



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR**

**Financial Advisory Services**

**ISSUING OFFICE**

**Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)**

**RFP NUMBER  
2014-001**

**DATE OF ISSUANCE**

**5/20/2014**

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Commonwealth will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule:

Activity	Responsibility	Date
Deadline to submit Questions via email to <a href="mailto:acavender@pa.gov">acavender@pa.gov</a>	Potential Offerors	6/12/2014 by 4:30 pm
Pre-proposal Conference—Location.	Issuing Office/Potential Offerors	NA
Answers to Potential Offeror questions posted to the PENNVEST website <a href="http://www.pennvest.state.pa.us">www.pennvest.state.pa.us</a> by COB 6/20/2014.	Issuing Office	6/20/2014
Please monitor website for all communications regarding the RFP.	Potential Offerors	Ongoing
Sealed proposal must be received by the Issuing Office at PENNVEST, 22 S. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St, Harrisburg, PA 17101.	Offerors	7/2/2014 by 4:30 pm

## PART I

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**I-1. Purpose.** This request for proposals (RFP) provides to those interested in submitting proposals for the subject procurement (“Offerors”) sufficient information to enable them to prepare and submit proposals for the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority’s consideration on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (“Commonwealth”) to satisfy a need for financial advisory services (“Project”).

**I-2. Issuing Office.** The Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (“PENNVEST”, “Issuing Office”, “Authority”) has issued this RFP on behalf of the Commonwealth. The sole point of contact in the Commonwealth for this RFP shall be Anne Cavender, PENNVEST, 22 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101, [acavender@pa.gov](mailto:acavender@pa.gov), the Issuing Officer for this RFP. Please refer all inquiries to the Issuing Officer.

**I-3. Scope.** This RFP contains instructions governing the requested proposals, including the requirements for the information and material to be included; a description of the service to be provided; requirements which Offerors must meet to be eligible for consideration; general evaluation criteria; and other requirements specific to this RFP.

**I-4. Problem Statement.** PENNVEST seeks to acquire the services of a firm of qualified contractors to provide for the following:

- Provide counsel on the financial matters and financial analysis on the options available to PENNVEST for the optimal use of the PENNVEST funds.
- Provide financial analyses and advice in analyzing available financing instruments and, when appropriate, make recommendations and assist in obtaining necessary legislation with respect to financing instruments.
- Evaluate and advise on financial information systems as needed to ensure that the Authority’s cash flow model can be fully implemented and used on an ongoing basis
- Provide the financial advice and assistance needed by the Authority to conduct revenue bond issuances.
- Advise the Authority on the development and implementation of a loan guaranty program.
- Monitor policies, regulations and legislation affecting the State Revolving Funds and advise the Authority on potential impacts as well as devise approaches to address these impacts.
- Advise the Authority on the use of commercial paper and any other financial instruments that may be value to the financial operations of the Authority.

Additional detail is provided in **Part IV** of this RFP.

**I-5.Type of Contract.** It is proposed that if the Issuing Office enters into a contract as a result of this RFP, it will be a 4 year, fixed price contract containing the Standard Contract Terms and Conditions as shown in **Appendix A** and available at

[http://www.dgs.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/procurement\\_forms/19505](http://www.dgs.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/procurement_forms/19505) under the link for Form BOP-1204. The Issuing Office, in its sole discretion, may undertake negotiations with Offerors whose proposals, in the judgment of the Issuing Office, show them to be qualified, responsible and capable of performing the Project.

**I-6. Rejection of Proposals.** The Issuing Office reserves the right, in its sole and complete discretion, to reject any proposal received as a result of this RFP.

**I-7. Incurring Costs.** The Issuing Office is not liable for any costs the Offeror incurs in preparation and submission of its proposal, in participating in the RFP process or in anticipation of award of the contract.

**I-8. Pre-proposal Conference.** There will be no pre-proposal conference for this RFP. If there are any questions, please forward them to the Issuing Officer in accordance with Section I-9.

**I-9. Questions & Answers.** If an Offeror has any questions regarding this RFP, the Offeror must submit the questions by email (**with the subject line “RFP 2014-01 Question”**) to the Issuing Officer named in **Part I, Section I-2** of the RFP. If the Offeror has questions, they must be submitted via email **no later than** the date indicated on the Calendar of Events. The Offeror shall not attempt to contact the Issuing Officer by any other means. The Issuing Officer shall post the answers to the questions on the PENNVEST website by the date stated on the Calendar of Events. An Offeror who submits a question *after* the deadline date for receipt of questions indicated on the Calendar of Events assumes the risk that its proposal will not be responsive or competitive because the Commonwealth is not able to respond before the proposal receipt date or in sufficient time for the Offeror to prepare a responsive or competitive proposal. When submitted after the deadline date for receipt of questions indicated on the Calendar of Events, the Issuing Officer *may* respond to questions of an administrative nature by directing the questioning Offeror to specific provisions in the RFP. To the extent that the Issuing Office decides to respond to a non-administrative question *after* the deadline date for receipt of questions indicated on the Calendar of Events, the answer must be provided to all Offerors through an addendum.

All questions and responses as posted on the PENNVEST website are considered as an addendum to, and part of, this RFP in accordance with RFP **Part I, Section I-10**. Each Offeror shall be responsible to monitor the PENNVEST website for new or revised RFP information. The Issuing Office shall not be bound by any verbal information nor shall it be bound by any written information that is not either contained within the RFP or formally issued as an addendum by the Issuing Office. The Issuing Office does not consider questions to be a protest of the specifications or of the solicitation. The required protest process for Commonwealth procurements is described on the DGS website **Part I, Section I-27**.

**I-10. Addenda to the RFP.** If the Issuing Office deems it necessary to revise any part of this RFP before the proposal response date, the Issuing Office will post an addendum to the PENNVEST website at [www.pennvest.state.pa.us](http://www.pennvest.state.pa.us). It is the Offeror’s responsibility to periodically check the website for any new information or addenda to the RFP. Answers to the

questions asked during the Questions & Answers period also will be posted to the website as an addendum to the RFP.

**I-11. Response Date.** To be considered for selection, hard copies of proposals must arrive at the Issuing Office on or before the time and date specified in the RFP Calendar of Events. The Issuing Office will **not** accept proposals via email or facsimile transmission. Offerors who send proposals by mail or other delivery service should allow sufficient delivery time to ensure timely receipt of their proposals. If, due to inclement weather, natural disaster, or any other cause, the Commonwealth office location to which proposals are to be returned is closed on the proposal response date, the deadline for submission will be automatically extended until the next Commonwealth business day on which the office is open, unless the Issuing Office otherwise notifies Offerors. The hour for submission of proposals shall remain the same. The Issuing Office will reject, unopened, any late proposals.

**I-12. Proposals.** To be considered, Offerors should submit a complete response to this RFP to the Issuing Office, using the format provided in **Part II**, providing seven (7) **paper copies of the Technical Submittal and one (1) paper copy of the Cost Submittal and two (2) paper copies of the Small Diverse Business (SDB) participation submittal.** In addition to the paper copies of the proposal, Offerors shall submit two **complete and exact** copies of the entire proposal (Technical, Cost and SDB submittals, along with all requested documents) on CD-ROM or Flash drive in Microsoft Office or Microsoft Office-compatible format. The electronic copy must be a mirror image of the paper copy and any spreadsheets must be in Microsoft Excel. The Offerors may not lock or protect any cells or tabs. Offerors should ensure that there is no costing information in the technical submittal. Offerors should not reiterate technical information in the cost submittal. The CD or Flash drive should clearly identify the Offeror and include the name and version number of the virus scanning software that was used to scan the CD or Flash drive before it was submitted. The Offeror shall make no other distribution of its proposal to any other Offeror or Commonwealth official or Commonwealth consultant. Each proposal page should be numbered for ease of reference. An official authorized to bind the Offeror to its provisions must sign the proposal. If the official signs the Proposal Cover Sheet (Appendix C to this RFP) and the Proposal Cover Sheet is attached to the Offeror's proposal, the requirement will be met. For this RFP, the proposal must remain valid for **120** days or until a contract is fully executed. If the Issuing Office selects the Offeror's proposal for award, the contents of the selected Offeror's proposal will become, except to the extent the contents are changed through Best and Final Offers or negotiations, contractual obligations.

Each Offeror submitting a proposal specifically waives any right to withdraw or modify it, except that the Offeror may withdraw its proposal by written notice received at the Issuing Office's address for proposal delivery prior to the exact hour and date specified for proposal receipt. An Offeror or its authorized representative may withdraw its proposal in person prior to the exact hour and date set for proposal receipt, provided the withdrawing person provides appropriate identification and signs a receipt for the proposal. An Offeror may modify its submitted proposal prior to the exact hour and date set for proposal receipt only by submitting a new sealed proposal or sealed modification which complies with the RFP requirements.

**I-13. Small Diverse Business Information.** The Issuing Office encourages participation by small diverse businesses as prime contractors, and encourages all prime contractors to make a significant commitment to use small diverse businesses as subcontractors and suppliers.

A Small Diverse Business is a DGS-verified minority-owned business, woman-owned business, veteran-owned business or service-disabled veteran-owned business.

A small business is a business in the United States which is independently owned, not dominant in its field of operation, employs no more than 100 full-time or full-time equivalent employees, and earns less than \$7 million in gross annual revenues for building design, \$20 million in gross annual revenues for sales and services and \$25 million in gross annual revenues for those businesses in the information technology sales or service business.

Questions regarding this Program can be directed to:

Department of General Services  
Bureau of Small Business Opportunities  
Room 611, North Office Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17125  
Phone: (717) 783-3119  
Fax: (717) 787-7052  
Email: [gs-bsbo@pa.gov](mailto:gs-bsbo@pa.gov)  
Website: [www.dgs.state.pa.us](http://www.dgs.state.pa.us)

The Department's directory of BSBO-verified minority, women, veteran and service disabled veteran-owned businesses can be accessed from: [Searching for Small Diverse Businesses](#).

**I-14. Economy of Preparation.** Offerors should prepare proposals simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of the Offeror's ability to meet the requirements of the RFP. The proposal shall not exceed 30 pages in length with double spaced sentence structure and no smaller than font size of 12. The proposal length limitation shall include attachments, exhibits and appendices.

**I-15. Alternate Proposals.** The Issuing Office has identified the basic approach to meeting its requirements, allowing Offerors to be creative and propose their best solution to meeting these requirements. The Issuing Office will not accept alternate proposals.

**I-16. Discussions for Clarification.** Offerors may be required to make an oral or written clarification of their proposals to the Issuing Office to ensure thorough mutual understanding and Offeror responsiveness to the solicitation requirements. The Issuing Office will initiate requests for clarification. Clarifications may occur at any stage of the evaluation and selection process prior to contract execution.

**I-17. Prime Contractor Responsibilities.** The contract will require the selected Offeror to assume responsibility for all services offered in its proposal whether it produces them itself or by

subcontract. The Issuing Office will consider the selected Offeror to be the sole point of contact with regard to contractual matters.

**I-18. Proposal Contents.**

- A. Confidential Information. The Commonwealth is not requesting, and does not require, confidential proprietary information or trade secrets to be included as part of Offerors' submissions in order to evaluate proposals submitted in response to this RFP. Accordingly, except as provided herein, Offerors should not label proposal submissions as confidential or proprietary or trade secret protected. Any Offeror who determines that it must divulge such information as part of its proposal must submit the signed written statement described in subsection c. below and must additionally provide a redacted version of its proposal, which removes only the confidential proprietary information and trade secrets, for required public disclosure purposes.
- B. Commonwealth Use. All material submitted with the proposal shall be considered the property of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and may be returned only at the Issuing Office's option. The Commonwealth has the right to use any or all ideas not protected by intellectual property rights that are presented in any proposal regardless of whether the proposal becomes part of a contract. Notwithstanding any Offeror copyright designations contained on proposals, the Commonwealth shall have the right to make copies and distribute proposals internally and to comply with public record or other disclosure requirements under the provisions of any Commonwealth or United States statute or regulation, or rule or order of any court of competent jurisdiction.
- C. Public Disclosure. After the award of a contract pursuant to this RFP, all proposal submissions are subject to disclosure in response to a request for public records made under the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know-Law, 65 P.S. § 67.101, et seq. If a proposal submission contains confidential proprietary information or trade secrets, a signed written statement to this effect must be provided with the submission in accordance with 65 P.S. § 67.707(b) for the information to be considered exempt under 65 P.S. § 67.708(b)(11) from public records requests. If financial capability information is submitted in response to Part II of this RFP such financial capability information is exempt from public records disclosure under 65 P.S. § 67.708(b)(26).

**I-19. Best and Final Offers.**

- A. While not required, the Issuing Office reserves the right to conduct discussions with Offerors for the purpose of obtaining "best and final offers." To obtain best and final offers from Offerors, the Issuing Office may do one or more of the following, in any combination and order:
  - 1. Schedule oral presentations;
  - 2. Request revised proposals;
  - 3. Conduct a reverse online auction; and

4. Enter into pre-selection negotiations.
- B. The following Offerors will **not** be invited by the Issuing Office to submit a Best and Final Offer:
1. Those Offerors, which the Issuing Office has determined to be not responsible or whose proposals the Issuing Office has determined to be not responsive.
  2. Those Offerors, which the Issuing Office has determined in accordance with **Part III, Section III-5**, from the submitted and gathered financial and other information, do not possess the financial capability, experience or qualifications to assure good faith performance of the contract.
  3. Those Offerors whose score for their technical submittal of the proposal is less than 70% of the total amount of technical points allotted to the technical criterion.

The issuing office may further limit participation in the best and final offers process to those remaining responsible offerors which the Issuing Office has, within its discretion, determined to be within the top competitive range of responsive proposals.

- C. The Evaluation Criteria found in **Part III, Section III-4**, shall also be used to evaluate the Best and Final offers.
- D. Price reductions offered through any reverse online auction shall have no effect upon the Offeror's Technical Submittal. Dollar commitments to Small Diverse Businesses can be reduced only in the same percentage as the percent reduction in the total price offered through any reverse online auction or negotiations.

**I-20. News Releases.** Offerors shall not issue news releases, Internet postings, advertisements or any other public communications pertaining to this Project without prior written approval of the Issuing Office, and then only in coordination with the Issuing Office.

**I-21. Restriction of Contact.** From the issue date of this RFP until the Issuing Office selects a proposal for award, the Issuing Officer is the sole point of contact concerning this RFP. Any violation of this condition may be cause for the Issuing Office to reject the offending Offeror's proposal. If the Issuing Office later discovers that the Offeror has engaged in any violations of this condition, the Issuing Office may reject the offending Offeror's proposal or rescind its contract award. Offerors must agree not to distribute any part of their proposals beyond the Issuing Office. An Offeror who shares information contained in its proposal with other Commonwealth personnel and/or competing Offeror personnel may be disqualified.

**I-22. Issuing Office Participation.** Offerors shall provide all services, supplies, facilities, and other support necessary to complete the identified work.

**I-23. Term of Contract.** The term of the contract will commence on the Effective Date and will end **June 30, 2018**. The Issuing Office will fix the Effective Date after the contract has been fully executed by the selected Offeror and by the Commonwealth and all approvals required by Commonwealth contracting procedures have been obtained. The selected Offeror shall not start the performance of any work prior to the Effective Date of the contract and the Commonwealth shall not be liable to pay the selected Offeror for any service or work performed or expenses incurred before the Effective Date of the contract.

**I-24. Offeror's Representations and Authorizations.** By submitting its proposal, each Offeror understands, represents, and acknowledges that:

- A. All of the Offeror's information and representations in the proposal are material and important, and the Issuing Office may rely upon the contents of the proposal in awarding the contract(s). The Commonwealth shall treat any misstatement, omission or misrepresentation as fraudulent concealment of the true facts relating to the Proposal submission, punishable pursuant to 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904.
- B. The Offeror has arrived at the price(s) and amounts in its proposal independently and without consultation, communication, or agreement with any other Offeror or potential offeror.
- C. The Offeror has not disclosed the price(s), the amount of the proposal, nor the approximate price(s) or amount(s) of its proposal to any other firm or person who is an Offeror or potential offeror for this RFP, and the Offeror shall not disclose any of these items on or before the proposal submission deadline specified in the Calendar of Events of this RFP.
- D. The Offeror has not attempted, nor will it attempt, to induce any firm or person to refrain from submitting a proposal on this contract, or to submit a proposal higher than this proposal, or to submit any intentionally high or noncompetitive proposal or other form of complementary proposal.
- E. The Offeror makes its proposal in good faith and not pursuant to any agreement or discussion with, or inducement from, any firm or person to submit a complementary or other noncompetitive proposal.
- F. To the best knowledge of the person signing the proposal for the Offeror, the Offeror, its affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, and employees are not currently under investigation by any governmental agency and have not in the last **four** years been convicted or found liable for any act prohibited by State or Federal law in any jurisdiction, involving conspiracy or collusion with respect to bidding or proposing on any public contract, except as the Offeror has disclosed in its proposal.
- G. To the best of the knowledge of the person signing the proposal for the Offeror and except as the Offeror has otherwise disclosed in its proposal, the Offeror has no outstanding, delinquent obligations to the Commonwealth including, but not limited to,

any state tax liability not being contested on appeal or other obligation of the Offeror that is owed to the Commonwealth.

- H. The Offeror is not currently under suspension or debarment by the Commonwealth, any other state or the federal government, and if the Offeror cannot so certify, then it shall submit along with its proposal a written explanation of why it cannot make such certification.
- I. The Offeror has not made, under separate contract with the Issuing Office, any recommendations to the Issuing Office concerning the need for the services described in its proposal or the specifications for the services described in the proposal.
- J. Each Offeror, by submitting its proposal, authorizes Commonwealth agencies to release to the Commonwealth information concerning the Offeror's Pennsylvania taxes, unemployment compensation and workers' compensation liabilities.
- K. Until the selected Offeror receives a fully executed and approved written contract from the Issuing Office, there is no legal and valid contract, in law or in equity, and the Offeror shall not begin to perform.

**I-25. Notification of Selection.**

- A. **Contract Negotiations.** The Issuing Office will notify all Offerors in writing of the Offeror selected for contract negotiations after the Issuing Office has determined, taking into consideration all of the evaluation factors, the proposal that is the most advantageous to the Issuing Office.
- B. **Award.** Offerors whose proposals are not selected will be notified when contract negotiations have been successfully completed and the Issuing Office has received the final negotiated contract signed by the selected Offeror.

**I-26. Debriefing Conferences.** Upon notification of award, Offerors whose proposals were not selected will be given the opportunity to be debriefed. The Issuing Office will schedule the debriefing at a mutually agreeable time. The debriefing will not compare the Offeror with other Offerors, other than the position of the Offeror's proposal in relation to all other Offeror proposals. An Offeror's exercise of the opportunity to be debriefed does not constitute nor toll the time for filing a protest (See Section I-27 of this RFP).

**I-27. RFP Protest Procedure.** The RFP Protest Procedure is on the DGS website at <http://www.dgsweb.state.pa.us/comod/ProtestProcedures.doc>. A protest by a party not submitting a proposal must be filed within **seven** days after the protesting party knew or should have known of the facts giving rise to the protest, but no later than the proposal submission deadline specified in the Calendar of Events of the RFP. Offerors may file a protest within **seven** days after the protesting Offeror knew or should have known of the facts giving rise to the protest, but in no event may an Offeror file a protest later than **seven** days after the date the notice of award of the contract is posted on the PENNVEST website. The date of filing is the

date of receipt of the protest. A protest must be filed in writing with the Issuing Office. To be timely, the protest must be received by 4:00 p.m. on the seventh day.

**I-28. Use of Electronic Versions of this RFP.** This RFP is being made available by electronic means. If an Offeror electronically accepts the RFP, the Offeror acknowledges and accepts full responsibility to insure that no changes are made to the RFP. In the event of a conflict between a version of the RFP in the Offeror's possession and the Issuing Office's version of the RFP, the Issuing Office's version shall govern.

**I-29. Internet Capability.** The consultant must be able to conduct business through a high-speed broadband connection using Microsoft Internet Explorer 8.0 or higher. The connection is necessary in order to conduct work with the Authority. The Authority maintains critical information in web-based format, which the consultant must be able to view, and to do web transaction based participation. In addition, the consultant may be required to download no-cost third-party products that are imbedded into Authority application configurations such as Adobe Reader and Flash to properly view and use the application as intended.

**I-30. Security and Access.** Access to the Authority's facilities, networks, database environments, and information systems will be provided to the consultant to the extent necessary to perform project tasks. Written requests must be submitted and approved by the Authority's Security Officer prior to physical access to controlled areas, distribution of system accounts, access to networked environments, and access to applications and information systems.

The consultant may be requested to use a Commonwealth VPN connection to access internal applications that are not public-facing. This connection requires creation of a Commonwealth email user account and a secure network credential provider plug-in distributed by the Authority onto the consultant's local device.

Each consultant employee assigned to and with access to the Authority's secured physical and networked environments must follow all Commonwealth and PENNVEST security policy and procedures concerning such accesses. The consultant may be required to provide a PATCH Background Check administered through the Commonwealth State Police, and to accept and sign a PENNVEST Confidential Data and Information Handling Agreement and/or Right to Present Agreement.

Consultants are required to wear a security badge issued by PENNVEST when inside respective buildings. No physical access to the building will be given for after business hours and on weekends and holidays

**I-31. Electronic Capabilities.** The consultant must be able to conduct business electronically and communicate using software and methods that are compatible to that of the Authority. The Authority requires the use of software and electronic communication tools that allow for email, virtual meetings, desktop video conferencing, and desktop sharing and collaboration over the Internet and within a virtual desktop environment. The consultant will be expected to conduct and participate in meetings, presentations, forums, and collaboration web sessions to perform project tasks.

The Authority maintains information utilizing Microsoft Office Suite 2010 including Word, Excel, Visio, Outlook 2010, and SharePoint 2010. The consultant must maintain updated virus scan software for all attachments and electronic documents provided to PENNVEST. Written analysis, recommendations, documentation, and invoices must be provided in the electronic format that is compatible and acceptable by the Authority. The consultation must allow the installation of desktop controls and similar plug-ins required for secured access and proper use of PENNVEST software environments to the extent necessary to perform project tasks.

**I-32. Information and Records Handling.** The nature of the work performed under this contract requires handling of sensitive information. All staff assigned to the contracted work by the Offeror must sign a confidentiality statement to ensure this information is not published or otherwise disclosed, except to the Commonwealth of PA and except for matters of public record. The Offeror is responsible for ensuring that adequate measures are in place to minimize the access, copying and distribution of such information during work performed under this contract.

The Offeror is responsible for proper disposal (i.e. shred, surrender) of both hard and electronic working copies of information and records during work on this contract, as well as any remaining information and records upon the completion of the contracted work. The Offeror is responsible for adequate disposal of information and records in compliance with the PENNVEST Agency Specific Records Retention and Disposition Schedule.

## PART II

### PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Offerors must submit their proposals in the format, including heading descriptions, outlined below. To be considered, the proposal must respond to all requirements in this part of the RFP. Offerors should provide any other information thought to be relevant, but not applicable to the enumerated categories, as an appendix to the Proposal. All cost data relating to this proposal and all Small Diverse Business cost data should be kept separate from and not included in the Technical Submittal. Each Proposal shall consist of the following **three** separately sealed submittals:

- A. Technical Submittal, which shall be a response to RFP **Part II, Sections II-1 through II-8;**
- B. Small Diverse Business participation submittal, in response to RFP **Part II, Section II-9;** and
- C. Cost Submittal, in response to RFP **Part II, Section II-10.**

The Issuing Office reserves the right to request additional information which, in the Issuing Office's opinion, is necessary to assure that the Offeror's competence, number of qualified employees, business organization, and financial resources are adequate to perform according to the RFP.

The Issuing Office may make investigations as deemed necessary to determine the ability of the Offeror to perform the Project, and the Offeror shall furnish to the Issuing Office all requested information and data. The Issuing Office reserves the right to reject any proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Offeror fails to satisfy the Issuing Office that such Offeror is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the RFP and to complete the Project as specified.

**II-1. Statement of the Problem.** State in succinct terms your understanding of the problem presented or the service required by this RFP.

**II-2. Management Summary.** Include a narrative description of the proposed effort and a list of the items to be delivered or services to be provided.

**II-3. Work Plan.** Describe in narrative form your technical plan for accomplishing the work. Use the task descriptions in **Part IV** of this RFP as your reference point. Modifications of the task descriptions are permitted; however, reasons for changes should be fully explained. Indicate the number of person hours allocated to each task. Include a Program Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT) or similar type display, time related, showing each event. If more than one approach is apparent, comment on why you chose this approach.

**II-4. Prior Experience.** Include experience in **Part I, Section I-4.** Experience shown should be work done by individuals who will be assigned to this project as well as that of your company. Studies or projects referred to must be identified and the name of the customer shown, including the name, address, and telephone number of the responsible official of the customer, company, or agency who may be contacted.

- a. Supply a description of relevant water and sewer revenue bond financings in which your firm has served as financial advisor for the last three years. There is particular interest in your firm's experience with revenue bonds, commercial paper, loan guarantees, cash flow and capacity projections, and leveraging State and Federal Revolving Funds. Please list the following:
  - Name of issuer and rating:
  - 1) Size of issue, negotiated or competitive;
  - 2) Nature or special characteristic of sale;
  - 3) TIC, gross spread, and the spread components;
  - 4) Summary of the financing, including use of any leveraging techniques; and
  - 5) Name and telephone number of contact for each issuer.
- b. Describe any innovative programmatic structures that your firm has implemented in the Federal State Revolving Fund programs that have allowed those programs to meet policy objectives within the constraints of federal guidelines and regulations.
- c. Describe the firm's experience and qualifications with respect to:
  - 1) Issuers of revenue obligations;
  - 2) Marketing and distributions of municipal securities – with special emphasis on Pennsylvania paper;
  - 3) Commercial Paper transactions;
  - 4) Variable and Fixed rate revenue obligations;
  - 5) Rating Agency presentations for structured program issuers;
  - 6) Leveraging Federal State Revolving Funds programs at the state level; and
  - 7) Methods of financing other than bond issuance
- d. Review, analyze, and make recommendations for improvements and updates to the PENNVEST cash flow model which is used for cash flow projections and also for PENNVEST capacity in each program and the overall portfolio.

**II-5. Personnel.** Include the number of executive and professional personnel, analysts, auditors, researchers, programmers, consultants, etc., who will be engaged in the work. Show where these personnel will be physically located during the time they are engaged in the Project. For key personnel include the employee's name and, a thorough resume or similar document, the Project personnel's education and experience. Indicate the responsibilities each individual will have in this Project and how long each has been with your company. Identify by name any subcontractors you intend to use and the services they will perform. Key personnel assigned to the engagement must remain assigned to the engagement. Any changes to key personnel shall have the comparable levels of experience and skills and must be approved by PENNVEST which will not be unreasonably withheld.

**II-6. Training.** If appropriate, indicate recommended training of agency personnel. Include the agency personnel to be trained, the number to be trained, duration of the program, place of training, curricula, training materials to be used, number and frequency of sessions, and number and level of instructors.

**II-7. Financial Capability.** Describe your company's financial stability and economic capability to perform the contract requirements. Provide your company's financial statements (audited, if available) for the past three fiscal years. Financial statements must include the company's Balance Sheet and Income Statement or Profit/Loss Statements. Also include a Dun & Bradstreet comprehensive report, if available. If your company is a publicly traded company, please provide a link to your financial records on your company website in lieu of providing hardcopies. The Commonwealth reserves the right to request additional information it deems necessary to evaluate an Offeror's financial capability.

**II-8. Objections and Additions to Standard Contract Terms and Conditions.** The Offeror will identify which, if any, of the terms and conditions (contained in **Appendix A**) it would like to negotiate and what additional terms and conditions the Offeror would like to add to the standard contract terms and conditions. The Offeror's failure to make a submission under this paragraph will result in its waiving its right to do so later, but the Issuing Office may consider late objections and requests for additions if to do so, in the Issuing Office's sole discretion, would be in the best interest of the Commonwealth. The Issuing Office may, in its sole discretion, accept or reject any requested changes to the standard contract terms and conditions. The Offeror shall not request changes to the other provisions of the RFP, nor shall the Offeror request to completely substitute its own terms and conditions for **Appendix A**. All terms and conditions must appear in one integrated contract. The Issuing Office will not accept references to the Offeror's, or any other, online guides or online terms and conditions contained in any proposal.

Regardless of any objections set out in its proposal, the Offeror must submit its proposal, including the cost proposal, on the basis of the terms and conditions set out in **Appendix A**. The Issuing Office will reject any proposal that is conditioned on the negotiation of the terms and conditions set out in **Appendix A or to other provisions of the RFP as specifically identified above.**

**II-9. Small Diverse Business Participation Submittal.**

- A. To receive credit for being a Small Diverse Business or for subcontracting with a Small Diverse Business (including purchasing supplies and/or services through a purchase agreement), an Offeror must include proof of Small Diverse Business qualification in the Small Diverse Business participation submittal of the proposal, as indicated below:

A Small Diverse Business verified by BSBO as a Small Diverse Business must provide a photocopy of their verification letter.

- B. In addition to the above verification letter, the Offeror must include in the Small Diverse Business participation submittal of the proposal the following information:
1. **All** Offerors must include a numerical percentage which represents the total percentage of the work (as a percentage of the total cost in the Cost Submittal) to be performed by the Offeror and not by subcontractors and suppliers.
  2. **All** Offerors must include a numerical percentage which represents the total percentage of the total cost in the Cost Submittal that the Offeror commits to paying to Small Diverse Businesses (SDBs) as subcontractors. To support its total percentage SDB subcontractor commitment, Offeror must also include:
    - a) The percentage and dollar amount of each subcontract commitment to a Small Diverse Business;
    - b) The name of each Small Diverse Business. The Offeror will not receive credit for stating that after the contract is awarded it will find a Small Diverse Business.
    - c) The services or supplies each Small Diverse Business will provide, including the timeframe for providing the services or supplies.
    - d) The location where each Small Diverse Business will perform services.
    - e) The timeframe for each Small Diverse Business to provide or deliver the goods or services.
    - f) A subcontract or letter of intent signed by the Offeror and the Small Diverse Business (SDB) for each SDB identified in the SDB Submittal. The subcontract or letter of intent must identify the specific work, goods or services the SDB will perform, how the work, goods or services relates to the project and the specific timeframe during the term of the contract and any option/renewal periods when the work, goods or services will be performed or provided. In addition, the subcontract or letter of intent must identify the fixed percentage commitment and associated estimated dollar value that each SDB will receive based on the total value of the initial term of the contract as provided in the Offeror's Cost Submittal. Attached is a letter of intent template which may be used to satisfy these requirements.
    - g) The name, address and telephone number of the primary contact person for each Small Diverse Business.
  3. The total percentages and each SDB subcontractor commitment will become contractual obligations once the contract is fully executed.
  4. The name and telephone number of the Offeror's project (contact) person for the Small Diverse Business information.
- C. The Offeror is required to submit **two** copies of its Small Diverse Business participation submittal. The submittal shall be clearly identified as Small Diverse Business information and sealed in its own envelope, separate from the remainder of the proposal.

- D. A Small Diverse Business can be included as a subcontractor with as many prime contractors as it chooses in separate proposals.
- E. An Offeror that qualifies as a Small Diverse Business and submits a proposal as a prime contractor is not prohibited from being included as a subcontractor in separate proposals submitted by other Offerors.

**II-10. Cost Submittal.** The information requested in this **Part II, Section II-10** shall constitute the Cost Submittal. The Cost Submittal shall be placed in a separate sealed envelope within the sealed proposal, separated from the technical submittal. The total proposed cost shall be broken down into the following components: Offerors should **not** include any assumptions in their cost submittals. If the Offeror includes assumptions in its cost submittal, the Issuing Office may reject the proposal. Offerors should direct in writing to the Issuing Office pursuant to **Part I, Section I-9**, of this RFP any questions about whether a cost or other component is included or applies. All Offerors will then have the benefit of the Issuing Office's written answer so that all proposals are submitted on the same basis.

- A. **Direct Labor Costs.** Itemize to show the following for each category of personnel with a different hourly rate:
  - 1. Category (e.g., partner, project manager, analyst, senior auditor, research associate).
  - 2. Estimated hours.
  - 3. Rate per hour.
  - 4. Total cost for each category and for all direct labor costs.
- B. **Labor Overhead.** Specify what is included and rate used.
- C. **Travel and Subsistence.** Itemize transportation, lodging and meals per diem costs separately. Travel and subsistence costs must conform to the requirements of the most current version of Commonwealth Management Directive 230.10, *Travel and Subsistence Allowances*. The Issuing Office may accept higher rates normally paid by an Offeror, if those rates were approved by the Offeror's officials and published prior to submitting this proposal to the Issuing Office.
- D. **Consultant Costs.** Itemize as in (a) above.
- E. **Subcontract Costs.** Itemize as in (a) above.
- F. **Cost of Supplies and Materials.** Itemize.
- G. **Other Direct Costs.** Itemize.

- H. **General Overhead Costs.** Overhead includes **two** major categories of cost, operations overhead and general and administrative overhead. Operations overhead includes costs that are not **100%** attributable to the service being completed, but are generally associated with the recurring management or support of the service. General and administrative overhead includes salaries, equipment and other costs related to headquarters management external to the service, but in support of the activity being completed. Specify what specific items are included and the rates used.
- I. **Bond Cost.** A per bond cost for revenue bond issues. Assuming a competitive sale for \$50 million per year per program
- J. **Total Cost.**

**The Issuing Office will reimburse the selected Offeror for work satisfactorily performed after execution of a written contract and the start of the contract term, in accordance with contract requirements, and only after the Issuing Office has issued a notice to proceed.**

**II-11. Domestic Workforce Utilization Certification.** Complete and sign the Domestic Workforce Utilization Certification contained in **Appendix B** of this RFP. Offerors who seek consideration for this criterion must submit in hardcopy the signed Domestic Workforce Utilization Certification Form in the same sealed envelope with the Technical Submittal.

## PART III

### CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

**III-1. Mandatory Responsiveness Requirements.** To be eligible for selection, a proposal must be:

- A. Timely received from an Offeror;
- B. Properly signed by the Offeror.

**III-2. Technical Nonconforming Proposals.** The two (2) Mandatory Responsiveness Requirements set forth in **Section III-1** above (A-B) are the only RFP requirements that the Commonwealth will consider to be *non-waivable*. The Issuing Office reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to (1) waive any other technical or immaterial nonconformities in an Offeror's proposal, (2) allow the Offeror to cure the nonconformity, or (3) consider the nonconformity in the scoring of the Offeror's proposal.

**III-3. Evaluation.** The Issuing Office has selected a committee of qualified personnel to review and evaluate timely submitted proposals. Independent of the committee, BSBO will evaluate the Small Diverse Business participation submittal and provide the Issuing Office with a rating for this component of each proposal. The Issuing Office will notify in writing of its selection for negotiation the responsible Offeror whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the Commonwealth as determined by the Issuing Office after taking into consideration all of the evaluation factors.

**III-4. Evaluation Criteria.** The following criteria will be used in evaluating each proposal:

- A. **Technical:** The Issuing Office has established the weight for the Technical criterion for this RFP as 55% of the total points. Evaluation will be based upon the following in order of importance: **Understanding the Problem, Soundness of Approach, Offeror Qualification, Personnel Qualifications, and Financial Capability.** The final Technical scores are determined by giving the maximum number of technical points available to the proposal with the highest raw technical score. The remaining proposals are rated by applying the Technical Scoring Formula set forth at the following webpage: [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/rfp\\_scoring\\_formulas\\_overview/20124](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/rfp_scoring_formulas_overview/20124).
- B. **Cost:** The Issuing Office has established the weight for the Cost criterion for this RFP as 25% of the total points. The cost criterion is rated by giving the proposal with the lowest total cost the maximum number of Cost points available. The remaining proposals are rated by applying the Cost Formula set forth at the following webpage: [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/rfp\\_scoring\\_formulas\\_overview/20124](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/rfp_scoring_formulas_overview/20124)

C. **Small Diverse Business Participation:** BSBO has established the weight for the Small Diverse Business (SDB) participation criterion for this RFP as 20 % of the total points. Each SDB participation submittal will be rated for its approach to enhancing the utilization of SDBs in accordance with the below-listed priority ranking and subject to the following requirements:

1. A business submitting a proposal as a prime contractor must perform 60% of the total contract value to receive points for this criterion under any priority ranking.
2. To receive credit for an SDB subcontracting commitment, the SDB subcontractor must perform at least fifty percent (50%) of the work subcontracted to it.
3. A significant subcontracting commitment is a minimum of five percent (5%) of the total contract value.
4. A subcontracting commitment less than five percent (5%) of the total contract value is considered nominal and will receive reduced or no additional SDB points depending on the priority ranking.

**Priority Rank 1:** Proposals submitted by SDBs as prime offerors will receive 150 points. In addition, SDB prime offerors that have significant subcontracting commitments to additional SDBs may receive up to an additional 50 points (200 points total available).

Subcontracting commitments to additional SDBs are evaluated based on the proposal offering the highest total percentage SDB subcontracting commitment. All other Offerors will be scored in proportion to the highest total percentage SDB subcontracting commitment within this ranking. *See formula below.*

**Priority Rank 2:** Proposals submitted by SDBs as prime contractors, with no or nominal subcontracting commitments to additional SDBs, will receive 150 points.

**Priority Rank 3:** Proposals submitted by non-small diverse businesses as prime contractors, with significant subcontracting commitments to SDBs, will receive up to 100 points. Proposals submitted with nominal subcontracting commitments to SDBs will receive points equal to the percentage level of their total SDB subcontracting commitment.

SDB subcontracting commitments are evaluated based on the proposal offering the highest total percentage SDB subcontracting commitment. All other Offerors will be scored in proportion to the highest total percentage SDB subcontracting commitment within this ranking. *See formula below.*

**Priority Rank 4:** Proposals by non-small diverse businesses as prime contractors with no SDB subcontracting commitments shall receive no points under this criterion.

To the extent that there are multiple SDB Participation submittals in Priority Rank 1 and/or Priority Rank 3 that offer significant subcontracting commitments to SDBs, the proposal offering the highest total percentage SDB subcontracting commitment shall receive the highest score (or additional points) available in that Priority Rank category and the other proposal(s) in that category shall be scored in proportion to the highest total percentage SDB subcontracting commitment. Proportional scoring is determined by applying the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{SDB \% Being Scored}}{\text{Highest \% SDB Commitment}} \times \frac{\text{Points/Additional Points Available}^*}{\text{Points Available}^*} = \frac{\text{Awarded/Additional SDB Points}}{\text{Points Available}^*}$$

*Priority Rank 1 = 50 Additional Points Available*  
*Priority Rank 3 = 100 Total Points Available*

Please refer to the following webpage for an illustrative chart which shows SDB scoring based on a hypothetical situation in which the Commonwealth receives proposals for each Priority Rank:

[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/rfp\\_scoring\\_formulas\\_overview/20124](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/rfp_scoring_formulas_overview/20124)

- D. **Domestic Workforce Utilization:** Any points received for the Domestic Workforce Utilization criterion are bonus points in addition to the total points for this RFP. The maximum amount of bonus points available for this criterion is 3% of the total points for this RFP.

To the extent permitted by the laws and treaties of the United States, each proposal will be scored for its commitment to use domestic workforce in the fulfillment of the contract. Maximum consideration will be given to those Offerors who will perform the contracted direct labor exclusively within the geographical boundaries of the United States or within the geographical boundaries of a country that is a party to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement. Those who propose to perform a portion of the direct labor outside of the United States and not within the geographical boundaries of a party to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement will receive a correspondingly smaller score for this criterion. See the following webpage for the Domestic Workforce Utilization Formula:

[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/rfp\\_scoring\\_formulas\\_overview/20124](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/rfp_scoring_formulas_overview/20124). Offerors who seek consideration for this criterion must submit in hardcopy the signed Domestic Workforce Utilization Certification Form in the same sealed envelope with the Technical Submittal. The certification will be included as a contractual obligation when the contract is executed.

**III-5. Offeror Responsibility.** To be responsible, an Offeror must submit a responsive proposal and possess the capability to fully perform the contract requirements in all respects and the integrity and reliability to assure good faith performance of the contract.

In order for an Offeror to be considered responsible for this RFP and therefore eligible for selection for best and final offers or selection for contract negotiations:

- A. The total score for the technical submittal of the Offeror's proposal must be greater than or equal to **70%** of the **available technical points**; and
- B. The Offeror's financial information must demonstrate that the Offeror possesses the financial capability to assure good faith performance of the contract. The Issuing Office will review the Offeror's previous three financial statements, any additional information received from the Offeror, and any other publicly-available financial information concerning the Offeror, and assess each Offeror's financial capacity based on calculating and analyzing various financial ratios, and comparison with industry standards and trends.

An Offeror which fails to demonstrate sufficient financial capability to assure good faith performance of the contract as specified herein may be considered by the Issuing Office, in its sole discretion, for Best and Final Offers or contract negotiation contingent upon such Offeror providing contract performance security for the first contract year cost proposed by the Offeror in a form acceptable to the Issuing Office. Based on the financial condition of the Offeror, the Issuing Office may require a certified or bank (cashier's) check, letter of credit, or a performance bond conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract by the Offeror. The required performance security must be issued or executed by a bank or surety company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth. The cost of the required performance security will be the sole responsibility of the Offeror and cannot increase the Offeror's cost proposal or the contract cost to the Commonwealth.

Further, the Issuing Office will award a contract only to an Offeror determined to be responsible in accordance with the most current version of Commonwealth Management Directive 215.9, Contractor Responsibility Program.

### **III-6. Final Ranking and Award.**

- A. After any best and final offer process conducted, the Issuing Office will combine the evaluation committee's final technical scores, BSBO's final small diverse business participation scores, the final cost scores, and (when applicable) the domestic workforce utilization scores, in accordance with the relative weights assigned to these areas as set forth in this Part.
- B. The Issuing Office will rank responsible offerors according to the total overall score assigned to each, in descending order.
- C. The Issuing Office must select for contract negotiations the offeror with the highest overall score; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT AN AWARD WILL NOT BE MADE TO AN OFFEROR WHOSE PROPOSAL RECEIVED THE LOWEST TECHNICAL SCORE AND HAD THE LOWEST COST SCORE OF THE RESPONSIVE PROPOSALS RECEIVED FROM RESPONSIBLE OFFERORS. IN THE EVENT

SUCH A PROPOSAL ACHIEVES THE HIGHEST OVERALL SCORE, IT SHALL BE ELIMINATED FROM CONSIDERATION AND AWARD SHALL BE MADE TO THE OFFEROR WITH THE NEXT HIGHEST OVERALL SCORE.

- D. The Issuing Office has the discretion to reject all proposals or cancel the request for proposals, at any time prior to the time a contract is fully executed, when it is in the best interests of the Commonwealth. The reasons for the rejection or cancellation shall be made part of the contract file.

**PART IV**  
**WORK STATEMENT**

**IV-1. Objectives.**

- A. **General.** The financial advisor will provide counsel on financial matters and provide financial analysis on the options available to PENNVEST for the optimal use of all of PENNVEST funds. This includes, but not limited to, commercial paper, short term borrowing, leveraging federal program funds, loan guarantees, cash flow models, and assistance with information management for financial modeling and reporting.
- B. **Specific.** The responsibilities of the financial advisor to PENNVEST will include the following:
1. Prepare for and participate in meetings with Commonwealth and PENNVEST officials, underwriters, investors, counsel, rating agencies and legislative committees;
  2. Assist in the preparation of official statements and other necessary financing documents;
  3. Perform financial and financing analyses and offer marketing advice regarding current and future financing plans;
  4. Provide advice on the timing, structure, and method of notes, commercial paper, and bond offerings;
  5. Provide comment, analysis, and advice on the proposed bids or pricing received for notes and bonds;
  6. Provide comment, analysis, and advise on a loan guarantee program and the impact on cash flow, capacity, and investments;
  7. Provide advice supported by financial analyses on available financing instruments and, where appropriate, make recommendations to PENNVEST and, if needed, assist in obtaining necessary legislation with respect to financing mechanisms;
  8. Participate in ongoing investment and leveraging options for the Federal State Revolving Fund programs. A thorough knowledge of the Federal State Revolving Fund programs is essential to performing this task.
  9. Provide advice and ongoing support on the PENNVEST cash flow model that is used to perform cash flow projections for individual program portfolios as

well as the total PENNVEST portfolio. Direction and training of PENNVEST staff will be provided for operating the cash flow model;

10. Provide advice and recommendations on a funding capacity model for individual program portfolios as well as the total PENNVEST portfolio. This would include the use of commercial paper, revenue bonds, loan guarantees, general obligation bonds, and other financing mechanisms that would provide PENNVEST optimal use of available funds.

NOTE: The financial advisor must adhere to rule G-23 of the Municipal Securities Rule Making Board and, therefore, may be precluded from underwriting PENNVEST debt.

**IV-2. Nature and Scope of the Project.** The financial advisor will provide counsel on financial matters and provide financial analyses on the options available to PENNVEST for the optimal use of all PENNVEST funds. This includes but is not limited to the following:

- A. Advise on the use of commercial paper and other short term financing models to provide optimal cash flow and provide adequate cash flow for operations.
- B. Leveraging options for the federal State Revolving Fund within one year of the contract notice-to-proceed date.
- C. Review, analyze, and make recommendations regarding a loan guarantee program using the PENNVEST state funds and the federal State Revolving Funds.
- D. Review, analyze, support and make recommendations for continued improvements to the cash flow model and resulting projections. In addition, provide capacity scenarios for each portfolio as well as the total program.
- E. Assist PENNVEST in integrating the cash flow and capacity model(s) with the PENNVEST data bases and funds management system.

**IV-3. Requirements.**

**A. Emergency Preparedness.**

To support continuity of operations during an emergency, including a pandemic, the Commonwealth needs a strategy for maintaining operations for an extended period of time. One part of this strategy is to ensure that essential contracts that provide critical business services to the Commonwealth have planned for such an emergency and put contingencies in place to provide needed goods and services.

1. Describe how you anticipate such a crisis will impact your operations.

2. Describe your emergency response continuity of operations plan. Please attach a copy of your plan, or at a minimum, summarize how your plan addresses the following aspects of pandemic preparedness:
  - a) Employee training (describe your organization's training plan, and how frequently your plan will be shared with employees)
  - b) Identified essential business functions and key employees (within your organization) necessary to carry them out
  - c) Contingency plans for:
    - i.) How your organization will handle staffing issues when a portion of key employees are incapacitated due to illness.
    - ii.) How employees in your organization will carry out the essential functions if contagion control measures prevent them from coming to the primary workplace.
  - d) How your organization will communicate with staff and suppliers when primary communications systems are overloaded or otherwise fail, including key contacts, chain of communications (including suppliers), etc.
  - e) How and when your emergency plan will be tested, and if the plan will be tested by a third-party.

#### **IV-4. Tasks.**

All tasks and reports are to be made available in an electronic format acceptable and compatible with PENNVEST's information system as defined in Part I of this RFP. The offeror shall be responsible for the following:

- A. Advise on the current use and future use of Commercial Paper for the State fund, Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund's operational cash flow coverage.
- B. Continue with a plan for leveraging the federal State Revolving Funds that is in process. The plan and any documents currently in process will continue and the successful Offeror must be able to continue this plan.
- C. Cash flow model support and maintenance including updated methods, information integration, and changes in the market that may require additional input and advice.

- D. Loan Guarantee program using state funds and federal State Revolving Funds within one (1) year of the notice to proceed. The plan and any documents must comply with state and federal regulations and must be an approved leveraging method.

### **IV-3. Reports and Project Control.**

- A. **Task Plan.** A work plan for each task that identifies the work elements of each task, the resources assigned to the task, and the time allotted to each element and the deliverable items to be produced. Where appropriate, a PERT or GANTT chart display should be used to show project, task, and time relationship.
- B. **Status Report.** A six (6) month progress report covering activities, problems and recommendations. This report should be keyed to the work plan the Offeror developed in its proposal, as amended or approved by the Issuing Office.
- C. **Problem Identification Report.** An “as required” report, identifying problem areas. The report should describe the problem and its impact on the overall project and on each affected task. It should list possible courses of action with advantages and disadvantages of each, and include Offeror recommendations with supporting rationale.
- D. **Annual Final Report.** An annual report will be submitted at the end of the state fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). This fiscal year end report will be submitted 45 days after the end of the end of the prior fiscal year to the Issuing Office. The Annual Final Report will detail the following:
- Abstract or summarize the result of the study or service in terminology that will be meaningful to management and others generally familiar with the subject areas.
  - Describe data collection and analytical and other techniques used during the study.
  - Summarize findings, conclusions and recommendations developed in each task.
  - Include all supporting documentation; e.g., flow-charts, forms, questionnaires, etc.
  - Recommend a time-phased work plan for implementing the recommendations, if appropriate.

### **IV-4. Contract Requirements—Small Diverse Business Participation.**

All contracts containing Small Diverse Business participation must also include a provision requiring the selected contractor to meet and maintain those commitments made to Small Diverse Businesses at the time of proposal submittal or contract negotiation, unless a change in the commitment is approved by the BSBO. All contracts containing Small Diverse Business participation must include a provision requiring Small Diverse Business subcontractors to perform at least **50%** of the subcontracted work.

The selected contractor's commitments to Small Diverse Businesses made at the time of proposal submittal or contract negotiation shall, to the extent so provided in the commitment, be maintained throughout the term of the contract and through any renewal or extension of the contract. Any proposed change must be submitted to BSBO, which will make a recommendation to the Contracting Officer regarding a course of action.

If a contract is assigned to another contractor, the new contractor must maintain the Small Diverse Business participation of the original contract.

The selected contractor shall complete the Prime Contractor's Quarterly Utilization Report (or similar type document containing the same information) and submit it to the contracting officer of the Issuing Office and BSBO within **10** workdays at the end of each quarter the contract is in force. This information will be used to determine the actual dollar amount paid to Small Diverse Business subcontractors and suppliers. Also, this information will serve as a record of fulfillment of the commitment the selected contractor made and for which it received Small Diverse Business participation points. If there was no activity during the quarter then the form must be completed by stating "No activity in this quarter."

**NOTE: EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND CONTRACT COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS REFERRING TO COMPANY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICIES OR PAST CONTRACT COMPLIANCE PRACTICES DO NOT CONSTITUTE PROOF OF SMALL DIVERSE BUSINESS STATUS OR ENTITLE AN OFFEROR TO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR SMALL DIVERSE BUSINESS UTILIZATION.**

**STANDARD CONTRACT  
TERMS AND CONDITIONS – PAPER CONTRACT**

**1. TERM OF CONTRACT**

The term of the Contract shall commence on the Effective Date (as defined below) and shall end on the Expiration Date identified in the Contract, subject to the other provisions of the Contract. The Effective Date shall be fixed by the Contracting Officer after the Contract has been fully executed by the Contractor and by the Commonwealth and all approvals required by Commonwealth contracting procedures have been obtained. The Contract shall not be a legally binding contract until after the Effective Date is affixed and the fully-executed Contract has been sent to the Contractor. The Contracting Officer shall issue a written Notice to Proceed to the Contractor directing the Contractor to start performance on a date which is on or after the Effective Date. The Contractor shall not start the performance of any work prior to the date set forth in the Notice to Proceed and the Commonwealth shall not be liable to pay the Contractor for any service or work performed or expenses incurred before the date set forth in the Notice to Proceed. No agency employee has the authority to verbally direct the commencement of any work under this Contract.

**2. EXTENSION OF CONTRACT TERM**

The Commonwealth reserves the right, upon notice to the Contractor, to extend the term of the Contract for up to three (3) months upon the same terms and conditions.

**3. DEFINITIONS**

As used in this Contract, these words shall have the following meanings:

- a. Agency: The department, board, commission or other agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania listed as the Purchasing Agency. If a COSTARS entity or external procurement activity has issued an order against this contract, that entity shall also be identified as "Agency".
- b. Contracting Officer: The person authorized to administer this Contract for the Commonwealth and to make written determinations with respect to the Contract.
- c. Days: Unless specifically indicated otherwise, days mean calendar days.
- d. Developed Works or Developed Materials: All documents, sketches, drawings, designs, works, papers, files, reports, computer programs, computer documentation, data, records, software, samples or any other tangible material without limitation authored or prepared by Contractor as the work product covered in the scope of work for the Project.

- e. Documentation: All materials required to support and convey information about the services required by this Contract. It includes, but is not necessarily restricted to, written reports and analyses, diagrams, maps, logical and physical designs, system designs, computer programs, flow charts, disks, and/or other machine-readable storage media.
- f. Services: All Contractor activity necessary to satisfy the Contract.

#### **4. INDEPENDENT PRIME CONTRACTOR**

In performing its obligations under the Contract, the Contractor will act as an independent contractor and not as an employee or agent of the Commonwealth. The Contractor will be responsible for all services in this Contract whether or not Contractor provides them directly. Further, the Contractor is the sole point of contact with regard to all contractual matters, including payment of any and all charges resulting from the Contract.

#### **5. DELIVERY**

- a. **Supplies Delivery:** All item(s) shall be delivered F.O.B. Destination. The Contractor agrees to bear the risk of loss, injury, or destruction of the item(s) ordered prior to receipt of the items by the Commonwealth. Such loss, injury, or destruction shall not release the Contractor from any contractual obligations. Except as otherwise provided in this contract, all item(s) must be delivered within the time period specified. Time is of the essence and, in addition to any other remedies, the Contract is subject to termination for failure to deliver as specified. Unless otherwise stated in this Contract, delivery must be made within thirty (30) days after the Effective Date.
- b. **Delivery of Services:** The Contractor shall proceed with all due diligence in the performance of the services with qualified personnel, in accordance with the completion criteria set forth in the Contract.

#### **6. ESTIMATED QUANTITIES**

It shall be understood and agreed that any quantities listed in the Contract are estimated only and may be increased or decreased in accordance with the actual requirements of the Commonwealth and that the Commonwealth in accepting any bid or portion thereof, contracts only and agrees to purchase only the materials and services in such quantities as represent the actual requirements of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth reserves the right to purchase materials and services covered under the Contract through a separate competitive procurement procedure, whenever Commonwealth deems it to be in its best interest.

#### **7. WARRANTY**

The Contractor warrants that all items furnished and all services performed by the Contractor, its agents and subcontractors shall be free and clear of any defects in

workmanship or materials. Unless otherwise stated in the Contract, all items are warranted for a period of one year following delivery by the Contractor and acceptance by the Commonwealth. The Contractor shall repair, replace or otherwise correct any problem with the delivered item. When an item is replaced, it shall be replaced with an item of equivalent or superior quality without any additional cost to the Commonwealth.

## **8. PATENT, COPYRIGHT, AND TRADEMARK INDEMNITY**

The Contractor warrants that it is the sole owner or author of, or has entered into a suitable legal agreement concerning either: a) the design of any product or process provided or used in the performance of the Contract which is covered by a patent, copyright, or trademark registration or other right duly authorized by state or federal law or b) any copyrighted matter in any report document or other material provided to the commonwealth under the contract. The Contractor shall defend any suit or proceeding brought against the Commonwealth on account of any alleged patent, copyright or trademark infringement in the United States of any of the products provided or used in the performance of the Contract. This is upon condition that the Commonwealth shall provide prompt notification in writing of such suit or proceeding; full right, authorization and opportunity to conduct the defense thereof; and full information and all reasonable cooperation for the defense of same. As principles of governmental or public law are involved, the Commonwealth may participate in or choose to conduct, in its sole discretion, the defense of any such action. If information and assistance are furnished by the Commonwealth at the Contractor's written request, it shall be at the Contractor's expense, but the responsibility for such expense shall be only that within the Contractor's written authorization. The Contractor shall indemnify and hold the Commonwealth harmless from all damages, costs, and expenses, including attorney's fees that the Contractor or the Commonwealth may pay or incur by reason of any infringement or violation of the rights occurring to any holder of copyright, trademark, or patent interests and rights in any products provided or used in the performance of the Contract. If any of the products provided by the Contractor in such suit or proceeding are held to constitute infringement and the use is enjoined, the Contractor shall, at its own expense and at its option, either procure the right to continue use of such infringement products, replace them with non-infringement equal performance products or modify them so that they are no longer infringing. If the Contractor is unable to do any of the preceding, the Contractor agrees to remove all the equipment or software which are obtained contemporaneously with the infringing product, or, at the option of the Commonwealth, only those items of equipment or software which are held to be infringing, and to pay the Commonwealth: 1) any amounts paid by the Commonwealth towards the purchase of the product, less straight line depreciation; 2) any license fee paid by the Commonwealth for the use of any software, less an amount for the period of usage; and 3) the pro rata portion of any maintenance fee representing the time remaining in any period of maintenance paid for. The obligations of the Contractor under this paragraph continue without time limit. No costs or expenses shall be incurred for the account of the Contractor without its written consent.

## **9. OWNERSHIP RIGHTS**

The Commonwealth shall have unrestricted authority to reproduce, distribute, and use any submitted report, data, or material, and any software or modifications and any associated documentation that is designed or developed and delivered to the Commonwealth as part of the performance of the Contract.

#### **10. ACCEPTANCE**

No item(s) received by the Commonwealth shall be deemed accepted until the Commonwealth has had a reasonable opportunity to inspect the item(s). Any item(s) which is discovered to be defective or fails to conform to the specifications may be rejected upon initial inspection or at any later time if the defects contained in the item(s) or the noncompliance with the specifications were not reasonably ascertainable upon the initial inspection. It shall thereupon become the duty of the Contractor to remove rejected item(s) from the premises without expense to the Commonwealth within fifteen (15) days after notification. Rejected item(s) left longer than fifteen (15) days will be regarded as abandoned, and the Commonwealth shall have the right to dispose of them as its own property and shall retain that portion of the proceeds of any sale which represents the Commonwealth's costs and expenses in regard to the storage and sale of the item(s). Upon notice of rejection, the Contractor shall immediately replace all such rejected item(s) with others conforming to the specifications and which are not defective. If the Contractor fails, neglects or refuses to do so, the Commonwealth shall then have the right to procure a corresponding quantity of such item(s), and deduct from any monies due or that may thereafter become due to the Contractor, the difference between the price stated in the Contract and the cost thereof to the Commonwealth.

#### **11. PRODUCT CONFORMANCE**

The Commonwealth reserves the right to require any and all Contractors to:

- a. Provide certified data from laboratory testing performed by the Contractor, or performed by an independent laboratory, as specified by the Commonwealth.
- b. Supply published manufacturer product documentation.
- c. Permit a Commonwealth representative to witness testing at the Contractor's location or at an independent laboratory.
- d. Complete a survey/questionnaire relating to the bid requirements and specifications.
- e. Provide customer references.
- f. Provide a product demonstration at a location near Harrisburg or the using agency location.

#### **12. REJECTED MATERIAL NOT CONSIDERED ABANDONED**

The Commonwealth shall have the right to not regard any rejected material as abandoned and to demand that the Contractor remove the rejected material from the premises within thirty (30) days of notification. The Contractor shall be responsible for removal of the rejected material as well as proper clean-up. If the Contractor fails or refuses to remove the rejected material as demanded by the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth may seek payment from, or set-off from any payments due to the Contractor under this or any other Contract with the Commonwealth, the costs of removal and clean-up. This is in addition to all other rights to recover costs incurred by the Commonwealth.

### **13. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW**

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations and local ordinances in the performance of the Contract.

### **14. ENVIRONMENTAL PROVISIONS**

In the performance of the Contract, the Contractor shall minimize pollution and shall strictly comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Clean Streams Law Act of June 22, 1937 (P.L. 1987, No. 394), as amended 35 P.S. § 691.601 et seq.; the Pennsylvania Solid Waste Management Act, Act of July 7, 1980 (P.L. 380, No. 97), as amended, 35 P.S. § 6018.101 et seq.; and the Dam Safety and Encroachment Act, Act of November 26, 1978 (P.L. 1375, No. 325), as amended, 32 P.S. § 693.1.

### **15. POST-CONSUMER RECYCLED CONTENT**

- a. Except as specifically waived by the Department of General Services in writing, any products which are provided to the Commonwealth as a part of the performance of the Contract must meet the minimum percentage levels for total recycled content as specified on the Department of General Services website at [www.dgs.state.pa.us](http://www.dgs.state.pa.us) on the date of submission of the bid, proposal or contract offer.
- b. **Recycled Content Enforcement:** The Contractor may be required, after delivery of the Contract item(s), to provide the Commonwealth with documentary evidence that the item(s) was in fact produced with the required minimum percentage of post-consumer and recovered material content.

### **16. COMPENSATION**

- a. **Compensation for Supplies:** The Contractor shall be required to furnish the awarded item(s) at the price(s) quoted in the Contract. All item(s) shall be delivered within the time period(s) specified in the Contract. The Contractor shall be compensated only for item(s) that are delivered and accepted by the Commonwealth.
- b. **Compensation for Services:** The Contractor shall be required to perform the specified services at the price(s) quoted in the Contract. All services shall be

performed within the time period(s) specified in the Contract. The Contractor shall be compensated only for work performed to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth. The Contractor shall not be allowed or paid travel or per diem expenses except as specifically set forth in the Contract.

## **17. BILLING REQUIREMENTS**

Unless the Contractor has been authorized by the Commonwealth for Evaluated Receipt Settlement or Vendor Self-Invoicing, the Contractor shall include in all of its invoices the following minimum information:

- a. Vendor name and "Remit to" address, including SAP Vendor number;
- b. Bank routing information, if ACH;
- c. SAP Purchase Order number;
- d. Delivery Address, including name of Commonwealth agency;
- e. Description of the supplies/services delivered in accordance with SAP Purchase Order (include purchase order line number if possible);
- f. Quantity provided;
- g. Unit price;
- h. Price extension;
- i. Total price; and
- j. Delivery date of supplies or services.

If an invoice does not contain the minimum information set forth in this paragraph, the Commonwealth may return the invoice as improper. If the Commonwealth returns an invoice as improper, the time for processing a payment will be suspended until the Commonwealth receives a correct invoice. The Contractor may not receive payment until the Commonwealth has received a correct invoice.

Contractors are required to establish separate billing accounts with each using agency and invoice them directly. Each invoice shall be itemized with adequate detail and match the line item on the Purchase Order. In no instance shall any payment be made for services to the Contractor that are not in accordance with the prices on the Purchase Order, the Contract, updated price lists or any discounts negotiated by the purchasing agency.

## **18. PAYMENT**

- a. The Commonwealth shall put forth reasonable efforts to make payment by the required payment date. The required payment date is: (a) the date on which

payment is due under the terms of the Contract; (b) thirty (30) days after a proper invoice actually is received at the “Bill To” address if a date on which payment is due is not specified in the Contract (a “proper” invoice is not received until the Commonwealth accepts the service as satisfactorily performed); or (c) the payment date specified on the invoice if later than the dates established by (a) and (b) above. Payment may be delayed if the payment amount on an invoice is not based upon the price(s) as stated in the Contract. If any payment is not made within fifteen (15) days after the required payment date, the Commonwealth may pay interest as determined by the Secretary of Budget in accordance with Act No. 266 of 1982 and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. Payment should not be construed by the Contractor as acceptance of the service performed by the Contractor. The Commonwealth reserves the right to conduct further testing and inspection after payment, but within a reasonable time after performance, and to reject the service if such post payment testing or inspection discloses a defect or a failure to meet specifications. The Contractor agrees that the Commonwealth may set off the amount of any state tax liability or other obligation of the Contractor or its subsidiaries to the Commonwealth against any payments due the Contractor under any contract with the Commonwealth.

- b. The Commonwealth shall have the option of using the Commonwealth purchasing card to make purchases under the Contract or Purchase Order. The Commonwealth’s purchasing card is similar to a credit card in that there will be a small fee which the Contractor will be required to pay and the Contractor will receive payment directly from the card issuer rather than the Commonwealth. Any and all fees related to this type of payment are the responsibility of the Contractor. In no case will the Commonwealth allow increases in prices to offset credit card fees paid by the Contractor or any other charges incurred by the Contractor, unless specifically stated in the terms of the Contract or Purchase Order.
- c. The Commonwealth will make contract payments through Automated Clearing House (ACH).
  - 1) Within 10 days of award of the contract or purchase order, the contractor must submit or must have already submitted their ACH information within their user profile in the Commonwealth’s procurement system (SRM).
  - 2) The contractor must submit a unique invoice number with each invoice submitted. The unique invoice number will be listed on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s ACH remittance advice to enable the contractor to properly apply the state agency’s payment to the invoice submitted.
  - 3) It is the responsibility of the contractor to ensure that the ACH information contained in SRM is accurate and complete. Failure to maintain accurate and complete information may result in delays in payments.

## **19. TAXES**

The Commonwealth is exempt from all excise taxes imposed by the Internal Revenue Service and has accordingly registered with the Internal Revenue Service to make tax free purchases under Registration No. 23740001-K. With the exception of purchases of the following items, no exemption certificates are required and none will be issued: undyed diesel fuel, tires, trucks, gas guzzler emergency vehicles, and sports fishing equipment. The Commonwealth is also exempt from Pennsylvania state sales tax, local sales tax, public transportation assistance taxes and fees and vehicle rental tax. The Department of Revenue regulations provide that exemption certificates are not required for sales made to governmental entities and none will be issued. Nothing in this paragraph is meant to exempt a construction contractor from the payment of any of these taxes or fees which are required to be paid with respect to the purchase, use, rental, or lease of tangible personal property or taxable services used or transferred in connection with the performance of a construction contract.

## **20. ASSIGNMENT OF ANTITRUST CLAIMS**

The Contractor and the Commonwealth recognize that in actual economic practice, overcharges by the Contractor's suppliers resulting from violations of state or federal antitrust laws are in fact borne by the Commonwealth. As part of the consideration for the award of the Contract, and intending to be legally bound, the Contractor assigns to the Commonwealth all right, title and interest in and to any claims the Contractor now has, or may acquire, under state or federal antitrust laws relating to the products and services which are the subject of this Contract.

## **21. COMMONWEALTH HELD HARMLESS**

- a. The Contractor shall hold the Commonwealth harmless from and indemnify the Commonwealth against any and all third party claims, demands and actions based upon or arising out of any activities performed by the Contractor and its employees and agents under this Contract, provided the Commonwealth gives Contractor prompt notice of any such claim of which it learns. Pursuant to the Commonwealth Attorneys Act (71 P.S. Section 732-101, et seq.), the Office of Attorney General (OAG) has the sole authority to represent the Commonwealth in actions brought against the Commonwealth. The OAG may, however, in its sole discretion and under such terms as it deems appropriate, delegate its right of defense. If OAG delegates the defense to the Contractor, the Commonwealth will cooperate with all reasonable requests of Contractor made in the defense of such suits.
- b. Notwithstanding the above, neither party shall enter into any settlement without the other party's written consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. The Commonwealth may, in its sole discretion, allow the Contractor to control the defense and any related settlement negotiations.

## **22. AUDIT PROVISIONS**

The Commonwealth shall have the right, at reasonable times and at a site designated by the Commonwealth, to audit the books, documents and records of the Contractor to the

extent that the books, documents and records relate to costs or pricing data for the Contract. The Contractor agrees to maintain records which will support the prices charged and costs incurred for the Contract. The Contractor shall preserve books, documents, and records that relate to costs or pricing data for the Contract for a period of three (3) years from date of final payment. The Contractor shall give full and free access to all records to the Commonwealth and/or their authorized representatives.

### **23. DEFAULT**

- a. The Commonwealth may, subject to the Force Majeure provisions of this Contract, and in addition to its other rights under the Contract, declare the Contractor in default by written notice thereof to the Contractor, and terminate (as provided in the Termination Provisions of this Contract) the whole or any part of this Contract or any Purchase Order for any of the following reasons:
  - 1) Failure to begin work within the time specified in the Contract or Purchase Order or as otherwise specified;
  - 2) Failure to perform the work with sufficient labor, equipment, or material to insure the completion of the specified work in accordance with the Contract or Purchase Order terms;
  - 3) Unsatisfactory performance of the work;
  - 4) Failure to deliver the awarded item(s) within the time specified in the Contract or Purchase Order or as otherwise specified;
  - 5) Improper delivery;
  - 6) Failure to provide an item(s) which is in conformance with the specifications referenced in the Contract or Purchase Order;
  - 7) Delivery of a defective item;
  - 8) Failure or refusal to remove material, or remove and replace any work rejected as defective or unsatisfactory;
  - 9) Discontinuance of work without approval;
  - 10) Failure to resume work, which has been discontinued, within a reasonable time after notice to do so;
  - 11) Insolvency or bankruptcy;
  - 12) Assignment made for the benefit of creditors;
  - 13) Failure or refusal within 10 days after written notice by the Contracting Officer, to make payment or show cause why payment should not be

made, of any amounts due for materials furnished, labor supplied or performed, for equipment rentals, or for utility services rendered;

- 14) Failure to protect, to repair, or to make good any damage or injury to property;
  - 15) Breach of any provision of the Contract;
  - 16) Failure to comply with representations made in the Contractor's bid/proposal; or
  - 17) Failure to comply with applicable industry standards, customs, and practice.
- b. In the event that the Commonwealth terminates this Contract or any Purchase Order in whole or in part as provided in Subparagraph a. above, the Commonwealth may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as it determines, items similar or identical to those so terminated, and the Contractor shall be liable to the Commonwealth for any reasonable excess costs for such similar or identical items included within the terminated part of the Contract or Purchase Order.
- c. If the Contract or a Purchase Order is terminated as provided in Subparagraph a. above, the Commonwealth, in addition to any other rights provided in this paragraph, may require the Contractor to transfer title and deliver immediately to the Commonwealth in the manner and to the extent directed by the Contracting Officer, such partially completed items, including, where applicable, reports, working papers and other documentation, as the Contractor has specifically produced or specifically acquired for the performance of such part of the Contract or Purchase Order as has been terminated. Except as provided below, payment for completed work accepted by the Commonwealth shall be at the Contract price. Except as provided below, payment for partially completed items including, where applicable, reports and working papers, delivered to and accepted by the Commonwealth shall be in an amount agreed upon by the Contractor and Contracting Officer. The Commonwealth may withhold from amounts otherwise due the Contractor for such completed or partially completed works, such sum as the Contracting Officer determines to be necessary to protect the Commonwealth against loss.
- d. The rights and remedies of the Commonwealth provided in this paragraph shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Contract.
- e. The Commonwealth's failure to exercise any rights or remedies provided in this paragraph shall not be construed to be a waiver by the Commonwealth of its rights and remedies in regard to the event of default or any succeeding event of default.

- f. Following exhaustion of the Contractor's administrative remedies as set forth in the Contract Controversies Provision of the Contract, the Contractor's exclusive remedy shall be to seek damages in the Board of Claims.

## **24. FORCE MAJEURE**

Neither party will incur any liability to the other if its performance of any obligation under this Contract is prevented or delayed by causes beyond its control and without the fault or negligence of either party. Causes beyond a party's control may include, but aren't limited to, acts of God or war, changes in controlling law, regulations, orders or the requirements of any governmental entity, severe weather conditions, civil disorders, natural disasters, fire, epidemics and quarantines, general strikes throughout the trade, and freight embargoes.

The Contractor shall notify the Commonwealth orally within five (5) days and in writing within ten (10) days of the date on which the Contractor becomes aware, or should have reasonably become aware, that such cause would prevent or delay its performance. Such notification shall (i) describe fully such cause(s) and its effect on performance, (ii) state whether performance under the contract is prevented or delayed and (iii) if performance is delayed, state a reasonable estimate of the duration of the delay. The Contractor shall have the burden of proving that such cause(s) delayed or prevented its performance despite its diligent efforts to perform and shall produce such supporting documentation as the Commonwealth may reasonably request. After receipt of such notification, the Commonwealth may elect to cancel the Contract, cancel the Purchase Order, or to extend the time for performance as reasonably necessary to compensate for the Contractor's delay.

In the event of a declared emergency by competent governmental authorities, the Commonwealth by notice to the Contractor, may suspend all or a portion of the Contract or Purchase Order.

## **25. TERMINATION PROVISIONS**

The Commonwealth has the right to terminate this Contract or any Purchase Order for any of the following reasons. Termination shall be effective upon written notice to the Contractor.

- a. **TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE:** The Commonwealth shall have the right to terminate the Contract or a Purchase Order for its convenience if the Commonwealth determines termination to be in its best interest. The Contractor shall be paid for work satisfactorily completed prior to the effective date of the termination, but in no event shall the Contractor be entitled to recover loss of profits.
- b. **NON-APPROPRIATION:** The Commonwealth's obligation to make payments during any Commonwealth fiscal year succeeding the current fiscal year shall be subject to availability and appropriation of funds. When funds (state and/or federal) are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation

of performance in a subsequent fiscal year period, the Commonwealth shall have the right to terminate the Contract or a Purchase Order. The Contractor shall be reimbursed for the reasonable value of any nonrecurring costs incurred but not amortized in the price of the supplies or services delivered under the Contract. Such reimbursement shall not include loss of profit, loss of use of money, or administrative or overhead costs. The reimbursement amount may be paid from any appropriations available for that purpose

- c. **TERMINATION FOR CAUSE:** The Commonwealth shall have the right to terminate the Contract or a Purchase Order for Contractor default under the Default Clause upon written notice to the Contractor. The Commonwealth shall also have the right, upon written notice to the Contractor, to terminate the Contract or a Purchase Order for other cause as specified in the Contract or by law. If it is later determined that the Commonwealth erred in terminating the Contract or a Purchase Order for cause, then, at the Commonwealth's discretion, the Contract or Purchase Order shall be deemed to have been terminated for convenience under Subparagraph a.

## **26. CONTRACT CONTROVERSIES**

- a. In the event of a controversy or claim arising from the Contract, the Contractor must, within six months after the cause of action accrues, file a written claim with the contracting officer for a determination. The claim shall state all grounds upon which the Contractor asserts a controversy exists. If the Contractor fails to file a claim or files an untimely claim, the Contractor is deemed to have waived its right to assert a claim in any forum. At the time the claim is filed, or within sixty (60) days thereafter, either party may request mediation through the Commonwealth Office of General Counsel Dispute Resolution Program.
- b. If the Contractor or the contracting officer requests mediation and the other party agrees, the contracting officer shall promptly make arrangements for mediation. Mediation shall be scheduled so as to not delay the issuance of the final determination beyond the required 120 days after receipt of the claim if mediation is unsuccessful. If mediation is not agreed to or if resolution is not reached through mediation, the contracting officer shall review timely-filed claims and issue a final determination, in writing, regarding the claim. The final determination shall be issued within 120 days of the receipt of the claim, unless extended by consent of the contracting officer and the Contractor. The contracting officer shall send his/her written determination to the Contractor. If the contracting officer fails to issue a final determination within the 120 days (unless extended by consent of the parties), the claim shall be deemed denied. The contracting officer's determination shall be the final order of the purchasing agency.
- c. Within fifteen (15) days of the mailing date of the determination denying a claim or within 135 days of filing a claim if, no extension is agreed to by the parties, whichever occurs first, the Contractor may file a statement of claim with the Commonwealth Board of Claims. Pending a final judicial resolution of a

controversy or claim, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the Contract in a manner consistent with the determination of the contracting officer and the Commonwealth shall compensate the Contractor pursuant to the terms of the Contract.

## **27. ASSIGNABILITY AND SUBCONTRACTING**

- a. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Paragraph, this Contract shall be binding upon the parties and their respective successors and assigns.
- b. The Contractor shall not subcontract with any person or entity to perform all or any part of the work to be performed under this Contract without the prior written consent of the Contracting Officer, which consent may be withheld at the sole and absolute discretion of the Contracting Officer.
- c. The Contractor may not assign, in whole or in part, this Contract or its rights, duties, obligations, or responsibilities hereunder without the prior written consent of the Contracting Officer, which consent may be withheld at the sole and absolute discretion of the Contracting Officer.
- d. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Contractor may, without the consent of the Contracting Officer, assign its rights to payment to be received under the Contract, provided that the Contractor provides written notice of such assignment to the Contracting Officer together with a written acknowledgement from the assignee that any such payments are subject to all of the terms and conditions of this Contract.
- e. For the purposes of this Contract, the term “assign” shall include, but shall not be limited to, the sale, gift, assignment, pledge, or other transfer of any ownership interest in the Contractor provided, however, that the term shall not apply to the sale or other transfer of stock of a publicly traded company.
- f. Any assignment consented to by the Contracting Officer shall be evidenced by a written assignment agreement executed by the Contractor and its assignee in which the assignee agrees to be legally bound by all of the terms and conditions of the Contract and to assume the duties, obligations, and responsibilities being assigned.
- g. A change of name by the Contractor, following which the Contractor’s federal identification number remains unchanged, shall not be considered to be an assignment hereunder. The Contractor shall give the Contracting Officer written notice of any such change of name.

## **28. OTHER CONTRACTORS**

The Commonwealth may undertake or award other contracts for additional or related work, and the Contractor shall fully cooperate with other contractors and Commonwealth employees, and coordinate its work with such additional work as may be required. The

Contractor shall not commit or permit any act that will interfere with the performance of work by any other contractor or by Commonwealth employees. This paragraph shall be included in the Contracts of all contractors with which this Contractor will be required to cooperate. The Commonwealth shall equitably enforce this paragraph as to all contractors to prevent the imposition of unreasonable burdens on any contractor.

## **29. NONDISCRIMINATION/SEXUAL HARASSMENT CLAUSE**

The Contractor agrees:

- a. In the hiring of any employee(s) for the manufacture of supplies, performance of work, or any other activity required under the contract or any subcontract, the Contractor, each subcontractor, or any person acting on behalf of the Contractor or subcontractor shall not, by reason of gender, race, creed, or color, discriminate against any citizen of this Commonwealth who is qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates.
- b. Neither the Contractor nor any subcontractor nor any person on their behalf shall in any manner discriminate against or intimidate any employee involved in the manufacture of supplies, the performance of work, or any other activity required under the contract on account of gender, race, creed, or color.
- c. The Contractor and each subcontractor shall establish and maintain a written sexual harassment policy and shall inform their employees of the policy. The policy must contain a notice that sexual harassment will not be tolerated and employees who practice it will be disciplined.
- d. The Contractor and each subcontractor shall not discriminate by reason of gender, race, creed, or color against any subcontractor or supplier who is qualified to perform the work to which the contract relates.
- e. The Contractor and each subcontractor shall, within the time periods requested by the Commonwealth, furnish all necessary employment documents and records and permit access to their books, records, and accounts by the contracting agency and the Bureau of Small Business Opportunities (BSBO), for purpose of ascertaining compliance with provisions of this Nondiscrimination/Sexual Harassment Clause. Within fifteen (15) days after award of any contract, the Contractor shall be required to complete, sign and submit Form STD-21, the "Initial Contract Compliance Data" form. If the contract is a construction contract, then the Contractor shall be required to complete, sign and submit Form STD-28, the "Monthly Contract Compliance Report for Construction Contractors", each month no later than the 15th of the month following the reporting period beginning with the initial job conference and continuing through the completion of the project. Those contractors who have fewer than five employees or whose employees are all from the same family or who have completed the Form STD-21 within the past 12 months may, within the 15 days, request an exemption from the Form STD-21 submission requirement from the contracting agency.

- f. The Contractor shall include the provisions of this Nondiscrimination/Sexual Harassment Clause in every subcontract so that those provisions applicable to subcontractors will be binding upon each subcontractor.
- g. The Commonwealth may cancel or terminate the contract and all money due or to become due under the contract may be forfeited for a violation of the terms and conditions of this Nondiscrimination/Sexual Harassment Clause. In addition, the agency may proceed with debarment or suspension and may place the Contractor in the Contractor Responsibility File.

### **30. CONTRACTOR INTEGRITY PROVISIONS**

It is essential that those who seek to contract with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (“Commonwealth”) observe high standards of honesty and integrity. They must conduct themselves in a manner that fosters public confidence in the integrity of the Commonwealth procurement process.

In furtherance of this policy, Contractor agrees to the following:

- a. Contractor shall maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity during the performance of this contract and shall take no action in violation of state or federal laws or regulations or any other applicable laws or regulations, or other requirements applicable to Contractor or that govern contracting with the Commonwealth.
- b. Contractor shall establish and implement a written business integrity policy, which includes, at a minimum, the requirements of these provisions as they relate to Contractor employee activity with the Commonwealth and Commonwealth employees, and which is distributed and made known to all Contractor employees.
- c. Contractor, its affiliates, agents and employees shall not influence, or attempt to influence, any Commonwealth employee to breach the standards of ethical conduct for Commonwealth employees set forth in the *Public Official and Employees Ethics Act, 65 Pa.C.S. §§1101 et seq.*; the *State Adverse Interest Act, 71 P.S. §776.1 et seq.*; and the [\*Governor’s Code of Conduct, Executive Order 1980-18, 4 Pa. Code §7.151 et seq.\*](#), or to breach any other state or federal law or regulation.
- d. Contractor, its affiliates, agents and employees shall not offer, give, or agree or promise to give any gratuity to a Commonwealth official or employee or to any other person at the direction or request of any Commonwealth official or employee.
- e. Contractor, its affiliates, agents and employees shall not offer, give, or agree or promise to give any gratuity to a Commonwealth official or employee or to any other person, the acceptance of which would violate the [\*Governor’s Code of Conduct, Executive Order 1980-18, 4 Pa. Code §7.151 et seq.\*](#) or any statute,

regulation, statement of policy, management directive or any other published standard of the Commonwealth.

- f. Contractor, its affiliates, agents and employees shall not, directly or indirectly, offer, confer, or agree to confer any pecuniary benefit on anyone as consideration for the decision, opinion, recommendation, vote, other exercise of discretion, or violation of a known legal duty by any Commonwealth official or employee.
- g. Contractor, its affiliates, agents, employees, or anyone in privity with him or her shall not accept or agree to accept from any person, any gratuity in connection with the performance of work under the contract, except as provided in the contract.
- h. Contractor shall not have a financial interest in any other contractor, subcontractor, or supplier providing services, labor, or material on this project, unless the financial interest is disclosed to the Commonwealth in writing and the Commonwealth consents to Contractor's financial interest prior to Commonwealth execution of the contract. Contractor shall disclose the financial interest to the Commonwealth at the time of bid or proposal submission, or if no bids or proposals are solicited, no later than Contractor's submission of the contract signed by Contractor.
- i. Contractor, its affiliates, agents and employees shall not disclose to others any information, documents, reports, data, or records provided to, or prepared by, Contractor under this contract without the prior written approval of the Commonwealth, except as required by the *Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law, 65 P.S. §§ 67.101-3104*, or other applicable law or as otherwise provided in this contract. Any information, documents, reports, data, or records secured by Contractor from the Commonwealth or a third party in connection with the performance of this contract shall be kept confidential unless disclosure of such information is:
  - 1) Approved in writing by the Commonwealth prior to its disclosure; or
  - 2) Directed by a court or other tribunal of competent jurisdiction unless the contract requires prior Commonwealth approval; or
  - 3) Required for compliance with federal or state securities laws or the requirements of national securities exchanges; or
  - 4) Necessary for purposes of Contractor's internal assessment and review; or
  - 5) Deemed necessary by Contractor in any action to enforce the provisions of this contract or to defend or prosecute claims by or against parties other than the Commonwealth; or
  - 6) Permitted by the valid authorization of a third party to whom the information, documents, reports, data, or records pertain: or

- 7) Otherwise required by law.
- j. Contractor certifies that neither it nor any of its officers, directors, associates, partners, limited partners or individual owners has been officially notified of, charged with, or convicted of any of the following and agrees to immediately notify the Commonwealth agency contracting officer in writing if and when it or any officer, director, associate, partner, limited partner or individual owner has been officially notified of, charged with, convicted of, or officially notified of a governmental determination of any of the following:
- 1) Commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements or receiving stolen property.
  - 2) Commission of fraud or a criminal offense or other improper conduct or knowledge of, approval of or acquiescence in such activities by Contractor or any affiliate, officer, director, associate, partner, limited partner, individual owner, or employee or other individual or entity associated with:
    - a) obtaining;
    - b) attempting to obtain; or
    - c) performing a public contract or subcontract.

Contractor's acceptance of the benefits derived from the conduct shall be deemed evidence of such knowledge, approval or acquiescence.

- 3) Violation of federal or state antitrust statutes.
- 4) Violation of any federal or state law regulating campaign contributions.
- 5) Violation of any federal or state environmental law.
- 6) Violation of any federal or state law regulating hours of labor, minimum wage standards or prevailing wage standards; discrimination in wages; or child labor violations.
- 7) Violation of the *Act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No. 338)*, known as the *Workers' Compensation Act, 77 P.S. 1 et seq.*
- 8) Violation of any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination in employment.
- 9) Debarment by any agency or department of the federal government or by any other state.

- 10) Any other crime involving moral turpitude or business honesty or integrity.

Contractor acknowledges that the Commonwealth may, in its sole discretion, terminate the contract for cause upon such notification or when the Commonwealth otherwise learns that Contractor has been officially notified, charged, or convicted.

- k. If this contract was awarded to Contractor on a non-bid basis, Contractor must, (as required by *Section 1641* of the *Pennsylvania Election Code*) file a report of political contributions with the Secretary of the Commonwealth on or before February 15 of the next calendar year. The report must include an itemized list of all political contributions known to Contractor by virtue of the knowledge possessed by every officer, director, associate, partner, limited partner, or individual owner that has been made by:
  - 1) Any officer, director, associate, partner, limited partner, individual owner or members of the immediate family when the contributions exceed an aggregate of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) by any individual during the preceding year; or
  - 2) Any employee or members of his immediate family whose political contribution exceeded one thousand dollars (\$1,000) during the preceding year.

To obtain a copy of the reporting form, Contractor shall contact the Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation, Division of Campaign Finance and Lobbying Disclosure, Room 210, North Office Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

- l. Contractor shall comply with requirements of the *Lobbying Disclosure Act, 65 Pa.C.S. § 13A01 et seq.*, and the regulations promulgated pursuant to that law. Contractor employee activities prior to or outside of formal Commonwealth procurement communication protocol are considered lobbying and subjects the Contractor employees to the registration and reporting requirements of the law. Actions by outside lobbyists on Contractor's behalf, no matter the procurement stage, are not exempt and must be reported.
- m. When Contractor has reason to believe that any breach of ethical standards as set forth in law, the Governor's Code of Conduct, or in these provisions has occurred or may occur, including but not limited to contact by a Commonwealth officer or employee which, if acted upon, would violate such ethical standards, Contractor shall immediately notify the Commonwealth contracting officer or Commonwealth Inspector General in writing.
- n. Contractor, by submission of its bid or proposal and/or execution of this contract and by the submission of any bills, invoices or requests for payment pursuant to the contract, certifies and represents that it has not violated any of these contractor

integrity provisions in connection with the submission of the bid or proposal, during any contract negotiations or during the term of the contract.

- o. Contractor shall cooperate with the Office of Inspector General in its investigation of any alleged Commonwealth employee breach of ethical standards and any alleged Contractor non-compliance with these provisions. Contractor agrees to make identified Contractor employees available for interviews at reasonable times and places. Contractor, upon the inquiry or request of the Office of Inspector General, shall provide, or if appropriate, make promptly available for inspection or copying, any information of any type or form deemed relevant by the Inspector General to Contractor's integrity and compliance with these provisions. Such information may include, but shall not be limited to, Contractor's business or financial records, documents or files of any type or form that refers to or concern this contract.
- p. For violation of any of these Contractor Integrity Provisions, the Commonwealth may terminate this and any other contract with Contractor, claim liquidated damages in an amount equal to the value of anything received in breach of these provisions, claim damages for all additional costs and expenses incurred in obtaining another contractor to complete performance under this contract, and debar and suspend Contractor from doing business with the Commonwealth. These rights and remedies are cumulative, and the use or non-use of any one shall not preclude the use of all or any other. These rights and remedies are in addition to those the Commonwealth may have under law, statute, regulation, or otherwise.
- q. For purposes of these Contractor Integrity Provisions, the following terms shall have the meanings found in this Subparagraph.
  - 1) "Confidential information" means information that a) is not already in the public domain; b) is not available to the public upon request; c) is not or does not become generally known to Contractor from a third party without an obligation to maintain its confidentiality; d) has not become generally known to the public through an act or omission of Contractor; or e) has not been independently developed by Contractor without the use of confidential information of the Commonwealth.
  - 2) "Consent" means written permission signed by a duly authorized officer or employee of the Commonwealth, provided that where the material facts have been disclosed, in writing, by pre-qualification, bid, proposal, or contractual terms, the Commonwealth shall be deemed to have consented by virtue of execution of this contract.
  - 3) "Contractor" means the individual or entity that has entered into this contract with the Commonwealth, including those directors, officers, partners, managers, and owners having more than a five percent interest in Contractor.
  - 4) "Financial interest" means:

- a) Ownership of more than a five percent interest in any business; or
  - b) Holding a position as an officer, director, trustee, partner, employee, or holding any position of management.
- 5) “Gratuity” means tendering, giving or providing anything of more than nominal monetary value including, but not limited to, cash, travel, entertainment, gifts, meals, lodging, loans, subscriptions, advances, deposits of money, services, employment, or contracts of any kind. The exceptions set forth in the [Governor’s Code of Conduct, Executive Order 1980-18](#), the *4 Pa. Code §7.153(b)*, shall apply.
- 6) “Immediate family” means a spouse and any unemancipated child.
- 7) “Non-bid basis” means a contract awarded or executed by the Commonwealth with Contractor without seeking bids or proposals from any other potential bidder or offeror.
- 8) “Political contribution” means any payment, gift, subscription, assessment, contract, payment for services, dues, loan, forbearance, advance or deposit of money or any valuable thing, to a candidate for public office or to a political committee, including but not limited to a political action committee, made for the purpose of influencing any election in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or for paying debts incurred by or for a candidate or committee before or after any election.

### **31. CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY PROVISIONS**

For the purpose of these provisions, the term contractor is defined as any person, including, but not limited to, a bidder, offeror, loan recipient, grantee or lessor, who has furnished or performed or seeks to furnish or perform, goods, supplies, services, leased space, construction or other activity, under a contract, grant, lease, purchase order or reimbursement agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Commonwealth). The term contractor includes a permittee, licensee, or any agency, political subdivision, instrumentality, public authority, or other public entity in the Commonwealth.

- a. The Contractor certifies, in writing, for itself and its subcontractors required to be disclosed or approved by the Commonwealth, that as of the date of its execution of this Bid/Contract, that neither the Contractor, nor any such subcontractors, are under suspension or debarment by the Commonwealth or any governmental entity, instrumentality, or authority and, if the Contractor cannot so certify, then it agrees to submit, along with its Bid/Contract, a written explanation of why such certification cannot be made.
- b. The Contractor also certifies, in writing, that as of the date of its execution of this Bid/Contract it has no tax liabilities or other Commonwealth obligations, or has filed a timely administrative or judicial appeal if such liabilities or obligations

exist, or is subject to a duly approved deferred payment plan if such liabilities exist.

- c. The Contractor's obligations pursuant to these provisions are ongoing from and after the effective date of the Contract through the termination date thereof. Accordingly, the Contractor shall have an obligation to inform the Commonwealth if, at any time during the term of the Contract, it becomes delinquent in the payment of taxes, or other Commonwealth obligations, or if it or, to the best knowledge of the Contractor, any of its subcontractors are suspended or debarred by the Commonwealth, the federal government, or any other state or governmental entity. Such notification shall be made within 15 days of the date of suspension or debarment.
- d. The failure of the Contractor to notify the Commonwealth of its suspension or debarment by the Commonwealth, any other state, or the federal government shall constitute an event of default of the Contract with the Commonwealth.
- e. The Contractor agrees to reimburse the Commonwealth for the reasonable costs of investigation incurred by the Office of State Inspector General for investigations of the Contractor's compliance with the terms of this or any other agreement between the Contractor and the Commonwealth that results in the suspension or debarment of the contractor. Such costs shall include, but shall not be limited to, salaries of investigators, including overtime; travel and lodging expenses; and expert witness and documentary fees. The Contractor shall not be responsible for investigative costs for investigations that do not result in the Contractor's suspension or debarment.
- f. The Contractor may obtain a current list of suspended and debarred Commonwealth contractors by either searching the Internet at <http://www.dgs.state.pa.us/> or contacting the:
  - Department of General Services
  - Office of Chief Counsel
  - 603 North Office Building
  - Harrisburg, PA 17125
  - Telephone No: (717) 783-6472
  - FAX No: (717) 787-9138

### **32. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

- a. Pursuant to federal regulations promulgated under the authority of The Americans With Disabilities Act, 28 C.F.R. § 35.101 et seq., the Contractor understands and agrees that it shall not cause any individual with a disability to be excluded from participation in this Contract or from activities provided for under this Contract on the basis of the disability. As a condition of accepting this contract, the Contractor agrees to comply with the "General Prohibitions Against Discrimination," 28 C.F.R. § 35.130, and all other regulations promulgated under Title II of The Americans With Disabilities Act which are applicable to all benefits, services,

programs, and activities provided by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through contracts with outside contractors.

- b. The Contractor shall be responsible for and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from all losses, damages, expenses, claims, demands, suits, and actions brought by any party against the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a result of the Contractor's failure to comply with the provisions of subparagraph a above.

### **33. HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES**

The Contractor shall provide information to the Commonwealth about the identity and hazards of hazardous substances supplied or used by the Contractor in the performance of the Contract. The Contractor must comply with Act 159 of October 5, 1984, known as the "Worker and Community Right to Know Act" (the "Act") and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto at 4 Pa. Code Section 301.1 et seq.

- a. Labeling. The Contractor shall insure that each individual product (as well as the carton, container or package in which the product is shipped) of any of the following substances (as defined by the Act and the regulations) supplied by the Contractor is clearly labeled, tagged or marked with the information listed in Paragraph (1) through (4):
  - 1) Hazardous substances:
    - a) The chemical name or common name,
    - b) A hazard warning, and
    - c) The name, address, and telephone number of the manufacturer.
  - 2) Hazardous mixtures:
    - a) The common name, but if none exists, then the trade name,
    - b) The chemical or common name of special hazardous substances comprising .01% or more of the mixture,
    - c) The chemical or common name of hazardous substances consisting 1.0% or more of the mixture,
    - d) A hazard warning, and
    - e) The name, address, and telephone number of the manufacturer.
  - 3) Single chemicals:
    - a) The chemical name or the common name,

- b) A hazard warning, if appropriate, and
  - c) The name, address, and telephone number of the manufacturer.
- 4) Chemical Mixtures:
- a) The common name, but if none exists, then the trade name,
  - b) A hazard warning, if appropriate,
  - c) The name, address, and telephone number of the manufacturer, and
  - d) The chemical name or common name of either the top five substances by volume or those substances consisting of 5.0% or more of the mixture.

A common name or trade name may be used only if the use of the name more easily or readily identifies the true nature of the hazardous substance, hazardous mixture, single chemical, or mixture involved.

Container labels shall provide a warning as to the specific nature of the hazard arising from the substance in the container.

The hazard warning shall be given in conformity with one of the nationally recognized and accepted systems of providing warnings, and hazard warnings shall be consistent with one or more of the recognized systems throughout the workplace. Examples are:

- NFPA 704, Identification of the Fire Hazards of Materials.
- National Paint and Coatings Association: Hazardous Materials Identification System.
- American Society for Testing and Materials, Safety Alert Pictorial Chart.
- American National Standard Institute, Inc., for the Precautionary Labeling of Hazardous Industrial Chemicals.

Labels must be legible and prominently affixed to and displayed on the product and the carton, container, or package so that employees can easily identify the substance or mixture present therein.

- b. Material Safety Data Sheet. The contractor shall provide Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) with the information required by the Act and the regulations for each hazardous substance or hazardous mixture. The Commonwealth must be provided an appropriate MSDS with the initial shipment and with the first

shipment after an MSDS is updated or product changed. For any other chemical, the contractor shall provide an appropriate MSDS, if the manufacturer, importer, or supplier produces or possesses the MSDS. The contractor shall also notify the Commonwealth when a substance or mixture is subject to the provisions of the Act. Material Safety Data Sheets may be attached to the carton, container, or package mailed to the Commonwealth at the time of shipment.

**34. COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES**

The Contractor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure the Contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business. For breach or violation of this warranty, the Commonwealth shall have the right to terminate the Contract without liability or in its discretion to deduct from the Contract price or consideration, or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

**35. APPLICABLE LAW**

This Contract shall be governed by and interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (without regard to any conflict of laws provisions) and the decisions of the Pennsylvania courts. The Contractor consents to the jurisdiction of any court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and any federal courts in Pennsylvania, waiving any claim or defense that such forum is not convenient or proper. The Contractor agrees that any such court shall have in personam jurisdiction over it, and consents to service of process in any manner authorized by Pennsylvania law.

**36. INTEGRATION**

This Contract, including all referenced documents, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties. No agent, representative, employee or officer of either the Commonwealth or the Contractor has authority to make, or has made, any statement, agreement or representation, oral or written, in connection with the Contract, which in any way can be deemed to modify, add to or detract from, or otherwise change or alter its terms and conditions. No negotiations between the parties, nor any custom or usage, shall be permitted to modify or contradict any of the terms and conditions of the Contract. No modifications, alterations, changes, or waiver to the Contract or any of its terms shall be valid or binding unless accomplished by a written amendment signed by both parties.

**37. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE**

In the event there is a conflict among the documents comprising this Contract, the Commonwealth and the Contractor agree on the following order of precedence: the Contract; the solicitation; and the Contractor's response to the solicitation.

**38. CONTROLLING TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The terms and conditions of this Contract shall be the exclusive terms of agreement between the Contractor and the Commonwealth. All quotations requested and received from the Contractor are for obtaining firm pricing only. Other terms and conditions or additional terms and conditions included or referenced in the Contractor's quotations, invoices, business forms, or other documentation shall not become part of the parties' agreement and shall be disregarded by the parties, unenforceable by the Contractor and not binding on the Commonwealth.

### **39. CHANGES**

The Commonwealth reserves the right to make changes at any time during the term of the Contract or any renewals or extensions thereof: 1) to increase or decrease the quantities resulting from variations between any estimated quantities in the Contract and actual quantities; 2) to make changes to the services within the scope of the Contract; 3) to notify the Contractor that the Commonwealth is exercising any Contract renewal or extension option; or 4) to modify the time of performance that does not alter the scope of the Contract to extend the completion date beyond the Expiration Date of the Contract or any renewals or extensions thereof. Any such change shall be made by the Contracting Officer by notifying the Contractor in writing. The change shall be effective as of the date of the change, unless the notification of change specifies a later effective date. Such increases, decreases, changes, or modifications will not invalidate the Contract, nor, if performance security is being furnished in conjunction with the Contract, release the security obligation. The Contractor agrees to provide the service in accordance with the change order. Any dispute by the Contractor in regard to the performance required by any notification of change shall be handled through the Contract Controversies Provision.

### **40. BACKGROUND CHECKS**

- a. The Contractor must, at its expense, arrange for a background check for each of its employees, as well as the employees of any of its subcontractors, who will have access to Commonwealth facilities, either through on-site access or through remote access. Background checks are to be conducted via the Request for Criminal Record Check form and procedure found at <http://www.psp.state.pa.us/psplib/psp/sp4-164.pdf>. The background check must be conducted prior to initial access and on an annual basis thereafter.
- b. Before the Commonwealth will permit access to the Contractor, the Contractor must provide written confirmation that the background checks have been conducted. If, at any time, it is discovered that a Contractor employee has a criminal record that includes a felony or misdemeanor involving terroristic behavior, violence, use of a lethal weapon, or breach of trust/fiduciary responsibility or which raises concerns about building, system or personal security or is otherwise job-related, the Contractor shall not assign that employee to any Commonwealth facilities, shall remove any access privileges already given to the employee and shall not permit that employee remote access unless the Commonwealth consents to the access, in writing, prior to the access. The Commonwealth may withhold its consent in its sole discretion. Failure of the Contractor to comply with the terms of this Section on more than one occasion or

Contractor's failure to appropriately address any single failure to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth may result in the Contractor being deemed in default of its Contract.

- c. The Commonwealth specifically reserves the right of the Commonwealth to conduct background checks over and above that described herein.
- d. Access to certain Capitol Complex buildings and other state office buildings is controlled by means of card readers and secured visitors' entrances. Commonwealth contracted personnel who have regular and routine business in Commonwealth worksites may be issued a photo identification or access badge subject to the requirements of the contracting agency and DGS set forth in Enclosure 3 of Commonwealth Management Directive 625.10 Amended (January 30, 2008) Card Reader and Emergency Response Access to Certain Capitol Complex Buildings and Other State Office Buildings. The requirements, policy and procedures include a processing fee payable by the Contractor for contracted personnel photo identification or access badges.

#### **41. CONFIDENTIALITY**

- a. The Contractor agrees to guard the confidentiality of the Commonwealth's confidential information with the same diligence with which it guards its own proprietary information. If the Contractor needs to disclose all or part of project materials to third parties to assist in the work or service performed for the Commonwealth, it may do so only if such third parties sign agreements containing substantially the same provisions as contained in this Section. The Commonwealth agrees to protect the confidentiality of Contractor's confidential information. In order for information to be deemed to be confidential, the party claiming confidentiality must designate the information as "confidential" in such a way as to give notice to the other party. The parties agree that such confidential information shall not be copied, in whole or in part, except when essential for authorized use under this Contract. Each copy of such confidential information shall be marked by the party making the copy with all confidentiality notices appearing in the original. Upon termination or cancellation of this Contract or any license granted hereunder, the receiving party will return to the disclosing party all copies of the confidential information in the receiving party's possession, other than one copy, which may be maintained for archival purposes only. Both parties agree that a material breach of these requirements may, after failure to cure within the time frame specified in this Contract, and at the discretion of the non-breaching party, result in termination for default.
- b. The obligations stated in this Section do not apply to information:
  - 1) already known to the recipient at the time of disclosure other than through the contractual relationship;
  - 2) independently generated by the recipient and not derived from the information supplied by the disclosing party;

- 3) known or available to the public, except where such knowledge or availability is the result of unauthorized disclosure by the recipient of the proprietary information;
  - 4) disclosed to the recipient without a similar restriction by a third party who has the right to make such disclosure; or
  - 5) required to be disclosed by the recipient by law, regulation, court order, or other legal process.
- c. There shall be no restriction with respect to the use or disclosure of any ideas, concepts, know-how, or data processing techniques developed alone or jointly with the Commonwealth in connection with services provided to the Commonwealth under this Contract.

#### **42. NOTICE**

Any written notice to any party under this Contract shall be deemed sufficient if delivered personally, or by facsimile, telecopy, electronic or digital transmission (provided such delivery is confirmed), or by a recognized overnight courier service (e.g., DHL, Federal Express, etc.) with confirmed receipt, or by certified or registered United States mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, and sent to following:

- a. If to the Contractor: the Contractor's address as recorded in the Commonwealth's Supplier Registration system.
- b. If to the Commonwealth: the address of the Issuing Office as set forth on the Contract.

#### **43. RIGHT TO KNOW LAW**

- a. The Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law, 65 P.S. §§ 67.101-3104, (“RTKL”) applies to this Contract. For the purpose of these provisions, the term “the Commonwealth” shall refer to the contracting Commonwealth agency.
- b. If the Commonwealth needs the Contractor’s assistance in any matter arising out of the RTKL related to this Contract, it shall notify the Contractor using the legal contact information provided in this Contract. The Contractor, at any time, may designate a different contact for such purpose upon reasonable prior written notice to the Commonwealth.
- c. Upon written notification from the Commonwealth that it requires the Contractor’s assistance in responding to a request under the RTKL for information related to this Contract that may be in the Contractor’s possession, constituting, or alleged to constitute, a public record in accordance with the RTKL (“Requested Information”), the Contractor shall:

- 1) Provide the Commonwealth, within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of written notification, access to, and copies of, any document or information in the Contractor's possession arising out of this Contract that the Commonwealth reasonably believes is Requested Information and may be a public record under the RTKL; and
  - 2) Provide such other assistance as the Commonwealth may reasonably request, in order to comply with the RTKL with respect to this Contract.
- d. If the Contractor considers the Requested Information to include a request for a Trade Secret or Confidential Proprietary Information, as those terms are defined by the RTKL, or other information that the Contractor considers exempt from production under the RTKL, the Contractor must notify the Commonwealth and provide, within seven (7) calendar days of receiving the written notification, a written statement signed by a representative of the Contractor explaining why the requested material is exempt from public disclosure under the RTKL.
- e. The Commonwealth will rely upon the written statement from the Contractor in denying a RTKL request for the Requested Information unless the Commonwealth determines that the Requested Information is clearly not protected from disclosure under the RTKL. Should the Commonwealth determine that the Requested Information is clearly not exempt from disclosure, the Contractor shall provide the Requested Information within five (5) business days of receipt of written notification of the Commonwealth's determination.
- f. If the Contractor fails to provide the Requested Information within the time period required by these provisions, the Contractor shall indemnify and hold the Commonwealth harmless for any damages, penalties, costs, detriment or harm that the Commonwealth may incur as a result of the Contractor's failure, including any statutory damages assessed against the Commonwealth.
- g. The Commonwealth will reimburse the Contractor for any costs associated with complying with these provisions only to the extent allowed under the fee schedule established by the Office of Open Records or as otherwise provided by the RTKL if the fee schedule is inapplicable.
- h. The Contractor may file a legal challenge to any Commonwealth decision to release a record to the public with the Office of Open Records, or in the Pennsylvania Courts, however, the Contractor shall indemnify the Commonwealth for any legal expenses incurred by the Commonwealth as a result of such a challenge and shall hold the Commonwealth harmless for any damages, penalties, costs, detriment or harm that the Commonwealth may incur as a result of the Contractor's failure, including any statutory damages assessed against the Commonwealth, regardless of the outcome of such legal challenge. As between the parties, the Contractor agrees to waive all rights or remedies that may be available to it as a result of the Commonwealth's disclosure of Requested Information pursuant to the RTKL.

- i. The Contractor's duties relating to the RTKL are continuing duties that survive the expiration of this Contract and shall continue as long as the Contractor has Requested Information in its possession.

**APPENDIX B**  
**DOMESTIC WORKFORCE UTILIZATION CERTIFICATION**

To the extent permitted by the laws and treaties of the United States, each proposal will be scored for its commitment to use the domestic workforce in the fulfillment of the contract. Maximum consideration will be given to those offerors who will perform the contracted direct labor exclusively within the geographical boundaries of the United States or within the geographical boundaries of a country that is a party to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement. Those who propose to perform a portion of the direct labor outside of the United States and not within the geographical boundaries of a party to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement will receive a correspondingly smaller score for this criterion. In order to be eligible for any consideration for this criterion, offerors must complete and sign the following certification. This certification will be included as a contractual obligation when the contract is executed. Failure to complete and sign this certification will result in no consideration being given to the offeror for this criterion.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [title] of \_\_\_\_\_ [name of Contractor] a \_\_\_\_\_ [place of incorporation] corporation or other legal entity, ("Contractor") located at \_\_\_\_\_ [address], having a Social Security or Federal Identification Number of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby certify and represent to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ("Commonwealth") (Check **one** of the boxes below):

All of the direct labor performed within the scope of services under the contract will be performed exclusively within the geographical boundaries of the United States or one of the following countries that is a party to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement: Aruba, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chinese Taipei, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom

OR

\_\_\_\_\_ percent ( \_\_\_\_%) [Contractor must specify the percentage] of the direct labor performed within the scope of services under the contract will be performed within the geographical boundaries of the United States or within the geographical boundaries of one of the countries listed above that is a party to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement. Please identify the direct labor performed under the contract that will be performed outside the United States and not within the geographical boundaries of a party to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement and identify the country where the direct labor will be performed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

[Use additional sheets if necessary]

The Department of General Services [or other purchasing agency] shall treat any misstatement as fraudulent concealment of the true facts punishable under Section 4904 of the *Pennsylvania Crimes Code*, Title 18, of Pa. Consolidated Statutes.

Attest or Witness:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate or Legal Entity's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature/Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature/Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name/Title

**APPENDIX C - PROPOSAL COVER SHEET  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)  
RFP# 2014-001**

**Enclosed in three separately sealed submittals is the proposal of the Offeror identified below for the above-referenced RFP:**

<b>Offeror Information:</b>	
Offeror Name	
Offeror Mailing Address	
Offeror Website	
Offeror Contact Person	
Contact Person's Phone Number	
Contact Person's Facsimile Number	
Contact Person's E-Mail Address	
Offeror Federal ID Number	
Offeror SAP/SRM Vendor Number	

<b>Submittals Enclosed and Separately Sealed:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Submittal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Diverse Business Participation Submittal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cost Submittal

<b><i>Signature</i></b>	
Signature of an official authorized to bind the Offeror to the provisions contained in the Offeror's proposal:	
Printed Name	
Title	

**FAILURE TO COMPLETE, SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM WITH THE OFFEROR'S PROPOSAL MAY RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF THE OFFEROR'S PROPOSAL**

