

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
COMPETITIVE SEALED
REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS**

**Request for Statements of Qualifications for Professional Engineering
Services to Aid the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
in Conducting Mississippi Gulf Coast Restoration Efforts**

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (“MDEQ”) is soliciting Statements of Qualifications (“SOQ”), subject to the conditions stated herein and attached hereto, from engineering firms licensed in the State of Mississippi to assist MDEQ with engineering services support, including engineering, planning, environmental, management and other technical services, on an as needed basis, in order to support natural resource restoration on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, which is necessitated by the 2010 *Deepwater Horizon* Oil Spill.

SOQs will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. CST, Friday, June 24, 2016. MDEQ will not be responsible for delayed or lost mail received after the deadline. All packages received after this deadline will be returned unopened. The original and five (5) copies of the SOQ and all attachments shall be signed and submitted, along with a digital copy in PDF format on a CD-ROM or USB flash drive, in a sealed envelope or package to:

**Restoration - Engineering Services
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Melanie Green
515 East Amite Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201**

An optional pre-submittal conference will be held at 11:00 a.m. CST on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at the Hilton Garden Inn Gulfport Airport, 14108 Airport Road, Gulfport, MS 39503.

The SOQ shall be limited to no more than a total of thirty (30) typed pages including contents pages, supporting appendices, and resumes. Paper size shall be 8 1/2” x 11”. Text shall not be smaller than a font size of 12. Any information contained on pages that exceed the page limit, except as allowed by this RFQ, will not be evaluated. Offerors shall submit the signed original and five (5) copies of the SOQ, along with a digital copy of the SOQ in PDF format on a CD-ROM or USB flash drive, in a sealed envelope or package to MDEQ on or before the date and time specified. The original must be signed by an authorized representative of the offeror.

MDEQ will receive SOQs offered from entities having specific experience and qualifications in the area identified in this solicitation. For consideration, SOQs must contain evidence of the entity’s experience and abilities in the specified area and other disciplines directly related to the proposed service. Other information required by MDEQ is included herein. Unless otherwise stated, all offerors shall provide profiles and resumes of the staff to be assigned to the Project, references, illustrative examples of similar work performed, and any other information that clearly demonstrates the offeror’s expertise in the area of this solicitation.

I. Scope of Work

The scope of the engagement may include, but is not limited to, the following tasks:

- (A) Assist with identifying and developing restoration projects associated with the *Deepwater Horizon* Oil Spill, including modeling, conceptual design, preliminary design, final design, budgeting, engineering comparisons or review of designs, or other similar functions.
- (B) Assist in developing and drafting restoration plans.
- (C) Assist with the implementation of projects related to *Deepwater Horizon* restoration in Mississippi.
- (D) Assist with oversight and monitoring of restoration projects related to *Deepwater Horizon* restoration in Mississippi.
- (E) Assist in coordination between MDEQ and other internal and external parties for *Deepwater Horizon* funding streams.
- (F) Assist with permitting and regulatory compliance related to *Deepwater Horizon* restoration project development and implementation.
- (G) Assist with coordination of work groups and participation in work groups related to *Deepwater Horizon* restoration efforts.
- (H) Assist with coordination of project funding categories and assist in insuring financial transparency and accountability.
- (I) Other related tasks as identified by MDEQ.

II. Qualifications

- (A) Experience in natural resource restoration with an emphasis on restoration work related to oil spills in coastal zones.
- (B) Expertise and experience working on restoration projects in a coastal and marine environment similar to that along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, including specific experience and/or demonstration of expertise and knowledge of Mississippi-specific natural resources and restoration methods.
- (C) Extensive knowledge of *Deepwater Horizon* restoration funding streams and guiding documents applicable to restoration of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
- (D) Knowledge and extensive experience in environmental permitting, including but not limited to the following: Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and the NRDA regulations, the RESTORE Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Management Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Mississippi Coastal Wetlands Protection Act.
- (E) Experience working cooperatively with multiple stakeholders, including environmental justice/minority groups, state and local governments, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public.

- (F) Experience in designing coastal restoration projects and/or review of engineering designs of coastal restoration projects in the Mississippi Gulf Coast area.
- (G) Experience in developing projects to restore natural resources and related services.
- (H) Experience in developing projects to restore the economy of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
- (I) Experience with State contracting, procurement and bid package development practices, rules, and requirements.

III. Period of Performance

The period of performance of any contract awarded pursuant to this RFQ is expected to commence upon execution by both parties and continue up to a maximum term of five (5) years.

IV. Compensation

Compensation for services requested under this RFQ will be in the form of fixed hourly rates for the professionals and staff members the selected firm will utilize to complete the scope of work required.

V. Minimum Requirements

The SOQ must contain the following information:

- (A) Company Information: Please provide offeror's company name, location of offeror's principal place of business, the place of performance of the proposed Contract, all appropriate contact information, the age of offeror's business, and the average number of employees over the past three (3) years.
- (B) Experience with Projects of Similar Scope and References: Provide a record of projects of similar size and scope completed by the proposed Project Team, or respective team members, within the past ten (10) years. For each project, provide past record of performance with respect to such factors as control of costs, quality of work, and ability to meet schedules and deadlines. Additionally, identify which member(s) of the proposed Project Team participated on each identified project and what role they served. Each referenced project shall include the name, telephone number and email address of a responsible individual who may be contacted for a reference.
- (C) Project Plan Management and Technical Approach: Describe the technical approach to identify and examine ecological resources and threats at a landscape scale in order to improve restoration planning of the coastal landscape along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
- (D) Coastal and Marine Environment Expertise: Provide a description of your Project Team's expertise working in a coastal and marine environment with an emphasis on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, including, without limitation, extensive knowledge of Mississippi coastal ecology. Identify and describe

any work associated with restoration projects performed by the offeror for MDEQ or any other state, state agency or trustee arising out of the *Deepwater Horizon* Oil Spill.

- (E) Project Team, Resources and Résumés: Provide résumés of all persons who would be assigned to provide the required services, including, but not limited to, their respective backgrounds, experience, Project responsibilities, licenses, certifications, education, and skills.

Provide information on the offeror's access to or ability to obtain the equipment, facilities and financial resources to perform the work.

Offeror's proposed Project Manager must be located in the State of Mississippi for the duration of the Project.

This information must also include the name and DUNS number of any company or individual anticipated to be used as a *subcontractor* on this Project, as well as that subcontractor's duties on the Project. If subcontractors have not yet been identified but offeror has certain duties that it anticipates subcontracting, offeror shall delineate that scope of work to be subcontracted. Also, offeror should be aware that all subcontractors must be approved by MDEQ.

- (F) Professional Licenses and Registrations: Provide copies of the professional licenses/registrations for all entities that comprise the Project Team. Further, provide a list of individuals and their professional license or registration numbers for the persons identified in subsection (V)(E) who have the professional licenses/registrations necessary to conduct the services set forth in this RFQ. Documents submitted under this subsection (F) will not be included in the SOQ's thirty (30) page limit.
- (G) Certificate of Good Standing: Provide an official Certificate of Good Standing issued within sixty (60) days prior to the submission deadline by the Office of the Secretary of State of the State of Mississippi demonstrating that offeror is in good standing to do business in Mississippi, which will not be included in the SOQ's thirty (30) page limit.
- (H) MBE/WBE: Provide documentation of Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and Women Business Enterprises (WBE) as required under Section XXII(C)(1)-(2) of this RFQ, which will not be included in the SOQ's thirty (30) page limit.
- (I) Offeror's Affidavit: Offeror must execute, notarize, and attach the Offeror's Affidavit to its SOQ, which will not be included in the SOQ's thirty (30) page limit. A copy of the Offeror's Affidavit is attached hereto as Attachment "A".
- (J) Non-resident Contractor: If an offeror is a non-resident contractor, offeror shall provide a copy of the offeror's current state bidder/offeror preference law pertaining to that state's treatment of non-resident contractors pursuant to

Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-47 or a statement on letterhead signed by an officer or manager of the offeror stating that no preference laws exist in that state. The state of residency of a contractor shall be the same as the corporate office reported by the offeror to the Mississippi Secretary of State.

- (K) Compliance with the provisions of this RFQ. Proposals must comply with all of the provisions in this RFQ, not including those deemed to be waived pursuant to Section IX of this RFQ.

VI. Evaluation Procedure and Factors to Be Considered in the Evaluation Process

A selection committee shall review and evaluate each SOQ as set forth below.

- (A) Determination of Acceptability. SOQs will be reviewed to ensure compliance with the minimum requirements of this RFQ. The committee shall classify SOQs as “acceptable,” “potentially acceptable,” or “unacceptable.” RFQs that do not comply with the minimum requirements may be deemed “unacceptable” and rejected immediately, receiving no further consideration.
- (B) Discussions with Individual Offerors. At MDEQ’s sole discretion, MDEQ may choose to hold discussions with individual offerors whose SOQs are classified as “acceptable” or “potentially acceptable” to determine in greater detail each offeror’s qualifications and to determine if an offeror classified as “potentially acceptable” should be reclassified as “acceptable.” All offerors so classified shall be given an equal and fair opportunity to participate in individual discussions.
- (C) Evaluation Criteria. SOQs that are classified or reclassified as “acceptable” or “potentially acceptable” will be reviewed/analyzed by the committee to determine which SOQ is most advantageous to the State based on the following factors:
 - (1) the overall quality of the SOQ and offeror’s proposed plan and implementation for project management, project execution and performing the services described in the scope of work, which should reflect an understanding of the Project and its objectives, timeliness and effectiveness of execution. Consideration will be given to the completeness of the response to the specific requirements of the RFQ. (***Very Important – Weighted percentage: 20***);
 - (2) a record of past performance of similar projects based upon such factors as control of costs, quality of work, and ability to meet schedules and deadlines. (***Very Important – Weighted percentage: 20***);
 - (3) offeror’s expertise working in a coastal and marine environment with an emphasis on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, including, without limitation, extensive knowledge of Mississippi coastal ecology. (***Very Important – Weighted percentage: 20***); and

- (4) offeror's ability to provide the required services as reflected/evidenced by qualifications (education, experience, professional certification and licensure (as applicable), etc.) and the personnel, equipment, facilities and financial resources to perform the services currently available or demonstrated to be available at the time of contracting. (*Very Important – Weighted percentage: 20*).

VII. Rejection of Statements of Qualifications

SOQs that do not conform to the requirements set forth in this RFQ may be rejected by MDEQ. SOQs may be rejected for reasons which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (A) the SOQ contains unauthorized amendments to the requirements of the RFQ;
- (B) the SOQ is in the form of a conditional offer;
- (C) the SOQ is incomplete or contains irregularities that make the SOQ indefinite or ambiguous;
- (D) the SOQ is received late;
- (E) the SOQ is not signed by an authorized representative of the offeror;
- (F) the SOQ contains false or misleading statements or references
- (G) the SOQ does not offer to provide all services required by this RFQ; or
- (H) the SOQ was not delivered in accordance with the requirements of this RFQ (i.e. not delivered sealed).

VIII. Qualifications of Offerors

The offeror may be required before the award of any contract to show to the complete satisfaction of MDEQ that it has the necessary facilities, ability, and financial resources to provide the service(s) specified therein in a satisfactory manner. The offeror may also be required to give a past history and references in order to satisfy MDEQ in regard to the offeror's qualifications. MDEQ may make reasonable investigations deemed necessary and proper to determine the ability of the offeror to perform the work, and the offeror shall furnish to MDEQ all information for this purpose that may be requested. MDEQ reserves the right to reject any SOQ if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, the offeror fails to satisfy MDEQ that the offeror is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the Contract and to complete the work described therein. Evaluation of the offeror's qualifications shall include, without limitation, inquiry into the following:

- (1) the ability, capacity, skill, and financial resources to perform the work or provide the service required;
- (2) the ability of the offeror to perform the work or provide the service promptly or within the time specified, without delay or interference;

(3) the character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience, and efficiency of the offeror; and,

(4) the quality of performance of previous contracts or services.

IX. Informalities and Irregularities

MDEQ reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to waive minor defects or variations of a proposal from the exact requirements set forth in this RFQ that do not give one offeror an advantage or benefit not enjoyed by other offerors or that adversely impact the interest of MDEQ. If insufficient information is submitted by an offeror for MDEQ to properly evaluate the SOQ, MDEQ has the right to require such additional information as it may deem necessary after the time set for receipt of SOQs, provided that the information requested has no more than a negligible effect on the price, quality, quantity, delivery or performance time of the services being procured. Waivers, when granted under this Section IX of the RFQ, shall in no way modify the RFQ requirements or excuse an offeror from full compliance with the RFQ's specifications and other requirements of the Contract in the event the offeror being granted the waiver is awarded the Contract.

X. Disposition of SOOs

All submitted SOQs become the property of the State of Mississippi.

XI. Competitive Negotiation

The solicitation method to be used is that of competitive negotiation from which MDEQ is seeking the best combination of experience and quality of service. Discussions may be conducted with offerors who submit SOQs determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

XII. RFQ Does Not Constitute Acceptance of Offer

The release of the RFQ does not constitute an acceptance of any offered SOQ, nor does such release in any way obligate MDEQ to execute a contract with any offeror. MDEQ reserves the right to accept, reject, or negotiate any or all offers on the basis of the evaluation criteria contained within this document. MDEQ reserves the right to negotiate final terms, budget, rates, contract type, and contract amount prior to the awarding of the Contract. The final decision to execute a Contract with any party rests solely with MDEQ, including the decision to make no award of Contract.

XIII. Nonconforming Terms and Conditions

An SOQ that includes terms and conditions that do not conform to the terms and conditions in this RFQ is subject to rejection as "unacceptable." MDEQ reserves the right to permit the offeror to withdraw nonconforming terms and conditions from its RFQ prior to a determination by MDEQ of unacceptability based on the submission of nonconforming terms and conditions.

XIV. Exceptions and Deviations

Offerors taking exception to any part or section of the RFQ shall indicate such exceptions in the SOQ and shall be fully described. Failure to indicate any exception will be interpreted as the offeror's intent to comply fully with the requirements as written. Conditional or qualified offers, unless specifically allowed, shall be subject to rejection in whole or in part.

XV. SOQ Acceptance Period

All information required to be submitted by the RFQ must be received in a sealed envelope on or before 2 p.m. CST on Friday, June 24, 2016, to:

**Restoration – Engineering Services
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Melanie Green
515 East Amite Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201**

Timely submission of the SOQ is the responsibility of the offeror. Failure to submit the SOQ at the specified time shall cause the offeror to be rejected and any submitted materials shall be returned to the offeror unopened.

The only acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the MDEQ office identified for SOQ opening is the time and date stamp of that office on the wrapper or other documentary evidence of receipt used by that office.

MDEQ will not be responsible for delayed or lost mail received after the deadline. All packages received after this deadline will be returned unopened.

XVI. Pre-Opening Modification or Withdrawal of Bids.

SOQs may be modified or withdrawn by written notice received in the MDEQ office designated in this RFQ. Said written notice must be received prior to the time and date set for opening of the SOQ. Any withdrawn or modified offer shall remain unopened in the procurement file with MDEQ.

XVII. Offeror's Certification

The offeror agrees that submission of a signed SOQ form to MDEQ is certification that the offeror will accept an award made to it as a result of the submission subject to execution of a contract with agreed terms.

XVIII. Expenses Incurred in Preparing SOOs

MDEQ accepts no responsibility for any expense incurred by the offeror in the preparation and presentation of an SOQ. Such expenses shall be borne exclusively by the offeror.

XIX. Proprietary Information

The offeror should mark any and all pages of the SOQ considered to be proprietary information which may remain confidential in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-61-9 and 79-23-1. The provisions of the contract which contain the professional services provided, the price to be paid, and the term of the contract shall not be deemed to be a trade secret or confidential commercial or financial information and shall be available for examination, copying, or reproduction in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-9-120 and the Mississippi Public Records Act. Any pages not marked accordingly will be subject to review by the general public after award of the contract. Requests to review the proprietary information will be handled in accordance with applicable legal procedures.

XX. Pre-Submittal Conference

An optional pre-submittal conference will be held at 11:00 a.m. CST on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at the Hilton Garden Inn Gulfport Airport, 14108 Airport Road, Gulfport, MS 39503. The purpose of the pre-submittal conference is to allow potential offerors an opportunity to present questions to staff and obtain clarification of the procurement requirements. Minutes of the conference will not be published.

XXI. Additional Information and Inquiries

All questions/inquiries about this RFQ must be submitted in writing to the above address or via email or fax to **Melanie Green** at Melanie_Green@deq.state.ms.us or fax number (601) 961-5275 and must be received by MDEQ by close of business on June 15, 2016. Offerors are cautioned that any statements made by any person shall not be relied upon unless subsequently ratified by a formal written response to the RFQ, such as an amendment or Response to Inquiries. MDEQ will issue one or more Response to Inquiries on or before June 21, 2016.

XXII. Minority and Women Businesses

MDEQ's policy is to promote participation of Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and Women Business Enterprises (WBE) in the contracts let by MDEQ. The intent of the following provision is to encourage contractors to involve such businesses in a meaningful role in the provision of services under this RFQ.

- (A) Offeror and offeror's subcontractors will abide by the following steps to encourage participation by MBE and WBE:
 - (1) Including MBE and WBE on solicitation lists;
 - (2) Assuring that MBE and WBE are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
 - (3) Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into small tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation of MBE and WBE;
 - (4) Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirements of the work

permits, which will encourage participation by MBE and WBE;

- (5) Using the services and assistance of the Small Business Administration and the Office of Minority Business Enterprise of the U.S. Department of Commerce or Mississippi Development Authority's Minority Business Small Business Development Division (Mississippi Procurement Technical Assistance Program), as appropriate; OR satisfying the self-certification requirements of this section where appropriate, and
 - (6) Including these steps in any subcontracts awarded under this Contract.
- (B) If applicable, offeror shall supply MDEQ with proof of offeror's and offeror's subcontractor's minority status by providing the following:
- (1) Certification by the Small Business Administration and the Office of Minority Business Enterprise of the U.S. Department of Commerce;
 - (2) Certification by the Mississippi Development Authority's Minority Business Certification Program; or
 - (3) Self-Certification through Notarized affidavit of the MBE/WBE documenting that said business is:
 - a. Wholly owned or majority controlled by a minority or woman; and
 - b. Has been doing business in Mississippi for a period of at least six months prior to the provision of work under this Contract.
- (C) **Offeror shall supply MDEQ with the following two lists, which should be included as an attachment to the SOQ but will not be included in the SOQ's thirty (30) page limit:**
- (1) A list of MBE/WBE firms specifically solicited for participation in the offeror's response to this RFQ, to include subcontractor's company name, contact information, type of work solicited, estimated percentage of Contract value solicited to be performed by each subcontractor, and each solicited subcontractor's proof of minority status, as set forth above; and
 - (2) A list of MBE/WBE firms selected for participation as a subcontractor in offeror's response to this RFQ, to include subcontractor's company name, contact information, type of work to be performed, estimated percentage of Contract value to be performed by each subcontractor, and subcontractor's proof of minority status, as set forth above.

XXIII. Acknowledgement of Amendments

Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this RFQ by signing and returning the amendment with its SOQ by identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose by letter. Such acknowledgement must be received by MDEQ by the time and at the place specified for receipt of SOQs.

XXIV. Debarment

By submitting a proposal, the offeror certifies that it is not currently debarred from submitting SOQs for contracts issued by any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi and that it is not an agent of a person or entity that is currently debarred from submitting SOQs for contracts issued by any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi.

XXV. Debriefing Request

Unsuccessful offerors may request a post-award offeror debriefing, in writing, by United States mail or electronic submission to **Melanie Green** at Melanie_Green@deq.state.ms.us, to be received by the agency within three (3) business days after notification of the contract award or notice that no contract was awarded. An offeror debriefing is a purely administrative function of MDEQ and not a hearing; therefore, legal representation is not required. If an offeror prefers to have legal representation present, the offeror must notify MDEQ and identify its attorney. MDEQ will strive to schedule the debriefing to occur within five (5) business days after receipt of the offeror's request, and the debriefing may be conducted during a face-to-face meeting, by telephonic or video conference, or by any other method acceptable to MDEQ. At a minimum, the debriefing information shall include the following:

- (A) the agency's evaluation of significant weaknesses or deficiencies in the offeror's SOQ, if applicable;
- (B) the overall evaluated cost or price and technical rating, if applicable, of the successful SOQ(s) and the debriefed SOQ;
- (C) the overall ranking of all offerors, if a ranking was developed by the agency during the selection process;
- (D) a summary of the rationale for award; and
- (E) reasonable responses to relevant questions about selection procedures contained in the RFQ, applicable regulations, and other applicable authorities that were followed.

XXVI. Contract Terms and Conditions

Offeror's SOQ and any subsequently-awarded contract are subject to the Standard Contract Terms and Conditions, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "B" and fully incorporated herein by reference, the RESTORE Act Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Condition and Program-Specific Terms and Conditions under the Direct Component, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "C" and fully incorporated herein by reference, and the RESTORE Council Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "D" and fully incorporated herein by reference, and any additional terms and conditions included in the subsequently-awarded contract.

XXVII. List of Attachments

The following are included as attachments to this RFQ:

Attachment A – Offeror’s Affidavit

Attachment B – Standard Contract Terms and Conditions

Attachment C – RESTORE Act Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions
and Program-Specific Terms and Conditions

Attachment D – RESTORE Council Financial Assistance Standard Terms and
Conditions

ATTACHMENT A

OFFEROR'S AFFIDAVIT

NON-COLLUSION AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST AFFIDAVIT

State of _____
County of _____

I, _____, individually, and in my capacity as _____ of _____ (offeror), being first duly sworn on oath, depose and state the following on behalf of the company:

The Offeror represents as a part of such Offeror's SOQ that such Offeror has not retained any person or agency on a percentage, commission, or other contingent arrangement to secure this Contract.

The Offeror certifies that the prices submitted in response to the RFQ have been arrived at independently and without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other offeror or competitor relating to those prices, the intention to submit an SOQ, or the methods or factors used to calculate the prices offered.

Offeror has not either directly or indirectly entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion; or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with this Contract; nor have any of its corporate officers or principal owners.

Except as noted hereafter, it is further certified that said legal entity and its corporate officers, principal owners, managers, auditors, and others in a position of administering governmental funds:

- a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any governmental department or agency;
- b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this SOQ been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction;
- c) Have not within a three-year period preceding this SOQ been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

- d) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in b) and c) above; and
- e) Have not within a three-year period preceding this SOQ had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

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

- a) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- b) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Contract, Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions will be completed and submitted.

The offeror hereby certifies that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, there are no present or currently planned interests (financial, contractual, organizational, or otherwise) relating to the work to be performed under any contract or task order resulting from this RFQ that would create any actual or potential conflict of interest (or apparent conflicts of interest) (including conflicts of interest for immediate family members: spouses, parents, children) that would impinge on its ability to render impartial, technically sound, and objective assistance or advice or result in it being given an unfair competitive advantage. In this clause, the term "potential conflict" means reasonably foreseeable conflict of interest. The offeror further certifies that it has and will continue to exercise due diligence in identifying and removing or mitigating, to the State's satisfaction, such conflict of interest (or apparent conflict of interest). The offeror further certifies that it has no conflict of interest with respect to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the RESTORE Council, or National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF).

All of the foregoing and attachments (when indicated) is true and correct.

Offeror's Name: _____

RFQ Title: _____

Signature: _____

By (Print Name): _____

Title: _____

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me, this the ____ day of _____, 20 ____.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:

[SEAL]

ATTACHMENT B

STANDARD CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Availability of Funds. All Parties expressly understand and agree that the obligation of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (“MDEQ”) to proceed under this Contract is conditioned upon the availability of funds from state, federal, and/or other funding sources. If the funds anticipated for the continuing fulfillment of the agreement are, at any time, not forthcoming or insufficient, either through the failure of the federal government to provide funds or of the State of Mississippi to appropriate funds or the discontinuance or material alteration of the program under which funds were provided or if funds are not otherwise available to MDEQ, MDEQ shall have the right upon ten (10) working days written notice to Contractor to terminate this Contract without damage, penalty, cost or expenses to MDEQ of any kind whatsoever. The effective date of termination shall be as specified in the notice of termination.
2. Representation Regarding Contingent Fees. Contractor represents that it has not retained a person to solicit or secure a State Contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, except as disclosed in Contractor’s bid or SOQ.
3. Representation Regarding Gratuities. Contractor represents that it has not violated, is not violating, and promises that it will not violate the prohibition against gratuities set forth in Section 6-204 (Gratuities) of the *Mississippi Personal Service Contract Review Board Rules and Regulations, as amended*.
4. Trade Secrets. It is expressly understood that Mississippi law requires that the provisions of this Contract which contain the commodities purchased or the personal or professional services provided, the price to be paid, and the term of the Contract shall not be deemed to be a trade secret or confidential commercial or financial information and shall be available for examination, copying, or reproduction.
5. Compliance with Laws. Contractor understands that MDEQ is an equal opportunity employer and therefore maintains a policy which prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical handicap, disability, genetic information, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, State, or local laws. All such discrimination is unlawful, and Contractor agrees during the term of the Contract that Contractor will strictly adhere to this policy in its employment practices and provision of services. Contractor shall comply with, and all activities under this Contract shall be subject to, all applicable federal, State of Mississippi, and local laws and regulations, as now existing and as may be amended or modified.
6. Special Terms and Conditions for RESTORE Act. As funding for this Contract is derived in whole or in part from funds received by MDEQ under the RESTORE Act, Contractor acknowledges and agrees that for all work performed under this Contract, Contractor shall comply with and be bound by the following, the terms and conditions of which are expressly incorporated into this Contract:
 - A. All provisions and requirements of the U.S. Department of Treasury’s RESTORE Act Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions and Program-Specific

Terms and Conditions, a copy of which is attached as Attachment “C”;

- B. All provisions and requirements of the RESTORE Council Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions, a copy of which is attached as Attachment “D”; and
- C. In addition to above-referenced terms and conditions, Contractor shall comply with the following laws and regulations under the RESTORE Act and other federal law for all services performed under this Contract:
 - i. Sections 1602, 1603 and 1605 of the RESTORE Act;
 - ii. 31 C.F.R. Part 34, Subpart D (Direct Component), Subpart E (Comprehensive Plan Component), Subpart F (Spill Impact Component), and Subpart H (Centers for Excellence Research Grants Program);
 - iii. All applicable terms and conditions in 2 C.F.R. Part 200 of the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) Uniform Guidance for Grants and Cooperative Agreements, including Appendix II to Part 200; and
 - iv. All other OMB circulars, executive orders or other federal laws or regulations applicable to the services provided under this Contract.

7. Stop Work Order

A. *Order to Stop Work.* MDEQ may, by written order to Contractor at any time and without notice to any surety, require Contractor to stop all or any part of the work called for by this Contract. This order shall be for a specified period not exceeding ninety (90) days after the order is delivered to Contractor, unless the parties agree to any further period. Any such order shall be identified specifically as a stop work order issued pursuant to this clause. Upon receipt of such an order, Contractor shall forthwith comply with its terms and take all reasonable steps to minimize the occurrence of costs allocable to the work covered by the order during the period of work stoppage. Before the stop work order expires, or within any further period to which the parties shall have agreed, MDEQ shall either:

- (1) Cancel the stop work order; or,
- (2) Terminate the work covered by such order as provided in the “Termination for Default” clause or the “Termination for Convenience” clause of this Contract.

B. *Cancellation or Expiration of the Order.* If a stop work order issued under this clause is canceled at any time during the period specified in the order or if the period of the order or any extension thereof expires, Contractor shall have the right to resume work. An appropriate adjustment shall be made in the delivery schedule or Contractor price, or both, and the Contract shall be modified in writing accordingly, if:

- (1) The stop work order results in an increase in the time required for, or in Contractor’s cost properly allocable to, the performance of any part of this

Contract; and

(2) Contractor provides a written claim for such an adjustment within thirty (30) days after the end of the period of work stoppage; provided that MDEQ decides that the facts justify such action and any such claim asserted may be received and acted upon at any time prior to final payment under this Contract.

C. *Termination of Stopped Work.* If a stop work order is not canceled and the work covered by such order is terminated for default or convenience, the reasonable costs resulting from the stop work order shall be allowed by adjustment or otherwise.

D. *Adjustments of Price.* Any adjustment in Contract price made pursuant to this clause shall be determined in accordance with the "Price Adjustment" clause of this Contract.

8. E-Payment. Contractor agrees to accept all payments in United States currency via the State of Mississippi's electronic payment and remittance vehicle. MDEQ agrees to make payment in accordance with Mississippi law on "Timely Payments for Purchases by Public Bodies," which generally provides for payment of undisputed amounts by the agency within forty-five (45) days of receipt of invoice. Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-305.

9. E-Verification. If applicable, Contractor represents and warrants that it will ensure its compliance with the Mississippi Employment Protection Act of 2008 and will register and participate in the status verification system for all newly hired employees. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 71-11-1, *et seq.* The term "employee" as used herein means any person that is hired to perform work within the State. As used herein, "status verification system" means the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 that is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, also known as the E-Verify Program, or any other successor electronic verification system replacing the E-Verify Program. Contractor agrees to maintain records of such compliance. Upon request of the State of Mississippi and after approval of the Social Security Administration or Department of Homeland Security, when required, Contractor agrees to provide a copy of each such verification. Contractor further represents and warrants that any person assigned to perform services hereafter meets the employment eligibility requirements of all immigration laws. The breach of this Contract may subject Contractor to the following:

A. Termination of this Contract for services and ineligibility for any state or public Contract in Mississippi for up to three (3) years with notice of such cancellation/termination being made public;

B. The loss of any license, permit, certification or other document granted to Contractor by an agency, department or governmental entity for the right to do business in Mississippi for up to one (1) year; or

C. Both. In the event of such termination/cancellation, Contractor would also be liable for any additional costs incurred by the State due to Contract cancellation or loss of license or permit to do business in the State.

10. Transparency. This Contract, including any accompanying exhibits, attachments, and appendices, is subject to the “Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983” and its exceptions. *See* Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-61-1 *et seq.* and Miss. Code Ann. § 79-23-1. In addition, this Contract is subject to the provisions of the Mississippi Accountability and Transparency Act of 2008. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 27-104-151, *et seq.* Unless exempted from disclosure due to a court-issued protective order, a copy of this executed Contract is required to be posted to the Department of Finance and Administration’s independent agency Contract website for public access at <http://www.transparency.mississippi>. Information identified by Contractor as trade secrets or other proprietary information, including confidential vendor information, or any other information which is required confidential by state or federal law or outside the applicable freedom of information statutes will be redacted. The personal or professional services to be provided, the price to be paid, and the terms of this Contract shall not be deemed to be a trade secret or confidential commercial or financial information.

11. Paymode. Payments by state agencies using the State’s accounting system shall be made and remittance information provided electronically as directed by the State. These payments shall be deposited into the bank account of Contractor’s choice. The State may, at its sole discretion, require Contractor to electronically submit invoices and supporting documentation at any time during the term of this Contract. Contractor understands and agrees that the State is exempt from the payment of taxes. All payments shall be in United States currency.

12. Anti-Assignment/Subcontracting. Contractor acknowledges that it was selected by MDEQ to perform the services required hereunder based, in part, upon Contractor’s special skills and expertise. Unless subcontractors are otherwise identified and approved in accordance with the Request for Qualifications, Contractor shall not assign, subcontract, or otherwise transfer this Contract, in whole or in part; and MDEQ, in its sole reasonable discretion, shall have the right to reject the letting of any such assignment or subcontract. Any attempted assignment or transfer of its obligations without such consent shall be null and void. No such approval by MDEQ of any subcontract shall be deemed in any way to provide for the incurrence of any obligation of MDEQ in addition to the total fixed price agreed upon in this Contract. Subcontracts shall be subject to the terms and conditions of this Contract and to any conditions of approval that MDEQ may deem necessary. Subject to the foregoing, this Contract shall be binding upon the respective successors and assigns of the parties.

13. Antitrust. By entering into this Contract, Contractor conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to MDEQ all rights, titles, and interest it may now have, or hereafter acquire, under the antitrust laws of the United States and the State that relate to the services purchased or acquired by MDEQ under this Contract.

14. Attorney’s Fees and Expenses. Subject to other terms and conditions of this Contract, in the event Contractor defaults in any obligations under this Contract, Contractor shall pay to the State all costs and expenses (including, without limitation, investigative fees and costs for discovery, court costs, and attorney’s fees) incurred by the State in enforcing this Contract or otherwise reasonably related thereto. Contractor agrees that under no circumstances shall MDEQ be obligated to pay any attorney’s fees or costs of legal action to Contractor.

15. Authority to Contract. Contractor warrants that (a) it is a validly organized business with valid authority to enter into this Contract; (b) it is qualified to do business and in good standing in the State of Mississippi; (c) entry into and performance under this Contract is not restricted or prohibited by any loan, security, financing, contractual, or other agreement of any kind; and (d) notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract to the contrary, there are no existing legal proceedings, either voluntary or otherwise, which may adversely affect its ability to perform its obligations under this Contract.

16. Change in Scope of Work. MDEQ may order changes in the services consisting of additions, deletions, or other revisions within the general scope of the Contract. No claims may be made by Contractor that the scope of the Project or of Contractor's services has been changed, requiring changes to the amount of compensation to Contractor or other adjustments to the Contract, unless such changes or adjustments have been made by written amendment to the Contract signed by MDEQ and Contractor. If Contractor believes that any particular work is not within the scope of the Project, is a material change, or will otherwise require more compensation to Contractor, Contractor must immediately notify MDEQ in writing of this belief. If MDEQ believes that the particular work is within the scope of the Contract as written, Contractor will be ordered to and shall continue with the work as changed and at the cost stated for the services within the Contract.

17. Claims Based on a Procurement Officer's Actions or Omissions.

A. *Notice of Claim.* If any action or omission on the part of a procurement officer or designee of such officer requiring performance changes within the scope of the Contract constitutes the basis for a claim by Contractor for additional compensation, damages, or an extension of time for completion, Contractor shall continue with performance of the Contract in compliance with the directions or orders of such officials, but by so doing, Contractor shall not be deemed to have prejudiced any claim for additional compensation, damages, or an extension of time for completion, provided:

(1) Contractor shall have given written notice to the procurement officer or designee of such officer:

- (i) prior to the commencement of the work involved, if at that time Contractor knows of the occurrence of such action or omission;
- (ii) within 30 days after Contractor knows of the occurrence of such action or omission, if Contractor did not have such knowledge prior to the commencement of the work; or,
- (iii) within such further time as may be allowed by the procurement officer in writing; and

(2) The notice required by subparagraph (1) of this paragraph shall state that Contractor regards the act or omission as a reason which may entitle Contractor to additional compensation, damages, or an extension of time; and the procurement officer or designee of such officer, upon receipt of such notice, may rescind such

action, remedy such omission, or take such other steps as may be deemed advisable in the discretion of the procurement officer or designee of such officer;

(3) The notice required by subparagraph (1) of this paragraph describes, as clearly as practicable at the time, the reasons why Contractor believes that additional compensation, damages, or an extension of time may be remedies to which Contractor is entitled; and,

(4) Contractor maintains and, upon request, makes available to the procurement officer within a reasonable time, detailed records to the extent practicable, of the claimed additional costs or basis for an extension of time in connection with such changes.

B. *Limitation of Clause.* Nothing contained herein shall excuse Contractor from compliance with any rules of law precluding state officers and Contractors from acting in collusion or bad faith in issuing or performing change orders which are clearly not within the scope of the Contract.

C. *Adjustment of Price.* Any adjustment in the Contract price made pursuant to this clause shall be determined in accordance with the "Price Adjustment" clause of this Contract.

18. Confidentiality.

A. *Information Designated by Contractor as Confidential.* Any disclosure of those materials, documents, data and other information, which Contractor has designated in writing as proprietary and confidential shall be subject to the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-61-9 and 79-23-1. As provided in this Contract, the personal or professional services to be provided, the price to be paid, and the term of the Contract shall not be deemed to be a trade secret or confidential commercial or financial information.

B. *Public Records.* Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary contained herein, all Parties recognize that MDEQ is a public agency of the State of Mississippi and is subject to the Mississippi Public Records Act. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-61-1 *et seq.* If a public records request is made for any information provided to MDEQ pursuant to this Contract and designated by the Contractor in writing as trade secrets or other proprietary confidential information, MDEQ shall follow the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 before disclosing such information. MDEQ shall not be liable to Contractor for disclosure of information required by court order or required by law.

C. *Disclosure of Confidential Information.* In the event that either party to this Contract receives notice that a third party requests divulgence of Confidential Information or otherwise protected information and/or has served upon it a subpoena or other validly issued administrative or judicial process ordering divulgence of Confidential Information or otherwise protected information, that party shall promptly inform the other party and thereafter respond in conformity with such subpoena to the extent mandated by law. This section shall survive the termination or completion of this Contract. The parties agree that this section is subject to and superseded by Mississippi Code Annotated §§ 25-61-1 *et seq.*

D. **Wrongful Disclosure of Confidential Information.** Any liability resulting from the wrongful disclosure of Confidential Information on the part of Contractor or its subcontractor shall rest with Contractor. Disclosure of any Confidential Information by Contractor or its subcontractor without the express written approval of MDEQ may result in the immediate termination of this Contract.

E. *Exceptions to Confidential Information.* Contractor and the State shall not be obligated to treat as confidential and proprietary any information disclosed by the other party (“**Disclosing Party**”) which is:

- (1) Rightfully known to the recipient prior to negotiations leading to this Contract, other than information obtained in confidence under prior engagements;
- (2) Generally known or easily ascertainable by nonparties to this Contract;
- (3) Released by the Disclosing Party to any other person, firm, or entity (including governmental agencies or bureaus) without restriction;
- (4) Independently developed by the recipient without any reliance on confidential information;
- (5) Part or later becomes part of the public domain or may be lawfully obtained by the State or Contractor from any nonparty; or
- (6) Disclosed with the Disclosing Party’s prior written consent.

19. Contractor’s Personnel. MDEQ shall, throughout the life of the Contract, have the right of reasonable rejection and approval of staff or subcontractors assigned to the work by Contractor. If MDEQ reasonably rejects staff or subcontractors, Contractor must provide replacement staff or subcontractors satisfactory to MDEQ in a timely manner and at no additional cost to MDEQ. The day-to-day supervision and control of Contractor’s employees and subcontractors is the sole responsibility of Contractor.

20. Copyrights. Contractor agrees that MDEQ shall determine the disposition of the title to and the rights under any copyright by Contractor or employees on copyrightable material first produced or composed under this Contract. Further, Contractor hereby grants to MDEQ a royalty-free, nonexclusive, irrevocable license to reproduce, translate, publish, use and dispose of, and to authorize others to do so, all copyrighted (or copyrightable) work not first produced or composed by Contractor in the performance of this Contract but which is incorporated in the material furnished under the Contract. This grant is provided that such license shall be only to the extent Contractor now has, or prior to the completion of full final settlements of agreement may acquire, the right to grant such license without becoming liable to pay compensation to others solely because of such grant.

21. Debarment and Suspension. Contractor certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that it, its corporate officers, principal owners, managers, auditors and others in a position of administering governmental funds:

- A. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transaction by any federal department or agency or any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi;
 - B. Have not, within a three year period preceding this Contract, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or Contract under a public transaction;
 - C. Have not, within a three year period preceding this Contract, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for a violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - D. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of these offenses enumerated in subparagraphs B. and C. of this certification; and
 - E. Has not, within a three year period preceding this Contract, had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.
22. Failure to Deliver. In the event of failure of Contractor to deliver services in accordance with the Contract terms and conditions, MDEQ, after due oral or written notice, may procure the services from other sources and hold Contractor responsible for any resulting additional purchase and administrative costs. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies that MDEQ may have.
23. Failure to Enforce. Failure by MDEQ, at any time, to enforce the provisions of this Contract shall not be construed as a waiver of any such provisions. Such failure to enforce shall not affect the validity of this Contract or any part thereof or the right of MDEQ to enforce any provision at any time in accordance with its terms.
24. Final Payment. Upon satisfactory completion of the work performed under this Contract, as a condition before final payment under this Contract, or as a termination settlement under this Contract, Contractor shall execute and deliver to MDEQ a release of all claims against the State arising under, or by virtue of, the Contract, except claims which are specifically exempted by Contractor to be set forth therein. Unless otherwise provided in this Contract, by state law, or otherwise expressly agreed to by the parties in this Contract, final payment under the Contract or settlement upon termination of this Contract shall not constitute waiver of the State's claims against Contractor under this Contract.
25. Force Majeure. Each party shall be excused from performance for any period and to the extent that it is prevented from performing any obligation or service, in whole or in part, as a result of causes beyond the reasonable control and without the fault or negligence of such party and/or its subcontractors. Such acts shall include, without limitation, acts of God, strikes, lockouts, riots, acts of war, epidemics, governmental regulations superimposed after the fact, fire, earthquakes, floods, or other natural disasters ("Force Majeure Events"). When such a cause

arises, Contractor shall notify the State immediately in writing of the cause of its inability to perform, how the Force Majeure event affects its performance, and the anticipated duration of the inability to perform. In the event of delays in delivery or in meeting completion dates due to Force Majeure Events, MDEQ will extend such dates for a period not to exceed the duration of the delay caused by such events, unless the State determines that termination of the Contract is in the State's best interest.

26. Insurance Requirements. Contractor shall maintain during the period of performance of the contract the following liability insurance coverage, from an insurance carrier(s) licensed or holding a Certificate of Authority from the Mississippi Department of Insurance, and shall require its subcontractors to maintain said coverage, related to the work of the contractor and in connection with the contract.

- (A) Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance. This insurance shall protect Contractor against all claims under applicable State workers' compensation laws. Contractor shall also be protected against claims for injury, disease, or death of employees, which, for any reason, may not fall within the provisions of a workers' compensation law. The liability limits shall not be less than the required statutory limits for workers' compensation and employer's liability limits in the amount of One Million and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00). Contractor shall supply MDEQ endorsements from its carriers evidencing waiver of subrogation in favor of MDEQ.
- (B) Comprehensive General Liability Insurance. This insurance shall include bodily injury, property damage, contractual and other standard coverage contained in comprehensive general liability insurance, in an amount of not less than One Million and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence and Two Million and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) aggregate.
- (C) Auto Liability Insurance. This insurance shall be in the amount of not less than One Million and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) Combined Single Limit to protect it from any and all claims arising from the use of the following: (1) Contractor's own automobiles and trucks; (2) hired and non-owned automobiles and trucks; and (3) automobiles and trucks owned by Contractors. The aforementioned is to cover use of automobiles and trucks on and off the site of the Project.
- (D) Errors and Omissions/Professional Liability Coverage. This insurance shall be in the amount of not less than One Million and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence.

For all of the insurance coverage required in Paragraph 26(A)-(C), MDEQ, MDEQ's Commissioners, officers, employees, agents, and representatives, and the State of Mississippi shall be named as additional insureds or loss payee on such policies as the circumstances may require. Contractor shall provide that the insureds thereon waive subrogation against the State of Mississippi and the said political subdivisions thereof. The parties (and their respective insurers) agree that Contractor's respective policies shall provide primary coverage before any applicable policy otherwise covering MDEQ and that any insurance covering MDEQ shall be excess coverage over Contractor's coverage. The policies shall also provide for all additional insureds to be provided with a minimum 30-day written notice prior to a cancellation or modification of each respective policy. For the insurance coverage required in Paragraph 26(D), Contractor shall procure a vicarious liability rider on such policy for the duration of the Contract which insures

MDEQ, MDEQ's Commissioners, officers, employees, agents, and representatives, and the State of Mississippi against vicarious liability for claims made on the policy.

Upon execution of the Contract, Contractor shall promptly furnish MDEQ with endorsements showing the Contractor compliance with the insurance provisions of this paragraph. While Contractor shall provide MDEQ with endorsements as set forth in this paragraph, the failure to do so, or the failure of the endorsements or insurance provided to conform to the Agreement, does not constitute waiver or estoppels as to MDEQ of their respective legal and equitable rights, including but not limited to, the right to enforce the terms of the Contract. These contractual insurance provisions are intended to be, and shall be interpreted to be, separate and independent contractual obligations from the provisions addressing the indemnity of MDEQ by Contractor.

27. HIPAA Compliance. If requested by MDEQ, Contractor agrees to comply with the "Administrative Simplification" provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, including electronic data interchange, code sets, identifiers, security, and privacy provisions, as may be applicable to the services under this Contract.

28. Indemnification. To the fullest extent allowed by law, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, save and hold harmless, protect, and exonerate MDEQ, its Commissioners, officers, employees, agents and representatives, and the State of Mississippi from and against all claims, demands, liabilities, suits, actions, damages (including punitive damages), losses, and costs of every kind and nature whatsoever, including, without limitation, court costs, investigative fees and expenses, costs of discovery and attorney's fees, arising out of or caused by Contractor and/or its partners, principals, agents, employees and/or Subcontractors in the performance of or failure to perform this Contract. In MDEQ's sole discretion, Contractor may be allowed to control the defense of any such claim, suit, etc. In the event Contractor defends said claim, suit, etc., Contractor shall use legal counsel acceptable to MDEQ; Contractor shall be solely responsible for all costs and/or expenses associated with such defense, and MDEQ shall be entitled to participate in said defense. Contractor shall not settle any claim, suit, etc., without MDEQ's concurrence, which MDEQ shall not unreasonably withhold.

29. Infringement Indemnification. Contractor warrants that the materials and deliverables provided to MDEQ under this Contract, and their use by MDEQ, will not infringe or constitute an infringement of any copyright, patent, trademark, or other proprietary right. Should any such items become the subject of an infringement claim or suit, Contractor shall defend the infringement action and/or obtain for the customer the right to continue using such items. Should Contractor fail to obtain for the customer the right to use such items, Contractor shall suitably modify them to make them non-infringing or substitute equivalent software or other items at Contractor's expense. In the event the above remedial measures cannot possibly be accomplished, and only in that event, Contractor may require the customer to discontinue using such items, in which case Contractor will refund to the customer the fees previously paid by the customer for the items the customer may no longer use and shall compensate the customer for the lost value of the infringing part to the phase in which it was used up to and including the Contract price for said phase. Said refund shall be paid within ten (10) working days of notice to the customer to discontinue said use.

Scope of Indemnification: Provided that the State promptly notifies Contractor in writing of any alleged infringement claim of which it has knowledge, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, save

and hold harmless, protect, and exonerate, at its own expense, MDEQ, its Commissioners, officers, employees, agents and representatives, and the State of Mississippi, against and pay all costs, including discovery costs, damages (including punitive damages) and attorney fees that a court finally awards for infringement based on the programs and deliverables provided under this Contract.

30. Independent Contractor Status. Contractor shall, at all times, be regarded as and shall be legally considered an independent contractor and shall at no time act as an agent for the State. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed or construed by the State, Contractor, or any third party as creating the relationship of principal and agent, master and servant, partners, joint ventures, employer and employee, or any similar such relationship between the State and Contractor. Neither the method of computation of fees or other charges nor any other provision contained herein nor any acts of the State or Contractor hereunder creates, or shall be deemed to create a relationship other than the independent relationship of the State and Contractor. Contractor's personnel shall not be deemed in any way, directly or indirectly, expressly or by implication, to be employees of the State. Neither Contractor nor its employees shall, under any circumstances, be considered servants, agents, or employees of MDEQ, and MDEQ shall be at no time legally responsible for any negligence or other wrongdoing by Contractor, its servants, agents, or employees. MDEQ shall not withhold from the Contract payments to Contractor any federal or state unemployment taxes, federal or state income taxes, Social Security tax, or any other amounts for benefits to Contractor. Further, MDEQ shall not provide to Contractor any insurance coverage or other benefits, including Worker's Compensation, normally provided by the State for its employees.

31. No Limitation of Liability. Nothing in this Contract shall be interpreted as excluding or limiting any tort liability of Contractor for harm caused by the intentional or reckless conduct of Contractor or for damages incurred through the negligent performance of duties by Contractor or the delivery of products that are defective due to negligent construction.

32. Ownership of Documents and Work Papers. MDEQ shall own all documents, files, reports, work papers and working documentation, electronic or otherwise, created in connection with this Contract, except for Contractor's internal administrative and quality assurance files and internal documents. Contractor shall deliver such documents and work papers to MDEQ upon termination or completion of this Contract. The foregoing notwithstanding, Contractor shall be entitled to retain a set of such work papers for its files. Contractor shall be entitled to use such work papers only after receiving written permission from MDEQ and subject to any copyright protections.

33. Conflict of Interest. Contractor shall immediately notify MDEQ in writing of any interests (financial, contractual, organizational, or otherwise) relating to the services to be performed under this Contract that would create any actual or potential conflict of interest (or apparent conflicts of interest) (including conflicts of interest for immediate family members: spouses, parents, children) with respect to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the RESTORE Council, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), or MDEQ that would impinge on Contractor's ability to render impartial, technically sound, and objective assistance or advice or result in it being given an unfair competitive advantage. In this clause, the term "potential conflict" means reasonably foreseeable conflict of interest. Contractor further certifies that it has and will continue to exercise due diligence in identifying and removing or mitigating, to MDEQ's satisfaction, such

conflict of interest (or apparent conflict of interest). If such conflict cannot be resolved to MDEQ's satisfaction, MDEQ reserves the right to terminate this Contract per the Termination for Convenience clause of this Contract.

34. Price Adjustment Clause. Any adjustments in Contract price, pursuant to a clause in this Contract, shall be made in one or more of the following ways: (1) by agreement on a fixed price adjustment before commencement of the additional performance; or, if applicable, (2) by the costs attributable to the event or situation covered by the clause, plus appropriate profit or fee, all as specified in the Contract. Contractor shall provide cost or pricing data for any price adjustments subject to the provisions of Section 3-403 (Cost or Pricing Data) of the *Mississippi Personal Service Contract Review Board Rules and Regulations*, as applicable.

35. Record Retention and Access to Records. Provided Contractor is given reasonable advance written notice and such inspection is made during normal business hours of Contractor, the State or any duly authorized representatives shall have unimpeded, prompt access to any of Contractor's books, documents, papers, and/or records which are maintained or produced as a result of the Project for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions. All records related to this Contract shall be retained by Contractor for a minimum of three (3) years after final payment is made under this Contract and all pending matters are closed; however, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before the end of the three (3) year period, the records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the three (3) year period, whichever is later.

36. Recovery of Money. Whenever, under the Contract, any sum of money shall be recoverable from or payable by Contractor to MDEQ, the same amount may be deducted from any sum due to Contractor under the Contract or under any other Contract between Contractor and MDEQ. The rights of MDEQ are in addition and without prejudice to any other right MDEQ may have to claim the amount of any loss or damage suffered by MDEQ on account of the acts or omissions of Contractor.

37. Right to Inspect. The State of Mississippi, acting by and through MDEQ or any other authorized subdivision of the State, may at reasonable times, inspect the place of business of a Contractor or any subcontractors which is related to the performance of this Contract.

38. Right to Audit. Contractor shall maintain such financial records and other records as may be prescribed by MDEQ or by applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. These records shall be made available during the term of the Contract and at a minimum, the subsequent three-year period for examination, transcription, and audit by the Mississippi State Auditor's Office, its designees, or other authorized bodies.

39. State Property. Contractor will be responsible for the proper custody and care of any state-owned property furnished for Contractor's use in connection with the performance of this Contract. Contractor will reimburse the State for any loss or damage, normal wear and tear excepted.

40. Severability. If any part of this Contract is declared to be invalid or unenforceable, such

invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision of the Contract that can be given effect without the invalid or unenforceable provision, and to this end the provisions hereof are severable. In such event, the parties shall amend the Contract as necessary to reflect the original intent of the parties and to bring any invalid or unenforceable provisions in compliance with applicable law.

41. Termination for Convenience.

A. *Termination.* The Agency Head or designee may, when the interests of the State so require, terminate this Contract in whole or in part for the convenience of the State. The Agency Head or designee shall give written notice of the termination to Contractor specifying the part of the Contract terminated and when termination becomes effective.

B. *Contractor's Obligations.* Contractor shall incur no further obligations in connection with the terminated work, and on the date set in the notice of termination Contractor will stop work to the extent specified. Contractor shall also terminate outstanding orders and subcontracts as they relate to the terminated work. Contractor shall settle the liabilities and claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts and orders connected with the terminated work. The Agency Head or designee may direct Contractor to assign Contractor's right, title, and interest under terminated orders or subcontracts to the State. Contractor must still complete the work not terminated by the notice of termination and may incur obligations as are necessary to do so.

42. Termination for Default.

A. *Default.* If Contractor refuses or fails to perform any of the provisions of this Contract with such diligence as will ensure its completion within the time specified in this Contract or any extension thereof or otherwise fails to timely satisfy the Contract provisions or commits any other substantial breach of this Contract, the Agency Head or designee may notify Contractor in writing of the delay or nonperformance. If delay or nonperformance is not cured in ten (10) days or any longer time specified in writing by the Agency Head or designee, such officer may terminate Contractor's right to proceed with the Contract or such part of the Contract as to which there has been delay or a failure to properly perform. In the event of termination in whole or in part, the Agency Head or designee may procure similar supplies or services in a manner and upon terms deemed appropriate by the procurement officer. Contractor shall continue performance of the Contract to the extent it is not terminated and shall be liable for excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods or services.

B. *Contractor's Duties.* Notwithstanding termination of the Contract and subject to any directions from the procurement officer, Contractor shall take timely, reasonable, and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of Contractor in which the State has an interest.

C. *Compensation.* Payment for completed services delivered and accepted by the State shall be at the Contract price. The State may withhold from amounts due Contractor such sums as the Agency Head or designee deems to be necessary to protect the State against loss because of outstanding liens or claims of former lien holders and to reimburse the State for the excess costs incurred in procuring similar goods and services.

Excuse for Nonperformance or Delayed Performance. Except with respect to defaults of subcontractors, Contractor shall not be in default by reason of any failure in performance of this Contract in accordance with its terms (including any failure by Contractor to make progress in the prosecution of the work hereunder which endangers such performance) if Contractor has notified the Agency Head or designee within 15 days after the cause of the delay and the failure arises out of causes such as: acts of God; acts of the public enemy; acts of the State and any other governmental entity in its sovereign or contractual capacity; fires; floods; epidemics; quarantine restrictions; strikes or other labor disputes; freight embargoes; or unusually severe weather. If the failure to perform is caused by the failure of a subcontractor to perform or to make progress and if such failure arises out of causes similar to those set forth above, Contractor shall not be deemed to be in default, unless the services to be furnished by the subcontractor were reasonably obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit Contractor to meet the Contract requirements. Upon request of Contractor, the Agency Head or designee shall ascertain the facts and extent of such failure. If such officer determines that any failure to perform was occasioned by any one or more of the excusable causes and that, but for the excusable cause, Contractor's progress and performance would have met the terms of the Contract, the delivery schedule shall be revised accordingly, subject to the rights of the State under the clause entitled "Termination for Convenience." (As used in this paragraph of this clause, the term "subcontractor" means subcontractor at any tier.)

D. *Erroneous Termination for Default.* If, after notice of termination of Contractor's right to proceed under the provisions of this clause, MDEQ determines for any reason that the Contract was not in default under the provisions of this clause or that the delay was excusable under the provisions of subparagraph D (Excuse for Nonperformance or Delayed Performance) of this clause, the rights and obligations of the parties shall, if the Contract contains a clause providing for termination for convenience of the State, be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to such clause.

E. *Additional Rights and Remedies.* The rights and remedies provided in this clause are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Contract.

43. Termination upon Bankruptcy. This Contract may be terminated in whole or in part by MDEQ upon written notice to Contractor, if Contractor should become the subject of bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, whether voluntary or involuntary, or upon the execution by Contractor of an assignment for the benefit of its creditors. In the event of such termination, Contractor shall be entitled to recover just and equitable compensation for satisfactory work performed under this Contract, but in no case shall said compensation exceed the total Contract price.

44. Third Party Action Notification. Contractor shall give MDEQ prompt notice in writing of any action or suit filed and prompt notice of any claim made against Contractor by any entity that may result in litigation related in any way to this Contract.

45. Unsatisfactory Work. If, at any time during the Contract term, the service performed or work done by Contractor is considered by MDEQ to create a condition that threatens the health, safety, or welfare of the citizens and/or employees of the State of Mississippi, Contractor shall,

on being notified by MDEQ, immediately correct such deficient service or work. In the event Contractor fails, after notice, to correct the deficient service or work immediately, MDEQ shall have the right to order the correction of the deficiency by separate Contract or with its own resources at the expense of Contractor.

46. Waiver. No delay or omission by either party to this Contract in exercising any right, power, or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by contract, at law, or in equity shall constitute an acquiescence therein, impair any other right, power or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by any means, or operate as a waiver of such right, power, or remedy. No waiver by either party to this Contract shall be valid unless set forth in writing by the party making said waiver. No waiver of or modification to any term or condition of this Contract will void, waive, or change any other term or condition. No waiver by one party to this Contract of a default by the other party will imply, be construed as or require waiver of future or other defaults.

47. Acknowledgment of Amendments. In accordance with the requirements of the solicitation for this Project, Contractor acknowledges receipt of any amendment to this Contract by signing and returning the amendment with its proposal form, by identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose on the proposal form, or by letter.

48. Integrated Agreement/Merger. This Contract, including all contract documents, represents the entire and integrated agreement between the parties hereto and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations or agreements, irrespective of whether written or oral. This Contract may be altered, amended, or modified only by a written document executed by the State and Contractor. Contractor acknowledges that it has thoroughly read all contract documents and has had the opportunity to receive competent advice and counsel necessary for it to form a full and complete understanding of all rights and obligations herein. Accordingly, this Contract shall not be construed or interpreted in favor of or against the State or Contractor on the basis of draftsmanship or preparation hereof.

49. Applicable Law. This Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi, excluding its conflicts of laws provisions, and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the state. Contractor shall comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

50. Oral Statements. No oral statement of any person shall modify or otherwise affect the terms, conditions, or specifications stated in this Contract.

51. Modification or Renegotiation. All modifications to the Contract must be made in writing by the MDEQ and agreed to by Contractor. The parties agree to renegotiate the Contract if federal and/or state revisions of any applicable laws or regulations, including the availability of funding, make changes in this Contract necessary, which determination of necessity solely rests with MDEQ.

52. Notices. All notices required or permitted to be given under this Contract must be in writing and personally delivered or sent by certified United States mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to the party to whom the notice should be given at the address set forth below. Notice shall be deemed given when actually received or when refused. The parties agree to promptly notify each other in writing of any change of address.

For Contractor: *name, title, contractor, address*

For the Agency: *name, title, agency, address*

53. Non-solicitation of Employees. Each party to this Contract agrees not to employ or to solicit for employment, directly or indirectly, any persons in the full-time or part-time employment of the other party until at least six (6) months after this Contract terminates unless mutually agreed to in writing by the State and Contractor.

54. Quality Control. Contractor shall develop, submit, institute and maintain throughout the Contract period a properly documented quality control program, which shall be approved by MDEQ as soon as practicable after award of Contract (and subject to further revision as deemed necessary by MDEQ during the term of the Contract), designed to ensure that the services are provided at all times and in all respects in accordance with the Contract. The program shall include, but not be limited to, providing weekly reports which are the product of daily supervision and conducting frequent inspections of Contractor's staff and ensuring that accurate records are maintained which monitor actual progress against work schedules and describes the disposition of all complaints. For this project, weekly status reports shall include sites visited; number of plots observed, location of the plots observed and any data analysis that has occurred. The records and reports so created shall be open to inspection by MDEQ.

55. Headings. The headings in this Contract are for reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Contract.

ATTACHMENT C

RESTORE ACT

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND PROGRAM-SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS

U.S. Department of the Treasury

January 2015



TABLE OF CONTENTS

RESTORE ACT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND PROGRAM-SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS	1
A PROGRAM-SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS - AWARDS UNDER THE DIRECT COMPONENT	2
B PROGRAM-SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS - AWARDS UNDER THE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM	3
STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS - AWARDS UNDER THE DIRECT COMPONENT AND AWARDS UNDER THE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM	
C FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS	4
D RECIPIENT REPORTING AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS.....	7
E FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIREMENTS ..	9
F RECORDS RETENTION REQUIREMENTS	10
G THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S RIGHT TO INSPECT, AUDIT, AND INVESTIGATE.	11
H AWARD DISBURSEMENT	12
I EFFECT OF A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN ON DISBURSEMENTS AND THE AVAILABILITY OF TREASURY PERSONNEL	13
J NOTIFICATIONS AND PRIOR APPROVALS	13
K PROPERTY	14
L AMENDMENTS AND CLOSEOUT	15
M REMEDIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.....	16
N DEBTS	17
O NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS.....	18
P REQUIREMENT TO CHECK DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION STATUS OF SUBRECIPIENTS, CONTRACTORS, SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS	19
Q DRUG FREE WORKPLACE	20
R LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS.....	20
S PROCUREMENT	21
T RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN SUBJECTS	21
U ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS	22
V MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS AND PROVISIONS	23

RESTORE ACT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND PROGRAM-SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PREFACE

The grant agreement is comprised of the following documents:

1. A Notice of Award from the Department of the Treasury (“Treasury”)
2. The RESTORE Act Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (“Standard Terms and Conditions”)
3. The RESTORE Act Financial Assistance Program-Specific Terms and Conditions (“Program-Specific Terms and Conditions”)
4. The approved application, including all documents, certifications, and assurances that are part of the approved application
5. The approved scope of work
6. The approved budget
7. Any special terms and conditions applied by Treasury to the award (“Special Award Conditions”)

The recipient must comply, and require each of its subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors employed in the completion of the activity, project, or program to comply with all federal statutes, federal regulations, executive orders (EOs), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circulars, Standard Terms and Conditions, Program-Specific Terms and Conditions, and any Special Award Conditions of this federal financial assistance award (“Award”), as applicable, in addition to the certifications and assurances required at the time of application. This Award is subject to the laws and regulations of the United States.

Any inconsistency or conflict in Standard Terms and Conditions, Program-Specific Terms and Conditions, and any Special Award Conditions of this Award will be resolved according to the following order of precedence: federal laws, federal regulations, applicable notices published in the Federal Register, EOs, OMB circulars, Treasury’s Standard Terms and Conditions, Program-Specific Terms and Conditions, and any Special Award Conditions. Special Award Conditions may amend or take precedence over Standard Terms and Conditions and Program-Specific Terms and Conditions.

Some of these Standard Terms and Conditions contain, by reference or substance, a summary of pertinent federal statutes, federal regulations published in the Federal Register (Fed. Reg.) or Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), EOs, or OMB circulars. In particular, these Standard Terms and Conditions incorporate many of the provisions contained in OMB’s Uniform Guidance for Grants and Cooperative Agreements (2 C.F.R. Part 200), which supersedes former OMB Circular A-102 (the former grants management common rule), OMB Circular A-133 (single audit requirements), and all former OMB circulars containing the cost principles for grants and cooperative agreements. To the extent that it is a summary, such a provision is not in derogation of, or an amendment to, any such statute, regulation, EO, or OMB circular. Unless a definition is provided here, definitions can be found in the RESTORE Act (Public Law No. 112-141 (July 6, 2012)), Treasury’s RESTORE Act regulations (79 Fed. Reg. 48039 (Aug. 15, 2014) and 79 Fed. Reg. 61236 (Oct. 10, 2014), codified at 31 C.F.R. Part 34)), and/or 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

A PROGRAM-SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS - AWARDS UNDER THE DIRECT COMPONENT

In addition to all the Standard Terms and Conditions described in Sections C through V of this document, all Treasury RESTORE Act awards made under the Direct Component include the following Program Specific Terms and Conditions in this Section A:

1. Administrative Costs

- a. Administrative costs are defined at 31 C.F.R. § 34.2.
- b. Under no circumstances may the recipient use more than three percent of the Award funds received for administrative costs. Costs borne by subrecipients and contractors do not count toward the three percent cap.
- c. Up to 100 percent of program income may be used to pay for allowable administrative costs, subject to the three percent cap.

2. Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund

The recipient must not seek any compensation for the approved program or project from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund. If the recipient is authorized to make subawards, the recipient must not use Direct Component funds to make subawards to fund activities for which claims were filed with the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund after July 6, 2012.

3. Performance Reports

The recipient must submit with each "Performance Progress Report" (SF PPR) (see Section D below) an updated "Milestones Form" (standard format provided by Treasury) with the status of each milestone included in the recipient's approved application (the "Milestones Form"), including the milestone description, estimated completion date (do NOT change this from the original in the application), actual completion date (if applicable), percent complete (if not fully completed), and, if applicable, the reason for any delays.

4. Remedies for Non-compliance

- a. If Treasury determines that the recipient has expended Direct Component funds to cover the cost of any ineligible activities, in addition to the remedies available in Section M of these Standard Terms and Conditions, Treasury will make no additional payments to the recipient from the RESTORE Trust Fund, including no payments from the RESTORE Trust Fund for activities, projects, or programs other than Direct Component activities, projects, or programs, until the recipient has either (1) deposited an amount equal to the amount expended for the ineligible activities in the RESTORE Trust Fund, or (2) Treasury has authorized the recipient to expend an equal amount from the recipient's own funds for an activity that meets the requirements of the RESTORE Act.
- b. If Treasury determines the recipient has materially violated the terms of this Award, Treasury will make no additional funds available to the recipient from any part of the Trust Fund until the recipient corrects the violation.

B PROGRAM-SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS - AWARDS UNDER THE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM

In addition to all the Standard Terms and Conditions described in Sections C through V of this document, all Treasury RESTORE Act awards under the Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program include the following Program-Specific Terms and Conditions in this Section B:

1. Allowable Costs

In addition to the prohibitions contained in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E (*Cost Principles*), the following costs are unallowable unless approved in writing by Treasury:

- a. Construction, including the alteration, repair, or rehabilitation of existing structures. Facilities costs are allowable as indirect costs in a federally approved negotiated indirect cost rate.
- b. Acquisition of land or interests in land.

2. Notifications

- a. If the selection of a Center or Centers of Excellence occurs after the start date of this Award, the recipient must promptly inform Treasury of the following:
 - i. Name of the Center of Excellence and the entity selected to administer it, including the names of member organizations if the entity is a consortium;
 - ii. The DUNS Number of the entity;
 - iii. Location of the entity;
 - iv. Discipline or disciplines assigned to the Center of Excellence;
 - v. Description of the actual public input process undertaken, including a summary of any comments received and a description of how they were addressed; and
 - vi. The estimated budget for the Center, including the total allocation of funded dollars for the Center.
- b. The recipient must immediately notify Treasury if the recipient anticipates selecting a new entity or consortium to serve as a Center of Excellence, or making other changes to the initial selection of Center(s) of Excellence described in the scope of work.

3. Performance Reports

In addition to the reporting requirements in Section D, the recipient must submit an annual report to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council ("Council") in a form prescribed by the Council that includes information on subrecipients, subaward amounts, disciplines addressed, and any other information required by the Council. When the subrecipient is a consortium, the annual report must also identify the consortium members. The recipient must provide a copy of this report to Treasury.

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

AWARDS UNDER DIRECT COMPONENT AND AWARDS UNDER THE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM

C FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicable Regulations

This Award is subject to the following federal regulations and requirements. This list is not exclusive:

- a. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subparts A through E, and any Treasury regulations incorporating these requirements. Subpart F will apply to audits of the recipient's fiscal years beginning on or after December 26, 2014. Until then, the recipient must comply with OMB Circular A-133.
- b. Treasury's RESTORE Act regulations, 31 C.F.R. Part 34.
- c. Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension, 31 C.F.R. Part 19.
- d. Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace, 31 C.F.R. Part 20
- e. New Restrictions on Lobbying, 31 C.F.R. Part 21.
- f. Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information, 2 C.F.R. Part 170.
- g. Award Term for Trafficking in Persons, 2 C.F.R. Part 175.

2. Scope of Work

The recipient must only use funds obligated and disbursed under this Award for the purpose of carrying out activities described in the attached approved scope of work. The recipient must not incur or pay any expenses under this Award for activities not related to the attached approved scope of work unless Treasury first approves an Award amendment explicitly modifying the approved scope of work to include those activities.

3. Period of Performance; Pre-award Costs

The recipient must use funds obligated and disbursed under this Award only during the period of performance specified in the Notice of Award, which is the time period during which the recipient may incur new obligations and costs to carry out the work authorized under this Award. The only exception is costs incurred prior to the effective date of this Award, which are allowable only if:

- a. Treasury specifically authorized these costs in writing prior to the issuance of this Award;
- b. Incurring these costs was necessary for the efficient and timely performance of the scope of work; and
- c. These costs would have been allowable if incurred after the date of the award.

4. Indirect Costs

- a. The recipient may only charge indirect costs to this Award if these costs are allowable under 2 C.F.R. Part 200, subpart E (*Cost Principles*).

- b. Indirect costs charged must be consistent with the indirect cost rate agreement negotiated between the recipient and its cognizant agency (defined as the federal agency that is responsible for reviewing, negotiating, and approving cost allocation plans or indirect cost proposals, see 2 C.F.R. § 200.19) and must be included in the recipient's budget.
- c. Unallowable direct costs are not recoverable as indirect costs.
- d. The maximum dollar amount of allocable indirect costs charged to this Award shall be the lesser of:
 - i. The line item amount for the indirect costs contained in the approved budget, including all budget revisions approved in writing by the Treasury; or
 - ii. The total indirect costs allocable to this Award based on the indirect cost rate approved by a cognizant or oversight federal agency and applicable to the period in which the cost was incurred, provided that the rate is approved on or before the Award end date.

5. Cost Sharing and Budget Limitations

- a. The recipient is not required to contribute any matching funds.
- b. The recipient shall not request or receive additional funding beyond what was included in the approved application for the attached approved scope of work from any federal or non-federal source, without first notifying Treasury.

6. Program Income

Any program income (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.80) generated during the period of performance must be included in the approved budget and be used for the purposes and under the conditions of these Standard Terms and Conditions and any Special Award Conditions, i.e. solely to accomplish the approved scope of work.

7. Incurring Costs or Obligating Federal Funds Beyond the Expiration Date

The recipient must not incur costs or obligate funds under this Award for any purpose pertaining to the operation of the activity, project, or program beyond the end of the period of performance. The only costs which are authorized for a period up to 90 days following the end of the period of performance are those strictly associated with close-out activities. Close-out activities are normally limited to the preparation of final progress, financial, and required audit reports unless otherwise approved in writing by Treasury. Under extraordinary circumstances, and at Treasury's sole discretion, Treasury may approve the recipient's request for an extension of the 90-day closeout period.

8. Tax Refunds

Refunds of taxes paid under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) that are received by the recipient during or after the period of performance must be refunded or credited to Treasury if these taxes were paid out of RESTORE Act funds in accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 200, subpart E (*Cost Principles*). The recipient agrees to contact Treasury immediately upon receipt of these refunds.

9. Subawards

- a. If the recipient is permitted to make subawards under this award, the recipient must execute a legally binding written agreement with the subrecipient. This agreement must incorporate all the terms and conditions of this Award, including any Special Award Conditions, and must include the information at 2 C.F.R. § 200.331. The recipient must perform all responsibilities required of a pass-through entity, as specified in 2 C.F.R. Part 200.
- b. The recipient must evaluate and document each subrecipient's risk of noncompliance with federal statutes, federal regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward for purposes of determining the appropriate subrecipient monitoring strategy, as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(b).
- c. The recipient must monitor the subrecipient's use of federal funds through reporting, site visits, regular contact, or other means to provide reasonable assurance that the subrecipient is administering the subaward in compliance with the RESTORE Act, Treasury's RESTORE Act regulations, these Standard Terms and Conditions, Program-Specific Terms and Conditions, and any Special Award Conditions, and to ensure that performance goals are achieved.
- d. The recipient must provide training and technical assistance to the subrecipient as necessary.
- e. The recipient must, if necessary, take appropriate enforcement actions against non-compliant subrecipients.
- f. If lower tier subawards are authorized, the recipient must ensure that a subrecipient who makes a subaward applies the terms and conditions of this Award, including any Special Award Conditions, to all lower tier subawards, and that a subrecipient who makes a subaward carries out all the responsibilities of a pass-through entity described at 2 C.F.R. Part 200.
- g. The recipient must maintain written standards of conduct governing the performance of its employees involved in executing this Award and administration of subawards.
 - i. No employee, officer, or agent shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a subaward supported by federal funds if a real or apparent conflict of interest would be involved. Such a conflict would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization in which he/she serves as an officer or which employs or is about to employ any of the parties mentioned in this section, has a financial interest or other interest in the organization selected or to be selected for a subaward.
 - ii. The officers, employees, and agents of the recipient shall neither solicit nor accept anything of monetary value from subrecipients.
 - iii. A recipient may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. A financial interest may include employment, stock ownership, a creditor or debtor relationship, or prospective employment with the organization selected or to be selected for a subaward.
 - iv. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the recipient.

D RECIPIENT REPORTING AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

1. Financial Reports

- a. The recipient must submit a "Federal Financial Report" (SF-425) on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending March 31 and September 30 (or June 30 and December 31, if instructed by Treasury), or any portion thereof, unless otherwise specified in a special award condition. Reports are due no later than 30 days following the end of each reporting period. A final SF-425 must be submitted within 90 days after the end of the period of performance. In the remarks section of each SF-425 submitted, the recipient must provide the following information:
 - i. A description of the use of all funds received; and
 - ii. A certification that the recipient maintains written documentation sufficient to demonstrate the accuracy of the information and certifications provided.

The report must be signed by a senior authorized official of the organization or entity receiving grant funds who can legally bind the organization, and who has oversight and authority over the administration and use of the funds in question.

- b. The recipient must submit all financial reports via <http://www.GrantSolutions.gov>, unless otherwise specified by Treasury in writing.

2. Performance Reports

- a. The recipient must submit an SF-PPR ("Performance Progress Report") and a "Status of Performance Report" (standard format provided by Treasury) on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending March 31 and September 30 (or June 30 and December 31, if instructed by Treasury), or any portion thereof, unless otherwise specified in a Special Award Condition. Reports are due no later than 30 days following the end of each reporting period, except the final report which is due 90 days following the end of the period of performance.
- b. The recipient must submit all reports in a. above via <http://www.GrantSolutions.gov>, unless otherwise specified in writing by Treasury, and the recipient must complete these reports according to the following instructions:
 - i. In the "performance narrative" attachment (section B of the SF-PPR), the recipient must provide the following information:
 - a) In Section B-1:
 - 1) Summarize activities undertaken during the reporting period;
 - 2) Summarize any key accomplishments, including milestones completed for period;
 - 3) List any contracts awarded during the reporting period, along with the name of the contractor and its principal, the DUNS number of the contractor, the value of the contract, the date of award, a brief description of the services to be provided, and whether or not local preference was used in the selection of the contractor; and
 - 4) If the recipient is authorized to make subawards, list any subawards executed during the reporting period, along with the name of the entity and its principal, the DUNS number of the

entity, the value of the agreement, the date of award, and a brief description of the scope of work.

b) In Section B-2:

- 1) Indicate if any operational, legal, regulatory, budgetary, and/or ecological risks, and/or any public controversies, have materialized. If so, indicate what mitigation strategies have been undertaken to attenuate these risks or controversies; and
- 2) Summarize any challenges that have impeded the recipient's ability to accomplish the approved scope of work on schedule and on budget.

c) In Section B-3:

Summarize any significant findings or events, if applicable.

d) In Section B-4:

Describe any activities to disseminate or publicize results of the activity, project, or program.

e) In Section B-5:

- 1) Describe all efforts taken to monitor contractor and/or subrecipient performance, to include site visits, during the reporting period. For subawards, indicate whether the subrecipient submitted an audit to the recipient, and if so, whether the recipient issued a management decision on any findings; and
- 2) Describe any other activities or relevant information not already provided.

f) In Section B-6:

Summarize the activities planned for the next reporting period.

- ii. The recipient must attach to the SF-PPR a completed "Status of Performance Report." On the "Status of Performance Report," the recipient must provide performance information on the metrics selected at the time of application. The recipient must follow the instructions provided with the form.

3. Interim Reporting on Significant Developments

- a. Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates that have significant impact upon the activity, project, or program. In such cases, the recipient must inform Treasury as soon as the following types of conditions become known:
 - i. Problems, delays, or adverse conditions which will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of this Award. This disclosure must include a statement of the action taken, or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.
 - ii. Favorable developments which enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

- b. The recipient must:
 - i. Promptly provide to Treasury and the Treasury Inspector General a copy of all state or local inspector general reports, audit reports other than those prepared under the Single Audit Act, and reports of any other oversight body, if such report pertains to an award under any RESTORE Act component, including the Comprehensive Plan Component and Spill Impact Component.
 - ii. Immediately notify Treasury and the Treasury Inspector General of any indication of fraud, waste, abuse, or potentially criminal activity pertaining to grant funds.
 - iii. Promptly notify Treasury upon the selection of a contractor or subrecipient performing work under this Award, and include the name and DUNS number for the subrecipient or contractor, and the total amount of the contract or subaward.

4. Audit Requirements

The recipient is responsible for complying, and ensuring all subrecipients comply, with all audit requirements of OMB Circular A-133 and the Single Audit Act. The requirements of Subpart F of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 supersede the requirements of Circular A-133 for recipient and subrecipient fiscal years beginning on or after December 26, 2014.

5. Operational Self-Assessment

The recipient must submit a revised *Operational Self-Assessment* in the same format as the recipient's most recent submission no later than June 30th of each calendar year for the duration of this Award. Only one *Operational Self-Assessment* must be submitted per recipient per year. In completing the form, the recipient must note controls or activities that have changed from the previous submission. The recipient must submit the *Operational Self-Assessment* electronically to restoreact@treasury.gov, unless otherwise specified in writing by Treasury. The form may be downloaded at <http://www.treasury.gov/services/restore-act/Pages/default.aspx>.

E FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

1. Recipients that are states must expend and account for Award funds in accordance with the applicable state laws and procedures for expending and accounting the states' own funds. All other recipients must expend and account for funds in accordance with state and local laws and procedures. In addition, all recipients' financial management systems must be sufficient to:
 - a. Permit the preparation of accurate, current, and complete SF-425, SF-PPR, Milestones Form, and Status of Performance reports, as well as reporting on subawards, if applicable, and any additional reports required by any Special Award Conditions;
 - b. Permit the tracing of funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that such funds have been used in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements, including the RESTORE Act, Treasury RESTORE Act regulations, these Standard Terms and Conditions, Program-Specific Terms and Conditions, and any Special Award Conditions.
 - c. Allow for the comparison of actual expenditures with the amount budgeted for each Award made to the recipient by Treasury under the RESTORE Act.

- d. Identify and track all RESTORE Act awards received and expended by the assigned grant number, which is the Universal Award ID (as provided by Treasury), the year the Award was made, the awarding agency (Treasury), and the program's CFDA title and CFDA number (21.015).
 - e. Record the source and application of funds for all activities funded by this Award, as well as all awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, expenditures, program income, and interest earned on federal advances, and allow users to tie these records to source documentation such as cancelled checks, paid bills, payroll and attendance records, contract and subaward agreements, etc.
 - f. Ensure effective control over, and accountability for, all federal funds, and all property and assets acquired with federal funds. The recipient must adequately safeguard all assets and ensure that they are used solely for authorized purposes.
 2. The recipient must establish written procedures to implement the requirements set forth in section H below (Award Disbursement), as well as written procedures to determine the allowability of costs in accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 200, subpart E (*Cost Principles*) and the terms and conditions of this Award.
 3. The recipient must establish and maintain effective internal controls over this Award in a manner that provides reasonable assurance that the recipient is managing this Award in compliance with the RESTORE Act, Treasury's RESTORE Act regulations, these Standard Terms and Conditions, Program-Specific Terms and Conditions, and any Special Award Conditions. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in "Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the "Internal Control Integrated Framework", issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The recipient must evaluate and monitor its compliance, and the compliance of any subrecipients, with the RESTORE Act, Treasury's RESTORE Act regulations, these Standard Terms and Conditions, Program Specific Terms and Conditions, and any Special Award Conditions, and promptly remedy any identified instances of non-compliance. When and if an instance of non-compliance cannot be remedied by the recipient, the recipient must promptly report the instance of non-compliance to Treasury and the Treasury Inspector General, followed by submitting a proposed mitigation plan to Treasury.
 4. The recipient must take reasonable measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information (PII) consistent with applicable federal, state, and local laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

F RECORDS RETENTION REQUIREMENTS

1. The recipient must retain all records pertinent to this Award for a period of three years, beginning on a date as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.333. While electronic storage of records (backed up as appropriate) is preferable, the recipient has the option to store records in hardcopy (paper) format. For the purposes of this section, the term "records" includes but is not limited to:
 - a. Copies of all contracts and all documents related to a contract, including the Request for Proposal (RFP), all proposals/bids received, all meeting minutes or other documentation of the evaluation and selection of contractors, any disclosed conflicts of interest regarding a contract, all signed conflict of interest forms (if applicable), all conflict of interest and other procurement rules governing a particular contract, and any bid protests;

- b. Copies of all subawards, including the funding opportunity announcement or equivalent, all applications received, all meeting minutes or other documentation of the evaluation and selection of subrecipients, any disclosed conflicts of interest regarding a subaward, and all signed conflict of interest forms (if applicable);
 - c. All documentation of site visits, reports, audits, and other monitoring of contractors (vendors) and subrecipients (if applicable);
 - d. All financial and accounting records, including records of disbursements to contractors (vendors) and subrecipients, and documentation of the allowability of Administrative Costs charged to this Award;
 - e. All supporting documentation for the performance outcome and other information reported on the recipient's SF-425s, SF-PPRs, Milestones Forms, and Status of Performance Reports; and
 - f. Any reports, publications, and data sets from any research conducted under this Award.
2. If any litigation, claim, investigation, or audit relating to this Award or an activity funded with Award funds is started before the expiration of the three year period, the records must be retained until all litigation, claims, investigations, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.
 3. If the recipient is authorized to make subawards, the recipient must include in its legal agreement with the subrecipient a requirement that the subrecipient retain all records in compliance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.
 4. If the recipient is authorized to enter into contracts to complete the approved scope of work, the recipient must include in its legal agreement with the contractor a requirement that the contractor retain all records in compliance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.

G THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S RIGHT TO INSPECT, AUDIT, AND INVESTIGATE

1. Access to Records

- a. Treasury, the Treasury Office of Inspector General, and the Government Accountability Office have the right of timely and unrestricted access to any documents, papers or other records, including electronic records, of the recipient that are pertinent to this Award, in order to make audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcripts, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the recipient's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. This right of access shall continue as long as records are required to be retained.
- b. If the recipient is authorized to make subawards, the recipient must include in its legal agreement or contract with the subrecipient a requirement that the subrecipient make available to Treasury, the Treasury Office of Inspector General, and the Government Accountability Office any documents, papers or other records, including electronic records, of the subrecipient, that are pertinent to this Award, in order to make audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcripts, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the subrecipient's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. This right of access shall continue as long as records are required to be retained (see Section F above).
- c. If the recipient is authorized to enter into contracts to complete the approved scope of work, the recipient must include in its contract a requirement that the contractor make available to Treasury, the Treasury Office of Inspector General,

and the Government Accountability Office any documents, papers or other records, including electronic records, of the contractor that are pertinent to this Award, in order to make audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcripts, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the contractor's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. This right of access shall continue as long as records are retained (see Section F above).

2. Access to the Recipient's Sites.

The Treasury, the Treasury Office of Inspector General, and Government Accountability Office shall have the right during normal business hours to conduct announced and unannounced onsite and offsite physical visits of recipients and their subrecipients and contractors corresponding to the duration of their records retention obligation for this Award.

H AWARD DISBURSEMENT

1. Unless otherwise specified in a Special Award Condition, Treasury will make advance payments under this Award. However, if one of the following occurs, Treasury will require Award funds to be disbursed on a reimbursement basis: (1) Treasury determines that the recipient does not meet the financial management system standards (see Section E) included in these Standard Terms and Conditions, (2) Treasury determines that the recipient has not established procedures that will minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement, or (3) Treasury determines that the recipient is in non-compliance with the RESTORE Act, Treasury's RESTORE Act regulations, other pertinent federal statutes, these Standard Terms and Conditions, Program Specific Terms and Conditions, and/or any Special Award Conditions, and determines that the appropriate remedy is to require payment on a reimbursement basis. If reimbursement is used, Treasury will make payment within 30 calendar days after receipt of the billing, unless Treasury determines the request to be improper, in which case payment will not be made.
2. To the extent available, the recipient must disburse funds available from program income, rebates, refunds, contract settlements, audit recoveries, and interest earned on such funds before requesting additional cash payments of Award funds.
3. Treasury will use the Department of Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payment (ASAP) system to disburse payments of Award funds. In order to receive payments, the recipient must first enroll in ASAP.gov. Treasury creates and funds account(s) for recipients in ASAP.gov, and recipients access their account(s) online to request funds. All Award funds will be disbursed electronically using either the Automated Clearing House (ACH) for next day or future day payments or the Fedwire "Funds" system for same day or immediate need payments. Awards paid through ASAP.gov may contain controls or withdrawal limits set by Treasury.
4. Requirements applicable to recipients that are states: Payment methods of state agencies or instrumentalities must be consistent with Treasury-State agreements under the Cash Management Improvement Act, and default procedures codified at 31 C.F.R. Part 205 "Rules and Procedures for Efficient Federal-State Funds Transfers" and Treasury Financial Manual (TFM) 4A-2000 Overall Disbursing Rules for All Federal Agencies.
5. Requirements applicable to recipients that are not states: The recipient must minimize the time between the transfer of funds from Treasury and the use of the funds by the

recipient. Advance payments to the recipient must be limited to the minimum amounts needed and be timed to be in accordance with the actual, immediate cash requirements of the recipient in carrying out the purpose of the approved activity, project, or program. The timing and amount of advance payments must be as close as is administratively feasible to the actual disbursements by the parish or county for direct activity, project, or program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs. Advances should not be drawn down more than three days before expenditure. Advanced funds not disbursed in a timely manner must be promptly returned to Treasury. The recipient must make timely payment to contractors (vendors) in accordance with the contract provisions.

6. Advances of federal funds must be deposited and maintained in United States Government-insured interest-bearing accounts whenever possible. The recipient is not required to maintain a separate depository account for receiving Award funds. If the recipient maintains a single depository account where advances are commingled with funds from other sources, the recipient must maintain on its books a separate subaccount for the Award funds. Consistent with the national goal of expanding opportunities for women-owned and minority-owned business enterprises, the recipient is encouraged to ensure fair consideration of women-owned and minority-owned banks (a bank which is owned at least 50 percent by women or minority group members).
7. The recipient must maintain advances of federal funds in interest bearing accounts, unless one of the following conditions applies:
 - a. The recipient receives less than \$120,000 in federal awards per year;
 - b. The best reasonably available interest bearing account would not be expected to earn interest in excess of \$500 per year on federal cash balances; or
 - c. The depository would require an average or minimum balance so high that it would not be feasible within the expected federal and non-federal cash resources.
8. On an annual basis, the recipient must remit interest earned on federal advance payments deposited in interest-bearing accounts to the Department of Health and Human Services, Payment Management System, Rockville, MD 20852. Interest amounts up to \$500 per year may be retained by the recipient and used for administrative costs.

I EFFECT OF A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN ON DISBURSEMENTS AND THE AVAILABILITY OF TREASURY PERSONNEL

In the event of a federal government shutdown, Treasury will issue guidance to the recipient concerning the expected effects on this Award.

J NOTIFICATIONS AND PRIOR APPROVALS

1. Notifications

In addition to other notifications required under these Standard Terms and Conditions, the recipient must promptly notify Treasury in writing whenever any of the following is anticipated or occurs:

- a. A vacancy or change to key personnel listed in the application.
- b. Any termination of a subaward prior to the expiration of the agreement with the subrecipient.
- c. Except for changes described in (2) below, the recipient may revise the budget without prior approval. If the recipient alters the budget, the recipient must

provide a revised budget form (SF-424A or SF-424C, as applicable) to Treasury as an attachment to the SF-PPR, reflecting all budget revisions from the same period covered by the SF-PPR. Acceptance of such budget information does not constitute Treasury's approval of the revised budget.

2. Prior Approvals

- a. The recipient must obtain prior written approval from Treasury whenever any of the following actions is anticipated:
 - i. A change in the scope or the objective of the activity, project, or program (even if there is no associated budget revision requiring prior written approval);
 - ii. A need to extend the period of performance;
 - iii. A need for additional federal funds to complete the activity, project, or program;
 - iv. The transfer of funds among direct cost categories or programs, functions, and activities if this Award exceeds the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.88) and the cumulative amount of such transfers exceeds or is expected to exceed 10 percent of the total budget as last approved by Treasury;
 - v. Unless described in the application and funded in this Award, the subawarding, transferring or contracting out of any work under this Award (this provision does not apply to the acquisition of supplies, material, equipment or general support services);
 - vi. If the approved budget includes funds for both construction and non-construction, any transfer between the non-construction and construction activities; and
 - vii. The inclusion of costs that require prior approval in accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E—Cost Principles.
- b. If requesting a no-cost extension to this Award, the request must be made no less than 30 days prior to the end of the period of performance for this Award. Any extension of the period of performance requires prior written approval from Treasury.

K PROPERTY

1. General Requirements

- a. The recipient must comply with the property standards at 2 C.F.R. § 200.310 through § 200.316, and RESTORE Act requirements concerning the acquisition of land and interests in land at 34 C.F.R. § 34.803.
- b. No real property or interest in real property may be acquired under this Award, unless authorized by a Special Award Condition.

2. Forms Required for Disposition of Supplies and Equipment

- a. Requirements that are applicable to recipients that are states: The recipient must use, manage, and dispose of equipment acquired under this Award in accordance with state laws and procedures. If the recipient has a residual inventory of unused supplies exceeding \$5,000 in total aggregate value upon termination or completion of the activity, project, or program and the supplies are

not needed for any other federal award, the recipient must report the value and the retention or sale of such supplies by submitting to Treasury a completed *SF-428 Tangible Personal Property Report* and *SF-428-B Final Report Form* no later than 60 days after the end of the Period of Performance.

- b. Requirements that are applicable to recipients that are not states: During the period of performance, the recipient must seek disposition instructions from Treasury for equipment acquired under this Award if the current fair market value of the equipment is greater than \$5,000 per unit. The recipient must seek disposition instructions before disposing of the equipment by submitting a completed *SF-428 Tangible Personal Property Report* and *SF-428-C Disposition Request/Report*. Not later than 60 days after the end of the period of performance, the recipient must submit to Treasury a completed *SF-428 Tangible Personal Property Report* and *SF-428-B Final Report Form* if the recipient retains any equipment with a current fair market value greater than \$5,000 per unit or a residual inventory of unused supplies exceeding \$5,000 in total aggregate value upon termination or completion of the activity, project, or program and the supplies are not needed for any other federal award.

L AMENDMENTS AND CLOSEOUT

1. Amendments

- a. The terms of this Award may be amended with the written approval of the recipient and Treasury.
- b. Treasury reserves the right to amend the terms of this Award if required by federal law or regulation.
- c. Amendments must be requested in writing, and must include an explanation for the reason this Award should be amended.

2. Closeout

- a. Treasury will close out this Award when it determines that all applicable administrative actions and all required work of this Award have been completed.
Within 90 calendar days after the end of the period of performance, the recipient must submit any outstanding SF-PPR and Status of Performance reports, as well as the required reporting on subawards, if applicable, plus a final SF-425 report, unless the recipient requests, and Treasury approves, an extension.
- b. The recipient must liquidate all obligations incurred under this Award not later than 90 calendar days after the end of the period of performance, unless the recipient requests, and Treasury approves, an extension.
- c. The recipient must promptly refund any balances of unobligated cash that Treasury paid, unless Treasury has authorized the recipient to retain this cash for use in other projects.
- d. Within 90 days after receipt of reports in paragraph (b) of this section, Treasury will make upward or downward adjustments to the allowable costs, and then make prompt payment to the recipient for allowable, unreimbursed costs.
- f. The closeout of this Award does not affect any of the following:
 - i. The right of Treasury to disallow costs and recover funds on the basis of a later audit or other review;

- ii. The obligation of the recipient to return any funds due as a result of later refunds, corrections, or other transactions including final indirect cost rate adjustments; or
- iii. The recipient's obligations regarding audits, property management and disposition (if applicable), and records retention.

M REMEDIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

1. If Treasury determines that the recipient has failed to comply with the RESTORE Act, Treasury's RESTORE Act regulations, these Standard Terms and Conditions, Program-Specific Terms and Conditions, or any Special Award Conditions, Treasury may take any of the following actions (in addition to the remedies in Section A.5 above applicable to Direct Component awards):
 - a. Impose additional Special Award Conditions such as:
 - i. Allowing payment only on a reimbursement basis;
 - ii. Requiring additional reporting or more frequent submission of the SF-425, SF-PPR, or Status of Performance Report;
 - iii. Requiring additional activity, project, or program monitoring;
 - iv. Requiring the recipient or one or more of its subrecipients to obtain technical or management assistance; and/or
 - v. Establishing additional actions that require prior approval;
 - b. Temporarily withhold payments pending correction of the non-compliance;
 - c. Disallow from funding from this Award all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance;
 - d. Wholly or partly suspend or terminate this Award;
 - e. Withhold additional Awards; and/or
 - f. Initiate suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized under 2 C.F.R. Part 180.

Treasury will notify the recipient in writing of Treasury's proposed determination that an instance of non-compliance has occurred, provide details regarding the instance of non-compliance, and indicate the remedy that Treasury proposes to pursue. The recipient will then have 30 calendar days to respond and provide information and documentation contesting Treasury's proposed determination or suggesting an alternative remedy. Treasury will consider any and all information provided by the recipient and issue a final determination in writing, which will state Treasury's final findings regarding non-compliance and the remedy to be imposed.

2. In extraordinary circumstances, Treasury may require that any of the remedies above take effect immediately upon notice in writing to the recipient. In such cases, the recipient may contest Treasury's determination or suggest an alternative remedy in writing to Treasury, and Treasury will issue a final determination.
3. Instead of, or in addition to, the remedies listed above, Treasury may refer the non-compliance to the Treasury Office of Inspector General for investigation or audit. Treasury will refer all allegations of fraud, waste, or abuse to the Treasury Inspector General.
4. Treasury may terminate this Award in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.339. Requests for termination by the recipient must also be in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.339. Such

requests must be in writing and must include the reasons for such termination, the effective date, and in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated. If Treasury determines that the remaining portion of this Award will not accomplish the purpose of this Award, Treasury may terminate this Award in its entirety.

5. If this Award is terminated, Treasury will update or notify any relevant government-wide systems or entities of any indications of poor performance as required by 41 U.S.C. § 417b and 31 U.S.C. § 3321 and implementing guidance at 2 C.F.R. Part 77.
6. Costs that result from obligations incurred by the recipient during a suspension or after termination are not allowable unless Treasury expressly authorizes them in the notice of suspension or termination or subsequently. However, costs during suspension or after termination are allowable if: (1) the costs result from obligations which were properly incurred by the recipient before the effective date of suspension or termination, and are not in anticipation of it; and (2) the costs would be allowable if the Award was not suspended or expired normally at the end of the period of performance in which the termination takes effect.

N DEBTS

1. Payment of Debts Owed the Federal Government

- a. Any funds paid to the recipient in excess of the amount to which the recipient is finally determined to be authorized to retain under the terms of this Award constitute a debt to the federal government.
- b. Any debts determined to be owed the federal government must be paid promptly by the recipient. A debt is delinquent if it has not been paid by the date specified in Treasury's initial written demand for payment, unless other satisfactory arrangements have been made. Interest, penalties, and administrative charges (see paragraphs c, d, and e below) shall be charged on delinquent debts in accordance with 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 31 C.F.R. § 901.9. Treasury will refer any debt that is more than 180 days delinquent to Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service for debt collection services.
- c. The minimum annual interest rate to be assessed on any debts is the Department of the Treasury's Current Value of Funds Rate (CVFR). The CVFR is available online at http://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsreports/rpt/cvfr/cvfr_home.htm. The assessed rate shall remain fixed for the duration of the indebtedness, based on the beginning date in Treasury's written demand for payment.
- d. Penalties on any debts shall accrue at a rate of not more than 6 percent per year or such other higher rate as authorized by law.
- e. Administrative charges, that is, the costs of processing and handling a delinquent debt, shall be determined by Treasury.
- f. Funds for payment of a debt must not come from other federally sponsored programs. Verification that other federal funds have not been used will be made, e.g., during on-site visits and audits.

2. Effect of Judgment Lien on Eligibility for Federal Grants, Loans, or Programs

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 3201(e), unless waived in writing by Treasury, a debtor who has a judgment lien against the debtor's property for a debt to the United States shall not be eligible to receive any grant or loan that is made, insured, guaranteed, or financed directly or indirectly by the United States or to receive funds directly from the federal

government in any program, except funds to which the debtor is entitled as beneficiary, until the judgment is paid in full or otherwise satisfied.

O NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, handicap, age, religion, or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. The recipient is required to comply with all non-discrimination requirements summarized in this section, and to ensure that all subawards contain these nondiscrimination requirements.

1. Statutory Provisions

- a. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d et seq.) prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin under programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance;
- b. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq.) prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex under federally assisted education programs or activities;
- c. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794) prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap under any program or activity receiving or benefitting from federal assistance;
- d. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 et seq.), prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance;
- e. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.) (“ADA”), prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under programs, activities, and services provided or made available by state and local governments or instrumentalities or agencies thereto, as well as public or private entities that provide public transportation.

Revised ADA Standards for Accessible Design for Construction Awards: The U.S. Department of Justice has issued revised regulations implementing Title II of the ADA (28 C.F.R. Part 35) and Title III of the ADA (28 C.F.R. Part 36). The revised regulations adopted new enforceable accessibility standards called the “2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design” (2010 Standards). The 2010 Standards are an acceptable alternative to the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS). Treasury deems compliance with the 2010 Standards to be an acceptable means of complying with the Section 504 accessibility requirements for new construction and alteration projects;

- f. Any other applicable non-discrimination law(s).

2. Other Provisions

- a. Parts II and III of EO 11246 (30 Fed. Reg. 12319, 1965), “Equal Employment Opportunity,” as amended by EO 11375 (32 Fed. Reg. 14303, 1967) and 12086 (43 Fed. Reg. 46501, 1978), require federally assisted construction contracts to include the nondiscrimination provisions of §§ 202 and 203 of that EO and Department of Labor regulations implementing EO 11246 (41 C.F.R. § 60-1.4(b), 1991).

- b. EO 13166 (August 11, 2000), "Improving Access to Services for Persons With Limited English Proficiency," requires federal agencies to examine the services provided, identify any need for services to those with limited English proficiency (LEP), and develop and implement a system to provide those services so LEP persons can have meaningful access to them.

3. Title VII Exemption for Religious Organizations

Generally, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq., provides that it shall be an unlawful employment practice for an employer to discharge any individual or otherwise to discriminate against an individual with respect to compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because of such individual's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. However, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-1(a), expressly exempts from the prohibition against discrimination on the basis of religion, a religious corporation, association, educational institution, or society with respect to the employment of individuals of a particular religion to perform work connected with the carrying on by such corporation, association, educational institution, or society of its activities.

4. Protections for Whistleblowers

In accordance with 41 U.S.C. § 4712, neither the recipient nor any of its subrecipients, contractors (vendors), or subcontractors may discharge, demote, or otherwise discriminate against an employee as a reprisal for disclosing information to a person or entity listed below that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a federal contract or grant, a gross waste of federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a federal contract or grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract) or grant:

- a. A Member of Congress or a representative of a committee of Congress;
- b. An Inspector General;
- c. The Government Accountability Office;
- d. A Treasury employee responsible for contract or grant oversight or management;
- e. An authorized official of the Department of Justice or other law enforcement agency;
- f. A court or grand jury; and/or
- g. A management official or other employee of the recipient, subrecipient, vendor, contractor (vendor), or subcontractor who has the responsibility to investigate, discover, or address misconduct.

P REQUIREMENT TO CHECK DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION STATUS OF SUBRECIPIENTS, CONTRACTORS, SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

1. Recipients that are authorized to enter into subawards or contracts to accomplish all or a portion of the approved scope of work must verify that neither a proposed subrecipient, contractor (if the contract is expected to equal or exceed \$25,000) nor its principals appears on the federal government's Excluded Parties List prior to executing an agreement or contract with that entity. Recipients may not enter into a subaward or contract with an entity that appears on the Excluded Parties List. The Excluded Parties List is accessible at <http://www.sam.gov>.

2. The recipient must ensure that any agreements or contracts with subrecipients or contractors (vendors) require that entity to verify that none of their contractors (for contracts expected to equal or exceed \$25,000), subcontractors (for subcontracts expected to equal or exceed \$25,000), nor principals that these entities engage to accomplish the scope of work, if applicable, do not appear on the federal government's Excluded Parties List. Subrecipients and contractors may not enter into a contract or subcontract with an entity, nor that entity's principals, if that entity or its principals appear on the Excluded Parties List.
3. The recipient must include a term or condition in all lower tier covered transactions (subawards, contracts, and subcontracts described in 31 C.F.R. Part 19, subpart B) that the award is subject to 31 C.F.R. Part 19.

Q DRUG FREE WORKPLACE

The recipient must comply with the provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-690, Title V, Sec. 5153, as amended by Public Law 105-85, Div. A, Title VIII, Sec. 809, as codified at 41 U.S.C. § 8102), and Treasury implementing regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 20, which require that the recipient take steps to provide a drug-free workplace.

R LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS

1. Statutory Provisions

The recipient must comply with the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 1352, and regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 21. These provisions generally prohibit the use of federal funds for lobbying the Executive or Legislative Branches of the federal government in connection with this Award, and require the disclosure of the use of non-federal funds for lobbying.

2. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

The recipient receiving in excess of \$100,000 in federal funding must submit a completed Form SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," regarding the use of non-federal funds for lobbying. The Form SF-LLL must be submitted within 30 days following the end of the calendar quarter in which there occurs any event that requires disclosure or that materially affects the accuracy of the information contained in any disclosure form previously filed.

The recipient must include a statement in all subawards, contracts, and subcontracts exceeding \$100,000 in federal funds, that the subaward, contract, or subcontract is subject to 31 U.S.C § 1352. The recipient must further require the subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor to submit a completed "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" (Form SF-LLL) regarding the use of non-federal funds for lobbying. The Form SF-LLL must be submitted within 15 days following the end of the calendar quarter in which there occurs any event that requires disclosure or that materially affects the accuracy of the information contained in any disclosure form previously filed. The Form SF-LLL must be submitted from subcontractor to contractor, and lower tier subrecipient to subrecipient, until received by the recipient.

The recipient must submit the Forms SF-LLL, including those received from subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors, to Treasury within 30 days following the end of the calendar period.

S PROCUREMENT

1. The recipient must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 C.F.R. Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired by the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.
2. When the recipient makes a subaward to a subrecipient that is authorized to enter into contracts for the purpose of completing the subaward scope of work, the recipient must require the subrecipient to comply with the requirements contained in this section.
3. Requirements applicable to recipients that are states: When executing procurement actions under this Award, the recipient must follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from its non-federal funds. The recipient must ensure that every purchase order or other contract contains any clauses required by federal statutes and EOs and their implementing regulations, including all of the provisions listed in Appendix II to 2 C.F.R. Part 200—*Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts under Federal Awards*, as well as any other provisions required by law or regulations.
4. Requirements applicable to recipients that are not states: The recipient must follow all procurement requirements set forth in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318, 200.319, 200.320, 200.321, 200.323, and 200.324. In addition, all contracts executed by the recipient to accomplish the approved scope of work must contain any clauses required by federal statutes and EOs and their implementing regulations, including all of the provisions listed in Appendix II to 2 C.F.R. Part 200—*Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts under Federal Awards*.
5. The recipient, subrecipient, contractor, and/or subcontractor must not sub-grant or sub-contract any part of the approved project to any agency or employee of Treasury and/or other federal department, agency, or instrumentality without the prior written approval of Treasury. Treasury will forward all requests to Treasury's Office of General Counsel for review before making a decision. Treasury will notify the recipient in writing of the final determination.

T RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN SUBJECTS

1. No research involving human subjects is permitted under this Award unless expressly authorized by a special award condition, or otherwise in writing by Treasury.
2. Federal policy defines a human subject as a living individual about whom an investigator conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information. Research means a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.
3. The recipient must maintain appropriate policies and procedures for the protection of human subjects. In the event it becomes evident that human subjects may be involved in this project, the recipient must submit appropriate documentation to Treasury for approval by the appropriate Treasury officials. This documentation may include:
 - a. Documentation establishing approval of the project by an institutional review board (IRB) approved for federal-wide use under Department of Health and Human Services guidelines;

- b. Documentation to support an exemption for the project;
 - c. Documentation to support deferral for an exemption or IRB review; or
 - d. Documentation of IRB approval of any modification to a prior approved protocol or to an informed consent form.
4. No work involving human subjects may be undertaken, conducted, or costs incurred and/or charged for human subjects research, until the appropriate documentation is approved in writing by Treasury.

U ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

The recipient must comply with all environmental standards, and provide information requested by Treasury relating to compliance with environmental standards, including the following federal statutes and EOs. If the recipient is permitted to make any subawards, the recipient must include all of the environmental statutes, regulations, and executive orders listed below in any agreement or contract with a subrecipient, and require the subrecipient to comply with all of these and to notify the recipient if the subrecipient becomes aware of any impact on the environment that was not noted in the recipient's approved application package.

1. National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470 et seq.)
2. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq.)
3. Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 et seq.), Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 et seq.), and EO 11738
4. The Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. § 4002 et seq.)
5. The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.)
6. The Coastal Zone Management Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.)
7. The Coastal Barriers Resources Act, (16 U.S.C. § 3501 et seq.)
8. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C. §§ 1271 et seq.)
9. The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (42 U.S.C. §§ 300f-j)
10. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as amended, (42 U.S.C. §§ 6901 et seq.)
11. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund) (42 U.S.C. § 9601 et seq.) and the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (41 U.S.C. § 11001 et seq.)
12. Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. § 1801)
13. Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. § 31)
14. Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. § 407)
15. Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations, EO 12898, February 11, 1994, as amended
16. Floodplain Management, EO 11988 and, Protection of Wetlands, EO 11990, May 24, 1977, as amended
17. Coral Reef Protection, EO 13089, June 11, 1998
18. Invasive Species, EO 13112, February 3, 1999, as amended

19. Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, EO 13186, January 10, 2001
20. Preparing the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change, EO 13653, November 1, 2013

V MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS AND PROVISIONS

The recipient must comply with all miscellaneous requirements and provisions described in this section and, when applicable, require its subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors to comply. This list is not exclusive:

1. Prohibition Against Assignment by the Recipient

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Award, the recipient must not transfer, pledge, mortgage, or otherwise assign this Award, or any interest therein, or any claim arising thereunder, to any party or parties, banks, trust companies, or other financing or financial institutions without the express written approval of Treasury.

2. Disclaimer Provisions

- a. The United States expressly disclaims any and all responsibility or liability to the recipient or third persons for the actions of the recipient or third persons resulting in death, bodily injury, property damages, or any other losses resulting in any way from the performance of this Award or any other losses resulting in any way from the performance of this Award or any subaward, contract, or subcontract under this Award.
- b. The acceptance of this Award by the recipient does not in any way constitute an agency relationship between the United States and the recipient.

3. Prohibited and Criminal Activities.

- a. The Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act (31 U.S.C. §§ 3801-3812), provides for the imposition of civil penalties against persons who make false, fictitious, or fraudulent claims to the federal government for money (including money representing grants, loans or other benefits).
- b. False Statements (18 U.S.C. §1001) provides that whoever makes or presents any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements to the United States shall be subject to imprisonment of not more than five years.
- c. False Claims (18 U.S.C. § 287) provides that whoever makes or presents a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim against or to the United States shall be subject to imprisonment of not more than five years and shall be subject to a fine in the amount provided in 18 U.S.C. § 287.
- d. False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. 3729 et seq.), provides that suits under this act can be brought by the federal government, or a person on behalf of the federal government, for false claims under federal assistance programs.
- e. Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (18 U.S.C. § 874 and 40 U.S.C. § 276c), prohibits a person or organization engaged in a federally supported project from enticing an employee working on the project from giving up a part of his compensation under an employment contract. The Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act also applies to contractors and subcontractors pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3145.

4. Political Activities

The recipient must comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with federal funds.

5. American-Made Equipment and Products.

The recipient is hereby notified that it is encouraged, to the greatest extent practicable, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding provided under this Award.

6. Increasing Seat Belt Use in the United States.

Pursuant to EO 13043, the recipient should encourage its employees and contractors to enforce on-the-job seat belt policies and programs when operating company-owned, rented or personally owned vehicles.

7. Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) Initiative.

Pursuant to EOs 13555, 13270, and 13532, Treasury is strongly committed to broadening the participation of MSIs in its financial assistance programs. Treasury's goals include achieving full participation of MSIs in order to advance the development of human potential, strengthen the nation's capacity to provide high-quality education, and increase opportunities for MSIs to participate in and benefit from federal financial assistance programs. Treasury encourages recipients to include meaningful participation of MSIs. Institutions eligible to be considered MSIs are listed on the Department of Education website (see <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/edlite-minorityinst.html>).

8. Research Misconduct

Treasury adopts, and applies to Awards for research, the Federal Policy on Research Misconduct (Federal Policy) issued by the EO of the President's Office of Science and Technology Policy on December 6, 2000 (65 Fed. Reg. 76260 (2000)). As provided for in the Federal Policy, research misconduct refers to the fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results. Research misconduct does not include honest errors or differences of opinion. Recipients that conduct research funded by Treasury must foster an atmosphere conducive to the responsible conduct of sponsored research by safeguarding against and resolving allegations of research misconduct. Recipients also have the primary responsibility to prevent, detect, and investigate allegations of research misconduct and, for this purpose, may rely on their internal policies and procedures, as appropriate, to do so. Award funds expended on an activity that is determined to be invalid or unreliable because of research misconduct may result in appropriate enforcement action under the Award, up to and including Award termination and possible suspension or debarment. Treasury requires that any allegation that contains sufficient information to proceed with an inquiry be submitted to Treasury, which will also notify the Treasury Office of Inspector General of such allegation. Once the recipient has investigated the allegation, it will submit its findings to Treasury. Treasury may accept the recipient's findings or proceed with its own investigation; Treasury shall inform the recipient of the Treasury's final determination.

9. Care and Use of Live Vertebrate Animals

Recipients must comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-544), as amended, (7 U.S.C. §§ 2131 et seq.) (animal acquisition, transport, care, handling, and use in projects), and implementing regulations, 9 C.F.R. Parts 1, 2, and 3; the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.); Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1361 et seq.) (taking possession, transport, purchase, sale, export or import of wildlife and plants); the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 4701 et seq.) (ensure preventive measures are taken or that probable harm of using species is minimal if there is an escape or release); and all other applicable statutes pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by federal financial assistance.

10. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. § 7104(g)), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 2 C.F.R. Part 175

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 authorizes termination of financial assistance provided to a private entity, without penalty to the federal government, if the recipient or subrecipient engages in certain activities related to trafficking in persons.

a. Provisions applicable to a recipient that is a private entity.

1. You as the recipient, your employees, subrecipients under this Award, and subrecipients' employees may not—
 - i. Engage in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that this Award is in effect;
 - ii. Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that this Award is in effect; or
 - iii. Use forced labor in the performance of this Award or subawards under this Award.
2. We as the federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this Award, without penalty, if you or a subrecipient that is a private entity —
 - i. Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this Section V.10; or
 - ii. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate this Award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this Section V.10 through conduct that is either—
 - A. Associated with performance under this Award; or
 - B. Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by our agency at 31 C.F.R. part 19.

b. Provision applicable to a recipient other than a private entity. We as the federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this Award, without penalty, if a subrecipient that is a private entity—

1. Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this Section V.10; or

2. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate this Award to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this Section V.10 through conduct that is either—
 - i. Associated with performance under this Award; or
 - ii. Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 C.F.R. part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by our agency at 31 C.F.R. part 19.

c. *Provisions applicable to any recipient.*

1. You must inform us immediately of any information you receive from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this Section V.10.
2. Our right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraph a.2 or b of this Section V.10:
 - i. Implements section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7104(g)), and
 - ii. Is in addition to all other remedies for noncompliance that are available to us under this Award.
3. You must include the requirements of paragraph a.1 of this Section V.10 in any subaward you make to a private entity.

d. *Definitions.* For purposes of this award term:

1. “Employee” means either:
 - i. An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this Award; or
 - ii. Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this Award and not compensated by you including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an in-kind contribution toward cost sharing or matching requirements.
2. “Forced labor” means labor obtained by any of the following methods: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.
3. “Private entity”:
 - i. means any entity other than a state, local government, Indian tribe, or foreign public entity, as those terms are defined in 2 C.F.R. § 175.25.
 - ii. includes:
 - A. A nonprofit organization, including any nonprofit institution of higher education, hospital, or tribal organization other than one included in the definition of Indian tribe at 2 C.F.R. § 175.25(b).
 - B. A for-profit organization.
4. “Severe forms of trafficking in persons,” “commercial sex act,” and “coercion” have the meanings given at section 103 of the TVPA, as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7102).

11. The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. No. 109-282, 31 USC § 6101 note)

- a. The award term at Appendix A of 2 C.F.R. Part 170 is hereby incorporated by reference.
- b. The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) requires information on federal awards to be made available to the public via a single, searchable website. This information is available at www.USASpending.gov. The FFATA Subaward Reporting System (FSRS) is the reporting tool federal prime awardees (*i.e.*, prime contractors and prime grants recipients) use to capture and report subaward and executive compensation data regarding their first-tier subawards to meet the FFATA reporting requirements. Prime grant awardees will report against sub-grants awarded. The subaward information entered in FSRS will then be displayed on <http://www.USASpending.gov>.
- c. Recipients of RESTORE Act funding are subject to FFATA subaward reporting requirements as outlined in the OMB guidance on FFATA issued August 27, 2010. The recipient is required to file a FFATA subaward report by the end of the month following the month in which the recipient makes any subaward greater than or equal to \$25,000. This includes any action that brings the cumulative total award to \$25,000 or more. This report must be filed electronically at <http://www.fsr.gov>.
- d. The recipient must report total compensation for each of its five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, by the end of the month following the month in which this Award is made, and annually thereafter if—
 - i. The total federal funding authorized to date under this Award is \$25,000 or more; and
 - ii. In the preceding fiscal year, the recipient received—
 - 1) 80 percent or more of annual gross revenues from federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and federal financial assistance subject to FFATA, as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - 2) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and federal financial assistance subject to FFATA, as defined at 2 C.F.R. 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - iii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/excomp.htm>.)
- e. The recipient must report on the total compensation of its subrecipients' five most highly compensated executives, as required by FFATA, and must include provisions in every executed contract or agreement with affected subrecipients requiring the subrecipient to provide all information necessary for the recipient to report on subrecipient executive compensation. The recipient must report on

subrecipient executive compensation by the end of the month following the month during which the recipient makes the subaward.

- f. The recipient must keep its information current in SAM (System for Award Management, which is the successor to the Central Contractor Registry, CCR) at least until submission of the final SF-425 or receipt of the final Award payment, whichever is later. This requires that the recipient review and update the information at least annually after the initial registration, and more frequently if required by changes in the recipient's information. SAM is the federal repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the System for Award Management Internet site (currently at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/>).
- g. If the recipient is authorized to make subawards under this Award, the recipient must notify potential subrecipients that the recipient may not make a subaward to any entity unless that entity has provided its Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number to the recipient. A DUNS number is the nine-digit number established and assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) to uniquely identify business entities.

12. Publications and Signage

Any publications (except scientific articles or papers appearing in scientific, technical, or professional journals) or signage produced with funds from this Award, or informing the public about the activities funded in whole or in part by this Award, must clearly display the following language: "This project was paid for [in part] with federal funding from the Department of the Treasury under the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act)." Publications (except scientific articles or papers appearing in scientific, technical, or professional journals) produced with funds from this Award must display the following additional language: "The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of the Treasury."

13. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12

If the performance of this Award requires the recipient's personnel to have routine access to Treasury-controlled facilities and/or Treasury-controlled information systems (for purpose of this term "routine access" is defined as more than 180 days), such personnel must undergo the personal identity verification credential process. In the case of foreign nationals, Treasury will conduct a check with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) Verification Division, a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to ensure the individual is in a lawful immigration status and that he or she is eligible for employment within the United States. Any items or services delivered under this Award must comply with Treasury personal identity verification procedures that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12, "Policy for a Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees and Contractors", FIPS PUB 201, and OMB Memorandum M-05-24. The recipient must ensure that its subrecipients and contractors (at all tiers) performing work under this Award comply with the requirements contained in this Section V.13. Treasury may delay final payment under this Award if the subrecipient or contractor fails to comply with the requirements listed in the section below. The recipient must insert the following term in all subawards and contracts when the subrecipient or contractor is required to have routine physical access to a Treasury-controlled facility or routine access to a Treasury-controlled information system:

- a. The subrecipient or contractor must comply with Treasury personal identity verification procedures identified in the subaward or contract that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance M-05-24, as amended, and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) Number 201, as amended, for all employees under this subaward or contract who require routine physical access to a federally controlled facility or routine access to a federally controlled information system.
- b. The subrecipient or contractor must account for all forms of government-provided identification issued to the subrecipient or contractor employees in connection with performance under this subaward or contract. The subrecipient or contractor must return such identification to the issuing agency at the earliest of any of the following, unless otherwise determined by Treasury:
 - i. When no longer needed for subaward or contract performance;
 - ii. Upon completion of the subrecipient or contractor employee's employment;
 - iii. Upon subaward or contract completion or termination.

14. Foreign Travel

- a. The recipient may not use funds from this Award for travel outside of the United States unless Treasury provides prior written approval.
- b. The recipient must comply with the provisions of the Fly America Act (49 U.S.C. § 40118). The implementing regulations of the Fly America Act are found at 41 C.F.R. §§ 301-10.131 through 301-10.143.
- c. The Fly America Act requires that federal travelers and others performing U.S. Government-financed air travel must use U.S. flag air carriers, to the extent that service by such carriers is available. Foreign air carriers may be used only in specific instances, such as when a U.S. flag air carrier is unavailable, or use of U.S. flag air carrier service will not accomplish the agency's mission.
- d. One exception to the requirement to fly U.S. flag carriers is transportation provided under a bilateral or multilateral air transport agreement, to which the United States Government and the government of a foreign country are parties, and which the Department of Transportation has determined meets the requirements of the Fly America Act pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40118(b). The United States Government has entered into bilateral/multilateral "Open Skies Agreements" (U.S. Government Procured Transportation) that allow federal funded transportation services for travel and cargo movements to use foreign air carriers under certain circumstances. There are multiple "Open Skies Agreements" currently in effect. For more information about the current bilateral and multilateral agreements, visit the GSA website <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/103191>. Information on the Open Skies agreements (U.S. Government Procured Transportation) and other specific country agreements may be accessed via the Department of State's website <http://www.state.gov/e/eeb/tra/>.
- e. If a foreign air carrier is anticipated to be used for any portion of travel funded under this Award, the recipient must receive prior approval from the Treasury. When requesting such approval, the recipient must provide a justification in accordance with guidance provided by 41 C.F.R. § 301-10.142, which requires the recipient to provide Treasury with the following: name; dates of travel; origin and destination of travel; detailed itinerary of travel; name of the air carrier and

flight number for each leg of the trip; and a statement explaining why the recipient meets one of the exceptions to the regulations. If the use of a foreign air carrier is pursuant to a bilateral agreement, the recipient must provide Treasury with a copy of the agreement or a citation to the official agreement available on the GSA website. Treasury shall make the final determination and notify the recipient in writing. Failure to adhere to the provisions of the Fly America Act will result in the recipient not being reimbursed for any transportation costs for which the recipient improperly used a foreign air carrier.

15. Export Control

- a. This clause applies to the extent that this Award involves access to export-controlled items.
- b. In performing this financial assistance Award, the recipient may gain access to items subject to export control (export-controlled items) under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) issued by the Department of Commerce (DOC). The recipient is responsible for compliance with all applicable laws and regulations regarding export-controlled items, including the EAR's deemed exports and re-exports provisions. The recipient shall establish and maintain effective export compliance procedures throughout performance of the Award. At a minimum, these export compliance procedures must include adequate controls of physical, verbal, visual, and electronic access to export-controlled items, including by foreign nationals.
- c. Definitions
 - i. Export-controlled items. Items (commodities, software, or technology), that are subject to the EAR (15 C.F.R. §§ 730-774), implemented by the DOC's Bureau of Industry and Security. These are generally known as "dual-use" items, items with a military and commercial application.
 - ii. Deemed Export/Re-export. The EAR defines a deemed export as a release of export-controlled items (specifically, technology or source code) to a foreign national in the U.S. Such release is "deemed" to be an export to the home country of the foreign national. 15 C.F.R. § 734.2(b)(2)(ii). A release may take the form of visual inspection, oral exchange of information, or the application abroad of knowledge or technical experience acquired in the United States. If such a release occurs abroad, it is considered a deemed re-export to the foreign national's home country. Licenses from DOC may be required for deemed exports or re-exports.
- d. The recipient shall control access to all export-controlled items that it possesses or that comes into its possession in performance of this Award, to ensure that access to, or release of, such items are restricted, or licensed, as required by applicable federal statutes, EOs, and/or regulations, including the EAR.
- e. To the extent the recipient wishes to provide foreign nationals with access to export-controlled items, the recipient shall be responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses, including licenses required under the EAR for deemed exports or deemed re-exports.
- f. Nothing in the terms of this Award is intended to change, supersede, or waive the requirements of applicable federal statutes, EOs, and/or regulations.
- g. Compliance with this Section V.15 will not satisfy any legal obligations the recipient may have regarding items that may be subject to export controls administered by other agencies such as the Department of State, which has

jurisdiction over exports of munitions items subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) (22 C.F.R. §§ 120-130), including releases of such items to foreign nationals.

- h. The recipient shall include this clause, including this paragraph (i), in all lower tier transactions (subawards, contracts, and subcontracts) under this Award that may involve access to export-controlled items.

**RESTORE COUNCIL
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

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RESTORE COUNCIL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Table of Contents

A. STATUTORY AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS.....	1
B. PROGRAMMATIC REQUIREMENTS	1
.01 Performance (Technical) Reports	2
.02 Reporting on Real Property	3
.03 Unsatisfactory Performance.....	3
.04 Programmatic Changes	3
.05 Other Federal Awards with Similar Programmatic Activities.....	3
.06 Non-Compliance with Award Provisions	4
.07 Prohibition against Assignment by the Non-Federal Entity	4
.08 Disclaimer Provisions	4
C. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS.....	4
.01 Financial Reports	4
.02 Financial Management.....	5
.03 Award Payments	6
.04 Federal and Non-Federal Sharing	7
.05 Program Income.....	7
.06 Budget Changes and Transfer of Funds among Categories.....	8
.07 Indirect (Facilities and Administrative [F&A]) Costs	9
.08 Incurring Costs or Obligating Federal Funds Outside of the Period of Performance....	11
.09 Tax Refunds.....	11

D. INTERNAL CONTROLS.....	12
E. PROPERTY STANDARDS.....	12
.01 Standards.....	12
.02 Insurance coverage.....	12
.03 Real Property	13
.04 Federally-owned and Exempt Federally-owned Property	14
.05 Equipment.....	14
.06 Supplies.....	15
.07 Intangible Property.....	15
.08 Property Trust Relationship	16
F. PROCUREMENT STANDARDS	16
G. NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS	17
.01 Statutory Provisions	17
.02 Other Provisions.....	18
.03 Title VII Exemption for Religious Organizations	19
H. RECORDS RETENTION	19
I. AUDITS	20
.01 Organization-Wide, Program-Specific, and Project Audits.....	20
.02 Audit Resolution Process	21
J. DEBTS	22
.01 Payment of Debts Owed the Federal Government	22
.02 Late Payment Charges	22
.03 Effect of Judgment Lien on Eligibility for Federal Grants, Loans, or Programs.....	23
K. GOVERNMENTWIDE DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION.....	23
L. LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS	23
.01 Statutory Provisions	23
.02 Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	23
M. REMEDIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.....	24
N. CODES OF CONDUCT AND SUBAWARD, CONTRACT, AND SUBCONTRACT PROVISIONS	26
.01 Code of Conduct for Recipients.....	26
.02 Applicability of Award Provisions to Subrecipients	26
.03 Competition and Codes of Conduct for Subawards.....	28

.04	Applicability of Provisions to Subawards, Contracts, and Subcontracts.....	28
.05	Subaward and/or Contract to a Federal Agency	31
O.	AMENDMENTS AND CLOSEOUT	32
P.	ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE	32
.01	The National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 <i>et seq.</i>).....	32
.02	The Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1531 <i>et seq.</i>).....	33
.03	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. § 1801 <i>et seq.</i>).....	33
.04	Clean Water Act Section 404 (33 U.S.C. § 1344 <i>et seq.</i>).....	33
.05	The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 703-712), Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. § 668 <i>et seq.</i>), and Executive Order No. 13186, Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds	33
.06	National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470 <i>et seq.</i>)	34
.07	Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7401 <i>et seq.</i>), Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 <i>et seq.</i>) (Clean Water Act), and Executive Order 11738 (“Providing for administration of the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to Federal contracts, grants or loans”).....	34
.08	The Flood Disaster Protection Act (42 U.S.C. § 4002 <i>et seq.</i>).....	34
.09	Executive Order 11988 (“Floodplain Management”), Executive Order 13690 (“Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input”), and Executive Order 11990 (“Protection of Wetlands”)	34
.10	Executive Order 13112 (“Invasive Species”)	35
.11	The Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. § 1451 <i>et seq.</i>).....	35
.12	The Coastal Barriers Resources Act (16 U.S.C. § 3501 <i>et seq.</i>).....	35
.13	The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. § 1271 <i>et seq.</i>).....	35
.14	The Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. § 300 <i>et seq.</i>).....	35
.15	The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. § 6901 <i>et seq.</i>).....	36
.16	The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund) (42 U.S.C. § 9601 <i>et seq.</i>).....	36
.17	Executive Order 12898 (“Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations”).....	36
.18	Rivers and Harbors Act (33 U.S.C. 407)	36
.19	Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act (Pub. L. 92-532, as amended), National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431 <i>et seq.</i>), and Executive Order 13089 (“Coral Reef Protection”)	36

.20	Executive Order 13653 (“Preparing the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change”)	37
.21	Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.)	37
.22	Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.)	37
Q.	MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS	37
.01	Criminal and Prohibited Activities	37
.02	Political Activities.....	37
.03	Drug-Free Workplace	38
.04	Foreign Travel.....	38
.05	Increasing Seat Belt Use in the United States.....	39
.06	Research Involving Human Subjects	39
.07	Federal Employee Expenses	39
.08	Minority Serving Institutions Initiative	40
.09	Research Misconduct.....	40
.10	Publications, Videos, Signage and Acknowledgment of Sponsorship	40
.11	Care and Use of Live Vertebrate Animals.....	41
.12	Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12.....	41
.13	Compliance with Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security Export Administration Regulations	42
.14	The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 2 C.F.R. part 175	43
.15	The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (“Transparency Act” or FFATA)—Public Law 109-282, as amended by section 6202(a) of Public Law 110-252 (31 U.S.C. 6101).....	44
.16	Federal Financial Assistance Planning During a Funding Hiatus or Government Shutdown	48
R.	CERTIFICATIONS.....	49

THESE RESTORE COUNCIL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS (ST&Cs) ARE INCORPORATED INTO AND MADE A PART OF THE GRANT AWARD TO WHICH THEY ARE ATTACHED.

A. STATUTORY AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

The non-Federal entity¹ (also referred to as “recipient” or “grantee”) and any subrecipients must, in addition to the assurances made as part of the application, comply and require each of its contractors and subcontractors employed in the completion of the project to comply with all applicable statutes, regulations, executive orders (EOs), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circulars, terms and conditions, and approved applications. This document provides the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (“Council”) standard terms and conditions (ST&Cs) for all Council awards. 2 CFR § 5900.101 provides the Council’s adoption of 2 CFR Part 200, giving regulatory effect to the OMB guidance.

This award is subject to the laws and regulations of the United States. Any inconsistency or conflict in terms and conditions specified in the award will be resolved according to the following order of precedence: public laws, regulations, applicable notices published in the *Federal Register*, EOs, OMB circulars, the Council ST&Cs, and special award conditions. Special award conditions may amend or take precedence over the ST&Cs if and when so provided by the ST&Cs.

Certain of the ST&Cs contain, by reference or substance, a summary of the pertinent statutes or regulations published in the *Federal Register* or Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), EOs, OMB circulars, or the assurances (Forms SF-424B and SF-424D). No such provision will be construed so as to be in derogation of, or an amendment to, any such statute, regulation, EO, OMB circular, or assurance.

B. PROGRAMMATIC REQUIREMENTS

The recipient must use funds only for the purposes identified in the grant award agreement in accordance with the requirements in 31 C.F.R. § 34.803(d). All activities under the award must meet the eligibility requirements of the Gulf RESTORE Program as defined in 31 C.F.R. §§ 34.201, 34.202 or 34.203, according to component.

¹ The OMB *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* located at 2 C.F.R. part 200 uses the term “non-Federal entity” to generally refer to an entity that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient. Because certain of the provisions of these ST&Cs apply to recipients rather than subrecipients, or vice versa, for clarity, these ST&Cs use the terms “non-Federal entity”, “recipient”, and “subrecipient.” In addition, the OMB Uniform Guidance uses the term “pass-through entity” to refer to a non-Federal entity that makes a subaward.

“Non-Federal entity” is defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.69 as “a State, local government, Indian tribe, institution of higher education (IHE), or nonprofit organization that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.”

“Recipient” is defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.86 as “a non-Federal entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients.”

“Subrecipient” is defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.93 as “a non-Federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.”

“Pass-through entity” is defined as 2 C.F.R. § 200.74 as “a non-Federal entity that provides a subaward to a subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal program.”

.01 Performance (Technical) Reports

- a. Non-Federal entities must use OMB-approved governmentwide standard information collections when providing financial and performance information and, as appropriate and in accordance with such information collections, are required to relate financial data to the performance accomplishments of the Federal award. When applicable, recipients must also provide cost information to demonstrate cost effective practices (e.g., through unit cost data). The Non-Federal entity's performance will be measured in a way that will help the Council and other non-Federal entities to improve program outcomes, share lessons learned and spread the adoption of promising practices. Recipients will be provided with clear performance goals, indicators and milestones as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.210 “Information contained in a Federal award.”
- b. Recipients must submit performance (technical) reports, which may be Form SF-PPR “Performance Progress Report” or any successor form, or another format as required by the Council, to the Council-designated grants officer (Grants Officer). Performance reports should be submitted electronically, unless the recipient makes an arrangement with the Grants Officer for submission in hard copy (no more than one original and two copies) in accordance with the award conditions.
- c. Performance Reports must be submitted with the same frequency as the Federal Financial Report (Form SF-425), unless otherwise authorized by the Grants Officer. If events occur between scheduled performance reporting dates that have significant impact upon the activity, project or program, the recipient must notify the Grants Officer as soon as possible.
- d. Performance (technical) reports shall contain brief information as prescribed in the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (2 C.F.R. part 200, specifically 2 C.F.R. § 200.328) incorporated into the award, unless otherwise specified in the award provisions. Specifically, in the “performance narrative” (item 10 on the SF-PPR), the recipient must provide the following information.
 1. Activities and Accomplishments:
 - i. Summarize activities undertaken during the reporting period;
 - ii. Summarize any key accomplishments, including milestones and metrics completed for the period;
 - iii. List any contracts awarded during the reporting period, along with the name of the contractor and its principal, the DUNS number of the contractor, the value of the contract, the date of award, a brief description of the services to be provided, and whether or not local preference was used in the selection of the contractor; and
 - iv. If the recipient is authorized to make subawards, list any subawards executed during the reporting period, along with the name of the entity and its principal, the DUNS number of the entity, the value of the agreement, the date of award, and a brief description of the scope of work.
 2. Adaptive Management:
 - i. Indicate if any operational, legal, regulatory, budgetary, and/or ecological risks, and/or any public controversies, have materialized; if so, indicate what mitigation strategies have been undertaken to attenuate these risks or controversies; and
 - ii. Summarize any challenges that have impeded the recipient’s ability to accomplish the approved scope of work on schedule and on budget.

3. Findings/Events: Summarize any significant findings or events, if applicable.
4. Dissemination Activities: Describe any activities to disseminate or publicize results of the activity, project, or program, if applicable.
5. Monitoring:
 - i. Describe all efforts taken to monitor contractor and/or subrecipient performance, to include site visits, during the reporting period. For subawards, indicate whether the subrecipient submitted an audit to the recipient, and if so, whether the recipient issued a management decision on any findings; and
 - ii. Describe any other activities or relevant information not already provided.
6. Planned Activities: Summarize the activities planned for the next reporting period.
7. Attachments: List and attach any deliverables completed during the performance period or other materials to be submitted with the report.

.02 Reporting on Real Property

In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.329, the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity must require a non-Federal entity to submit reports at least annually on the status of real property in which the Federal government retains an interest, unless the Federal interest in the real property extends 15 years or longer. If the attached Federal interest is for a period of 15 years or longer, the Council or pass-through entity may, at its option, require the non-Federal entity to report at various multi-year frequencies as specified in the terms of the award (e.g., every two years or every three years, not to exceed a five-year reporting period; or the Council or pass-through entity may require annual reporting for the first three years of a Federal award and thereafter require reporting every five years).

.03 Unsatisfactory Performance

Failure to perform the work in accordance with the terms of the award and maintain at least a satisfactory performance as determined by the Council may result in designation of the non-Federal entity as high risk and the assignment of special award conditions or other further action as provided in Section B.06, “Non-Compliance with Award Provisions” below.

.04 Programmatic Changes

The non-Federal entity shall report programmatic changes to the Grants Officer in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.308, and shall request prior approvals in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.407.

.05 Other Federal Awards with Similar Programmatic Activities

The non-Federal entity shall immediately provide written notification to the Grants Officer in the event that, subsequent to receipt of the Council award, other financial assistance is received to support or fund any portion of the scope of work incorporated into the Council award. The Council will not pay for any costs that are funded by other sources.

.06 Non-Compliance with Award Provisions

Failure to comply with any or all of the provisions of the award may have a negative impact on future funding by the Council and may be considered grounds for any or all of the following actions: withholding of payments pending correction of the deficiency by the non-Federal entity and/or more severe enforcement action by the Council or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.338; disallowance of (that is, denial of both use of funds and any applicable matching credit for) all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance; suspension or termination of all or any portion of the award; initiation of suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized under 2 C.F.R. part 180 and any Council regulations and policies promulgated pursuant to its authority (or in the case of a pass-through entity, recommendation that such a proceeding be initiated by the Council); withholding of further awards for the project or program; or enforcement of other remedies that may be legally available. *See also* 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.339 through 200.342.

.07 Prohibition against Assignment by the Non-Federal Entity

The non-Federal entity shall not transfer, pledge, hypothecate, mortgage, or otherwise assign the award, or any interest therein, or any claim arising thereunder, to any party or parties, including without limitation any bank, trust company or other financing or financial institution, without the express written approval of the Grants Officer.

.08 Disclaimer Provisions

- a. The United States expressly disclaims any and all responsibility or liability to the non-Federal entity or third persons for any actions of the non-Federal entity or third persons resulting in death, bodily injury, personal or property damage, or any other damage, loss or liability in connection with or resulting in any way from the performance of this award or any subaward or subcontract under this award.
- b. Acceptance of this award by the non-Federal entity does not in any way establish or constitute an agency relationship between the United States and the non-Federal entity.

C. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

.01 Financial Reports

- a. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.327, the recipient shall submit a “Federal Financial Report” (Form SF-425 or any successor form, or another format as required by the Council) on a semi-annual basis. Semi-annual reporting periods will be specified in the grant award for either the periods ending March 31 and September 30, or any portion thereof, or June 30 and December 31, or any portion thereof, unless otherwise specified in a special award condition. Reports are due no later than 30 days following the end of each reporting period. A final Form SF-425 shall be submitted within 90 days after the expiration of the project period.
- b. The report should be submitted to the Grants Officer electronically, unless the recipient makes an arrangement with the Grants Officer for submission in hard copy (no more than one original and two copies), in accordance with the award conditions.

- c. The recipient must report to the Council at the conclusion of the grant period, or other period specified by the Council, on the use of funds pursuant to the award in accordance with the requirements in 31 C.F.R. § 34.803(e).
- d. The recipient must forecast cash requirements/draws semi-annually, for the periods October 1 to March 31 and April 1 to September 30, throughout the life of the grant. Forecasted cash requirements must be updated with the submission of each “Federal Financial Report.”

.02 Financial Management

- a. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.302(a), each State, including a state’s administrative agents and the Gulf Consortium of Florida counties, must expend and account for the Federal award in accordance with state laws and procedures for expending and accounting for the state’s own funds. In addition, the state’s and other non-Federal entities’ financial management systems, including records documenting compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award, must be sufficient to permit the preparation of reports required by general and program-specific terms and conditions – including preparation of accurate, current and complete SF-425, Performance (Technical) Report, reporting on subawards, and any additional reports required by any additional award conditions. The financial management system also must be sufficient to trace funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that such funds have been used according to the Federal statutes, regulations – including without limitation the Resources and Ecosystem Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act), Council and Treasury RESTORE Act regulations – and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. *See also* 2 C.F.R. § 200.450 “Lobbying.”
- b. The financial management system of each non-Federal entity must provide all information required by 2 C.F.R. § 200.302(b) and maintain detailed records sufficient to account for the receipt, obligation and expenditure of grant funds in accordance with the requirements in 31 C.F.R. § 34.803(b). *See also* 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.333 “Retention requirements for records”; 200.334 “Requests for transfer of records”; 200.335 “Methods for collection, transmission and storage of information”; 200.336 “Access to records”; and 200.337 “Restrictions on public access to records.” Specifically, the financial management system must provide for:
 1. Identification and tracking of all Council awards received and expended by the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) title and number, Federal award identification number and year, name of the Federal agency, and name of the pass-through entity, if any;
 2. Records that adequately identify the source and application of all funds for Federally-funded activities, including information pertaining to Federal awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, expenditures, income and interest, and are supported by source documentation; and
 3. Effective control over, and accountability for, all Federal funds, and all property and assets acquired with Federal funds. The recipient must adequately safeguard all assets and ensure that they are used solely for authorized purposes.
- c. The recipient must establish written procedures to implement the requirements set forth in Subsection, C.03 “Award Payments,” below, as well as written procedures to determine the allowability of costs in accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 200, subpart E “Cost Principles,” and the terms and conditions of this award.

.03 Award Payments

- a. The reimbursement method of payment will be used under this award, unless otherwise specified in a special award condition. The Grants Officer will determine the appropriate method of payment. Payments are made through electronic funds transfers directly to the non-Federal entity's bank account and in accordance with the requirements of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. § 3701 *et. seq.*) and the Cash Management Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. § 6501 *et. seq.*).
 1. Consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.305(a), for States, payments are governed by the Treasury-State Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA) agreements and default procedures codified at 31 C.F.R. Part 205 "Rules and Procedures for Efficient Federal-State Funds Transfers" and Treasury Financial Manual Volume I, 4A-2000 "Overall Disbursing Rules for All Federal Agencies."
 2. Consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.305(b), for non-Federal entities other than States, payment methods must minimize the amount of time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the U.S. Treasury or the pass-through entity and the disbursement by the non-Federal entity.
- b. The Council Award Number must be included on all payment-related correspondence, information, and forms.
- c. Unless otherwise provided for in the award terms, payments under this award will be made using the Department of Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payment ([ASAP](#))² system. Under the ASAP system, payments will be made through preauthorized electronic funds transfers in accordance with the requirements of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996. Awards paid under the ASAP system will contain a special award condition, clause or provision describing enrollment requirements and any controls or withdrawal limits set in the ASAP system. Recipients enrolled in the ASAP system are not required to submit a "Request for Advance or Reimbursement" (Form SF-270 or successor form), in order to receive payments relating to their award. Pre-approval prior to requesting payments may be required for recipients that are determined by the Council to be in a high risk category or noncompliant (*see* 2 C.F.R. § 200.205 "Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants," and *see* section M "Remedies for Noncompliance" below).
 1. In order to receive payments under ASAP, recipients are required to enroll with the Department of Treasury, Financial Management Service, Regional Financial Centers, which enables them to use the on-line and Voice Response System (VRS) method of withdrawing funds from their ASAP established accounts.
 2. The following information will be required to make withdrawals under ASAP: (i) ASAP account number, i.e., the Federal award number found on the cover sheet of the award; (ii) Agency Location Code (ALC); and (iii) Region Code.
- d. When expressly allowed through a special award condition, advances shall be limited to the minimum amounts necessary to meet immediate disbursement needs, but in no event shall advances exceed the amount of cash required for a 30-day period. Funds advanced but not disbursed in a timely manner and any accrued interest thereon must be promptly returned to the Council. The Grants Officer may periodically request documentation from the non-Federal entity verifying that the elapsed time between the transfer of funds and disbursement has been minimized. If a non-Federal entity demonstrates an unwillingness or inability to establish procedures that will minimize time elapsing

² Department of Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payment (ASAP) system - https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsservices/gov/pmt/asap/asap_home.htm, verified on 8/18/2015.

between transfer of funds and disbursement or if the non-Federal entity otherwise fails to continue to qualify for the advance payment method, the Grants Officer may change the method of payment to reimbursement only.

- e. Where the use of an alternative system other than ASAP is provided for in the award terms, requests for payment will be submitted to the Grants Officer.
 - 1. Form SF-3881, “ACH Vendor/Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form,” must be completed before the first award payment can be made via the “Request for Advance or Reimbursement” (Form SF-270) request.
 - 2. When advance payment is expressly allowed for by special award condition, the non-Federal entity must submit the request no more frequently than monthly, and advances will be approved for periods to cover only expenses anticipated over the following 30 days. The non-Federal entity must complete the “ACH Vendor Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form” (Form SF-3881 or successor form), and Form SF-270, and submit those forms to the Grants Officer.

.04 Federal and Non-Federal Sharing

- a. Awards that include Federal and non-Federal sharing incorporate a budget consisting of shared allowable costs. If actual allowable costs are less than the total approved budget, the Federal and non-Federal cost shares shall be calculated by applying the approved Federal and non-Federal cost share ratios to actual allowable costs. If actual allowable costs are greater than the total approved budget, the Federal share shall not exceed the total Federal dollar amount authorized by the award.
- b. The non-Federal share, whether in cash or in-kind, is to be paid out at the same general rate as the Federal share. Exceptions to this requirement may be granted by the Grants Officer based on sufficient documentation demonstrating previously determined plans for, or later commitment of, cash or in-kind contributions. In any case the non-Federal entity must meet its cost share commitment over the life of the award. The non-Federal entity must create and maintain sufficient records sufficient to justify all non-Federal sharing requirements and to facilitate questions and audits. *See* Section I “Audits” below for audit requirements, and *see* 2 C.F.R. § 200.306 for additional requirements regarding cost sharing.

.05 Program Income

- a. Non-Federal entities are encouraged to earn income to defray program costs where appropriate. Any program income shall be earned and applied consistent with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. § 200.307.
- b. The recipient must maintain detailed records sufficient to account for the receipt, obligation, and expenditure of grant funds including the tracking of program income. Program income must be included in the non-Federal entity’s approved budget and tracked in accordance with the requirements in 31 C.F.R. § 34.803(b).
- c. All program income must be documented in the Federal financial report submitted to the Council for the period in which the income was earned.

.06 Budget Changes and Transfer of Funds among Categories

- a. Requests for changes to the approved budget must be made in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.308 “Revision of budget and program plans” and submitted in writing to the Grants Officer who will make the final determination on such requests and notify the non-Federal entity in writing thereof.
 1. Construction Awards. For construction Federal awards, the non-Federal entity must request prior written approval promptly from the Grants Officer for budget revisions whenever one or more of the following applies:
 - i. The revision results from changes in the scope or the objective of the project or program;
 - ii. The need arises for additional Federal funds to complete the project; or
 - iii. A revision is desired which involves specific costs for which prior written approval requirements may be imposed consistent with applicable OMB cost principles listed in 2 C.F.R. part 200, Subpart E—“Cost Principles.”
 2. Non-Construction Awards. For non-construction Federal awards, recipients must request prior written approval promptly from the Grants Officer for budget revisions whenever one or more of the following applies:
 - i. Change in the scope or the objective of the project or program;
 - ii. Change in a key person specified in the application or the Federal award;
 - iii. The disengagement from the project for more than three months, or a 25 percent reduction in time devoted to the project, by the approved project director or principal investigator;
 - iv. The inclusion, unless waived by the Council, of costs that require prior approval in accordance with 2 C.F.R. part 200 Subpart E—“Cost Principles” or 45 C.F.R. Part 75 Appendix IX “Principles for Determining Costs Applicable to Research and Development under Awards and Contracts with Hospitals,” or 48 C.F.R. Part 31 “Contract Cost Principles and Procedures,” as applicable;
 - v. The transfer of funds budgeted for participant support costs as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.75 “Participant support costs to other categories of expense”;
 - vi. The subawarding, transferring or contracting out of any work under a Federal award unless (a) described in the application and funded in the approved Federal award, or (b) applicable to the acquisition of supplies, material, equipment or general support services only; or
 - vii. Changes in the amount of approved cost-sharing or matching provided by the non-Federal entity. No other prior approval requirements for specific items may be imposed unless a deviation has been approved by OMB. *See also* 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.102 “Exceptions” and 200.407 “Prior written approval.”
 3. Both Construction and Non-Construction Activities in Award. If a single award provides support for construction and non-construction work, the recipient must request prior written approval from the Grants Officer before making any fund or budget transfers between the two types of work supported.
- b. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.308(e), transfers of funds by the recipient among direct cost categories are permitted for awards in which the Federal share of the project is the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (\$150,000 as of 12/26/2013) or less. For awards in which the Federal share of the project exceeds the Simplified Acquisition Threshold, the recipient must request prior written approval from the Grants Officer for transfers of funds among direct cost categories when the

cumulative amount of such direct cost transfers exceeds ten percent of the total budget³ as last approved by the Grants Officer. The 10% threshold applies to the total Federal funds authorized by the Grants Officer at the time of the transfer request. The same requirements apply to the cumulative amount of transfer of funds among programs, functions, and activities. This transfer authority does not authorize the recipient to create new budget categories within an approved budget without the prior written approval of the Grants Officer. No transfer that enables any Federal appropriation, or part thereof, to be used for an unauthorized purpose will be permitted. The foregoing provision does not prohibit the recipient from requesting Grants Officer approval for revisions to the budget. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.308 (as applicable) for specific requirements concerning budget revisions and transfer of funds between budget categories.

- c. The recipient is not authorized at any time to transfer amounts budgeted for direct costs to the indirect costs line item or vice versa without the prior written approval of the Grants Officer.

.07 Indirect (Facilities and Administrative [F&A]) Costs

- a. Indirect (facilities and administrative [F&A]) costs will not be allowable charges against an award unless permitted under the award, specifically included as a line item in the award's approved budget and consistent with 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.414 "Indirect (F&A) costs" and Subpart E "Cost Principles."
- b. Indirect costs of recipients are subject to the three percent (3%) cap on administrative expenses stated in 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(B)(iii) and 31 C.F.R. § 34.204. The three percent cap on administrative expenses applies only to recipients and does not flow down to subrecipients.
- c. Excess indirect costs may not be used to offset unallowable direct costs.
- d. Indirect costs charged must be consistent with the indirect cost rate agreement negotiated between the non-Federal entity and its cognizant agency (defined as the Federal agency that is responsible for reviewing, negotiating, and approving cost allocation plans or indirect cost proposals, *see* 2 C.F.R. § 200.19) and must be included in the recipient's budget. The Council will accept approved indirect cost rates unless otherwise authorized by a Federal statute or regulation, or requirements at 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(c) are met.
 1. If indirect costs are permitted and the non-Federal entity wishes to include indirect costs in its budget, but the non-Federal entity has not previously established an indirect cost rate with a Federal agency, the requirements for determining the relevant cognizant agency and developing and submitting indirect (F&A) cost rate proposals and cost allocation plans are contained in Appendices III – VII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 as follows:
 - Appendix III to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – Indirect (F&A) Costs Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs);
 - Appendix IV to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – Indirect (F&A) Costs Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Nonprofit Organizations;
 - Appendix V to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – State/Local Governmentwide Central Service Cost Allocation Plans;

³ The cumulative amount of direct cost transfers is calculated by summing the negative variances between the approved and proposed budgets. Variance is calculated by subtracting the proposed budget amount for each cost category from the approved budget amount for the category. Only variances less than zero are totaled. The cumulative negative variance is then divided by the total grant award budget to determine the percentage transferred, i.e., cumulative % of transfer(s) = $\{[\sum (\text{negative variances})] / \text{total award budget}\} \times 100$.

- Appendix VI to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plans; and
- Appendix VII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – States and Local Government and Indian Tribe Indirect Cost Proposals.

The cognizant agency for governmental units or agencies not specifically identified by OMB will be determined based on the Federal agency providing the largest amount of Federal funds. *See* 2 C.F.R. §200.416 “Cost allocation plans and indirect cost proposals.” When the Council is not the oversight or cognizant Federal agency, the non-Federal entity shall provide the Grants Officer with a copy of a negotiated rate agreement or a copy of the transmittal letter submitted to the cognizant or oversight Federal agency requesting a negotiated rate agreement.

2. For those organizations for which the Council is cognizant or has oversight, the Council or its designee will either negotiate a fixed rate with carry-forward provisions for the non-Federal entity or, in some instances, will limit its review to evaluating the procedures described in the non-Federal entity’s cost allocation plan. Indirect cost rates and cost allocation methodology reviews are subject to future audits to determine actual indirect costs.
3. Within 90 days after the award start date, the non-Federal entity shall submit to the address listed below documentation (indirect cost proposal, cost allocation plan, etc.) necessary to perform the review. The non-Federal entity shall provide the Grants Officer with a copy of the transmittal letter.

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Office
 Attn: Senior Grants Management Officer
 500 Poydras Street, Suite 1117
 New Orleans, LA 70130

If the non-Federal entity fails to submit the required documentation to the Council within 90 days of the award start date, the Grants Officer may amend the award to preclude the recovery of any indirect costs under the award. If the Council, oversight or cognizant Federal agency determines there is a finding of good and sufficient cause to excuse the non-Federal entity’s delay in submitting the documentation, an extension of the 90-day due date may be approved by the Grants Officer.

4. The non-Federal entity may use the fixed rate proposed in the indirect cost plan until such time as the Council provides a response to the submitted plan. Actual indirect costs must be calculated annually and adjustments made through the carry-forward provision used in calculating the following year’s rate. This calculation of actual indirect costs and the carry-forward provision is subject to audit. Indirect cost rate proposals must be submitted annually. Organizations that have previously established indirect cost rates must submit a new indirect cost proposal to the cognizant agency within six months after the close of each of the recipients’ fiscal years.
- e. The maximum dollar amount of allocable indirect costs for which the Council will reimburse the non-Federal entity shall be the lesser of:
1. The line item amount for the Federal share of indirect costs contained in the approved award budget, including all budget revisions approved in writing by the Grants Officer; or
 2. The Federal share of the total indirect costs allocable to the award based on the indirect cost rate approved by a cognizant or oversight Federal Agency for indirect costs and applicable to the period in which the cost was incurred, provided that the rate is approved in writing on or before

the award end date, subject to the three percent (3%) cap on administrative expenses provided in 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(B)(iii) and 31 C.F.R. § 34.204.

- f. In addition, a non-Federal entity that is a State, local government, Indian tribe, institution of higher education, or nonprofit organization and has never received a negotiated indirect cost rate may elect to charge a *de minimis* rate of 10% of modified total direct costs. *See also* 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(f).

.08 Incurring Costs or Obligating Federal Funds Outside of the Period of Performance

- a. The non-Federal entity shall not incur costs or obligate funds for any purpose pertaining to the operation of the project, program, or activities beyond the period of performance, i.e., the time during which the non-Federal entity may incur new obligations to carry out the work authorized under the Federal award. *See* 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.77 and 200.309.
1. The Council or pass-through entity must include start and end dates of the period of performance in the Federal award.
 2. All activities supported through an award must occur and be completed during the approved period of performance, whether funded directly or through a subaward or subcontract, and all obligated costs must be liquidated within 90 days following the end date of the period of performance.
 3. The only costs which may be authorized for a period of not to exceed 90 days following the end of the project period are those solely associated with close-out activities. Close-out activities are limited to the preparation of final progress, financial, and required project audit reports unless otherwise approved in writing by the Grants Officer. The Grants Officer may approve extensions of the 90-day closeout period upon a request by the non-Federal entity as provided in 2 C.F.R. § 200.343.
- b. Unless otherwise authorized in 2 C.F.R. § 200.343 or a special award condition, any extension of the project period can only be authorized by the Grants Officer in writing. Verbal or written assurances of funding from anyone other than the Grants Officer shall not constitute authority to obligate funds for programmatic activities beyond the end of the project period.
- c. Pre-Award Costs. Pre-award costs are those incurred prior to the effective date of the Federal award directly pursuant to the negotiation and in anticipation of the Federal award where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. Such costs are allowable only to the extent that they would have been allowable if incurred after the date of the Federal award and only with the written approval of the Grants Officer. The recipient must use funds obligated and disbursed under the award only during the period of performance specified in the award document. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.458.
- d. The Council has no obligation to provide any additional prospective funding. Any amendment of the award to increase funding and to extend the project period is at the sole discretion of the Council.

.09 Tax Refunds

Refunds of Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) (26 U.S.C. §§ 3101-3128) or Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) (26 U.S.C. §§ 3301-3311) taxes received by the non-Federal entity

during or after the period of performance must be refunded or credited to the Council whenever the benefits were financed with Federal funds under the award. The non-Federal entity shall contact the Grants Officer immediately upon receipt of these refunds. The non-Federal entity shall in addition refund portions of FICA/FUTA taxes determined to belong to the Federal Government, including refunds received after the period of performance ends.

D. INTERNAL CONTROLS

Consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.303, each non-Federal entity:

- a. Must establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-Federal entity is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls must be in compliance with guidance in “[Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government](#)”⁴ issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the “[Internal Control Integrated Framework](#),”⁵ issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).
- b. Must comply with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award.
- c. Must evaluate and monitor the non-Federal entity’s compliance with statute, regulations and the terms and conditions of Federal award.
- d. Must take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings.
- e. Must take reasonable measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information and other information the Council or pass-through entity designates as sensitive or the non-Federal entity considers sensitive consistent with applicable Federal, state and local laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

E. PROPERTY STANDARDS

.01 Standards

The non-Federal entity must comply with the property standards as stipulated in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.310 to 200.316.

.02 Insurance coverage

Recipients must provide insurance coverage for real property and equipment acquired or improved with Federal funds equivalent to that provided for property owned by the non-Federal entity. Federally-owned

⁴ “Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government” issued by the Comptroller General of the United States - <http://www.gao.gov/assets/80/76455.pdf>, verified on 8/18/2015.

⁵ “Internal Control Integrated Framework,” issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), Executive Summary - <http://www.coso.org/documents/Internal%20Control-Integrated%20Framework.pdf>, verified on 8/18/2015.

property need not be insured unless required by the terms and conditions of the Federal award. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.310.

.03 Real Property

- a. Real property or an interest in real property may not be acquired under an award without prior written approval of the Grants Officer.
- b. Title of real property. Subject to the obligations and conditions set forth in this section, title to real property acquired or improved under a Federal award will vest upon acquisition in the non-Federal entity.
- c. Use. Except as otherwise provided by Federal statutes or by the Council, real property must be used for the originally authorized purpose as long as needed for that purpose, during which time the non-Federal entity must not dispose of or encumber its title or any other interest therein.
- d. Willing Sellers. Land or interest in land may only be acquired by purchase, exchange or donation from a willing seller in accordance with the requirements in 31 C.F.R. § 34.803(f).
- e. Federal Acquisitions. Funds may not be used to acquire land in fee title by the Federal Government unless the exceptions in 31 C.F.R. § 34.803(g) are met.
- f. Disposition. When real property is no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose, the non-Federal entity must obtain disposition instructions from the Council or pass-through entity. The instructions will provide that the non-Federal entity do one of the following:
 1. Retain title after compensating the Council. The amount paid to Council will be computed by applying the Council's percentage of participation in the cost of the original purchase (and costs of any improvements) to the fair market value of the property. However, if the non-Federal entity is disposing of real property acquired or improved with a Federal award and acquiring replacement real property under the same Federal award, the net proceeds from the disposition may be used as an offset to the cost of the replacement property.
 2. Sell the property and compensate the Council. The amount due to the Council will be calculated by applying the Council's percentage of participation in the cost of the original purchase (and cost of any improvements) to the proceeds of the sale after deduction of any actual and reasonable selling and fixing-up expenses. If the Federal award has not been closed out, the net proceeds from sale may be offset against the original cost of the property. When the non-Federal entity is directed to sell property, it must utilize sales procedures that provide for competition to the extent practicable and result in the highest possible return.
 3. Transfer title to the Council or to a third party designated or approved by the Council. The non-Federal entity is entitled to be paid an amount calculated by applying the non-Federal entity's percentage of participation in the purchase of the real property (and cost of any improvements) to the current fair market value of the property.
- g. The Grants Officer may require the non-Federal entity to submit the Tangible Personal Property Report (Form SF-428 or successor form), and/or Real Property Status Report (Form SF-429 or successor form), including applicable attachments to each form, in connection with the reporting of tangible personal property or of real property acquired or improved, in whole or in part, under a Council financial assistance award. The Grants Officer may also require the non-Federal entity to

submit Form SF-428 and/or Form SF-429, or successor forms, in connection with a non-Federal entity's request to acquire, encumber, dispose of, or take any other action pertaining to tangible personal property or to real property acquired or improved, in whole or in part, under a Council financial assistance award.

.04 Federally-owned and Exempt Federally-owned Property

- a. Title to Federally-owned property⁶ remains vested in the Federal government. The non-Federal entity must submit annually an inventory listing of Federally-owned property in its custody to the Grants Officer. Upon completion of the Federal award or when the property is no longer needed, the non-Federal entity must report the property to the Grants Officer for further Council utilization. If the Council has no further need for the property, it must declare the property excess and report it for disposal to the appropriate Federal disposal authority, unless the Council has statutory authority to dispose of the property by alternative methods (e.g., the authority provided by the Federal Technology Transfer Act (15 U.S.C. § 3710 (i)) to donate research equipment to educational and non-profit organizations in accordance with Executive Order 12999, "Educational Technology: Ensuring Opportunity for All Children in the Next Century."). The Council will issue appropriate instructions to the non-Federal entity. The Council may exercise this option when statutory authority exists.
- b. Absent statutory authority and specific terms and conditions of the Federal award, title to exempt Federally-owned property acquired under the Federal award remains with the Federal government.
- c. The Grants Officer may require the non-Federal entity to submit the Tangible Personal Property Report (Form SF-428 or successor form), and/or Real Property Status Report (Form SF-429 or successor form), including applicable attachments to each form, in connection with the reporting of Federally-owned property that is in the non-Federal entity's custody pursuant to a Council financial assistance award or with a non-Federal entity's request to acquire, encumber, dispose of, or take any other action pertaining to Federally-owned property.

.05 Equipment

- a. Recipients must comply with the equipment standards provided in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.313 "Equipment" and 200.439 "Equipment and other capital expenditures."
- b. American-Made Equipment and Products. Recipients are hereby notified that they are encouraged, to the greatest extent practicable, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding provided under this award.
- c. Use, management, and disposition of equipment acquired.
 1. For recipients that are States: The recipient must use, manage and dispose of equipment acquired under this award in accordance with state laws and procedures.
 2. For recipients that are not States: Equipment must be used by the recipient in the program or project for which it was acquired as long as needed, whether or not the project or program

⁶ Federally-owned property as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.312 means property acquired under a Federal award where the title vests with the Federal government. Exempt Federally-owned property means property acquired under a Federal award where the Federal awarding agency has chosen to vest title to the property to the non-Federal entity without further obligation to the Federal Government, based upon the explicit terms and conditions of the Federal award.

continues to be supported by the Federal award. Before disposing of equipment during the period of performance, the recipient must seek disposition instructions from the Grants Officer for equipment acquired under this award if the current fair market value of the equipment is greater than \$5,000 per unit. Disposition instructions must be requested by submitting a completed “Tangible Personal Property Report” (SF-428 or any successor form) and the “Disposition Request/Report” (SF-428-C or any successor form). In addition, not later than 60 days after the end of the period of performance, the recipient must submit to the Grants Officer a completed SF-428 and “Final Report Form” (SF-428-B or any successor form) if the recipient retains any equipment with a current fair market value greater than \$5,000 per unit.

.06 Supplies

- a. Title to supplies vests in the non-Federal entity upon acquisition. If residual inventory of unused supplies exceeds \$5,000 in total aggregate value upon termination or completion of the project or program and the supplies are not needed for any other Federal award, then the non-Federal entity may retain the supplies for use on other activities or sell them, but must, in either case, compensate the Federal government for its share. The amount of compensation must be computed in the same manner as for equipment as prescribed in 2 C.F.R. § 200.313 “Equipment”; *see* 200.313(e)(2) for the calculation methodology. *See also* 2 C.F.R. § 200.453 “Materials and supplies costs, including costs of computing devices.” The recipient must report the value and the retention or sale of such supplies by submitting to the Grants Officer a completed “Tangible Personal Property Report” (SF-428 or any successor form) and “Final Report Form” (SF-428-B or any successor form) no later than 60 days after the end of the period of performance.
- b. As long as the Federal government retains an interest in the supplies, the non-Federal entity must not use supplies acquired under a Federal award to provide services to other organizations for a fee that is less than private companies charge for equivalent services, unless specifically authorized by Federal statute.

.07 Intangible Property

- a. Title to intangible⁷ property acquired under a Federal award vests upon acquisition in the non-Federal entity.
- b. The non-Federal entity must use intangible property for the originally-authorized purpose, and must not encumber the property without the prior written approval of the Council. When no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose, disposition of the intangible property must occur in accordance with the provisions in 2 C.F.R. § 200.313(e).
- c. The non-Federal entity may copyright any work that is subject to copyright and was developed, or for which ownership was acquired, under a Federal award. The Council reserves a royalty-free, perpetual, nonexclusive and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, distribute, exhibit, and/or otherwise use and exploit the work throughout the world in all media now known or hereafter devised, and to authorize others to do so for Federal purposes.

⁷ Intangible property as defined by 2 C.F.R. § 200.59 means property having no physical existence, such as trademarks, copyrights, patents and patent applications and property, such as loans, notes and other debt instruments, lease agreements, stock and other instruments of property ownership (whether the property is tangible or intangible).

- d. The non-Federal entity is subject to applicable regulations governing patents and inventions, including governmentwide regulations issued by the Department of Commerce at 37 C.F.R. part 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Awards, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements.”
- e. The Federal government has the right, perpetually throughout the world in all media now known or hereafter devised, to:
 - 1. Obtain, reproduce, publish, distribute, exhibit, and/or otherwise use and exploit the data produced under a Federal award; and
 - 2. Authorize others to do so for Federal purposes.
- f. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.315(e), in response to a FOIA request for research data relating to published research findings⁸ produced under a Federal award that were used by the Federal government in developing an agency action that has the force and effect of law, the Council will request, and the non-Federal entity must provide, within a reasonable time, the research data⁹ so that such data can be made available to the public through the procedures established under the FOIA. If the Council obtains the research data solely in response to a FOIA request, the Council may charge the requester a reasonable fee equal to the full incremental cost of obtaining the research data that reflects the costs incurred by the Council and the non-Federal entity. Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A), this fee is in addition to any fees the Council may assess under the FOIA.

.08 Property Trust Relationship

Real property, equipment and intangible property acquired or improved with a Federal award must be held in trust by the non-Federal entity as trustee for the beneficiaries of the project or program under which the property was acquired or improved. The Council may require the non-Federal entity to record liens or other appropriate notices of record to indicate that personal or real property has been acquired or improved with a Federal award and that use and disposition conditions apply to the property.

F. PROCUREMENT STANDARDS

Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.317, when procuring property and services under this Federal award, a State must follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from its non-Federal funds. The

⁸ Published research findings (as defined by 2 C.F.R. § 200.315(e)(2)) means findings are published in a peer-reviewed scientific or technical journal; or a Federal agency publicly and officially cites the research findings in support of an agency action that has the force and effect of law. Used by the Federal government in developing an “agency action that has the force and effect of law” is defined as when an agency publicly and officially cites the research findings in support of an agency action that has the force and effect of law.

⁹ As defined by 2 C.F.R. § 200.315(e)(3), research data means the recorded factual material commonly accepted in the scientific community as necessary to validate research findings, but not any of the following: preliminary analyses, drafts of scientific papers, plans for future research, peer reviews, or communications with colleagues. This “recorded” material excludes physical objects (e.g., laboratory samples). Research data also do not include: trade secrets, commercial information, materials necessary to be held confidential by a researcher until they are published, or similar information which is protected under law; and personnel and medical information and similar information the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, such as information that could be used to identify a particular person in a research study.

State will comply with 2 C.F.R. § 200.322 “Procurement of recovered materials,” and the State must ensure that every purchase order or other contract includes any clauses required by section 2 C.F.R. § 200.326 “Contract provisions.” All other non-Federal entities, including subrecipients of a State, will follow the requirements of 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318 “General procurement standards” through 200.326 “Contract provisions.”

- a. For recipients that are States: When executing procurement actions under the award, the recipient must follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from its non-Federal funds. The recipient must ensure that every purchase order or other contract contains any clauses required by federal statutes and EOs and their implementing regulations, including all of the provisions listed in Appendix II to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 “Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts under Federal Awards,” as well as any other provisions required by law or regulations.
- b. For recipients that are not States: The recipient must follow all procurement requirements set forth in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318, 200.319, 200.320, 200.321, 200.323, 200.324, and 200.325. In addition, all contracts executed by the recipient to accomplish the approved scope of work must contain any clauses required by federal statutes and EOs and their implementing regulations, including all of the provisions listed in Appendix II to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 “Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts under Federal Awards.”

G. NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, handicap, age, religion, or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. The non-Federal entity shall comply with the non-discrimination requirements below:

.01 Statutory Provisions

- a. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d *et seq.*) and any Council regulations and policies promulgated pursuant to its authority prohibit discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin under programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- b. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 *et seq.*) prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex under Federally assisted education programs or activities;
- c. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.*) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under programs, activities, and services provided or made available by state and local governments or instrumentalities or agencies thereto, as well as public or private entities that provide public transportation;
- d. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), and any Council regulations and policies promulgated pursuant to its authority prohibit discrimination on the basis of handicap under any program or activity receiving or benefiting from Federal assistance.
- e. Revised ADA Standards for Accessible Design for Construction Awards revised regulations implementing Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (28 C.F.R. part 35; 75 FR 56164, as amended by 76 FR 13285) and Title III of the ADA (28 C.F.R. part 36; 75 FR 56164, as amended by 76 FR 13286) which adopted new enforceable accessibility standards called the “2010 ADA

Standards for Accessible Design” (2010 Standards). All new construction and alteration projects shall comply with the 2010 Standards.

- f. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 *et seq.*), and any Council regulations and policies promulgated pursuant to its authority prohibit discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- g. Any other applicable non-discrimination law(s).

.02 Other Provisions

- a. Parts II and III of EO 11246, “Equal Employment Opportunity,” (30 FR 12319, 1965), as amended by EO 11375 (32 FR 14303, 1967) and EO 12086 (43 FR 46501, 1978), requiring Federally-assisted construction contracts to include the nondiscrimination provisions of §§ 202 and 203 of that EO and Department of Labor regulations implementing EO 11246 (41 C.F.R. § 60-1.4(b), 1991).
- b. EO 13166 (August 11, 2000), “Improving Access to Services for Persons With Limited English Proficiency,” requiring Federal agencies to examine the services provided, identify any need for services to those with limited English proficiency (LEP), and develop and implement a system to provide those services so LEP persons can have meaningful access to them.
- c. Pilot Program for Enhancement of Employee Whistleblower Protections. The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 (Pub. L. No. 112-239, enacted January 2, 2013 and codified at 41 U.S.C. § 4712) includes a pilot program of whistleblower protection. It applies to all Council awards, subawards, or contracts under awards issued beginning July 1, 2013 through January 1, 2017. The following provision implements that law:

In accordance with 41 U.S.C. § 4712, an employee of a non-Federal entity or contractor under a Federal award or subaward may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for disclosing to a person or body information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal award, subaward, or a contract under a Federal award or subaward, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal award or subaward or contract under a Federal award or subaward, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal award, subaward, or contract under a Federal award or subaward. These persons or bodies include:

1. A Member of Congress or a representative of a committee of Congress.
2. An Inspector General.
3. The Government Accountability Office.
4. A Federal employee responsible for contract or grant oversight or management at the relevant agency.
5. An authorized official of the Department of Justice or other law enforcement agency.
6. A court or grand jury.
7. A management official or other employee of the contractor, subcontractor, or grantee who has the responsibility to investigate, discover, or address misconduct.

Non-Federal entities shall inform their employees in writing of the rights and remedies provided under 41 U.S.C. § 4712, in the predominant native language of the workforce.

.03 Title VII Exemption for Religious Organizations

Generally, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e *et seq.*, provides that it shall be an unlawful employment practice for an employer to discharge any individual or otherwise to discriminate against an individual with respect to compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because of such individual's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. However, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-1(a), expressly exempts from the prohibition against discrimination on the basis of religion, a religious corporation, association, educational institution, or society with respect to the employment of individuals of a particular religion to perform work connected with the carrying on by such corporation, association, educational institution, or society of its activities.

H. RECORDS RETENTION

- a. The recipient must retain all records pertinent to this award for a period of no less than three years, beginning on a date as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.333. While electronic storage of records (backed up as appropriate) is preferable, the recipient has the option to store records in hardcopy (paper) format. For the purposes of this section, the term "records" includes but is not limited to:
 1. Copies of all contracts and all documents related to a contract, including the Request for Proposal (RFP), all proposals/bids received, all meeting minutes or other documentation of the evaluation and selection of contractors, any disclosed conflicts of interest regarding a contract, all signed conflict of interest forms (if applicable), all conflict of interest and other procurement rules governing a particular contract, and any bid protests;
 2. Copies of all subawards, including the funding opportunity announcement or equivalent, all applications received, all meeting minutes or other documentation of the evaluation and selection of subrecipients, any disclosed conflicts of interest regarding a subaward, and all signed conflict of interest forms (if applicable);
 3. All documentation of site visits, reports, audits, and other monitoring of contractors (vendors) and subrecipients (if applicable);
 4. All financial and accounting records, including records of disbursements to contractors (vendors) and subrecipients, and documentation of the allowability of Administrative Costs charged to this award;
 5. All supporting documentation for the performance outcome and other information reported on the recipient's Financial Reports and Performance (Technical) Reports; and
 6. Any reports, publications, and data sets from any research conducted under this award.
- b. If any litigation, claim, investigation, or audit relating to this award or an activity funded with award funds is started before the expiration of the three year period, the records must be retained until all litigation, claims, investigations, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

I. AUDITS

- a. Under the Government Accounting Office's authorities (5 U.S.C. § 701 et seq.) and the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 3, § 1 *et seq.*, an audit of the award may be conducted at any time. The Treasury Office of Inspector General (OIG), Government Accounting Office (GAO) and the Council are authorized to audit Council awards. *See* Section 1608 of the RESTORE Act; and *see* 31 C.F.R. §§ 34.205, 34.406, 34.508 and 34.805.
- b. The Treasury OIG (as specified in the RESTORE Act), or any of his or her duly authorized representatives, the GAO and the Council shall have timely and unrestricted access to any pertinent books, documents, papers, and records of the non-Federal entity, whether written, printed, recorded, produced, or reproduced by any electronic, mechanical, magnetic, or other process or medium, in order to make audits, inspections, excerpts, transcripts, or other examinations as authorized by law.
- c. If the Treasury OIG requires a program audit on a Council award, the OIG will usually make the arrangements to audit the award, whether the audit is performed by OIG personnel, an independent accountant under contract with the Council, or any other Federal, state, or local audit entity.
- d. The Treasury OIG, the GAO, and the Council shall have the right during normal business hours to conduct announced and unannounced onsite and offsite physical visits of recipients and their subrecipients and contractors corresponding to the duration of their records retention obligation for this award.

.01 Organization-Wide, Program-Specific, and Project Audits

- a. Organization-wide or program-specific audits must be performed in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, as implemented by 2 C.F.R. part 200, Subpart F, "Audit Requirements." Recipients that are subject to the provisions of 2 C.F.R. part 200, Subpart F and that expend \$750,000 or more in a year in Federal awards must have an audit conducted for that year in accordance with the requirements contained in 2 C.F.R. part 200, Subpart F. A copy of the audit shall be submitted to the Bureau of the Census, which has been designated by OMB as a central clearinghouse, by electronic submission to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse [website](#).¹⁰ If it is necessary to submit by paper, the address for submission is:

Federal Audit Clearinghouse
Bureau of the Census
1201 E. 10th Street
Jeffersonville, IN 47132

- b. Except for the provisions for biennial audits provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this section, audits required must be performed annually. Any biennial audit must cover both years within the biennial period.
 1. A State, local government, or Indian tribe that is required by constitution or statute, in effect on January 1, 1987, to undergo its audits less frequently than annually, is permitted to undergo its audits pursuant to this part biennially. This requirement must still be in effect for the biennial period.

¹⁰ Federal Audit Clearinghouse website - <http://harvester.census.gov/sac/>, verified on 6/5/2015.

2. Any nonprofit organization that had biennial audits for all biennial periods ending between July 1, 1992, and January 1, 1995, is permitted to undergo its audits pursuant to this part biennially.
- c. Council programs may have specific audit guidelines that will be incorporated into the award. When the Council does not have a program-specific audit guide available for the program, the auditor will follow the requirements for a program-specific audit as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.507. The non-Federal entity may include a line item in the budget for the cost of the audit for approval. A copy of the program-specific audit shall be submitted to the Grants Officer and to the OIG at OIGCounsel@oig.treas.gov or if e-mail is unavailable, submission to the OIG can be made at the following address:

Treasury Office of Inspector General
1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20220

.02 Audit Resolution Process

- a. An audit of the award may result in the disallowance of costs incurred by the non-Federal entity and the establishment of a debt (account receivable) due the Council. For this reason, the non-Federal entity should take seriously its responsibility to respond to all audit findings and recommendations with adequate explanations and supporting evidence whenever audit results are disputed.
- b. A non-Federal entity whose award is audited has the following opportunities to dispute the proposed disallowance of costs and the establishment of a debt:
 1. Unless the Inspector General determines otherwise, the non-Federal entity has 30 days after the date of the transmittal of the draft audit report to submit written comments and documentary evidence.
 2. The non-Federal entity has 30 days after the date of the transmittal of the final audit report to submit written comments and documentary evidence. There will be no extension of this deadline.
 3. The Council will review the documentary evidence submitted by the non-Federal entity and notify the non-Federal entity of the results in an *Audit Resolution Determination Letter*. The non-Federal entity has 30 days after the date of receipt of the *Audit Resolution Determination Letter* to submit a written appeal. There will be no extension of this deadline. The appeal is the last opportunity for the non-Federal entity to submit written comments and documentary evidence that dispute the validity of the audit resolution determination.
 4. An appeal of the Audit Resolution Determination does not prevent the establishment of the audit-related debt nor does it prevent the accrual of interest on the debt. If the Audit Resolution Determination is overruled or modified on appeal, appropriate corrective action will be taken retroactively. An appeal will stay the offset of funds owed by the auditee against funds due to the auditee.
 5. The Council will review the non-Federal entity's appeal and notify the non-Federal entity of the results in an *Appeal Determination Letter*. After the opportunity to appeal has expired or after the appeal determination has been rendered, the Council will not accept any further documentary evidence from the non-Federal entity. No other administrative appeals to the Council are available.

J. DEBTS

.01 Payment of Debts Owed the Federal Government

- a. The non-Federal entity must promptly pay any debts determined to be owed the Federal Government. Council debt collection procedures are set out in 2 C.F.R. part 200, Subpart D. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.345, delinquent debt includes any funds paid to the non-Federal entity in excess of the amount to which the non-Federal entity is finally determined to be entitled under the terms of the Federal award, constituting a debt to the Federal government (this includes a post-delinquency payment agreement) unless other satisfactory payment arrangements have been made. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.345, failure to pay a debt by the due date, or if there is no due date, within 90 calendar days after demand, shall result in the assessment of interest, penalties and administrative costs in accordance with the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 31 C.F.R. parts 900 through 999. The Council will transfer any debt that is more than 180 days delinquent to the Bureau of the Fiscal Service for debt collection services, a process known as “cross-servicing,” pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3711(g), 31 C.F.R. § 285.12 and any Council regulations and policies promulgated pursuant to its authority, and may result in the Council taking further action as specified in Section B.06 “Non-Compliance With Award Provisions” Above. Funds for payment of a debt shall not come from other Federally-sponsored programs. Verification that other Federal funds have not been used will be made (e.g., during on-site visits and audits).
- b. If a non-Federal entity fails to repay a debt within 90 calendar days after the demand, the Council may reduce the debt by: (1) Making an administrative offset against other requests for reimbursements; (2) Withholding advance payments otherwise due to the non-Federal entity; or (3) Other action permitted by Federal statute. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.345(a).

.02 Late Payment Charges

- a. Interest shall be assessed on the delinquent debt in accordance with section 3717(a) of the Debt Collection Act of 1982, as amended (31 U.S.C. § 3701 *et seq.*). The minimum annual interest rate to be assessed is the [Department of the Treasury’s Current Value of Funds Rate \(CVFR\)](#).¹¹ The CVFR is published by the Department of the Treasury in the [Federal Register](#)¹² and in the [Treasury Financial Manual Bulletin](#).¹³ The assessed rate shall remain fixed for the duration of the indebtedness.
- b. Penalties shall accrue at a rate of not more than six percent (6%) per year or such higher rate as authorized by law.
- c. Administrative charges, that is, the costs of processing and handling a delinquent debt, are determined by the Council.

¹¹ Department of the Treasury’s Current Value of Funds Rate (CVFR) webpage - https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsreports/rpt/cvfr/cvfr_home.htm, verified 8/18/2015.

¹² Federal Register website - <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collection.action?collectionCode=FR> and <http://www.federalregister.gov/>, verified 8/18/2015.

¹³ Treasury Financial Manual Bulletin website - <http://fm.fiscal.treasury.gov/v1/bull.html>, verified 8/18/2015.

.03 Effect of Judgment Lien on Eligibility for Federal Grants, Loans, or Programs

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 3201(e), unless waived by the Council a debtor who has a judgment lien against the debtor's property for a debt to the United States shall not be eligible to receive any grant or loan that is made, insured, guaranteed, or financed directly or indirectly by the United States or to receive funds directly from the Federal Government in any program, except funds to which the debtor is entitled as beneficiary, until the judgment is paid in full or otherwise satisfied.

K. GOVERNMENTWIDE DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

The non-Federal entity shall comply with the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 180, "OMB Guidelines To Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement)," which generally prohibit entities, and their principals, that have been debarred, suspended, or voluntarily excluded from participating in Federal nonprocurement transactions either through primary or lower tier covered transactions, and which sets forth the responsibilities of recipients of Federal financial assistance regarding transactions with other persons, including subrecipients and contractors.

L. LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS

.01 Statutory Provisions

The non-Federal entity shall comply with 2 C.F.R. § 200.450 ("Lobbying"), which incorporates the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 1352, the "New Restrictions on Lobbying" published at 55 FR 6736 (February 26, 1990), and OMB guidance and notices on lobbying restrictions. In addition, non-Federal entities must comply with any Council regulations and policies promulgated pursuant to its authority. These provisions prohibit the use of Federal funds for lobbying the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with the award, and require the disclosure of the use of non-Federal funds for lobbying. Executive lobbying costs, i.e., costs incurred in attempting to improperly influence¹⁴ either directly or indirectly an employee or officer of the executive branch of the Federal government to give consideration or to act regarding a Federal award or a regulatory matter, are unallowable costs. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.450(b) and (c).

.02 Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

The non-Federal entity receiving in excess of \$100,000 in Federal funding shall submit a completed Form SF-LLL or any successor form, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," regarding the use of non-Federal funds for lobbying. The Form SF-LLL shall be submitted within 30 days following the end of the calendar quarter in which there occurs any event that requires disclosure or that materially affects the accuracy of the information contained in any disclosure form previously filed. The non-Federal entity must submit any required Forms SF-LLL, including those received from subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors, to the Grants Officer. *See* 31 U.S.C. § 1352.

¹⁴ To improperly influence means any influence that induces or tends to induce a Federal employee or officer to give consideration or to act regarding a Federal award or regulatory matter on any basis other than the merits of the matter.

M. REMEDIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE

- a. If a non-Federal entity fails to comply with Federal statutes, regulations or the terms and conditions of a Federal award, the Council or pass-through entity may impose additional conditions, as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.207 “Specific conditions” (e.g., requiring additional reporting or more frequent submission of the Financial or Performance (Technical) Reports; requiring additional activity, project, or program monitoring; requiring the recipient or one or more of its subrecipients to obtain technical or management assistance; or establishing additional actions that require prior approval). If the Council or pass-through entity determines that noncompliance cannot be remedied by imposing additional conditions, pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.338, the Council or pass-through entity may take one or more of the following actions, as appropriate in the circumstances:
 1. Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by the non-Federal entity or more severe enforcement action by the Council or pass-through entity.
 2. Disallow (that is, deny both use of funds and any applicable matching credit for) all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance.
 3. Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the Federal award.
 4. Initiate suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized under 2 C.F.R. part 180 and Council regulations (or in the case of a pass-through entity, recommend such a proceeding be initiated by the Council).
 5. Withhold further Federal awards for the project or program.
 6. Take other remedies that may be legally available.

The Council will notify the recipient in writing of the Council’s proposed determination that an instance of non-compliance has occurred, provide details regarding the instance of noncompliance, and indicate the remedy that the Council proposes to pursue. The recipient will then have 30 calendar days to respond and provide information and documentation contesting the Council’s proposed determination or suggesting an alternative remedy. The Council will consider information provided by the recipient and issue a final determination in writing, which will state the Council’s final findings regarding noncompliance and the remedy to be imposed.

- b. RESTORE Act-Specific Remedy for Non-compliance
 1. If the Council determines that the recipient has expended funds to cover the cost of any ineligible activities, in addition to the remedies available in this section, the Council, in coordination with the U.S. Department of Treasury (“Treasury”), will make no additional payments to the recipient from the RESTORE Trust Fund, including no payments from the RESTORE Trust Fund for activities, projects, or programs under any other RESTORE Act Component until the recipient has either (a) deposited an amount equal to the amount expended for the ineligible activities in the RESTORE Trust Fund, or (b) the Council, in coordination with Treasury, has authorized the recipient to expend an equal amount from the recipient’s own funds for an activity that meets the requirements of the RESTORE Act. *See* 33 U.S.C. § 1321(t)(1)(G) and (H), and *see* 31 C.F.R. § 34.804 “Noncompliance.”

2. If the Council determines that the recipient has materially violated the terms of the award, the Council, in coordination with Treasury, will make no additional funds available to the recipient from any part of the RESTORE Trust Fund until the recipient corrects the violation.
- c. In extraordinary circumstances, the Council may require that any of the remedies above take effect immediately upon notice in writing to the recipient. In such cases, the recipient may contest the Council's determination or suggest an alternative remedy in writing to the Council, and the Council will issue a final determination.
- d. Instead of, or in addition to, the remedies listed above, the Council may refer the noncompliance to the Treasury OIG for investigation or audit, pursuant to 31 C.F.R. § 34.805 "Treasury Inspector General." The Council will refer all allegations of fraud, waste, or abuse to the Treasury OIG.
- e. Termination. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.339, when a Federal award is terminated or partially terminated, both the Council or pass-through entity and the non-Federal entity remain responsible for compliance with the requirements in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.343 "Closeout" and 200.344 "Post-closeout adjustments and continuing responsibilities."
1. The Federal award may be terminated in whole or in part as follows:
 - i. By the Council or pass-through entity, if a non-Federal entity fails to comply with the terms and conditions of a Federal award;
 - ii. By the Council or pass-through entity for cause;
 - iii. By the Council or pass-through entity with the consent of the non-Federal entity, in which case the two parties will agree upon the termination conditions, including the effective date and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated; or
 - iv. By the non-Federal entity upon sending to the Council or pass-through entity written notification setting forth the reasons for such termination, the effective date, and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated. However, if the Council or pass-through entity determines in the case of partial termination that the reduced or modified portion of the Federal award or subaward will not accomplish the purposes for which the Federal award was made, the Council or pass-through entity may terminate the Federal award in its entirety.
2. The Council or pass-through entity is required to provide a notice of termination to the non-federal entity, pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.340:
 - i. If the Federal award is terminated for the non-Federal entity's failure to comply with the Federal statutes, regulations, or terms and conditions of the Federal award, the notification must state that the termination decision may be considered in evaluating future applications received from the non-Federal entity.
 - ii. Upon termination of a Federal award, the Council will provide the information required under FFATA to the Federal Web site established to fulfill the requirements of FFATA, and update or notify any other relevant governmentwide systems or entities of any indications of poor performance as required by 41 U.S.C. § 417b and 31 U.S.C. § 3321 and implementing guidance at 2 C.F.R. part 77. See also 2 C.F.R. part 180 for the requirements for Suspension and Debarment.

N. CODES OF CONDUCT AND SUBAWARD, CONTRACT, AND SUBCONTRACT PROVISIONS

.01 Code of Conduct for Recipients

- a. The non-Federal entity must immediately report any indication of fraud, waste, abuse or potential criminal activity pertaining to grant funds to the Council, Treasury and the Treasury Inspector General in accordance with the requirements in 31 C.F.R. § 34.803(a).
- b. Pursuant to the certification in Form SF-424B, paragraph 3, or equivalent, the non-Federal entity must maintain written standards of conduct to establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain in the administration of this award.
- c. Non-Federal entities must comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. § 200.318 “General procurement standards,” including maintaining written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts. No employee, officer or agent shall participate in the selection, award or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to or planning to employ any of the foregoing parties, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. The officers, employees and agents of the non-Federal entity must neither solicit nor accept any gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, non-Federal entities may set written standards of conduct for circumstances in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. Such standards must provide for disciplinary actions to be taken for violations of the standards of conduct by officers, employees or agents of the non-Federal entity.

.02 Applicability of Award Provisions to Subrecipients

- a. The non-Federal entity shall require all subrecipients, including lower tier subrecipients, under the award to comply with the provisions of the award, including applicable cost principles, administrative provisions, audit requirements, and all associated terms and conditions. *See* 2 C.F.R. part 200, Subpart D, “Subrecipient Monitoring and Management” *and see* 2 C.F.R. § 200.101(b)(1). Additionally, the non-Federal entity must perform all responsibilities required of a pass-through entity, as specified in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, including evaluating and documenting a subrecipient’s risk of noncompliance; providing training and technical assistance necessary to complete the subaward activities; monitoring the performance of the subrecipient; and taking any necessary enforcement actions against a noncompliant subrecipient. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.331 “Requirements for pass through entities.”
- b. Prior to dispersing funds to a subrecipient, the recipient must execute a legally-binding written agreement with the entity receiving the subaward in accordance with the requirements in 31 C.F.R. § 34.803(c). The written agreement shall extend all applicable program requirements to the subrecipient. The written agreement must include a requirement that the contractor or subrecipient retain all records in compliance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.
- c. A non-Federal entity is responsible for subrecipient monitoring, including the following:

1. Federal Award Identification. The non-Federal entity must ensure that each subaward includes the following information and applicable compliance requirements at the time of the subaward. If any of these data elements change, the pass through entity must include the changes in a subsequent subaward modification. When some of this information is not available, the pass-through entity must provide the best information available to describe the Federal award and subaward.
 - i. Subrecipient name (which must match the registered name in DUNS);
 - ii. Subrecipient's DUNS number (*see* 2 C.F.R. § 200.32 "Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number");
 - iii. Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN);
 - iv. Federal Award Date (*see* 2 C.F.R. § 200.39 "Federal award date");
 - v. Subaward Period of Performance Start and End Date;
 - vi. Amount of Federal Funds Obligated by this action;
 - vii. Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated to the subrecipient;
 - viii. Total Amount of the Federal Award;
 - ix. Federal award project description, as required to be responsive to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA);
 - x. Name of Federal awarding agency, pass-through entity and contact information for awarding official;
 - xi. CFDA Number and Name; the pass-through entity must identify the dollar amount made available under each Federal award and the CFDA number at time of disbursement;
 - xii. Identification of whether the award is for research and development (R&D); and
 - xiii. Indirect cost rate for the Federal award (including whether the *de minimis* rate is charged per 2 C.F.R. § 200.414 "Indirect (F&A) costs").
2. Award Monitoring. The non-Federal entity is responsible for oversight of the operations of the Federal award supported activities. The non-Federal entity must monitor its activities under Federal awards to assure that compliance with applicable Federal requirements and performance expectations are being achieved. Monitoring by the non-Federal entity must cover each program, function or activity. *See* 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.328 "Monitoring and reporting program performance," and 200.331 "Requirements for pass-through entities." The non-Federal entity shall monitor activities of the subrecipient through reporting, site visits, regular contact, or other means, as necessary to ensure that the subaward is used solely for authorized purposes, in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations and the terms and conditions of the subaward; and that subaward performance goals are achieved. Pass-through entity monitoring of the subrecipient must include:
 - i. Reviewing financial and programmatic reports required by the pass-through entity.
 - ii. Following-up and ensuring that the subrecipient takes timely and appropriate action on all deficiencies pertaining to the Federal award provided to the subrecipient from the pass-through entity detected through audits, on-site reviews, and other means.
 - iii. Issuing a management decision for audit findings pertaining to the Federal award provided to the subrecipient from the pass-through entity as required by 2 C.F.R. § 200.521 "Management decision."
3. Subrecipient Audits. The non-Federal entity is responsible for ensuring that subrecipients expending \$750,000 or more in Federal awards during the subrecipient's fiscal year have met the audit requirements of 2 C.F.R. part 200, Subpart F, "Audit Requirements," and that the required audits are completed within nine (9) months after the end of the subrecipient's audit period. In addition, the non-Federal entity is required to issue a management decision on audit findings within six (6) months after receipt of the subrecipient's audit report, and to ensure that the

subrecipient takes timely and appropriate corrective action on all audit findings. Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.505, in cases of continued inability or unwillingness to have an audit conducted in accordance with this part, Federal agencies and pass-through entities must take appropriate action as provided in 2 C.F.R. § 200.338 “Remedies for noncompliance.”

.03 Competition and Codes of Conduct for Subawards

- a. Unless otherwise approved in writing in advance by the Grants Officer, all subawards will be made in a manner to provide, to the maximum extent practicable, open and free competition in accordance with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317 through 200.326 “Procurement Standards.” The non-Federal entity must be alert to organizational conflicts of interest as well as other practices among subrecipients that may restrict or eliminate competition. In order to ensure objective subrecipient performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, subrecipients that develop or draft work requirements, statements of work, or requests for proposals shall be excluded from competing for such subawards.
- b. The non-Federal entity must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts. No employee, officer, or agent must participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to or planning to employ any of the foregoing parties, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. The officers, employees, and agents of the non-Federal entity shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, non-Federal entities may set standards of conduct for circumstances in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. Such standards must provide for disciplinary actions to be taken for violations of the standards of conduct by officers, employees or agents of the non-Federal entity.
- c. If the non-Federal entity has a parent, affiliate or subsidiary organization that is not a State, local government or Indian tribe, the non-Federal entity must also maintain written standards of conduct covering organizational conflicts of interest, wherein relationships with a parent company, affiliate or subsidiary organization cause the non-Federal entity to be or appear to be unable to be impartial in conducting a procurement action involving such related organization.
- d. A financial interest may include employment, stock ownership, a creditor or debtor relationship, or prospective employment with the organization selected or to be selected for a subaward. An appearance of impairment of objectivity may result from an organizational conflict where, because of other activities or relationships with other persons or entities, a person is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice. It may also result from non-financial gain to the individual, such as benefit to reputation or prestige in a professional field.

.04 Applicability of Provisions to Subawards, Contracts, and Subcontracts

- a. The non-Federal entity shall include the following notice in each request for applications or bids for a subaward, contract, or subcontract, as applicable:

Applicants or bidders for a lower tier covered transaction (except procurement contracts for goods and services under \$25,000 not requiring the consent of a Council official) are subject to 2 C.F.R. Part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement).” In addition, applicants or bidders for a lower tier covered transaction for a subaward, contract, or subcontract greater than \$100,000 of Federal funds at any tier are subject to relevant statutes, including among others, the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, as well as the common rule, “New Restrictions on Lobbying,” published at 55 FR 6736 (February 26, 1990), including definitions, and the Office of Management and Budget “Governmentwide Guidance for New Restrictions on Lobbying,” and notices published at 54 FR 52306 (December 20, 1989), 55 FR 24540 (June 15, 1990), 57 FR 1772 (January 15, 1992), and 61 FR 1412 (January 19, 1996).

When the recipient makes a subaward to a subrecipient that is authorized to enter into contracts for the purpose of completing the subaward scope of work, the recipient must require the subrecipient to comply with the requirements contained in this section.

- b. Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. Appendix II to part 200, “Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards,” and in addition to other provisions required by the Federal agency or non-Federal entity, all contracts made by the non-Federal entity under the Federal award must contain provisions covering the following, as applicable:
 1. Contracts for more than the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (\$150,000 as of 12-26-2013), which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. § 1908, must address administrative, contractual or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.
 2. All contracts in excess of \$10,000 must address termination for cause and for convenience by the non-Federal entity including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement.
 3. Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under 41 C.F.R. part 60, all contracts that meet the definition of “Federally assisted construction contract” in 41 C.F.R. part 60-1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 C.F.R. 60-1.4(b), in accordance with EO 11246, “Equal Employment Opportunity” (30 F.R. 12319, 12935, 3 C.F.R. part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by EO 11375, “Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity,” and implementing regulations at 41 C.F.R. part 60, “Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.”
 4. Davis-Bacon Act. When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 C.F.R. part 5, “Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction”). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week. The non-Federal entity must place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract must be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Council. The contracts must also include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (40 U.S.C. § 3145), as supplemented by Department of

Labor regulations (29 C.F.R. part 3, “Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States”). The Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Council.

5. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 3701-3708). Where applicable, all contracts awarded by the non-Federal entity in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. §§ 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 C.F.R. part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. § 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. § 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.
6. Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement. If the Federal award meets the definition of “funding agreement” under 37 C.F.R. § 401.2(a) and the non-Federal entity or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that “funding agreement,” the non-Federal entity or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. part 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements,” and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.
7. Mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. § 6201).
8. Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689). A contract award (*see* 2 C.F.R. § 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the governmentwide Excluded Parties List System in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 C.F.R. part 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 C.F.R. part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 C.F.R. part 1989 Comp., p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.” The Excluded Parties List System in [SAM](#)¹⁵ contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.
9. Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. § 1352). Contractors that apply or bid for an award of \$100,000 or more must file the required certification, a “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities” (Form SF-LLL or successor form). Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal

¹⁵ System for Award Management (SAM) website - <https://www.sam.gov>, verified 8/18/2015.

contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. § 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier-to-tier up to the Federal award recipient. The Form SF-LLL must be submitted within 15 days following the end of the calendar quarter in which there occurs any event that requires disclosure or that materially affects the accuracy of the information contained in any disclosure form previously filed. The non-Federal entity must submit all disclosure forms received, including those that report lobbying activity on its own behalf, to the Grants Officer within 30 days following the end of the calendar quarter.

10. Procurement of recovered materials (section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act). A state agency or agency of a political subdivision of a State and its contractors must comply with requirements of Section 6002 including procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 C.F.R. part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired by the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.
 11. Pilot Program for Enhancement of Employee Whistleblower Protections. The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 (Pub. L. No. 112-239, enacted January 2, 2013 and codified at 41 U.S.C. § 4712) includes a pilot program of whistleblower protection. It applies to all Council awards, subawards, or contracts under awards issued beginning July 1, 2013 through January 1, 2017. Non-Federal entities and contractors under Federal awards and subawards shall inform their employees in writing of the rights and remedies provided under 41 U.S.C. § 4712, in the predominant native language of the workforce. *See* section G.02 (c) of this document.
- c. The recipient must include in its legal agreement or contract with the subrecipient a requirement that the subrecipient make available to the Council, the Treasury OIG, and the GAO any documents, papers or other records, including electronic records, of the subrecipient, that are pertinent to this award, in order to make audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcripts, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the subrecipient's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. This right of access shall continue as long as records are required to be retained.
 - d. The recipient and any subrecipients, contractors, or subcontractors must comply with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328), as applicable, which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with federal funds.
 - e. When contracting, the non-Federal entity must take all necessary affirmative steps, as prescribed in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321(b), to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.

.05 Subaward and/or Contract to a Federal Agency

- a. The non-Federal entity, subrecipient, contractor, and/or subcontractor shall not sub-grant or sub-contract any part of the approved project to any agency or employee of the Council and/or other

Federal department, agency, or instrumentality without the prior written approval of the Grants Officer.

- b. Requests for approval of such action must be submitted in writing to the Grants Officer. The Grants Officer will notify the non-Federal entity in writing of the final determination.

O. AMENDMENTS AND CLOSEOUT

- a. Amendments to an award must be requested in writing and require the written approval of the Grants Officer. The recipient must provide an explanation for the reason an amendment is requested. The Council reserves the right to amend the terms of the award when required by law or regulation.
- b. The non-Federal entity must comply with the closeout requirements as stipulated in 2 C.F.R. § 200.343. Closeout of the award does not affect any of the post-closeout adjustments and continuing responsibilities under 2 C.F.R. § 200.344.

P. ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Environmental impacts must be considered by Federal decision-makers in deciding whether or not to approve: (1) a proposal for Federal assistance; (2) such proposal with mitigation; or (3) a different proposal having less adverse environmental impacts. Federal environmental laws require that the funding agency initiate an early planning process that considers potential impacts that projects funded with Federal assistance may have on the environment. Non-Federal entities must comply with all applicable environmental laws, regulations and policies. Additionally, recipients may be required to assist the Council in complying with laws, regulations and policies applicable to Council actions. Laws, regulations, and policies potentially applicable to Council actions and/or recipients may include but are not limited to the statutes and EOs listed below. The Council does not make independent determinations of compliance with laws such as the Clean Water Act. Rather, the Council may require a recipient to provide information to the Council to demonstrate that the recipient has complied with or will comply with all such requirements. In some cases, if additional information is required after an application is selected, funds may be withheld by the Grants Officer under a special award condition requiring the recipient to submit additional information sufficient to enable the Council to make an assessment regarding compliance with applicable environmental laws, regulations and policies.

If a recipient is permitted to make any subawards, the recipient must include all of the environmental statutes, regulations and EOs listed below in any agreement or contract with a subrecipient, and require the subrecipient to comply with all of these and to notify the recipient if the subrecipient becomes aware of any impact on the environment that was not noted in the recipient's approved application package.

.01 The National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 *et seq.*)

Council approval of financial assistance awards may be subject to the environmental review requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In such cases, recipients of financial assistance awards may be required to assist the Council in complying with NEPA. For example, applicants may be required to assist the Council by providing information on a proposal's potential environmental impacts, or drafting or supplementing an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement if the Council determines such documentation is required. Independent of the Council's responsibility to comply with

NEPA, where appropriate, projects or programs funded by the Council may trigger Federal agency NEPA compliance duties involving a separate Federal action, such as the issuance of a Federal permit.

.02 The Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1531 *et seq.*)

Council approval of financial assistance for project implementation is subject to compliance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Recipients must identify any impact or activities that may involve a Federally-listed threatened or endangered species, or their designated critical habitat. Section 7 of the ESA requires every Federal agency to ensure that any action it authorizes, funds or carries out, in the United States or upon the high seas, is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. Federal agencies have the responsibility for ensuring that a protected species or habitat does not incur adverse effects from actions taken under Federal assistance awards, and for conducting the required consultations with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act, as applicable.

.03 Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. § 1801 *et seq.*)

Recipients of financial assistance awards must identify to the Council any effects the award may have on essential fish habitat (EFH). Federal agencies which fund, permit, or carry out activities that may adversely impact EFH are required to consult with NMFS regarding the potential effects of their actions, and respond in writing to NMFS recommendations. These recommendations may include measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or otherwise offset adverse effects on EFH. In addition, NMFS is required to comment on any state agency activities that would impact EFH. Provided the specifications outlined in the regulations are met, EFH consultations will be incorporated into interagency procedures previously established under NEPA, the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, or other applicable statutes.

.04 Clean Water Act Section 404 (33 U.S.C. § 1344 *et seq.*)

Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. Activities in waters of the United States regulated under this program include fill for development, water resource projects (such as levees and some coastal restoration activities), and infrastructure development (such as highways and airports). CWA Section 404 requires a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers before dredged or fill material may be discharged into waters of the United States, unless the activity is exempt from Section 404 regulation (e.g., certain farming and forestry activities).

.05 The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 703-712), Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. § 668 *et seq.*), and Executive Order No. 13186, Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds

A number of prohibitions and limitations apply to projects that adversely impact migratory birds and bald and golden eagles. Executive Order 13186 directs Federal agencies to enter a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to promote conservation of migratory bird populations when a Federal action will have a measurable negative impact on migratory birds.

.06 National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470 *et seq.*)

Council approval of financial assistance awards may be subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). In such cases, recipients of financial assistance awards may be requested to assist the Council in identifying any adverse effects the award may have on properties included on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.2(c)(4), applicants and recipients may also be requested to assist the Council in initiating consultation with State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian Organizations or other applicable interested parties as necessary to the Council's responsibilities to identify historic properties, assess adverse effects to them, and determine ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects on historic properties.

Pursuant to guidelines issued by the National Park Service under the Abandoned Shipwreck Act (43 U.S.C. §§ 2101-2106), state and Federal agencies whose activities may disturb, alter, damage, or destroy State-owned shipwrecks must take into account the effect of the proposed activity on any state-owned shipwreck and afford the state agencies assigned management responsibility for state-owned shipwrecks a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed activity.

.07 Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7401 *et seq.*), Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 *et seq.*) (Clean Water Act), and Executive Order 11738 ("Providing for administration of the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to Federal contracts, grants or loans")

Recipients must comply with the provisions of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 *et seq.*), Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.*), and Executive Order 11738. Recipients shall not use a facility that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has placed on EPA's List of Violating Facilities (this list is incorporated into the Excluded Parties List System which is part of SAM) in performing any award that is nonexempt under subpart J of 2 C.F.R. part 1532.

.08 The Flood Disaster Protection Act (42 U.S.C. § 4002 *et seq.*)

Flood insurance, when available, is required for Federally-assisted construction or acquisition in areas having special flood hazards and flood-prone areas. When required, recipients will ensure that flood insurance is secured for their project(s).

.09 Executive Order 11988 ("Floodplain Management"), Executive Order 13690 ("Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input"), and Executive Order 11990 ("Protection of Wetlands")

Recipients must identify proposed actions located in a floodplain and/or wetlands to enable the Council to determine whether there is an alternative to minimize any potential harm. Floodplains are identified through a climate-informed science approach, adding 2-3 feet of elevation to the 100-year floodplain, or using the 500-year floodplain.

.10 Executive Order 13112 (“Invasive Species”)

Federal agencies must identify actions that may affect the status of invasive species and use relevant programs and authorities to: (i) prevent the introduction of invasive species; (ii) detect and respond rapidly to and control populations of such species in a cost-effective and environmentally sound manner; (iii) monitor invasive species populations accurately and reliably; (iv) provide for restoration of native species and habitat conditions in ecosystems that have been invaded; (v) conduct research on invasive species and develop technologies to prevent introduction and provide for environmentally sound control of invasive species; and (vi) promote public education on invasive species and the means to address them. In addition, an agency may not authorize, fund, or carry out actions that it believes are likely to cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States or elsewhere.

.11 The Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. § 1451 *et seq.*)

Federally funded projects must be consistent with a coastal state’s approved management program for the coastal zone.

.12 The Coastal Barriers Resources Act (16 U.S.C. § 3501 *et seq.*)

Only in certain circumstances may Federal funding be provided for actions within a Coastal Barrier System. The Coastal Barriers Resources Act generally prohibits new Federal expenditures, including Federal grants, within specific units of the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS). Although the Act restricts Federal expenditures for coastal barrier development, Section 6(a)(6)(A) contains an exemption for projects relating to the study, management, protection, or enhancement of fish and wildlife resources and habitats, including recreational projects. Section 6(a)(6)(G) also exempts nonstructural projects for shoreline stabilization that are designed to mimic, enhance or restore natural stabilization systems. However, care must be taken when interpreting any exemptions described, as they are limited to projects that are consistent with the purpose of this Act as interpreted by the lead agency, Department of Interior. Applicants should work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which reviews proposals to determine whether a project falls within a protected unit and if so, whether an exception applies. Maps of the CBRS are available through the interactive U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [Coastal Barrier Resources System Mapper](#).¹⁶

.13 The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. § 1271 *et seq.*)

This Act applies to awards that may affect existing or proposed components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system. Funded projects in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system must be consistent with Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requirements.

.14 The Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. § 300 *et seq.*)

The Sole Source Aquifer program under this statute precludes Federal financial assistance for any project that the EPA determines may contaminate a designated sole source aquifer through a recharge zone so as to create a significant hazard to public health.

¹⁶ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Interactive Coastal Barrier Resources System Mapper - <http://www.fws.gov/cbra/Maps/Mapper.html>, verified 8/18/2015.

.15 The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. § 6901 et seq.)

This act regulates the generation, transportation, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes, and also provides that recipients of Federal funds that are state agencies or political subdivisions of states give preference in their procurement programs to the purchase of recycled products pursuant to EPA guidelines.

.16 The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund) (42 U.S.C. § 9601 et seq.)

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund) (42 U.S.C. § 9601 et seq.), as amended by the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act, provides the President with broad, discretionary response authorities to address actual and threatened releases of hazardous substances, as well as pollutants and contaminants where there is an imminent and substantial danger to public health and the environment. Section 103 of this Act contains specific reporting requirements and responsibilities and section 117 of the Act contains specific provisions designed to ensure meaningful public participation in the response process.

.17 Executive Order 12898 (“Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations”)

This Order identifies and addresses adverse human health or environmental effects of programs, policies and activities on low income and minority populations. Consistent with EO 12898, recipients may be requested to help identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionate impacts to low income and minority populations which could result from their project.

.18 Rivers and Harbors Act (33 U.S.C. 407)

A permit may be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers if the proposed activity involves any work in, over or under navigable waters of the United States. Recipients must identify any work (including structures) that will occur in, over or under navigable waters of the United States and obtain the appropriate permit, if applicable.

.19 Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act (Pub. L. 92-532, as amended), National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.), and Executive Order 13089 (“Coral Reef Protection”)

The Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act prohibits dumping of material into ocean waters beyond the territorial limit without a permit. Recipients must identify any potential ocean dumping of materials, obtain the appropriate permit, if applicable, and notify the Council. Under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, Federal agencies are required to protect National Marine Sanctuary resources. Recipients must identify actions that are in or may affect a National Marine Sanctuary and notify the Council. EO 13089 requires that any actions authorized or funded by Federal agencies not degrade the condition of coral reef ecosystems. Recipients must identify any action that might affect a coral reef ecosystem and notify the Council.

.20 Executive Order 13653 (“Preparing the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change”)

This EO requires Federal agencies to identify and support smarter, more climate-resilient investments by States, local communities and tribes, including by providing incentives through agency guidance and grants. Recipients must identify and describe any project elements that promote climate resilience.

.21 Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.)

This act requires agency programs, to the extent possible, be compatible with state, local and private programs and policies to protect farmland from irreversible conversion to nonagricultural uses. Recipients must identify any irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses as a result of their project.

.22 Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.)

During the planning of water resource development projects, agencies are required to give fish and wildlife resources equal consideration with other values. Additionally, the Fish and Wildlife Service and fish and wildlife agencies of States must be consulted whenever waters of any stream or other body of water are “proposed or authorized, permitted or licensed to be impounded, diverted... or otherwise controlled or modified” by any agency under a Federal permit or license.

Q. MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS

.01 Criminal and Prohibited Activities

- a. The Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act (31 U.S.C. § 3801 *et seq.*), provides for the imposition of civil penalties against persons who make false, fictitious or fraudulent claims to the Federal Government for money (including money representing grants, loans or other benefits).
- b. The False Claims Amendments Act and the False Statements Act (18 U.S.C. §§ 287 and 1001, respectively), provide that whoever makes or presents any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement, representation or claim against the United States shall be subject to imprisonment of not more than five years and shall be subject to a fine in the amount provided by 18 U.S.C. § 287.
- c. The Civil False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. § 3729 *et seq.*), provides that suits can be brought by the government, or a person on behalf of the government, for false claims made under Federal assistance programs.
- d. The Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (18 U.S.C. § 874), prohibits a person or organization engaged in a Federally-supported project from enticing an employee working on the project from giving up a part of his compensation under an employment contract. The Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act also applies to contractors and subcontractors pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3145.

.02 Political Activities

The non-Federal entity must comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

.03 Drug-Free Workplace

The non-Federal entity shall comply with the provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Pub. L. No. 100-690, Title V, Sec. 5153, as amended by Pub. L. No. 105-85, Div. A, Title VIII, Sec. 809, as codified at 41 U.S.C. § 8102) and any Council regulations and policies promulgated pursuant to its authority, which require that the non-Federal entity take steps to provide a drug-free workplace.

.04 Foreign Travel

- a. The non-Federal entity may not use funds from this award for travel outside of the United States unless the Grants Officer provides prior written approval. The non-Federal entity shall comply with the provisions of the Fly America Act (49 U.S.C. § 40118). The implementing regulations of the Fly America Act are found at 41 C.F.R. §§ 301-10.131 through 301-10.143.
- b. The Fly America Act requires that Federal travelers and others performing U.S. Government-financed air travel must use U.S. flag air carriers, to the extent that service by such carriers is available. Foreign air carriers may be used only in specific instances, such as when a U.S. flag air carrier is unavailable, or use of U.S. flag air carrier service will not accomplish the agency's mission.
- c. One exception to the requirement to fly U.S. flag carriers is transportation provided under a bilateral or multilateral air transport agreement, to which the United States Government and the government of a foreign country are parties, and which the Department of Transportation has determined meets the requirements of the Fly America Act pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40118(b). The United States Government has entered into bilateral/multilateral "Open Skies Agreements" (U.S. Government Procured Transportation) that allow Federally-funded transportation services for travel and cargo movements to use foreign air carriers under certain circumstances. There are multiple "Open Skies Agreements" currently in effect. For more information about the current bilateral and multilateral agreements, visit the [GSA website](#).¹⁷ Information on the Open Skies agreements (U.S. Government Procured Transportation) and other specific country agreements may be accessed via the [Department of State's website](#).¹⁸
- d. If a foreign air carrier is anticipated to be used for any portion of travel under a Council financial assistance award the non-Federal entity must obtain prior written approval from the Grants Officer. When requesting such approval, the non-Federal entity must provide a justification in accordance with guidance provided by 41 C.F.R. § 301-10.142, which requires the non-Federal entity to provide the Grants Officer with the following: name; dates of travel; origin and destination of travel; detailed itinerary of travel; name of the air carrier and flight number for each leg of the trip; and a statement explaining why the non-Federal entity meets one of the exceptions to the regulations. If the use of a foreign air carrier is pursuant to a bilateral agreement, the non-Federal entity must provide the Grants Officer with a copy of the agreement or a citation to the official agreement available on the GSA website. The Grants Officer shall make the final determination and notify the non-Federal entity in writing. Failure to adhere to the provisions of the Fly America Act will result in the non-Federal entity not being reimbursed for any transportation costs for which the non-Federal entity improperly used a foreign air carrier.

¹⁷ GSA Fly America Act website - <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/103191>, verified 8/18/2015.

¹⁸ Department of State Open Skies Agreements website - <http://www.state.gov/e/eb/tra/ata/index.htm>, verified 8/18/2015.

.05 Increasing Seat Belt Use in the United States

Pursuant to EO 13043, recipients should encourage employees and contractors to enforce on-the-job seat belt policies and programs when operating company-owned, rented or personally owned vehicles.

.06 Research Involving Human Subjects

- a. All proposed research involving human subjects must be conducted in accordance with 15 C.F.R. part 27 “Protection of Human Subjects.” No research involving human subjects is permitted under this award unless expressly authorized by special award condition, or otherwise in writing by the Grants Officer.
- b. Federal policy defines a human subject as a living individual about whom an investigator conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information. Research means a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.
- c. Department of Commerce regulations at 15 C.F.R. part 27, applying to all Federal departments and agencies, require that recipients maintain appropriate policies and procedures for the protection of human subjects. In the event it becomes evident that human subjects may be involved in this project, the non-Federal entity shall submit appropriate documentation to the Federal Program Officer for approval by the appropriate Council officials. This documentation may include:
 1. Documentation establishing approval of the project by an institutional review board (IRB) approved for Federal-wide use under Department of Health and Human Services guidelines (*see also* 15 C.F.R. § 27.103);
 2. Documentation to support an exemption for the project under 15 C.F.R. § 27.101(b);
 3. Documentation to support deferral for an exemption or IRB review under 15 C.F.R. § 27.118;
 4. Documentation of IRB approval of any modification to a prior approved protocol or to an informed consent form.
- d. No work involving human subjects may be undertaken or conducted, or costs incurred and/or charged for human subjects research, until the appropriate documentation is approved in writing by the Grants Officer. Notwithstanding this prohibition, work may be initiated or costs incurred and/or charged to the project for protocol or instrument development related to human subjects research.

.07 Federal Employee Expenses

Federal agencies are generally barred from accepting funds from a non-Federal entity to pay transportation, travel or other expenses for any Federal employee. Use of award funds (Federal or non-Federal) or the non-Federal entity’s provision of in-kind goods or services, for the purposes of transportation, travel or any other expenses for any Federal employee may raise appropriation augmentation issues. In addition, Council policy prohibits the acceptance of gifts, including travel payments for Federal employees, from recipients or applicants, regardless of the source.

.08 Minority Serving Institutions Initiative

Pursuant to EOs 13555 (“White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics”), 13270 (“Tribal Colleges and Universities”), and 13532 (“Promoting Excellence, Innovation, and Sustainability at Historically Black Colleges and Universities”), the Council is strongly committed to broadening the participation of minority serving institutions (MSIs) in its financial assistance programs. The Council’s goals include achieving full participation of MSIs in order to advance the development of human potential, strengthen the Nation’s capacity to provide high-quality education, and increase opportunities for MSIs to participate in and benefit from Federal financial assistance programs. The Council encourages all recipients to include meaningful participation of MSIs. Institutions eligible to be considered MSIs are listed on the Department of Education website.

.09 Research Misconduct

The Council adopts, and applies to financial assistance awards for research, the Federal Policy on Research Misconduct (Federal Policy) issued by the Executive Office of the President’s Office of Science and Technology Policy on December 6, 2000 (65 FR 76260). As provided for in the Federal Policy, research misconduct refers to the fabrication, falsification or plagiarism in proposing, performing or reviewing research, or in reporting research results. Research misconduct does not include honest errors or differences of opinion. Non-Federal entities that conduct extramural research funded by the Council must foster an atmosphere conducive to the responsible conduct of sponsored research by safeguarding against and resolving allegations of research misconduct. Non-Federal entities also have the primary responsibility to prevent, detect and investigate allegations of research misconduct and, for this purpose, may rely on their internal policies and procedures, as appropriate, to do so. Federal award funds expended on an activity that is determined to be invalid or unreliable because of research misconduct may result in appropriate enforcement action under the award, up to and including award termination and/or suspension or debarment. The Council requires that any allegation that contains sufficient information to proceed with an inquiry be submitted to the Grants Officer, who will also notify the Treasury OIG of such allegation. Once the non-Federal entity has investigated the allegation, it shall submit its findings to the Grants Officer. The Council may accept the non-Federal entity’s findings or proceed with its own investigation. The Grants Officer will inform the non-Federal entity of the Council’s final determination.

.10 Publications, Videos, Signage and Acknowledgment of Sponsorship

- a. Publication of results or findings in appropriate professional journals and production of video or other media is encouraged as an important method of recording, reporting and otherwise disseminating information and expanding public access to Federally-funded projects (*e.g.*, scientific research).
- b. Recipients are required to submit a copy of any publication materials, including but not limited to print, recorded or Internet materials, to the Council.
- c. When releasing information related to a funded project, recipients must include a statement that the project or effort undertaken was or is sponsored by the Council.
- d. Any signage produced with funds from the award or informing the public about the activities funded in whole or in part by the award, must first be approved in writing by the Grants Officer.
- e. Recipients are responsible for assuring that every publication of material based on, developed under, or otherwise produced under a Council financial assistance award, except scientific articles or papers

appearing in scientific, technical or professional journals, contains the following disclaimer or other disclaimer approved in writing by the Grants Officer:

This [report/video/etc.] was prepared by [non-Federal entity name] using Federal funds under award [number] from the RESTORE Council. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the RESTORE Council.

.11 Care and Use of Live Vertebrate Animals

Recipients must comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, as amended, (Pub. L. No. 89-544, 7 U.S.C. § 2131 *et seq.*) (animal acquisition, transport, care, handling, and use in projects), and implementing regulations, 9 C.F.R. Parts 1, 2, and 3; the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1531 *et seq.*); Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. § 1361 *et seq.*) (taking possession, transport, purchase, sale, export or import of wildlife and plants); the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act (16 U.S.C. § 4701 *et seq.*) (ensure preventive measures are taken or that probable harm of using species is minimal if there is an escape or release); and all other applicable statutes pertaining to the care, handling and treatment of warm-blooded animals held for research, teaching or other activities supported by Federal financial assistance. No research involving vertebrate animals is permitted under any Council financial assistance award without the prior written approval of the Grants Officer.

.12 Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12

If the performance of a grant award requires non-Federal entity personnel to have routine access to Federally-controlled facilities and/or Federally-controlled information systems (for purpose of this term “routine access” is defined as more than 180 days), such personnel must undergo the personal identity verification credential process. In the case of foreign nationals, the Council will conduct a check with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services’ (USCIS) Verification Division, a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to ensure that the individual is in a lawful immigration status and that he or she is eligible for employment within the United States. Any items or services delivered under a financial assistance award shall comply with the Council personal identity verification procedures that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12, “Policy for a Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees and Contractors,” FIPS PUB 201, and OMB Memorandum M-05-24. The non-Federal entity shall ensure that its subrecipients and contractors (at all tiers) performing work under this award comply with the requirements contained in this term. The Grants Officer may delay final payment under an award if the subrecipient or contractor fails to comply with the requirements provided below. The non-Federal entity shall insert the following term in all subawards and contracts when the subaward non-Federal entity or contractor is required to have routine physical access to a Federally-controlled facility or routine access to a Federally-controlled information system:

- a. *The subrecipient or contractor shall comply with the Council personal identity verification procedures identified in the subaward or contract that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance M-05-24, as amended, and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) Number 201, as amended, for all employees under this subaward or contract who require routine physical access to a Federally-controlled facility or routine access to a Federally-controlled information system.*
- b. *The subrecipient or contractor shall account for all forms of Government-provided identification issued to the subrecipient or contractor employees in connection with performance under this subaward or contract. The subrecipient or contractor shall return such identification to the issuing agency at the earliest of any of the following, unless otherwise determined by the Council: (1) When*

no longer needed for subaward or contract performance; (2) Upon completion of the subrecipient or contractor employee's employment; or (3) Upon subaward or contract completion or termination.

.13 Compliance with Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security Export Administration Regulations

- a. This clause applies to the extent that this financial assistance award involves access to export-controlled items.
- b. In performing this financial assistance award, the non-Federal entity may gain access to items subject to export control (export-controlled items) under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR). The non-Federal entity is responsible for compliance with all applicable laws and regulations regarding export-controlled items, including the EAR's deemed exports and reexports provisions. The non-Federal entity shall establish and maintain effective export compliance procedures at Council and non-Council facilities throughout performance of the financial assistance award. At a minimum, these export compliance procedures must include adequate controls of physical, verbal, visual, and electronic access to export-controlled items, including by foreign nationals.
- c. Definitions
 1. Export-controlled items. Items (commodities, software, or technology), that are subject to the EAR (15 C.F.R. §§ 730-774), implemented by the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security. These are generally known as "dual-use" items, items with both a military and commercial application.
 2. Deemed Export/Reexport. The EAR defines a deemed export as a release of export-controlled items (specifically, technology or source code) to a foreign national in the U.S. Such release is "deemed" to be an export to the home country of the foreign national. 15 C.F.R. § 734.2(b)(2)(ii). A release may take the form of visual inspection, oral exchange of information, or the application abroad of knowledge or technical experience acquired in the U.S. If such a release occurs abroad, it is considered a deemed reexport to the foreign national's home country. Licenses may be required for deemed exports or reexports.
- d. The non-Federal entity shall control access to all export-controlled items that it possesses or that comes into its possession in performance of this financial assistance award, to ensure that access to, or release of, such items are restricted, or licensed, as required by applicable Federal laws, EOs, and/or regulations, including the EAR.
- e. As applicable, non-Federal entity personnel and associates at Council sites shall be informed of any procedures to identify and protect export-controlled items.
- f. To the extent the non-Federal entity wishes to provide foreign nationals with access to export-controlled items, the non-Federal entity shall be responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses, including licenses required under the EAR for deemed exports or deemed reexports.
- g. Nothing in the terms of this financial assistance award is intended to change, supersede, or waive the requirements of applicable Federal laws, EOs or regulations.
- h. Compliance with the foregoing will not satisfy any legal obligations the non-Federal entity may have regarding items that may be subject to export controls administered by other agencies such as the Department of State, which has jurisdiction over exports of munitions items subject to the

International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) (22 C.F.R. §§ 120-130), including releases of such items to foreign nationals.

- i. The non-Federal entity shall include this Subsection .13, including this Subparagraph i, in all lower tier transactions (subawards, contracts, and subcontracts) under this financial assistance award that may involve access to export-controlled items.

.14 The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 2 C.F.R. part 175

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 authorizes termination of financial assistance provided to a private entity, without penalty to the Federal Government, if the non-Federal entity engages in certain activities related to trafficking in persons. The Council incorporates the following award term required by [2 C.F.R. § 175.15\(b\)](#).¹⁹

Award Term from 2 C.F.R. § 175.15(b):

I. Trafficking in persons.

- a. Provisions applicable to a non-Federal entity that is a private entity.
 1. You as the non-Federal entity, your employees, subrecipients under this award, and subrecipients' employees may not—
 - i. Engage in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect;
 - ii. Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect; or
 - iii. Use forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.
 2. We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if you or a subrecipient that is a private entity —
 - i. Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or
 - ii. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either— (A) Associated with performance under this award; or (B) Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 C.F.R. Part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by our agency at 2 C.F.R. Part 1326, “Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension.”
- b. Provision applicable to a non-Federal entity other than a private entity. We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if a subrecipient that is a private entity—
 1. Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or
 2. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either—
 - i. Associated with performance under this award; or

¹⁹ See 2 C.F.R. § 175.15(b) - <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2012-title2-vol1/pdf/CFR-2012-title2-vol1-sec175-15.pdf>, verified 8/18/2015.

- ii. Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 C.F.R. Part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by our agency at 2 C.F.R. Part 1326, “Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension.”
- c. Provisions applicable to any non-Federal entity.
 - 1. You must inform us immediately of any information you receive from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term.
 - 2. Our right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraph a.2 or b of this section:
 - i. Implements section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)), and
 - ii. Is in addition to all other remedies for noncompliance that are available to us under this award.
 - 3. You must include the requirements of paragraph a.1 of this award term in any subaward you make to a private entity.
- d. Definitions. For purposes of this award term:
 - 1. Employee means either:
 - i. An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award; or
 - ii. Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award and not compensated by you including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an in-kind contribution toward cost sharing or matching requirements.
 - 2. Forced labor means: labor obtained by any of the following methods: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.
 - 3. Private entity:
 - i. Means any entity other than a State, local government, Indian tribe, or foreign public entity, as those terms are defined in 2 C.F.R. 175.25;
 - ii. Includes: (A) A nonprofit organization, including any nonprofit institution of higher education, hospital, or tribal organization other than one included in the definition of Indian tribe at 2 C.F.R. 175.25(b); and (B) A for-profit organization.
 - 4. “Severe forms of trafficking in persons,” “commercial sex act,” and “coercion” have the meanings given at section 103 of the TVPA, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7102).

.15 The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (“Transparency Act” or FFATA)—Public Law 109-282, as amended by section 6202(a) of Public Law 110-252 (31 U.S.C. 6101)

- a. Searchable Website Requirements. The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) requires information on Federal awards (Federal financial assistance and expenditures) be made available to the public via a single, searchable website. This information is available at the [USA Spending website](http://USA.Spending.gov).²⁰ Recipients and subrecipients must include the following required data elements in their application:

²⁰ USA.Spending.gov website - www.USA.Spending.gov, verified 8/18/2015.

- Name of entity receiving award;
 - Award amount;
 - Transaction type, funding agency, Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number, and descriptive award title;
 - Location of entity, primary location of performance (City/State/Congressional District/Country); and
 - Unique identifier of entity.
- b. Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation. Prime grant recipients awarded a new Federal grant greater than or equal to \$25,000 on or after October 1, 2010, other than those funded by the Recovery Act, are subject to FFATA subaward reporting requirements as outlined in the OMB guidance issued August 27, 2010. The prime non-Federal entity is required to file a FFATA subaward report by the end of the month following the month in which the prime non-Federal entity awards any sub-grant greater than or equal to \$25,000. *See* Pub. L. No. 109-282, as amended by section 6202(a) of Pub. L. No. 110-252 (*see* 31 U.S.C. 6101 note). The reporting requirements are located in Appendix A of [2 C.F.R. Part 170](#).²¹

Award Term from Appendix A of 2 C.F.R. Part 170:

I. Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation.

- a. Reporting of first-tier subawards.
1. Applicability. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, you must report each action that obligates \$25,000 or more in Federal funds that does not include Recovery funds (as defined in section 1512(a)(2) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111-5) for a subaward to an entity (*see* definitions in paragraph e. of this award term).
 2. Where and when to report.
 - i. You must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.1 of this award term to the FFATA Subaward Reporting System ([FSRS](#)).²²
 - ii. For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the obligation was made. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2010, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2010.)
 3. What to report. You must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at the [FSRS](#) website specify.
- b. Reporting Total Compensation of Non-Federal Entity Executives.
1. Applicability and what to report. You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if—
 - i. the total Federal funding authorized to date under this award is \$25,000 or more;
 - ii. in the preceding fiscal year, you received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 C.F.R. 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 C.F.R. 170.320 (and subawards); and

²¹ 2 C.F.R. § 170.320 on GPO website - <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title2-vol1/pdf/CFR-2011-title2-vol1-part170-appA.pdf>, verified 8/18/2015.

²² Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Subaward Reporting System - <http://www.fsrs.gov>, verified 8/18/2015.

- iii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, *see* the [U.S. Security and Exchange Commission](#) total compensation filings.²³)
 - 2. Where and when to report. You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph b.1 of this award term:
 - i. As part of your registration profile in the System for Award Management ([SAM](#)),²⁴ and
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.
- c. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives.
 - 1. Applicability and what to report. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier subrecipient under this award, you shall report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if—
 - i. In the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 C.F.R. 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act (and subawards); and
 - ii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, *see* the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>.)
 - 2. Where and when to report. You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph c.1. of this award term:
 - i. To the non-Federal entity.
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if a subaward is obligated on any date during the month of October of a given year (i.e., between October 1 and 31), you must report any required compensation information of the subrecipient by November 30 of that year.
- d. Exemptions. If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report: i. Subawards, and ii. The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.
- e. Definitions. For purposes of this award term:
 - 1. Entity means all of the following, as defined in 2 C.F.R. part 25:
 - i. A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;
 - ii. A foreign public entity;
 - iii. A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;
 - iv. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization;

²³ U.S. Security and Exchange Commission Executive Compensation “Fast Facts” - <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>, verified on 8/18/2015.

²⁴ System for Award Management (SAM) - <https://www.sam.gov>, verified on 8/18/2015.

- v. A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.
 - 2. Executive means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.
 - 3. Subaward:
 - i. This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the non-Federal entity award to an eligible subrecipient.
 - ii. The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, *see* 2 C.F.R. § 200.330).
 - iii. A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.
 - 4. Subrecipient means an entity that:
 - i. Receives a subaward from you (the non-Federal entity) under this award; and
 - ii. Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.
 - 5. Total compensation means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the non-Federal entity's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information *see* 17 C.F.R. 229.402(c)(2)):
 - i. Salary and bonus.
 - ii. Awards of stock, stock options, and stock appreciation rights. Use the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes with respect to the fiscal year in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (Revised 2004) (FAS 123R), Shared Based Payments.
 - iii. Earnings for services under non-equity incentive plans. This does not include group life, health, hospitalization or medical reimbursement plans that do not discriminate in favor of executives, and are available generally to all salaried employees.
 - iv. Change in pension value. This is the change in present value of defined benefit and actuarial pension plans.
 - v. Above-market earnings on deferred compensation which is not tax-qualified.
 - vi. Other compensation, if the aggregate value of all such other compensation (e.g. severance, termination payments, value of life insurance paid on behalf of the employee, perquisites or property) for the executive exceeds \$10,000.
- c. System for Award Management (SAM) and Universal Identifier requirements.
1. Requirement for SAM. Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 C.F.R. § 25.110, you as the recipient must maintain the currency of your information in the SAM until you submit the final financial report required under this award or receive the final payment, whichever is later. This requires that you review and update the information at least annually after the initial registration, and more frequently if required by changes in your information or another award term.
 2. Requirement for unique entity identifier. If you are authorized to make subawards under this award, you:
 - i. Must notify potential subrecipients that no entity (see definition in paragraph C of this award term) may receive a subaward from you unless the entity has provided its unique entity identifier to you.
 - ii. May not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its unique entity identifier to you.

3. Definitions for purposes of this award term:

- i. System for Award Management (SAM) means the Federal repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the System for Award Management [Internet site](#).²⁵
- ii. Unique entity identifier means the identifier required for SAM registration to uniquely identify business entities.
- iii. Entity, as it is used in this award term, means all of the following, as defined at 2 C.F.R. part 25, subpart C:
 - (A) A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian Tribe;
 - (B) A foreign public entity;
 - (C) A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;
 - (D) A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and
 - (E) A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.
- iv. Subaward:
 - (A) This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the non-Federal entity award to an eligible subrecipient.
 - (B) The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, *see* 2 C.F.R. § 200.330).
 - (C) A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you consider a contract.
- v. Subrecipient means an entity that:
 - (A) Receives a subaward from you under this award; and
 - (B) Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.

.16 Federal Financial Assistance Planning During a Funding Hiatus or Government Shutdown

This term sets forth initial guidance that will be implemented for Federal assistance awards in the event of a lapse in appropriations, or a government shutdown. The Grants Officer may issue further guidance prior to an anticipated shutdown.

- a. Unless there is an actual rescission of funds for specific grant obligations, recipients of Federal financial assistance awards for which funds have been obligated generally will be able to continue to perform and incur allowable expenses under the award during a funding hiatus. Recipients are advised that ongoing activities by Federal employees involved in grant administration (including payment processing) or similar operational and administrative work cannot continue when there is a funding lapse. Therefore, there may be delays, including payment processing delays, in the event of a shutdown.
- b. All award actions will be delayed during a government shutdown; if it appears that a non-Federal entity's performance under a grant or cooperative agreement will require agency involvement, direction or clearance during the period of a possible government shutdown, the Program Officer or

²⁵ System for Award Management (SAM) - <https://www.sam.gov>, verified on 8/18/2015.

Grants Officer, as appropriate, may attempt to provide such involvement, direction, or clearance prior to the shutdown or advise recipients that such involvement, direction, or clearance will not be forthcoming during the shutdown. Accordingly, recipients whose ability to withdraw funds is subject to prior agency approval, which in general are recipients that have been designated high risk, recipients of construction awards, or are otherwise limited to reimbursements or subject to agency review, will be able draw funds down from the relevant Automatic Standard Application for Payment (ASAP) account only if agency approval is given and coded into ASAP prior to any government shutdown or closure. This limitation may not be lifted during a government shutdown. Recipients should plan to work with the Grants Officer to request prior approvals in advance of a shutdown wherever possible. Recipients whose authority to draw down award funds is restricted may decide to suspend work until the government reopens.

- c. The ASAP system may remain operational during a government shutdown. As applicable, recipients that do not require Council approval to draw down advance funds from their ASAP accounts may be able to do so during a shutdown. The 30-day limitation on the drawdown of advance funds will apply notwithstanding a government shutdown and advanced funds held for more than 30 days shall be returned with interest.

R. CERTIFICATIONS

At a minimum, the non-Federal entity must comply with the certifications and requirements in 31 C.F.R. § 34.802, assurances (Forms SF-424B and SF-424D, or equivalent, as applicable), and any required Council-specific certifications. Other certifications may be required by 2 C.F.R. part 200. Certifications must be signed by an authorized senior official of the entity receiving grant funds who can legally bind the organization or entity, and who has oversight for the administration and use of the funds in question.

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS**

AMENDMENT NO. 1

**Request for Statements of Qualifications for Professional Engineering Services to Aid the
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality in Conducting Mississippi Gulf Coast
Restoration Efforts**

This Amendment No. 1 (this “Amendment”) hereby amends or modifies the Request for Statements of Qualifications (“RFQ”) for Professional Engineering Services to Aid the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality in Conducting Mississippi Gulf Coast Restoration Efforts, issued on May 23, 2016, by revising the following section:

Section VI. Evaluation Procedure and Factors to Be Considered in the Evaluation Process

A selection committee shall review and evaluate each SOQ as set forth below.

- (A) Determination of Acceptability. SOQs will be reviewed to ensure compliance with the minimum requirements of this RFQ. The committee shall classify SOQs as “acceptable,” “potentially acceptable,” or “unacceptable.” RFQs that do not comply with the minimum requirements may be deemed “unacceptable” and rejected immediately, receiving no further consideration.
- (B) Discussions with Individual Offerors. At MDEQ’s sole discretion, MDEQ may choose to hold discussions with individual offerors whose SOQs are classified as “acceptable” or “potentially acceptable” to determine in greater detail each offeror’s qualifications and to determine if an offeror classified as “potentially acceptable” should be reclassified as “acceptable.” All offerors so classified shall be given an equal and fair opportunity to participate in individual discussions.
- (C) Evaluation Criteria. SOQs that are classified or reclassified as “acceptable” or “potentially acceptable” will be reviewed/analyzed by the committee to determine which SOQ is most advantageous to the State based on the following factors:
 - (1) the overall quality of the SOQ and offeror’s proposed plan and implementation for project management, project execution and performing the services described in the scope of work, which should reflect an understanding of the Project and its objectives, timeliness and effectiveness of execution. Consideration will be given to the completeness of the response to the specific requirements of the RFQ.

(Very Important –20 points);

- (2) a record of past performance of similar projects based upon such factors as control of costs, quality of work, and ability to meet schedules and deadlines. ***(Very Important – 20 points);***
- (3) offeror’s expertise working in a coastal and marine environment with an emphasis on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, including, without limitation, extensive knowledge of Mississippi coastal ecology. ***(Very Important – 20 points);*** and
- (4) offeror’s ability to provide the required services as reflected/evidenced by qualifications (education, experience, professional certification and licensure (as applicable), etc.) and the personnel, equipment, facilities and financial resources to perform the services currently available or demonstrated to be available at the time of contracting. ***(Very Important – 20 points).***

By signing this Amendment, Offeror acknowledges receipt of this Amendment and that the provisions of said Amendment have been noted and that its SOQ is being offered in compliance therewith.

Offeror’s Name: _____

Signature: _____

By (Print Name): _____

Title: _____

Date: _____