnel by the time of the RFP proposal submission.
- e. **Construction Manager(s)** - Responsible for ensuring that the Project is constructed in accordance with the Project requirements.
- f. **Operations and Maintenance Manager(s)** - Responsible for managing the Contractor's operations and maintenance personnel and administering all operations and maintenance requirements of the Contract.
- g. **Owner(s)** - Responsible for ensuring ongoing operations and maintenance of electric vehicle (EV) charging hardware and other necessary functions such as network operations for the duration of the contract term; assume as property and responsibility for all tax attributes to the EV charging hardware; and holds all right, title, and interest in and to any funding and/or rebates received or may be received in the future in connection with the installation and or operation of the EV charging hardware.
- h. **Utility Engineer Lead(s)** - Required to ensure reliability of service and ability to provide interconnection services that meet the power requirements of the NEVI program.
- i. **EVSE Provider Lead(s)** - Required to provide EVSE equipment that meets the requirements of the NEVI program.
- j. **Charging Network Provider Lead(s)** - Required to collect, protect, share, and report EVSE data; provide the required software functionality, online connectivity, secure payment processing, and data sharing; manage an existing charging network, online connection, and real-time display.
- k. **Reporting Lead(s)** – Required to submit accurate and timely ongoing reporting via the Electric Vehicle Charging Analytics and Reporting Tool ([EV-ChART](#)). Required to submit invoices and other progress reporting to VTTrans.

4. **Organizational Structure and Project Management Approach:**

- a. Provide an organizational chart(s) showing the flow of the “chain of command” with lines identifying participants who are responsible for major functions to be performed and their reporting relationships, in managing, designing, building, owning, operating, and maintaining the Project(s). Identify the Bidder and all known Team Participants in the chart(s).

- b. If a Bidder is unable to provide the name of a teaming partner or subcontractor, they should indicate how they will obtain a firm including what qualifications they would expect the firm to provide.
- c. Describe other attributes of the Team's approach to the Project including a plan for how the Team will ensure compliance with NEVI requirements and any procedures that will be put in place to ensure compliance. Identify potential lag times or bottlenecks and how the Team will shorten or manage them. Propose ways the Team will minimize the period from the time the award is made to the commissioning of the chargers. Describe the commitment and ability of the Team to see the Project through to completion including the required minimum 5 years of operation and maintenance. Describe longer-term stewardship of the Project extending beyond the 5-year contract period.

5. Legal and Financial:

- a. **Organizational Conflicts of Interest** - Identify all relevant facts relating to past, present or planned interest(s) of the Bidders team (including the Submitter, Team Participants, proposed consultants, contractors and subcontractors, and their respective chief executives, directors, and key project personnel) which may result, or could be viewed as, an organizational conflict of interest in connection with this RFQ.
- b. **Legal Structure** - If the Bidder organization has already been formed but does not currently have paperwork on file with the Vermont Secretary of State, it will be required to provide complete copies of the organizational documents that allow, or would allow by the time of contract award, the Bidder and Team Participants to conduct business in the State of Vermont. VTrans will verify the legal structure of Bidders with paperwork on file with the Vermont Secretary of State. If the Bidder organization has not yet been formed, provide a brief description of the proposed legal structure or draft copies of the underlying agreements. Bidders shall obtain a Unique Entity ID (UEI). If at the time of submission, please provide information that the organization is in the process of obtaining a UEI. For additional assistance regarding the UEI please contact, Vermont APEX Accelerator (formerly VT PTAC) at (802) 828-5237 or email ACCD.APEXinfo@vermont.gov.
- c. **Financial Structure** - Provide information regarding Bidder's financial viability for the Project. Describe general financial capabilities of the Bidder, such as: 1) any funding commitments or financing expected to be in place for the Project by the SOQ submission date, 2) funding sources that will be available in the future that are intended to support the Project, and 3) how the team plans to manage cash flow during the Period of Performance. Describe the financial structure and include who will assume ownership of the Project, receive any financial benefits, and pay for operations, maintenance, and repair.

6. Additional Considerations (Optional):

Bidders may include feedback and considerations for the RFP. Alternative approaches to the Project may be proposed so long as federal and state requirements are adhered to and met. Any alternative proposal should strengthen Vermont's program such as cost efficiency, equity, futureproofing, and reducing time to project completion.

V. Statement of Qualification Evaluation Criteria:

- 1. **Evaluation Criteria:** Statements of Qualification (SOQs) will be scored based on past performance and the ability to complete projects in a timely, cost-effective, and equitable manner. The following approach will be used in determining whether the Bidder will be shortlisted as a qualified vendor. Please note the maximum score an SOQ may receive is 110 points.

Category	Criteria for Scoring	Total Possible Points
Introduction		
1. Bidder Information	a. Bidder team structure is clearly outlined, including a designated point of contact and summary of relevant experience.	5 Points
2. Bidder Qualifications and Reference	a. Bidder qualifications are clearly detailed, including history of similar projects, and provides references from prior work with government entities.	5 Points
3. Confirmation of Key Personnel	a. Key Personnel are committed to serve in connection with the project.	5 Points
Team Participants and Experience		
1. Team Roles, Qualifications, and Experience	a. Parties expected to perform work outlined in the Project Specifications are identified with a description of the major functions to be performed (role), qualifications and capabilities, and relevant experience working on EVSE projects.	20 Points
2. Team History	<p>a. Demonstrate past performance on State-funded EVSE projects, including uptime and other performance metrics that will be required for NEVI-funded Projects.</p> <p>b. If applicable, describe details on the past successful EVSE projects this project team has completed together. Demonstrate efficacy of working relationship across parties listed in this SOQ.</p> <p>c. Bidder demonstrates experience and/or commitments to inclusion in contracting and workforce opportunities. May include considerations, where available, such as employing local labor or those from underrepresented groups.</p>	30 Points
Key Personnel		
1. Qualifications, experience, and resumes of Key Personnel	<p>a. Bidder includes resumes of all Key Personnel identified at the time of submission. Resumes should include qualifications and experience of Key Personnel.</p> <p>b. Documentation that certifications required to meet the requirements of the RFQ are in place or will be in place by the time the first notice to proceed is issued.</p>	5 Points
Organizational Structure and Project Management Approach		
1. Structure	a. Organizational chart(s) clearly identifies team participants and their reporting relationships.	5 Points

2. Composition	a. Team includes all major functions, to be performed by qualified key personnel with relevant experience, or a plan is in place to build qualified team.	5 Points
3. Accountability	<p>a. Project management approach demonstrates commitment and ability to ensure NEVI compliance through the duration of the project period.</p> <p>b. Approach includes procedures that will be put into place to ensure NEVI compliance.</p> <p>c. Approach identifies potential lag times or bottlenecks and includes a plan to address (shorten or manage) them.</p> <p>d. Approach includes a strategy to minimize the period from the time the award is made to the commissioning of the chargers.</p> <p>e. Approach includes a plan for ongoing performance, operations, maintenance, and reporting through the 5-year performance period.</p>	20 Points
Legal and Financial		
1. Organizational Conflicts of Interest	a. Identify all relevant facts which may result, or could be viewed as, an organizational conflict of interest in connection with this RFQ.	Pass/Fail
2. Legal Structure	<p>a. The Bidder organization is registered with and in good standing with the Vermont Secretary of State or has provided requested documentation.</p> <p>b. Bidder organization is not debarred from the Federal Government and obtains a UEI.</p> <p>c. Bidder organization is not debarred from the State of Vermont.</p>	Pass/Fail
3. Financial Structure	<p>a. Financial capabilities and structure are clearly defined.</p> <p>b. Describe funding commitments or financing expected to be in place for the Project by the SOQ submission date.</p> <p>c. Describe funding sources that will be available in the future that are intended to support the Project.</p> <p>d. Describe cash flow management during the Period of Performance.</p>	Pass/Fail
Additional Considerations (Optional)		
1. Additional Considerations (Optional)	a. Describe any feedback or approaches the Bidder would like VTrans to consider in the development of the RFP.	10 Points

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Alternative approaches proposed meet federal and state requirements. c. Feedback and alternatives provided strengthen Vermont's program (i.e. cost efficiency, equity, futureproofing, reducing time to project completion). 	
Total	110 points	

VI. Procurement Process:

1. VTrans will use a two-phase procurement process to select Contractors to deliver the Project. This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is issued as part of the first phase to solicit shortlisted bidders.
 - a. All SOQs received will be reviewed according to the responsiveness requirements listed in Section IV: Statement of Qualification (SOQ) Contents. The review committee will receive copies of all responsive SOQs. Each member will review the Proposals independently based on the specified evaluation criteria per Section V: Statement of Qualification Evaluation Criteria. The review committee will be given time for independent review of the SOQs and completion of evaluation process to support the development of a short list of bidders.
 - b. The review committee will present the short list recommendations and VTrans will issue formal notification to the shortlisted Bidders by the deadline outline of the first page of this RFP.
2. In the second phase, VTrans will issue an RFP to the shortlisted Bidders. Only the shortlisted Bidders will be eligible to submit proposals for specific priority EVSE locations in response to RFPs for the statewide Project. VTrans will award multiple contracts specific to each priority EVSE location and will be conditioned upon finalization of a Design-Build-Own-Operate-Maintain Contract, and the satisfaction of other conditions that will be set forth in the RFP.
3. **On Ramping:** VTrans reserves the right to reopen the opportunity for qualified contractors to be added to the short list.

VII. Rights and Obligations of VTrans:

1. **Reservation of Rights:**
 - a. The cost of preparing, submitting, and presenting an SOQ is the sole expense of the Bidder. Unselected SOQs shall be securely disposed of at VTrans' discretion.
 - b. VTrans reserves the right to reject all SOQs received as a result of this solicitation, to negotiate with any qualified source, to waive any formality and any technicalities, or to cancel this RFQ in part or in its entirety if it is in the best interest of VTrans. This solicitation for SOQs in no way obligates VTrans to award a contract. VTrans reserves the right to re-advertise this project using the same or different procurement method.
2. **No Assumption of Liability:**
By submitting an SOQ, a potential Contractor specifically waives the right to bring any action or proceeding against VTrans for the reimbursement of any costs incurred or alleged to have been incurred by parties considering a response to and/or responding to this RFQ. All such costs shall be borne solely by each Bidder and its team members.

VIII. Protests:

1. **General:** This Section sets forth the exclusive protest remedies available with respect to the RFQ and the procurement process. Each Bidder, by submitting its SOQ, expressly recognizes the limitation on its rights to protest contained herein, expressly waives all other rights, and remedies,

and agrees that the decision on any protest, as provided herein, shall be final and conclusive. These provisions are included in the RFQ expressly in consideration of such waiver and agreement by the Bidders.

2. Written Protests Only:

- a. All protests must be in writing and must be submitted to POC listed on the first page of this RFQ.
- b. Any protest not set forth in writing within the time limits specified in these procedures is null and void and shall not be considered. Protests regarding the RFQ or the procurement process shall be filed only after the Bidder has informally discussed the nature and basis of the protest with the VTrans POC to remove the grounds for protest.
- c. VTrans may, in its sole discretion, discuss the protest with the Bidder and/or accept written submissions before issuing a decision. No formal hearing will be held to address the protest.

3. Protest Contents:

- a. At a minimum, all protests must include the following. Please note that the Agency has the sole discretion to decide whether to postpone the procurement process because of the filing of a protest by a Bidder.
 - The name, telephone number, and address of the Bidder.
 - The specific legal and/or factual errors that the Bidder alleges were made by the Agency in determining that the Bidder was unsuccessful.
 - The specific relief sought.
 - A request to submit additional written evidence and arguments, (if desired); and
 - A designation of counsel or any other party that will be representing the parties in the protest (if any).

4. Protest Regarding RFQ:

- a. Protests regarding the RFQ or the procurement process shall be filed no later than ten (10) working days after the Bidder knows or should have known of the facts giving rise to the protest, but in no event later than the Statement of Qualifications Due Date, unless the Bidder did not know and should not have known of the facts giving rise to the protest prior to the Statement of Qualifications Due Date.
- b. The failure of a Bidder to file a protest to the RFQ within the applicable period shall constitute an unconditional waiver of the right to protest the terms of the RFQ and shall preclude consideration of that ground in any protest of qualification of a Bidder unless such ground was not and could not have been known to the Bidder in time to protest prior to the final date for such protests.

5. Protest Prior to Shortlist:

When a protest or any subsequent appeal has been filed within the stated timeline, prior to shortlisting of Bidder Teams, the Agency will wait to post the Shortlist until after the resolution of the protest or appeal unless otherwise provided for by law.

6. Protest Regarding Shortlist:

Protests must be filed no later than five (5) working days following the issuance of the Shortlist. Failure to file a protest within the applicable period shall constitute an unconditional waiver of the right to file a protest. Issuance of shortlist will be posted at the website outlined on the first page of this RFQ.

7. Determination of Protest:

- a. Unless otherwise required by law, no hearing shall be provided, except the Secretary of Transportation or their designee in their sole discretion, may decide to permit a hearing or argument if the Secretary determines that such hearing or argument is necessary for the protection of the public interest. The Secretary of Transportation or their designee shall issue a written decision regarding the protest within ten (10) working days after VTrans receives the detailed statement of protest.
- b. If the Secretary of Transportation or their designee concludes that the Bidder submitting the protest has established a basis for protest, the Secretary of Transportation or their designee will determine remedial steps, are necessary or appropriate to address the issues raised in

the protest. Such steps may include, without limitation, withdrawing or revising the decisions, delay of the RFQ, issuing a new RFQ or taking other appropriate actions.

- c. A decision made by the Secretary, or their designee shall be final.

IX. **Additional Requirements:**

1. **Vermont Access to Public Records Act.**

- a. All SOQs submitted to VTrans become the property of VTrans and are subject to the disclosure requirements of the Vermont Access to Public Records Act (1 V.S.A. § 315 - 320) ("Act") including any and all related costs that may be charged and collected relevant to a request under the Act. Bidders are advised to familiarize themselves with the Act. Bidders may also be subject to [Freedom of Information Act \(FOIA\)](#). Federal agencies are required to disclose any information requested under the FOIA unless it falls under one of nine exemptions which protect interests such as personal privacy, national security, and law enforcement. In no event shall the State, the Secretary, or VTrans be liable to a bidder for the disclosure of all or a portion of a SOQ submitted to VTrans.

If the SOQ documents include material that is considered by the bidder to be proprietary and confidential under 1 V.S.A. § 315 et seq., the bidder shall submit a cover letter that clearly identifies each page or section of the proposal that it believes is proprietary and confidential. The bidder shall also provide in their cover letter a written explanation for each marked section explaining why such material should be considered exempt from public disclosure in the event of a public records request, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 317(c), including the prospective harm to the competitive position of the bidder if the identified material were to be released.

Additionally, the bidder must include a redacted copy of its response for portions that are considered proprietary and confidential. Redactions must be limited so that the reviewer may understand the nature of the information being withheld. It is typically inappropriate to redact entire pages, or to redact the titles/captions of tables and figures. Under no circumstances can the entire response be marked confidential, and VTrans reserves the right to disqualify responses so marked.

- b. If a responding Bidder has special concerns about information which it desires to make available to VTrans but which the Bidder intends to claim is exempt under the Act, the Bidder should specifically and conspicuously designate such information in its SOQ and provide in writing the basis for the purported exemption. Any such request should be directed to the VTrans POC. The written request shall:
 - i. Invoke such exemption upon the submission of the materials for which protection is sought.
 - ii. Identify the specific data or other materials for which the protection is sought.
 - iii. State the reasons why protection is necessary.
- c. Blanket designations that do not identify the specific information shall not be acceptable and VTrans may therefore determine not to review the material and to simply treat the entire SOQ as public information. Nothing contained in this provision shall modify or amend requirements and obligations imposed on VTrans by applicable law, including but not limited to the Act in particular, and the applicable law(s) shall control in the event of a conflict between the procedures described above and any applicable law(s).
- d. In the event VTrans receives a request for public disclosure of all or any portion of an SOQ identified as confidential in conformance with this Section, VTrans will make its own determination as to whether it is considered that the requested materials fall within an exemption to the Act. In the event VTrans determines that such materials do not fall within an exemption under the Act, it will make reasonable efforts to provide the Bidder with advance notice of its intent to disclose such materials. Under no circumstances will VTrans incur any

liability whatsoever for failing to provide such advance notice or for disclosing information designated confidential in any SOQ.

2. Conflict of Interest:

- a. Conflicts of interest and a real or perceived competitive advantage are described in state and federal law, and, for example, may include, but are not limited to the following situations:
 - i. An organization or individual hired by VTrans to aid in development of instructions to Bidders or evaluation criteria for the Project.
 - ii. An organization or individual with a present or former Contract with VTrans to prepare planning, environmental, engineering, or technical work product for the Project, and has a potential competitive advantage because such work product is not available to all potential Bidders in a timely manner prior to the procurement process.
- b. Each Bidder shall require its proposed team members to identify potential conflicts of interest or a real or perceived competitive advantage relative to this procurement Bidders are notified that prior or existing contractual obligations between a company and a federal or state agency relative to the Project or VTrans' program may present a conflict of interest or a competitive advantage. If at any time during the selection process or prior to award of the Contract a potential conflict of interest or competitive advantage is identified, the Bidder or Contractor shall submit in writing via email the pertinent information to the Point of Contact listed on the first page of this RFQ within 24 hours of identification.
- c. VTrans reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to make determinations relative to potential conflicts of interest on a project specific basis.
- d. VTrans may, in its sole discretion, determine that a conflict of interest or a real or perceived competitive advantage may be mitigated by disclosing all or a portion of the work product produced by the organization or individual subject to review under this Section. If documents have been designated as proprietary by Vermont law, the Bidder or Contractor will be given the opportunity to waive this protection from disclosure. If a party elects not to disclose, they may be determined to have a conflict of interest or competitive advantage.

3. Civil Rights and Labor Compliance:

- a. The Bidder shall comply with the applicable provisions of Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, and Executive Order 11246 as amended by Executive Order 11375. The Bidder shall also comply with the rules, regulations and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor, Nondiscrimination regulation 49 CFR Part 21 through Appendix C. Accordingly, all subcontracts shall include references to the above.

4. Vermont Professional License/Registration:

- a. At least one licensed electrician/electrical contractor with [Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program \(EVITP\)](#) certification must be responsible for the electrical site work during construction, operations, and maintenance of the Project. This is to ensure that the workforce installing, maintaining, and operating chargers have appropriate licenses, certifications, and training, and to ensure that the installation and maintenance of chargers is performed safely by a qualified and diverse workforce of licensed technicians and other laborers. The following standards are required by [23 CFR 680.106\(i\)](#):
 - i. Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this section, all electricians installing, operating, or maintaining EVSE must meet one of the following requirements:
 1. Certification from the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP).
 2. Graduation or a continuing education certificate from a registered apprenticeship program for electricians that includes charger-specific training and is developed as a part of a national guideline standard

approved by the Department of Labor in consultation with the Department of Transportation.

- ii. For projects requiring more than one electrician, at least one electrician must meet the requirements above, and at least one electrician must be enrolled in an electrical registered apprenticeship program.
 - b. All other onsite, non-electrical workers directly involved in the installation, operation, and maintenance of chargers must have graduated from a registered apprenticeship program or have appropriate licenses, certifications, and training as [required by the State](#).
 - c. Contractor agrees to review and satisfy State of Vermont Weights and Measures regulations for commercial EVSE, including procuring adequate licensing for EVSE operators and installers/maintainers when such licensing processes become available. Please refer to the [Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets website](#) for more information.
5. **Other:**
- a. The contractor shall comply with all requirements outlined in Executive Order No.02-22: Solidary with Ukrainian People. Such Executive Order can be found following the [link](#).
 - b. The contractor shall comply with all requirements outlined in Executive order 11246- Equal Employment Opportunity. Such Executive Order can be found following the [link](#).

X. **Important Links:**

- [2021 Vermont Climate Action Plan](#)
- [Vermont National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program and Approved Plans](#)
- [National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Standards and Requirements](#)
- [Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations Part 680](#)
- [U.S. Access Board Design Recommendations for Accessible EV Charging Stations document](#)
- [National Institute of Standards and Technology \(NIST\) 2023 Handbook 44 Section 3.40 Electric Vehicle Fueling Systems](#)
- [Vermont Weights and Measures Program for Commercial Electric Vehicle Charging Stations](#)
- [Vermont Agency of Transportation 2018 Standard Specifications for Construction](#)
- [Vermont Agency of Transportation Office of Civil Rights](#)

XI. **Exhibits:**

- Exhibit 1: Table of Federally Designated Alternative Fuel EV Corridors in Vermont
- Exhibit 2: Map of Vermont NEVI Priority Locations
- Exhibit 3: Table of Vermont NEVI Priority Locations

XII. **Attachments:**

Please note that the following attachments are for informational purposes only. Such attachments will be included in all contracts executed by VTrans. Bidders shall familiarize themselves with such attachments and their requirements.

- Attachment A: N/A – Left Intentionally Blank
- Attachment B: Payment Provisions (Example)
- Attachment C: Standard State Provisions for Contracts and Grants dated December 4, 2023
- Attachment D: N/A – Left Intentionally Blank
- Attachment E: Special Provisions
- Attachment F: Required Contract Provisions Federal- Aid Construction Contracts FHWA-1273 – Revised October 23, 2023
- Attachment G: 2020 General Terms and Conditions for Contracts and Services
- Attachment H: 2018 Federal Terms and Conditions Services (Non-Construction)
- Attachment I: Certification for Federal Aid Projects (DOT Form 272-040 EF)

- Attachment J: AOT Civil Rights DBE Policy Contract Requirements CR110 (*It is not a requirement of the contract to use or consider a DBE and is provided for informational purposes only*).
- Attachment K: Title VI Assurances – DOT Standard Title VI Assurances and Non-Discrimination Provisions (DOT 1050.2A) – Assurance Appendix A and Assurance Appendix E.

Exhibit 1: Table of Federally Designated Alternative Fuel Corridors in Vermont

Route	Designation
I-89 from NH border to Quebec border	Corridor-ready
I-91 from MA border to Quebec border	Portions corridor-ready and pending
I-93 from St Johnsbury to NH border	Portions corridor-ready and pending
US 2 from Montpelier to the NH border	Portions corridor-ready and pending
US 7 from MA border to S Burlington	Portions corridor-ready and pending
VT 9 from NH border to NY border	Corridor-ready

Exhibit 2: Map of Vermont NEVI Priority Locations

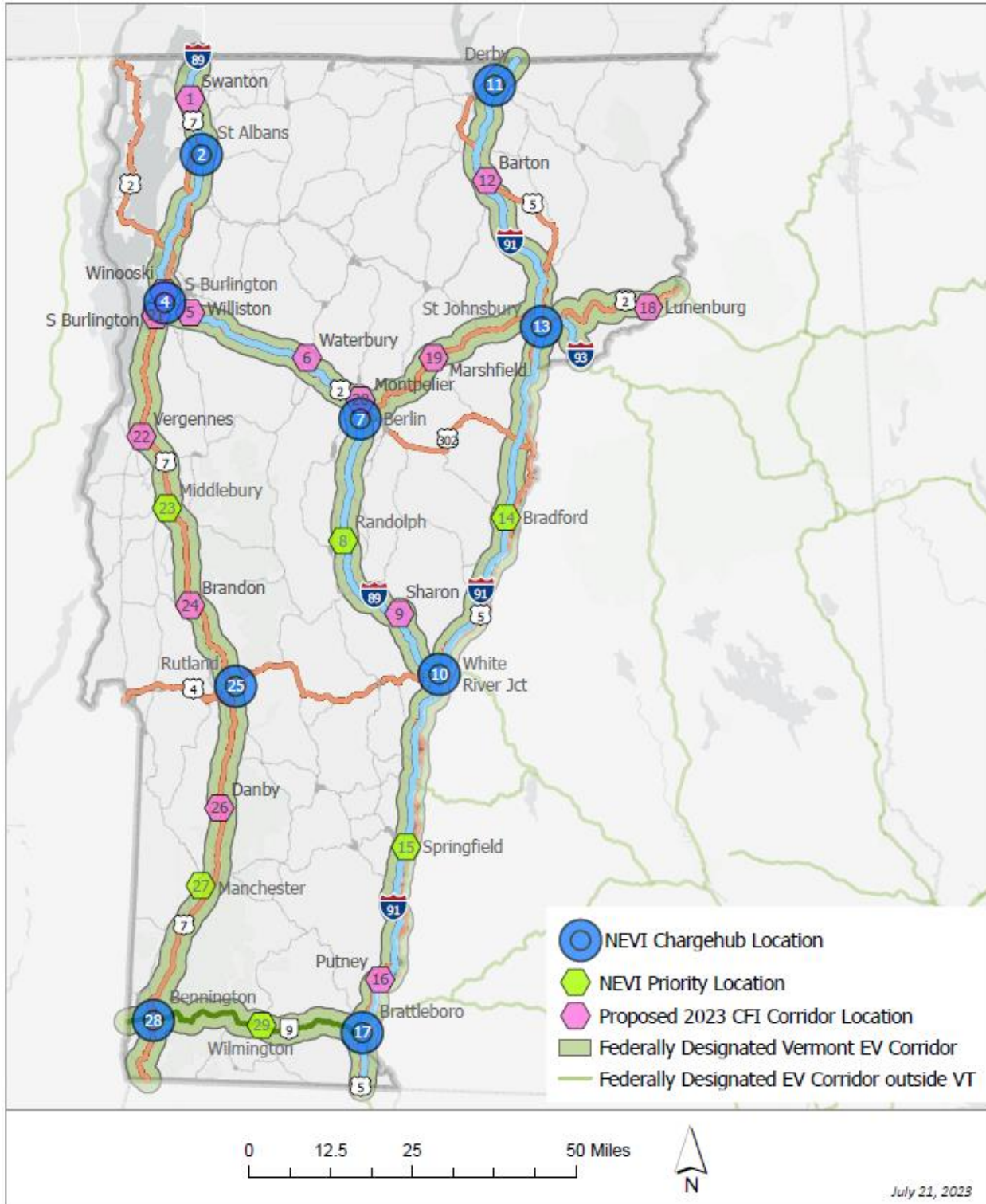


Exhibit 3: Table of Vermont NEVI Priority Locations

State EV Charging Location Map ID	Route(s)	Location	Type	Utility Territory	Status
1	I-89	Swanton	NEVI Standard	Swanton Electric Dept	To be constructed
2	I-89	St Albans	Chargehub	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
3	I-89	Winooski	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
4	I-89	S Burlington	Chargehub	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
5	I-89	Williston	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
6	I-89	Waterbury	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
7	I-89	Berlin	Chargehub	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
8	I-89	Randolph	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
9	I-89	Sharon	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
10	I-89 / I-91	White River Jct	Chargehub	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
11	I-91	Derby	Chargehub	VT Electric Coop	Potential upgrade of current installation
12	I-91	Barton	NEVI Standard	Barton Electric Dept	To be constructed
13	I-91 / I-93 / US 2	St Johnsbury	Chargehub	Green Mountain Power	Potential upgrade of current installation
14	I-91	Bradford	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	Under contract
15	I-91	Springfield	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	Potential upgrade of current installation
16	I-91	Putney	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed

State EV Charging Location Map ID	Route(s)	Location	Type	Utility Territory	Status
17	I-91 / VT 9	Brattleboro	Chargehub	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
18	US 2	Lunenburg	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
19	US 2	Marshfield	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
20	US 2	Montpelier	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
21	US 7	S Burlington	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
22	US 7	Vergennes	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
23	US 7	Middlebury	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
24	US 7	Brandon	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
25	US 7	Rutland	Chargehub	Green Mountain Power	Potential upgrade of current installation
26	US 7	Danby	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
27	US 7	Manchester	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
28	US 7 / VT 9	Bennington	Chargehub	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed
29	VT 9	Wilmington	NEVI Standard	Green Mountain Power	To be constructed

Attachment B
Contract Payment Provisions (Example)

The maximum dollar amount payable under this contract is not intended as any form of a guaranteed amount. The Contractor will be paid for products or services actually delivered or performed, as specified in Attachment A, up to the maximum allowable amount specified on page 1 of the contract. Award of a contract does not guarantee payment of any or all the maximum amount.

1. Prior to commencement of work and release of any payments, Contractor shall submit to the State:
 - a. Certificate of insurance consistent with the requirements set forth in Attachment C, Section 8 (Insurance), and with any additional requirements for insurance as may be set forth elsewhere in this contract; and
 - b. A current IRS Form W-9 (ink-signed within the last six months).
2. Payment terms are Net 30 days from the date the State receives an error-free invoice with all necessary and complete supporting documentation.
3. The Contractor will be paid for activities performed and specified in Attachment A, and in accordance with the schedule of values, up to but not exceeding (amount to be determined) or 80% of the total project cost, whichever is less. The Contractor will be responsible for a minimum of 20% of the total project cost and any additional costs that exceed the total project cost, including the cost of compliance testing performed by a third party chosen by VTrans.
4. Contractor shall submit a schedule of values allocated to the various portions of work prepared in such form to support its accuracy. Such schedule of values, unless stated otherwise by VTrans, shall be used only as a basis for the Contractors submission for payment.
 - a. Example of Schedule of Values:
 - i. Phase 1: Site Host Agreement
 - ii. Phase 2: Site Design and Permitting
 - iii. Phase 3: Site Construction
 - iv. Phase 4: Receipt of Equipment
 - v. Phase 5: Substantial Completion
 - vi. Phase 6: Final Completion
 - vii. Phase 7: Annual Maintenance & Operating –Year 1
 - viii. Phase 8: Annual Maintenance & Operating –Year 2
 - ix. Phase 9: Annual Maintenance & Operating –Year 3
 - x. Phase 10: Annual Maintenance & Operating –Year 4
 - xi. Phase 11: Annual Maintenance & Operating –Year 5
5. Contractor shall submit detailed invoices itemizing all work performed during the invoice period and shall include specific information as required by the VTrans in the executed contract along with any other information and/or documentation appropriate to substantiate the amount invoiced for payment by the State. The contractor shall submit invoices to VTrans in accordance with the invoicing schedule, as set forth in the executed contract and an updated Schedule of Values with percentages of work completed.

ATTACHMENT C: STANDARD STATE PROVISIONS FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS**REVISED DECEMBER 4, 2023**

1. Definitions: For purposes of this Attachment, “Party” shall mean the Contractor, Grantee, or Subrecipient, with whom the State of Vermont is executing this Agreement and consistent with the form of the Agreement. “Agreement” shall mean the specific contract or grant to which this form is attached.

2. Entire Agreement: This Agreement, whether in the form of a contract, State-funded grant, or Federally-funded grant, represents the entire agreement between the parties on the subject matter. All prior agreements, representations, statements, negotiations, and understandings shall have no effect. Where an authorized individual is either required to click-through or otherwise accept, or made subject to, any electronic terms and conditions to use or access any product or service provided hereunder, such terms and conditions are not binding and shall have no force or effect. Further, any terms and conditions of Party’s invoice, acknowledgment, confirmation, or similar document, shall not apply, and any such terms and conditions on any such document are objected to without need of further notice or objection.

3. Governing Law, Jurisdiction and Venue; No Waiver of Jury Trial: This Agreement will be governed by the laws of the State of Vermont without resort to conflict of laws principles. Any action or proceeding brought by either the State or the Party in connection with this Agreement shall be brought and enforced in the Superior Court of the State of Vermont, Civil Division, Washington Unit. The Party irrevocably submits to the jurisdiction of this court for any action or proceeding regarding this Agreement. The Party agrees that it must first exhaust any applicable administrative remedies with respect to any cause of action that it may have against the State regarding its performance under this Agreement. Party agrees that the State shall not be required to submit to binding arbitration or waive its right to a jury trial.

4. Sovereign Immunity: The State reserves all immunities, defenses, rights, or actions arising out of the State’s sovereign status or under the Eleventh Amendment to the United States Constitution. No waiver of the State’s immunities, defenses, rights, or actions shall be implied or otherwise deemed to exist by reason of the State’s entry into this Agreement.

5. No Employee Benefits For Party: The Party understands that the State will not provide any individual retirement benefits, group life insurance, group health and dental insurance, vacation or sick leave, workers compensation or other benefits or services available to State employees, nor will the State withhold any state or Federal taxes except as required under applicable tax laws, which shall be determined in advance of execution of the Agreement. The Party understands that all tax returns required by the Internal Revenue Code and the State of Vermont, including but not limited to income, withholding, sales and use, and rooms and meals, must be filed by the Party, and information as to Agreement income will be provided by the State of Vermont to the Internal Revenue Service and the Vermont Department of Taxes.

6. Independence: The Party will act in an independent capacity and not as officers or employees of the State.

7. Defense and Indemnity:

- A.** The Party shall defend the State and its officers and employees against all third-party claims or suits arising in whole or in part from any act or omission of the Party or of any agent of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement. The State shall notify the Party in the event of any such claim or suit, and the Party shall immediately retain counsel and otherwise provide a complete defense against the entire claim or suit. The State retains the right to participate at its own expense in the defense of any claim. The State shall have the right to approve all proposed settlements of such claims or suits.
- B.** After a final judgment or settlement, the Party may request recoupment of specific defense costs and may file suit in Washington Superior Court requesting recoupment. The Party shall be entitled to recoup costs only upon a showing that such costs were entirely unrelated to the defense of any claim arising from an act or omission of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement.
- C.** The Party shall indemnify the State and its officers and employees if the State, its officers, or employees become legally obligated to pay any damages or losses arising from any act or omission of the Party or an agent of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement.
- D.** Notwithstanding any contrary language anywhere, in no event shall the terms of this Agreement or any document furnished by the Party in connection with its performance under this Agreement obligate the State to (1) defend or indemnify the Party or any third party, or (2) otherwise be liable for the expenses or reimbursement, including attorneys’ fees, collection

costs or other costs of the Party or any third party.

8. Insurance: During the term of this Agreement, Party, at its expense, shall maintain in full force and effect the insurance coverages set forth in the Vermont State Insurance Specification in effect at the time of incorporation of this Attachment C into this Agreement. The terms of the Vermont State Insurance Specification are hereby incorporated by reference into this Attachment C as if fully set forth herein. A copy of the Vermont State Insurance Specification is available at: <https://aoa.vermont.gov/Risk-Claims-COI>.

9. Reliance by the State on Representations: All payments by the State under this Agreement will be made in reliance upon the accuracy of all representations made by the Party in accordance with this Agreement, including but not limited to bills, invoices, progress reports, and other proofs of work.

10. False Claims Act: Any liability to the State under the Vermont False Claims Act (32 V.S.A. § 630 et seq.) shall not be limited notwithstanding any agreement of the State to otherwise limit Party’s liability.

11. Whistleblower Protections: The Party shall not discriminate or retaliate against one of its employees or agents for disclosing information concerning a violation of law, fraud, waste, abuse of authority, or acts threatening health or safety, including but not limited to allegations concerning the False Claims Act. Further, the Party shall not require such employees or agents to forego monetary awards as a result of such disclosures, nor should they be required to report misconduct to the Party or its agents prior to reporting to any governmental entity and/or the public.

12. Use and Protection of State Information:

- A. As between the State and Party, “State Data” includes all data received, obtained, or generated by the Party in connection with performance under this Agreement. Party acknowledges that certain State Data to which the Party may have access may contain information that is deemed confidential by the State, or which is otherwise confidential by law, rule, or practice, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under the State of Vermont Access to Public Records Act, 1 V.S.A. § 315 et seq. (“Confidential State Data”).
- B. With respect to State Data, Party shall:
 - i. take reasonable precautions for its protection;
 - ii. not rent, sell, publish, share, or otherwise appropriate it; and
 - iii. upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, Party shall dispose of or retain State Data if and to the extent required by this Agreement, law, or regulation, or otherwise requested in writing by the State.
- C. With respect to Confidential State Data, Party shall:
 - i. strictly maintain its confidentiality;
 - ii. not collect, access, use, or disclose it except as necessary to provide services to the State under this Agreement;
 - iii. provide at a minimum the same care to avoid disclosure or unauthorized use as it provides to protect its own similar confidential and proprietary information;
 - iv. implement and maintain administrative, technical, and physical safeguards and controls to protect against any anticipated threats or hazards or unauthorized access or use;
 - v. promptly notify the State of any request or demand by any court, governmental agency or other person asserting a demand or request for Confidential State Data so that the State may seek an appropriate protective order; and
 - vi. upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, and except as necessary to comply with subsection B.3 above in this section, return or destroy all Confidential State Data remaining in its possession or control.
- D. If Party is provided or accesses, creates, collects, processes, receives, stores, or transmits Confidential State Data in any electronic form or media, Party shall utilize:
 - i. industry-standard firewall protection;
 - ii. multi-factor authentication controls;
 - iii. encryption of electronic Confidential State Data while in transit and at rest;
 - iv. measures to ensure that the State Data shall not be altered without the prior written consent of the State;
 - v. measures to protect against destruction, loss, or damage of State Data due to potential environmental hazards, such as fire and water damage;

- vi. training to implement the information security measures; and
 - vii. monitoring of the security of any portions of the Party's systems that are used in the provision of the services against intrusion.
- E. No Confidential State Data received, obtained, or generated by the Party in connection with performance under this Agreement shall be processed, transmitted, stored, or transferred by any means outside the United States, except with the express written permission of the State.
- F. Party shall notify the State within twenty-four hours after becoming aware of any unauthorized destruction, loss, alteration, disclosure of, or access to, any State Data.
- G. State of Vermont Cybersecurity Standard Update: Party confirms that all products and services provided to or for the use of the State under this Agreement shall be in compliance with State of Vermont Cybersecurity Standard Update in effect at the time of incorporation of this Attachment C into this Agreement. The State of Vermont Cybersecurity Standard Update prohibits the use of certain branded products in State information systems or any vendor system, and a copy is available at: <https://digitalservices.vermont.gov/cybersecurity/cybersecurity-standards-and-directives>
- H. In addition to the requirements of this Section 12, Party shall comply with any additional requirements regarding the protection of data that may be included in this Agreement or required by law or regulation.

13. Records Available for Audit: The Party shall maintain all records pertaining to performance under this Agreement. "Records" means any written or recorded information, regardless of physical form or characteristics, which is produced or acquired by the Party in the performance of this Agreement. Records produced or acquired in a machine-readable electronic format shall be maintained in that format. The records described shall be made available at reasonable times during the period of this Agreement and for three years thereafter or for any period required by law for inspection by any authorized representatives of the State or Federal Government. If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the three-year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved.

14. Fair Employment Practices and Americans with Disabilities Act: Party agrees to comply with the requirement of 21 V.S.A. Chapter 5, Subchapter 6, relating to fair employment practices, to the full extent applicable, and shall include this provision in all subcontracts for work performed in Vermont. Party shall also ensure, to the full extent required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, that qualified individuals with disabilities receive equitable access to the services, programs, and activities provided by the Party under this Agreement.

15. Offset: The State may offset any sums which the Party owes the State against any sums due the Party under this Agreement; provided, however, that any offset of amounts due the State of Vermont as taxes shall be in accordance with the procedures more specifically provided in 32 V.S.A. § 3113.

16. Taxes Due to the State: Party certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date this Agreement is signed, the Party is in good standing with respect to, or in full compliance with, a plan to pay any and all taxes due the State of Vermont.

17. Taxation of Purchases: All State purchases must be invoiced tax free. An exemption certificate will be furnished upon request with respect to otherwise taxable items.

18. Child Support: (Only applicable if the Party is a natural person, not a corporation or partnership.) Party states that, as of the date this Agreement is signed, Party is not under an obligation to pay child support or is in good standing with respect to or in full compliance with a plan to pay any and all child support payable under a support order. Party makes this statement with regard to support owed to any and all children residing in Vermont. In addition, if the Party is a resident of Vermont, Party makes this statement with regard to support owed to any and all children residing in any other state or territory of the United States.

19. Sub-Agreements: Party shall not assign, subcontract, or subgrant the performance of this Agreement or any portion thereof to any other Party without the prior written approval of the State. Party shall be responsible and liable to the State for all acts or omissions of subcontractors and any other person performing work under this Agreement pursuant to an agreement with Party or any subcontractor.

In the case this Agreement is a contract with a total cost in excess of \$250,000, the Party shall provide to the State a list of all proposed subcontractors and subcontractors' subcontractors, together with the identity of those subcontractors' workers compensation insurance providers, and additional required or requested information, as applicable, in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54), as amended by Section 17 of Act No. 142 (2010) and by

Section 6 of Act No. 50 (2011).

Party shall include the following provisions of this Attachment C in all subcontracts for work performed solely for the State of Vermont and subcontracts for work performed in the State of Vermont: Section 10 (“False Claims Act”); Section 11 (“Whistleblower Protections”); Section 12 (“Confidentiality and Protection of State Information”); Section 14 (“Fair Employment Practices and Americans with Disabilities Act”); Section 16 (“Taxes Due the State”); Section 18 (“Child Support”); Section 20 (“No Gifts or Gratuities”); Section 22 (“Certification Regarding Debarment”); Section 30 (“State Facilities”); and Section 32.A (“Certification Regarding Use of State Funds”).

20. No Gifts or Gratuities: Party shall not give title or possession of anything of substantial value (including property, currency, travel, and/or education programs) to any officer or employee of the State during the term of this Agreement.

21. Regulation of Hydrofluorocarbons: Party confirms that all products provided to or for the use of the State under this Agreement shall not contain hydrofluorocarbons, as prohibited under 10 V.S.A. § 586.

22. Certification Regarding Debarment: Party certifies under pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date that this Agreement is signed, neither Party nor Party’s principals (officers, directors, owners, or partners) are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or excluded from participation in Federal programs, or programs supported in whole or in part by Federal funds. Party further certifies under pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date that this Agreement is signed, Party is not presently debarred, suspended, nor named on the State’s debarment list at: <https://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing-contracting/debarment>.

23. Conflict of Interest: Party shall fully disclose, in writing, any conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest.

24. Vermont Public Records Act: Party acknowledges and agrees that this Agreement, any and all information obtained by the State from the Party in connection with this Agreement, and any obligations of the State to maintain the confidentiality of information are subject to the State of Vermont Access to Public Records Act, 1 V.S.A. § 315 *et seq.*

25. Force Majeure: Neither the State nor the Party shall be liable to the other for any failure or delay of performance of any obligations under this Agreement to the extent such failure or delay shall have been wholly or principally caused by acts or events beyond its reasonable control rendering performance illegal or impossible (excluding strikes or lockouts) (“Force Majeure”). Where Force Majeure is asserted, the nonperforming party must prove that it made all reasonable efforts to remove, eliminate or minimize such cause of delay or damages, diligently pursued performance of its obligations under this Agreement, substantially fulfilled all non-excused obligations, and timely notified the other party of the likelihood or actual occurrence of an event described in this paragraph.

26. Marketing: Party shall not use the State’s logo or otherwise refer to the State in any publicity materials, information pamphlets, press releases, research reports, advertising, sales promotions, trade shows, or marketing materials or similar communications to third parties except with the prior written consent of the State.

27. Termination:

A. Non-Appropriation: If this Agreement extends into more than one fiscal year of the State (July 1 to June 30), and if appropriations are insufficient to support this Agreement, the State may cancel this Agreement at the end of the fiscal year, or otherwise upon the expiration of existing appropriation authority. In the case that this Agreement is funded in whole or in part by Federal funds, and in the event Federal funds become unavailable or reduced, the State may suspend or cancel this Agreement immediately, and the State shall have no obligation to pay Party from State revenues.

B. Termination for Cause: Either party may terminate this Agreement if a party materially breaches its obligations under this Agreement, and such breach is not cured within thirty (30) days after delivery of the non-breaching party’s notice or such longer time as the non-breaching party may specify in the notice.

C. Termination Assistance: Upon nearing the end of the final term or termination of this Agreement, without respect to cause, the Party shall take all reasonable and prudent measures to facilitate any transition required by the State. All State property, tangible and intangible, shall be returned to the State upon demand at no additional cost to the State in a format acceptable to the State.

28. Continuity of Performance: In the event of a dispute between the Party and the State, each party will continue to perform its obligations under this Agreement during the resolution of the dispute until this Agreement is terminated in accordance with its terms.

29. No Implied Waiver of Remedies: Either party's delay or failure to exercise any right, power, or remedy under this Agreement shall not impair any such right, power, or remedy, or be construed as a waiver of any such right, power, or remedy. All waivers must be in writing.

30. State Facilities: If the State makes space available to the Party in any State facility during the term of this Agreement for purposes of the Party's performance under this Agreement, the Party shall only use the space in accordance with all policies and procedures governing access to, and use of, State facilities, which shall be made available upon request. State facilities will be made available to Party on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis, with no warranties whatsoever.

31. Requirements Pertaining Only to Federal Grants and Subrecipient Agreements: If this Agreement is a grant that is funded in whole or in part by Federal funds:

A. Requirement to Have a Single Audit: The Subrecipient will complete the Subrecipient Annual Report annually within 45 days after its fiscal year end, informing the State of Vermont whether or not a Single Audit is required for the prior fiscal year. If a Single Audit is required, the Subrecipient will submit a copy of the audit report to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse within nine months. If a single audit is not required, only the Subrecipient Annual Report is required. A Single Audit is required if the subrecipient expends \$750,000 or more in Federal assistance during its fiscal year and must be conducted in accordance with 2 CFR Chapter I, Chapter II, Part 200, Subpart F. The Subrecipient Annual Report is required to be submitted within 45 days, whether or not a Single Audit is required.

B. Internal Controls: In accordance with 2 CFR Part II, §200.303, the Party must establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award to provide reasonable assurance that the Party is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in "Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the "Internal Control Integrated Framework" issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

C. Mandatory Disclosures: In accordance with 2 CFR Part II, §200.113, Party must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the State, all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in the imposition of sanctions which may include disallowance of costs incurred, withholding of payments, termination of the Agreement, suspension/debarment, etc.

32. Requirements Pertaining Only to State-Funded Grants:

A. Certification Regarding Use of State Funds: If Party is an employer and this Agreement is a State-funded grant in excess of \$1,000, Party certifies that none of these State funds will be used to interfere with or restrain the exercise of Party's employee's rights with respect to unionization.

B. Good Standing Certification (Act 154 of 2016): If this Agreement is a State-funded grant, Party hereby represents: (i) that it has signed and provided to the State the form prescribed by the Secretary of Administration for purposes of certifying that it is in good standing (as provided in Section 13(a)(2) of Act 154) with the Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, or otherwise explaining the circumstances surrounding the inability to so certify; and (ii) that it will comply with the requirements stated therein.

(End of Standard Provisions)

ATTACHMENT E SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Historic Preservation Review

The Contractor shall not commence construction nor allow commencement of construction (if applicable) until all Project plans have been approved by the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. Contractor shall construct the Project in accordance with the approved project plans. Any conditions to avoid adverse impact on any historic or archeological resources shall be met, as set forth by letter to Contractor from the Division for Historic Preservation on behalf of the Vermont Advisory Council for Historic Preservation. Any changes to the Project plans must be approved in advance by the Division for Historic Preservation.

Conflict Of Interest

(A) No member of the legislative body of the Contractor, officers or employees of the Contractor, or their respective designees, or agents, shall participate in the selection of a Sub-Contractor or in the award or administration of a contract supported by these funds if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved. Such a conflict would arise, but not be limited to, circumstances where one of the following persons has a financial or other interest in the award:

- (i) an elected official, employee, officer or agent of the Recipient;
- (ii) an immediate family member of an elected official, employee, officer or agent of the Recipient;
- (iii) a person with whom any elected official, employee, officer or agent of the Contractor has business ties; or
- (iv) an organization that employs or is about to employ any of the above.

(B) The Contractor's officers, employees or agents shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value from Contractors, potential Contractors, or parties to sub agreements.

Financial Management

(A) The Contractor shall establish and maintain a system which assures effective control over, and accountability for, all funds, property and other assets used and/or attained under this Agreement.

(B) The Contractor or any third party hired to perform the financial management responsibility, must implement a financial management system that:

- (i) Maintains separate accounting records and source documentation for the activities funded under this Agreement and provides accurate financial information in the form specified by the Agency;
- (ii) Provides for accurate, current and complete disclosure of the financial status of the Project and for the expenditure of all Resources listed in the Overall Project Budget as set forth in Attachment B;
- (iii) Establishes records of budgets, receipts, and expenditures for each activity and demonstrates the sequence and status of receipts, obligations, disbursements, and fund balance; and
- (iv) Is consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

Authority To Alter Project

For seven years following the completion of any construction activities funded by this Agreement, the Contractor shall not, without the express written permission of the Agency:

- (A) sell or transfer ownership of all or a portion of the property which is the subject of the Project;
- (B) discontinue operation of all or a portion of the Project;
- (C) materially alter or expand the Project’s purpose or function; or
- (D) make any physical, structural, or visual alterations to the Project.

Failure to comply may result in recapture of funds in accordance with the section: “Recapture of Funds” located below. If such failure occurs within one year of completion, 100% of the funds shall be recaptured. If it occurs within one and four years after completion, the amount to be repaid shall be reduced by 20%, per year. If it occurs within five and seven years after completion, the amount to be repaid shall be reduced by 10%, per year. Completion is defined as once the Contractor has energized the EV charging stations, they are fully operational and the State has accepted and confirmed through the issuance of a Acceptance Memo provided to the Contractor.

Year Percentage

- 0 – 1 100%
- 1 – 2 80%
- 2 – 3 60%
- 3 – 4 40%
- 4 – 5 30%
- 5 – 6 20%
- 6 – 7 10%

Monitoring

- (A) The Contractor shall monitor the activities covered by this Agreement, including those of any sub-Contractors , to assure that all requirements are being met.
- (B) The failure of the Contractor or its sub-Contractors to report as required or respond to requests for data or information in a timely manner may be grounds for holding the processing of requisitions or for suspension or termination of this Agreement.

Recapture Of Funds

(A) In connection with the suspension or termination of this Agreement or otherwise, the Agency may determine to recapture all or part of the funds at any time during the term of this Agreement

and the Contractor shall be obligated to return such funds to the Agency, if the Agency finds that the Contractor has failed to comply in any significant manner with the requirements of this Agreement.

(B) At any time during the performance period of this Agreement, the Agency may review all costs incurred by the Contractor and all payments made and income received. Upon such review the Agency shall disallow any items of income received, and any items of expense which it determines are not allowable or are in excess of approved expenditures. The Agency shall, by written notice, inform the Contractor of any such disallowance.

(C) If the State disallows any itemized expenses for which payment has not yet been made, it shall refuse to pay such costs. If payment has been made related to costs that are subsequently disallowed, the State may deduct and/or withhold the amount of disallowed costs from any future payments under this Agreement or require that such costs be refunded to the State. Disallowed itemized expenses are separate from the recapture of funds mentioned above. This pertains to expenses billed, but not paid.

(D) In no event shall the total funds disbursed by the Agency exceed the Maximum Amount. The Contractor shall be solely responsible for obtaining any funds in excess of the Maximum Amount which are required to complete the Project.

(E) If the funds supporting this Agreement become unavailable or are reduced, the Agency may terminate or amend this Agreement and shall not be obligated to pay the Contractor from any other source of funds. In no event shall this Agreement be construed as a commitment by the State of Vermont or the Agency to fund future applications or programs.

Other Provisions

(A) Agreements to be in Writing. The activities required by this Agreement shall be performed by the Contractor or by one or more third parties, such as a sub-Contractor, pursuant to one or more written agreements consistent with this Agreement.

(B) Documentation. The filing of documents with the Agency does not require that the Agency undertake to review and comment upon any such documents, nor does the Agency in any way assume such obligation by requiring the filing of such documents. It shall be the Contractor's sole responsibility to take appropriate steps through the negotiation, execution, and, when necessary, enforcement, of legally binding documents to ensure that the obligations of this Agreement are met. Filing of such documents with the Agency or use of model documents provided by the Agency shall in no way diminish Contractor's obligations hereunder.

(C) Liability of Contractor. The Contractor remains fully liable and obligated with respect to the use of the funds, notwithstanding the contracting with any third party(s). The Contractor shall require any third party to comply with all lawful requirements necessary to ensure that the requirements are completed in accordance with this Agreement.

(D) Assignment. This Agreement shall not be assignable by the Contractor/Owner without written concurrence and signature of all affected parties.

(E) No Waiver. Any forbearance by the Agency in exercising any right or remedy hereunder, or otherwise afforded by applicable law, shall not be a waiver of or preclude the exercise of any such right or remedy.

Maintenance of Project. If construction of the Project is temporarily suspended for the winter season, Contractor will ensure winter maintenance of roadways/parking areas within the Project, by written agreement with property owner, is all in conformance with the provisions of the applicable edition of the Vermont Agency of Transportation's Standard Specifications for Construction, until construction operations resume in the spring.

Following completion of the project, Contractor shall be responsible for the maintenance of all equipment that was part of the project in a manner satisfactory to the STATE. Maintenance will remain the responsibility of the Contractor for the useful life of the project/equipment.

Project Plans; Conformance to Applicable State and Federal Laws, Regulations and Construction Standards. The Project will be constructed by Contractor. Construction of the Project will conform to applicable FHWA rules and regulations and to the applicable edition of the Vermont Agency of Transportation's *Standard Specifications for Construction*, as well as special provisions that may be included in the Project's contract agreement.

(a) Emerald Ash Borer.

- (1) As of 2018, emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*, has been confirmed within Vermont's borders. To provide an assurance of compliance with state and federal EAB laws the contractor shall adhere to the following:

Known EAB infestation areas are changing rapidly. Therefore the Contractor shall consult the online version of the EAB Infested Area Map (Located here: www.vtinvasives.org/land/emerald-ash-borer-vermont) on the same day cutting is to occur. If the project is located within an EAB infested area, ALL tree material, regardless of species, within the project area shall be handled in accordance with a document developed by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture titled "Recommendations to SLOW THE SPREAD of Emerald Ash Borer When Moving Ash from the Infested Area", <https://vtinvasives.org/sites/default/files/images/SLS/SlowSpreadWoodVT%20FINAL.pdf>. Tree material shall not be moved out of state.

Alternatively, the Contractor may choose to hire a qualified professional (Arborist certified by the International Society of Arboriculture or Licensed Forester), at their own expense, to identify the presence of ash trees. Those identified ash trees would be subject to the above referenced recommendations, however other tree species would not.

The Contractor is also hereby made aware of the same potential restrictions as they relate to proposed Off-Site Activities (Waste, Borrow and Staging) areas under Section 105.25 Off-Site Activity Areas.

(b) Contaminated/ Urban Soils Background Area

- (1) This project is located within an Urban Soils Background Area, as shown on the Vermont ANR Natural Resources Atlas. These areas may have high background levels of certain constituents, therefore the Agency has determined that material generated from these areas should be disposed within an Urban Soil Background Area. These soils shall be reused on-site to the maximum extent possible within the urban soils background area portion of the project. Excess Urban Area soils shall be disposed off-site by the Contractor within a designated Urban Soils Background Area. The process for submittal and review of proposed disposal locations shall be in accordance with Vermont Agency of Transportation 2018 Standard Specifications for Construction, Control of Work Section 105.25-105.28.

If the Contractor elects to use an alternate location outside of an Urban Soil Background Area, then soils must be disposed in accordance with the Investigation and Remediation of Contaminated Properties Rule (IRule), FINAL ADOPTED RULE, July 8, 2019 at no additional expense to the project. The alternate location must be reviewed and approved by VTrans in accordance with Sections 105.25-105.28 of the Specifications, and the Contractor must secure all necessary permits and approvals from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources for the alternate disposal site.

Reflective Pavement Markings. All markings must be done in accordance with the Vermont Agency of Transportation 2018 Standard Specifications for Construction, Section 213-Milled Rumble Strips and Section 646-Retroreflective Payment Markings. The latest version of the Standard Specifications of Construction can be found here: [Vermont Agency of Transportation 2018 Standard Specifications for Construction or most current version.](#)

Permits; Compliance with Permit Conditions. Contractor will obtain all necessary permits in the name of the Contractor and/or Property Owner, as applicable. The Contractor will adhere to all permit conditions.

Environmental Contamination. The Contractor agrees to abide by current regulatory guidance regarding the discovery of any environmental contaminants including, but not limited to, identification of other contributing parties who may potentially share liability for the conditions encountered in the Project area.

Relocation of Utilities. The Contractor will perform liaison and negotiation with utility companies, as necessary to relocate all privately-owned or municipality owned utilities that are in conflict with the Project. The Contractor will cooperate with the utility owner and utility companies in the timely relocation of privately-owned or municipality-owned utility facilities that are in conflict with the Project.

Traffic Control; Detours. During construction of the Project, the Contractor will be responsible for the maintenance of traffic. If the Project route is closed to through traffic, the State or its Contractor, with the cooperation of the MUNICIPALITY, will be responsible for selecting, signing, and maintaining a detour route, which shall be accomplished in conformance with 23 V.S.A. Section 1025 and the applicable edition of the Federal Highway Administration's *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*.

Cancellation or Default by State. If, due to the failure of the STATE, the Project is not constructed, then all costs incurred shall be borne in full by the STATE.

Cancellation or Default by Contractor. If at any time prior to award of a contract, the Contractor no longer desires to proceed with the Project, then the Contractor may request cancellation subject to the following conditions:

Should the project be canceled by the Contractor or otherwise not advance because of any act, such as abandonment or by error or omission of the Contractor, then the Contractor will reimburse the STATE in full for one hundred percent (100%) of all costs incurred to date for the Project.

Cancellation of Project Because of Circumstances Beyond Either Party's Control. If, due to circumstances beyond the control of the STATE or the Contractor, the Project is not constructed, then all costs incurred shall be incurred by the STATE. Costs incurred refer to planning, permitting review, right of way acquisition and other pre-construction services.

Interpretation of Agreement. If an ambiguity or question of intent arises with respect to any provision of this Agreement, the Agreement will be construed as if drafted jointly by the parties and no presumption or burden of proof will arise favoring or disfavoring either party by virtue of authorship of any of the provisions of this Agreement.

Section Headings. The section headings contained in this Agreement are for reference and convenience only and in no way define or limit the scope and contents of this Agreement or in any way affect its provisions.

Miscellaneous. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assigns.

**REQUIRED CONTRACT PROVISIONS
FEDERAL-AID CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS**

- I. General
- II. Nondiscrimination
- III. Non-segregated Facilities
- IV. Davis-Bacon and Related Act Provisions
- V. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act Provisions
- VI. Subletting or Assigning the Contract
- VII. Safety: Accident Prevention
- VIII. False Statements Concerning Highway Projects
- IX. Implementation of Clean Air Act and Federal Water Pollution Control Act
- X. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion
- XI. Certification Regarding Use of Contract Funds for Lobbying
- XII. Use of United States-Flag Vessels:

ATTACHMENTS

A. Employment and Materials Preference for Appalachian Development Highway System or Appalachian Local Access Road Contracts (included in Appalachian contracts only)

I. GENERAL

1. Form FHWA-1273 must be physically incorporated in each construction contract funded under title 23, United States Code, as required in 23 CFR 633.102(b) (excluding emergency contracts solely intended for debris removal). The contractor (or subcontractor) must insert this form in each subcontract and further require its inclusion in all lower tier subcontracts (excluding purchase orders, rental agreements and other agreements for supplies or services). 23 CFR 633.102(e).

The applicable requirements of Form FHWA-1273 are incorporated by reference for work done under any purchase order, rental agreement or agreement for other services. The prime contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor, lower-tier subcontractor or service provider. 23 CFR 633.102(e).

Form FHWA-1273 must be included in all Federal-aid design-build contracts, in all subcontracts and in lower tier subcontracts (excluding subcontracts for design services, purchase orders, rental agreements and other agreements for supplies or services) in accordance with 23 CFR 633.102. The design-builder shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor, lower-tier subcontractor or service provider.

Contracting agencies may reference Form FHWA-1273 in solicitation-for-bids or request-for-proposals documents, however, the Form FHWA-1273 must be physically incorporated (not referenced) in all contracts, subcontracts and lower-tier subcontracts (excluding purchase orders, rental agreements and other agreements for supplies or services related to a construction contract). 23 CFR 633.102(b).

2. Subject to the applicability criteria noted in the following sections, these contract provisions shall apply to all work

performed on the contract by the contractor's own organization and with the assistance of workers under the contractor's immediate superintendence and to all work performed on the contract by piecework, station work, or by subcontract. 23 CFR 633.102(d).

3. A breach of any of the stipulations contained in these Required Contract Provisions may be sufficient grounds for withholding of progress payments, withholding of final payment, termination of the contract, suspension / debarment or any other action determined to be appropriate by the contracting agency and FHWA.

4. Selection of Labor: During the performance of this contract, the contractor shall not use convict labor for any purpose within the limits of a construction project on a Federal-aid highway unless it is labor performed by convicts who are on parole, supervised release, or probation. 23 U.S.C. 114(b). The term Federal-aid highway does not include roadways functionally classified as local roads or rural minor collectors. 23 U.S.C. 101(a).

II. NONDISCRIMINATION (23 CFR 230.107(a); 23 CFR Part 230, Subpart A, Appendix A; EO 11246)

The provisions of this section related to 23 CFR Part 230, Subpart A, Appendix A are applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related construction subcontracts of \$10,000 or more. The provisions of 23 CFR Part 230 are not applicable to material supply, engineering, or architectural service contracts.

In addition, the contractor and all subcontractors must comply with the following policies: Executive Order 11246, 41 CFR Part 60, 29 CFR Parts 1625-1627, 23 U.S.C. 140, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), and related regulations including 49 CFR Parts 21, 26, and 27; and 23 CFR Parts 200, 230, and 633.

The contractor and all subcontractors must comply with: the requirements of the Equal Opportunity Clause in 41 CFR 60-1.4(b) and, for all construction contracts exceeding \$10,000, the Standard Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Construction Contract Specifications in 41 CFR 60-4.3.

Note: The U.S. Department of Labor has exclusive authority to determine compliance with Executive Order 11246 and the policies of the Secretary of Labor including 41 CFR Part 60, and 29 CFR Parts 1625-1627. The contracting agency and the FHWA have the authority and the responsibility to ensure compliance with 23 U.S.C. 140, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), and related regulations including 49 CFR Parts 21, 26, and 27; and 23 CFR Parts 200, 230, and 633.

The following provision is adopted from 23 CFR Part 230, Subpart A, Appendix A, with appropriate revisions to conform to the U.S. Department of Labor (US DOL) and FHWA requirements.

1. Equal Employment Opportunity: Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) requirements not to discriminate and to take affirmative action to assure equal opportunity as set forth under laws, executive orders, rules, regulations (see 28 CFR Part 35, 29 CFR Part 1630, 29 CFR Parts 1625-1627, 41 CFR Part 60 and 49 CFR Part 27) and orders of the Secretary of Labor as modified by the provisions prescribed herein, and imposed pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 140, shall constitute the EEO and specific affirmative action standards for the contractor's project activities under this contract. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) set forth under 28 CFR Part 35 and 29 CFR Part 1630 are incorporated by reference in this contract. In the execution of this contract, the contractor agrees to comply with the following minimum specific requirement activities of EEO:

a. The contractor will work with the contracting agency and the Federal Government to ensure that it has made every good faith effort to provide equal opportunity with respect to all of its terms and conditions of employment and in their review of activities under the contract. 23 CFR 230.409 (g)(4) & (5).

b. The contractor will accept as its operating policy the following statement:

"It is the policy of this Company to assure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, color, national origin, age or disability. Such action shall include: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship, pre-apprenticeship, and/or on-the-job training."

2. EEO Officer: The contractor will designate and make known to the contracting officers an EEO Officer who will have the responsibility for and must be capable of effectively administering and promoting an active EEO program and who must be assigned adequate authority and responsibility to do so.

3. Dissemination of Policy: All members of the contractor's staff who are authorized to hire, supervise, promote, and discharge employees, or who recommend such action or are substantially involved in such action, will be made fully cognizant of and will implement the contractor's EEO policy and contractual responsibilities to provide EEO in each grade and classification of employment. To ensure that the above agreement will be met, the following actions will be taken as a minimum:

a. Periodic meetings of supervisory and personnel office employees will be conducted before the start of work and then not less often than once every six months, at which time the contractor's EEO policy and its implementation will be reviewed and explained. The meetings will be conducted by the EEO Officer or other knowledgeable company official.

b. All new supervisory or personnel office employees will be given a thorough indoctrination by the EEO Officer, covering all major aspects of the contractor's EEO obligations within thirty days following their reporting for duty with the contractor.

c. All personnel who are engaged in direct recruitment for the project will be instructed by the EEO Officer in the contractor's procedures for locating and hiring minorities and women.

d. Notices and posters setting forth the contractor's EEO policy will be placed in areas readily accessible to employees, applicants for employment and potential employees.

e. The contractor's EEO policy and the procedures to implement such policy will be brought to the attention of employees by means of meetings, employee handbooks, or other appropriate means.

4. Recruitment: When advertising for employees, the contractor will include in all advertisements for employees the notation: "An Equal Opportunity Employer." All such advertisements will be placed in publications having a large circulation among minorities and women in the area from which the project work force would normally be derived.

a. The contractor will, unless precluded by a valid bargaining agreement, conduct systematic and direct recruitment through public and private employee referral sources likely to yield qualified minorities and women. To meet this requirement, the contractor will identify sources of potential minority group employees and establish with such identified sources procedures whereby minority and women applicants may be referred to the contractor for employment consideration.

b. In the event the contractor has a valid bargaining agreement providing for exclusive hiring hall referrals, the contractor is expected to observe the provisions of that agreement to the extent that the system meets the contractor's compliance with EEO contract provisions. Where implementation of such an agreement has the effect of discriminating against minorities or women, or obligates the contractor to do the same, such implementation violates Federal nondiscrimination provisions.

c. The contractor will encourage its present employees to refer minorities and women as applicants for employment. Information and procedures with regard to referring such applicants will be discussed with employees.

5. Personnel Actions: Wages, working conditions, and employee benefits shall be established and administered, and personnel actions of every type, including hiring, upgrading, promotion, transfer, demotion, layoff, and termination, shall be taken without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age or disability. The following procedures shall be followed:

a. The contractor will conduct periodic inspections of project sites to ensure that working conditions and employee facilities do not indicate discriminatory treatment of project site personnel.

b. The contractor will periodically evaluate the spread of wages paid within each classification to determine any evidence of discriminatory wage practices.

c. The contractor will periodically review selected personnel actions in depth to determine whether there is evidence of discrimination. Where evidence is found, the contractor will promptly take corrective action. If the review indicates that the discrimination may extend beyond the actions reviewed, such corrective action shall include all affected persons.

d. The contractor will promptly investigate all complaints of alleged discrimination made to the contractor in connection with its obligations under this contract, will attempt to resolve such complaints, and will take appropriate corrective action

within a reasonable time. If the investigation indicates that the discrimination may affect persons other than the complainant, such corrective action shall include such other persons. Upon completion of each investigation, the contractor will inform every complainant of all of their avenues of appeal.

6. Training and Promotion:

a. The contractor will assist in locating, qualifying, and increasing the skills of minorities and women who are applicants for employment or current employees. Such efforts should be aimed at developing full journey level status employees in the type of trade or job classification involved.

b. Consistent with the contractor's work force requirements and as permissible under Federal and State regulations, the contractor shall make full use of training programs (i.e., apprenticeship and on-the-job training programs for the geographical area of contract performance). In the event a special provision for training is provided under this contract, this subparagraph will be superseded as indicated in the special provision. The contracting agency may reserve training positions for persons who receive welfare assistance in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 140(a).

c. The contractor will advise employees and applicants for employment of available training programs and entrance requirements for each.

d. The contractor will periodically review the training and promotion potential of employees who are minorities and women and will encourage eligible employees to apply for such training and promotion.

7. Unions: If the contractor relies in whole or in part upon unions as a source of employees, the contractor will use good faith efforts to obtain the cooperation of such unions to increase opportunities for minorities and women. 23 CFR 230.409. Actions by the contractor, either directly or through a contractor's association acting as agent, will include the procedures set forth below:

a. The contractor will use good faith efforts to develop, in cooperation with the unions, joint training programs aimed toward qualifying more minorities and women for membership in the unions and increasing the skills of minorities and women so that they may qualify for higher paying employment.

b. The contractor will use good faith efforts to incorporate an EEO clause into each union agreement to the end that such union will be contractually bound to refer applicants without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, or disability.

c. The contractor is to obtain information as to the referral practices and policies of the labor union except that to the extent such information is within the exclusive possession of the labor union and such labor union refuses to furnish such information to the contractor, the contractor shall so certify to the contracting agency and shall set forth what efforts have been made to obtain such information.

d. In the event the union is unable to provide the contractor with a reasonable flow of referrals within the time limit set forth in the collective bargaining agreement, the contractor will, through independent recruitment efforts, fill the employment vacancies without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, or disability; making full efforts to obtain qualified and/or qualifiable minorities and women. The failure of a union to provide

sufficient referrals (even though it is obligated to provide exclusive referrals under the terms of a collective bargaining agreement) does not relieve the contractor from the requirements of this paragraph. In the event the union referral practice prevents the contractor from meeting the obligations pursuant to Executive Order 11246, as amended, and these special provisions, such contractor shall immediately notify the contracting agency.

8. Reasonable Accommodation for Applicants / Employees with Disabilities: The contractor must be familiar with the requirements for and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and all rules and regulations established thereunder. Employers must provide reasonable accommodation in all employment activities unless to do so would cause an undue hardship.

9. Selection of Subcontractors, Procurement of Materials and Leasing of Equipment: The contractor shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, or disability in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurement of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor shall take all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure nondiscrimination in the administration of this contract.

a. The contractor shall notify all potential subcontractors, suppliers, and lessors of their EEO obligations under this contract.

b. The contractor will use good faith efforts to ensure subcontractor compliance with their EEO obligations.

10. Assurances Required:

a. The requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 and the State DOT's FHWA-approved Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program are incorporated by reference.

b. The contractor, subrecipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the recipient deems appropriate, which may include, but is not limited to:

- (1) Withholding monthly progress payments;
- (2) Assessing sanctions;
- (3) Liquidated damages; and/or
- (4) Disqualifying the contractor from future bidding as non-responsible.

c. The Title VI and nondiscrimination provisions of U.S. DOT Order 1050.2A at Appendixes A and E are incorporated by reference. 49 CFR Part 21.

11. Records and Reports: The contractor shall keep such records as necessary to document compliance with the EEO requirements. Such records shall be retained for a period of three years following the date of the final payment to the contractor for all contract work and shall be available at reasonable times and places for inspection by authorized representatives of the contracting agency and the FHWA.

a. The records kept by the contractor shall document the following:

(1) The number and work hours of minority and non-minority group members and women employed in each work classification on the project;

(2) The progress and efforts being made in cooperation with unions, when applicable, to increase employment opportunities for minorities and women; and

(3) The progress and efforts being made in locating, hiring, training, qualifying, and upgrading minorities and women.

b. The contractors and subcontractors will submit an annual report to the contracting agency each July for the duration of the project indicating the number of minority, women, and non-minority group employees currently engaged in each work classification required by the contract work. This information is to be reported on [Form FHWA-1391](#). The staffing data should represent the project work force on board in all or any part of the last payroll period preceding the end of July. If on-the-job training is being required by special provision, the contractor will be required to collect and report training data. The employment data should reflect the work force on board during all or any part of the last payroll period preceding the end of July.

III. NONSEGREGATED FACILITIES

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related construction subcontracts of more than \$10,000. 41 CFR 60-1.5.

As prescribed by 41 CFR 60-1.8, the contractor must ensure that facilities provided for employees are provided in such a manner that segregation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin cannot result. The contractor may neither require such segregated use by written or oral policies nor tolerate such use by employee custom. The contractor's obligation extends further to ensure that its employees are not assigned to perform their services at any location under the contractor's control where the facilities are segregated. The term "facilities" includes waiting rooms, work areas, restaurants and other eating areas, time clocks, restrooms, washrooms, locker rooms and other storage or dressing areas, parking lots, drinking fountains, recreation or entertainment areas, transportation, and housing provided for employees. The contractor shall provide separate or single-user restrooms and necessary dressing or sleeping areas to assure privacy between sexes.

IV. DAVIS-BACON AND RELATED ACT PROVISIONS

This section is applicable to all Federal-aid construction projects exceeding \$2,000 and to all related subcontracts and lower-tier subcontracts (regardless of subcontract size), in accordance with 29 CFR 5.5. The requirements apply to all projects located within the right-of-way of a roadway that is functionally classified as Federal-aid highway. 23 U.S.C. 113. This excludes roadways functionally classified as local roads or rural minor collectors, which are exempt. 23 U.S.C. 101. Where applicable law requires that projects be treated as a project on a Federal-aid highway, the provisions of this subpart will apply regardless of the location of the project. Examples include: Surface Transportation Block Grant Program projects funded under 23 U.S.C. 133 [excluding recreational trails projects], the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway

Projects funded under 23 U.S.C. 117, and National Highway Freight Program projects funded under 23 U.S.C. 167.

The following provisions are from the U.S. Department of Labor regulations in 29 CFR 5.5 "Contract provisions and related matters" with minor revisions to conform to the FHWA-1273 format and FHWA program requirements.

1. Minimum wages (29 CFR 5.5)

a. *Wage rates and fringe benefits.* All laborers and mechanics employed or working upon the site of the work (or otherwise working in construction or development of the project under a development statute), will be paid unconditionally and not less often than once a week, and without subsequent deduction or rebate on any account (except such payroll deductions as are permitted by regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor under the Copeland Act ([29 CFR part 3](#))), the full amount of basic hourly wages and bona fide fringe benefits (or cash equivalents thereof) due at time of payment computed at rates not less than those contained in the wage determination of the Secretary of Labor which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, regardless of any contractual relationship which may be alleged to exist between the contractor and such laborers and mechanics. As provided in paragraphs (d) and (e) of 29 CFR 5.5, the appropriate wage determinations are effective by operation of law even if they have not been attached to the contract. Contributions made or costs reasonably anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits under the Davis-Bacon Act ([40 U.S.C. 3141\(2\)\(B\)](#)) on behalf of laborers or mechanics are considered wages paid to such laborers or mechanics, subject to the provisions of paragraph 1.e. of this section; also, regular contributions made or costs incurred for more than a weekly period (but not less often than quarterly) under plans, funds, or programs which cover the particular weekly period, are deemed to be constructively made or incurred during such weekly period. Such laborers and mechanics must be paid the appropriate wage rate and fringe benefits on the wage determination for the classification(s) of work actually performed, without regard to skill, except as provided in paragraph 4. of this section. Laborers or mechanics performing work in more than one classification may be compensated at the rate specified for each classification for the time actually worked therein: *Provided*, That the employer's payroll records accurately set forth the time spent in each classification in which work is performed. The wage determination (including any additional classifications and wage rates conformed under paragraph 1.c. of this section) and the Davis-Bacon poster (WH-1321) must be posted at all times by the contractor and its subcontractors at the site of the work in a prominent and accessible place where it can be easily seen by the workers.

b. *Frequently recurring classifications.* (1) In addition to wage and fringe benefit rates that have been determined to be prevailing under the procedures set forth in [29 CFR part 1](#), a wage determination may contain, pursuant to § 1.3(f), wage and fringe benefit rates for classifications of laborers and mechanics for which conformance requests are regularly submitted pursuant to paragraph 1.c. of this section, provided that:

(i) The work performed by the classification is not performed by a classification in the wage determination for which a prevailing wage rate has been determined;

(ii) The classification is used in the area by the construction industry; and

(iii) The wage rate for the classification bears a reasonable relationship to the prevailing wage rates contained in the wage determination.

(2) The Administrator will establish wage rates for such classifications in accordance with paragraph 1.c.(1)(iii) of this section. Work performed in such a classification must be paid at no less than the wage and fringe benefit rate listed on the wage determination for such classification.

c. *Conformance.* (1) The contracting officer must require that any class of laborers or mechanics, including helpers, which is not listed in the wage determination and which is to be employed under the contract be classified in conformance with the wage determination. Conformance of an additional classification and wage rate and fringe benefits is appropriate only when the following criteria have been met:

(i) The work to be performed by the classification requested is not performed by a classification in the wage determination; and

(ii) The classification is used in the area by the construction industry; and

(iii) The proposed wage rate, including any bona fide fringe benefits, bears a reasonable relationship to the wage rates contained in the wage determination.

(2) The conformance process may not be used to split, subdivide, or otherwise avoid application of classifications listed in the wage determination.

(3) If the contractor and the laborers and mechanics to be employed in the classification (if known), or their representatives, and the contracting officer agree on the classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits where appropriate), a report of the action taken will be sent by the contracting officer by email to DBAconformance@dol.gov. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will approve, modify, or disapprove every additional classification action within 30 days of receipt and so advise the contracting officer or will notify the contracting officer within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(4) In the event the contractor, the laborers or mechanics to be employed in the classification or their representatives, and the contracting officer do not agree on the proposed classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits, where appropriate), the contracting officer will, by email to DBAconformance@dol.gov, refer the questions, including the views of all interested parties and the recommendation of the contracting officer, to the Administrator for determination. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will issue a determination within 30 days of receipt and so advise the contracting officer or will notify the contracting officer within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(5) The contracting officer must promptly notify the contractor of the action taken by the Wage and Hour Division

under paragraphs 1.c.(3) and (4) of this section. The contractor must furnish a written copy of such determination to each affected worker or it must be posted as a part of the wage determination. The wage rate (including fringe benefits where appropriate) determined pursuant to paragraph 1.c.(3) or (4) of this section must be paid to all workers performing work in the classification under this contract from the first day on which work is performed in the classification.

d. *Fringe benefits not expressed as an hourly rate.* Whenever the minimum wage rate prescribed in the contract for a class of laborers or mechanics includes a fringe benefit which is not expressed as an hourly rate, the contractor may either pay the benefit as stated in the wage determination or may pay another bona fide fringe benefit or an hourly cash equivalent thereof.

e. *Unfunded plans.* If the contractor does not make payments to a trustee or other third person, the contractor may consider as part of the wages of any laborer or mechanic the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing bona fide fringe benefits under a plan or program, *Provided*, That the Secretary of Labor has found, upon the written request of the contractor, in accordance with the criteria set forth in § 5.28, that the applicable standards of the Davis-Bacon Act have been met. The Secretary of Labor may require the contractor to set aside in a separate account assets for the meeting of obligations under the plan or program.

f. *Interest.* In the event of a failure to pay all or part of the wages required by the contract, the contractor will be required to pay interest on any underpayment of wages.

2. Withholding (29 CFR 5.5)

a. *Withholding requirements.* The contracting agency may, upon its own action, or must, upon written request of an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, withhold or cause to be withheld from the contractor so much of the accrued payments or advances as may be considered necessary to satisfy the liabilities of the prime contractor or any subcontractor for the full amount of wages and monetary relief, including interest, required by the clauses set forth in this section for violations of this contract, or to satisfy any such liabilities required by any other Federal contract, or federally assisted contract subject to Davis-Bacon labor standards, that is held by the same prime contractor (as defined in § 5.2). The necessary funds may be withheld from the contractor under this contract, any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally assisted contract that is subject to Davis-Bacon labor standards requirements and is held by the same prime contractor, regardless of whether the other contract was awarded or assisted by the same agency, and such funds may be used to satisfy the contractor liability for which the funds were withheld. In the event of a contractor's failure to pay any laborer or mechanic, including any apprentice or helper working on the site of the work all or part of the wages required by the contract, or upon the contractor's failure to submit the required records as discussed in paragraph 3.d. of this section, the contracting agency may on its own initiative and after written notice to the contractor, take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds until such violations have ceased.

b. *Priority to withheld funds.* The Department has priority to funds withheld or to be withheld in accordance with paragraph

2.a. of this section or Section V, paragraph 3.a., or both, over claims to those funds by:

- (1) A contractor's surety(ies), including without limitation performance bond sureties and payment bond sureties;
- (2) A contracting agency for its procurement costs;
- (3) A trustee(s) (either a court-appointed trustee or a U.S. trustee, or both) in bankruptcy of a contractor, or a contractor's bankruptcy estate;
- (4) A contractor's assignee(s);
- (5) A contractor's successor(s); or
- (6) A claim asserted under the Prompt Payment Act, [31 U.S.C. 3901–3907](#).

3. Records and certified payrolls (29 CFR 5.5)

a. *Basic record requirements (1) Length of record retention.* All regular payrolls and other basic records must be maintained by the contractor and any subcontractor during the course of the work and preserved for all laborers and mechanics working at the site of the work (or otherwise working in construction or development of the project under a development statute) for a period of at least 3 years after all the work on the prime contract is completed.

(2) *Information required.* Such records must contain the name; Social Security number; last known address, telephone number, and email address of each such worker; each worker's correct classification(s) of work actually performed; hourly rates of wages paid (including rates of contributions or costs anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits or cash equivalents thereof of the types described in [40 U.S.C. 3141\(2\)\(B\)](#) of the Davis-Bacon Act); daily and weekly number of hours actually worked in total and on each covered contract; deductions made; and actual wages paid.

(3) *Additional records relating to fringe benefits.* Whenever the Secretary of Labor has found under paragraph 1.e. of this section that the wages of any laborer or mechanic include the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing benefits under a plan or program described in [40 U.S.C. 3141\(2\)\(B\)](#) of the Davis-Bacon Act, the contractor must maintain records which show that the commitment to provide such benefits is enforceable, that the plan or program is financially responsible, and that the plan or program has been communicated in writing to the laborers or mechanics affected, and records which show the costs anticipated or the actual cost incurred in providing such benefits.

(4) *Additional records relating to apprenticeship.* Contractors with apprentices working under approved programs must maintain written evidence of the registration of apprenticeship programs, the registration of the apprentices, and the ratios and wage rates prescribed in the applicable programs.

b. *Certified payroll requirements (1) Frequency and method of submission.* The contractor or subcontractor must submit weekly, for each week in which any DBA- or Related Acts-covered work is performed, certified payrolls to the contracting

agency. The prime contractor is responsible for the submission of all certified payrolls by all subcontractors. A contracting agency or prime contractor may permit or require contractors to submit certified payrolls through an electronic system, as long as the electronic system requires a legally valid electronic signature; the system allows the contractor, the contracting agency, and the Department of Labor to access the certified payrolls upon request for at least 3 years after the work on the prime contract has been completed; and the contracting agency or prime contractor permits other methods of submission in situations where the contractor is unable or limited in its ability to use or access the electronic system.

(2) *Information required.* The certified payrolls submitted must set out accurately and completely all of the information required to be maintained under paragraph 3.a.(2) of this section, except that full Social Security numbers and last known addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses must not be included on weekly transmittals. Instead, the certified payrolls need only include an individually identifying number for each worker (e.g., the last four digits of the worker's Social Security number). The required weekly certified payroll information may be submitted using Optional Form WH-347 or in any other format desired. Optional Form WH-347 is available for this purpose from the Wage and Hour Division website at <https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/WHD/legacy/files/wh347.pdf> or its successor website. It is not a violation of this section for a prime contractor to require a subcontractor to provide full Social Security numbers and last known addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses to the prime contractor for its own records, without weekly submission by the subcontractor to the contracting agency.

(3) *Statement of Compliance.* Each certified payroll submitted must be accompanied by a "Statement of Compliance," signed by the contractor or subcontractor, or the contractor's or subcontractor's agent who pays or supervises the payment of the persons working on the contract, and must certify the following:

(i) That the certified payroll for the payroll period contains the information required to be provided under paragraph 3.b. of this section, the appropriate information and basic records are being maintained under paragraph 3.a. of this section, and such information and records are correct and complete;

(ii) That each laborer or mechanic (including each helper and apprentice) working on the contract during the payroll period has been paid the full weekly wages earned, without rebate, either directly or indirectly, and that no deductions have been made either directly or indirectly from the full wages earned, other than permissible deductions as set forth in [29 CFR part 3](#); and

(iii) That each laborer or mechanic has been paid not less than the applicable wage rates and fringe benefits or cash equivalents for the classification(s) of work actually performed, as specified in the applicable wage determination incorporated into the contract.

(4) *Use of Optional Form WH-347.* The weekly submission of a properly executed certification set forth on the reverse side of Optional Form WH-347 will satisfy the requirement for submission of the "Statement of Compliance" required by paragraph 3.b.(3) of this section.

(5) *Signature.* The signature by the contractor, subcontractor, or the contractor's or subcontractor's agent must be an original handwritten signature or a legally valid electronic signature.

(6) *Falsification.* The falsification of any of the above certifications may subject the contractor or subcontractor to civil or criminal prosecution under [18 U.S.C. 1001](#) and [31 U.S.C. 3729](#).

(7) *Length of certified payroll retention.* The contractor or subcontractor must preserve all certified payrolls during the course of the work and for a period of 3 years after all the work on the prime contract is completed.

c. *Contracts, subcontracts, and related documents.* The contractor or subcontractor must maintain this contract or subcontract and related documents including, without limitation, bids, proposals, amendments, modifications, and extensions. The contractor or subcontractor must preserve these contracts, subcontracts, and related documents during the course of the work and for a period of 3 years after all the work on the prime contract is completed.

d. *Required disclosures and access (1) Required record disclosures and access to workers.* The contractor or subcontractor must make the records required under paragraphs 3.a. through 3.c. of this section, and any other documents that the contracting agency, the State DOT, the FHWA, or the Department of Labor deems necessary to determine compliance with the labor standards provisions of any of the applicable statutes referenced by § 5.1, available for inspection, copying, or transcription by authorized representatives of the contracting agency, the State DOT, the FHWA, or the Department of Labor, and must permit such representatives to interview workers during working hours on the job.

(2) *Sanctions for non-compliance with records and worker access requirements.* If the contractor or subcontractor fails to submit the required records or to make them available, or refuses to permit worker interviews during working hours on the job, the Federal agency may, after written notice to the contractor, sponsor, applicant, owner, or other entity, as the case may be, that maintains such records or that employs such workers, take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds. Furthermore, failure to submit the required records upon request or to make such records available, or to permit worker interviews during working hours on the job, may be grounds for debarment action pursuant to § 5.12. In addition, any contractor or other person that fails to submit the required records or make those records available to WHD within the time WHD requests that the records be produced will be precluded from introducing as evidence in an administrative proceeding under [29 CFR part 6](#) any of the required records that were not provided or made available to WHD. WHD will take into consideration a reasonable request from the contractor or person for an extension of the time for submission of records. WHD will determine the reasonableness of the request and may consider, among other things, the location of the records and the volume of production.

(3) *Required information disclosures.* Contractors and subcontractors must maintain the full Social Security number and last known address, telephone number, and email address

of each covered worker, and must provide them upon request to the contracting agency, the State DOT, the FHWA, the contractor, or the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor for purposes of an investigation or other compliance action.

4. Apprentices and equal employment opportunity (29 CFR 5.5)

a. *Apprentices (1) Rate of pay.* Apprentices will be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work they perform when they are employed pursuant to and individually registered in a bona fide apprenticeship program registered with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship (OA), or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the OA. A person who is not individually registered in the program, but who has been certified by the OA or a State Apprenticeship Agency (where appropriate) to be eligible for probationary employment as an apprentice, will be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work they perform in the first 90 days of probationary employment as an apprentice in such a program. In the event the OA or a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the OA withdraws approval of an apprenticeship program, the contractor will no longer be permitted to use apprentices at less than the applicable predetermined rate for the work performed until an acceptable program is approved.

(2) *Fringe benefits.* Apprentices must be paid fringe benefits in accordance with the provisions of the apprenticeship program. If the apprenticeship program does not specify fringe benefits, apprentices must be paid the full amount of fringe benefits listed on the wage determination for the applicable classification. If the Administrator determines that a different practice prevails for the applicable apprentice classification, fringe benefits must be paid in accordance with that determination.

(3) *Apprenticeship ratio.* The allowable ratio of apprentices to journeyworkers on the job site in any craft classification must not be greater than the ratio permitted to the contractor as to the entire work force under the registered program or the ratio applicable to the locality of the project pursuant to paragraph 4.a.(4) of this section. Any worker listed on a payroll at an apprentice wage rate, who is not registered or otherwise employed as stated in paragraph 4.a.(1) of this section, must be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed. In addition, any apprentice performing work on the job site in excess of the ratio permitted under this section must be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the work actually performed.

(4) *Reciprocity of ratios and wage rates.* Where a contractor is performing construction on a project in a locality other than the locality in which its program is registered, the ratios and wage rates (expressed in percentages of the journeyworker's hourly rate) applicable within the locality in which the construction is being performed must be observed. If there is no applicable ratio or wage rate for the locality of the project, the ratio and wage rate specified in the contractor's registered program must be observed.

b. *Equal employment opportunity.* The use of apprentices and journeyworkers under this part must be in conformity with

the equal employment opportunity requirements of Executive Order 11246, as amended, and [29 CFR part 30](#).

c. Apprentices and Trainees (programs of the U.S. DOT).

Apprentices and trainees working under apprenticeship and skill training programs which have been certified by the Secretary of Transportation as promoting EEO in connection with Federal-aid highway construction programs are not subject to the requirements of paragraph 4 of this Section IV. 23 CFR 230.111(e)(2). The straight time hourly wage rates for apprentices and trainees under such programs will be established by the particular programs. The ratio of apprentices and trainees to journeyworkers shall not be greater than permitted by the terms of the particular program.

5. Compliance with Copeland Act requirements. The contractor shall comply with the requirements of 29 CFR part 3, which are incorporated by reference in this contract as provided in 29 CFR 5.5.

6. Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor must insert FHWA-1273 in any subcontracts, along with the applicable wage determination(s) and such other clauses or contract modifications as the contracting agency may by appropriate instructions require, and a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses and wage determination(s) in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor is responsible for the compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with all the contract clauses in this section. In the event of any violations of these clauses, the prime contractor and any subcontractor(s) responsible will be liable for any unpaid wages and monetary relief, including interest from the date of the underpayment or loss, due to any workers of lower-tier subcontractors, and may be subject to debarment, as appropriate. 29 CFR 5.5.

7. Contract termination: debarment. A breach of the contract clauses in 29 CFR 5.5 may be grounds for termination of the contract, and for debarment as a contractor and a subcontractor as provided in 29 CFR 5.12.

8. Compliance with Davis-Bacon and Related Act requirements. All rulings and interpretations of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts contained in 29 CFR parts 1, 3, and 5 are herein incorporated by reference in this contract as provided in 29 CFR 5.5.

9. Disputes concerning labor standards. As provided in 29 CFR 5.5, disputes arising out of the labor standards provisions of this contract shall not be subject to the general disputes clause of this contract. Such disputes shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures of the Department of Labor set forth in 29 CFR parts 5, 6, and 7. Disputes within the meaning of this clause include disputes between the contractor (or any of its subcontractors) and the contracting agency, the U.S. Department of Labor, or the employees or their representatives.

10. Certification of eligibility. a. By entering into this contract, the contractor certifies that neither it nor any person or firm who has an interest in the contractor's firm is a person or firm ineligible to be awarded Government contracts by virtue of [40 U.S.C. 3144\(b\)](#) or § 5.12(a).

b. No part of this contract shall be subcontracted to any person or firm ineligible for award of a Government contract by virtue of [40 U.S.C. 3144\(b\)](#) or § 5.12(a).

c. The penalty for making false statements is prescribed in the U.S. Code, Title 18 Crimes and Criminal Procedure, [18 U.S.C. 1001](#).

11. Anti-retaliation. It is unlawful for any person to discharge, demote, intimidate, threaten, restrain, coerce, blacklist, harass, or in any other manner discriminate against, or to cause any person to discharge, demote, intimidate, threaten, restrain, coerce, blacklist, harass, or in any other manner discriminate against, any worker or job applicant for:

a. Notifying any contractor of any conduct which the worker reasonably believes constitutes a violation of the DBA, Related Acts, this part, or [29 CFR part 1](#) or [3](#);

b. Filing any complaint, initiating or causing to be initiated any proceeding, or otherwise asserting or seeking to assert on behalf of themselves or others any right or protection under the DBA, Related Acts, this part, or [29 CFR part 1](#) or [3](#);

c. Cooperating in any investigation or other compliance action, or testifying in any proceeding under the DBA, Related Acts, this part, or [29 CFR part 1](#) or [3](#); or

d. Informing any other person about their rights under the DBA, Related Acts, this part, or [29 CFR part 1](#) or [3](#).

V. CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND SAFETY STANDARDS ACT

Pursuant to 29 CFR 5.5(b), the following clauses apply to any Federal-aid construction contract in an amount in excess of \$100,000 and subject to the overtime provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. These clauses shall be inserted in addition to the clauses required by 29 CFR 5.5(a) or 29 CFR 4.6. As used in this paragraph, the terms laborers and mechanics include watchpersons and guards.

1. Overtime requirements. No contractor or subcontractor contracting for any part of the contract work which may require or involve the employment of laborers or mechanics shall require or permit any such laborer or mechanic in any workweek in which he or she is employed on such work to work in excess of forty hours in such workweek unless such laborer or mechanic receives compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty hours in such workweek. 29 CFR 5.5.

2. Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages. In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in paragraph 1. of this section the contractor and any subcontractor responsible therefor shall be liable for the unpaid wages and interest from the date of the underpayment. In addition, such contractor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States (in the case of work done under contract for the District of Columbia or a territory, to such District or to such territory), for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or

mechanic, including watchpersons and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in paragraph 1. of this section, in the sum currently provided in 29 CFR 5.5(b)(2)* for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in paragraph 1. of this section.

* \$31 as of January 15, 2023 (See 88 FR 88 FR 2210) as may be adjusted annually by the Department of Labor, pursuant to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990.

3. Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages

a. *Withholding process.* The FHWA or the contracting agency may, upon its own action, or must, upon written request of an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, withhold or cause to be withheld from the contractor so much of the accrued payments or advances as may be considered necessary to satisfy the liabilities of the prime contractor or any subcontractor for any unpaid wages; monetary relief, including interest; and liquidated damages required by the clauses set forth in this section on this contract, any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act that is held by the same prime contractor (as defined in § 5.2). The necessary funds may be withheld from the contractor under this contract, any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally assisted contract that is subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act and is held by the same prime contractor, regardless of whether the other contract was awarded or assisted by the same agency, and such funds may be used to satisfy the contractor liability for which the funds were withheld.

b. *Priority to withheld funds.* The Department has priority to funds withheld or to be withheld in accordance with Section IV paragraph 2.a. or paragraph 3.a. of this section, or both, over claims to those funds by:

- (1) A contractor's surety(ies), including without limitation performance bond sureties and payment bond sureties;
- (2) A contracting agency for its procurement costs;
- (3) A trustee(s) (either a court-appointed trustee or a U.S. trustee, or both) in bankruptcy of a contractor, or a contractor's bankruptcy estate;
- (4) A contractor's assignee(s);
- (5) A contractor's successor(s); or
- (6) A claim asserted under the Prompt Payment Act, [31 U.S.C. 3901](#)–3907.

4. **Subcontracts.** The contractor or subcontractor must insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraphs 1. through 5. of this section and a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor is responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in paragraphs 1. through 5. In the

event of any violations of these clauses, the prime contractor and any subcontractor(s) responsible will be liable for any unpaid wages and monetary relief, including interest from the date of the underpayment or loss, due to any workers of lower-tier subcontractors, and associated liquidated damages and may be subject to debarment, as appropriate.

5. **Anti-retaliation.** It is unlawful for any person to discharge, demote, intimidate, threaten, restrain, coerce, blacklist, harass, or in any other manner discriminate against, or to cause any person to discharge, demote, intimidate, threaten, restrain, coerce, blacklist, harass, or in any other manner discriminate against, any worker or job applicant for:

a. Notifying any contractor of any conduct which the worker reasonably believes constitutes a violation of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (CWHSSA) or its implementing regulations in this part;

b. Filing any complaint, initiating or causing to be initiated any proceeding, or otherwise asserting or seeking to assert on behalf of themselves or others any right or protection under CWHSSA or this part;

c. Cooperating in any investigation or other compliance action, or testifying in any proceeding under CWHSSA or this part; or

d. Informing any other person about their rights under CWHSSA or this part.

VI. SUBLETTING OR ASSIGNING THE CONTRACT

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts on the National Highway System pursuant to 23 CFR 635.116.

1. The contractor shall perform with its own organization contract work amounting to not less than 30 percent (or a greater percentage if specified elsewhere in the contract) of the total original contract price, excluding any specialty items designated by the contracting agency. Specialty items may be performed by subcontract and the amount of any such specialty items performed may be deducted from the total original contract price before computing the amount of work required to be performed by the contractor's own organization (23 CFR 635.116).

a. The term "perform work with its own organization" in paragraph 1 of Section VI refers to workers employed or leased by the prime contractor, and equipment owned or rented by the prime contractor, with or without operators. Such term does not include employees or equipment of a subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor, agents of the prime contractor, or any other assignees. The term may include payments for the costs of hiring leased employees from an employee leasing firm meeting all relevant Federal and State regulatory requirements. Leased employees may only be included in this term if the prime contractor meets all of the following conditions: (based on longstanding interpretation)

- (1) the prime contractor maintains control over the supervision of the day-to-day activities of the leased employees;
- (2) the prime contractor remains responsible for the quality of the work of the leased employees;

- (3) the prime contractor retains all power to accept or exclude individual employees from work on the project; and
- (4) the prime contractor remains ultimately responsible for the payment of predetermined minimum wages, the submission of payrolls, statements of compliance and all other Federal regulatory requirements.

b. "Specialty Items" shall be construed to be limited to work that requires highly specialized knowledge, abilities, or equipment not ordinarily available in the type of contracting organizations qualified and expected to bid or propose on the contract as a whole and in general are to be limited to minor components of the overall contract. 23 CFR 635.102.

2. Pursuant to 23 CFR 635.116(a), the contract amount upon which the requirements set forth in paragraph (1) of Section VI is computed includes the cost of material and manufactured products which are to be purchased or produced by the contractor under the contract provisions.

3. Pursuant to 23 CFR 635.116(c), the contractor shall furnish (a) a competent superintendent or supervisor who is employed by the firm, has full authority to direct performance of the work in accordance with the contract requirements, and is in charge of all construction operations (regardless of who performs the work) and (b) such other of its own organizational resources (supervision, management, and engineering services) as the contracting officer determines is necessary to assure the performance of the contract.

4. No portion of the contract shall be sublet, assigned or otherwise disposed of except with the written consent of the contracting officer, or authorized representative, and such consent when given shall not be construed to relieve the contractor of any responsibility for the fulfillment of the contract. Written consent will be given only after the contracting agency has assured that each subcontract is evidenced in writing and that it contains all pertinent provisions and requirements of the prime contract. (based on long-standing interpretation of 23 CFR 635.116).

5. The 30-percent self-performance requirement of paragraph (1) is not applicable to design-build contracts; however, contracting agencies may establish their own self-performance requirements. 23 CFR 635.116(d).

VII. SAFETY: ACCIDENT PREVENTION

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related subcontracts.

1. In the performance of this contract the contractor shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws governing safety, health, and sanitation (23 CFR Part 635). The contractor shall provide all safeguards, safety devices and protective equipment and take any other needed actions as it determines, or as the contracting officer may determine, to be reasonably necessary to protect the life and health of employees on the job and the safety of the public and to protect property in connection with the performance of the work covered by the contract. 23 CFR 635.108.

2. It is a condition of this contract, and shall be made a condition of each subcontract, which the contractor enters into pursuant to this contract, that the contractor and any subcontractor shall not permit any employee, in performance of the contract, to work in surroundings or under conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous to his/her health or safety, as determined under construction safety and

health standards (29 CFR Part 1926) promulgated by the Secretary of Labor, in accordance with Section 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3704). 29 CFR 1926.10.

3. Pursuant to 29 CFR 1926.3, it is a condition of this contract that the Secretary of Labor or authorized representative thereof, shall have right of entry to any site of contract performance to inspect or investigate the matter of compliance with the construction safety and health standards and to carry out the duties of the Secretary under Section 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3704).

VIII. FALSE STATEMENTS CONCERNING HIGHWAY PROJECTS

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related subcontracts.

In order to assure high quality and durable construction in conformity with approved plans and specifications and a high degree of reliability on statements and representations made by engineers, contractors, suppliers, and workers on Federal-aid highway projects, it is essential that all persons concerned with the project perform their functions as carefully, thoroughly, and honestly as possible. Willful falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation with respect to any facts related to the project is a violation of Federal law. To prevent any misunderstanding regarding the seriousness of these and similar acts, Form FHWA-1022 shall be posted on each Federal-aid highway project (23 CFR Part 635) in one or more places where it is readily available to all persons concerned with the project:

18 U.S.C. 1020 reads as follows:

"Whoever, being an officer, agent, or employee of the United States, or of any State or Territory, or whoever, whether a person, association, firm, or corporation, knowingly makes any false statement, false representation, or false report as to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of the material used or to be used, or the quantity or quality of the work performed or to be performed, or the cost thereof in connection with the submission of plans, maps, specifications, contracts, or costs of construction on any highway or related project submitted for approval to the Secretary of Transportation; or

Whoever knowingly makes any false statement, false representation, false report or false claim with respect to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of any work performed or to be performed, or materials furnished or to be furnished, in connection with the construction of any highway or related project approved by the Secretary of Transportation; or

Whoever knowingly makes any false statement or false representation as to material fact in any statement, certificate, or report submitted pursuant to provisions of the Federal-aid Roads Act approved July 11, 1916, (39 Stat. 355), as amended and supplemented;

Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years or both."

IX. IMPLEMENTATION OF CLEAN AIR ACT AND FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT (42 U.S.C. 7606; 2 CFR 200.88; EO 11738)

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts in excess of \$150,000 and to all related subcontracts. 48 CFR 2.101; 2 CFR 200.327.

By submission of this bid/proposal or the execution of this contract or subcontract, as appropriate, the bidder, proposer, Federal-aid construction contractor, subcontractor, supplier, or vendor agrees to 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 must be reported to the Federal Highway Administration and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency. 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix II.

The contractor agrees to include or cause to be included the requirements of this Section in every subcontract, and further agrees to take such action as the contracting agency may direct as a means of enforcing such requirements. 2 CFR 200.327.

X. CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts, design-build contracts, subcontracts, lower-tier subcontracts, purchase orders, lease agreements, consultant contracts or any other covered transaction requiring FHWA approval or that is estimated to cost \$25,000 or more – as defined in 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200. 2 CFR 180.220 and 1200.220.

1. Instructions for Certification – First Tier Participants:

- a. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective first tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
- b. The inability of a person to provide the certification set out below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective first tier participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective first tier participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such a person from participation in this transaction. 2 CFR 180.320.
- c. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the contracting agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the contracting agency may terminate this transaction for cause of default. 2 CFR 180.325.
- d. The prospective first tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the contracting agency to whom this proposal is submitted if any time the prospective first tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances. 2 CFR 180.345 and 180.350.

e. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "participant," "person," "principal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, are defined in 2 CFR Parts 180, Subpart I, 180.900-180.1020, and 1200. "First Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction between a recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds and a participant (such as the prime or general contract). "Lower Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction under a First Tier Covered Transaction (such as subcontracts). "First Tier Participant" refers to the participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds (such as the prime or general contractor). "Lower Tier Participant" refers any participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a First Tier Participant or other Lower Tier Participants (such as subcontractors and suppliers).

f. The prospective first tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction. 2 CFR 180.330.

g. The prospective first tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions," provided by the department or contracting agency, entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions exceeding the \$25,000 threshold. 2 CFR 180.220 and 180.300.

h. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. 2 CFR 180.300; 180.320, and 180.325. A participant is responsible for ensuring that its principals are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in covered transactions. 2 CFR 180.335. To verify the eligibility of its principals, as well as the eligibility of any lower tier prospective participants, each participant may, but is not required to, check the System for Award Management website (<https://www.sam.gov/>). 2 CFR 180.300, 180.320, and 180.325.

i. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require the establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of the prospective participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

j. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph (f) of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default. 2 CFR 180.325.

2. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion – First Tier Participants:

a. The prospective first tier participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:

(1) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in covered transactions by any Federal department or agency, 2 CFR 180.335;.

(2) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property, 2 CFR 180.800;

(3) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(2) of this certification, 2 CFR 180.700 and 180.800; and

(4) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default. 2 CFR 180.335(d).

(5) Are not a corporation that has been convicted of a felony violation under any Federal law within the two-year period preceding this proposal (USDOT Order 4200.6 implementing appropriations act requirements); and

(6) Are not a corporation with 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 (USDOT Order 4200.6 implementing appropriations act requirements).

b. Where the prospective participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant should attach an explanation to this proposal. 2 CFR 180.335 and 180.340.

3. Instructions for Certification - Lower Tier Participants:

(Applicable to all subcontracts, purchase orders, and other lower tier transactions requiring prior FHWA approval or estimated to cost \$25,000 or more - 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200). 2 CFR 180.220 and 1200.220.

a. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

b. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department, or agency with which

this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

c. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous by reason of changed circumstances. 2 CFR 180.365.

d. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "participant," "person," "principal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, are defined in 2 CFR Parts 180, Subpart I, 180.900 – 180.1020, and 1200. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations. "First Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction between a recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds and a participant (such as the prime or general contract). "Lower Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction under a First Tier Covered Transaction (such as subcontracts). "First Tier Participant" refers to the participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds (such as the prime or general contractor). "Lower Tier Participant" refers any participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a First Tier Participant or other Lower Tier Participants (such as subcontractors and suppliers).

e. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated. 2 CFR 1200.220 and 1200.332.

f. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions exceeding the \$25,000 threshold. 2 CFR 180.220 and 1200.220.

g. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant is responsible for ensuring that its principals are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in covered transactions. To verify the eligibility of its principals, as well as the eligibility of any lower tier prospective participants, each participant may, but is not required to, check the System for Award Management website (<https://www.sam.gov>), which is compiled by the General Services Administration. 2 CFR 180.300, 180.320, 180.330, and 180.335.

h. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

i. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph e of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily

excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment. 2 CFR 180.325.

4. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion--Lower Tier Participants:

a. The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals:

(1) is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in covered transactions by any Federal department or agency, 2 CFR 180.355;

(2) is a corporation that has been convicted of a felony violation under any Federal law within the two-year period preceding this proposal (USDOT Order 4200.6 implementing appropriations act requirements); and

(3) is a corporation with 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. (USDOT Order 4200.6 implementing appropriations act requirements)

b. Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant should attach an explanation to this proposal.

XI. CERTIFICATION REGARDING USE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FOR LOBBYING

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts and to all related subcontracts which exceed \$100,000. 49 CFR Part 20, App. A.

1. The prospective participant certifies, by signing and submitting this bid or proposal, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

a. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal 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.

b. 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 Federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or

cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

2. 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 31 U.S.C. 1352. 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 such failure.

3. The prospective participant also agrees by submitting its bid or proposal that the participant shall require that the language of this certification be included in all lower tier subcontracts, which exceed \$100,000 and that all such recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

XII. USE OF UNITED STATES-FLAG VESSELS:

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts, design-build contracts, subcontracts, lower-tier subcontracts, purchase orders, lease agreements, or any other covered transaction. 46 CFR Part 381.

This requirement applies to material or equipment that is acquired for a specific Federal-aid highway project. 46 CFR 381.7. It is not applicable to goods or materials that come into inventories independent of an FHWA funded-contract.

When oceanic shipments (or shipments across the Great Lakes) are necessary for materials or equipment acquired for a specific Federal-aid construction project, the bidder, proposer, contractor, subcontractor, or vendor agrees:

1. To utilize privately owned United States-flag commercial vessels to ship at least 50 percent of the gross tonnage (computed separately for dry bulk carriers, dry cargo liners, and tankers) involved, whenever shipping any equipment, material, or commodities pursuant to this contract, to the extent such vessels are available at fair and reasonable rates for United States-flag commercial vessels. 46 CFR 381.7.

2. To furnish within 20 days following the date of loading for shipments originating within the United States or within 30 working days following the date of loading for shipments originating outside the United States, a legible copy of a rated, 'on-board' commercial ocean bill-of-lading in English for each shipment of cargo described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section to both the Contracting Officer (through the prime contractor in the case of subcontractor bills-of-lading) and to the Office of Cargo and Commercial Sealift (MAR-620), Maritime Administration, Washington, DC 20590. (MARAD requires copies of the ocean carrier's (master) bills of lading, certified onboard, dated, with rates and charges. These bills of lading may contain business sensitive information and therefore may be submitted directly to MARAD by the Ocean Transportation Intermediary on behalf of the contractor). 46 CFR 381.7.

**ATTACHMENT A - EMPLOYMENT AND MATERIALS
PREFERENCE FOR APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT
HIGHWAY SYSTEM OR APPALACHIAN LOCAL ACCESS
ROAD CONTRACTS (23 CFR 633, Subpart B, Appendix B)**

This provision is applicable to all Federal-aid projects funded under the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965.

1. During the performance of this contract, the contractor undertaking to do work which is, or reasonably may be, done as on-site work, shall give preference to qualified persons who regularly reside in the labor area as designated by the DOL wherein the contract work is situated, or the subregion, or the Appalachian counties of the State wherein the contract work is situated, except:

a. To the extent that qualified persons regularly residing in the area are not available.

b. For the reasonable needs of the contractor to employ supervisory or specially experienced personnel necessary to assure an efficient execution of the contract work.

c. For the obligation of the contractor to offer employment to present or former employees as the result of a lawful collective bargaining contract, provided that the number of nonresident persons employed under this subparagraph (1c) shall not exceed 20 percent of the total number of employees employed by the contractor on the contract work, except as provided in subparagraph (4) below.

2. The contractor shall place a job order with the State Employment Service indicating (a) the classifications of the laborers, mechanics and other employees required to perform the contract work, (b) the number of employees required in each classification, (c) the date on which the participant estimates such employees will be required, and (d) any other pertinent information required by the State Employment Service to complete the job order form. The job order may be placed with the State Employment Service in writing or by telephone. If during the course of the contract work, the information submitted by the contractor in the original job order is substantially modified, the participant shall promptly notify the State Employment Service.

3. The contractor shall give full consideration to all qualified job applicants referred to him by the State Employment Service. The contractor is not required to grant employment to any job applicants who, in his opinion, are not qualified to perform the classification of work required.

4. If, within one week following the placing of a job order by the contractor with the State Employment Service, the State Employment Service is unable to refer any qualified job applicants to the contractor, or less than the number requested, the State Employment Service will forward a certificate to the contractor indicating the unavailability of applicants. Such certificate shall be made a part of the contractor's permanent project records. Upon receipt of this certificate, the contractor may employ persons who do not normally reside in the labor area to fill positions covered by the certificate, notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (1c) above.

5. The provisions of 23 CFR 633.207(e) allow the contracting agency to provide a contractual preference for the use of mineral resource materials native to the Appalachian region.

6. The contractor shall include the provisions of Sections 1 through 4 of this Attachment A in every subcontract for work which is, or reasonably may be, done as on-site work.



General Terms and Conditions for Contracts for Services

VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION

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The following terms and conditions are incorporated into the contract in addition to those contained in Attachment C, the Vermont Standard Provisions for Contracts and Grants, except where noted that the terms herein are substitutions for those contained in the Vermont Standard Provisions for Contracts and Grants.

A. INSURANCE

1. Basic Insurance Requirements for All Contracts for Services:

a. Prime Contractor:

For any work, a prime contractor must at minimum have and maintain throughout the life of the contract insurance coverage in types and amounts meeting or exceeding the State's standard insurance requirements specified in the State's Attachment C in effect at inception of the contract.

When a contract is amended, if a new Attachment C was adopted since the execution of the original contract, then the new Attachment C insurance requirements will apply as of and after amendment.

Certain types and settings of work require additional types and amounts of insurance coverage, beyond Attachment C requirements, as specified at Sections 2.e. and 3 below, which the Contractor must obtain and maintain throughout the life of the contract.

b. Subcontractors:

Subcontractors are required to have insurance coverage in types and amounts meeting or exceeding the prime contractor's insurance obligations to the State, including any additional types and amounts of insurance coverage for certain types and settings of work as specified at Sections 2.e and 3 below.

As to subcontractors, a prime contractor is obligated, for each of its subcontractors, to verify and maintain evidence of verification that each subcontractor carries all VTrans-required insurances. Subcontractors must do the same for their sub-subcontractors.

2. Workers Compensation Verification Compliance (*applies to both prime and subcontractors*):

a. In accordance with Act 54 of 2009,¹ and as subsequently amended, for total project costs over \$250,000, all contractors and subcontractors must have, when applicable:

A payroll process by which during every pay period the contractor collects from the subcontractors or independent contractors a list of all workers who were on the jobsite during the pay period, the work performed by those workers on the jobsite,

¹ See: Act 54 of 2009, § 32; Act 142 of 2010, § 17; Act 50 of 2011, § 6, as available at: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/>

and a daily census of the jobsite. This information, including confirmation that contractors, subcontractors, and independent contractors have the appropriate workers' compensation coverage for all workers at the job site, and the same information for the subcontractors regarding their subcontractors shall also be provided to the Department of Labor and to the [Department of Financial Regulation], upon request, and shall be available to the public.

- b. Contractors and subcontractors must preserve and retain the above discussed documentation seven (7) years, per section JJ of this document.
- c. VTrans has the right to audit contractors' and subcontractors' compliance with the above; however, contractors and subcontractors should be in good standing at all times with this monitoring obligation, regardless of whether or how often VTrans conducts such audits.
- d. VTrans reserves the right to require contractors and subcontractors to submit periodic attestations of compliance with these workers compensation verification requirements.
- e. Contract-specific risk and insurance:
 - i. Where the subject matter of the contract gives rise to specific insurance obligations under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Act ("FMCSA") <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov>, which applies to both certain transport of passengers and certain materials of environmental concern, contractors and subcontractors must comply with the FMCSA insurance requirements.
 - ii. Environmental and pollution insurance coverage may also be required when the State, in its sole discretion, determines it to be required under the scope and subject matter of a contract.
 - iii. VTrans reserves the right to require other additional types or amounts of insurance for specific contracts when, in VTrans' sole discretion, it is prudent to do so in relation to the details of a particular contract.

3. Additional Types and Amounts of Insurance for Certain Subjects and Settings of Contracts for Services:

One or more types and amounts of the insurance coverages specified below will apply when the subject or setting of work falls within the scope(s) specified and described below:

a. For Design/Engineering Professional Services for a Specific Contracts:

- i. Where Contractor's work under the contract provides in whole or part design/engineering professional services for one or more specific projects, then before commencing work and throughout the term of this contract, contractor must provide Professional Liability insurance for all relevant services performed

under this Agreement, with minimum coverage of no less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per claim and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) policy aggregate.

- ii. The required Professional Liability insurance coverage must be maintained continuously for five (5) years after the final acceptance of any construction that may be developed as a result of such design work, even if the construction is performed under a separate contract or project.
- iii. Separate from task or project-specific requirements to maintain coverage, if contractor for any reason ceases operations, the contractor shall be responsible to obtain and maintain professional liability coverage that extends for not less than five (5) years after such cessation of operations.

4. Valuable Papers and Records Insurance:

Where contractor's work under the contract will in whole or part consist of providing the State with designs, plans, drawings, analyses, studies, reports, data, or other professional work product, contractor shall carry Valuable Papers and Records Insurance in a form and amount sufficient to ensure the restoration or replacement of any plans, drawings, field notes, or other information or data relating to the work, whether supplied by the State or developed by the contractor, subcontractor, worker, or agent, in the event of loss, impairment, or destruction. Such coverage shall remain in force until the final work product as well as all related materials have been delivered by the contractor to, and accepted by, the State. Valuable Papers and Records Insurance shall provide coverage on an "individual occurrence" basis with limits in the amount of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

5. Railroad Protective Liability:

- a. When any portion of contractor's or a subcontractor's work under the contract involves work on, over, or under the right-of-way of any railroad, the contractor shall provide and file with the Agency, with respect to the operations that it or its subcontractor perform under the contract, Railroad Protective Liability Insurance for and on behalf of the railroad as named insured, with the State and its officers and employees specified as additional insured.
- b. If Railroad Protective Liability insurance is required, the contractor shall obtain and submit the minimum coverage indicated above to the State prior to the commencement of rail-related work and activities, and shall maintain coverage until contractor notifies the State and the railroad that contractor has completed and ceased work on, over, or under the railroad right-of-way, and both State and railroad have concurred that contractor may terminate the railroad protective liability. Railroad coverage limits must meet or exceed:

- i. Not less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for all damages arising out of any one accident or occurrence, in connection with bodily injury or death and injury to or destruction of property; and
- ii. Subject to that limit per accident, a total (or aggregate) limit of six million dollars (\$6,000,000) for all injuries to persons or property during the policy period.

The Contractor shall file the original and one (1) copy of the Railroad Protective Liability policy with the State, who will provide the original to the appropriate railroad.

6. Information Technology Contracts:

- a. For contracts determined by the State to fall within the category of “information technology activity” as defined in statute at 3 V.S.A. §3301(b)(2), additional types and amounts of insurance will typically be required, and may change over time, either as to general standards or with regard to the subject matter or potential risk exposure in a specific IT transaction.
- b. As of the issuance of these General Terms and Conditions, the required IT insurance types include: Technology Professional Liability insurance with third-party coverage, and, if contractor has access to, processes, handles, collects, transmits, stores, or otherwise deals with State Data, Contractor shall maintain first party Breach Notification Coverage, which shall include the State of Vermont and its officers and employees as additional insureds.
- c. Information technology contracts will also generally require their own set of additional specific terms and conditions, derived from the then-applicable templates issued by the Agency of Digital Services and the Office of Purchasing and Contracting within the Department of Buildings and General Services.

B. INDEMNIFICATION

1. Basic Indemnification Requirements (any contract for services):

a. Prime Contractor:

Except as specifically provided below, a prime contractor must act in an independent capacity and defend and indemnify the State in accordance with the State’s then-current Attachment C

b. Subcontractors:

Except as specifically provided below, the prime contractor must include requirements as to independence, defense, and indemnity, matching Attachment C and identical to those in the prime contractor’s contract with State, in the prime contractor’s contracts with subcontractors. Subcontractors must do the same for their sub-subcontractors.

2. For Design/Engineering Professional Services for a Specific Projects:

a. Prime Contractor:

Where a contract is for design/engineering professional services for a specific project, or, when a contract contains a mixed scope of work that in part consists of tasks of such professional design services for a specific project or projects, then as to, and only as to, those specific professional design services, the provisions of Standard Attachment C on the subjects of “Defense and Indemnity” (numbered item 7 in the December 2017 version of Attachment C, and any equivalent provisions, however numbered, in any subsequently-issued Attachment C) are stricken in their entirety and replaced in full by the following:

The Party shall defend the State and its officers and employees against all claims or suits arising in whole or in part from any act or omission of the Party or of any agent of the Party in providing “non-professional services” under this Agreement. As used herein, “non-professional services” means services provided under this Agreement other than professional services relating to the design and/or engineering of all or part of the project. The State shall notify the Party in the event of any such claim or suit covered by this Subsection, and the Party shall immediately retain counsel and otherwise provide a complete defense against the entire claim or suit arising out of “non-professional services” provided under this Agreement.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in Subsection C above, the Party shall not be obligated to defend the State and its officers and employees against claims or suits arising from the Party’s provision of engineering design services or architectural design services. However, the Party’s obligation to defend the State and its officers and employees against all claims or suits arising out of “non-professional services” provided under this Agreement as provided in Subsection C above and the Party’s other obligations under Attachment C shall remain in effect.

The Party agrees to indemnify and hold the State, its officers and employees, harmless from and against monetary damages to third parties, together with reasonable costs, expenses and attorney’s fees incurred and paid by the State in defending claims by third parties (collectively “Damages”) but only in the event and to the extent such Damages are incurred and paid by the State as the proximate cause of negligent acts, errors or omissions (“Professional Negligence”) by the Party, its employees, agents, consultants and subcontractors, in providing the professional services required under this Agreement.

As used herein, “Professional Negligence” or “negligent acts, errors or omissions” means a failure by the Party to exercise that degree of skill and care ordinarily possessed by a reasonably prudent design professional practicing in the same or similar locality providing such services under like or similar conditions and circumstances.

The Party shall indemnify the State and its officers and employees in the event that the State, its officers or employees become legally obligated to pay any damages or losses

arising from any act or omission of the Party arising from the provision of “non-professional services” (as defined herein) under this Agreement.

The Party shall not be obligated to indemnify the State for any Damages incurred by the State attributable to the State’s own negligent acts, errors or omissions or the negligent acts, errors or omissions of its officers, agents or employees, or the acts, errors, omissions or breach of Agreement by persons or entities other than the Party, its employees, agents, consultants and subcontractors.

After a final judgment or settlement, the Party may request recoupment of specific defense costs and may file suit in Washington Superior Court requesting recoupment. The Party shall be entitled to recoup costs only upon a showing that such costs were entirely unrelated to the defense of any claim arising from an act or omission of the Party.

b. Subcontractors:

As to subcontractors working under a prime contractor and where the subcontractors are providing such professional design services for a specific project, the prime contractor will include the same design-specific provisions as defined in Section B(2)(a) above in the prime contractor’s own contracts with subcontractors. Subcontractors must do the same for their sub-subcontractors.

C. GENERAL COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS; RESPONSIBILITY FOR VIOLATION

1. The contractor shall observe and comply with all applicable federal, state, and municipal laws, bylaws, ordinances, and regulations in any manner affecting the conduct of the work and the action or operation of those engaged in the work, including all such orders or decrees as exist at present and those which may be enacted, adopted, or issued later, during the course of the work, by bodies or tribunals having any jurisdiction or authority over the work; and the contractor shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the State, any affected railroad(s), and any affected municipality(ies), and all their officers, agents, and employees against any claim or liability arising from or based on the violation of any such law, bylaws ordinances, regulations, order, or decree, whether by the contractor in person, its employee(s), or by the contractor’s subcontractor(s) or agent(s), or employee(s) or agents thereof.
2. If the contractor discovers any provision(s) in the contract contrary to or inconsistent with any law, ordinance, regulation, order, or decree, the contractor shall immediately report it to the Project Manager in writing.

D. COMPLIANCE WITH DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS, STANDARDS, MANUALS, GUIDELINES, DIRECTIVES, AND POLICIES

The contractor shall comply with all applicable statutes, regulations, ordinances, specifications, manuals, standards, guidelines, policies, directives, and any other requirements related to the

contract. In case of any conflict with the items referenced above, the contractor is responsible to ascertain and follow the direction provided by the State.

E. SEVERABILITY

Provisions of the contract shall be interpreted and implemented in a manner consistent with each other and using procedures that will achieve the intent of both parties. If for any reason a provision in the contract is unenforceable or invalid, VTrans, in its sole discretion may sever that provision from the contract, and the remaining provisions shall have the same force and effect as if the severed provisions had never been a part of the contract.

F. PROMPT PAYMENT

1. The contractor, by accepting and signing the contract, agrees to fully comply with the provisions of 9 V.S.A. §§ 4001-4009, also referred to as Act No. 74 of 1991 or the Prompt Payment Act, as amended. Compliance with this clause also satisfied the requirements of 46 CFR § 26.29. applicable to Federally funded contracts.
2. In accordance with 9 V.S.A. Section 4003, notwithstanding any contrary contract provision, payments shall be made within seven days from receipt of a corresponding final or progress payment by the State to the contractor, or seven days after receipt of a subcontractor's invoice, whichever is later. Failure to comply constitutes violation of this contract.
3. On all federal-aid and state funded contracts, the contractor, during the life of the contract and on a monthly basis, shall submit electronically a listing of payments to subcontractors on the form specified by the State and made available at: <http://apps.vtrans.vermont.gov/consultants/>. Electronic reports shall be filed with VTrans Office of Civil Rights by an authorized representative and received in the VTrans Office of Civil Rights on or before the tenth working day after month end. Contractors without access to the internet shall obtain and submit manual reports to the VTrans Office of Civil Rights. Manual reports shall be signed by an authorized representative, sent to the VTrans Office of Civil Rights, and postmarked on or before the tenth working day after month end. There shall be no direct compensation allowed the contractor for this work, but the cost thereof shall be included in the general cost of the work.
4. Violations shall be reported to the VTrans Office of Civil Rights for review. Failure to resolve disputes in a timely manner will result in a complaint made to the VTrans Chief of Contract Administration. In the Agency's judgment, appropriate penalties may be invoked for failure to comply with this specification. Penalties may include debarment or suspension of the ability to submit proposals.
5. This section shall be included in the prime contractor's contract made with all of its subcontractors.

G. TERMINATION

In addition to the Termination provisions contained in Attachment C, the following terms are included in this contract:

Termination for Convenience

1. General

- a. The Agency may, with thirty (30) days written notice to the Contractor, terminate the Contract or any portion thereof when such termination would be in the best interest of the Agency. Upon notification, the contractor may be directed to immediately stop all work and incur no further costs under the contract.
- b. Any such termination shall be effected by delivery to the Contractor an Order of Termination specifying the termination is for the convenience of the Agency, the extent to which performance of work under the Contract is terminated, and the effective date of the termination.
- c. In the event such termination occurs, without fault and for reasons beyond the control of the Contractor, all completed or partially completed items of work as of the date of termination will be paid for in accordance with the contract payment terms.
- d. No compensation will be allowed for incomplete or eliminated contract items.
- e. Termination of the Contract, or portions thereof, shall not relieve the Contractor of its contractual responsibilities for work completed and shall not relieve the Contractor's Surety of its obligation for and concerning any just claim arising out of the work performed.

2. Contractor Obligations

After receipt of the Notice of Termination and except as otherwise directed by VTrans, the Contractor shall immediately proceed to:

- a. The extent specified in the Notice of Termination, cease work under the Contract on the date specified.
- b. Place no further orders or subcontracts for materials, services, or facilities except as may be necessary for completion of such portions of the work under the Contract that are not terminated.
- c. Terminate and cancel any orders or subcontracts related to the services, except as may be necessary for completion of such portions of the work under the Contract that are not terminated.

- d. Transfer to VTrans all completed or partially completed plans, drawings, information, and other property which, if the Contract had been completed, would be required to be furnished to VTrans.
- e. Take other actions as may be necessary or as directed by VTrans for the protection and preservation of the property related to the contract which is in the possession of the contractor and that VTrans has or may acquire any interest.
- f. Make available to VTrans all cost and other records relevant to a determination of an equitable settlement.

3. Claim by Contractor

After receipt of the Notice of Termination from VTrans, the Contractor shall submit any claim for additional costs not covered herein or elsewhere in the Contract within sixty (60) days of the effective termination date. Should the Contractor fail to submit a claim within the sixty (60) day period, VTrans may, at its sole discretion, determine what, if any, compensation is due the Contractor and pay the Contractor the determined amount.

4. Negotiation

Negotiations to settle a timely claim shall be for the sole purpose of reaching a settlement equitable to both the Contractor and VTrans. Settlement shall be based on actual costs incurred by the Contractor, as reflected by the contract rates. Consequential damages, loss of overhead, loss of overhead contribution of any kind, and loss of anticipated profits on work not performed shall not be included in the Contractor's claim and will not be considered, allowed, or included as part of any settlement.

H. PROPRIETARY RIGHTS

1. If a patentable discovery or invention results from work performed under the contract, all rights to such discovery or invention shall be the sole property of the Contractor, but the State and the United States Government shall have an irrevocable, nonexclusive, non-transferable, and royalty free license to each invention in the manufacture, use, and disposition, according to law, of any article or material or use of method that may be developed, as a part of the work under the contract.
2. Publications: All data, valuable papers, photographs, and any other documents produced under the terms of the contract shall become the property of the State of Vermont. The Contractor agrees to allow access to all data, valuable papers, photographs, and other documents at all times. The contractor shall not copyright any material originating under the contract without prior written approval of the State.
3. Ownership of the Work: All studies, data sheets, survey notes, subsoil information, drawings, tracings, estimates, specifications, proposals, diagrams, calculations, photographs, and other material prepared or collected by the contractors ("instruments of professional

service") shall become the property of the State as they are prepared or developed during performance of the work under the contract. If a contractor uses a proprietary system or method to perform the work, only the product will become the property of the State. The Contractor shall not be liable for any reuse, misuse, or alteration of these "instruments of professional service" by the State.

4. The Contractor shall surrender to the State upon demand or submit for inspection at any time any instruments of professional service that have been collected, undertaken, or completed by the Contractor pursuant to the contract. Upon completion of the work, these instruments of professional service will be appropriately endorsed by the Contractor and turned over to the State.
5. Data and publication rights to any instruments of professional services produced under the contract are reserved to the State and shall not be copyrighted by the contractor at any time without written approval of the State. No publication or publicity of the work, in part or in total, shall be made without the consent of the State, except that contractors may in general terms use previously developed instruments of professional service to describe its abilities for a project in promotional materials.
6. Rights and Remedies Additional: The rights and remedies of the State under this section are in addition to any other rights and remedies that the State may possess by law or under this contract.
7. Decisions Final and Binding: Decisions of the State on matters discussed in this section shall be final and binding.

I. PERSONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Contractor employees performing services for the VTrans shall not have, directly or indirectly, a personal conflict of interest with respect to any contract with VTrans and must immediately disclose to VTrans any personal conflicts of interest arising at any time from the bidding process to final contract close-out.

Definitions

As used in this clause:

1. Contractor Employees means employees and subcontractors of a VTrans contractor.
2. Personal Conflict of Interest means a situation in which a contractor employee has a financial interest, personal activity, or relationship that could impair the individual's ability to act impartially and in the best interest of the Government when performing under the contract.
 - a. Sources of personal conflicts of interest include but are not limited to:

- i. Financial interests of the contractor employee, of close family members, or of other members of the contractor employee's household;
 - ii. Other employment or financial relationships (including seeking or negotiating for prospective employment or business); and
 - iii. Gifts, including travel.
- b. Examples. Financial interests referred to above may arise from:
 - i. Compensation, including wages, salaries, commissions, professional fees, or fees for business referrals;
 - ii. Consulting relationships (including commercial and professional consulting and service arrangements, scientific and technical advisory board memberships, or serving as an expert witness in litigation);
 - iii. Services provided in exchange for honorariums or travel expense reimbursements;
 - iv. Research funding or other forms of research support;
 - v. Investment in the form of stock or bond ownership or partnership interest (excluding diversified mutual fund investments);
 - vi. Real estate investments;
 - vii. Patents, copyrights, and other intellectual property interests; or
 - viii. Business ownership and investment interests.
3. Acquisition Function means supporting or providing advice or recommendations to the following activities of a State agency:
 - a. Planning acquisitions;
 - b. Determining what supplies or services are to be acquired by the Government, including developing statements of work;
 - c. Developing or approving any contractual documents, including documents defining requirements, incentive plans, and evaluation criteria;
 - d. Evaluating contract proposals;
 - e. Awarding Government contracts;

- f. Administering contracts (including ordering changes or giving technical direction in contract performance or contract quantities, evaluating contractor performance, and accepting or rejecting contractor products or services);
 - g. Terminating contracts; and
 - h. Determining whether contract costs are reasonable, allocable, and allowable.
4. Non-public information means any State or third-party information that:
- a. Is deemed by VTrans to be proprietary or confidential, or is exempt from disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act, 1 V.S.A. § 315, et al, or otherwise protected from disclosure by statute, Executive order, or regulation; or
 - b. Has not been disseminated to the general public and the State has not yet determined whether the information can or will be made available to the public.

Requirements

The Contractor shall:

1. Have procedures in place to screen employees for potential personal conflicts of interest;
2. Prevent personal conflicts of interest, including not assigning or allowing an employee to perform any task under the contract for which the Contractor has identified a personal conflict of interest for the employee that the Contractor or employee cannot satisfactorily prevent or mitigate in consultation with the contracting agency; and
3. Prohibit use of non-public information accessed through performance of a Government contract for personal gain.
4. Inform employees of their obligation:
 - a. To disclose and prevent personal conflicts of interest;
 - b. Not to use non-public information accessed through performance of a Government contract for personal gain;
 - c. To avoid even the appearance of personal conflicts of interest;
5. Maintain effective oversight to verify compliance with personal conflict-of-interest safeguards;
6. Take appropriate disciplinary action in the case of covered employees who fail to comply with policies established pursuant to this clause;

7. Report to VTrans any personal conflict-of-interest violation by an employee as soon as it is identified. This report shall include a description of the violation and the proposed actions to be taken by the Contractor in response to the violation.
8. Provide follow-up reports of corrective actions taken, as necessary. Personal conflict-of-interest violations include:
 - a. Failure by an employee to disclose a personal conflict of interest;
 - b. Use by an employee of non-public information accessed through performance of a Government contract for personal gain; and
 - c. Failure of an employee to comply with the terms of a non-disclosure agreement.
9. In the case of contractors' employees *who perform acquisition functions* for VTrans, screening procedures must include:
 - a. Maintaining and obtaining from each employee, when the employee is initially assigned to the task under the contract, a disclosure of interests that might be affected by the task to which the employee has been assigned, as follows:
 - i. Financial interests of the employee, of close family members, or of other members of the covered employee's household;
 - ii. Other employment or financial relationships of the employee (including seeking or negotiating for prospective employment or business); and
 - iii. Gifts, including travel.
 - b. Requiring each employee to update the disclosure statement whenever the employee's personal or financial circumstances change in such a way that a new personal conflict of interest might occur because of the task the employee is performing.

Mitigation or Waiver

1. In exceptional circumstances, if the Contractor cannot satisfactorily prevent a personal conflict of interest as required above, the Contractor may submit a request through the applicable Division Director for:
 - a. An agreement to a plan to mitigate the personal conflict of interest; or
 - b. A waiver of the requirement.
2. The Contractor shall include in the request any proposed mitigation of the personal conflict of interest.

3. The Contractor shall:

- a. Comply, and require compliance by the employee, with any conditions imposed by the Government as necessary to mitigate the personal conflict of interest; or
- b. Remove the Contractor employee or subcontractor employee from performance of the contract or terminate the applicable subcontract.

Disclosure

A mandatory duty is established for the Contractor to disclose procurement fraud, and overpayments, or risk debarment or suspension. The contractor must report fraud, conflicts of interest, bribery, and illegal gratuities in connection with the award or performance of a state contract.

Code of Business Ethics

Contractors are encouraged to have a written code of business ethics and conduct. In addition, the contractor should have an ongoing ethics and compliance training program for principals and employees, as well as a system of internal controls to detect fraud and improper conduct.

J. ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (OCOI)

Definition

Organizational conflict of interest (“OCOI”) means that because of other activities or relationships with other persons or entities, a contractor *as a business entity*:

1. Is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to VTrans;
2. Is or may be impaired in its objectivity in performing the contract work (Example: A firm has a contract to inspect work by firms that are its business affiliates); or
3. Has an unfair competitive advantage. (Example: a firm participates in systems engineering and technical direction; preparing specifications or work statements; participates in development and design work; or gains access to the information of other companies in performing advisory and assistance services for the government drafting a scope of work for a project, then bids on the project itself.)

Disclosure

The Contractor shall make an immediate and full disclosure, in writing, to the VTrans Project Manager of any potential or actual OCOI or the existence of any facts that may cause a reasonably prudent person to question the contractor's impartiality because of the appearance or existence of bias or an unfair competitive advantage. Such disclosure shall include a description of the actions

the contractor has taken or proposes to take in order to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate any resulting conflict of interest.

Contractors in Management Support Roles

OCOIs often arise when contractors or subcontractors are employed in management support roles, such as oversight and inspection of the work of other contractors, and the development of designs, requirements, or statements of work or procurement documents such as requests for proposal. Such contracts bear particularly close monitoring to avoid OCOIs. A contractor serving in a management support role may be precluded from providing additional services on projects, activities, or contracts under its oversight due to potential conflicts of interest.

OCOI Screening

Prior to submitting a proposal, each submitter or proposer will conduct an internal review of its current affiliations and will require its team members to identify potential, real, or perceived OCOIs relative to the anticipated procurement. Potential submitters or proposers will be notified that existing or future contractual obligations relative to the proposed procurement may present an OCOI that may require avoidance, neutralization, or mitigation.

Disqualification

Prior to the award of a contract, VTrans may determine that an OCOI exists which would warrant disqualifying the bidder for award of the contract. Vtrans will discuss the matter with the contractor to determine whether the OCOI can be mitigated to VTrans satisfaction by negotiating terms and conditions of the contract to that effect.

Subcontracts

1. The Contractor shall require from its subcontractors full disclosure of any actual, apparent, or potential OCOI, and report such OCOIs to the VTrans Project Manager.
2. The Contractor shall identify and avoid, neutralize, or mitigate any subcontractor OCOI prior to award of the contract to the satisfaction of the VTrans Project Manager. If the subcontractor's OCOI cannot be avoided, neutralized, or mitigated, the Contractor must obtain the written approval from the appropriate VTrans Division Director prior to entering into the subcontract.
3. If the Contractor becomes aware of a subcontractor's potential or actual OCOI after the contract award, the Contractor agrees that VTrans may require the Contractor to eliminate the subcontractor from its team.

K. CONFLICT OF INTEREST REMEDIES

VTrans may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, or decline to make an award to a contractor if, in VTrans sole discretion, it is deemed necessary to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate an actual or

apparent personal or OCOI. No contract for the construction of a project shall be awarded to the firm that designed the project or its subsidiaries or affiliates, except with the approval of the Secretary of Transportation or authorized representative.

1. If a Contractor fails to disclose facts pertaining to the existence of a potential or actual personal or OCOI or misrepresents relevant information to VTrans, VTrans may terminate the contract for default or pursue such other remedies as may be permitted by law or this contract.
2. The Contractor will have the right to appeal a finding of an actual or potential OCOI to the appropriate Division Director, whose decision will be final, subject to further review only as provided for by state law, regulation or procedure.

L. CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL

1. The Contractor shall employ only qualified personnel to supervise and perform the work. VTrans shall have the right to approve or disapprove personnel hired to perform or supervise work related to the contract.
2. Upon VTrans' request, the Contractor shall supply resumes for staff proposed to work on assignment or under primary contracts for VTrans' review and acceptance or rejection. VTrans retains the right to interview the proposed staff.
3. If contractor has submitted a list of key personnel to VTrans as part of a proposal, the Contractor must notify and seek approval if any changes to the proposed personnel occur during the performance period of the contract.
4. VTrans reserves the right to require removal of any person employed by a contractor from work related to the contract as deemed necessary to protect the interests of the State. The decision of VTrans shall be final and not subject to challenge or appeal beyond the appropriate Division Director.

M. APPROVAL REQUIREMENT FOR HIRING CERTAIN VTRANS EMPLOYEES

1. Contractors are required to obtain VTrans approval prior to making offers of employment to VTrans employees who are engaged in acquisition functions as defined in paragraph I.3 a-h above, or an individual who was engaged in acquisition functions for VTrans within one year of the end of employment with VTrans. Request for approval must be submitted to the appropriate Division Director.
2. Discussions with current VTrans employees engaged in acquisition functions regarding *potential* employment with a contractor creates a conflict of interest for the employee and is prohibited absent a State approved mitigation plan or waiver.

3. Contractors are encouraged to maintain an open dialogue with VTrans regarding such matters and work toward mutually acceptable avoidance and resolution of any issues.

N. ASSIGNMENTS, TRANSFERS, AND SUBLETTING

1. The Contractor shall not assign, sublet, or transfer any interest in the work covered by the contract without the prior written consent of the State and appropriate federal agencies, if applicable. Further, if any subcontractor participates in any work involving additional services, the estimated extent and cost of the contemplated work must receive the prior written consent of the State.
2. The approval or consent to assign, sublet, or assign any portion of the work shall in no way relieve the Contractor of its responsibility to perform that portion of the work so affected. Except as otherwise provided in these specifications, the form of the subcontractor's contract shall be as developed by the contractor.
3. Any authorized subcontracts shall contain all the same provisions specified for and attached to the original contract with the State.

O. PERFORMANCE AND COMPLETION OF WORK

1. The Contractor shall perform the services specified in accordance with the terms of the contract and shall complete the contracted services by the completion dates specified in the contract.
2. Apart from ongoing obligations (*e.g.*, insurance, ownership of the work, and appearances), upon completion of all services covered under the contract and payment of the agreed upon fee, the contract with its mutual obligations shall be terminated.
3. If, at any time during or after performance of the contract, the Contractor discovers any design errors or other issues that warrant changes, the contractor shall notify the Project Manager immediately. This paragraph also applies to those projects that are under construction or have been constructed.

P. CONTINUING OBLIGATIONS

The Contractor agrees that if, because of a death or other occurrences, it becomes impossible to effectively perform its services in compliance with the contract, neither the contractor nor its surviving principals shall be relieved of their obligations to complete the services under the contract. However, the State may terminate the contract if it considers a death, incapacity, or other removal of any principal(s) or key project personnel to be a loss of such magnitude that it would affect the contractor's ability to satisfactorily comply with the contract.

Q. APPEARANCES

1. Hearings and Conferences. The Contractor shall provide professional services required by

the State that are necessary for furtherance of any work covered under the contract. Professional services shall include appropriate representation at design conferences, public gatherings and hearings, and appearances before any legislative body, commission, board, or court, to justify, explain, or defend its services provided under the contract.

2. The Contractor shall serve as a liaison if the State deems it necessary for the furtherance of the work and participate with the State, at any reasonable time, in conferences, concerning interpretation and evaluation of all services provided under the contract.
3. The Contractor further agrees to participate in meetings with the State, applicable Federal Agencies, or any other interested or affected participants for the purpose of review or resolution of any conflicts pertaining to the contract. The Contractor shall be equitably paid for such services and for any reasonable expenses incurred in relation thereto in accordance with the contract.
4. Appearance as Witness. When required by the State, the Contractor, or an appropriate representative, shall prepare for and appear in, on behalf of the State, any litigation or other legal proceeding concerning any relevant project or related contract. The contractor shall be equitably paid for such services and for any reasonable expenses incurred in relation thereto in accordance with the contract.

R. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

1. VTrans may, upon written notice, require changes, additions, or deletions to the work or contract. Whenever possible, any such adjustments shall be administered under the appropriate fee schedule or payment provisions established in the contract based on the adjusted quantity of work.
2. The State may, upon written notice, and without invalidating the contract, require changes resulting from the revision or abandonment of work already satisfactorily performed by the Contractor or changes in the statement of work section of the contract.
3. If the value of such changes, additions, or deletions is not otherwise reflected in payments to the contractor pursuant to the contract, or if such changes require additional time or expense to perform the work, the contract may be amended accordingly.
4. Changes to the scope, duration or value of the contract will require amendment of the contract, approved by the State's Secretary of Transportation or other official delegated such authority.
5. The Contractor agrees to maintain complete and accurate records, in a form satisfactory to VTrans, for any extra work or additional services in accordance with the contract and the Contractor shall perform such work or services only after an amendment has been fully executed or a written notice to proceed is issued by VTrans.

S. EXTENSION OF TIME

1. The contractor may request in writing an extension of the allotted time for completion of the work. A request for extension will be evaluated, and if VTrans determines that the justification is valid, an extension of time for completion of the work may be granted. A request for extension of time must be made before the contractor is in default.
2. The decision of VTrans relative to granting an extension of time shall be final and binding, and may result in damages owed to the State by the contractor.
3. Neither party hereto shall be held responsible for delay in performing the work encompassed herein when such delay is due to unforeseeable causes such as, but not limited to, acts of God or a public enemy, fire, strikes, floods, or legal acts of public authorities.

T. CONTRACTOR ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

1. “Professional negligence” resulting in errors and omissions in the work product of the contractor or subcontractors must be corrected by the contractor at no cost to the State, when it is determined that the error or omission was a direct cause of the contractor’s work. The contractor may be liable for the State’s costs and other damages resulting from errors or deficiencies in designs furnished under its contract.
2. When VTrans becomes aware of an error or omission on the part of the contractor or subcontractors, VTrans will inform the contractor and provide an opportunity for discussion and correction, if applicable. Discussions will not relieve the contractor from complying with any VTrans-ordered corrections.
3. VTrans’ review, approval, or acceptance of or payment for the services required under this contract shall not be construed to operate as a waiver of any rights under this contract or of any cause of action arising out of the performance of this contract.
4. The rights and remedies of the State provided for under this contract are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or elsewhere in the contract. If the Contractor is comprised of more than one legal entity, each such entity shall be jointly and severally liable hereunder.

U. DISPUTE RESOLUTION.

1. Design Professionals: In cases where VTrans believes damages are owed by a contractor, VTrans will attempt to negotiate a resolution with the contractor. If requested in writing by either party, negotiations may take the form of structured non-binding mediation with the assistance of a mediator on a “without prejudice” basis. The mediator shall be appointed by agreement of the parties, and the fees split equally between the parties. Negotiations or mediation will not bar either party from pursuing any other available remedies except as mutually agreed to in a written mediation agreement.

2. Construction Services Professionals: The parties shall attempt to resolve any disputes that may arise under the contract by informal negotiation, with the approval of the appropriate Division Director. If the dispute is not resolved, the Director shall issue a decision, which the Contractor may appeal in writing to the Transportation Board, through the Director, within 30 calendar days of the Director's decision. The notice of appeal shall completely outline the nature and extent of the issue(s) appealed and shall include copies of any and all supporting documentation. The decision of the Transportation Board may be appealed to Vermont Superior Court by either party as provided in 19 V.S.A. § 5.

V. RETAINAGE AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Agency of Administration Bulletin 3.5 – Contracting Procedures, VTrans has considered whether services contracts should contain provisions that provide for liquidated damages and/or retainage. As a general principle, based on experience and policy, VTrans has generally chosen not to include liquidated damages and retainage in its services contracts.
2. Should VTrans believe that liquidated damages or retainage provision are advisable in a particular contract, VTrans will include such provisions in the contract.

W. NO ADVANTAGE FROM ERRORS OR OMISSIONS IN CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.

Neither the contractor nor the State shall take advantage or be afforded any benefit as the result of apparent error(s) or omission(s) in the contract documents. If either party discovers error(s) or omission(s), it shall immediately notify the other.

X. HOSTILE ACTS

Except as provided below, or otherwise agreed to in writing by a duly authorized representative of the State, the Contractor agrees that during the term of this contract, and also after termination of this contract, it will not represent or render assistance to anyone in any matter, proceeding, or lawsuit against or otherwise adverse to the interests of the State or any of its agencies or instrumentalities in a matter, proceeding, or lawsuit related to any aspects of any work or projects to which this contract relates. Contractor also agrees to include written provision in any of contractor's subcontracts with others relating to this contract, providing that such subcontractors also recognize and agree to be bound by this duty of loyalty to the State regarding any aspects of any work or projects to which this contract relates.

Y. RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPERVISION

The contractor shall be responsible for supervision of contractor employees and subcontractors for all work performed under the contract and shall be solely responsible for all procedures, methods of analysis, interpretation, conclusions, and contents of work performed under the contract.

Z. WORK SCHEDULE AND PROGRESS REPORTS

As required by VTrans, prior to initiating any work, the Contractor shall work with VTrans' Project Manager to develop a work schedule showing how the contractor will complete the various phases of work to meet the completion date and any interim submission dates in the contract. VTrans will use this work schedule to monitor the contractor.

The Contractor during the life of the contract shall make monthly progress reports, or as otherwise determined by the Project Manager, or set forth in the statement of work, indicating the work achieved through the date of the report. The Contractor shall link the monthly progress reports to the schedule. The report shall indicate any matters that have, or are anticipated to, adversely affected progress of the work. VTrans may require the Contractor to prepare a revised work schedule in the event that a specific progress achievement falls behind the scheduled progress by more than thirty (30) days. The revised work schedule shall be due as of the date specified by VTrans.

AA. WORK ASSIGNED UNDER PRIMARY-TYPE CONTRACTS

Specific tasks or projects under primary (ie. retainer or Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity ["IDIQ"]) type contracts will be awarded and managed as provided in the scope of work section of the contract. Contractors should not begin work on any task or project under a primary contract until they have received authorization as described in the scope of work.

BB. UTILITIES

Whenever a facility or component of a private, public, or cooperatively-owned utility will be affected by proposed construction, the Contractor shall consult with the State's Utility Section and initiate contacts or discussions with the affected owners regarding requirements necessary for revision of facilities, both above and below ground. All revisions must be completely and accurately exhibited on detail sheets or plans. The Contractor shall inform the State, in writing, of all contacts with utility facility owners, and the results thereof. Further details should be provided in the scope of work section of the contract.

CC. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Whenever it is necessary to perform work in the field (*e.g.*, with respect to reconnaissance, testing, construction inspection, and surveying) the contractor shall endeavor to maintain good relations with the public and any affected property owners. Personnel employed by or representing the contractor shall conduct themselves with propriety. If there is a need to enter upon private property to accomplish the work under the contract, the Contractor shall inform property owners and tenants in a timely manner and in accordance with relevant statutes. All work will be done with minimum damage to the land and disturbance to the owners thereof. Upon request of the Contractor, the State shall furnish a letter of introduction to property owners soliciting their cooperation and explaining that the contractor is acting on behalf of the State.

DD. INSPECTION OF WORK

1. The State and applicable federal agencies shall, at all times, have access to the contractor's work for the purposes of inspection, accounting, and auditing, and the Contractor shall provide appropriate and necessary access to accomplish inspections, accounting, and auditing.
2. The contractor shall permit the State and its representatives the opportunity at any time to inspect any plans, drawings, estimates, specifications, or other materials prepared or undertaken by the Contractor pursuant to the contract.
3. A conference, visit to a site, or inspection of the work may be held at the request of the Contractor, State, and appropriate federal agencies.

EE. WRITTEN DELIVERABLES/REPORTS

All communications and deliverables presented under terms of the contract shall be in a form and format identified in the statement of work section of the contract, including, but not limited to CADD Requirements, Data Specifications, and Geographic Information System Requirements.

FF. ELECTRONIC DATA MEDIA.

VTrans Web Page and File Transfer Protocol (FTP) Site Disclaimer. The files located on the VTrans web page and FTP site are subject to change. The contractor is responsible for maintaining contact with VTrans to determine if any changes affect the work produced by the contractor. Although VTrans makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of its work, it cannot guarantee that transferred files are error free.

GG. REVIEWS AND APPROVALS.

All work prepared by the Contractor, subcontractors, and representatives thereof pursuant to the contract shall be subject to review and approval by VTrans. Approval for any work shall be documented in writing. Approvals shall not relieve a contractor of its professional obligation to correct any defects or errors in the work at the contractor's expense.

The pertinent federal agencies may independently review and comment on the contract deliverables. The Contractor, through VTrans, shall respond to all official comments regardless of their source. The Contractor shall supply VTrans with written copies of all correspondence relating to reviews. All comments must be satisfactorily resolved before the affected work is advanced.

HH. PAYMENT PROCEDURES

Payment procedures will be set forth in Attachment B.

II. AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

1. Design and Engineering Contracts of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) and over:
 - a. Annually, the Contractor shall furnish the State with independently-prepared, properly supported indirect cost rates for all the time periods covered under the contract. These rates must be developed in accordance with the cost principles in 48 CFR Part 31. Unless otherwise specified in the contract, the Contractor's overhead rate shall be based on actual, audited overhead costs.

2. **Design and Engineering Contracts** Under Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00):
 - a. The contractor may submit internally generated indirect cost computations and the related schedules.

 - b. Additional information may be requested from a new contractor executing a contract under \$500,000.00 or in some cases from contractors with existing or previous contracts with the State if any of the following conditions or areas of concern exist:
 - i. There is insufficient knowledge of the consultant's accounting system.

 - ii. There is previous unfavorable experience regarding the reliability of the consultant's accounting system

 - iii. The contract involves procurement of new equipment or supplies for which cost experience is lacking.

 - iv. There have been issues with adherence to Federal and State regulations and policies.

 - v. Capacity – ensuring ongoing delivery

JJ. RECORDS RETENTION:

The Contractor shall maintain all records related to the contract for a period of seven (7) years unless required to keep them longer as indicated Federal provisions or in the scope of work section of the contract.

KK. REGISTRATION WITH SECRETARY OF STATE

1. The Contractor shall be registered with the Vermont Secretary of State to do business in the State of Vermont if the Contractor:
 - a. Is a domestic or foreign corporation,

- b. Is a resident co-partner or resident member of a co-partnership or association,
 - c. Is a non-resident individual doing business in Vermont in his or her individual capacity,
 - d. Is doing business in Vermont under any name other than the Contractor's own personal name.
2. This registration must be complete prior to contract execution and maintained throughout the life of the contract.

LL. SITE VISIT

Where relevant to the work to be performed under the contract, contractors must inspect physical locations of construction when required in the statement of work and will not be compensated for any differing site conditions that could have been discovered during the inspection.

MM. MARKETING

The Contractor is prohibited from representing in marketing or promotional materials that VTrans is a co-sponsor in any project, or otherwise representing any sort of collaboration or partnership with VTrans; making claims of general endorsement by VTrans; and from using the VTrans logo, seal, or letterhead. In accordance with Attachment C, Standard State Provisions for Contracts and Grants, the Contractor has VTrans permission to refer to the fact that the Contractor has, or previously had, contracts with VTrans in marketing or promotional materials, as long as purely factual statements are made, and no general endorsement is asserted. Additionally, the Contractor may provide factual information regarding work under VTrans projects to other potential employers or identify designated VTrans employees or officials who could be consulted by as a reference about such prior work for VTrans. Designated VTrans employees may provide factual information regarding a Contractor's work under VTrans contracts to third parties requesting references. Contractor's providing false information regarding work under VTrans contract will be subject to administrative, civil, and criminal penalties.

Approved By: _____

E-SIGNED by Joe Flynn
on 2020-05-29 18:21:30 GMT

Secretary of Transportation



Federal Terms and Conditions Services (Non-Construction)

VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION

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A. CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION

1. Instructions for Certification – First Tier Participants:

- a. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective first tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
- b. The inability of a person to provide the certification set out below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective first tier participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective first tier participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such a person from participation in this transaction.
- c. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the contracting agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the contracting agency may terminate this transaction for cause of default.
- d. The prospective first tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the contracting agency to whom this proposal is submitted if any time the prospective first tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- e. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "participant," "person," "principal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, are defined in 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200. "First Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction between a recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds and a participant (such as the prime or general contract). "Lower Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction under a First Tier Covered Transaction (such as subcontracts). "First Tier Participant" refers to the participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds (such as the prime or general contractor). "Lower Tier Participant" refers any participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a First Tier Participant or other Lower Tier Participants (such as subcontractors and suppliers).
- f. The prospective first tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

- g. The prospective first tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions," provided by the department or contracting agency, entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions exceeding the \$25,000 threshold.
- h. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant is responsible for ensuring that its principals are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in covered transactions. To verify the eligibility of its principals, as well as the eligibility of any lower tier prospective participants, each participant may, but is not required to, check the System for Award Management website (<https://www.sam.gov/>).
- i. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require the establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of the prospective participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- j. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph (f) of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

* * * * *

- 2. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion – First Tier Participants:
 - a. The prospective first tier participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
 - i. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
 - ii. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement,

theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

- iii. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(2) of this certification; and
- iv. Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
- v. Are not a corporation that has been convicted of a felony violation under any Federal law within the two-year period preceding this proposal; and
- vi. Are not a corporation with 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.

b. Where the prospective participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

3. Instructions for Certification - Lower Tier Participants:

(Applicable to all subcontracts, purchase orders, and other lower tier transactions requiring prior FHWA approval or estimated to cost \$25,000 or more - 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200)

- a. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
- b. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department, or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
- c. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- d. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "participant," "person," "principal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, are defined in 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations. "First Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction between a recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds and a participant (such as the prime or general contract). "Lower Tier Covered Transactions"

refers to any covered transaction under a First Tier Covered Transaction (such as subcontracts). "First Tier Participant" refers to the participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds (such as the prime or general contractor). "Lower Tier Participant" refers any participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a First Tier Participant or other Lower Tier Participants (such as subcontractors and suppliers).

- e. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.
- f. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions exceeding the \$25,000 threshold.
- g. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant is responsible for ensuring that its principals are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in covered transactions. To verify the eligibility of its principals, as well as the eligibility of any lower tier prospective participants, each participant may, but is not required to, check the System for Award Management website (<https://www.sam.gov/>), which is compiled by the General Services Administration.
- h. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- i. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph e of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

* * * * *

- 4. Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion--
Lower Tier Participants:

- a. The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals:
 - i. is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
 - ii. is a corporation that has been convicted of a felony violation under any Federal law within the two-year period preceding this proposal; and
 - iii. is a corporation with 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.
- b. Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

B. CERTIFICATION REGARDING USE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FOR LOBBYING

1. The prospective participant certifies, by signing and submitting this bid or proposal, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:
 - a. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal 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.
 - b. 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 Federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
2. 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 31 U.S.C. 1352. 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 such failure.

3. The prospective participant also agrees by submitting its bid or proposal that the participant shall require that the language of this certification be included in all lower tier subcontracts, which exceed \$100,000 and that all such recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

C. DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) POLICY, NONDISCRIMINATION AND RELATED CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Policy. It shall be the policy of the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) to ensure nondiscriminatory opportunity for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) to participate in the performance of all contracts and subcontracts financed with Federal funds as specified by the regulations of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration and as set forth below.

1. Policy. It is the policy of USDOT that DBEs as defined in 49 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 26 shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds. Consequently, the DBE requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 and 23 CFR, Chapter 1, Part 230, Subpart b apply to this contract.
2. DBE Obligation. The State and its Contractors agree to ensure that DBEs as defined in 49 CFR Part 26, have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts and subcontracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds. Each subcontract the prime contractor signs with a subcontractor must include this assurance: The contractor, sub recipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of USDOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy, as VTrans deems appropriate.
3. Sanctions for Noncompliance. The Contractor is hereby advised that failure of the Contractor, or any Subcontractor performing work under this contract, to carry out the requirements set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall constitute a breach of contract and after the notification of the Vermont Agency of Transportation, Secretary of Transportation, may result in termination of this contract by the State or such remedy as the State deems necessary.
4. Inclusion in Subcontracts. The Contractor shall insert in each of its subcontracts this Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Policy and also a clause requiring its subcontractors to include this same Policy in any lower tier subcontracts which they may enter into, together with a clause requiring the inclusion of the Policy in any further subcontract that may in turn be made. This Policy shall not be incorporated by reference.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Goals. The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is required to set an overall DBE goal for participation in all transportation related Federal-aid projects. The goal is determined following guidelines set

forth in 49 CFR 26.45, and based on the availability of ready, willing and able DBEs who submitted bids and quotes for transportation related projects, compared as a percentage of all available contractors who submitted bids and quotes for transportation related projects during the same time period. The DBE goal may be adjusted to take into account other factors impacting DBE utilization, in an effort to narrowly tailor the overall DBE goal. The detailed goal setting methodology and current overall DBE goal may be viewed on the VTrans website at: <http://vtranscivilrights.vermont.gov/doing-business/dbe-center/program-goals>.

VTrans currently utilizes a race/gender neutral policy to fulfill its overall DBE goals, and relies on the voluntary participation of contractors to utilize certified DBEs on every project sufficient to obtain the Agency's overall DBE goal. In order for this practice to continue, contractors must be proactive and solicit bids and quotes from certified DBEs for use when submitting their own bids, and employ certified DBEs when participating on transportation related projects. Otherwise, VTrans may have to implement specified contract goals on projects to ensure the overall DBE goals are met. VTrans may include specific DBE contract goals in certain cases to ensure DBE participation, if failure to obtain the project DBE goal would negatively impact the Agency's overall DBE goal because of the size of the contract.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Definition. A DBE is defined as a business that is owned and controlled by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged person(s). For the purposes of this definition:

- a. "Socially and economically disadvantaged person" means an individual who is a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States and who is a Woman, Black, Hispanic, Portuguese, Native American, Asian American, or a member of another group, or an individual found to be disadvantaged by the Small Business Administration pursuant to Section 3 of the Small Business Act.
- b. "Owned and controlled" means a business which is:
 - i. A sole proprietorship legitimately owned and controlled by an individual who is a disadvantaged person.
 - ii. A partnership, joint venture or limited liability company in which at least 51% of the beneficial ownership interests legitimately is held by a disadvantaged person(s).
 - iii. A corporation or other entity in which at least 51% of the voting interest and 51% of the beneficial ownership interests legitimately are held by a disadvantaged person(s).

The disadvantaged group owner(s) or stockholder(s) must possess control over management, interest in capital, and interest in earnings commensurate with percentage of ownership. Disadvantaged participation in a joint venture must also be based on the sharing of real earnings, as above. If the disadvantaged group ownership interests are real, substantial and continuing and not created solely to meet the requirements of the program, a firm is considered a bona fide DBE.

Certified DBE Directory. The current Vermont Unified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Directory is available online at:

<http://vtranscivilrights.vermont.gov/doing-business/dbe-center/directory>. This directory contains all currently certified DBEs available for work in Vermont, and is updated continuously. Only firms listed in this directory are eligible for DBE credit on Vermont Federal-aid projects. If you have questions about DBE certification, or do not have access to the Internet, please call the DBE Program Manager at (802) 828-5858 for assistance.

Counting DBE Participation Towards Project Goals. In order for payments made to DBE contractors to be counted toward DBE goals, the DBE contractors must perform a commercially useful function (CUF). The DBE must be responsible for execution of the work of the contract and must carry out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved, consistent with standard industry practices.

This means that:

- The DBE must also be responsible for ordering its own materials and supplies, determining quantity and quality, negotiating price, installing (where applicable) and paying for the material itself;
- The DBE must perform work commensurate with the amount of its contract;
- The DBE's contribution cannot be that of an extra participant or a conduit through which funds are passed in order to obtain the appearance of DBE participation;
- The DBE must exercise responsibility for at least fifty percent of the total cost of its contract with its own workforce;
- None of the DBE's work can be subcontracted back to the prime contractor, nor can the DBE employ the prime's or other subcontractor's supervisors currently working on the project;
- The DBE's labor force must be separate and apart from that of the prime contractor or other subcontractors on the project. Transferring crews between primes, subcontractors, and DBE contractors is not acceptable;
- The DBE owner must hold necessary professional or craft license(s) or certification(s) for the type of work he/she performs on the project;
- The DBE may rent or lease, at competitive rates, equipment needed on the project from customary leasing sources or from other subcontractors on the project. Allowable credit for payments made to DBEs for work performed. A contractor may take credit for payments made to a certified DBE that satisfies CUF requirements at the following rate:

- A DBE Prime Contractor: Count 100% of the value of the work performed by own forces, equipment and materials towards the DBE goals.
- An approved DBE subcontractor: Count 100% of the value of work performed by the DBE's own forces, equipment and materials, excluding the following:
 - The cost of materials/supplies purchased from a non-DBE Prime Contractor.
 - The value of work provided by non-DBE lower tier subcontractors, including non-DBE trucking to deliver asphalt to a DBE contractor.
- A DBE owner-operator of construction equipment: Count 100% of expenditures committed.
- A DBE manufacturer: Count 100% of expenditures committed. The manufacturer must be a firm that operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces on the premises the materials or supplies obtained by the Contractor.
- A regular DBE dealer/supplier: Count 60% of expenditures committed. A regular dealer/supplier is defined as a firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, warehouse or other establishment, in which the materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract are bought, kept in stock, and regularly sold or leased to the public in the usual course of business. A person may be a dealer in such bulk items as petroleum products, steel, cement, gravel, stone or asphalt without owning, operating or maintaining a place of business, if the person both owns and operates distribution equipment for the products, by the means of a long-term agreement, and not by a contract by contract basis.
- A DBE broker: Count for DBE credit only the fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement, and, fees and transportation charges for the delivery of materials or supplies required at the job site, but not the cost of materials procured. A broker is defined as any person(s) or firm who arranges or expedites transactions for materials or supplies, and does not take physical possession of the materials or supplies at their place of business for resale.
- A DBE renter of construction equipment to a contractor: Count 20% of expenditures committed, with or without operator.
- A bona fide DBE service provider: Count 100% of reasonable fees or commissions. Eligible services include professional, technical, consultant, or managerial, services and assistance in the procurement of essential personnel, facilities, equipment, materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract. Eligible services also include agencies providing bonding and insurance specifically required for the performance of the contract.

- A trucking, hauling or delivery operation: Count 100% of expenditures committed when trucks are owned, operated, licensed and insured by the DBE and used on the contract and, if applicable, includes the cost of the materials and supplies. 100% of expenditures committed when the DBE leases trucks from another DBE firm including an owner-operator. 100% of reasonable fees, or commissions, the DBE receives as a result of a lease arrangement for trucks from a non-DBE, including an owner-operator.
- Any combination of the above.

Removal of Approved DBE From Transportation Related Project. Contractors may not terminate for convenience, any approved DBE subcontractor and perform the work with their own forces, without prior written consent from the VTrans DBE Program Manager or VTrans Chief of Civil Rights.

Federal-aid projects which specify a DBE contract goal. The provisions of the Vermont Agency of Transportation Supplemental Specification – Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Utilization (CA 160) shall apply to all VTrans Federal-aid projects which specify a DBE contract goal.

Compliance with Prompt Payment Statute. In accordance with Vermont’s Prompt Payment Act and VTrans Standard Specifications for Construction, Section 107.01(g), the Contractor shall fully comply with the provisions of 9 V.S.A. Chapter 102, also referred to as Act No. 74 of 1991 or the Prompt Payment Act, as amended.

Subcontractor Payments. In accordance with VTrans Standard Specifications for Construction, Section 107.01(h), on all federal-aid and state funded contracts, the Contractor, during the life of the Contract and on a monthly basis, shall submit electronically, a listing of payments to subcontractors on the form specified by the State and made available at: <http://vtranscivilrights.vermont.gov/doing-business/contractors-center/compliance>. Electronic reports shall be filed with the Agency Office of Civil Rights by an authorized representative and received in the Agency Office of Civil Rights on or before the tenth working day after month end. Contractors without access to the internet shall obtain and submit manual reports to the Agency Office of Civil Rights. Manual reports shall be signed by an authorized representative, sent to the Agency Office of Civil Rights, and postmarked on or before the tenth working day after month end. There shall be no direct compensation allowed the Contractor for this work, but the cost thereof shall be included in the general cost of the work. In accordance with 9 V.S.A. Section 4003, notwithstanding any contrary agreement, payments made to subcontractors after seven days from receipt of a corresponding progress payment by the State to the Contractor, or seven days after receipt of a subcontractor’s invoice, whichever is later, violate this agreement. Violations shall be reported to the Agency Office of Civil Rights for review. Failure to resolve disputes in a timely manner may result in a complaint made to the Agency Pre-qualification Committee. In this Committee’s judgment, appropriate penalties may be involved for failure to comply with this specification. Penalties may include suspension, reduction or revocation of the Contractor’s pre-qualification rating. This clause shall be included in the prime Contractor’s Contract made with all if its subcontractors.

D. NONDISCRIMINATION AND RELATED CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

The provisions of 23 CFR Part 230 are not applicable to material supply, engineering, or architectural service contracts.

In addition, the contractor and all subcontractors must comply with the following policies: Executive Order 11246, 41 CFR 60, 29 CFR 1625-1627, Title 23 USC Section 140, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 USC 794), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and related regulations including 49 CFR Parts 21, 26 and 27; and 23 CFR Parts 200, 230, and 633.

The contractor and all subcontractors must comply with: the requirements of the Equal Opportunity Clause in 41 CFR 60- 1.4(b) and, for all construction contracts exceeding \$10,000, the Standard Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Construction Contract Specifications in 41 CFR 60-4.3.

Note: The U.S. Department of Labor has exclusive authority to determine compliance with Executive Order 11246 and the policies of the Secretary of Labor including 41 CFR 60, and 29 CFR 1625-1627. The contracting agency and the FHWA have the authority and the responsibility to ensure compliance with Title 23 USC Section 140, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 USC 794), and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and related regulations including 49 CFR Parts 21, 26 and 27; and 23 CFR Parts 200, 230, and 633.

The following provision is adopted from 23 CFR 230, Appendix A, with appropriate revisions to conform to the U.S. Department of Labor (US DOL) and FHWA requirements.

1. Equal Employment Opportunity: Equal employment opportunity (EEO) requirements not to discriminate and to take affirmative action to assure equal opportunity as set forth under laws, executive orders, rules, regulations (28 CFR 35, 29 CFR 1630, 29 CFR 1625-1627, 41 CFR 60 and 49 CFR 27) and orders of the Secretary of Labor as modified by the provisions prescribed herein, and imposed pursuant to 23 USC 140 shall constitute the EEO and specific affirmative action standards for the contractor's project activities under this contract. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) set forth under 28 CFR 35 and 29 CFR 1630 are incorporated by reference in this contract. In the execution of this contract, the contractor agrees to comply with the following minimum specific requirement activities of EEO:
 - a. The contractor will work with the contracting agency and the Federal Government to ensure that it has made every good faith effort to provide equal opportunity with respect to all of its terms and conditions of employment and in their review of activities under the contract.
 - b. The contractor will accept as its operating policy the following statement:

"It is the policy of this Company to assure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, religion, sex, color, national origin, age or disability. Such action shall include: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship, pre-apprenticeship, and/or on-the-job training."

2. EEO Officer: The contractor will designate and make known to the contracting officers an EEO Officer who will have the responsibility for and must be capable of effectively administering and promoting an active EEO program and who must be assigned adequate authority and responsibility to do so.
3. Dissemination of Policy: All members of the contractor's staff who are authorized to hire, supervise, promote, and discharge employees, or who recommend such action, or who are substantially involved in such action, will be made fully cognizant of, and will implement, the contractor's EEO policy and contractual responsibilities to provide EEO in each grade and classification of employment. To ensure that the above agreement will be met, the following actions will be taken as a minimum:
 - a. Periodic meetings of supervisory and personnel office employees will be conducted before the start of work and then not less often than once every six months, at which time the contractor's EEO policy and its implementation will be reviewed and explained. The meetings will be conducted by the EEO Officer.
 - b. All new supervisory or personnel office employees will be given a thorough indoctrination by the EEO Officer, covering all major aspects of the contractor's EEO obligations within thirty days following their reporting for duty with the contractor.
 - c. All personnel who are engaged in direct recruitment for the project will be instructed by the EEO Officer in the contractor's procedures for locating and hiring minorities and women.
 - d. Notices and posters setting forth the contractor's EEO policy will be placed in areas readily accessible to employees, applicants for employment and potential employees.
 - e. The contractor's EEO policy and the procedures to implement such policy will be brought to the attention of employees by means of meetings, employee handbooks, or other appropriate means.
4. Recruitment: When advertising for employees, the contractor will include in all advertisements for employees the notation: "An Equal Opportunity Employer." All such advertisements will be placed in publications having a large circulation among minorities and women in the area from which the project work force would normally be derived.
 - a. The contractor will, unless precluded by a valid bargaining agreement, conduct

systematic and direct recruitment through public and private employee referral sources likely to yield qualified minorities and women. To meet this requirement, the contractor will identify sources of potential minority group employees, and establish with such identified sources procedures whereby minority and women applicants may be referred to the contractor for employment consideration.

- b. In the event the contractor has a valid bargaining agreement providing for exclusive hiring hall referrals, the contractor is expected to observe the provisions of that agreement to the extent that the system meets the contractor's compliance with EEO contract provisions. Where implementation of such an agreement has the effect of discriminating against minorities or women, or obligates the contractor to do the same, such implementation violates Federal nondiscrimination provisions.
 - c. The contractor will encourage its present employees to refer minorities and women as applicants for employment. Information and procedures with regard to referring such applicants will be discussed with employees.
5. Personnel Actions: Wages, working conditions, and employee benefits shall be established and administered, and personnel actions of every type, including hiring, upgrading, promotion, transfer, demotion, layoff, and termination, shall be taken without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability. The following procedures shall be followed:
- a. The contractor will conduct periodic inspections of project sites to insure that working conditions and employee facilities do not indicate discriminatory treatment of project site personnel.
 - b. The contractor will periodically evaluate the spread of wages paid within each classification to determine any evidence of discriminatory wage practices.
 - c. The contractor will periodically review selected personnel actions in depth to determine whether there is evidence of discrimination. Where evidence is found, the contractor will promptly take corrective action. If the review indicates that the discrimination may extend beyond the actions reviewed, such corrective action shall include all affected persons.
 - d. The contractor will promptly investigate all complaints of alleged discrimination made to the contractor in connection with its obligations under this contract, will attempt to resolve such complaints, and will take appropriate corrective action within a reasonable time. If the investigation indicates that the discrimination may affect persons other than the complainant, such corrective action shall include such other persons. Upon completion of each investigation, the contractor will inform every complainant of all of their avenues of appeal.

6. Training and Promotion:

- a. The contractor will assist in locating, qualifying, and increasing the skills of minorities and women who are applicants for employment or current employees. Such efforts should be aimed at developing full journey level status employees in the type of trade or job classification involved.
 - b. Consistent with the contractor's work force requirements and as permissible under Federal and State regulations, the contractor shall make full use of training programs, i.e., apprenticeship, and on-the-job training programs for the geographical area of contract performance. In the event a special provision for training is provided under this contract, this subparagraph will be superseded as indicated in the special provision. The contracting agency may reserve training positions for persons who receive welfare assistance in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 140(a).
 - c. The contractor will advise employees and applicants for employment of available training programs and entrance requirements for each.
 - d. The contractor will periodically review the training and promotion potential of employees who are minorities and women and will encourage eligible employees to apply for such training and promotion.
7. Unions: If the contractor relies in whole or in part upon unions as a source of employees, the contractor will use good faith efforts to obtain the cooperation of such unions to increase opportunities for minorities and women. Actions by the contractor, either directly or through a contractor's association acting as agent, will include the procedures set forth below:
- a. The contractor will use good faith efforts to develop, in cooperation with the unions, joint training programs aimed toward qualifying more minorities and women for membership in the unions and increasing the skills of minorities and women so that they may qualify for higher paying employment.
 - b. The contractor will use good faith efforts to incorporate an EEO clause into each union agreement to the end that such union will be contractually bound to refer applicants without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability.
 - c. The contractor is to obtain information as to the referral practices and policies of the labor union except that to the extent such information is within the exclusive possession of the labor union and such labor union refuses to furnish such information to the contractor, the contractor shall so certify to the contracting agency and shall set forth what efforts have been made to obtain such information.
 - d. In the event the union is unable to provide the contractor with a reasonable flow of referrals within the time limit set forth in the collective bargaining agreement, the contractor will, through independent recruitment efforts, fill the employment

vacancies without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability; making full efforts to obtain qualified and/or qualifiable minorities and women. The failure of a union to provide sufficient referrals (even though it is obligated to provide exclusive referrals under the terms of a collective bargaining agreement) does not relieve the contractor from the requirements of this paragraph. In the event the union referral practice prevents the contractor from meeting the obligations pursuant to Executive Order 11246, as amended, and these special provisions, such contractor shall immediately notify the contracting agency.

8. Reasonable Accommodation for Applicants / Employees with Disabilities: The contractor must be familiar with the requirements for and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and all rules and regulations established there under. Employers must provide reasonable accommodation in all employment activities unless to do so would cause an undue hardship.
9. Selection of Subcontractors, Procurement of Materials and Leasing of Equipment: The contractor shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurement of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor shall take all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure nondiscrimination in the administration of this contract.
 - a. The contractor shall notify all potential subcontractors and suppliers and lessors of their EEO obligations under this contract.
 - b. The contractor will use good faith efforts to ensure subcontractor compliance with their EEO obligations.
10. Assurance Required by 49 CFR 26.13(b):
 - a. The requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 and the State DOT's U.S. DOT-approved DBE program are incorporated by reference.
 - b. The contractor or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the contracting agency deems appropriate.
11. Records and Reports: The contractor shall keep such records as necessary to document compliance with the EEO requirements. Such records shall be retained for a period of three years following the date of the final payment to the contractor for all contract work and shall be available at reasonable times and places for inspection by authorized representatives of the contracting agency and the FHWA.

- a. The records kept by the contractor shall document the following:
 - i. The number and work hours of minority and non-minority group members and women employed in each work classification on the project;
 - ii. The progress and efforts being made in cooperation with unions, when applicable, to increase employment opportunities for minorities and women; and
 - iii. The progress and efforts being made in locating, hiring, training, qualifying, and upgrading minorities and women;
- b. The contractors and subcontractors will submit an annual report to the contracting agency each July for the duration of the project, indicating the number of minority, women, and non-minority group employees currently engaged in each work classification required by the contract work. This information is to be reported on Form FHWA-1391. The staffing data should represent the project work force on board in all or any part of the last payroll period preceding the end of July. If on-the-job training is being required by special provision, the contractor will be required to collect and report training data. The employment data should reflect the work force on board during all or any part of the last payroll period preceding the end of July.

E. NONSEGREGATED FACILITIES

The contractor must ensure that facilities provided for employees are provided in such a manner that segregation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin cannot result. The contractor may neither require such segregated use by written or oral policies nor tolerate such use by employee custom. The contractor's obligation extends further to ensure that its employees are not assigned to perform their services at any location, under the contractor's control, where the facilities are segregated. The term "facilities" includes waiting rooms, work areas, restaurants and other eating areas, time clocks, restrooms, washrooms, locker rooms, and other storage or dressing areas, parking lots, drinking fountains, recreation or entertainment areas, transportation, and housing provided for employees. The contractor shall provide separate or single-user restrooms and necessary dressing or sleeping areas to assure privacy between sexes.

F. SUBLETTING OR ASSIGNING THE CONTRACT

1. The contractor shall perform with its own organization contract work amounting to not less than 30 percent (or a greater percentage if specified elsewhere in the contract) of the total original contract price, excluding any specialty items designated by the contracting agency. Specialty items may be performed by subcontract and the amount of any such specialty items performed may be deducted from the total original contract price before computing the amount of work required to be performed by the contractor's own organization (23 CFR 635.116).
 - a. The term "perform work with its own organization" refers to workers employed or leased by the prime contractor, and equipment owned or rented by the prime contractor, with or without operators. Such term does not include employees or equipment of a

subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor, agents of the prime contractor, or any other assignees. The term may include payments for the costs of hiring leased employees from an employee leasing firm meeting all relevant Federal and State regulatory requirements. Leased employees may only be included in this term if the prime contractor meets all of the following conditions:

- i. the prime contractor maintains control over the supervision of the day-to-day activities of the leased employees;
 - ii. the prime contractor remains responsible for the quality of the work of the leased employees;
 - iii. the prime contractor retains all power to accept or exclude individual employees from work on the project; and
 - iv. the prime contractor remains ultimately responsible for the payment of predetermined minimum wages, the submission of payrolls, statements of compliance and all other Federal regulatory requirements.
- b. "Specialty Items" shall be construed to be limited to work that requires highly specialized knowledge, abilities, or equipment not ordinarily available in the type of contracting organizations qualified and expected to bid or propose on the contract as a whole and in general are to be limited to minor components of the overall contract.
2. The contract amount upon which the requirements set forth in paragraph (1) of Section VI is computed includes the cost of material and manufactured products which are to be purchased or produced by the contractor under the contract provisions.
 3. The contractor shall furnish (a) a competent superintendent or supervisor who is employed by the firm, has full authority to direct performance of the work in accordance with the contract requirements, and is in charge of all construction operations (regardless of who performs the work) and (b) such other of its own organizational resources (supervision, management, and engineering services) as the contracting officer determines is necessary to assure the performance of the contract.
 4. No portion of the contract shall be sublet, assigned or otherwise disposed of except with the written consent of the contracting officer, or authorized representative, and such consent when given shall not be construed to relieve the contractor of any responsibility for the fulfillment of the contract. Written consent will be given only after the contracting agency has assured that each subcontract is evidenced in writing and that it contains all pertinent provisions and requirements of the prime contract.
 5. The 30% self-performance requirement of paragraph (1) is not applicable to design-build contracts; however, contracting agencies may establish their own self-performance requirements.

G. SAFETY: ACCIDENT PREVENTION

1. In the performance of this contract the contractor shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws governing safety, health, and sanitation (23 CFR 635). The contractor shall provide all safeguards, safety devices and protective equipment and take any other needed actions as it determines, or as the contracting officer may determine, to be reasonably necessary to protect the life and health of employees on the job and the safety of the public and to protect property in connection with the performance of the work covered by the contract.
2. It is a condition of this contract, and shall be made a condition of each subcontract, which the contractor enters into pursuant to this contract, that the contractor and any subcontractor shall not permit any employee, in performance of the contract, to work in surroundings or under conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous to his/her health or safety, as determined under construction safety and health standards (29 CFR 1926) promulgated by the Secretary of Labor, in accordance with Section 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3704).
3. Pursuant to 29 CFR 1926.3, it is a condition of this contract that the Secretary of Labor or authorized representative thereof, shall have right of entry to any site of contract performance to inspect or investigate the matter of compliance with the construction safety and health standards and to carry out the duties of the Secretary under Section 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C.3704).

H. FALSE STATEMENTS CONCERNING HIGHWAY PROJECTS

In order to assure high quality and durable construction in conformity with approved plans and specifications and a high degree of reliability on statements and representations made by engineers, contractors, suppliers, and workers on Federal-aid highway projects, it is essential that all persons concerned with the project perform their functions as carefully, thoroughly, and honestly as possible. Willful falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation with respect to any facts related to the project is a violation of Federal law. To prevent any misunderstanding regarding the seriousness of these and similar acts, Form FHWA-1022 shall be posted on each Federal-aid highway project (23 CFR 635) in one or more places where it is readily available to all persons concerned with the project.

18 U.S.C. 1020 reads as follows:

"Whoever, being an officer, agent, or employee of the United States, or of any State or Territory, or whoever, whether a person, association, firm, or corporation, knowingly makes any false statement, false representation, or false report as to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of the material used or to be used, or the quantity or quality of the work performed or to be performed, or the cost thereof in connection with the submission of plans, maps, specifications, contracts, or costs of construction on any highway or related project submitted for approval to the Secretary of Transportation; or

Whoever knowingly makes any false statement, false representation, false report or false claim with respect to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of any work performed or to

be performed, or materials furnished or to be furnished, in connection with the construction of any highway or related project approved by the Secretary of Transportation; or

Whoever knowingly makes any false statement or false representation as to material fact in any statement, certificate, or report submitted pursuant to provisions of the Federal-aid Roads Act approved July 1, 1916, (39 Stat. 355), as amended and supplemented; Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years or both."

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF CLEAN AIR ACT AND FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

By submission of this bid/proposal or the execution of this contract, or subcontract, as appropriate, the bidder, proposer, Federal-aid construction contractor, or subcontractor, as appropriate, will be deemed to have stipulated as follows:

1. That any person who is or will be utilized in the performance of this contract is not prohibited from receiving an award due to a violation of Section 508 of the Clean Water Act or Section 306 of the Clean Air Act.
2. That the contractor agrees to include or cause to be included the requirements of paragraph (1) of this Section X in every subcontract, and further agrees to take such action as the contracting agency may direct as a means of enforcing such requirements.

J. ENERGY CONSERVATION

The contractor agrees to comply with 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.

K. USED OR RE-CYCLED OR RECOVERED MATERIALS

Contractors must comply with 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.

Certification for Federal-Aid Contracts

The prospective participant certifies by signing and submitting this bid or proposal, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal 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 Federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

This certification is material representation of the 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.

The prospective participant also agrees by submitting his or her bid or proposal that he or she shall require that the language of this certification be included in all lower tier subcontracts, which exceed \$100,000 and that all such subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) POLICY CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Policy. It shall be the policy of the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) to ensure nondiscriminatory opportunity for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) to participate in the performance of all contracts and subcontracts financed with Federal funds as specified by the regulations of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) and as set forth below.

1. **Policy.** It is the policy of USDOT that DBEs as defined in 49 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 26 shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds. Consequently, the DBE requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 and 23 CFR, Chapter 1, Part 230, Subpart b apply to this contract.
2. **DBE Obligation.** The State and its Contractors agree to ensure that DBEs as defined in 49 CFR Part 26, have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts and subcontracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds. **Each subcontract the prime contractor signs with a subcontractor must include this assurance:** *The contractor, sub recipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of USDOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy, as VTrans deems appropriate.*
3. **Sanctions for Noncompliance.** The Contractor is hereby advised that failure of the Contractor, or any Subcontractor performing work under this contract, to carry out the requirements set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall constitute a breach of contract and after the notification of the Vermont Agency of Transportation, Secretary of Transportation, may result in termination of this contract by the State or such remedy as the State deems necessary.
4. **Inclusion in Subcontracts.** The Contractor shall insert in each of its subcontracts this Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Policy and also a clause requiring its subcontractors to include this same Policy in any lower tier subcontracts which they may enter into, together with a clause requiring the inclusion of the Policy in any further subcontract that may in turn be made. This Policy shall not be incorporated by reference.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Goals. The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is required to set an overall DBE goal for participation in all transportation related Federal-aid projects. The goal is determined following guidelines set forth in 49 CFR 26.45, and based on the availability of ready, willing and able DBEs who submitted bids and quotes for transportation related projects, compared as a percentage of all available contractors who submitted bids and quotes for transportation related projects during the same time period. The DBE goal may be adjusted to take into account other factors impacting DBE utilization, in an effort to narrowly tailor the overall DBE goal. The detailed goal setting methodology and current overall DBE goal may be viewed on the VTrans website at: <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/civil-rights/doing-business/dbe-center/program-goals>

The VTrans overall DBE goal is currently achieved by a combination of contract specific goals and a race/gender neutral policy. Contractors should be proactive and solicit bids and quotes from certified DBEs for use when submitting their own bids and employ certified DBEs when participating on transportation related projects.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Definition. A DBE is defined as a business that is owned and controlled by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged person(s). For the purposes of this definition:

- (1) "Socially and economically disadvantaged person" means an individual who is a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States and who is a Woman, Black, Hispanic, Portuguese, Native American, Asian American, or a member of another group, or an individual found to be disadvantaged by the Small Business Administration pursuant to Section 3 of the Small Business Act.
- (2) "Owned and controlled" means a business which is:
 - a. A sole proprietorship legitimately owned and controlled by an individual who is a disadvantaged person.
 - b. A partnership, joint venture or limited liability company in which at least 51% of the beneficial ownership interests legitimately is held by a disadvantaged person(s).
 - c. A corporation or other entity in which at least 51% of the voting interest and 51% of the beneficial ownership interests legitimately are held by a disadvantaged person(s).

The disadvantaged group owner(s) or stockholder(s) must possess control over management, interest in capital, and interest in earnings commensurate with percentage of ownership. Disadvantaged participation in a joint venture must also be based on the sharing of real earnings, as above. If the disadvantaged group ownership interests are real, substantial and continuing and not created solely to meet the requirements of the program, a firm is considered a bona fide DBE.

Certified DBE Directory. The current Vermont Unified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Directory is available online at: <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/civil-rights/doing-business/dbe-center/directory>. This directory contains all currently certified DBEs available for work in Vermont and is updated continuously. Only firms listed in this directory are eligible for DBE credit on Vermont Federal-aid projects. If you have questions about DBE certification, or do not have access to the Internet, please call the [AOT DBE Program Manager](#) for assistance.

Counting DBE Participation Towards Project Goals. For payments made to DBE contractors to be counted toward DBE goals, the DBE contractors must perform a commercially useful function (CUF). The DBE must be responsible for execution of the work of the contract and must carry out its responsibilities by performing, managing, and supervising the work involved, consistent with standard industry practices.

This means that:

- The DBE must also be responsible for ordering its own materials and supplies, determining quantity and quality, negotiating price, installing (where applicable) and paying for the material itself;
- The DBE must perform work commensurate with the amount of its contract;
- The DBE's contribution cannot be that of an extra participant or a conduit through which funds are passed in order to obtain the appearance of DBE participation;
- The DBE must exercise responsibility for at least fifty percent of the total cost of its contract with its own workforce;
- None of the DBE's work can be subcontracted back to the prime contractor, nor can the DBE employ the prime's or other subcontractor's supervisors currently working on the project;
- The DBE's labor force must be separate and apart from that of the prime contractor or other subcontractors on the project. Transferring crews between primes, subcontractors, and DBE contractors is not acceptable;
- The DBE owner must hold necessary professional or craft license(s) or certification(s) for the type of work he/she performs on the project;
- The DBE may rent or lease, at competitive rates, equipment needed on the project from customary leasing sources or from other subcontractors on the project.

Allowable credit for payments made to DBEs for work performed. A contractor may take credit for payments made to a certified DBE that satisfies CUF requirements at the following rate:

- A DBE Prime Contractor: Count 100% of the value of the work performed by own forces, equipment and materials towards the DBE goals.
- An approved DBE subcontractor: Count 100% of the value of work performed by the DBE's own forces, equipment and materials, excluding the following:
 - The cost of materials/supplies purchased from a non-DBE Prime Contractor.
 - The value of work provided by non-DBE lower tier subcontractors, including non-DBE trucking to deliver asphalt to a DBE contractor.
- A DBE owner-operator of construction equipment: Count 100% of expenditures committed.
- A DBE manufacturer: Count 100% of expenditures committed. The manufacturer must be a firm that operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces on the premises the materials or supplies obtained by the Contractor.
- A regular DBE dealer/supplier: Count 60% of expenditures committed. A regular dealer/supplier is defined as a firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, warehouse or other establishment, in which the materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract are bought, kept in stock, and regularly sold or leased to the public in the usual course of business. A person may

be a dealer in such bulk items as petroleum products, steel, cement, gravel, stone or asphalt without owning, operating or maintaining a place of business, if the person both owns and operates distribution equipment for the products, by the means of a long term agreement, and not by a contract by contract basis.

- A DBE broker: Count for DBE credit only the fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement, and, fees and transportation charges for the delivery of materials or supplies required at the job site, but not the cost of materials procured. A broker is defined as any person(s) or firm who arranges or expedites transactions for materials or supplies, and does not take physical possession of the materials or supplies at their place of business for resale.
- A DBE renter of construction equipment to a contractor: Count 20% of expenditures committed, with or without operator.
- A bona fide DBE service provider: Count 100% of reasonable fees or commissions. Eligible services include professional, technical, consultant, or managerial, services and assistance in the procurement of essential personnel, facilities, equipment, materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract. Eligible services also include agencies providing bonding and insurance specifically required for the performance of the contract.
- A trucking, hauling or delivery operation: Count 100% of expenditures committed when trucks are owned, operated, licensed and insured by the DBE and used on the contract and, if applicable, includes the cost of the materials and supplies. 100% of expenditures committed when the DBE leases trucks from another DBE firm including an owner-operator. 100% of reasonable fees, or commissions, the DBE receives as a result of a lease arrangement for trucks from a non-DBE, including an owner-operator.
- Any combination of the above.

Removal of Approved DBE From Transportation Related Project. Contractors may not terminate for convenience, any approved DBE subcontractor and perform the work with their own forces, without prior written consent from the [AOT DBE Program Manager or the AOT Civil Rights Director](#)

Federal-aid projects which specify a DBE contract goal. The provisions of the Vermont Agency of Transportation Supplemental Specification – Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Utilization (CR 160) shall apply to all VTrans Federal-aid projects which specify a DBE contract goal.

Compliance With Prompt Payment Statute. In accordance with Vermont's Prompt Payment Act and VTrans Standard Specifications for Construction, Section 107.01(g), the Contractor shall fully comply with the provisions of 9 V.S.A. Chapter 102, also referred to as Act No. 74 of 1991 or the Prompt Payment Act, as amended.

Subcontractor Payments. In accordance with VTrans Standard Specifications for Construction, Section 107.01(h), on all federal-aid and state funded contracts, the

Contractor, during the life of the Contract and on a monthly basis, shall submit electronically, a listing of payments to subcontractors on the form specified by the State and made available at: <http://apps.vtrans.vermont.gov/promptpay/>. Electronic reports shall be filed with the Agency Office of Civil Rights by an authorized representative and received in the Agency Office of Civil Rights on or before the tenth working day after month end. Contractors without access to the internet shall obtain and submit manual reports to the Agency Office of Civil Rights. Manual reports shall be signed by an authorized representative, sent to the Agency Office of Civil Rights, and postmarked on or before the tenth working day after month end. There shall be no direct compensation allowed the Contractor for this work, but the cost thereof shall be included in the general cost of the work. In accordance with 9 V.S.A. Section 4003, notwithstanding any contrary agreement, payments made to subcontractors after seven days from receipt of a corresponding progress payment by the State to the Contractor, or seven days after receipt of a subcontractor's invoice, whichever is later, violate this agreement. Violations shall be reported to the Agency Office of Civil Rights for review. Failure to resolve disputes in a timely manner may result in a complaint made to the Agency Pre-qualification Committee. In this Committee's judgment, appropriate penalties may be involved for failure to comply with this specification. Penalties may include suspension, reduction or revocation of the Contractor's pre-qualification rating. This clause shall be included in the prime Contractor's Contract made with all if its subcontractors.

Assurance Appendix A

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the “contractor”) agrees as follows:

1. **Compliance with Regulations:** The contractor (hereinafter includes consultants) will comply with the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.
2. **Nondiscrimination:** The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, will not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, income-level, or LEP in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor will not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Acts and the Regulations as set forth in Appendix E, including employment practices when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 49 CFR Part 21.
3. **Solicitations for Subcontracts, Including Procurements of Materials and Equipment:** In all solicitations, either by competitive bidding, or negotiation made by the contractor for work to be performed under a subcontract, including procurements of materials, or leases of equipment, each potential subcontractor or supplier will be notified by the contractor of the contractor’s obligations under this contract and the Acts and the Regulations relative to Non-discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, income-level, or LEP.
4. **Information and Reports:** The contractor will provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto and will permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be determined by the Recipient or the FHWA to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Acts, Regulations, and instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish the information, the contractor will so certify to the Recipient or the FHWA, as appropriate, and will set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.
5. **Sanctions for Noncompliance:** In the event of a contractor’s noncompliance with the Non-discrimination provisions of this contract, the Recipient will impose such contract sanctions as it or the FHWA may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:
 - a. withholding payments to the contractor under the contract until the contractor complies; and/or
 - b. cancelling, terminating, or suspending a contract, in whole or in part.
6. **Incorporation of Provisions:** The contractor will include the provisions of paragraphs one through six in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto. The contractor will take action with respect to any subcontract or procurement

as the Recipient or the FHWA may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, that if the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with litigation by a subcontractor, or supplier because of such direction, the contractor may request the Recipient to enter into any litigation to protect the interests of the Recipient. In addition, the contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

Assurance Appendix E

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the “contractor”) agrees to comply with the following non-discrimination statutes and authorities; including but not limited to:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*, 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin), as implemented by 49 C.F.R. § 21.1 *et seq.* and 49 C.F.R. § 303;
- The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, (42 U.S.C. § 4601), (prohibits unfair treatment of persons displaced or whose property has been acquired because of Federal or Federal-aid programs and projects);
- Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, (23 U.S.C. § 324 *et seq.*), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.*), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability); and 49 CFR Part 27;
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, (42 U.S.C. § 6101 *et seq.*), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age);
- Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, (49 USC § 471, Section 47123), as amended, (prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex);
- The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (102 Stat. 28.), (“...*which restore[d] the broad scope of coverage and to clarify the application of title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.*”);
- Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131 – 12189) as implemented by Department of Justice regulations at 28 C.F.R. parts 35 and 36, and Department of Transportation regulations at 49 C.F.R. parts 37 and 38;
- The Federal Aviation Administration’s Non-discrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex);
- Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, which ensures non-discrimination against minority populations by discouraging programs, policies, and activities with disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations;
- Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, and resulting agency guidance, national origin discrimination includes discrimination because of limited English proficiency (LEP). To ensure compliance with Title VI, you must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to your programs (70 Fed. Reg. at 74087 to 74100);
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits you from discriminating because of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*), as implemented by 49 C.F.R. § 25.1 *et seq.*