

## RFP 2020-02 Questions and Answers – Document 3

Posted 5/22/2020

- *This document answers the final questions received prior to the questions deadline.*
- *See Documents 1 and 2 for previous questions and answers.*

Q. Is the design work expected to be completed before the end of calendar year 2020?

A. *Yes, the sooner the better. For context see "Scheduled Time Frame" on page 4 of the RFP.*

Q. Is the funding agreement between DETCOG and the Economic Development Administration (EDA) subject to Cost Accounting Standards (CAS)?

A. *Our understanding is no. We do not believe the contract awarded will exceed the amount which would make it subject to Cost Accounting Standards.*

Q. Please provide more details of all Federal funding requirements that will be required of prospective bidders for the RFP.

A. *We have attempted to cover pertinent requirements within the RFP. One form that is not included in the RFP that must be completed prior to awarding a contract is the Certification Regarding Lobbying (Form CD-512). That form is attached to this document -- note, it is only required from the successful respondent prior to signing a contract. Also attached is an EDA document entitled Special Terms and Conditions for Use of Funds Received from U.S. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration.*

Q. What are the MWBE requirements expected by DETCOG for the Design and Engineering project, or is Section H, referring to construction / deployment phase? Is this based on the percentage of work or monetary amount?

A. *DETCOG strives to ensure that Minority Business Enterprises and Women-Owned Businesses have equal opportunity to participate in our procurement processes. When a contract is awarded, we expect the contractor to demonstrate meaningful affirmative steps at soliciting and retaining Small Businesses, Minority Business Enterprises, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, Women-Owned Businesses and Historically Underutilized Businesses. Failure to do so may be considered as a factor in evaluating future bids under non-compliance with public policies. Specific expectations of the successful responder to this RFP are covered in Section K on page 13 of the RFP.*

Q. What are the criteria that will be used by DETCOG to determine the winning bidder?

A. *Refer to Section F on pages 19-20 of the RFP.*

Q. When does DETCOG plan to apply for federal funding for construction?

A. *As soon as possible. For context see "Scheduled Time Frame" on page 4 of the RFP.*

Q. Will DETCOG make the full Feasibility Study available to all prospective responders? If so, when?

A. *No, but if there are data points a prospective responder needs to complete your response to the RFP we can help source them if available. Any information requested and provided to one will be made available to all prospective responders.*

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- Q. Where are the Tribal lands in the 7 counties? Are agreements in place with the Tribal lands for access?
- A. *The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas is located in Polk County. See data room for uploaded tribal areas within DETCOG KML file. No access agreements are in place at this time.*
- Q. Please identify the scope items in the inCode study so effort is not duplicated.
- A. *inCode was asked to perform a business study on the DETCOG region's broadband infrastructure. The study covers the high-level cost assessment of a DETCOG-wide broadband rollout and modeling its economic impact across the 12-county region.*
- Q. Please advise what ALL the data is that is referenced in Part III of the RFP.
- A. *Data inputs relevant for the economic model, but not for a Design RFP response.*
- Q. When does DETCOG anticipate agreement for the first 7 counties and negotiating the contract for the next 5 counties?
- A. *We would like to have both contracts in place by July 1, 2020 or as soon thereafter as possible.*

## CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS

Applicants should review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature on this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 15 CFR Part 28, "New Restrictions on Lobbying."

### LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 15 CFR Part 28, for persons entering into a grant, cooperative agreement or contract over \$100,000 or a loan or loan guarantee over \$150,000 as defined at 15 CFR Part 28, Sections 28.105 and 28.110, the applicant certifies that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure occurring on or before October 23, 1996, and of not less than \$11,000 and not more than \$110,000 for each such failure occurring after October 23, 1996.

### Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

In any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure occurring on or before October 23, 1996, and of not less than \$11,000 and not more than \$110,000 for each such failure occurring after October 23, 1996.

**As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above applicable certification.**

NAME OF APPLICANT

AWARD NUMBER AND/OR PROJECT NAME

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

SIGNATURE

DATE

# **Special Terms and Conditions for Use of Funds Received from U.S. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration**

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST, CODE OF CONDUCT AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO DOC FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDS, INCLUDING SUBAWARDS AND PROCUREMENTS ACTIONS**

### **.01 Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct**

a. DOC Conflict of Interest Policy. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.112 (Conflict of interest), the non-Federal entity must disclose in writing any potential conflict of interest to the DOC or pass-through entity. In addition, a non-Federal entity will establish and maintain written standards of conduct that include safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain in the administration of an award. It is the DOC's policy to maintain the highest standards of conduct and to prevent real or apparent conflicts of interest in connection with DOC financial assistance awards.

b. A conflict of interest generally exists when an interested party participates in a matter that has a direct and predictable effect on the interested party's personal or financial interests. A financial interest may include employment, stock ownership, a creditor or debtor relationship, or prospective employment with the organization selected or to be selected for a subaward. A conflict also may exist where there is an appearance that an interested party's objectivity in performing his or her responsibilities under the project is impaired. For example, an appearance of impairment of objectivity may result from an organizational conflict where, because of other activities or relationships with other persons or entities, an interested party is unable to render impartial assistance, services or advice to the recipient, a participant in the project or to the Federal Government. Additionally, a conflict of interest may result from non-financial gain to an interested party, such as benefit to reputation or prestige in a professional field. For purposes of the DOC Conflict of Interest Policy, an interested party includes, but is not necessarily limited to, any officer, employee or member of the board of directors or other governing board of a non-Federal entity, including any other parties that advise, approve, recommend, or otherwise participate in the business decisions of the recipient, such as agents, advisors, consultants, attorneys, accountants or shareholders. This also includes immediate family and other persons directly connected to the interested party by law or through a business arrangement.

c. Procurement-related conflict of interest. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.318 (General procurement standards), non-Federal entities must maintain written standards of conduct

covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of their employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts. *See* paragraph F.04 of these Standard Terms (Requirements for Procurements).

### **.02 Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension**

Non-Federal entities must comply with the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 1326 (Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension), which generally prohibit entities that have been debarred, suspended, or voluntarily excluded from participating in Federal nonprocurement transactions either through primary or lower tier covered transactions, and which set forth the responsibilities of recipients of Federal financial assistance regarding transactions with other persons, including subrecipients and contractors.

### **.03 Requirements for Subawards**

The recipient or pass-through entity must require all subrecipients, including lower tier subrecipients, to comply with the terms and conditions of a DOC financial assistance award, including applicable

provisions of the OMB Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. Part 200), and all associated Terms and Conditions set forth herein. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.101(b)(1) (Applicability), which describes the applicability of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 to various types of Federal awards and §§ 200.330-332 (Subrecipient monitoring and management).

#### **.04 Requirements for Procurements**

a. States. Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.317 (Procurements by states), when procuring property and services under this Federal award, a State must follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from its non-Federal funds. The State must comply with 2 C.F.R. § 200.322 (Procurement of recovered materials), and ensure that every purchase order or other contract includes any clauses required by 2 C.F.R. § 200.326 (Contract provisions).

b. Other Non-Federal Entities. All other non-Federal entities, including subrecipients of a State, must follow the requirements of 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318 (General procurement standards) through 200.326 (Contract provisions) which includes the requirement that non-Federal entities maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of their employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest.

#### **.05 Whistleblower Protections**

This award is subject to the whistleblower protections afforded by 41 U.S.C. § 4712 (Enhancement of contractor protection from reprisal for disclosure of certain information), which generally provide that an employee or contractor (including subcontractors and personal services contractors) of a non-Federal entity may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for disclosing to a person or body information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal award, subaward, or a contract under a Federal award or subaward, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal award or subaward or contract under a Federal award or subaward, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal award, subaward, or contract under a Federal award or subaward. These persons or bodies include:

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

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

#### **.06 Small Businesses, Minority Business Enterprises and Women's Business Enterprises**

In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.321 (Contracting with small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms), the recipient must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus areas firms are used when possible. DOC encourages non-Federal entities to use small businesses, minority business enterprises and women's business enterprises in contracts under financial assistance awards. The Minority

Business Development Agency within the DOC will assist non-Federal entities in matching qualified minority business enterprises with contract opportunities.

For further information visit MBDA's website at <http://www.mbda.gov>. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may contact MBDA via telephone or mail:

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Minority Business Development Agency  
Herbert C. Hoover Building  
14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230 (202) 482-0101

## **G. NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS**

### **.01 United States Laws and Regulations**

This award is subject to the laws and regulations of the United States. The recipient must comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

### **.02 Non-Discrimination Requirements**

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

#### **a. Statutory Provisions**

1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d *et seq.*) and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 8 prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin under programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 *et seq.*) prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex under Federally assisted education programs or activities;
3. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.*) prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability under programs, activities, and services provided or made available by State and local governments or instrumentalities or agencies thereto, as well as public or private entities that provide public transportation;
4. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 8b prohibiting discrimination on the basis of handicap under any program or activity receiving or benefiting from Federal assistance.

For purposes of complying with the accessibility standards set forth in 15 C.F.R. § 8b.18(c), non-federal entities must adhere to the regulations, published by the U.S. Department of Justice, implementing Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (28 C.F.R. part 35; 75 FR 56164, as amended by 76 FR 13285) and Title III of the ADA (28 C.F.R. part 36; 75 FR 56164, as amended by 76 FR 13286). The revised regulations adopted new enforceable accessibility standards called the "2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design" (2010 Standards), which replace and supersede the former Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards for new construction and alteration projects;

5. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 *et seq.*), and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 20 prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance; and
6. Any other applicable non-discrimination law(s).

## **b. Other Provisions**

1. Parts II and III of E.O. 11246 (Equal Employment Opportunity, 30 FR 12319),<sup>4</sup> which requires Federally assisted construction contracts to include the nondiscrimination provisions of §§ 202 and 203 of E.O. 11246 and Department of Labor regulations implementing E.O. 11246 (41 C.F.R. § 60-1.4(b)).

<sup>4</sup> As amended by E.O. 11375(32 FR 14303), E.O. 11478 (34 FR 12985), E.O. 12086 (43 FR 46501), E.O. 12107 (44 FR 1055), E.O. 13279 (F67 FR 77141), E.O. 13665 (79 FR 20749), and E.O. 13672 (79 FR 42971).

2. E.O. 13166 (65 FR 50121, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency), requiring Federal agencies to examine the services provided, identify any need for services to those with limited English proficiency (LEP), and develop and implement a system to provide those services so LEP persons can have meaningful access to them. The DOC issued policy guidance on March 24, 2003 (68 FR 14180) to articulate the Title VI prohibition against national origin discrimination affecting LEP persons and to help ensure that non-Federal entities provide meaningful access to their LEP applicants and beneficiaries.

## **c. Title VII Exemption for Religious Organizations**

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

## **.03 LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS**

### **a. Statutory Provisions**

Non-Federal entities must comply with 2 C.F.R. § 200.450 (Lobbying), which incorporates the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 1352; and OMB guidance and notices on lobbying restrictions. In addition, non-Federal entities must comply with the DOC regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 28, which implement the New Restrictions on Lobbying. These provisions prohibit the use of Federal funds for lobbying the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with the award and require the disclosure of the use of non-Federal funds for lobbying. Lobbying includes attempting to improperly influence, meaning any influence that induces or tends to induce a Federal employee or officer to give consideration or to act regarding a Federal award or regulatory matter on any basis other than the merits of the matter, either directly or indirectly. Costs incurred to improperly influence are unallowable. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.450(b) and (c).

### **b. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities**

Any recipient that receives more than \$100,000 in Federal funding and conducts lobbying with non-federal funds relating to a covered Federal action must submit a completed Form SF-LLL (Disclosure of Lobbying Activities). The Form SF-LLL must be submitted within 30 calendar days following the end of the calendar quarter in which there occurs any event that requires disclosure or that materially affects the accuracy of the information contained in any disclosure form previously filed. The recipient must submit any required Forms SF-LLL, including those received from subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors, to the Grants Officer.

## **.04 Environmental Requirements**



Environmental impacts must be considered by Federal decision makers in their decisions whether or not to approve: (1) a proposal for Federal assistance; (2) the proposal with mitigation; or (3) a different proposal having less adverse environmental impacts. Federal environmental laws require that the funding agency initiate an early planning process that considers potential impacts that projects funded with Federal assistance may have on the environment. Each non-Federal entity must comply with all environmental standards, to include those prescribed under the following statutes and E.O.s, and must identify to the awarding agency any impact the award may have on the environment. In some cases, award funds can be withheld by the Grants Officer under a specific award condition requiring the non-Federal entity to submit additional environmental compliance information sufficient to enable the DOC to make an assessment on any impacts that a project may have on the environment.

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

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) implementing regulations (40 C.F.R. Parts 1500 through 1508) require that an environmental analysis be completed for all major Federal actions to determine whether they have significant impacts on the environment. NEPA applies to the actions of Federal agencies and may include a Federal agency's decision to fund non-Federal projects under grants and cooperative agreements when the award activities remain subject to Federal authority and control. Non-Federal entities are required to identify to the awarding agency any direct, indirect or cumulative impact an award will have on the quality of the human environment, and assist the agency in complying with NEPA. Non-Federal entities may also be requested to assist DOC in drafting an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement if DOC determines such documentation is required, but DOC remains responsible for the sufficiency and approval of the final documentation. Until the appropriate NEPA documentation is complete and in the event that any additional information is required during the period of performance to assess project environmental impacts, funds can be withheld by the Grants Officer under a specific award condition requiring the non-Federal entity to submit the appropriate environmental information and NEPA documentation sufficient to enable DOC to make an assessment on any impacts that a project may have on the environment.

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

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 U.S.C. § 470f) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) implementing regulations (36 C.F.R. Part 800) require that Federal agencies take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and, when appropriate, provide the ACHP with a reasonable opportunity to comment. Historic properties include but are not necessarily limited to districts, buildings, structures, sites and objects. In this connection, archeological resources and sites that may be of traditional religious and cultural importance to Federally-recognized Indian Tribes, Alaskan Native Villages and Native Hawaiian Organizations may be considered historic properties. Non-Federal entities are required to identify to the awarding agency any effects the award may have on properties included on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Non-Federal entities may also be requested to assist DOC in consulting with State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, ACHPs or other applicable interested parties necessary to identify, assess, and resolve adverse effects to historic properties. Until such time as the appropriate NHPA consultations and documentation are complete and in the event that any additional information is required during the period of performance in order to assess project impacts on historic properties, funds can be withheld by the Grants Officer under a specific award condition requiring the non-Federal entity to submit any information sufficient to enable DOC to make the requisite assessment under the NHPA.

Additionally, non-Federal entities are required to assist the DOC in assuring compliance with the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (54 U.S.C. § 312502 *et seq.*, formerly 16 U.S.C. § 469a-1 *et seq.*); Executive Order 11593 (Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment, May 13, 1971); Executive Order 13006 (Locating Federal Facilities on Historic Properties in Our Nation's Central Cities, May 21, 1996); and Executive Order 13007 (Indian Sacred Sites, May 24, 1996).

**c. Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) and Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands)**



Non-Federal entities must identify proposed actions in federally defined floodplains and wetlands to enable DOC to decide whether there is an alternative to minimize any potential harm.

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

Non-Federal entities must comply with the provisions of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 *et seq.*), Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.*), and E.O. 11738 (38 FR 25161), and must not use a facility on the Excluded Parties List (EPL) (located on the System for Award Management (SAM) website, SAM.gov) in performing any award that is nonexempt under 2 C.F.R. § 1532, and must notify the Program Officer in writing if it intends to use a facility that is on the EPL or knows that the facility has been recommended to be placed on the EPL.

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

Flood insurance, when available, is required for Federally assisted construction or acquisition in flood-prone areas. Per 2 C.F.R. § 200.447(a), the cost of required flood insurance is an allowable expense, if it is reflected in the approved project budget.

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

Non-Federal entities must identify any impact or activities that may involve a threatened or endangered species. Federal agencies have the responsibility to ensure that no adverse effects to a protected species or habitat occur from actions under Federal assistance awards and conduct the reviews required under the Endangered Species Act, as applicable.

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

Funded projects must be consistent with a coastal State’s approved management program for the coastal zone.

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

Only in certain circumstances can Federal funding be provided for actions within a Coastal Barrier System.

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

This Act applies to awards that may affect existing or proposed components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

**j. The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (42 U.S.C. §§ 300f *et seq.*)**

This Act precludes Federal assistance for any project that the EPA determines may contaminate a sole source aquifer so as to threaten public health.

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

This Act regulates the generation, transportation, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes, and provides that non-Federal entities give preference in their procurement programs to the purchase of recycled products pursuant to EPA guidelines.

**l. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, commonly known as Superfund) (42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 *et seq.*) and the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (42 U.S.C. § 9601 note *et seq.*)**

These requirements address responsibilities related to hazardous substance releases, threatened releases and environmental cleanup. There are also reporting and community involvement requirements designed to ensure disclosure of the release or disposal of regulated substances and cleanup of hazards to state and local emergency responders.

**m. Executive Order 12898 (“Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations”)**

Federal agencies are required to identify and address the disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of Federal programs, policies, and activities on low income and minority populations.

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

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

**o. Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 (33 U.S.C. § 1344)**

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

**p. Rivers and Harbors Act (33 U.S.C. § 407)**

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

**q. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 703-712), Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. § 668 *et seq.*), and Executive Order 13186 (Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, January 10, 2001)**

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

**r. Executive Order 13112 (Invasive Species, February 3, 1999)**

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

**s. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. § 661 *et seq.*)**

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

**.05 OTHER NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS**

**a. Buy-American Preferences**

Strengthening Buy-American Preferences for Infrastructure Projects. Recipients of covered programs (as defined in Executive Order 13858, 31 January 2019) are hereby notified that they are encouraged to use, to the greatest extent practicable, iron and aluminum as well as steel, cement, and other manufactured

products produced in the United States in every contract, subcontract, purchase order, or sub-award that is chargeable under this Award.

**b. Criminal and Prohibited Activities**

1. The Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act (31 U.S.C. § 3801 *et seq.*), provides for the imposition of civil penalties against persons who make false, fictitious, or fraudulent claims to the Federal Government for money (including money representing grants, loans, or other benefits).
2. The False Claims Amendments Act of 1986 and the False Statements Accountability Act of 1996 (18 U.S.C. §§ 287 and 1001, respectively), provide that whoever makes or presents any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement, representation, or claim against the United States must be subject to imprisonment of not more than five years and must be subject to a fine in the amount provided by 18 U.S.C. § 287.
3. The Civil False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. §§ 3729 - 3733), provides that suits can be brought by the government, or a person on behalf of the government, for false claims made under Federal assistance programs.
4. The Copeland Anti-Kickback Act (18 U.S.C. § 874), prohibits a person or organization engaged in a Federally supported project from enticing an employee working on the project from giving up a part of his compensation under an employment contract. The Copeland Anti-Kickback Act also applies to contractors and subcontractors pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3145.
5. The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. § 4601 *et seq.*) and implementing regulations issued at 15 C.F.R. Part 11, which provides for fair and equitable treatment of displaced persons or of persons whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or Federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
6. The Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 1501-1508 and 7321-7326), which limits the political activities of employees or officers of state or local governments whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
7. To ensure compliance with Federal law pertaining to financial assistance awards, an authorized representative of a non-Federal entity may be required to periodically provide certain certifications to the DOC regarding Federal felony and Federal criminal tax convictions, unpaid federal tax assessments, delinquent Federal tax returns and such other certifications that may be required by Federal law.

**c. Drug-Free Workplace**

The non-Federal entity must comply with the provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. § 8102) and DOC implementing regulations published at 2 C.F.R. Part 1329 (Government wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace – Financial Assistance), which require that the non-Federal entity take certain actions to provide a drug-free workplace.

**d. Foreign Travel**

1. Each non-Federal entity must comply with the provisions of the Fly America Act (49 U.S.C. § 40118). The implementing regulations of the Fly America Act are found at 41 C.F.R. §§ 301-10.131 through 301-10.143.
2. The Fly America Act requires that Federal travelers and others performing U.S. Government-financed air travel must use U.S. flag air carriers, to the extent that service by such carriers is available. Foreign air carriers may be used only in specific instances, such as when a U.S. flag air carrier is unavailable or use of U.S. flag air carrier service will not accomplish the agency's mission.
3. One exception to the requirement to fly U.S. flag carriers is transportation provided under a bilateral or multilateral air transport agreement, to which the United States Government and the government of a foreign country are parties, and which the Department of Transportation has determined meets the requirements of the Fly America Act pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40118(b). The United States Government has entered into bilateral/multilateral "Open Skies Agreements" (U.S. Government Procured Transportation)

that allow federal funded transportation services for travel and cargo movements to use foreign air carriers under certain circumstances. There are multiple “Open Skies Agreements” currently in effect. For more information about the current bilateral and multilateral agreements, visit the GSA website <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/103191>. Information on the Open Skies agreements (U.S. Government Procured Transportation) and other specific country agreements may be accessed via the Department of State’s website <http://www.state.gov/e/eeb/tra/>.

4. If a foreign air carrier is anticipated to be used for any portion of travel under a DOC financial assistance award the non-Federal entity must receive prior approval from the Grants Officer. When requesting such approval, the non-Federal entity must provide a justification in accordance with guidance provided by 41 C.F.R. § 301-10.142, which requires the non-Federal entity to provide the Grants Officer with the following: name; dates of travel; origin and destination of travel; detailed itinerary of travel; name of the air carrier and flight number for each leg of the trip; and a statement explaining why the non-Federal entity meets one of the exceptions to the regulations. If the use of a foreign air carrier is pursuant to a bilateral agreement, the non-Federal entity must provide the Grants Officer with a copy of the agreement or a citation to the official agreement available on the GSA website. The Grants Officer must make the final determination and notify the non-Federal entity in writing (which may be done through the recipient in the case of subrecipient travel). Failure to adhere to the provisions of the Fly America Act will result in the non-Federal entity not being reimbursed for any transportation costs for which any non-Federal entity improperly used a foreign air carrier.

Note: When using code-sharing flights (two or more airlines having flight numbers assigned to the same flight) involving U.S. flag carriers and non-U.S. flag carriers, the airline symbol and flight number of the U.S. flag carrier must be used on the ticket to qualify as a U.S. flag carrier (e.g. “*Delta Airlines Flight XXXX, operated by KLM*”). Conversely, if the ticket shows “[*Foreign Air Carrier*] XXX, operated by *Delta*,” that travel is using a foreign air carrier and is subject to the Fly America Act and must receive prior approval from the Grants Officer as outlined in paragraph G.05.d.4.

#### **e. Increasing Seat Belt Use in the United States**

Pursuant to E.O. 13043 (62 FR 19217), non-Federal entities should encourage employees and contractors to enforce on-the-job seat belt policies and programs when operating company-owned, rented, or personally owned vehicles.

#### **f. Federal Employee Expenses and Subawards or Contracts Issued to Federal Employees or Agencies**

1. Use of award funds (Federal or non-Federal) or the non-Federal entity’s provision of in-kind goods or services for the purposes of transportation, travel, or any other expenses for any Federal employee may raise appropriation augmentation issues. In addition, DOC policy may prohibit the acceptance of gifts, including travel payments for federal employees, from non-Federal entities regardless of the source. Therefore, before award funds may be used by Federal employees, non-Federal entities must submit requests for approval of such action to the Federal Program Officer who must review and make a recommendation to the Grants Officer. The Grants Officer will notify the non-Federal entity in writing (generally through the recipient) of the final determination.

2. A non-Federal entity or its contractor may not issue a subaward, contract or subcontract of any part of a DOC award to any agency or employee of DOC or to other Federal employee, department, agency, or instrumentality, without the advance prior written approval of the DOC Grants Officer.

#### **g. Minority Serving Institutions Initiative**

Pursuant to E.O.s 13555 (White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics) (75 FR 65417), 13592 (Improving American Indian and Alaska Native Educational Opportunities and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities) (76 FR 76603), and 13779 (White House Initiative to Promote Excellence and Innovation at Historically Black Colleges and Universities) (82 FR 12499), DOC is



strongly committed to broadening the participation of minority serving institutions (MSIs) in its financial assistance programs. DOC's goals include achieving full participation of MSIs to advance the development of human potential, strengthen the Nation's capacity to provide high-quality education, and increase opportunities for MSIs to participate in and benefit from Federal financial assistance programs. DOC encourages all applicants and non-Federal entities to include meaningful participation of MSIs. Institutions eligible to be considered MSIs are listed on the Department of Education website.

#### **h. Research Misconduct**

The DOC adopts, and applies to financial assistance awards for research, the Federal Policy on Research Misconduct (Federal Policy) issued by the Executive Office of the President's Office of Science and Technology Policy on December 6, 2000 (65 FR 76260). As provided for in the Federal Policy, research misconduct refers to the fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results. Research misconduct does not include honest errors or differences of opinion. Non-Federal entities that conduct extramural research funded by DOC must foster an atmosphere conducive to the responsible conduct of sponsored research by safeguarding against and resolving allegations of research misconduct. Non-Federal entities also have the primary responsibility to prevent, detect, and investigate allegations of research misconduct and, for this purpose, may rely on their internal policies and procedures, as appropriate, to do so. Non-Federal entities must notify the Grants Officer of any allegation that meets the definition of research misconduct and detail the entity's inquiry to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to proceed with an investigation, as well as the results of any investigation. The DOC may take appropriate administrative or enforcement action at any time under the award, up to and including award termination and possible suspension or debarment, and referral to the Commerce OIG, the U.S. Department of Justice, or other appropriate investigative body.

#### **i. Research Involving Human Subjects**

1. All proposed research involving human subjects must be conducted in accordance with 15 C.F.R. Part 27 (Protection of Human Subjects). No research involving human subjects is permitted under this award unless expressly authorized by specific award condition, or otherwise in writing by the Grants Officer.

2. Federal policy defines a human subject as a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research (1) Obtains information or biospecimens through intervention or interaction with the individual, and uses, studies, or analyzes the information or biospecimens; or (2) Obtains, uses, studies, analyzes, or generates identifiable private information or identifiable biospecimens. Research means a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.

3. DOC regulations at 15 C.F.R. Part 27 require that non-Federal entities maintain appropriate policies and procedures for the protection of human subjects. In the event it becomes evident that human subjects may be involved in this project, the non-Federal entity (generally through the recipient) must submit appropriate documentation to the Federal Program Officer for approval by the appropriate DOC officials. As applicable, this documentation must include: i. Documentation establishing approval of an activity in the project by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) under a Federal wide Assurance issued by Department of Health and Human Services or other Federal agency guidelines (*see also* 15 C.F.R. § 27.103);

ii. Documentation to support an exemption for an activity in the project under 15 C.F.R. § 27.104(d);

iii. Documentation of IRB approval of any modification to a prior approved protocol or to an informed consent form;

iv. Documentation of an IRB approval of continuing review approved prior to the expiration date of the previous IRB determination; and

v. Documentation of any reportable events, such as serious adverse events, unanticipated problems resulting in risk to subjects or others, and instances of noncompliance.

4. No work involving human subjects may be undertaken, conducted, or costs incurred and/or charged for human subjects research, until the appropriate documentation is approved in writing by the Grants Officer. In accordance with 15 C.F.R. § 27.118, if research involving human subjects is proposed after an award is made, the non-Federal entity must contact the Federal Program Officer and provide required documentation. Notwithstanding this prohibition, work may be initiated or costs incurred and/or charged to the project for protocol or instrument development related to human subjects research.

**j. Care and Use of Live Vertebrate Animals**

Non-Federal entities must comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, as amended, (Pub. L. No. 89-544, 7 U.S.C. §§ 2131 *et seq.*) (animal acquisition, transport, care, handling, and use in projects), and implementing regulations (9 C.F.R. Parts 1, 2, and 3); the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 *et seq.*); Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1361 *et seq.*) (taking possession, transport, purchase, sale, export or import of wildlife and plants); the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 4701 *et seq.*) (ensure preventive measures are taken or that probable harm of using species is minimal if there is an escape or release); and all other applicable statutes pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm-blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by Federal financial assistance. No research involving vertebrate animals is permitted under any DOC financial assistance award unless authorized by the Grants Officer.

**k. Management and Access to Data and Publications**

1. In General. The recipient acknowledges and understands that information and data contained in applications for financial assistance, as well as information and data contained in financial, performance and other reports submitted by recipients, may be used by the DOC in conducting reviews and evaluations of its financial assistance programs. For this purpose, recipient information and data may be accessed, reviewed and evaluated by DOC employees, other Federal employees, Federal agents and contractors, and/or by non-Federal personnel, all of who enter into appropriate or are otherwise subject to confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements covering the use of such information. Recipients are expected to support program reviews and evaluations by submitting required financial and performance information and data in an accurate and timely manner, and by cooperating with DOC and external program evaluators. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.303(e), recipients are reminded that they must take reasonable measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information and other confidential or sensitive personal or business information created or obtained relating to a DOC financial assistance award.

2. Scientific Data. Non-Federal entities must comply with the data management and access to data requirements established by the DOC funding agency as set forth in the applicable Notice of Funding Opportunity and/or in Specific Award Conditions.

3. Publications, Videos, and Acknowledgment of Sponsorship.

i. Publication of results or findings in appropriate professional journals and production of video or other media is encouraged as an important method of recording, reporting and otherwise disseminating information and expanding public access to federally-funded projects (*e.g.*, scientific research). Non-Federal entities must comply with the data management and access to data requirements established by the DOC funding agency as set forth in the applicable Notice of Funding Opportunity and/or in Specific Award Conditions.

ii. Non-Federal entities may be required to submit a copy of any publication materials, including but not limited to print, recorded, or Internet materials, to the funding agency.



iii. When releasing information related to a funded project, non-Federal entities must include a statement that the project or effort undertaken was or is sponsored by DOC and must also include the applicable financial assistance award number.

iv. Non-Federal entities are responsible for assuring that every publication of material based on, developed under, or otherwise produced pursuant to a DOC financial assistance award contains the following disclaimer or other disclaimer approved by the Grants Officer:

*This [report/video/etc.] was prepared by [recipient name] using Federal funds under award [number] from [name of operating unit], U.S. Department of Commerce. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the [name of operating unit] or the U.S. Department of Commerce.*

#### **I. Homeland Security Presidential Directive**

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

*The subrecipient or contractor must comply with DOC personal identity verification procedures identified in the subaward or contract that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance M-05-24, as amended, and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) Number 201, as amended, for all employees under this subaward or contract who require routine physical access to a Federally-controlled facility or routine access to a Federally-controlled information system.*

*The subrecipient or contractor must account for all forms of Government-provided identification issued to the subrecipient or contractor employees in connection with performance under this subaward or contract. The subrecipient or contractor must return such identification to the issuing agency at the earliest of any of the following, unless otherwise determined by DOC: (1) When no longer needed for subaward or contract performance; (2) Upon completion of the subrecipient or contractor employee’s employment; (3) Upon subaward or contract completion or termination.*

#### **m. Compliance with Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security Export Administration Regulations**

1. This clause applies to the extent that this financial assistance award encompasses activities that involve export-controlled items.

2. In performing this financial assistance award, a non-Federal entity may participate in activities involving items subject to export control (export-controlled items) under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR). The non-Federal entity is responsible for compliance with all applicable laws and regulations regarding export-controlled items, including the EAR’s deemed exports and re-exports provisions. The non-Federal entity must establish and maintain effective export compliance procedures at

DOC and non-DOC facilities, including facilities located abroad, throughout performance of the financial assistance award. At a minimum, these export compliance procedures must include adequate restrictions on export-controlled items, to guard against any unauthorized exports, including in the form of releases or transfers to foreign nationals. Such releases or transfers may occur through visual inspection, including of technology transmitted electronically, and oral or written communications.

3. Definitions i. Export-controlled items. Items (commodities, software, or technology), that are subject to the EAR (15 C.F.R. §§ 730-774), implemented by the DOC's Bureau of Industry and Security. These are generally known as "dual-use" items, items with a military and commercial application. The export (shipment, transmission, or release/transfer) of export-controlled items may require a license from DOC.

ii. Deemed Export/Re-export. The EAR defines a deemed export as a release or transfer of export-controlled items (specifically, technology or source code) to a foreign person (foreign national) in the U.S. Such release is "deemed" to be an export to the foreign person's most recent country of citizenship or permanent residency (*see* 15 C.F.R. § 734.13(a)(2) & (b)). A release may take the form of visual inspection or oral or written exchange of information. *See* 15 C.F.R. § 734.15(a). If such a release or transfer is made abroad to a foreign person of a country other than the country where the release occurs, it is considered a deemed re-export to the foreign person's most recent country of citizenship or permanent residency. *See* 15 C.F.R. § 734.14(a)(2). Licenses from DOC may be required for deemed exports or re-exports. An act causing the release of export-controlled items to a foreign person (e.g., providing or using an access key or code) may require authorization from DOC to the same extent that an export or re-export of such items to the foreign person would. *See* 15 C.F.R. § 734.15(b).

4. The non-Federal entity must secure all export-controlled items that it possesses or that comes into its possession in performance of this financial assistance award, to ensure that the export of such items, including in the form of release or transfer to foreign persons, is prevented, or licensed, as required by applicable Federal laws, E.O.s, and/or regulations, including the EAR.

5. As applicable, non-Federal entity personnel and associates at DOC sites will be informed of any procedures to identify and protect export-controlled items from unauthorized export.

6. To the extent the non-Federal entity wishes to release or transfer export-controlled items to foreign persons, the non-Federal entity will be responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses, including licenses required under the EAR for deemed exports or deemed re-exports. Failure to obtain any export licenses required under the EAR may subject the non-Federal entity to administrative or criminal enforcement. *See* 15 C.F.R. part 764.

7. Nothing in the terms of this financial assistance award is intended to change, supersede, or waive the requirements of applicable Federal laws, E.O.s or regulations.

8. Compliance with this term will not satisfy any legal obligations the non-Federal entity may have regarding items that may be subject to export controls administered by other agencies such as the Department of State, which has jurisdiction over exports and re-exports of defense articles and services subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) (22 C.F.R. §§ 120-130), including the release of defense articles to foreign persons in the United States and abroad.

9. The non-Federal entity must include the provisions contained in this term in all lower tier transactions (subawards, contracts, and subcontracts) under this financial assistance award that may involve research or other activities that implicate export-controlled items.

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

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

***Trafficking in persons.***

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

*1. You as the recipient, your employees, subrecipients under this award, and subrecipients' employees may not—*

*i. Engage in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect;*

*ii. Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect; or*

*iii. Use forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.*

*2. We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if you or a subrecipient that is a private entity —*

*i. Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or*

*ii. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either— (A) Associated with performance under this award; or (B) Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 C.F.R. Part 180 (OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension – Nonprocurement), as implemented by DOC at 2 C.F.R. Part 1326 (Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension).*

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

*1. Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or*

*2. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either—*

*i. Associated with performance under this award; or*

*ii. Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 C.F.R. Part 180 (OMB Guidelines to Agencies on*

*Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension – Nonprocurement*), as implemented by DOC at 2 C.F.R. Part 1326, (*Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension*).

***c. Provisions applicable to any recipient.***

*1. You must inform us immediately of any information you receive from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term.*

*2. Our right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraph a.2 or b of this section:*

*i. Implements section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)), and*

*ii. Is in addition to all other remedies for noncompliance that are available to us under this award.*

*3. You must include the requirements of paragraph a.1 of this award term in any subaward you make to a private entity.*

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

*1. “Employee” means either:*

*i. An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award; or*

*ii. Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award and not compensated by you including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an in-kind contribution toward cost sharing or matching requirements.*

*2. “Forced labor” means labor obtained by any of the following methods: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.*

*3. “Private entity”:*

*i. Means any entity other than a State, local government, Indian tribe, or foreign public entity, as those terms are defined in 2 C.F.R. § 175.25;*

*ii. Includes: (A) A nonprofit organization, including any nonprofit institution of higher education, hospital, or tribal organization other than one included in the definition of Indian tribe at 2 C.F.R. § 175.25(b); and (B) A for-profit organization.*

*4. “Severe forms of trafficking in persons,” “commercial sex act,” and “coercion” have the meanings given at section 103 of the TVPA, as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7102).*

***o. The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) (31 U.S.C. § 6101 note)***

***1. Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation.*** Under FFATA, recipients of financial assistance awards of \$25,000 or more are required to report periodically on executive compensation and subawards, as described in the following term from 2 C.F.R. Part 170, Appendix A, which is incorporated into this award:

## **Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation**

### **a. Reporting of first-tier subawards.**

*1. Applicability. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, you must report each action that obligates \$25,000 or more in Federal funds that does not include Recovery funds (as defined in section 1512(a)(2) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. No. 111–5) for a subaward to an entity (see definitions in paragraph e. of this award term).*

*2. Where and when to report.*

*i. You must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.1. of this award term to <http://www.fsrs.gov>.*

*ii. For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the obligation was made. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2010, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2010.)*

*3. What to report. You must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at <http://www.fsrs.gov> specify.*

### **b. Reporting Total Compensation of Recipient Executives.**

*1. Applicability and what to report. You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if—*

*i. the total Federal funding authorized to date under this award is \$25,000 or more;*

*ii. in the preceding fiscal year, you received—*

*(A) 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 170.320 (and subawards); and*

*(B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 170.320 (and subawards); and*

*iii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/excomp.htm>.)*

*2. Where and when to report. You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph b.1. of this award term:*

*i. As part of your registration profile found at the System for Award Management (SAM) website located at [SAM.gov](http://SAM.gov).*

*ii. By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.*

***c. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives.***

*1. Applicability and what to report. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier subrecipient under this award, you must report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if—*

*i. in the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—*

*(A) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 170.320 (and subawards); and*

*(B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act (and subawards); and*

*ii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>.)*

*See also 2 C.F.R. § 200.300(b).*

*2. Where and when to report. You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph c.1. of this award term:*

*i. To the recipient.*

*ii. By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if a subaward is obligated on any date during the month of October of a given year (i.e., between October 1 and 31), you must report any required compensation information of the subrecipient by November 30 of that year.*

***d. Exemptions.*** *If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report: i. Subawards, and ii. The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.*

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

*1. Entity means all of the following, as defined in 2 C.F.R. Part 25:*

*i. A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;*

*ii. A foreign public entity;*

*iii. A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;*

*iv. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and*

*v. A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.*



2. *Executive means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.*

3. *Subaward:*

- i. *This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.*
- ii. *The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program. For further explanation, see Sec. \_\_.210 of the attachment to OMB Circular A-133 (Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations).*

iii. *A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.*

4. *Subrecipient means an entity that:*

- i. *Receives a subaward from you (the recipient) under this award; and*
- ii. *Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.*

5. *Total compensation means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information see 17 C.F.R. § 229.402(c)(2)):*

- i. *Salary and bonus.*
- ii. *Awards of stock, stock options, and stock appreciation rights. Use the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes with respect to the fiscal year in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (Revised 2004) (FAS 123R), Shared Based Payments.*
- iii. *Earnings for services under non-equity incentive plans. This does not include group life, health, hospitalization or medical reimbursement plans that do not discriminate in favor of executives, and are available generally to all salaried employees.*
- iv. *Change in pension value. This is the change in present value of defined benefit and actuarial pension plans.*
- v. *Above-market earnings on deferred compensation which is not tax-qualified.*
- vi. *Other compensation, if the aggregate value of all such other compensation (e.g. severance, termination payments, value of life insurance paid on behalf of the employee, perquisites or property) for the executive exceeds \$10,000.*

**2. System for Award Management (SAM) and Unique Entity Identifier Requirements.** Under FFATA, recipients must obtain a unique entity identifier, currently known as the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, maintain an active registration in the SAM database, and notify potential first-tier subrecipients that no entity may receive a first-tier subaward unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to the recipient, as described in 2 C.F.R. Part 25, Appendix A, which is incorporated into this award:

***System for Award Management (SAM) and Unique Entity Identifier Requirements***

*a. **Requirement for SAM Registration.** Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 C.F.R. § 25.110, you as the recipient must maintain the currency of your information in SAM until you submit the final financial report required under this award or receive the final payment, whichever is later. This requires that you review and update the information at least annually after the initial registration, and more frequently if required by changes in your information or another award term.*

*b. **Requirement for Unique Entity Identifier.** If you are authorized to make subawards under this award, you: 1. Must notify potential subrecipients that no entity (see definition in paragraph C of this award term) may receive a subaward from you unless the entity has provided its Unique Entity Identifier, currently known as the DUNS number, to you.*

*2. May not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its Unique Entity Identifier, currently known as the DUNS number, to you.*

*c. **Definitions for purposes of this award term:** 1. SAM is the comprehensive system into which the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) system was migrated and is part of the overall Integrated Award Environment (IAE). The information previously maintained in CCR is now contained within the Entity Management area in SAM.gov.*

*2. DUNS number means the nine-digit number established and assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) to uniquely identify business entities. A DUNS number may be obtained from D&B by telephone (currently 866-705-5711) or the Internet (currently at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>).*

*3. Entity, as it is used in this award term, means all of the following, as defined at 2 C.F.R. part 25, subpart C: i. A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian Tribe;*

*ii. A foreign public entity;*

*iii. A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;*

*iv. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and*

*v. A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a recipient.*

*4. Subaward: i. This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.*

*ii. The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program. For further explanation, see Sec. \_\_.210 of the attachment to OMB Circular A-133 (Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations).*

*iii. A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you consider a contract.*

*5. Subrecipient means an entity that: i. Receives a subaward from you under this award; and*

*ii. Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.*

*See also 2 C.F.R. § 200.300(b).*

**p. Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters (Appendix XII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200)**

***Reporting of Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance***

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

2. Proceedings About Which You Must Report Submit the information required about each proceeding that:

i. Is relating to the award or performance of a grant, cooperative agreement, or procurement contract from the Federal Government;

ii. Reached its final disposition during the most recent five-year period; and

iii. Is one of the following:

(A) A criminal proceeding that resulted in a conviction, as defined in paragraph 5 of this award term and condition;

(B) A civil proceeding that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and payment of a monetary fine, penalty, reimbursement, restitution, or damages of \$5,000 or more;

(C) An administrative proceeding, as defined in paragraph 5. of this award term and condition, that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and your payment of either a monetary fine or penalty of \$5,000 or more or reimbursement, restitution, or damages in excess of \$100,000; or

(D) Any other criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding if:

I. It could have led to an outcome described in paragraph 2.c.(1), (2), or (3) of this award term and condition;

II. It had a different disposition arrived at by consent or compromise with an acknowledgment of fault on your part; and

III. The requirement in this award term and condition to disclose information about the proceeding does not conflict with applicable laws and regulations.

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

4. Reporting Frequency. During any period when you are subject to the requirement in paragraph 1 of this award term and condition, you must report proceedings information through SAM for the most recent five-year period, either to report new information about any proceeding(s) that you have not reported previously or affirm that there is no new information to report. Recipients that have Federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10,000,000 must disclose semiannually any information about the criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings.

5. Definitions. For purposes of this award term and condition:

i. Administrative proceeding means a non-judicial process that is adjudicatory in nature to make a determination of fault or liability (e.g., Securities and Exchange Commission Administrative proceedings, Civilian Board of Contract Appeals proceedings, and Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals proceedings). This includes proceedings at the Federal and State level but only in connection with performance of a Federal contract or grant. It does not include audits, site visits, corrective plans, or inspection of deliverables.

ii. Conviction, for purposes of this award term and condition, means a judgment or conviction of a criminal offense by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether entered upon a verdict or a plea, and includes a conviction entered upon a plea of nolo contendere.

iii. Total value of currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts includes:

(A) Only the Federal share of the funding under any Federal award with a recipient cost share or match; and

(B) The value of all expected funding increments under a Federal award and options, even if not yet exercised.

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

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

1. Unless there is an actual rescission of funds for specific grant or cooperative agreement obligations, non-Federal entities under Federal financial assistance awards for which funds have been obligated generally will be able to continue to perform and incur allowable expenses under the award during a funding hiatus. Non-Federal entities are advised that ongoing activities by Federal employees involved in grant or cooperative agreement administration (including payment processing) or similar operational and administrative work cannot continue when there is a funding lapse. Therefore, there may be delays, including payment processing delays, in the event of a shutdown.

2. All award actions will be delayed during a government shutdown; if it appears that a non-Federal entity's performance under a grant or cooperative agreement will require agency involvement, direction, or clearance during the period of a possible government shutdown, the Program Officer or Grants Officer, as appropriate, may attempt to provide such involvement, direction, or clearance prior to the shutdown or advise non-Federal entities that such involvement, direction, or clearance will not be forthcoming during the shutdown. Accordingly, non-Federal entities whose ability to withdraw funds is subject to prior agency approval, which in general are non-Federal entities that have been designated high risk, non-Federal entities under construction awards, or are otherwise limited to reimbursements or subject to agency review, will be able to draw funds down from the relevant Automatic Standard Application for Payment (ASAP) account only if agency approval is given and coded into ASAP prior to any government shutdown.

or closure. This limitation may not be lifted during a government shutdown. Non-Federal entities should plan to work with the Grants Officer to request prior approvals in advance of a shutdown wherever possible. Non-Federal entities whose authority to draw down award funds is restricted may decide to suspend work until the government reopens.

3. The ASAP system should remain operational during a government shutdown. Non-Federal entities that do not require any Grants Officer or agency approval to draw down advance funds from their ASAP accounts should be able to do so during a shutdown. The 30-day limitation on the drawdown of advance funds will still apply notwithstanding a government shutdown (see section B.02.b.1 of these terms).