



Department of Public Safety

45 State Drive
Waterbury VT

[phone] 802-798-9777

SIMPLIFIED BID
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Environmental assessment

ISSUE DATE	August 29, 2024
QUESTIONS DUE	September 13, 2024 (EST- 3:00 PM)
RFP RESPONSES DUE BY	September 30, 2024 (EST- 3:00 PM)

THE STATE WILL MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO CONTACT INTERESTED PARTIES WITH UPDATED INFORMATION.

STATE CONTACT:	Alastair Gee
TELEPHONE:	(802) 798-9777
E-MAIL:	alastair.gee@vermont.gov

1. OVERVIEW:

- 1.1. **SCOPE AND BACKGROUND:** Through this Request for Proposal (RFP) the Department of Public Safety (hereinafter the "State") is seeking to establish contract(s) with one or more companies that can conduct a single Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for 49 sites.
- 1.2. **CONTRACT PERIOD:** Contracts arising from this RFP will be for a period of 12 months. The State anticipates the start date for such contract(s) will be 10/1/2024.
- 1.3. **SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT:** All communications concerning this RFP are to be addressed in writing to the State Contact listed on the front page of this RFP. Actual or attempted contact with any other individual from the State concerning this RFP is strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification.
- 1.4. **QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD:** Any bidder requiring clarification of any section of this RFP or wishing to comment on any requirement of the RFP must submit specific questions in writing no later than the deadline for question indicated on the first page of this RFP. Questions may be e-mailed to the point of contact on the front page of this RFP. Questions or comments not raised in writing on or before the last day of the question period are thereafter waived. At the close of the question period a copy of all questions or comments and the State's responses will be emailed to each potential vendor.

2. DETAILED REQUIREMENTS/DESIRED OUTCOMES:

As part of a federal grant, the Vermont Department of Public Safety (the Department) plans to replace antennas on existing structures that support Vermont's Land Mobile Radio (LMR) network. This project includes replacing existing LMR antennas on 39 existing structures, replacing existing microwave dish antennas on 13 of these 39 structures, and deploying new LMR antennas on 10 additional structures owned by a third-party telecommunications firm. This project includes 49 total structures.

The federal grant for this project is administered by the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Community Oriented Policing (COPS) office. The grant falls under the Technology and Equipment Program. The Department seeks a vendor to conduct a single Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the project overall, incorporating all 49 structures. The EA may group structures under the various environmental categories as appropriate and must be completed in coordination with and to the satisfaction of the DOJ COPS office.

The Department will provide vendor an excel document outlining the following information regarding the 49 structures: location address, coordinates, and, where already known by the Department, the tower owner, tower model and year constructed, FCC ASR#, and VT PUC docket#. The Department will also provide vendor with its contact at the DOJ COPS office as well as any environmental compliance documentation provided by the DOJ.

The Department seeks for the final report to be completed within six (6) months of the award.

3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 3.1. **PRICING:** Bidders must price the terms of this solicitation at their best pricing. Any and all costs that Bidder wishes the State to consider must be submitted for consideration. If applicable, all equipment pricing is to include F.O.B. delivery to the ordering facility. No request for extra delivery cost will be honored. All equipment shall be delivered assembled, serviced, and ready for immediate use, unless otherwise requested by the State.
 - 3.1.1. Prices and/or rates shall remain firm for the initial term of the contract. The pricing policy submitted by Bidder must (i) be clearly structured, accountable, and auditable and (ii) cover the full spectrum of materials and/or services required.
 - 3.1.2. **Cooperative Agreements.** Bidders that have been awarded similar contracts through a competitive bidding process with another state and/or cooperative are welcome to submit the pricing in response to this solicitation.

- 3.1.3.Retainage.** In the discretion of the State, a contract resulting from this RFP may provide that the State withhold a percentage of the total amount payable for some or all deliverables, such retainage to be payable upon satisfactory completion and State acceptance in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract.
- 3.2. **STATEMENT OF RIGHTS:** The State shall have the authority to evaluate Responses and select the Bidder(s) as may be determined to be in the best interest of the State and consistent with the goals and performance requirements outlined in this RFP. The State of Vermont reserves the right to obtain clarification or additional information necessary to properly evaluate a proposal. Failure of bidder to respond to a request for additional information or clarification could result in rejection of that bidder's proposal. To secure a project that is deemed to be in the best interest of the State, the State reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, with or without cause, and to waive technicalities in submissions. The State also reserves the right to make purchases outside of the awarded contracts where it is deemed in the best interest of the State.
- 3.2.1.**Best and Final Offer (BAFO).** At any time after submission of Responses and prior to the final selection of Bidder(s) for Contract negotiation or execution, the State may invite Bidder(s) to provide a BAFO. The state reserves the right to request BAFOs from only those Bidders that meet the minimum qualification requirements and/or have not been eliminated from consideration during the evaluation process.
- 3.2.2.**Presentation.** An in-person or webinar presentation by the Bidder may be required by the State if it will help the State's evaluation process. The State will factor information presented during presentations into the evaluation. Bidders will be responsible for all costs associated with providing the presentation.
- 3.3. **WORKER CLASSIFICATION COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS:** In accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54), Bidders must comply with the following provisions and requirements.
- 3.3.1.**Self Reporting:** For bid amounts exceeding \$250,000.00, Bidder shall complete the appropriate section in the attached Certificate of Compliance for purposes of self-reporting information relating to past violations, convictions, suspensions, and any other information related to past performance relative to coding and classification of workers. The State is requiring information on any violations that occurred in the previous 12 months.
- 3.3.2.**Subcontractor Reporting:** For bid amounts exceeding \$250,000.00, Bidders are hereby notified that upon award of contract, and prior to contract execution, the State shall be provided with a list of all proposed subcontractors and subcontractors' subcontractors, together with the identity of those subcontractors' workers compensation insurance providers, and additional required or requested information, as applicable, in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54). This requirement does not apply to subcontractors providing supplies only and no labor to the overall contract or project. This list **MUST** be updated and provided to the State as additional subcontractors are hired. A sample form is available online at <http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing-contracting/forms>. **The subcontractor reporting form is not required to be submitted with the bid response.**
- 3.4. **EXECUTIVE ORDER 05-16: CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS IN STATE PROCUREMENTS:**
For bid amounts exceeding \$25,000.00 Bidders are requested to complete the Climate Change Considerations in State Procurements Certification, which is included in the Certificate of Compliance for this RFP.

After consideration of all relevant factors, a bidder that demonstrates business practices that promote clean energy and address climate change as identified in the Certification, shall be given favorable consideration in the competitive bidding process. Such favorable consideration shall be consistent with and not supersede any preference given to resident bidders of the State and/or products raised or manufactured in the State, as explained in the Method of Award section. But, such favorable consideration shall not be employed if prohibited by law or other relevant authority or agreement.
- 3.5. **METHOD OF AWARD:** Awards will be made in the best interest of the State. The State may award one or more contracts and reserves the right to make additional awards to other compliant bidders at any time if such award is deemed to be in the best interest of the State. All other considerations being equal,

preference will be given first to resident bidders of the state and/or to products raised or manufactured in the state, and then to bidders who have practices that promote clean energy and address climate change, as identified in the applicable Certificate of Compliance.

- 3.5.1. **Evaluation Criteria:** Consideration shall be given to the Bidder’s project approach and methodology, qualifications and experience, ability to provide the services within the defined timeline, cost, and/or success in completing similar projects, as applicable, and to the extent specified below.

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Maximum Possible Points</u>
A. Prior experience	
1. Completed work of similar type	30
B. Quality of staff	
1. Qualification of staff to be assigned (education, position in firm, years and types of experience will be considered)	10
C. Project Proposal	
1. Demonstrated understanding of work to be performed.	15
2. Proposal outline realistic timelines for accomplishing scope of work.	15
3. Proposal meets the goals of the scope of work as outlined.	15
D. Cost (Price = \$_____)	10
E. Special consideration given to small, women, minority, or veteran owned businesses	5
Maximum Points	100

- 3.6. **CONTRACT NEGOTIATION:** Upon completion of the evaluation process, the State may select one or more bidders with which to negotiate a contract, based on the evaluation findings and other criteria deemed relevant for ensuring that the decision made is in the best interest of the State. In the event State is not successful in negotiating a contract with a selected bidder, the State reserves the option of negotiating with another bidder, or to end the proposal process entirely.
- 3.7. **COST OF PREPARATION:** Bidder shall be solely responsible for all expenses incurred in the preparation of a response to this RFP and shall be responsible for all expenses associated with any presentations or demonstrations associated with this request and/or any proposals made.
- 3.8. **CONTRACT TERMS:** The selected bidder(s) will be expected to sign a contract with the State, including the Standard Contract Form and Attachment C as attached to this RFP for reference. If IT Attachment D is included in this RFP, terms may be modified based upon the solution proposed by the Bidder, subject to approval by the Agency of Digital Services.
- 3.8.1. **Business Registration.** To be awarded a contract by the State of Vermont a bidder (except an individual doing business in his/her own name) must be registered with the Vermont Secretary of State’s office <https://sos.vermont.gov/corporations/registration/> and must obtain a Contractor’s Business Account Number issued by the Vermont Department of Taxes <http://tax.vermont.gov/> .
- 3.8.2. The contract will obligate the bidder to provide the services and/or products identified in its bid, at the prices listed.
- 3.8.3. **Payment Terms.** Percentage discounts may be offered for prompt payments of invoices; however, such discounts must be in effect for a period of 30 days or more in order to be considered in making awards.

3.8.4. **Quality.** If applicable, all products provided under a contract with the State will be new and unused, unless otherwise stated. Factory seconds or remanufactured products will not be accepted unless specifically requested by the purchasing agency. All products provided by the contractor must meet all federal, state, and local standards for quality and safety requirements. Products not meeting these standards will be deemed unacceptable and returned to the contractor for credit at no charge to the State.

4. **CONTENT AND FORMAT OF RESPONSES:** The content and format requirements listed below are the minimum requirements for State evaluation. These requirements are not intended to limit the content of a Bidder's proposal. Bidders may include additional information or offer alternative solutions for the State's consideration. However, the State discourages overly lengthy and costly proposals, and Bidders are advised to include only such information in their response as may be relevant to the requirements of this RFP.

4.1. The bid should include a Cover Letter and Technical Response and Price Schedule.

4.2. **COVER LETTER:**

4.2.1. Confidentiality. To the extent your bid contains information you consider to be proprietary and confidential, you must comply with the following requirements concerning the contents of your cover letter and the submission of a redacted copy of your bid (or affected portions thereof).

4.2.2. All responses to this RFP will become part of the contract file and will become a matter of public record under the State's Public Records Act, 1 V.S.A. § 315 et seq. (the "Public Records Act"). If your response must include material that you consider to be proprietary and confidential under the Public Records Act, your cover letter must clearly identify each page or section of your response that you consider proprietary and confidential. Your cover letter must also include a written explanation **for each marked section** explaining why such material should be considered exempt from public disclosure in the event of a public records request, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 317(c), including the prospective harm to the competitive position of the bidder if the identified material were to be released. Additionally, you must include a redacted copy of your response for portions that are considered proprietary and confidential. Redactions must be limited so that the reviewer may understand the nature of the information being withheld. It is typically inappropriate to redact entire pages, or to redact the titles/captions of tables and figures. Under no circumstances may your entire response be marked confidential, and the State reserves the right to disqualify responses so marked.

4.2.3. Exceptions to Contract Terms and Conditions. If a Bidder wishes to propose an exception to any terms and conditions set forth in the Standard Contract Form and its attachments, such exceptions must be included in the cover letter to the RFP response. Failure to note exceptions when responding to the RFP will be deemed to be acceptance of the State contract terms and conditions. If exceptions are not noted in the response to this RFP but raised during contract negotiations, the State reserves the right to cancel the negotiation if deemed to be in the best interests of the State. Note that exceptions to contract terms may cause rejection of the proposal.

4.3. **TECHNICAL RESPONSE.** In response to this RFP, a Bidder shall:

4.3.1. Provide details concerning your form of business organization, company size and resources.

4.3.2. Describe your capabilities and particular experience relevant to the RFP requirements.

4.3.2.1. Identify all current or past State projects.

4.3.3. Identify the names of all subcontractors you intend to use, the portions of the work the subcontractors will perform, and address the background and experience of the subcontractor(s), as per RFP section 4.3.2 above.

4.4. **REFERENCES.** Provide the names, addresses, and phone numbers of at least three companies with whom you have transacted similar business in the last 12 months. You must include contact names who can talk knowledgeably about performance.

4.5. **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** Provide a sample of any reporting documentation that may be applicable to the Detailed Requirements of this RFP.

4.6. **PRICE SCHEDULE:** Bidders shall submit their pricing information in the Price Schedule attached to the RFP.

4.7. **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE:** This form must be completed and submitted as part of the response for the proposal to be considered valid.

5. **SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:**

5.1. **CLOSING DATE:** Bids must be received by the State by the due date specified on the front page of this RFP. Late bids will not be considered.

5.1.1. The State may, for cause, issue an addendum to change the date and/or time when bids are due. If a change is made, the State will inform all bidders by posting at the webpage indicated on the front page of this RFP.

5.1.2. There will not be a public bid opening. However, the State will record the name, city and state for any and all bids received by the due date.

5.2. **STATE SECURITY PROCEDURES: Please be advised extra time will be needed when visiting and/or delivering information to State of Vermont offices. All individuals visiting State offices must present a valid government issued photo ID when entering the facility.**

5.2.1. State office buildings may be locked or otherwise closed to the public. **Any delay caused by State Security Procedures will be at the bidder's own risk.**

5.3. **BID DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS:**

5.3.1. **ELECTRONIC:** Electronic bids will only be accepted.

5.3.1.1. **E-MAIL BIDS.** Emailed bids will be accepted. Bids will be accepted via email submission to Alastair.gee@vermont.gov. Bids must consist of a single email with a single, digitally searchable PDF attachment containing all components of the bid. Multiple emails and/or multiple attachments will not be accepted. There is an attachment size limit of 40 MB. It is the Bidder's responsibility to compress the PDF file containing its bid if necessary in order to meet this size limitation.

5.3.1.2. **FAX BIDS:** Faxed bids will not be accepted.

5.4. **U.S. MAIL OR EXPRESS DELIVERY OR HAND DELIVERY** will not be accepted.

6. **BID SUBMISSION CHECKLIST:**

- ✓ Required Number of Copies
- ✓ Cover Letter
- ✓ Technical Response
- ✓ Redacted Technical Response, if applicable
- ✓ References
- ✓ Price Schedule
- ✓ Signed Certificate of Compliance

7. **ATTACHMENTS:**

7.1. Certificate of Compliance

7.2. Price Schedule

7.3. Worker Classification Compliance Requirement; Subcontractor Reporting Form

7.4. Standard State Contract with its associated attachments, including but not limited to, Attachment C: Standard State Provisions for Contracts and Grants (December 15, 2017)

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

For a bid to be considered valid, this form must be completed in its entirety, executed by a duly authorized representative of the bidder, and submitted as part of the response to the proposal.

- A. **NON COLLUSION:** Bidder hereby certifies that the prices quoted have been arrived at without collusion and that no prior information concerning these prices has been received from or given to a competitive company. If there is sufficient evidence to warrant investigation of the bid/contract process by the Office of the Attorney General, bidder understands that this paragraph might be used as a basis for litigation.
- B. **CONTRACT TERMS:** Bidder hereby acknowledges that is has read, understands and agrees to the terms of this RFP, including Attachment C: Standard State Contract Provisions, and any other contract attachments included with this RFP.
- C. **WORKER CLASSIFICATION COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT:** In accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54), the following provisions and requirements apply to Bidder when the amount of its bid exceeds \$250,000.00.

Self-Reporting. Bidder hereby self-reports the following information relating to past violations, convictions, suspensions, and any other information related to past performance relative to coding and classification of workers, that occurred in the previous 12 months.

Summary of Detailed Information	Date of Notification	Outcome

Subcontractor Reporting. Bidder hereby acknowledges and agrees that if it is a successful bidder, prior to execution of any contract resulting from this RFP, Bidder will provide to the State a list of all proposed subcontractors and subcontractors' subcontractors, together with the identity of those subcontractors' workers compensation insurance providers, and additional required or requested information, as applicable, in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54), and Bidder will provide any update of such list to the State as additional subcontractors are hired. Bidder further acknowledges and agrees that the failure to submit subcontractor reporting in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54) will constitute non-compliance and may result in cancellation of contract and/or restriction from bidding on future state contracts.

D. **Executive Order 05 – 16: Climate Change Considerations in State Procurements Certification**

Bidder certifies to the following (Bidder may attach any desired explanation or substantiation. Please also note that Bidder may be asked to provide documentation for any applicable claims):

1. Bidder owns, leases or utilizes, for business purposes, space that has received:
- Energy Star® Certification
 - LEED®, Green Globes®, or Living Buildings ChallengeSM Certification
 - Other internationally recognized building certification:
-

2. Bidder has received incentives or rebates from an Energy Efficiency Utility or Energy Efficiency Program in the last five years for energy efficient improvements made at bidder's place of business. Please explain:
-

3. Please Check all that apply:
- Bidder can claim on-site renewable power or anaerobic-digester power ("cow-power"). Or bidder consumes renewable electricity through voluntary purchase or offset, provided no such claimed power can be double-claimed by another party.
 - Bidder uses renewable biomass or bio-fuel for the purposes of thermal (heat) energy at its place of business.
 - Bidder's heating system has modern, high-efficiency units (boilers, furnaces, stoves, etc.), having reduced emissions of particulate matter and other air pollutants.
 - Bidder tracks its energy consumption and harmful greenhouse gas emissions. What tool is used to do this? _____
 - Bidder promotes the use of plug-in electric vehicles by providing electric vehicle charging, electric fleet vehicles, preferred parking, designated parking, purchase or lease incentives, etc..
 - Bidder offers employees an option for a fossil fuel divestment retirement account.
 - Bidder offers products or services that reduce waste, conserve water, or promote energy efficiency and conservation. Please explain:
-
-

4. Please list any additional practices that promote clean energy and take action to address climate change:
-
-
-

E. Executive Order 02 – 22: Solidarity with the Ukrainian People

- By checking this box, Bidder certifies that none of the goods, products, or materials offered in response to this solicitation are Russian-sourced goods or produced by Russian entities. If Bidder is unable to check the box, it shall indicate in the table below which of the applicable offerings are Russian-sourced goods and/or which are produced by Russian entities. An additional column is provided for any note or comment that you may have.

Provided Equipment or Product	Note or Comment

Bidder Name: _____ Contact Name: _____

Address: _____ Fax Number: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

By: _____ Name: _____
Signature of Bidder (or Representative) (Type or Print)

END OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

PRICE SCHEDULE

A. Fixed Price Deliverables:

Deliverable Description	Fixed Price
NEPA report	\$
Total Project Cost	\$

Name of Bidder: _____

Signature of Bidder: _____

Date: _____

SUBCONTRACTOR REPORTING FORM

This form must be completed in its entirety and submitted prior to contract execution and updated as necessary and provided to the State as additional subcontractors are hired.

The Department of Buildings and General Services in accordance with Act 54, Section 32 of the Acts of 2009 and for total project costs exceeding \$250,000.00 requires bidders to comply with the following provisions and requirements.

Contractor is required to provide a list of subcontractors on the job along with lists of subcontractor’s subcontractors and by whom those subcontractors are insured for workers’ compensation purposes. Include additional pages if necessary. This is not a requirement for subcontractor’s providing supplies only and no labor to the overall contract or project.

Subcontractor	Insured By	Subcontractor’s Sub	Insured By

Date: _____

Name of Company: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Title: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

Fax Number: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Failure to adhere to Act 54, Section 32 of the Acts of 2009 and submit Subcontractor Reporting: Worker Classification Compliance Requirement will constitute non-compliance and may result in cancellation of contract and/or forfeiture of future bidding privileges until resolved.

Send Completed Form to: Office of Purchasing & Contracting
133 State Street, 5th Floor
Montpelier, VT 05633-8000

STANDARD CONTRACT FOR SERVICES

1. **Parties.** This is a contract for services between the State of Vermont, _____ (hereinafter called “State”), and _____, with a principal place of business in _____, (hereinafter called “Contractor”). Contractor’s form of business organization is _____. It is Contractor’s responsibility to contact the Vermont Department of Taxes to determine if, by law, Contractor is required to have a Vermont Department of Taxes Business Account Number.

2. **Subject Matter.** The subject matter of this contract is services generally on the subject of _____. Detailed services to be provided by Contractor are described in Attachment A.

3. **Maximum Amount.** In consideration of the services to be performed by Contractor, the State agrees to pay Contractor, in accordance with the payment provisions specified in Attachment B, a sum not to exceed \$_____.00.

4. **Contract Term.** The period of Contractor’s performance shall begin on _____, 20__ and end on _____, 20__.

5. **Prior Approvals.** This Contract shall not be binding unless and until all requisite prior approvals have been obtained in accordance with current State law, bulletins, and interpretations.

6. **Amendment.** No changes, modifications, or amendments in the terms and conditions of this contract shall be effective unless reduced to writing, numbered and signed by the duly authorized representative of the State and Contractor.

7. **Termination for Convenience.** This contract may be terminated by the State at any time by giving written notice at least thirty (30) days in advance. In such event, Contractor shall be paid under the terms of this contract for all services provided to and accepted by the State prior to the effective date of termination.

8. **Attachments.** This contract consists of ___ pages including the following attachments which are incorporated herein:

Attachment A - Statement of Work

Attachment B - Payment Provisions

Attachment C – “Standard State Provisions for Contracts and Grants” a preprinted form (revision date 12/07/2023)

“State of Vermont – Federal Terms Supplement (non-construction)”

Attachment D - Other Provisions

Additional attachments may be lettered as necessary

9. **Order of Precedence.** Any ambiguity, conflict or inconsistency between the documents comprising this contract shall be resolved according to the following order of precedence:

(1) Standard Contract

(2) Attachment D

(3) Attachment C (Standard Contract Provisions for Contracts and Grants)

(4) State of Vermont – Federal Terms Supplement (non-construction)

(5) Attachment A

(6) Attachment B

List other attachments, if any, in order of precedence

WE THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THIS CONTRACT

By the State of Vermont:

By the Contractor:

Date: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

ATTACHMENT A – STATEMENT OF WORK

The Contractor shall produce a report as described.

ATTACHMENT B – PAYMENT PROVISIONS

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

1. Prior to commencement of work and release of any payments, Contractor shall submit to the State:
 - a. a certificate of insurance consistent with the requirements set forth in Attachment C, Section 8 (Insurance), and with any additional requirements for insurance as may be set forth elsewhere in this contract; and
 - b. a current IRS Form W-9 (signed within the last six months).
2. Payment terms are **Net 30** days from the date the State receives an error-free invoice with all necessary and complete supporting documentation.
3. Contractor shall submit detailed invoices itemizing all work performed during the invoice period, including the dates of service, rates of pay, hours of work performed, and any other information and/or documentation appropriate and sufficient to substantiate the amount invoiced for payment by the State. All invoices must include the Contract # for this contract.
4. Contractor shall submit invoices to the State in accordance with the schedule set forth in this Attachment B. Unless a more particular schedule is provided herein, invoices shall be submitted not more frequently than monthly.
5. Invoices shall be submitted to the State at the following address: _____
6. The payment schedule for delivered products, or rates for services performed, and any additional reimbursements, are as follows: _____

DELETE THESE INSTRUCTIONS The above language up through section 5 is standard and should be included in all services contracts. Section 6 is merely a prompt for completion of the particular payment terms necessary to the contract, such as the schedule and/or rates of pay. Sample language is provided below, if helpful, but there is no required format.

TIME/MATERIALS: If payment will be based upon time and materials, specify the frequency of invoicing and the rate of payment. For example:

Contractor shall be paid \$50.00 per hour for work performed under this Contract, and shall submit invoices to the State not more frequently than monthly.

FIXED PRICE/DELIVERABLES: If payments are fixed price, specify an invoice schedule that corresponds to completion of the deliverables or phases of work described in Attachment A. For example:

Contractor shall submit invoices to the State in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Deliverable</u>	<u>Invoice Amount</u>
Phase 1 completed by May 1, 2015	\$5,000.00
Phase 2 completed by July 1, 2015	\$5,000.00
Submit Final Report by August 31, 2015	\$8,000.00

NOTE: Additional guidance for drafting Attachment B is provided in Bulletin 3.5, Section IX.A.5 and Appendix III

ATTACHMENT C: STANDARD STATE PROVISIONS FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS
REVISED DECEMBER 7, 2023

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. Defense and Indemnity:

A. The Party shall defend the State and its officers and employees against all third-party claims or suits arising in whole or in part from any act or omission of the Party or of any agent of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement. The State shall notify the Party in the event of any such claim or suit, and the Party shall immediately retain counsel and otherwise provide a complete defense against the entire claim or suit. The State retains the right to participate at its own expense in the defense of any claim. The State shall have the right to approve all proposed settlements of such claims or suits.

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

C. The Party shall indemnify the State and its officers and employees if the State, its officers, or employees become legally obligated to pay any damages or losses arising from any act or omission of the Party or an agent of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

D. Notwithstanding any contrary language anywhere, in no event shall the terms of this Agreement or any document furnished by the Party in connection with its performance under this Agreement obligate the State to (1) defend or

indemnify the Party or any third party, or (2) otherwise be liable for the expenses or reimbursement, including attorneys' fees, collection costs or other costs of the Party or any third party.

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

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

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

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

12. Use and Protection of State Information:

A. As between the State and Party, "State Data" includes all data received, obtained, or generated by the Party in connection with performance under this Agreement. Party acknowledges that certain State Data to which the Party may have access may contain information that is deemed confidential by the State, or which is otherwise confidential by law, rule, or practice, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under the State of Vermont Access to Public Records Act, 1 V.S.A. § 315 et seq. ("Confidential State Data").

B. With respect to State Data, Party shall:

- i. take reasonable precautions for its protection;
- ii. not rent, sell, publish, share, or otherwise appropriate it; and
- iii. upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, Party shall dispose of or retain State Data if and to the extent required by this Agreement, law, or regulation, or otherwise requested in writing by the State.

C. With respect to Confidential State Data, Party shall:

- i. strictly maintain its confidentiality;
- ii. not collect, access, use, or disclose it except as necessary to provide services to the State under this Agreement;
- iii. provide at a minimum the same care to avoid disclosure or unauthorized use as it provides to protect its own similar confidential and proprietary information;
- iv. implement and maintain administrative, technical, and physical safeguards and controls to protect against any anticipated threats or hazards or unauthorized access or use;
- v. promptly notify the State of any request or demand by any court, governmental agency or other person asserting a demand or request for Confidential State Data so that the State may seek an appropriate protective order; and
- vi. upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, and except as necessary to comply with subsection B.iii above in this section, return or destroy all Confidential State Data remaining in its possession or control.

D. If Party is provided or accesses, creates, collects, processes, receives, stores, or transmits Confidential State Data in any electronic form or media, Party shall utilize:

- i. industry-standard firewall protection;
- ii. multi-factor authentication controls;

- iii. encryption of electronic Confidential State Data while in transit and at rest;
- iv. measures to ensure that the State Data shall not be altered without the prior written consent of the State;
- v. measures to protect against destruction, loss, or damage of State Data due to potential environmental hazards, such as fire and water damage;
- vi. training to implement the information security measures; and
- vii. monitoring of the security of any portions of the Party's systems that are used in the provision of the services against intrusion.

E. No Confidential State Data received, obtained, or generated by the Party in connection with performance under this Agreement shall be processed, transmitted, stored, or transferred by any means outside the United States, except with the express written permission of the State.

F. Party shall notify the State within twenty-four hours after becoming aware of any unauthorized destruction, loss, alteration, disclosure of, or access to, any State Data.

G. State of Vermont Cybersecurity Standard Update: Party confirms that all products and services provided to or for the use of the State under this Agreement shall be in compliance with State of Vermont Cybersecurity Standard Update in effect at the time of incorporation of this Attachment C into this Agreement. The State of Vermont Cybersecurity Standard Update prohibits the use of certain branded products in State information systems or any vendor system, and a copy is available at: <https://digitalservices.vermont.gov/cybersecurity/cybersecurity-standards-and-directives>

H. In addition to the requirements of this Section 12, Party shall comply with any additional requirements regarding the protection of data that may be included in this Agreement or required by law or regulation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In the case this Agreement is a contract with a total cost in excess of \$250,000, the Party shall provide to the State a list of all proposed subcontractors and subcontractors' subcontractors, together with the identity of those subcontractors' workers compensation insurance providers, and additional required or requested information, as applicable, in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54), as amended by Section 17 of Act No. 142 (2010) and by Section 6 of Act No. 50 (2011).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27. Termination:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32. Requirements Pertaining Only to State-Funded Grants:

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

B. Good Standing Certification (Act 154 of 2016): If this Agreement is a State-funded grant, Party hereby represents: (i) that it has signed and provided to the State the form prescribed by the Secretary of Administration for purposes of certifying that it is in good standing (as provided in Section 13(a)(2) of Act 154) with the Agency of

Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, or otherwise explaining the circumstances surrounding the inability to so certify; and (ii) that it will comply with the requirements stated therein.
(End of Standard Provisions)

STATE OF VERMONT- FEDERAL TERMS SUPPLEMENT (Non-Construction)

(Revision date: July 19, 2023)

PROCUREMENT OF RECOVERED MATERIALS

In the performance of this contract, the Contractor shall make maximum use of products containing recovered materials that are EPA-designated Items unless the products cannot be acquired-

1. Competitively within a time frame providing for compliance with the contract performance schedule;
2. Meeting contract performance requirements; or
3. At a reasonable price

Information about this requirement, along with the list of EPA-designated items, is available at the EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines web site, <https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive-procurement-guideline-cpg-program>.

The Contractor also agrees to comply with all other applicable requirements of section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

CLEAN AIR ACT

1. The contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.
2. The contractor agrees to report each violation to the State of Vermont and understands and agrees that the State of Vermont will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.
3. The contractor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FEMA.

FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

1. The contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.
2. The contractor agrees to report each violation to the State of Vermont and understands and agrees that the State of Vermont will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.
3. The contractor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FEMA. **a.** Standard. Non-Federal entities and contractors are subject to the debarment and suspension regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, *Debarment and Suspension* (1986) and Executive Order 12689, *Debarment and Suspension* (1989) at 2 C.F.R. Part 180 and the Department of Homeland Security's regulations at 2 C.F.R. Part 3000 (Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension).

CONTRACTOR BREACH, ERRORS AND OMISSIONS

1. Any breach of the terms of this contract, or material errors and omissions in the work product of the contractor must be corrected by the contractor at no cost to the State, and a contractor may be liable for the State's costs and other damages resulting from errors or deficiencies in its performance.

2. Neither the States' review, approval or acceptance of nor payment for, the services required under this contract shall be construed to operate as a waiver of any rights under this contract or of any cause of action arising out of the performance of this contract.
3. The rights and remedies of the State provided for under this contract are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or elsewhere in the contract.

TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE

1. General

- a. Any termination for convenience shall be effected by delivery to the Contractor an Order of Termination specifying the termination is for the convenience of the Agency, the extent to which performance of work under the Contract is terminated, and the effective date of the termination.
- b. In the event such termination occurs, without fault and for reasons beyond the control of the Contractor, all completed or partially completed items of work as of the date of termination will be paid for in accordance with the contract payment terms.
- c. No compensation will be allowed for items eliminated from the Contract.
- d. Termination of the Contract, or portion thereof, shall not relieve the Contractor of its contractual responsibilities for work completed and shall not relieve the Contractor's Surety of its obligation for and concerning any just claim arising out of the work performed.

2. Contractor Obligations

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

- a. To the extent specified in the Notice of Termination, stop work under the Contract on the date specified.
- b. Place no further orders or subcontracts for materials, services, and/or facilities except as may be necessary for completion of such portion(s) of the work under the Contract as is (are) not terminated.
- c. Terminate and cancel any orders or subcontracts for related to the services, except as may be necessary for completion of such portion(s) of the work under the Contract as is (are) not terminated.
- d. Transfer to the State all completed or partially completed plans, drawings, information, and other property which, if the Contract had been completed, would be required to be furnished to the State.
- e. Take other action as may be necessary or as directed by the State for the protection and preservation of the property related to the contract which is in the possession of the contractor and in which the State has or may acquire any interest.
- f. Make available to the State all cost and other records relevant to a determination of an equitable settlement.

3. Claim by Contractor

After receipt of the Notice of Termination from the state, the Contractor shall submit any claim for additional costs not covered herein or elsewhere in the Contract within 60 days of the effective termination date, and not thereafter. Should the Contractor fail to submit a claim within the 60-day period, the State may, at its sole discretion, based on information available to it, determine what, if any, compensation is due the Contractor and pay the Contractor the determined amount.

4. Negotiation

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