

**STATE OF LOUISIANA**  
**COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION**  
**AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**FOR**  
**PROFESSIONAL OYSTER BIOLOGY SERVICES**

**RFP NO. 2503-13-36**

**PROPOSAL DUE DATE/TIME:**

**FEBRUARY 11, 2013/3:00PM**

**JANUARY 11, 2013**

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## **1 GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **1.1 Purpose**

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana (herein referred to as the CPRA) for the purpose of conducting biological surveys of public and private oyster grounds on an as-needed basis.

### **1.2 Background**

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) is seeking the services of a professional oyster biologist or firm to do work throughout the coastal parishes of Louisiana. Work to be performed shall include conducting biological surveys of public and private oyster grounds potentially affected by coastal protection, conservation or restoration projects in order to determine water bottom type and standing crop, delineating areas potentially directly impacted by coastal protection, conservation, or restoration projects, and providing consulting services regarding oyster biology, oyster cultivation, and other potential impacts on oyster grounds by coastal protection, conservation or restoration projects on an as-needed basis. CPRA will provide to the Contractor a site location showing the approximate location and size of each project area to be reviewed. CPRA will also designate a Contract Manager who will coordinate throughout the full contract period with the Contractor. Any technical information pertaining to specific project features, project maps, plans and specifications, or monitoring plans which are required by the Contractor to successfully accomplish the tasks below will be provided by the CPRA upon the request of the Contractor.

### **1.3 Scope of Services**

Attachment 1 details the scope of services and deliverables or desired results that the State requires of the selected Contractor.

## **2 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### **2.1 Term of Contract**

It is the intention of this RFP to award one contract. The period of any contract resulting from this RFP is tentatively scheduled to begin on or about March 1, 2013 and to continue through February 29, 2016. The State has the right to contract for up to three years upon approval.

### **2.2 Pre-proposal Conference**

*NOT APPLICABLE FOR THIS SOLICITATION*

### **2.3 Proposer Inquiries**

Written questions regarding RFP requirements or Scope of Services must be submitted to the RFP Coordinator as listed below.

Renita Hoskins  
Contracts & Grants Administrator  
P.O. Box 94396

Baton Rouge, LA 70804  
 Phone: 225-342-4513  
 Fax: 225-342-8700  
 Email: renita.hoskins@la.gov

The State will consider written inquiries and requests for clarification of the content of this RFP received from potential proposers. Written inquiries must be received by 3:00 P.M. CST on the date specified in the Schedule of Events. The State reserves the right to modify the RFP should a change be identified that is in the best interest of the State.

Official responses to all questions submitted by potential proposers will be posted at <http://www.prd.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/lapac/pubmain.asp>, [www.dnr.louisiana.gov/contracts](http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov/contracts) and <http://coastal.la.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&nid=159&pnid=78&pid=191&catid=0&elid=0>.

Only Renita Hoskins, Contracts & Grants Administrator has the authority to officially respond to proposer's questions on behalf of the State. Any communications from any other individuals are not binding to the State.

## 2.4 Definitions

TERM	DEFINITION
Contractor	A firm or individual who is awarded a contract
Proposal	A response to an RFP
Proposer	A firm or individual who responds to an RFP
RFP	A request for proposals
Shall, Must, or Will	Denotes mandatory language; a requirement that must be met without alteration
Should, Can, or May	Denotes desirable, non-mandatory language

## 2.5 Schedule of Events

Event	Date
Advertise RFP and mail public announcements	1/11/2013
Deadline for receipt of Written inquiries	1/25/2013
Issue responses to written inquiries	1/31/2013
Deadline for receipt of proposals	2/11/2013
Announce award of contractor selection	2/22/2013

**NOTE: The State of Louisiana reserves the right to change this schedule of RFP events, as it deems necessary.**

### **3 PROPOSAL INFORMATION**

#### **3.1 Minimum Qualifications of Proposer**

Proposers must meet the following minimum qualifications:

Lead biologists completing these duties must meet the following minimum requirements:

- A. Have a college degree in a biological science, or have been accepted by a federal or state court in Louisiana as an expert witness in the field of oyster biology or oyster ecology.
- B. Acquired five (5) or more years professional experience (prior to deadline for receipt of proposals) conducting oyster lease surveys and standing crop analyses.

#### **3.2 Determination of Responsibility**

Determination of the proposer's responsibility relating to this RFP shall be made according to the standards set forth in LAC 34: 136. The State must find that the selected proposer:

Has adequate financial resources for performance, or has the ability to obtain such resources as required during performance;

Has the necessary experience, organization, technical qualifications, skills, and facilities, or has the ability to obtain them;

Is able to comply with the proposed or required time of delivery or performance schedule;

Has a satisfactory record of integrity, judgment, and performance; and

Is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.

Proposers should ensure that their proposals contain sufficient information for the State to make its determination by presenting acceptable evidence of the above to perform the contracted services.

##### **3.2.1 Right to Prohibit Award**

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 39:2192, in awarding contracts after August 15, 2010, any public entity is authorized to reject a proposal or bid from, or not award the contract to, a business in which any individual with an ownership interest of five percent or more, has been convicted of, or has entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to any state felony or equivalent federal felony crime committed in the solicitation or execution of a contract or bid awarded under the laws governing public contracts under the provisions of Chapter 10 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, professional, personal, consulting, and social services procurement under the provisions of Chapter 16 of this Title, or the Louisiana Procurement Code under the provisions of Chapter 17 of this Title.

### **3.3 RFP Addenda**

State reserves the right to change the schedule of events or revise any part of the RFP by issuing an addendum to the RFP at any time. Addenda, if any, will be posted at <http://wwwprd.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/lapac/pubmain.asp>, [www.dnr.louisiana.gov/contracts](http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov/contracts) and <http://coastal.la.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&nid=159&pnid=78&pid=191&catid=0&elid=0>. It is the responsibility of the proposer to check the website for addenda to the RFP, if any.

### **3.4 Waiver of Administrative Informalities**

The State reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to waive minor administrative informalities contained in any proposal.

### **3.5 Proposal Rejection/RFP Cancellation**

Issuance of this RFP in no way constitutes a commitment by the State to award a contract. The State reserves the right to accept or reject, in whole or part, all proposals submitted and/or cancel this announcement if it is determined to be in the State's best interest.

### **3.6 Withdrawal of Proposal**

A proposer may withdraw a proposal that has been submitted at any time up to the date and time the proposal is due. To accomplish this, a written request signed by the authorized representative of the proposer must be submitted to the RFP Coordinator.

### **3.7 Subcontracting Information**

The State shall have a single prime contractor as the result of any contract negotiation, and that prime contractor shall be responsible for all deliverables specified in the RFP and proposal. This general requirement notwithstanding, proposers may enter into subcontractor arrangements, however, should acknowledge in their proposals total responsibility for the entire contract.

If the proposer intends to subcontract for portions of the work, the proposer should identify any subcontractor relationships and include specific designations of the tasks to be performed by the subcontractor. Information required of the proposer under the terms of this RFP shall also be required for each subcontractor. The prime contractor shall be the single point of contact for all subcontract work.

Unless provided for in the contract with the State, the prime contractor shall not contract with any other party for any of the services herein contracted without the express prior written approval of the State.

### **3.8 Ownership of Proposal**

All materials submitted in response to this request shall become the property of the State. Selection or rejection of a proposal does not affect this right.

### **3.9 Proprietary Information**

Only information which is in the nature of legitimate trade secrets or non-published financial data may be deemed proprietary or confidential. Any material within a proposal identified as

such must be clearly marked in the proposal and will be handled in accordance with the Louisiana Public Records Act, R.S. 44: 1-44 and applicable rules and regulations. Any proposal marked as confidential or proprietary in its entirety may be rejected without further consideration or recourse.

### **3.10 Cost of Preparing Proposals**

The State shall not be liable for any costs incurred by proposers prior to issuance of or entering into a contract. Costs associated with developing the proposal, preparing for oral presentations, and any other expenses incurred by the Proposer in responding to this RFP are entirely the responsibility of the Proposer and shall not be reimbursed in any manner by the State.

### **3.11 Errors and Omissions in Proposal**

The State will not be liable for any errors in proposals. The State reserves the right to make corrections or amendments due to minor errors identified in proposals by State or the Proposer. The State, at its option, has the right to request clarification or additional information from the proposers.

### **3.12 Contract Award and Execution**

The State reserves the right to enter into a contract without further discussion of the proposal submitted based on the initial offers received.

The State reserves the right to contract for all or a partial list of services offered in the proposal.

The RFP and proposal of the selected Proposer shall become part of any contract initiated by the State.

The selected Proposer shall be expected to enter into a contract that is the same as the sample contract included in Attachment III. The Proposer should submit with its proposal any exceptions or exact contract deviations that its firm may wish to propose to the standard contract format. Negotiations may begin with the announcement of the selected Proposer.

If the contract negotiation period exceeds thirty (30) calendar days or if the selected Proposer fails to sign the final contract within thirty (30) business days of delivery, the State may elect to cancel the award and award the contract to the next-highest-ranked Proposer.

### **3.13 Code of Ethics**

Proposers are responsible for determining that there will be no conflict or violation of the Ethics Code if their company is awarded the contract. The Louisiana Board of Ethics is the only entity which can officially rule on ethics issues.

## **4.0 RESPONSE INSTRUCTIONS**

### **4.1 Proposal Submission**

Firms/individuals who are interested in providing services requested under this RFP must submit a proposal containing the information specified in this section. The proposal must be received in hard copy (printed) version by the RFP Coordinator on or before 3:00 P.M. Central Daylight Time on the date specified in the Schedule of Events. FAX or e-mail submissions are not acceptable. Proposers mailing their proposals should allow sufficient mail delivery time to



ensure receipt of their proposal by the time specified. The proposal package must be delivered at the proposer's expense to:

Renita Hoskins  
Contracts & Grants Administrator  
P.O. Box 94396  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804  
Phone: 225-342-4513  
Fax: 225-342-8700  
Email: renita.hoskins@la.gov

For courier delivery, the street address is 617 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, 1272, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802 and the telephone number is 225-342-4513. It is solely the responsibility of each Proposer to ensure that their proposal is delivered at the specified place and prior to the deadline for submission. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

The State requests that (6) of copies of the proposal be submitted to the RFP Coordinator at the address specified. At least one copy of the proposal shall contain original signatures of those company officials or agents duly authorized to sign proposals or contracts on behalf of the organization. A certified copy of a board resolution granting such authority should be submitted if proposer is a corporation. The copy of the proposal with original signatures will be retained for incorporation in any contract resulting from this RFP.

## **4.2 Proposal Format**

Proposers should respond to this RFP with a Technical Proposal which includes the Cost Proposal as requested in the Scope of Services (Attachment I).

## **4.3 Cover Letter**

A cover letter should be submitted on the Proposer's official business letterhead explaining the intent of the Proposer.

## **4.4 Technical and Cost Proposal**

Proposals should be submitted as specified in Section 5, and should include enough information to satisfy evaluators that the Proposer has the appropriate experience and qualifications to perform the scope of services as described herein. Proposers should respond to all requested areas.

Proposers are encouraged to submit proposals in a concise, orderly fashion that includes complete, appropriate comment, documentation, and submittals to address the RFP requirements. Each Proposer is solely responsible for the clarity and completeness of their proposal.

## **4.5 Certification Statement**

The Proposer must sign and submit the Certification Statement shown in Attachment II.

## **5.0 PROPOSAL CONTENT**

A. VOLUME I. TECHNICAL PROPOSAL (ONE ORIGINAL and FIVE COPIES)

1. The Proposer shall complete and sign the attached Certification Statement (ATTACHMENT II).
2. Table of Contents: Proposals should include a paginated table of contents to facilitate locating the information included.
3. Abstract: Proposals should include a concise abstract of about 250 words stating the proposer's overview of the project and the proposed method of implementation.
4. Technical Discussion: This section should be presented in as much detail as practical and include the following:
  - a. Scope of Services (SOS)
    1. The proposer should prepare a scope of services which specifically responds (in order listed) to each item specified in Attachment I, (SOS). This section should present a detailed statement of the methodology to be utilized to carry out each task and a precise description of the deliverables to be received by the State as end products of the services rendered.
    2. Project Organization and Management: This subsection should include the project team proposed for this work (identification of persons assigned to individual tasks), and the function and responsibilities of subcontractors.
  - b. The proposer should provide an explanation of any additional tasks to be performed which are deemed necessary by the proposer for successful project completion; explanation of deviation from and/or deletion of any tasks listed in Attachment I, SOS.
5. Personnel Qualifications: This section should contain a list of personnel to be used on this project and their qualifications. Resumes, including education, background, accomplishments and any other pertinent information, should be included for each of the key personnel (including subcontractors) to be assigned for direct work on the project. The proposer should provide clear and convincing evidence of its ability to meet or exceed the minimum qualifications described in Section 3.1.
6. Relevant Company Experience: This section should include the proposer's and subcontractor's experience which is relevant to the proposed project including company and privately-sponsored work, a representative list of current governmental contracts in this and related fields, and/or such contracts completed in the recent past, including dollar amount of contract, title, sponsoring agency, contract number, name and telephone number of contracting officer. The Proposer should provide information to substantiate its prior experience, prior performance, demonstrated expert knowledge in the field of oyster biology, and the

ability to perform concurrent task orders while maintaining high quality work. The Proposer should submit a sample oyster survey report with proposal. If not included in proposal, CPRA may request a sample oyster survey report prior to the contract being awarded which will remain confidential upon request by the submitting party.

7. Subcontractors: Persons who are not full time employees of the proposer shall be considered as subcontractors. All subcontractors necessary to conduct the work MUST be identified, including the percentage of project to be accomplished. For subcontractor(s) or Contractor(s), the proposer should include letters of agreement to undertake their portion of the proposed project.
8. Insurance: The proposal should include a certificate of insurance as proof that proposer has in effect limits of insurance required by Attachment III, Sample Contract. If selected as a contractor, the proposer shall provide certificates of insurance as proof of coverage at the time of contract negotiation.
9. Cost Proposal: A fee schedule containing a price for each of items below **MUST** be submitted:

<b><u>Rate (\$/hr)</u></b>	<b><u>Personnel Required</u></b>
\$ _____ /hr	Senior Professional
\$ _____ /hr	Professional
\$ _____ /hr	Professional Land Surveyor
\$ _____ /hr	Certified Scientific Diver
\$ _____ /hr	Expert Witness
\$ _____ /hr	Technical
\$ _____ /hr	Clerical
<b><u>Rate (\$/day)</u></b>	<b><u>Equipment Required</u></b>
\$ _____ /day	Global Positioning System (sub-meter accuracy)
\$ _____ /day	Side Scan Sonar (including mobilization and demobilization)
\$ _____ /day	Survey-grade, dual frequency, digital fathometer

**Attachment**

Please attach an additional rate schedule of other expenses of fees and equipment, boats, supplies, reproduction costs, rentals, etc. including classes of personnel (\$/hr rate), that are expected to be paid by the CPRA.

**PROPOSALS THAT DO NOT CONTAIN HOURLY RATES FOR EACH STAFF CLASSIFICATION ABOVE SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED. THE PROPOSER SHALL NOT ADD ANY ADDITIONAL STAFF CLASSIFICATIONS.**

At the time issuance of Task Order(s), services not required by the rate schedule sheet will be negotiated.

NOTE: Travel and other allowable expenses shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Division of Administration State General Travel Regulations, within the limits established for State Employees as defined in Division of Administration Policy and Procedure Memorandum No. 49 (PPM No. 49). PPM 49 can be found at the website: [www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/travel/traveloffice.htm](http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/travel/traveloffice.htm). All out of state travel will be subject to prior approval by the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources or Secretary of Department of Environmental Quality, whichever is applicable.

**B. VOLUME II. FINANCIAL INFORMATION (SEPARATE VOLUME) (1 COPY)**

1. Financial Capability: Proposer **shall** provide the latest three years of financial statements, preferably audited, or other evidence of financial status sufficient to demonstrate its capability, and the capability of each of its subcontractors, to carry out the project, i.e. letters from banks and other financial companies.
2. Overhead rate: The proposer's overhead rate, with a complete, detailed breakdown of the components and percentages, **must** be included with the proposal. The method for computation of the overhead rate for this specific project must be included. In addition, the normal overhead rate used for similar projects should be included. If the overhead rate is incorporated into hourly rates or other cost categories, the proposer must identify the categories used and the percentage attributable to overhead.

**C. Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Small Entrepreneurships (Veteran Initiative) and Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) Programs Participation**

Each proposer should address how the firm will meet the following:

The State of Louisiana Veteran and Hudson Initiatives are designed to provide additional opportunities for Louisiana-based small entrepreneurships (sometimes referred to as LaVet's and

SE's respectively) to participate in contracting and procurement with the State. A certified Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned small entrepreneurship (LaVet) and a Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) small entrepreneurship are business that have been certified by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development. All eligible vendors are encouraged to become certified. Qualification requirements and online certification are available at [https://smallbiz.louisianaforward.com/index\\_2.asp](https://smallbiz.louisianaforward.com/index_2.asp).

A current list of certified Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurships may be obtained from the Louisiana Economic Development Certification System at [https://smallbiz.louisianaforward.com/index\\_2.asp](https://smallbiz.louisianaforward.com/index_2.asp). Additionally, a list of Hudson and Veteran Initiative small entrepreneurhips, which have been certified by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development and who have opted to register in the State of Louisiana LaGov Supplier Portal [https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/irj/portal/anonymous?guest\\_user=self\\_reg](https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/irj/portal/anonymous?guest_user=self_reg) may be accessed from the State of Louisiana Procurement and Contract (LaPAC) Network <https://wwwprd.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/lapac/vendor/srchven.asp>. When using this site, determine the search criteria (i.e. alphabetized list of all certified vendors, by commodities, etc.) and select Smalle, VSE, or DVSE.

If a proposer is not a certified small entrepreneurship as described herein, but plans to use a certified small entrepreneurship(s), proposer shall include in their proposal the names of their certified Veteran Initiative or Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship subcontractor(s), a description of the work each will perform, and the dollar value of each subcontract.

During the term of the contract and at expiration, the Contractor will also be required to report to Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship subcontractor or distributor participation and the dollar amount of each.

The statutes (R.S. 39:2171 et seq.) concerning the Veteran Initiative may be viewed at <http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=671504>; and the statutes (R.S. 39:2001 et seq.) concerning the Hudson Initiative may be viewed at <http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=96265>. The rules for the Veteran Initiative (LAC 19:VII. Chapters 11 and 15) and for the Hudson Initiative (LAC 19:VIII Chapters 11 and 13) may be viewed at <http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/se/se.htm>.

## **6.0 EVALUATION AND SELECTION**

### **6.1 Proposal Review Committee**

The evaluation of proposals will be accomplished by a Proposal Review Committee, to be designated by the state, which will determine the proposal most advantageous to the state, taking into consideration price and the other evaluation factors set forth in the RFP.

### **6.2 Administrative and Mandatory Screening**

All proposals will be reviewed to determine compliance with administrative and mandatory requirements as specified in the RFP. Proposals that are not in compliance will be rejected from further consideration.

### 6.3 Clarification of Proposals

The State reserves the right to seek clarification of any proposal for the purpose of identifying and eliminating minor irregularities or informalities.

### 6.4 Oral Presentations/Discussions May be Required

NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS SOLICITATION

### 6.5 Evaluation and Review

Proposals that pass the preliminary screening and mandatory requirements review will be evaluated based on information provided in the proposal. The evaluation will be conducted according to the following.

The Evaluation Team will evaluate and score the proposals using the criteria and scoring as follows:

CRITERIA	MAXIMUM SCORE
1. Approach and Methodology	30
2. Experience & Staff Qualifications	30
3. Cost Hourly (25) Daily (5)	30
4. Hudson/Veteran Small Entrepreneurship Program	10
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>100</b>

*Cost ratings (CR) will be determined using the following formula:*

*For cost evaluation purposes, all hourly rates shall be averaged. The proposer with the lowest personnel fee schedule average (LPFSA) will receive 25 points. All other proposals will be rated by multiplying the maximum possible points(25) by a fraction that consists of the lowest cost as numerator and cost proposal (CP) being evaluated as the denominator.  $CR = (LPFSA/CP * 25)$*

*For cost evaluation purposes, all daily rates shall be averaged. The proposer with the lowest equipment fee schedule average (LEFSA) will receive 5 points. All other proposals will be rated by multiplying the maximum possible points (5) by a fraction that consists of the lowest cost as numerator and cost proposal (CP) being evaluated as the denominator.  $CR = (LEFSA/CP * 5)$*

*The two sums will be added together to obtain a final cost score.*

### **6.5.1 Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Small Entrepreneurships (Veteran Initiative) and Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) Programs Participation**

Ten percent(10%) of the total evaluation points on this RFP are reserved for proposers who are themselves a certified Veteran or Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship or who will engage the participation of one or more certified Veteran or Hudson Initiatives small entrepreneurships as subcontractors.

Reserved points shall be added to the applicable proposers' evaluation score as follows:

#### Proposer Status and Reserved Points

- Proposer is a certified small entrepreneurship: Full amount of the reserved points
- Proposer is not a certified small entrepreneurship but has engaged one or more certified small entrepreneurships to participate as subcontractors or distributors. Points will be allocated based on the following criteria:
  - The number of certified small entrepreneurships to be utilized
  - The experience and qualifications of the certified small entrepreneurship(s)
  - The anticipated earnings to accrue to the certified small entrepreneurship(s)

### **6.6 Announcement of Contractor**

The Proposal Review Committee will compile the scores and make a recommendation to the head of the agency on the basis of the responsive and responsible proposer with the highest score.

The State will notify the successful Proposer and proceed to negotiate terms for final contract. Unsuccessful proposers will be notified in writing accordingly.

The proposals received (except for that information appropriately designated as confidential in accordance with R.S. 44.1 et seq), selection memorandum along with list of criteria used along with the weight assigned each criteria; scores of each proposal considered along with overall scores of each proposal considered, and a narrative justifying selection shall be made available, upon request, to all interested parties after the "Notice of Intent to Award" letter has been issued.

Any proposer aggrieved by the proposed award has the right to submit a protest in writing to the head of the agency issuing the proposal within 14 days after the award has been announced by the agency.

The award of a contract is subject to the approval of the Division of Administration, Office of Contractual Review.

## **7.0 SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS**

### **7.1 Corporation Requirements**

If the contractor is a corporation not incorporated under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the contractor shall have obtained a certificate of authority pursuant to R. S. 12:301-302 from the Secretary of State of Louisiana.

If the contractor is a for-profit corporation whose stock is not publicly traded, the contractor shall ensure that a disclosure of ownership form has been properly filed with the Secretary of State of Louisiana.

### **7.2 Billing and Payment**

Billing and payment terms shall be negotiated with the successful Proposer.

### **7.3 Confidentiality**

All financial, statistical, personal, technical and other data and information relating to the State's operation which are designated confidential by the State and made available to the contractor in order to carry out this contract, or which become available to the contractor in carrying out this contract, shall be protected by the contractor from unauthorized use and disclosure through the observance of the same or more effective procedural requirements as are applicable to the State. The identification of all such confidential data and information as well as the State's procedural requirements for protection of such data and information from unauthorized use and disclosure shall be provided by the State in writing to the contractor. If the methods and procedures employed by the contractor for the protection of the contractor's data and information are deemed by the State to be adequate for the protection of the State's confidential information, such methods and procedures may be used, with the written consent of the State, to carry out the intent of this paragraph. The contractor shall not be required under the provisions of the paragraph to keep confidential any data or information which is or becomes publicly available, is already rightfully in the contractor's possession, is independently developed by the contractor outside the scope of the contract, or is rightfully obtained from third parties.

Under no circumstance shall the contractor discuss and/or release information to the media concerning this project without prior express written approval of the CPRA.



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## **ATTACHMENT I: SCOPE OF SERVICES**

### **1. Introduction and Background**

The Contractor shall perform services throughout the coastal parishes of Louisiana. Work to be performed shall include conducting biological surveys of public and private oyster grounds potentially affected by coastal protection, conservation or restoration projects in order to determine water bottom type and standing crop, delineating areas potentially directly impacted by coastal protection, conservation, or restoration projects, and providing consulting services regarding oyster biology, oyster cultivation, and other potential impacts on oyster grounds by coastal protection, conservation or restoration projects on an as-needed basis.

CPRA will provide to the Contractor a site location showing the approximate location and size of each project area to be reviewed. CPRA will also designate a Contract Manager who will coordinate throughout the full contract period with the Contractor. Any technical information pertaining to specific project features, project maps, plans and specifications, or monitoring plans which are required by the Contractor to successfully accomplish the tasks below will be provided by the CPRA upon the request of the Contractor.

### **2. Performance of Task Order**

The Contractor shall perform all work required to accomplish the intent of the task order provided by CPRA. The Contractor shall be required to commence work on each written task order within fourteen (14) calendar days from receiving the CPRA written Notice to Proceed, with the exception of inclement weather impeding field work. The Contractor must also notify the CPRA Contract Manager if any problems arise with meeting the deadlines set forth in the Notice to Proceed. To perform the required work, the Contractor shall provide all professional staff, support staff, and specialists necessary to plan, supervise, perform, and report the required work. The Contractor shall furnish all labor, transportation, fuel, equipment, and materials necessary to perform the services required by each task order.

### **3. Scope of Work**

#### **A. Biological Oyster Surveys**

The Contractor shall conduct field surveys of private and/or public oyster grounds to determine water bottom type, standing crop, physiology, and percent oyster mortality. When requested by CPRA for large scale projects, the use of side scan sonar technology shall be required. In cases where the use of side scan sonar is required, the contractor shall provide interpretation of lease-specific side scan mosaic, including percent and total acreage of surface shell/reef in accordance with CPRA Oyster Lease Acquisition and Compensation Program regulations and protocols. Estimates of shell area will be conducted using high resolution image processing software calibrated to previously collected ground truth measurements of surface sediment shell content and type. Surveys shall be conducted using GPS

capable of sub-meter accuracy. All data provided must be geographically referenced.

- B. Delineation of Coastal Protection, Conservation or Restoration Project Impacts  
The Contractor shall determine, using best professional judgment and data collected by the Contractor and/or provided by the CPRA, the most probable areas of direct impact to oyster grounds resulting from individual coastal protection, conservation or restoration projects. The Contractor shall participate in field reconnaissance and design meetings, on an as-needed basis, of projects containing private and/or public oyster grounds.
- C. Consultation Services  
The Contractor shall provide consulting services regarding oyster biology, oyster cultivation, and other potential impacts on oyster grounds by coastal protection, conservation or restoration projects on an as-needed basis.

#### **4. Specific Deliverables**

- A. Oyster Survey Reports  
Reports shall include all data sheets, maps, procedures utilized; survey transects and coordinates, as well as results, discussions, and original photographs. Final reports shall be delivered in both hard copy and digital formats in a timely manner for all survey work completed.
- B. Delineation of Coastal Restoration Project Impacts  
Deliverables shall include final oyster survey reports showing all field work conducted, engineering data used, notes and other information collected from project managers, project and oyster lease maps utilized, and conclusions drawn regarding most probable areas of individual coastal protection, conservation or restoration project's direct impacts to oyster grounds. A map corresponding to these areas of direct impact shall be included in the report. Project field trips, design meetings, and correspondence with project managers shall be conducted by the Contractor on an as-needed basis.
- C. Consultation Services  
The Contractor shall provide consultation services on an as-needed basis in the form of data collection and/or meeting attendance regarding issues involving coastal protection, conservation or restoration impacts to oyster grounds, oyster biology, and/or oyster cultivation.

**ATTACHMENT II: CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby acknowledges she/he has read and understands all requirements and specifications of the Request for Proposals (RFP), including attachments.

**OFFICIAL CONTACT.** The State requests that the Proposer designate one person to receive all documents and the method in which the documents are best delivered. Identify the Contact name and fill in the information below: (Print Clearly)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Official Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

A. E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Facsimile Number with area code: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

C. US Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposer certifies that the above information is true and grants permission to the State or Agencies to contact the above named person or otherwise verify the information provided.

By its submission of this proposal and authorized signature below, Proposer certifies that:

1. The information contained in its response to this RFP is accurate;
2. Proposer complies with each of the mandatory requirements listed in the RFP and will meet or exceed the functional and technical requirements specified therein;
3. Proposer accepts the procedures, evaluation criteria, mandatory contract terms and conditions, and all other administrative requirements set forth in this RFP.
4. Proposer's quote is valid for at least 90 days from the proposal's due date;
5. Proposer understands that if selected as the successful Proposer, he/she will have **30** business days from the date of delivery of final contract in which to complete contract negotiations, if any, and execute the final contract document. (Agency insert number of days to correspond to same number referenced in RFP section number 3.12 Contract Award and Execution.)
6. Proposer certifies, by signing and submitting a proposal for \$25,000 or more, that their company, any subcontractors, or principals are not suspended or debarred by the General Services Administration (GSA) in accordance with the requirements in OMB Circular A-133. (A list of parties who have been suspended or debarred can be viewed via the internet at [www.epls.gov](http://www.epls.gov) .)

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Typed or Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE of Proposer's Authorized Representative	DATE
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## **ATTACHMENT III: SAMPLE CONTRACT**

### **STATE OF LOUISIANA CONTRACT FOR \*\* SERVICES**

ON THIS \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_, the **\*\*Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration (OCPR)\*\*** of the State of Louisiana, hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "State", and <contracting\_party> officially domiciled at <address>, <city>, <state> <zip> hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Contractor", do hereby enter into a contract under the following terms and conditions.

#### **1. SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Contractor shall provide the necessary personnel, materials, services and facilities to perform the work as set forth in the RFP (Appendix A) and the Proposal (Appendix B), attached hereto and made a part hereof.

#### **2. GOAL**

**\*\*LIST GOALS THIS CONTRACT\*\***

#### **3. OBJECTIVES**

**\*\*LIST OBJECTIVES OF THIS CONTRACT\*\***

#### **4. PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

The performance of the contract will be measured by the State Project Manager, authorized on behalf of the State, to evaluate the contractor's performance against the criteria in the Scope of Services and are identified as:

**\*\*LIST PERFORMANCE MEASURES WHICH SHOULD BE MEASURABLE AND TIME BOUND\*\***

The submission of satisfactory Monthly Progress Reports is required. Performance measures for this contract shall include Contractor's timely and successful completion, submission, and performance of any work product being sought and provided through this agreement, consistent with the provisions, goals and objectives of this contract.

#### **5. MONITORING PLAN**

<project\_manager> of **\*\*identify department or division\*\***, or **\*\*his/her\*\*** designee, will monitor the services provided by the contractor and the expenditure of funds under this contract. <project\_manager> will be primarily responsible for the day-to-day contact with the contractor and day-to-day monitoring of the contractor's performance. The monitoring plan is the following:

Contractor will perform various duties which are specifically provided for in this Contract and Appendices A and B.

- (1) A progress report shall be submitted by the Contractor with each invoice for payment on Form DNR-PR (Appendix C).
- (2) A final summary report shall be submitted by the Contractor on Form DNR-PR (Appendix C) with the final invoice for payment.

## **6. DELIVERABLES**

The Contract will be considered complete when Contractor has delivered and State has accepted all deliverables specified in the Scope of Services. The Contractor shall provide to the State the items specified in Appendices A and B as products of the services rendered under this contract.

## **7. SUBSTITUTION OF KEY PERSONNEL**

The Contractor's personnel assigned to this Contract may not be replaced without the written consent of the State. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed provided an equally qualified replacement is offered. In the event that any State or Contractor personnel become unavailable due to resignation, illness, or other factors, excluding assignment to project outside this contract, outside of the State's or Contractor's reasonable control, as the case may be, the State or the Contractor, shall be responsible for providing an equally qualified replacement in time to avoid delays in completing tasks. The contractor will make every reasonable attempt to assign the personnel listed in his proposal.

## **8. TERM OF CONTRACT**

The term for the fulfillment of services to be performed pursuant to this contract shall be from <begin\_date> through <end\_date>.

## **9. STATE FURNISHED RESOURCES**

The **\*\*Secretary/Executive Director\*\*** of the State will designate one or more persons on his staff to act as project manager(s) and the State will provide the following to assist the Contractor in the performance of the Scope of Services:

- a. Appropriate personnel for consultation, as required; and
- b. Access to relevant material required in the performance of the work.

## **10. TAXES**

Contractor is responsible for payment of all applicable taxes from the funds to be received under this contract. Contractor's federal tax identification number is <tax\_id>.

## **11. PAYMENT TERMS**

In consideration of the services required by this contract, State hereby agrees to pay to Contractor a maximum fee of <total\_amt\_wording>.

Payments are predicated upon successful completion and written approval by the State of the described tasks and deliverables as provided in Appendices A and B. Payments will be made to the Contractor after written acceptance by the State of the payment task and approval of an invoice. State will make every reasonable effort to make payments within 30 days of the approval of invoice and under a valid contract. Payment will be made only on approval of Contract Monitor, <project\_manager>, or his designee.

During the execution of tasks contained in the Scope of Services, the Contractor may submit invoices, not more frequently than monthly. The payment terms are as follows:

**\*\*Enter the negotiated hourly rates or payment terms\*\***

The final invoice shall be submitted within thirty (30) days following expiration of the contract.

Such payment amounts for work performed must be based on at least equivalent services rendered, and to the extent practical, will be keyed to clearly identifiable stages of progress as reflected in written reports submitted with the invoices. Contractor will not be paid more than the maximum amount of the contract.

Travel and other allowable expenses shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Division of Administration State General Travel Regulations, within the limits established for State Employees, as defined in Division of Administration Policy and Procedure Memorandum No. 49. All out of state travel will be subject to prior written approval of the Executive Director of the Department.

## **12. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE**

State may terminate this Contract for cause based upon the failure of Contractor to comply with the terms and/or conditions of the Contract; provided that the State shall give the Contractor written notice specifying the Contractor's failure. The notice for termination of cause shall be thirty (30) days unless the task is funded with money from CDBG, in which case the notification of termination of cause shall be five (5) days. If within thirty (30) days after receipt of such notice, the Contractor shall not have either corrected such failure or, in the case of failure which cannot be corrected in thirty (30) days, begun in good faith to correct said failure and thereafter proceeded diligently to complete such correction, then the State may, at its option, place the Contractor in default and the Contract shall terminate on the date specified in such notice. Failure to perform within the time agreed upon in the contract may constitute default and may cause cancellation of the contract.

Contractor may exercise any rights available to it under Louisiana law to terminate for cause upon the failure of the State to comply with the terms and conditions of this contract provided that the Contractor shall give the State written notice specifying the State agency's failure and a reasonable opportunity for the state to cure the defect.

## **13. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE**

State may terminate the Contract at any time without penalty by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the Contractor of such termination or negotiating with the Contractor an effective date. The notice for termination for convenience shall be thirty (30) days unless the task is funded with money from CDBG in which case the notification for convenience shall be ten (10) days.

Contractor shall be entitled to payment for deliverables in progress, to the extent work has been performed satisfactorily.

#### **14. TERMINATION FOR NON-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

The continuation of this contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds by the legislature to fulfill the requirements of the contract by the legislature. If the legislature fails to appropriate sufficient monies to provide for the continuation of the contract, or if such appropriation is reduced by the veto of the Governor or by any means provided in the appropriations act of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 to prevent the total appropriation for the year from exceeding revenues for that year, or for any other lawful purpose, and the effect of such reduction is to provide insufficient monies for the continuation of the contract, the contract shall terminate on the date of the beginning of the first fiscal year for which funds have not been appropriated.

#### **15. INDEMNIFICATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

Neither party shall be liable for any delay or failure in performance beyond its control resulting from acts of God or force majeure. The parties shall use reasonable efforts to eliminate or minimize the effect of such events upon performance of their respective duties under Contract.

If applicable, Contractor will indemnify, defend and hold the State and its Authorized Users harmless, without limitation, from and against any and all damages, expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), claims, judgments, liabilities and costs which may be finally assessed against the State in any action for infringement of a United States Letter Patent with respect to the Products furnished, or of any copyright, trademark, trade secret or intellectual property right, provided that the State shall give the Contractor: (i) prompt written notice of any action, claim or threat of infringement suit, or other suit, (ii) the opportunity to take over, settle or defend such action, claim or suit at Contractor's sole expense, and (iii) assistance in the defense of any such action at the expense of Contractor. Where a dispute or claim arises relative to a real or anticipated infringement, the State or its Authorized Users may require Contractor, at its sole expense, to submit such information and documentation, including formal patent attorney opinions, as the Commissioner of Administration shall require.

The Contractor shall not be obligated to indemnify that portion of a claim or dispute based upon: i) Authorized User's unauthorized modification or alteration of a Product, Material or Service; ii) Authorized User's use of the Product in combination with other products not furnished by Contractor; iii) Authorized User's use in other than the specified operating conditions and environment.

In addition to the foregoing, if the use of any item(s) or part(s) thereof shall be enjoined for any reason or if Contractor believes that it may be enjoined, Contractor shall have the right, at its own expense and sole discretion as the Authorized User's exclusive remedy to take action in the following order of precedence: (i) to procure for the State the right to continue using such item(s) or part (s) thereof, as applicable; (ii) to modify the component so that it becomes non-infringing equipment of at least equal quality and performance; or (iii) to replace said item(s) or part(s) thereof, as applicable, with non-infringing components of at least equal quality and performance, or (iv) if none of the foregoing is commercially reasonable, then provide monetary compensation to the State up to the dollar amount of the Contract.

For all other claims against the Contractor where liability is not otherwise set forth in the Contract as being "without limitation", and regardless of the basis on which the claim is made, Contractor's liability for direct damages, shall be the greater of \$100,000, the dollar amount of the Contract, or two (2) times the charges rendered by the Contractor under the Contract. Unless otherwise specifically enumerated herein or in the work order mutually agreed between the parties, neither party shall be liable to the other for special, indirect or consequential damages, including lost data or records (unless the Contractor is required to back-up the data or records as part of the work plan), even if the party has been advised of the possibility of such damages. Neither party shall be liable for lost profits, lost revenue or lost institutional operating savings.

The State and Authorized User may, in addition to other remedies available to them at law or equity and upon notice to the Contractor, retain such monies from amounts due Contractor, or may proceed against the performance and payment bond, if any, as may be necessary to satisfy any claim for damages, penalties, costs and the like asserted by or against them.

## **16. CONTRACT CONTROVERSIES**

Any claim or controversy arising out of the contract shall be resolved by the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 39:1524-26.

## **17. FUND USE**

Contractor agrees not to use contract proceeds to urge any elector to vote for or against any candidate or proposition on an election ballot nor shall such funds be used to lobby for or against any proposition or matter having the effect of law being considered by the Louisiana Legislature or any local governing authority. This provision shall not prevent the normal dissemination of factual information relative to a proposition on any election ballot or a proposition or matter having the effect of law being considered by the Louisiana Legislature or any local governing authority.

## **18. ASSIGNMENT**

No contractor shall assign any interest in this contract by assignment, transfer, or novation, without prior written consent of the State. This provision shall not be construed to prohibit the contractor from assigning to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution any money due or to become due from approved contracts without such prior written consent. Notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the State.

## **19. RIGHT TO AUDIT**

The State Legislative Auditor, agency, and/or federal auditors and internal auditors of the Division of Administration shall have the option to audit all accounts directly pertaining to the contract for a period of three (3) years from the date of the last payment made under this contract. Records shall be made available during normal working hours for this purpose.



## **20. CONTRACT MODIFICATION**

No amendment or variation of the terms of this contract shall be valid unless made in writing, signed by the parties and approved as required by law. No oral understanding or agreement not incorporated in the contract is binding on any of the parties.

## **21. CONFIDENTIALITY OF DATA**

All financial, statistical, personal, technical and other data and information relating to the State's operation which are designated confidential by the State and made available to the contractor in order to carry out this contract, or which become available to the contractor in carrying out this contract, shall be protected by the contractor from unauthorized use and disclosure through the observance of the same or more effective procedural requirements as are applicable to the State. The identification of all such confidential data and information as well as the State's procedural requirements for protection of such data and information from unauthorized use and disclosure shall be provided by the State in writing to the contractor. If the methods and procedures employed by the contractor for the protection of the contractor's data and information are deemed by the State to be adequate for the protection of the State's confidential information, such methods and procedures may be used, with the written consent of the State, to carry out the intent of this paragraph. The contractor shall not be required under the provisions of the paragraph to keep confidential any data or information which is or becomes publicly available, is already rightfully in the contractor's possession, is independently developed by the contractor outside the scope of the contract, or is rightfully obtained from third parties.

## **22. SUBCONTRACTORS**

The Contractor may, with prior written permission from the State, enter into subcontracts with third parties for the performance of any part of the Contractor's duties and obligations. In no event shall the existence of a subcontract operate to release or reduce the liability of the Contractor to the State and/or State Agency for any breach in the performance of the Contractor's duties. The contractor will be the single point of contact for all subcontractor work.

## **23. HUDSON & VETERANS INITIATIVES**

The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources fully participates and encourages contractor participation in the Hudson Initiative. The State of Louisiana Veteran and Hudson Initiatives are designed to provide additional opportunities for Louisiana-based small entrepreneurships (sometimes referred to as LaVet's and SE's respectively) to participate in contracting and procurement with the state. A certified Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned small entrepreneurship (LaVet) and a Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (Hudson Initiative) small entrepreneurship are businesses that have been certified by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development. All eligible contractors are encouraged to become certified. Eligible contractors are also required to make it clear in their proposal that they are certified by attaching a certification document. Qualification requirements and online certification are available at [https://smallbiz.louisianafoward.com/index\\_2.asp](https://smallbiz.louisianafoward.com/index_2.asp).

During the term of the contract and at expiration, the Contractor will be required to report Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned and Hudson Initiative small entrepreneurship subcontractor or distributor participation and the dollar amount of each.

## **24. COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS**

The Contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable: Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Executive Order 11246, the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Act of 1972, and the Contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Davis-Bacon Act (40 USC 276a et seq), and the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency (FFATA) (<https://www.fsrs.gov>).

Contractor agrees not to discriminate in its employment practices, and will render services under this contract without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, or disabilities. Any act of discrimination committed by Contractor, or failure to comply with these statutory obligations when applicable shall be grounds for termination of this contract.

## **25. INSURANCE**

Insurance shall be placed with insurers with an A.M. Best's rating of no less than A-: VI.

This rating requirement shall be waived for Worker's Compensation coverage only.

**Contractor's Insurance:** The Contractor shall not commence work under this contract until he has obtained all insurance required herein. Certificates of Insurance, fully executed by officers of the Insurance Company written or countersigned by an authorized Louisiana State agency, shall be filed with the State of Louisiana for approval. The Contractor shall not allow any sub-contractor to commence work on his subcontract until all similar insurance required for the subcontractor has been obtained and approved. If so requested, the Contractor shall also submit copies of insurance policies for inspection and approval of the State of Louisiana before work is commenced. Said policies shall not hereafter be canceled, permitted to expire, or be changed without thirty (30) days' notice in advance to the State of Louisiana and consented to by the State of Louisiana in writing and the policies shall so provide.

**Compensation Insurance:** Before any work is commenced, the Contractor shall maintain during the life of the contract, Workers' Compensation Insurance for all of the Contractor's employees employed at the site of the project. In case any work is sublet, the Contractor shall require the subcontractor similarly to provide Workers' Compensation Insurance for all the latter's employees, unless such employees are covered by the protection afforded by the Contractor. In case any class of employees engaged in work under the contract at the site of the project is not protected under the Workers' Compensation Statute, the Contractor shall provide for any such employees, and shall further provide or cause any and all subcontractors to provide Employer's Liability Insurance for the protection of such employees not protected by the Workers' Compensation Statute.

**Commercial General Liability Insurance:** The Contractor shall maintain during the life of the contract such Commercial General Liability Insurance which shall protect him, the State, and any subcontractor during the performance of work covered by the contract from claims or damages for personal injury, including accidental death, as well as for claims for property damages, which may arise from operations under the contract, whether such operations be by himself or by a subcontractor, or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by either or them, or in such a manner as to impose liability to the State. Such insurance shall name the State as

additional insured for claims arising from or as the result of the operations of the Contractor or his subcontractors. In the absence of specific regulations, the amount of coverage shall be as follows: Commercial General Liability Insurance, including bodily injury, property damage and contractual liability, with combined single limits of \$1,000,000.

Insurance Covering Special Hazards: Special hazards as determined by the State shall be covered by rider or riders in the Commercial General Liability Insurance Policy or policies herein elsewhere required to be furnished by the Contractor, or by separate policies of insurance in the amounts as defined in any Special Conditions of the contract included therewith.

Licensed and Non-Licensed Motor Vehicles: The Contractor shall maintain during the life of the contract, Automobile Liability Insurance in an amount not less than combined single limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury/property damage. Such insurance shall cover the use of any non-licensed motor vehicles engaged in operations within the terms of the contract on the site of the work to be performed there under, unless such coverage is included in insurance elsewhere specified.

Subcontractor's Insurance: The Contractor shall require that any and all subcontractors, which are not protected under the Contractor's own insurance policies, take and maintain insurance of the same nature and in the same amounts as required of the Contractor.

## **26. APPLICABLE LAW**

This contract shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana. Venue of any action brought with regard to this contract shall be in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana.

## **27. CODE OF ETHICS**

The contractor acknowledges that Chapter 15 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (R.S. 42:1101 et. seq., Code of Governmental Ethics) applies to the Contractor in the performance of services called for in this contract. The contractor agrees to immediately notify the state if potential violations of the Code of Governmental Ethics arise at any time during the term of this contract.

## **28. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Firm, engineers, or surveyors that will accomplish the work as described in the Scope of Services (Appendix A) shall be certified by the Louisiana State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors and shall possess current licenses throughout the term of the contract. The firm, engineers, or surveyors shall provide all services in compliance with the registration law for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (La. R. S. 37:681 through 37:703 as amended by Act 568 of 1980) and the rules of the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

## **29. SEVERABILITY**

If any term or condition of this Contract or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other terms, conditions, or applications which can be given effect

without the invalid term, condition, or application; to this end the terms and conditions of this Contract are declared severable.

**30. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ACTIVITIES**

The contracting party shall comply with the provisions set forth in Appendix C, when performing work on CDBG related activities. In the event of any inconsistent or incompatible provisions, the provisions listed in Appendix C shall take precedence when performing work on any CDBG activity.

**31. COMPLETE CONTRACT**

This is the complete Contract between the parties with respect to the subject matter and all prior discussions and negotiations are merged into this contract. This Contract is entered into with neither party relying on any statement or representation made by the other party not embodied in this Contract and there are no other agreements or understanding changing or modifying the terms. This Contract shall become effective upon final statutory approval.

**32. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE**

This contract together with the RFP and contractor’s proposal which are incorporated herein; shall, to the extent possible, be construed to give effect to all of its provisions; however, where provisions are in conflict, first priority shall be given to the provisions of the contract, excluding the Request for Proposals, its amendments and the Proposal; second priority shall be given to the provisions of the Request for Proposals and its amendments; and third priority shall be given to the provisions of the Contractor’s Proposal.

THE STATE AND THE CONTRACTOR REPRESENT THAT THIS AGREEMENT SUPERSEDES ALL PROPOSALS, ORAL AND WRITTEN, ALL PREVIOUS CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS AND ALL OTHER COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES WITH RESPECT TO THE SUBJECT MATTER HEREOF.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be executed by their respective officers thereunto duly authorized as of the day and year first above written.

WITNESSES:

Jerome Zeringue, Executive Director  
COASTAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION  
AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

<contracting\_party>

Appendix C

**CDBG COMPLIANCE PROVISIONS  
FOR  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS**

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1. **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (Equal Opportunity Clause)**  
(applicable to contracts and subcontracts above \$10,000)

During the performance of this contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

- A. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: 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. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.
- B. The Contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
- C. The Contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which he has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided by the Contract Compliance Officer advising the said labor union or workers' representatives of the Contractor's commitment under this section, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.
- D. The Contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.
- E. The Contractor will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and by rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the Department and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and others.
- F. In the event of the Contractor's noncompliance with the non-discrimination clauses of this contract or with any of the said rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be cancelled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part and the Contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246

of September 24, 1965, as amended, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

The Contractor will include the provisions of the sentence immediately preceding paragraph A and the provisions of paragraphs A through G in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to Section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the Department may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, however, that in the event a contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction by the Department, the Contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interest of the United States.

2. **CERTIFICATION OF NONSEGREGATED FACILITIES**  
(applicable to contracts and subcontracts over \$10,000)

By the submission of this bid, the bidder, offeror, applicant or subcontractor certifies that he/she does not maintain or provide for his/her establishments, and that he/she does not permit employees to perform their services at any location, under his/her control, where segregated facilities are maintained. He/she certifies further that he/she will not maintain or provide for employees any segregated facilities at any of his/her establishments, and he/she will not permit employees to perform their services at any location under his/her control where segregated facilities are maintained. The bidder, offeror, applicant or subcontractor agrees that a breach of this certification is a violation of the equal opportunity clause of this contract.

As used in this certification, the term "segregated facilities" means any waiting rooms, work areas, rest rooms and wash rooms, restaurants and other eating areas, time clocks, locker rooms, and other storage or dressing areas, parking lots, drinking fountains, recreation or entertainment areas, transportation and housing facilities provided for employees which are segregated by explicit directive or are, in fact, segregated on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin because of habit, local custom, or any other reason.

He/she further agrees that (except where he/she has obtained for specific time periods) he/she will obtain identical certification from proposed subcontractors prior to the award of subcontracts exceeding \$10,000 which are not exempt from the provisions of the equal opportunity clause; that he/she will retain such certifications in his/her files; and that he/she will forward the following notice to such proposed subcontractors (except where proposed subcontractors have submitted identical certifications for specific time periods).



**3. CIVIL RIGHTS**

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. 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.

**4. SECTION 109 OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974**

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. No person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available under this title. Section 109 further provides that discrimination on the basis of age under the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 or with respect to an otherwise qualified handicapped individual as provided in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, is prohibited.

**5. SECTION 3 OF THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1968 - COMPLIANCE IN THE PROVISION OF TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

A. The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (section 3). The purpose of section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by Section 3, shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.

B. The parties to this contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR part 135, which implement Section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this contract, the parties to this contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the part 135 regulations.

C. The contractor agrees to send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the labor organization or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this Section 3 clause, and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the Section 3 preference, shall set forth minimum number and job titles subject to hire,

availability of apprenticeship and training positions, the qualifications for each, and the name and location of the person(s) taking applications for each of the positions, and the anticipated date the work shall begin.

- D. The contractor agrees to include this Section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR part 135, and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this Section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR part 135. The contractor will not subcontract with any subcontractor where the contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR part 135.
- E. The contractor will certify that any vacant employment positions, including training positions, that are filled (1) after the contractor is selected but before the contract is executed, and (2) with persons other than those to whom the regulations of 24 CFR part 135 require employment opportunities to be directed, were not filled to circumvent the contractor's obligations under 24 CFR part 135.
- F. Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR part 135 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts.
- G. With respect to work performed in connection with Section 3 covered Indian housing assistance, Section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450e) also applies to the work to be performed under this contract. Section 7(b) requires that to the greatest extent feasible (i) preference and opportunities for training and employment shall be given to Indians, and (ii) preference in the award of contracts and subcontracts shall be given to Indian organizations and Indian-owned Economic Enterprises. Parties to this contract that are subject to the provisions of Section 3 and section 7(b) agree to comply with Section 3 to the maximum extent feasible, but not in derogation of compliance with Section 7(b).

6. **SECTION 503 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (29 USC 793)**  
(applicable to contracts and subcontracts over \$10,000)

- A. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental handicap in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is otherwise qualified. The contractor agrees to take affirmative action to employ, advance in employment and otherwise treat qualified handicapped individuals without discrimination based upon their physical or mental handicap in all employment practices such as the following: employment upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment, advertising, layoff or termination, rates of

pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship.

- B. The Contractor agrees to comply with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the Act.
- C. In the event of the Contractor's noncompliance with the requirements of this clause, actions for noncompliance may be taken in accordance with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the Act.
- D. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices in a form to be prescribed by the Director, provided by or through the contracting officer. Such notices shall state the Contractor's obligation under the law to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified handicapped employees and applicants for employment, and the rights of applicants and employees.
- E. The Contractor will notify each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract understanding, that the Contractor is bound by the terms of Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and is committed to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment physically and mentally handicapped individuals.
- F. The Contractor will include the provisions of this clause in every subcontract or purchase order of \$10,000 or more unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary issued pursuant to Section 503 of the Act, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The Contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the Director of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs may direct to enforce such provisions, including action for noncompliance.

**7. SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973, AS AMENDED**

The Contractor agrees that no otherwise qualified individual with disabilities shall, solely by reason of his disability, be denied the benefits, or be subjected to discrimination including discrimination in employment, any program or activity that receives the benefits from the federal financial assistance.

**8. AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975**

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. No person in the United States shall, on the basis of age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

**9. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH AIR AND WATER ACTS**  
(applicable to contracts and subcontracts exceeding \$100,000)

The Contractor and all subcontractors shall comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 USC 1857 et seq., the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 USC 1251 et seq., and the regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency with respect thereto, at 40 CFR Part 15, as amended.

In addition to the foregoing requirements, all nonexempt contractors and subcontractors shall furnish to the owner, the following:

- A. A stipulation by the Contractor or subcontractors, that any facility to be utilized in the performance of any nonexempt contract or subcontract, is not listed on the List of Violating Facilities issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pursuant to 40 CFR Part 15, as amended.
- B. Agreement by the Contractor to comply with all the requirements of Section 114 of the Clean Air Act, as amended, (42 USC 1857 c-8) and Section 308 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, (33 USC 1318) relating to inspection, monitoring, entry, reports and information, as well as all other requirements specified in said Section 114 and Section 308, and all regulations and guidelines issued thereunder.
- C. A stipulation that as a condition for the award of the contract, prompt notice will be given of any notification received from the Director, Office of Federal Activities, EPA, indicating that a facility utilized, or to be utilized for the contract, is under consideration to be listed on the EPA List of Violating Facilities.
- D. Agreement by the Contractor that he will include, or cause to be included, the criteria and requirements in paragraph (1) through (4) of this section in every nonexempt subcontract and requiring that the Contractor will take such action as the government may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions.

**10. FLOOD DISASTER PROTECTION**

This contract is subject to the requirements of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234). Nothing included as a part of this contract is approved for acquisition or construction purposes as defined under Section 3(a) of said Act, for use in an area identified by the Secretary of HUD as having special flood hazards which is located in a community not then in compliance with the requirements for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program pursuant to Section 201(d) of said Act; and the use of any assistance provided under this contract for such acquisition for construction in such identified areas in communities then participating in the National Flood Insurance Program shall be

subject to the mandatory purchase of flood insurance requirements or Section 102(a) of said Act.

Any contract or agreement for the sale, lease, or other transfer of land acquired, cleared or improved with assistance provided under this Contract shall contain, if such land is located in an area identified by the Secretary as having special flood hazards and in which the sale of flood insurance has been made available under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq., provisions obligating the transferee and its successors or assigns to obtain and maintain, during the ownership of such land, such flood insurance as required with respect to financial assistance for acquisition or construction purposes under Section 102(a) of Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

**11. ACCESS TO RECORDS - MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS**

The State of Louisiana, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall have access to any books, documents, papers and records of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to this specific contract, for the purpose of audits, examinations, and making excerpts and transcriptions. All records connected with this contract will be maintained in a central location by the unit of local government and will be maintained for a period of five (5) years from the official date of the State's final closeout of the grant.

**12. INSPECTION**

The authorized representative and agents of the State of Louisiana and the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be permitted to inspect all work, materials, payrolls, records of personnel, invoices of materials, and other relevant data and records.

**13. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

The Contractor shall complete and submit all reports, in such form and according to such schedule, as may be required by the Owner.

**14. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

A. No officer or employee of the local jurisdiction or its designees or agents, no member of the governing body, and no other public official of the locality who his/her tenure or for one year thereafter, shall have any interest, direct or indirect, in any contract or subcontract, or the proceeds thereof, for work to be performed. Further, the Contractor shall cause to be incorporated in all subcontracts the language set forth in this paragraph prohibiting conflict of interest.

- B. No member of or delegate to Congress, or Resident Commissioner, shall be admitted to any share or part of this contract or to any benefit that may arise therefrom, but this provision shall not be construed to extend to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

**15. ACTIVITIES AND CONTRACTS NOT SUBJECT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 11246, AS AMENDED**

(applicable to contracts and subcontracts of \$10,000 and under)

During the performance of this contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

- A. The Contractor shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The Contractor shall take affirmative action to ensure that applicants for employment are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: 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.
- B. The Contractor shall post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by Contracting Officer setting forth the provisions of this non-discrimination clause. The Contractor shall state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
- C. Contractors shall incorporate foregoing requirements in all subcontracts.

**16. PATENTS**

- A. The Contractor shall hold and save the Owner and its officers, agents, servants, and employees harmless from liability of any nature or kind, including cost and expenses for, or on account of any patented or unpatented invention, process, article, or appliance manufactured or used in the performance of the contract including its use by the Owner, unless otherwise specifically stipulated in the Contract Document.
- B. License or Royalty Fees: License and/or Royalty Fees for the use of a process which is authorized by the Owner of the project must be reasonable, and paid to the holder of the patent, or his authorized license, direct by the Owner and not by or through the Contractor.
- C. If the Contractor uses any design device or materials covered by letters, patent or copyright, he shall provide for such use by suitable agreement with the owner of such patented or copy-righted design device or material. It is mutually agreed and understood, that without exception the contract prices

shall include all royalties or costs arising from the use of such design, device or materials, in any way involved in the work. The Contractor and/or his Sureties shall indemnify and save harmless the Owner of the project from any and all claims for infringement by reason of the use of such patented or copy-righted design, device or materials or any trademark or copy-right in connection with work agreed to be performed under this contract, and shall indemnify the Owner for any cost, expense, or damage which it may be obliged to pay by reason of such infringement at any time during the prosecution of the work or after completion of the work.

**17. COPYRIGHT**

No materials, to include but not limited to reports, maps, or documents produced as a result of this contract, in whole or in part, shall be available to the Contractor for copyright purposes. Any such materials produced as a result of this contract that might be subject to copyright shall be the property of the Owner and all such rights shall belong to the Owner.

**18. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE**

If, through any cause, the Contractor shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner his obligations under this contract, or if the Contractor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this contract, the Owner shall thereupon have the right to terminate this contract by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least five (5) days before the effective date of such termination. In such event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, photographs, and reports prepared by the Contractor under this contract shall, at the option of the Owner, become the Owner's property and the Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any work satisfactorily completed hereunder. Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the Owner for damages sustained by the Owner by virtue of any breach of the contract by the Contractor, and the Owner may withhold any payments to the Contractor for the purpose of set-off until such time as the exact amount of damages due the Owner from the Contractor is determined.

**19. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE**

The Owner may terminate this contract at any time by giving at least ten (10) days notice in writing to the Contractor. If the contract is terminated by the Owner as provided herein, the Contractor will be paid for the time provided and expenses incurred up to the termination date.

**20. ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

The Contractor shall 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 (Public Law 94-163).

**21. SUBCONTRACTS**

- A. The Contractor shall not enter into any subcontract with any subcontractor who has been debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in contracting programs by any agency of the United States Government or the State of Louisiana.
- B. The Contractor shall be as fully responsible to the Owner for the acts and omissions of the Contractor's subcontractors, and of persons either directly or indirectly employed by them, as he is for the acts and omissions of persons directly employed by the Contractor.
- C. The Contractor shall cause appropriate provisions to be inserted in all subcontracts relative to the work to bind subcontractor to the Contractor by the terms of the contract documents insofar as applicable to the work of subcontractors and to give the Contractor the same power as regards terminating any subcontract that the Owner may exercise over the Contractor under any provision of the contract documents.
- D. Nothing contained in this contract shall create any contractual relation between any subcontractor and the Owner.

**22. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND INELIGIBILITY**

The Contractor represents and warrants that it and its subcontractors are not debarred, suspended, or placed in ineligibility status under the provisions of 24 CFR 24 (government debarment and suspension regulations).

**23. BREACH OF CONTRACT TERMS**

Any violation or breach of terms of this contract on the part of the Contractor or the Contractor's subcontractors may result in the suspension or termination of this contract or such other action that may be necessary to enforce the rights of the parties of this contract. The duties and obligations imposed by the contract documents and the rights and remedies available thereunder shall be in addition to and not a limitation of any duties, obligations, rights and remedies otherwise imposed or available by law.



**24. PROVISIONS REQUIRED BY LAW DEEMED INSERTED**

Each and every provision of law and clause required by law to be inserted in this contract shall be deemed to be inserted herein and the contract shall be read and enforced as though it were included herein, and if through mistake or otherwise any such provision is not inserted, or is not correctly inserted, then upon the application of either party the contract shall forthwith be physically amended to make such insertion or correction.

**25. CHANGES**

The Owner may, from time to time, request changes in the scope of the services of the Contractor to be performed hereunder. Such changes, including any increase or decrease in the amount of the Contractor's compensation which are mutually agreed upon by and between the Owner and the Contractor, shall be incorporated in written and executed amendments to this Contract.

**26. PERSONNEL**

The Contractor represents that it has, or will secure at its own expense, all personnel required in performing the services under this Contract. Such personnel shall not be employees of or have any contractual relationship with the Owner.

All the services required hereunder will be performed by the Contractor or under its supervision, and all personnel engaged in the work shall be fully qualified and shall be authorized or permitted under State and local law to perform such services.

No person who is serving sentence in a penal or correctional institution shall be employed on work under this Contract.

**27. ANTI-KICKBACK RULES**

Salaries of personnel performing work under this Contract shall be paid unconditionally and not less often than once a month without payroll deduction or rebate on any account except only such payroll deductions as are mandatory by law or permitted by the applicable regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the "Anti-Kickback Act" of June 13, 1934 (48 Stat. 948; 62 Stat. 740; 63 Stat. 108; Title 18 U.S.C. 874; and Title 40 U.S.C. 276c). The Contractor shall comply with all applicable "Anti-Kickback" regulations and shall insert appropriate provisions in all subcontracts covering work under this contract to insure compliance by the subcontractors with such regulations, and shall be responsible for the submission of affidavits required of subcontractors thereunder except as the Secretary of Labor may specifically provide for variations of or exemptions from the requirements thereof.

**28. ASSIGNABILITY**

The Contractor shall not assign any interest in this Contract, and shall not transfer any interest in the same (whether by assignment or novation) without prior written approval of the Owner provided that claims for money due or to become due the Contractor from the Owner under this Contract may be assigned to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution, or to a Trustee in Bankruptcy, without such approval. Notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the Owner.

**29. INTEREST OF CONTRACTOR**

The Contractor covenants that he presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest direct or indirect in the above described project or any parcels therein or any other interest which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of his services hereunder. The Contractor further covenants that in the performance of this Contract no person having any such interest shall be employed.

**30. POLITICAL ACTIVITY**

The Contractor will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), which limits the political activity of employees.

**31. COMPLIANCE WITH THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**

The parties agree to comply with the regulations, policies, guidelines, and requirements of the Office of Management and Budget, Circulars A-95, A-102, A-133, and A-54, as they relate to the use of Federal funds under this contract.

**32. DISCRIMINATION DUE TO BELIEFS**

No person with responsibilities in operation of the project to which this grant relates will discriminate with respect to any program participant or any applicant for participation in such program because of political affiliation or beliefs.

**33. CONFIDENTIAL FINDINGS**

All of the reports, information, data, etc., prepared or assembled by the Contractor under this Contract are confidential, and the Contractor agrees that they shall not be made available to any individual or organization without prior written approval of the Owner.

**34. LOBBYING**

The Contractor certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that:

1. No federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the contractor, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
2. If any funds other than federally appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, 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 contractor shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.