

<b>SOLICITATION, OFFER, AND AWARD (Construction, Alteration, or Repair)</b>	1. SOLICITATION NUMBER  36C77625R0025	2. TYPE OF SOLICITATION <input type="checkbox"/> SEALED BID (IFB) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEGOTIATED (RFP)	3. DATE ISSUED  03-11-2025	PAGE OF PAGES  1 86

**IMPORTANT - The "offer" section on the reverse must be fully completed by offeror.**

4. CONTRACT NUMBER		5. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQUEST NUMBER	6. PROJECT NUMBER 679-20-104
7. ISSUED BY Department of Veterans Affairs Program Contracting Activity Central  6100 Oak Tree Blvd, Suite 490 Independence OH 44131	CODE 36C776	8. ADDRESS OFFER TO Department of Veterans Affairs Program Contract Activity Central 6100 Oak Tree Blvd, Suite 490 Independence OH 44131	
9. FOR INFORMATION CALL:	a. NAME Dawn Schydzik	b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include area code) (NO COLLECT CALLS) dawn.schydzik@va.gov	

**SOLICITATION**

**NOTE: In sealed bid solicitations "offer" and "offeror" mean "bid" and "bidder".**

10. THE GOVERNMENT REQUIRES PERFORMANCE OF THE WORK DESCRIBED IN THESE DOCUMENTS (Title, identifying number, date)

In accordance with 38 U.S.C. § 8127 (Public Law 109-461), this procurement is set aside for SDVOSBs in a trade off evaluation approach.

The contractor shall provide all tools, equipment, materials, labor, supervision, and personnel, and shall do all things necessary, that will result in the completion of the EHRM Infrastructure Upgrades construction project, in accordance with the attached Specifications and Drawings.

This project is located at:  
Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center (VAMC)  
3701 Loop Road  
East Tuscaloosa, AL 35404

VAAR Magnitude of Construction: \$20,000,000 to \$50,000,000  
NAICS Code 236220 and PSC Y1BG

Contractor is required to fill in Unique Identifier in Block No. 14 on Standard Form (SF) 1442. All references in the Specs and Drawings to CLIN shall be replaced with the term "Line Item".

PLEASE NOTE: The Contractor agrees to attend any Post Award Conference convened by the contracting activity or contract administration in accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation subpart 42.5.

11. The Contractor shall begin performance within <u>10 (TEN)</u> calendar days and complete it within <u>730</u> calendar days after receiving <input type="checkbox"/> award, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> notice to proceed. This performance period is <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> negotiable. (See <u>52.211-10</u> ).	
12a. THE CONTRACTOR MUST FURNISH ANY REQUIRED PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS? (If "YES," indicate within how many calendar days after award in Item 12B.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	12b. CALENDAR DAYS  10 (Ten)

13. ADDITIONAL SOLICITATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Sealed offers in original and 0 (ZERO) copies to perform the work required are due at the place specified in Item 8 by 3:00pm CDT (hour) local time 04-22-2025 (date). If this is a sealed bid solicitation, offers must be publicly opened at that time. Sealed envelopes containing offers shall be marked to show the offeror's name and address, the solicitation number, the date and time offers are due.
- An offer guarantee  is,  is not required.
- All offers are subject to the (1) work requirements, and (2) other provisions and clauses incorporated in the solicitation in full text or by reference.
- Offers providing less than 90 (NINETY) calendar days for Government acceptance after the date offers are due will not be considered and will be rejected.

**OFFER (Must be fully completed by offeror)**

14. NAME AND ADDRESS OF OFFEROR (Include ZIP Code)		15. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include area code)	
		16. REMITTANCE ADDRESS (Include only if different than Item 14.)	
CODE	FACILITY CODE		

17. The offeror agrees to perform the work required at the prices specified below in strict accordance with the terms of the solicitation, if this offer is accepted by the Government in writing within \_\_\_\_\_ calendar days after the date offers are due. (Insert any number equal to or greater than the minimum requirement stated in Item 13d. Failure to insert any number means the offeror accepts the minimum in Item 13d.)

AMOUNTS

18. The offeror agrees to furnish any required performance and payment bonds.

**19. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMENDMENTS**

(The offeror acknowledges receipt of amendments to the solicitation -- give number and date of each)

AMENDMENT NUMBER										
DATE.										

20a. NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN OFFER (Type or print)	20b. SIGNATURE	20c. OFFER DATE
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**AWARD (To be completed by Government)**

21. ITEMS ACCEPTED:

22. AMOUNT	23. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA
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24. SUBMIT INVOICES TO ADDRESS SHOWN IN (4 copies unless otherwise specified)	ITEM	25. OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION PURSUANT TO <input type="checkbox"/> 10 U.S.C. 2304(c)( ) <input type="checkbox"/> 41 U.S.C. 3304(a) ( )
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26. ADMINISTERED BY Department of Veterans Affairs Program Contracting Activity Central 6100 Oak Tree Blvd, Suite 490 Independence OH 44131	36C776	27. PAYMENT WILL BE MADE BY Department of Veterans Affairs    VAFSC Financial Services Center Invoices to be Submitted Electronically <a href="https://www.fsc.va.gov/einvoice.asp">https://www.fsc.va.gov/einvoice.asp</a> e-Invoice Setup Info Phone 877-489-6135 PHONE: 877-353-9791    FAX: 512-460-5429
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**CONTRACTING OFFICER WILL COMPLETE ITEM 28 OR 29 AS APPLICABLE**

<input type="checkbox"/> 28. NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT (Contractor is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to issuing office.) Contractor agrees to furnish and deliver all items or perform all work requirements identified on this form and any continuation sheets for the consideration stated in this contract. The rights and obligations of the parties to this contract shall be governed by (a) this contract award, (b) the solicitation, and (c) the clauses, representations, certifications, and specifications incorporated by reference in or attached to this contract.	<input type="checkbox"/> 29. AWARD (Contractor is not required to sign this document.) Your offer on this solicitation is hereby accepted as to the items listed. This award consummates the contract, which consists of (a) the Government solicitation and your offer, and (b) this contract award. No further contractual document is necessary.
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30a. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTOR OR PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN (Type or print)	31a. NAME OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) Jennifer Braaten		
30b. SIGNATURE	30c. DATE	31b. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY	31c. AWARD DATE

## Table of Contents

<b>PART I - THE SCHEDULE</b> .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
<b>SECTION A - SOLICITATION/CONTRACT FORM</b> .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
A.1 SF 1442 SOLICITATION, OFFER, AND AWARD (Construction, Alteration, or Repair) .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
A.2 SF 1442 SOLICITATION, OFFER, AND AWARD (CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, OR REPAIR)– BACK .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
A.3 PRICE/COST SCHEDULE .....	6
ITEM INFORMATION.....	6
<b>INFORMATION REGARDING PROPOSAL MATERIAL, BID GUARANTEE AND BONDS</b> .....	<b>7</b>
1.1 BID MATERIAL: .....	7
1.2 BID GUARANTEE:.....	7
1.3 PAYMENT & PERFORMANCE BONDS:.....	7
1.4 TAXES: .....	7
<b>INSTRUCTIONS, CONDITIONS, AND OTHER STATEMENTS TO OFFERORS</b> .....	<b>8</b>
2.1 AVAILABILITY OF SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS.....	8
2.2 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: .....	8
2.3 SDVOSB SET-ASIDE .....	8
2.4 PRE-PROPOSAL SITE VISIT:.....	8
2.5 TECHNICAL QUESTIONS:.....	9
2.6 AMENDMENTS.....	9
2.7 PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS .....	9
2.8 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS .....	9
2.9 DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY .....	14
2.10 VETS 4212.....	14
2.11 SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM).....	14
2.12 REVIEW REQUIRED REGISTRATION WITH CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT REPORTING SYSTEM (CPARS).....	15
2.13 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS AND SPECIAL AGREEMENT CHECKS.....	15
2.14 REFERENCES TO VA ENGINEER, RESIDENT ENGINEER, OR PROJECT MANAGER .....	15
2.15 52.216-1 TYPE OF CONTRACT (APR 1984).....	16
2.16 52.222-5 CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS—SECONDARY SITE OF THE WORK (MAY 2014).....	16
2.17 52.222-23 NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO ENSURE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR CONSTRUCTION (FEB 1999) .....	16
2.18 52.225-12 NOTICE OF BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENT—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS UNDER TRADE AGREEMENTS (MAY 2014).....	17
2.19 52.228-1 BID GUARANTEE (SEP 1996).....	18
2.20 52.233-2 SERVICE OF PROTEST (SEP 2006).....	19

2.21	52.236-27	SITE VISIT (CONSTRUCTION) (FEB 1995) ALTERNATE I (FEB 1995)	19
2.22	52.252-1	SOLICITATION PROVISIONS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998)	20
2.23	VAAR 852.228-72	ASSISTING SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED AND VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES IN OBTAINING BONDS (DEC 2009)	20
2.24	VAAR 852.232-70	PAYMENTS UNDER FIXED-PRICE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS (WITHOUT NAS- CPM) (NOV 2018)	21
2.25	VAAR 852.233-71	ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE (OCT 2018)	23
2.26	VAAR 852.233-70	PROTEST CONTENT/ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (OCT 2018)	24
2.27	VAAR 852.239-75	INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY NOTICE (FEB 2023)	24
<b>REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS</b>			<b>26</b>
3.1	52.201-1	ACQUISITION 360: VOLUNTARY SURVEY (SEP 2023)	26
3.2	52.204-8	ANNUAL REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS (JAN 2025)	26
3.3	52.204-24	REPRESENTATION REGARDING CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT (NOV 2021)	30
3.4	52.209-7	INFORMATION REGARDING RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS (OCT 2018)	33
3.5	52.209-13	VIOLATION OF ARMS CONTROL TREATIES OR AGREEMENTS—CERTIFICATION (NOV 2021)	34
3.6	52.229-11	TAX ON CERTAIN FOREIGN PROCUREMENTS—NOTICE AND REPRESENTATION (JUN 2020)	36
<b>GENERAL CONDITIONS</b>			<b>38</b>
4.1	52.203-14	DISPLAY OF HOTLINE POSTER(S) (NOV 2021)	38
4.2	52.204-21	BASIC SAFEGUARDING OF COVERED CONTRACTOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS (NOV 2021)	39
4.3	52.204-30	FEDERAL ACQUISITION SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY ACT ORDERS—PROHIBITION (DEC 2023)	40
4.4	52.211-10	COMMENCEMENT, PROSECUTION, AND COMPLETION OF WORK (APR 1984)	45
4.5	52.219-28	POST-AWARD SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM REREPRESENTATION (FEB 2024)	45
4.6	52.223-20	AEROSOLS (MAY 2024)	48
4.7	52.223-21	FOAMS (MAY 2024)	48
4.8	52.225-11	BUY AMERICAN—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS UNDER TRADE AGREEMENTS (NOV 2023)	49
4.9	52.228-11	INDIVIDUAL SURETY—PLEDGE OF ASSETS (FEB 2021)(DEVIATION APR 2020)	55
4.10	52.228-15	PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS—CONSTRUCTION (JUN 2020)(DEVIATION APR 2020)	56
4.11	52.229-3	FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXES (FEB 2013)	57
4.12	52.236-4	PHYSICAL DATA (APR 1984)	59
4.13	52.252-6	AUTHORIZED DEVIATIONS IN CLAUSES (NOV 2020)	59

4.14	SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS .....	60
4.15	52.252-2 CLAUSES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998).....	60
4.16	VAAR 852.201-70 CONTRACTING OFFICER'S REPRESENTATIVE (DEC 2022) .....	63
4.17	VAAR 852.204-70 PERSONAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL (MAY 2020).....	63
4.18	VAAR 852.204-71 INFORMATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY (FEB 2023).....	64
4.19	VAAR 852.228-70 BOND PREMIUM ADJUSTMENT (JAN 2008).....	73
4.20	VAAR 852.232-72 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PAYMENT REQUESTS (NOV 2018).....	73
4.21	VAAR 852.236-71 SPECIFICATIONS AND DRAWINGS FOR CONSTRUCTION (APR 2019) .....	74
4.22	VAAR 852.236-72 PERFORMANCE OF WORK BY THE CONTRACTOR (APR 2019) ALTERNATE I (APR 2019).....	75
4.23	VAAR 852.236-79 CONTRACTOR PRODUCTION REPORT (APR 2019).....	75
4.24	VAAR 852.236-80 SUBCONTRACTS AND WORK COORDINATION (APR 2019) ALTERNATE I (APR 2019) .....	76
4.25	VAAR 852.236-90 RESTRICTION ON SUBMISSION AND USE OF EQUAL PRODUCTS (APR 2019) .....	77
4.26	VAAR 852.239-76 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY (FEB 2023) .....	77
4.27	VAAR 852.242-71 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACTING OFFICER (OCT 2020)..	78
4.28	VAAR 852.243-70 CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT CHANGES—SUPPLEMENT (SEP 2019).....	78
4.29	MANDATORY WRITTEN DISCLOSURES .....	80
4.30	VAAR 852.203-70 COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING (MAY 2018) .....	80
4.31	VAAR 852.219-73 VA NOTICE OF TOTAL SET-ASIDE FOR CERTIFIED SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES (JAN 2023) (DEVIATION) .....	80
4.32	VAAR 852.219-75 VA NOTICE OF LIMITATIONS ON SUBCONTRACTING— CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION (JAN 2023) (DEVIATION) .....	83
4.33	VAAR 852.223-71 SAFETY AND HEALTH (SEP 2019).....	85

## A.3 PRICE/COST SCHEDULE

### ITEM INFORMATION

ITEM NUMBE R	DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVI CES	QUANTI TY	UNI T	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
0001	<p>Contractor shall supply all materials, supervision, and labor to complete Project 679-20-104 EHRM Infrastructure Upgrades – Tuscaloosa, AL per contract drawings and specifications. Work includes the demolition, installation, and new upgrades of the following infrastructure: Electrical (electrical panel upgrade, power (normal and emergency)), Bonding, UPS, Overhead power distribution in new Data Center, Building Management System interfaces, HVAC, expansion, and renovation of existing space, communication (Data outlets, patch panels, upgrade to Cat 6A cable), physical security upgrades, fiber infrastructure backbone campus wide within and between buildings, install diversified path to new Data Center for WAN, hazardous material abatement, demolition of Greenhouse Building 101, and construction of new stand-alone Data Center Building 151.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greenhouse Building 101: Work includes the demolition of existing Greenhouse Building 101, all existing utilities, site features, and septic system connected to the building.</li> <li>• New Data Center Building 151: Work includes but not limited to civil site work, mechanical enclosures, walls, new sidewalks, site grading, drainage system, utility connections, landscaping, signage, and new gravity sewer pipe with manholes. New physical security features such as reinforced concrete ram-proof wall, fix-in-place bollards, and removable bollards.</li> <li>• New Fiber duct bank network: Work includes but not limited to demolition and replacement of various site hardscapes such as asphalt roads, parking lots, concrete sidewalks, landscaping, signage, lighting, etc.</li> <li>• Building locations include: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 17, 18, 38, 39, 40, 41, 46, 61, 63, 101, 135, 137, 138, 143, 145, 146, 147, 149, 151, and site.</li> </ul> <p>Contract Period: <b>Base</b>            POP Begin: <b>730 calendar days from NTP</b>            POP End:</p>	1.00	JB	_____	_____

	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> _____ _____
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### NOTICE

1. **Line Item 0001 (Base)** contains all the work for this project.
2. Offerors must provide a lump sum price for **Line Item 0001 (Base)**. Failure to do so may render their offeror as unacceptable.
3. Award will be made on Grand Total (**Line Item 0001- Base**).
4. Pricing shall be submitted in whole dollar values. Please do **NOT** include pricing in cents.
5. Contractor is required to fill in their Unique Entity Identifier number associate with SAM.gov in Block No. 14 on Standard Form (SF) 1442.
6. PLEASE NOTE: The Contractor agrees to attend any Post Award conference convened by the contracting activity or contract administration in accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation subpart 42.5.

## **INFORMATION REGARDING PROPOSAL MATERIAL, BID GUARANTEE AND BONDS**

### **1.1 BID MATERIAL:**

Proposal materials consisting of drawings, specifications, and contract forms are included and/or attached as part of this Request For Proposal (RFP). The VA will not provide printed copies of drawings or specifications. It is the responsibility of the offeror to obtain the proposal materials in a time and manner sufficient to respond to this solicitation by the specified due date.

### **1.2 BID GUARANTEE:**

A Bid Guarantee, Standard Form 24 (SF 24), is required in an amount not less than 20 percent of the proposal price but shall not exceed \$3,000,000. Failure to furnish the required bid guarantee in the proper form and amount, by the time set for receipt of proposals, may result in the proposal being deemed unacceptable. Copies of the SF 24 may be obtained from <https://www.gsa.gov/forms>.

### **1.3 PAYMENT & PERFORMANCE BONDS:**

The offeror to whom award is made will be required to furnish two bonds. A Payment Bond shall be provided on Standard Form 25A (SF 25A) and a Performance Bond shall be provided on Standard Form 25 (SF 25). Both bonds shall be submitted in accordance with FAR 52.228-15 Performance and Payment Bonds - Construction. Copies of SFs 25A and 25 may be obtained from <https://www.gsa.gov/forms>.

### **1.4 TAXES:**

Contractor must take into account FAR 52.229-3; "Federal, State and Local Taxes" and its Special Note in their pricing. The FAR clause and its Special Note provide guidance on taxes being applied to pricing.

## INSTRUCTIONS, CONDITIONS, AND OTHER STATEMENTS TO OFFERORS

### 2.1 AVAILABILITY OF SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS

All solicitation-related documents will be published to Contract Opportunities at <https://sam.gov/>.

### 2.2 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:

This is a Request for Proposal (RFP) in accordance with FAR Part 15. Award will be made to the offeror whose proposal represents the “best value” to the Government utilizing a **Trade-offs** method of evaluation.

An offer must be determined to meet the minimum requirements technically based on Factor 1- Past Performance submitted by the offeror in relevancy and confidence ratings compared with the SOW, Specs and Plans. The responsibility determination will be made in accordance with FAR 9.1, Responsible Prospective Contractors. All proposals shall be subject to evaluation by a team of Government personnel. The Government reserves the right to award without discussions based upon the initial evaluation of the proposals.

Evaluations will be based on the following evaluation factors:

1. Factor 1 Past Performance
2. Factor 2 Price

### 2.3 SDVOSB SET-ASIDE

This procurement is a 100% set-aside for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) concerns. Offers received from other than SDVOSBs will not be considered. All SDVOSBs **must be listed as “certified”** by the Small Business Administration (SBA) Veteran Small Business Certification (VetCert). Offerors must be certified in the SBA VetCert database ([Veteran Small Business Certification \(sba.gov\)](https://www.sba.gov/vet-cert)) at the time of proposal submission through the time of award. Failure to be certified from the time of proposal submission through the time of award will result in the offeror’s proposal being rejected.

### 2.4 PRE-PROPOSAL SITE VISIT:

A formal site visit has been scheduled for this project. This will be the only opportunity for potential offerors to visit the site. All potential offerors, subcontractors, and suppliers are strongly encouraged to attend this site visit.

**All attendees are to meet at the following location:**

**Tuscaloosa VAMC  
3701 Loop Road  
East Tuscaloosa, AL 35404  
Building 5 Conference Rm. 210**

**At the following date and time: Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 9:00 AM (CST)**

**If further direction is needed, please call to 205-554-2000 ext.3035.**



## 2.5 TECHNICAL QUESTIONS:

Questions of a technical nature must be submitted by prospective offerors via e-mail to: [Dawn.Schyzdik@va.gov](mailto:Dawn.Schyzdik@va.gov) and [Jennifer.Braaten@va.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Braaten@va.gov). The subject line of each e-mail must read: **EHRM Infrastructure Upgrades Construction project at the Tuscaloosa VAMC - Technical Questions**. Oral questions of a technical nature are not acceptable due to the possibility of misunderstanding or misinterpretation. **THE CUT-OFF DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF QUESTIONS IS Friday, March 28, 2025, at 3:00 PM CST.**

## 2.6 AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this solicitation will be posted at <https://sam.gov/>. Paper copies of the amendments will NOT be individually mailed. No other notification of amendments will be provided. Potential offerors are advised that they are responsible for obtaining and acknowledging any amendments to the solicitation. Failure to acknowledge an amendment may result in a proposal being considered ineligible for award as incomplete.

## 2.7 PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS

The Government will not pay for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals.

## 2.8 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

### A. General:

1. **Proposal Submission:** Offerors must submit their proposals via e-mail to [Dawn.Schyzdik@va.gov](mailto:Dawn.Schyzdik@va.gov) and [Jennifer.Braaten@va.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Braaten@va.gov). Proposals must be based on solicitation documents issued for RFP number 36C77625R0025. Proposals will be in the format set forth in this document. Proposals shall be received on or before the date and time specified in Block 13 of the SF 1442. There will be no public opening of the proposals. Only proposals submitted by email will be accepted. Hard-copy proposals will not be accepted.

### B. Proposal Format:

1. Technical, Price and Administrative sections of the Offerors proposals will be evaluated independently; therefore, the Offeror must submit the proposal in three (3) Volumes: Volume I Technical, Volume II Price and Volume III Administrative. Offerors must send Volumes I, II and III as attachments in separate e-mails. Each volume must be labeled with the Offeror's organization, business address, and VA Solicitation Number. Each volume must be submitted as searchable PDF documents attached to an e-mail. Portions of proposals submitted via drop-box, hyperlink, or format rather than a searchable PDF attached to an email will not be considered, which may render the proposal incomplete. The proposal, in its entirety, shall not exceed three (3) e-mails (one e-mail for each volume). Each e-mail, including its attachments, must be less than 5MB in size. Offerors must include page numbers and its company name in the header or footer of each page of all attachments.
2. **Volume I Technical:** Offerors shall format Volume I Technical proposal as listed below. The specific evaluation criteria and methodology is below.
  - a. Volume I, Technical must include a title page, detailed table of contents and preface Volume I Technical shall be submitted in one (1) PDF document for Volume I Technical and shall not exceed a total of **50** pages. The title page, table of contents and preface are excluded from the page limits. Offerors must not include any price or price related material in the Volume I Technical proposal. Use

graphic presentations where such use will contribute to the compactness and clarity of the proposal.

- b. A page is defined as each face of an 8.5 X 11-inch sheet of paper with 1-inch margins around the page perimeter containing information. All information (except for document numbers, page numbers, etc.) must be provided in an image area of 7 X 9 inches. The background color of each page of the submission shall be white or ivory stock and each page shall count as one (1) page. Excess pages will not be evaluated. Text lines must be single-spaced, and proposals shall be submitted using Times New Roman, with font no smaller than 12 point with normal proportional spacing. A smaller font size for any graphics presented in a proposal is permitted as long as the information is legible to the human eye. Fonts other than Times New Roman are permissible in the presentation of graphic material only.
  - c. The Offeror's proposal must address each evaluation factor and subfactor listed in this solicitation. Failure to submit a proposal in the format required that addresses each factor and subfactor may result in the proposal being deemed ineligible for award.
3. **Volume II Price:** Offerors shall provide a breakdown of their base bid line item on the price breakdown form provided as a solicitation **attachment 17**. Offerors shall provide pricing on each line item on the SF1442 continuation price sheet. Note: In accordance with (IAW) FAR 28.101-1, a bid-bond is required; therefore, a performance and payment bond is required. Offerors shall format the Volume II Price proposal as listed below. The specific evaluation criteria and methodology is below.

  - a. Volume II Price shall not exceed a total of **FIFTY (50)** pages in Times New Roman size 12 font.
  - b. Offerors shall complete the Price Schedule in part A of this solicitation.
  - c. Offerors shall ensure the Signed Standard Form (SF) 1442 is provided. Offerors shall acknowledge receiving amendments by filling out section 19 of the SF 1442.
  - d. Bid Guarantee: The Offeror shall furnish a bid guarantee as stipulated in the solicitation (see **FAR 52.228-1**). Pricing shall be Firm Fixed Price. The bid guarantee shall be provided on Standard Form 24. The bid bond shall be submitted as part of the electronic submission. In accordance with Class Deviation from the Federal Acquisition Regulation to Eliminate Hard Copy Original Documents, Signatures, Notarization, Seals on Bonds, and Other Seals for Certain Contract Requirements issued by the VA Executive Director, Office of Acquisition and Logistics and the Senior Procurement Executive on May 11, 2020, the requirement for an original bond, with the original signatures, notarization and seals has been eliminated.
  - e. Failure to furnish the required bid guarantee on the proper form and for the proper amount by the time specified in Block 13 of SF 1442, may result in rejection of the proposal.

4. **Volume III Administrative Information:** If an offeror fails to include all of the below information in its proposal, then the proposal may be deemed incomplete and ineligible for award.

  - a. **Representations & Certifications:**  
As the provision at FAR 52.204-7 is included in the solicitation, FAR 52.204-8 (d) applies and the fill-in for FAR 52.204-8 (b)(2) does not need to be completed. The offeror is required to complete the annual representations and certifications electronically at <https://www.sam.gov>.

**b. Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment:**

Offeror shall provide their response to FAR 52.204-24 (d) Representation.

**c. Information Regarding Responsibility Matters:**

Offeror shall provide their response to FAR 52.209-7 (b) Information Regarding Responsibility Matters.

**d. Violation of Arms Controls Treaties or Agreements:**

Offeror shall provide their response to FAR 52.209-13 (b) Violation of Arms Controls Treaties or Agreements.

**e. Tax on Certain Foreign Procurements – Notice and Representation:**

The offeror shall provide their response to **FAR 52.229-11 (d)**.

**f. Post Award Small Business Program Representations:**

Offeror shall provide their response to FAR 52.219-28 (h), if applicable.

**g. Limitations on Subcontracting:**

The offeror shall complete and sign the VA Notice of Limitations on Subcontracting - Certificate of Compliance for Services and Construction required in VAAR 852.219-75 and return it with their proposal submission attached as a separate document (**Limitations on Subcontracting Attachment - 13**). The completed and signed form will become part of the official award documentation.

**h. Notice to SDVOSB Joint Venture/Mentor Protegee:** Any offeror submitting a proposal as a joint venture must provide a certification from each SDVOSB joint partner, signed by an authorized official of each partner to the joint venture, stating that the parties to the joint venture (1) have entered into a joint venture agreement that fully complies with paragraph (c) of 13 CFR § 128.402 and (2) will perform the contract in compliance with the joint venture agreement. Failure to submit the certification with the offeror's proposal, may result in the rejection of the proposal.

**C. Technical Proposal Requirements:** The proposal must address the following submission requirements for Factor 1 Past Performance.

1. Factor 1 The Past Performance evaluation will assess the relative risks associated with an Offeror's likelihood of success in fulfilling the solicitation's requirements as indicated by that Offeror's record of past performance. In this context, "Offeror" refers to the proposed prime SDVOSB. A single past performance rating will be based on the total package submitted by the offeror.

The Government will conduct a performance risk assessment based on the relevancy and recency of the Offeror's past performance, as it relates to the probability of successful accomplishment of the required effort for project #679-20-104. Offerors are cautioned that the Government will review available past performance data available in the Contractors Performance Assessment Reporting System (CPARS). The Government reserves the right to obtain past performance information from any available source and may contact customers other than those identified by the Offeror when evaluating past performance.

The Government will review aspects of the offeror's past performance by the final costs, project schedule, and performance. Areas to be evaluated may include but are not limited to quality of construction service, timeliness of performance or

adherence to performance schedules, controlling project cost, and/or effectiveness in program management (to include use and control of subcontractors).

Per FAR 15.305(a)(2)(iv), an Offeror without a record of relevant past performance or for whom information on past performance is not available, the Offeror may not be evaluated favorably or unfavorably on past performance.

Recent Successful Past Performance: Offerors are required to provide their recent, substantially complete (>75% complete), successful performance under contracts that demonstrate performance of telecommunications infrastructure to standards equal or similar to the VA Infrastructure Standard for Telecommunication Spaces (ISTS) and construction. Similar in the scope of work related to the Tuscaloosa VAMC scope of Project #679-20-104, as the prime contractor within the last six (6) years from the date this solicitation was issued.

Offeror shall provide a detailed summary of the most recent three (3) projects that includes:

1. Owner Government Agency/Company which awarded contract and their contact information (Name, Title, Telephone Number, Email);
2. Contract Number;
3. Location (physical address) of project performance;
4. Project Name;
5. Project Description (Details of construction requirements, challenges, and solutions);
6. Project Cost and Cost Control Measures (original and final contract costs, contract mods, cost containment measures, value engineering, etc.);
7. Project Performance Period (Initial and actual, schedule impacts and efficiencies); and
8. Subcontractors (Name, Roles, Responsibilities, Percent of work).
9. In addition, for each project submitted, Offerors shall provide a narrative that describes recent successful performance in the construction of infrastructure upgrades similar in scope of work to "Project 679-20-104 EHRM Infrastructure Upgrades – Tuscaloosa, AL. Information shall include details on complexity, magnitude, challenges, and degree of success. Offeror is encouraged to include supporting documents such as photographs that support the narrative. The narrative should discuss items such as challenges with schedule, unforeseen site conditions, or other unusual factors, and provide details on how the offeror overcame those challenges.

Since the Government may not necessarily interview all the sources provided by the Offerors, it is incumbent upon the Offerors to explain the relevance of the data provided. Offerors are reminded that the burden of proving low performance risk rests with the Offerors.

#### D. Volume II – Price Proposal Requirements

Offerors shall provide a breakdown of their base bid line item on the price breakdown form provided as a solicitation **Attachment 17**. Offerors shall provide pricing on each line item on the SF1442 continuation price sheet. Note: Note: In accordance with FAR

28.101-1, this solicitation requires both a bid guarantee and a performance and payment bond.

To be eligible for award, Offerors are required to be SDVOSB certified by SBA.

- 2-page SF1442 completed and signed by the signatory authority. The signature shall be a wet signature, and then the document may be scanned and submitted electronically. Microsoft Word “signatures” in different fonts, digital signatures, and scanned jpeg signatures are not allowed. All blocks under section “OFFER” on page 2 of SF1442 (Item 14 thru 20C) shall be completed.
- SF1442 Continuation Price Sheet and Price breakout form shall be submitted.
- Reqs and Certs and any provisions/clauses that require offeror’s responses shall be submitted.
- Acknowledgement of ALL Amendments.
- Proof VETS 4212 has been filed for 2024.
- Duly executed Bid Bond/Guarantee: Offerors shall use form SF24 Bid Bond. Bid bonds that are found noncompliant with bid guarantee requirements will result in the rejection of the proposal. See clause 52.228-1 Bid Guarantee for additional information on the compliance with bid guarantee requirements. This requirement shall be emailed as part of VOLUME II. The Contracting Officer may request a physical copy of the bid bond be mailed later.
- It is solely the responsibility of the offerors to ensure the Government receives the proposal before or on the exact due date and time set forth in this solicitation.
- VETS-4212: Title 38, USC Section 4212(d) and Public Law 105-339, requires that federal contractors report, at least annually, the number and category of veterans who are within their workforce. This VETS-4212 report can be submitted per the instructions at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/vets4212>. For assistance contact VETS4212 customer support at 1-866-237-0275 or [vets4212-customersupport@dolncc.dol.gov](mailto:vets4212-customersupport@dolncc.dol.gov). For procurement awards in excess of \$150,000, this report must be completed and accepted prior to any Federal contract award. Therefore, all potential contractors are encouraged to file every year.

All inquiries about this solicitation shall be directly submitted in writing via email to all three points of contacts listed here [Dawn.Schyzik@va.gov](mailto:Dawn.Schyzik@va.gov) and [Jennifer.Braaten@va.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Braaten@va.gov). No phone or faxed inquiry will be accepted. Government’s responses to inquiries will be issued in the form of Amendment(s) to be posted on the same website where this solicitation is posted: [www. SAM.gov](http://www.SAM.gov). All interested offerors including those submitting inquiries are required to monitor the above website for any posted amendments and acknowledge them in accordance with the instructions provided in the amendments as well as in this solicitation.

#### E. **Evaluation Methodology:**

**Factor 1, Past Performance:** Past performance demonstrating higher levels of success and quality on recent and relevant projects similar in scope and magnitude to this

solicitation present lower levels of risk and will be more favorably rated. Offerors should make every attempt to provide past performance for projects cited in factor 1 by furnishing a Past Performance Questionnaire completed by the customer or a CPARS rating, if applicable and available.

Contractors without relevant past performance or for whom past performance information is not available, the offeror cannot be evaluated favorably nor unfavorably on past performance. Past performance evaluations may also be conducted using information obtained from CPARS and any other sources deemed appropriate by the CO. Other sources may include, but are not limited to, inquiries of owner representative(s), Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System (CPARS), Electronic Subcontract Reporting System (eSRS), and any other known sources not provided by the Offeror.

**Factor 2, Price:** The total evaluated price will be determined by the Offeror's price provided on the Price Schedule in include base line item.

**Note:** If none of the offerors are within the available funding limitation or is otherwise determined to be other than fair and reasonable, the VA reserves the right to enter into discussions with those offerors who are determined to be within the competitive range.

If the Offeror communicates in its proposal any qualifications, exceptions, exclusions, or conditions to the proposed prices in the Offerors proposal documents, the Contracting Officer may reject the proposal and exclude the Offeror from further discussions.

## 2.9 DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

A Determination of Responsibility will be conducted for the apparent successful offeror prior to award of the project. The above information, along with other information obtained from Government systems, such as, but not limited to the OSHA and EPA online inspection history databases, as well as any other information the Contracting Officer has determined to be valid, will be used to make the Determination of Responsibility. NOTE: Any information received by the Government that would be cause for a negative Determination of Responsibility may make the offeror ineligible for award.

## 2.10 VETS 4212

Title 38, USC Section 4212(d), codified at 41 CFR Section 61-300, requires that federal contractors report, at least annually, the number and category of veterans who are within their workforce. Submission of the VETS-4212 reporting information can be done electronically at: <http://www.dol.gov/vets/vets4212.htm>. Award cannot be made unless the awardee has filed their VETS-4212 report. Therefore, all offerors are encouraged to file every year. The Contracting Officer may request a copy of the email confirmation of receipt notification prior to awarding the project.

## 2.11 SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)

Federal Acquisition Regulations require that federal contractors register in the System for Award Management (SAM) database at <https://sam.gov/> and enter all mandatory information into the system. Offerors are required to be registered in SAM at the time an offer is submitted in order to comply with the annual representations and certifications requirements (see **FAR 52.204-7**).

## **2.12 REVIEW REQUIRED REGISTRATION WITH CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT REPORTING SYSTEM (CPARS)**

As prescribed in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 42.1502(e), the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) evaluates contractor past performance on all construction contracts that exceed \$750,000 and shares those evaluations with other Federal Government contract specialists and procurement officials. The FAR requires that the contractor be provided an opportunity to comment on past performance evaluations prior to each report closing. To fulfill this requirement, VA uses an online database, CPARS, which is maintained by the Naval Seal Logistics Center in Portsmouth, Virginia. CPARS is available to all Federal agencies and is the system used to collect and retrieve performance assessment reports used in source selection determinations. CPARS also includes access to the federal awardee performance and integrity information system (FAPIIS). FAPIIS is a web-enabled application accessed via CPARS for contractor responsibility determination information.

Each contractor whose contract award is estimated to exceed \$750,000 is required to register with CPARS database at the following web address: <http://www.cpars.gov/>. Help in registering can be obtained by contacting Customer Support Desk @ DSN: 684-1690 or COMM: 207- 438-1690. Registration should occur no later than thirty days after contract award and must be kept current should there be any change to the contractor's registered representative.

For contracts with a period of one year or less, the contracting officer will perform a single evaluation when the contract is complete. For contracts exceeding one year, the contracting officer will evaluate the contractor's performance annually. Interim reports will be filed each year until the last year of the contract, when the final report will be completed. The report shall be assigned in CPARS to the contractor's designated representative for comment. The contractor representative will have thirty days to submit any comments and re-assign the report to the VA contracting officer.

Failure to have a current registration in the CPARS database, or to re-assign the report to the VA contracting officer within those thirty days, will result in the Government's evaluation being placed on file in the database with a statement that the contractor failed to respond.

## **2.13 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS AND SPECIAL AGREEMENT CHECKS**

All contractor employees are subject to the same level of investigation as VA employees who have access to VA Sensitive Information. The level of background investigation is commensurate with the level of access needed to perform all work as identified in the solicitation documents. This requirement is applicable to all subcontractor personnel requiring the same access. As per VA Directive 0710, costs of background investigations will be borne by the contractor. Please be advised that the awardee will need to coordinate with the VA Medical Center concerning badging requirements.

## **2.14 REFERENCES TO VA ENGINEER, RESIDENT ENGINEER, OR PROJECT MANAGER**

Any reference contained within the solicitation/contract specifications and/or drawings to the "VA Engineer," "Resident Engineer," or "Project Manager," or their abbreviations shall be replaced with "Contracting Officer's Representative (COR)."

## 2.15 52.216-1 TYPE OF CONTRACT (APR 1984)

The Government contemplates award of a Firm-Fixed-Price contract resulting from this solicitation.

(End of Provision)

## 2.16 52.222-5 CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS— SECONDARY SITE OF THE WORK (MAY 2014)

(a)(1) The offeror shall notify the Government if the offeror intends to perform work at any secondary site of the work, as defined in paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of the FAR clause at 52.222-6, Construction Wage Rate Requirements, of this solicitation.

(2) If the offeror is unsure if a planned work site satisfies the criteria for a secondary site of the work, the offeror shall request a determination from the Contracting Officer.

(b)(1) If the wage determination provided by the Government for work at the primary site of the work is not applicable to the secondary site of the work, the offeror shall request a wage determination from the Contracting Officer.

(2) The due date for receipt of offers will not be extended as a result of an offeror's request for a wage determination for a secondary site of the work.

(End of Provision)

## 2.17 52.222-23 NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO ENSURE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR CONSTRUCTION (FEB 1999)

(a) The offeror's attention is called to the Equal Opportunity clause and the Affirmative Action Compliance Requirements for Construction clause of this solicitation.

(b) The goals for minority and female participation, expressed in percentage terms for the Contractor's aggregate workforce in each trade on all construction work in the covered area, are as follows:

Goals for minority participation for each trade	Goals for female participation for each trade
20.6 %	6.9 %

These goals are applicable to all the Contractor's construction work performed in the covered area. If the Contractor performs construction work in a geographical area located outside of the covered area, the Contractor shall apply the goals established for the geographical area where the work is actually performed. Goals are published periodically in the Federal Register in notice form, and these notices may be obtained from any Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs office.

(c) The Contractor's compliance with Executive Order 11246, as amended, and the regulations in 41 CFR 60-4 shall be based on (1) its implementation of the Equal Opportunity clause, (2)



specific affirmative action obligations required by the clause entitled "Affirmative Action Compliance Requirements for Construction," and (3) its efforts to meet the goals. The hours of minority and female employment and training must be substantially uniform throughout the length of the contract, and in each trade. The Contractor shall make a good faith effort to employ minorities and women evenly on each of its projects. The transfer of minority or female employees or trainees from Contractor to Contractor, or from project to project, for the sole purpose of meeting the Contractor's goals shall be a violation of the contract, Executive Order 11246, as amended, and the regulations in 41 CFR 60-4. Compliance with the goals will be measured against the total work hours performed.

(d) The Contractor shall provide written notification to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Federal Contract Compliance, U.S. Department of Labor, within 10 working days following award of any construction subcontract in excess of \$10,000 at any tier for construction work under the contract resulting from this solicitation. The notification shall list the—

- (1) Name, address, and telephone number of the subcontractor;
- (2) Employer's identification number of the subcontractor;
- (3) Estimated dollar amount of the subcontract;
- (4) Estimated starting and completion dates of the subcontract; and
- (5) Geographical area in which the subcontract is to be performed.

(e) As used in this Notice, and in any contract resulting from this solicitation, the "covered area" is

Alabama

(End of Provision)

## **2.18 52.225-12 NOTICE OF BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENT— CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS UNDER TRADE AGREEMENTS (MAY 2014)**

(a) *Definitions.* "Commercially available off-the-shelf (COTS) item," "construction material," "designated country construction material," "domestic construction material," and "foreign construction material," as used in this provision, are defined in the clause of this solicitation entitled "Buy American—Construction Materials Under Trade Agreements" (Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clause 52.225-11).

(b) *Requests for determination of inapplicability.* An offeror requesting a determination regarding the inapplicability of the Buy American statute should submit the request to the Contracting Officer in time to allow a determination before submission of offers. The offeror shall include the information and applicable supporting data required by paragraphs (c) and (d) of FAR clause 52.225-11 in the request. If an offeror has not requested a determination regarding the inapplicability of the Buy American statute before submitting its offer, or has not received a response to a previous request, the offeror shall include the information and supporting data in the offer.

(c) Evaluation of offers.

(1) The Government will evaluate an offer requesting exception to the requirements of the Buy American statute, based on claimed unreasonable cost of domestic construction materials, by adding to the offered price the appropriate percentage of the cost of such foreign construction material, as specified in paragraph (b)(4)(i) of FAR clause 52.225-11.

(2) If evaluation results in a tie between an offeror that requested the substitution of foreign construction material based on unreasonable cost and an offeror that did not request an exception, the Contracting Officer will award to the offeror that did not request an exception based on unreasonable cost.

(d) Alternate offers.

(1) When an offer includes foreign construction material, other than designated country construction material, that is not listed by the Government in this solicitation in paragraph (b)(3) of FAR clause 52.225-11, the offeror also may submit an alternate offer based on use of equivalent domestic or designated country construction material.

(2) If an alternate offer is submitted, the offeror shall submit a separate Standard Form 1442 for the alternate offer, and a separate price comparison table prepared in accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d) of FAR clause 52.225-11 for the offer that is based on the use of any foreign construction material for which the Government has not yet determined an exception applies.

(3) If the Government determines that a particular exception requested in accordance with paragraph (c) of FAR clause 52.225-11 does not apply, the Government will evaluate only those offers based on use of the equivalent domestic or designated country construction material, and the offeror shall be required to furnish such domestic or designated country construction material. An offer based on use of the foreign construction material for which an exception was requested—

- (i) Will be rejected as nonresponsive if this acquisition is conducted by sealed bidding; or
- (ii) May be accepted if revised during negotiations.

(End of Provision)

## **2.19 52.228-1 BID GUARANTEE (SEP 1996)**

(a) Failure to furnish a bid guarantee in the proper form and amount, by the time set for opening of bids, may be cause for rejection of the bid.

(b) The bidder shall furnish a bid guarantee in the form of a firm commitment, e.g., bid bond supported by good and sufficient surety or sureties acceptable to the Government, postal money order, certified check, cashier's check, irrevocable letter of credit, or, under Treasury Department regulations, certain bonds or notes of the United States. The Contracting Officer will return bid guarantees, other than bid bonds—

- (1) To unsuccessful bidders as soon as practicable after the opening of bids; and

(2) To the successful bidder upon execution of contractual documents and bonds (including any necessary coinsurance or reinsurance agreements), as required by the bid as accepted.

(c) The amount of the bid guarantee shall be 20 percent of the bid price or \$3,000,000, whichever is less.

(d) If the successful bidder, upon acceptance of its bid by the Government within the period specified for acceptance, fails to execute all contractual documents or furnish executed bond(s) within 10 days after receipt of the forms by the bidder, the Contracting Officer may terminate the contract for default.

(e) In the event the contract is terminated for default, the bidder is liable for any cost of acquiring the work that exceeds the amount of its bid, and the bid guarantee is available to offset the difference.

(End of Provision)

## **2.20 52.233-2 SERVICE OF PROTEST (SEP 2006)**

Protests, as defined in section 33.101 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation, that are filed directly with an agency, and copies of any protests that are filed with the Government Accountability Office (GAO), shall be served on the Contracting Officer (addressed as follows) by obtaining written and dated acknowledgment of receipt from:

CO - William Henkel

William.Henkel@va.gov  
Hand-Carried Address:

William Henkel

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Program Contracting Activity Central  
6100 Oak Tree Blvd, Suite 490  
Independence, OH 44131  
Mailing Address:

Department of Veterans Affairs

Program Contracting Activity Central  
6100 Oak Tree Blvd, Suite 490  
Independence OH 44131

(b) The copy of any protest shall be received in the office designated above within one day of filing a protest with the GAO.

(End of Provision)

## **2.21 52.236-27 SITE VISIT (CONSTRUCTION) (FEB 1995) ALTERNATE I (FEB 1995)**

(a) The clauses at 52.236-2, Differing Site Conditions, and 52.236-3, Site Investigations and Conditions Affecting the Work, will be included in any contract awarded as a result of this

solicitation. Accordingly, offerors or quoters are urged and expected to inspect the site where the work will be performed.

(b) An organized site visit has been scheduled for—

TBD

(c) Participants will meet at—

TBD

(End of Provision)

## **2.22 52.252-1 SOLICITATION PROVISIONS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998)**

This solicitation incorporates one or more solicitation provisions by reference, with the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Upon request, the Contracting Officer will make their full text available. The offeror is cautioned that the listed provisions may include blocks that must be completed by the offeror and submitted with its quotation or offer. In lieu of submitting the full text of those provisions, the offeror may identify the provision by paragraph identifier and provide the appropriate information with its quotation or offer. Also, the full text of a solicitation provision may be accessed electronically at this/these address(es):

<https://www.acquisition.gov/browse/index/far>  
<https://www.va.gov/oal/library/vaar/>

(End of Provision)

<b><u>FAR</u></b> <b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
52.204-7	SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT	NOV 2024
52.204-16	COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENT ENTITY CODE REPORTING	AUG 2020
52.204-22	ALTERNATIVE LINE ITEM PROPOSAL	JAN 2017
52.215-1	INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS—COMPETITIVE ACQUISITION	NOV 2021
52.228-17	INDIVIDUAL SURETY—PLEDGE OF ASSETS (BID GUARANTEE)	FEB 2021
52.236-28	PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS—CONSTRUCTION	OCT 1997

## **2.23 VAAR 852.228-72 ASSISTING SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED AND VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES IN OBTAINING BONDS (DEC 2009)**

Prime contractors are encouraged to assist service-disabled veteran-owned and veteran-owned small business potential subcontractors in obtaining bonding, when required. Mentor firms are encouraged to assist protégé firms under VA's Mentor-Protégé Program in obtaining acceptable bid, payment, and performance bonds, when required, as a prime contractor under a solicitation or contract and in obtaining any required bonds under subcontracts.

(End of Clause)

## 2.24 VAAR 852.232-70 PAYMENTS UNDER FIXED-PRICE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS (WITHOUT NAS– CPM) (NOV 2018)

The clause FAR 52.232–5, Payments Under Fixed-Price Construction Contracts, is implemented as follows:

(a) Retainage.

(1) The Contracting Officer may retain funds—

(i) Where performance under the contract has been determined to be deficient or the Contractor has performed in an unsatisfactory manner in the past; or

(ii) As the contract nears completion, to ensure that deficiencies will be corrected and that completion is timely.

(2) Examples of deficient performance justifying a retention of funds include, but are not restricted to, the following—

(i) Unsatisfactory progress as determined by the Contracting Officer;

(ii) Failure to meet schedule in Schedule of Work Progress;

(iii) Failure to present submittals in a timely manner; or

(iv) Failure to comply in good faith with approved subcontracting plans, certifications, or contract requirements.

(3) Any level of retention shall not exceed 10 percent either where there is determined to be unsatisfactory performance, or when the retainage is to ensure satisfactory completion. Retained amounts shall be paid promptly upon completion of all contract requirements, but nothing contained in this paragraph (a)(3) shall be construed as limiting the Contracting Officer's right to withhold funds under other provisions of the contract or in accordance with the general law and regulations regarding the administration of Government contracts.

(b) The Contractor shall submit a schedule of cost to the Contracting Officer for approval within 30 calendar days after date of receipt of notice to proceed. Such schedule will be signed and submitted in triplicate. The approved cost schedule will be one of the bases for determining progress payments to the Contractor for work completed. This schedule shall show cost by the work activity/event for each building or unit of the contract, as instructed by the resident engineer.

(1) The work activities/events shall be subdivided into as many sub-activities/events as are necessary to cover all component parts of the contract work.

(2) Costs as shown on this schedule must be true costs and the resident engineer may require the Contractor to submit the original estimate sheets or other information to substantiate the detailed makeup of the schedule.

(3) The sums of the sub-activities/events, as applied to each work activity/event, shall equal the total cost of such work activity/event. The total cost of all work activities/events shall equal the contract price.

(4) Insurance and similar items shall be prorated and included in the cost of each branch of the work.

(5) The cost schedule shall include separate cost information for the systems listed in the table in this paragraph (b)(5). The percentages listed in the following table are proportions of the cost listed in the Contractor’s cost schedule and identify, for payment purposes, the value of the work to adjust, correct and test systems after the material has been installed. Payment of the listed percentages will be made only after the Contractor has demonstrated that each of the systems is substantially complete and operates as required by the contract.

VALUE OF ADJUSTING, CORRECTING, AND TESTING SYSTEM	
System	Percent
Pneumatic tube system.....	10
Incinerators (medical waste and trash).....	5
Sewage treatment plant equipment.....	5
Water treatment plant equipment.....	5
Washers (dish, cage, glass, etc.).....	5
Sterilizing equipment.....	5
Water distilling equipment.....	5
Prefab temperature rooms (cold, constant temperature).....	5
Entire air-conditioning system (Specified under 600 Sections).....	5
Entire boiler plant system (Specified under 700 Sections).....	5
General supply conveyors.....	10
Food service conveyors.....	10
Pneumatic soiled linen and trash system.....	10
Elevators and dumbwaiters.....	10
Materials transport system.....	10
Engine-generator system.....	5
Primary switchgear.....	5
Secondary switchgear.....	5

Fire alarm system.....	5
Nurse call system.....	5
Intercom system.....	5
Radio system.....	5
TV (entertainment) system.....	5

(c) In addition to this cost schedule, the Contractor shall submit such unit costs as may be specifically requested. The unit costs shall be those used by the Contractor in preparing its bid and will not be binding as pertaining to any contract changes.

(d) The Contracting Officer will consider for monthly progress payments material and/or equipment procured by the Contractor and stored on the construction site, as space is available, or at a local approved location off the site, under such terms and conditions as the Contracting Officer approves, including but not limited to the following—

(1) The materials or equipment are in accordance with the contract requirements and/or approved samples and shop drawings;

(2) The materials and/or equipment are approved by the resident engineer;

(3) The materials and/or equipment are stored separately and are readily available for inspection and inventory by the resident engineer;

(4) The materials and/or equipment are protected against weather, theft and other hazards and are not subjected to deterioration; and

(5) The Contractor obtains the concurrence of its surety for off-site storage.

(e) The Government reserves the right to withhold payment until samples, shop drawings, engineer's certificates, additional bonds, payrolls, weekly statements of compliance, proof of title, nondiscrimination compliance reports, or any other requirements of this contract, have been submitted to the satisfaction of the Contracting Officer.

(f) The Contracting Officer will notify the Contractor in writing within 10 calendar-days of exercising retainage against any payment in accordance with FAR clause 52.232-5(e). The notice shall disclose the amount of the retainage in value and percent retained from the payment, and provide explanation for the retainage.

(End of Clause)

## **2.25 VAAR 852.233-71 ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE (OCT 2018)**

(a) As an alternative to filing a protest with the Contracting Officer, an interested party may file a protest by mail or electronically with: Executive Director, Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Risk Management and Compliance Service (003A2C), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420 or Email: [EDProtests@va.gov](mailto:EDProtests@va.gov).

(b) The protest will not be considered if the interested party has a protest on the same or similar issue(s) pending with the Contracting Officer.

(End of Provision)

## **2.26 VAAR 852.233-70 PROTEST CONTENT/ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (OCT 2018)**

(a) Any protest filed by an interested party shall—

- (1) Include the name, address, fax number, email and telephone number of the protester;
- (2) Identify the solicitation and/or contract number;
- (3) Include an original signed by the protester or the protester's representative and at least one copy;
- (4) Set forth a detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds of the protest, including a description of resulting prejudice to the protester, and provide copies of relevant documents;
- (5) Specifically request a ruling of the individual upon whom the protest is served;
- (6) State the form of relief requested; and
- (7) Provide all information establishing the timeliness of the protest.

(b) Failure to comply with the above may result in dismissal of the protest without further consideration.

(c) Bidders/offerors and Contracting Officers are encouraged to use alternative dispute resolution (ADR) procedures to resolve protests at any stage in the protest process. If ADR is used, the Department of Veterans Affairs will not furnish any documentation in an ADR proceeding beyond what is allowed by the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(End of Provision)

## **2.27 VAAR 852.239-75 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY NOTICE (FEB 2023)**

(a) Any offeror responding to this solicitation must comply with established VA Information and Communication Technology (ICT) (formerly Electronic and Information (EIT)) accessibility standards. Information about Section 508 is available at <http://www.section508.va.gov/>.

(b) The Section 508 accessibility standards applicable to this solicitation are stated in the clause at 852.239–75, Information and Communication Technology Accessibility. In order to facilitate the Government's determination whether proposed ICT supplies meet applicable Section 508 accessibility standards, offerors must submit appropriate VA Section 508 Checklists, in accordance with the checklist completion instructions. The purpose of the checklists is to assist VA acquisition and program officials in determining whether proposed ICT supplies, or information, documentation and services conform to applicable Section 508 accessibility standards. The checklists allow offerors or developers to self-evaluate their



supplies and document—in detail—whether they conform to a specific Section 508 accessibility standard, and any underway remediation efforts addressing conformance issues.

(c) Respondents to this solicitation must identify any exception to Section 508 requirements. If an offeror claims its supplies or services meet applicable Section 508 accessibility standards, and it is later determined by the Government, i.e., after award of a contract or order, that supplies or services delivered do not conform to the described accessibility standards, remediation of the supplies or services to the level of conformance specified in the contract will be the responsibility of the Contractor at its expense.

(End of Provision)

## REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

### 3.1 52.201-1 ACQUISITION 360: VOLUNTARY SURVEY (SEP 2023)

(a) All actual and potential offerors are encouraged to provide feedback on the preaward and debriefing processes, as applicable. Feedback may be provided to agencies up to 45 days after award. The feedback is anonymous, unless the participant self-identifies in the survey. Actual and potential offerors can participate in the survey by selecting the following link: <https://www.acquisition.gov/360>.

(b) The Contracting Officer will not review the information provided until after contract award and will not consider it in the award decision. The survey is voluntary and does not convey any protections, rights, or grounds for protest. It creates a way for actual and potential offerors to provide the Government constructive feedback about the preaward and debriefing processes, as applicable, used for a specific acquisition.

(End of Clause)

### 3.2 52.204-8 ANNUAL REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS (JAN 2025)

(a)(1) The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for this acquisition is 236220.

(2) The small business size standard is \$45 Million.

(3) The small business size standard for a concern that submits an offer, other than on a construction or service acquisition, but proposes to furnish an end item that it did not itself manufacture, process, or produce is 500 employees, or 150 employees for information technology value-added resellers under NAICS code 541519, if the acquisition—

(i) Is set aside for small business and has a value above the simplified acquisition threshold;

(ii) Uses the HUBZone price evaluation preference regardless of dollar value, unless the offeror waives the price evaluation preference; or

(iii) Is an 8(a), HUBZone, service-disabled veteran-owned, economically disadvantaged women-owned, or women-owned small business set-aside or sole-source award regardless of dollar value.

(b)(1) If the provision at 52.204-7, System for Award Management, is included in this solicitation, paragraph (d) of this provision applies.

(2) If the provision at 52.204-7, System for Award Management, is not included in this solicitation, and the Offeror has an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM), the Offeror may choose to use paragraph (d) of this provision instead of completing the

corresponding individual representations and certifications in the solicitation. The Offeror shall indicate which option applies by checking one of the following boxes:

(i) Paragraph (d) applies.

(ii) Paragraph (d) does not apply and the offeror has completed the individual representations and certifications in the solicitation.

(c)(1) The following representations or certifications in SAM are applicable to this solicitation as indicated:

(i) 52.203-2, Certificate of Independent Price Determination. This provision applies to solicitations when a firm-fixed-price contract or fixed-price contract with economic price adjustment is contemplated, unless—

(A) The acquisition is to be made under the simplified acquisition procedures in Part 13;

(B) The solicitation is a request for technical proposals under two-step sealed bidding procedures; or

(C) The solicitation is for utility services for which rates are set by law or regulation.

(ii) 52.203-11, Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions. This provision applies to solicitations expected to exceed \$150,000.

(iii) 52.203-18, Prohibition on Contracting with Entities that Require Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements or Statements—Representation. This provision applies to all solicitations.

(iv) 52.204-3, Taxpayer Identification. This provision applies to solicitations that do not include the provision at 52.204-7, System for Award Management.

(v) 52.204-5, Women-Owned Business (Other Than Small Business). This provision applies to solicitations that—

(A) Are not set aside for small business concerns;

(B) Exceed the simplified acquisition threshold; and

(C) Are for contracts that will be performed in the United States or its outlying areas.

(vi) 52.204-26, Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services—Representation. This provision applies to all solicitations.

(vii) 52.209-2, Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations—Representation.

(viii) 52.209-5, Certification Regarding Responsibility Matters. This provision applies to solicitations where the contract value is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

(ix) 52.209-11, Representation by Corporations Regarding Delinquent Tax Liability or a Felony Conviction under any Federal Law. This provision applies to all solicitations.

(x) 52.214-14, Place of Performance—Sealed Bidding. This provision applies to invitations for bids except those in which the place of performance is specified by the Government.

(xi) 52.215-6, Place of Performance. This provision applies to solicitations unless the place of performance is specified by the Government.

(xii) 52.219-1, Small Business Program Representations (Basic, Alternates I, and II). This provision applies to solicitations when the contract is for supplies to be delivered or services to be performed in the United States or its outlying areas, or when the contracting officer has applied part 19 in accordance with 19.000(b)(1)(ii).

(A) The basic provision applies when the solicitations are issued by other than DoD, NASA, and the Coast Guard.

(B) The provision with its Alternate I applies to solicitations issued by DoD, NASA, or the Coast Guard.

(C) The provision with its Alternate II applies to solicitations that will result in a multiple-award contract with more than one NAICS code assigned.

(xiii) 52.219-2, Equal Low Bids. This provision applies to solicitations when contracting by sealed bidding and the contract is for supplies to be delivered or services to be performed in the United States or its outlying areas, or when the contracting officer has applied part 19 in accordance with 19.000(b)(1)(ii).

(xiv) 52.222-22, Previous Contracts and Compliance Reports. This provision applies to solicitations that include the clause at 52.222-26, Equal Opportunity.

(xv) 52.222-25, Affirmative Action Compliance. This provision applies to solicitations, other than those for construction, when the solicitation includes the clause at 52.222-26, Equal Opportunity.

(xvi) 52.222-38, Compliance with Veterans' Employment Reporting Requirements. This provision applies to solicitations when it is anticipated the contract award will exceed the simplified acquisition threshold and the contract is not for acquisition of commercial products or commercial services.

(xvii) 52.223-1, Biobased Product Certification. This provision applies to solicitations that require the delivery or specify the use of biobased products in USDA-designated product categories; or include the clause at 52.223-2, Reporting of Biobased Products Under Service and Construction Contracts.

(xviii) 52.223-4, Recovered Material Certification. This provision applies to solicitations that are for, or specify the use of, EPA-designated items.

(xix) 52.223-22, Public Disclosure of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Reduction Goals—Representation. This provision applies to solicitations that include the provision at 52.204-7.

(xx) 52.225-2, Buy American Certificate. This provision applies to solicitations containing the clause at 52.225-1.

(xxi) 52.225-4, Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act Certificate. (Basic, Alternates II and III.) This provision applies to solicitations containing the clause at 52.225-3.

(A) If the acquisition value is less than \$50,000, the basic provision applies.

(B) If the acquisition value is \$50,000 or more but is less than \$100,000, the provision with its Alternate II applies.

(C) If the acquisition value is \$100,000 or more but is less than \$102,280, the provision with its Alternate III applies.

(xxii) 52.225-6, Trade Agreements Certificate. This provision applies to solicitations containing the clause at 52.225-5.

(xxiii) 52.225-20, Prohibition on Conducting Restricted Business Operations in Sudan—Certification. This provision applies to all solicitations.

(xxiv) 52.225-25, Prohibition on Contracting with Entities Engaging in Certain Activities or Transactions Relating to Iran-Representation and Certifications. This provision applies to all solicitations.

(xxv) 52.226-2, Historically Black College or University and Minority Institution Representation. This provision applies to solicitations for research, studies, supplies, or services of the type normally acquired from higher educational institutions.

(A) Solicitations for research, studies, supplies, or services of the type normally acquired from higher educational institutions; and

(B) For DoD, NASA, and Coast Guard acquisitions, solicitations that contain the clause at 52.219-23, Notice of Price Evaluation Adjustment for Small Disadvantaged Business Concerns.

(2) The following representations or certifications are applicable as indicated by the Contracting Officer:

(i) 52.204-17, Ownership or Control of Offeror.

(ii) 52.204-20, Predecessor of Offeror.

(iii) 52.222-18, Certification Regarding Knowledge of Child Labor for Listed End Products.

(iv) 52.222-48, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Maintenance, Calibration, or Repair of Certain Equipment—Certification.

(v) 52.222-52, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Certain Services—Certification.

(vi) 52.227-6, Royalty Information.

(A) Basic.

(B) Alternate I.

□ (vii) 52.227-15, Representation of Limited Rights Data and Restricted Computer Software.

(d) The Offeror has completed the annual representations and certifications electronically in SAM accessed through <https://www.sam.gov>. After reviewing the SAM information, the Offeror verifies by submission of the offer that the representations and certifications currently posted electronically that apply to this solicitation as indicated in paragraph (c) of this provision have been entered or updated within the last 12 months, are current, accurate, complete, and applicable to this solicitation (including the business size standard applicable to the NAICS code referenced for this solicitation), as of the date of this offer and are incorporated in this offer by reference (see FAR 4.1201); except for the changes identified below [*offeror to insert changes, identifying change by clause number, title, date*]. These amended representation(s) and/or certification(s) are also incorporated in this offer and are current, accurate, and complete as of the date of this offer.

FAR Clause #	Title	Date	Change

Any changes provided by the offeror are applicable to this solicitation only, and do not result in an update to the representations and certifications posted on SAM.

(End of Provision)

### 3.3 52.204-24 REPRESENTATION REGARDING CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT (NOV 2021)

The Offeror shall not complete the representation at paragraph (d)(1) of this provision if the Offeror has represented that it “does not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services as a part of its offered products or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract, or other contractual instrument” in paragraph (c)(1) in the provision at 52.204–26, Covered Telecommunications Equipment or Services—Representation, or in paragraph (v)(2)(i) of the provision at 52.212–3, Offeror Representations and Certifications—Commercial Products and Commercial Services. The Offeror shall not complete the representation in paragraph (d)(2) of this provision if the Offeror has represented that it “does not use covered telecommunications equipment or services, or any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services” in paragraph (c)(2) of the provision at 52.204–26, or in paragraph (v)(2)(ii) of the provision at 52.212–3.

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this provision—

*Backhaul, covered telecommunications equipment or services, critical technology, interconnection arrangements, reasonable inquiry, roaming, and substantial or essential component* have the meanings provided in the clause 52.204–25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

(b) *Prohibition.* (1) Section 889(a)(1)(A) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115–232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2019, from procuring or obtaining, or extending or renewing a contract to procure or obtain, any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or

services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. Nothing in the prohibition shall be construed to—

(i) Prohibit the head of an executive agency from procuring with an entity to provide a service that connects to the facilities of a third-party, such as backhaul, roaming, or interconnection arrangements; or

(ii) Cover telecommunications equipment that cannot route or redirect user data traffic or cannot permit visibility into any user data or packets that such equipment transmits or otherwise handles.

(2) Section 889(a)(1)(B) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115–232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2020, from entering into a contract or extending or renewing a contract with an entity that uses any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. This prohibition applies to the use of covered telecommunications equipment or services, regardless of whether that use is in performance of work under a Federal contract. Nothing in the prohibition shall be construed to—

(i) Prohibit the head of an executive agency from procuring with an entity to provide a service that connects to the facilities of a third-party, such as backhaul, roaming, or interconnection arrangements; or

(ii) Cover telecommunications equipment that cannot route or redirect user data traffic or cannot permit visibility into any user data or packets that such equipment transmits or otherwise handles.

(c) *Procedures.* The Offeror shall review the list of excluded parties in the System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://www.sam.gov>) for entities excluded from receiving federal awards for “covered telecommunications equipment or services.”

(d) *Representations.* The Offeror represents that—

(1) It [ ] will, [ ] will not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract or other contractual instrument resulting from this solicitation. The Offeror shall provide the additional disclosure information required at paragraph (e)(1) of this section if the Offeror responds “will” in paragraph (d)(1) of this section; and

(2) After conducting a reasonable inquiry, for purposes of this representation, the Offeror represents that—

It [ ] does, [ ] does not use covered telecommunications equipment or services, or use any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services. The Offeror shall provide the additional disclosure information required at paragraph (e)(2) of this section if the Offeror responds “does” in paragraph (d)(2) of this section.

(e) *Disclosures.* (1) Disclosure for the representation in paragraph (d)(1) of this provision. If the Offeror has responded “will” in the representation in paragraph (d)(1) of this provision, the Offeror shall provide the following information as part of the offer:

(i) For covered equipment—

(A) The entity that produced the covered telecommunications equipment (include entity name, unique entity identifier, CAGE code, and whether the entity was the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) or a distributor, if known);

(B) A description of all covered telecommunications equipment offered (include brand; model number, such as OEM number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable); and

(C) Explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications equipment and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision.

(ii) For covered services—

(A) If the service is related to item maintenance: A description of all covered telecommunications services offered (include on the item being maintained: Brand; model number, such as OEM number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable); or

(B) If not associated with maintenance, the Product Service Code (PSC) of the service being provided; and explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications services and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision.

(2) Disclosure for the representation in paragraph (d)(2) of this provision. If the Offeror has responded “does” in the representation in paragraph (d)(2) of this provision, the Offeror shall provide the following information as part of the offer:

(i) For covered equipment—

(A) The entity that produced the covered telecommunications equipment (include entity name, unique entity identifier, CAGE code, and whether the entity was the OEM or a distributor, if known);

(B) A description of all covered telecommunications equipment offered (include brand; model number, such as OEM number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable); and

(C) Explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications equipment and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b)(2) of this provision.

(ii) For covered services—



(A) If the service is related to item maintenance: A description of all covered telecommunications services offered (include on the item being maintained: Brand; model number, such as OEM number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number; and item description, as applicable); or

(B) If not associated with maintenance, the PSC of the service being provided; and explanation of the proposed use of covered telecommunications services and any factors relevant to determining if such use would be permissible under the prohibition in paragraph (b)(2) of this provision.

(End of Provision)

### 3.4 52.209-7 INFORMATION REGARDING RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS (OCT 2018)

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this provision—

"Administrative proceeding" means a non-judicial process that is adjudicatory in nature in order 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 administrative proceedings at the Federal and State level but only in connection with performance of a Federal contract or grant. It does not include agency actions such as contract audits, site visits, corrective plans, or inspection of deliverables.

"Federal contracts and grants with total value greater than \$10,000,000" means—

(1) The total value of all current, active contracts and grants, including all priced options; and

(2) The total value of all current, active orders including all priced options under indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity, 8(a), or requirements contracts (including task and delivery and multiple-award Schedules).

"Principal" means an officer, director, owner, partner, or a person having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g., general manager; plant manager; head of a division or business segment; and similar positions).

(b) The offeror [ ] has [ ] does not have current active Federal contracts and grants with total value greater than \$10,000,000.

(c) If the offeror checked "has" in paragraph (b) of this provision, the offeror represents, by submission of this offer, that the information it has entered in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIS) is current, accurate, and complete as of the date of submission of this offer with regard to the following information:

(1) Whether the offeror, and/or any of its principals, has or has not, within the last five years, in connection with the award to or performance by the offeror of a Federal contract or grant, been the subject of a proceeding, at the Federal or State level that resulted in any of the following dispositions:

(i) In a criminal proceeding, a conviction.

(ii) In a civil proceeding, a finding of fault and liability that results in the payment of a monetary fine, penalty, reimbursement, restitution, or damages of \$5,000 or more.

(iii) In an administrative proceeding, a finding of fault and liability that results in—

(A) The payment of a monetary fine or penalty of \$5,000 or more; or

(B) The payment of a reimbursement, restitution, or damages in excess of \$100,000.

(iv) In a criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding, a disposition of the matter by consent or compromise with an acknowledgment of fault by the Contractor if the proceeding could have led to any of the outcomes specified in paragraphs (c)(1)(i), (c)(1)(ii), or (c)(1)(iii) of this provision.

(2) If the offeror has been involved in the last five years in any of the occurrences listed in (c)(1) of this provision, whether the offeror has provided the requested information with regard to each occurrence.

(d) The offeror shall post the information in paragraphs (c)(1)(i) through (c)(1)(iv) of this provision in FAPIIS as required through maintaining an active registration in the System for Award Management, which can be accessed via <https://www.sam.gov> (see 52.204-7).

(End of Provision)

### **3.5 52.209-13 VIOLATION OF ARMS CONTROL TREATIES OR AGREEMENTS—CERTIFICATION (NOV 2021)**

(a) This provision does not apply to acquisitions at or below the simplified acquisition threshold or to acquisitions of commercial products and commercial services as defined in Federal Acquisition Regulation 2.101.

(b) *Certification. [Offeror shall check either (1) or (2).]*

\_\_\_\_\_ (1) The Offeror certifies that—

(i) It does not engage and has not engaged in any activity that contributed to or was a significant factor in the President's or Secretary of State's determination that a foreign country is in violation of its obligations undertaken in any arms control, nonproliferation, or disarmament agreement to which the United States is a party, or is not adhering to its arms control, nonproliferation, or disarmament commitments in which the United States is a participating state. The determinations are described in the most recent unclassified annual report provided to Congress pursuant to section 403 of the Arms Control and Disarmament Act (22 U.S.C. 2593a). The report is available at <https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-arms-control-and-international-security-affairs/bureau-of-arms-control-verification-and-compliance/>; and

(ii) No entity owned or controlled by the Offeror has engaged in any activity that contributed to or was a significant factor in the President's or Secretary of State's determination that a foreign country is in violation of its obligations undertaken in any arms control, nonproliferation, or disarmament agreement to which the United States is a party, or is not adhering to its arms control, nonproliferation, or disarmament commitments in which the United States is a participating state. The determinations are described in the most recent unclassified annual

report provided to Congress pursuant to section 403 of the Arms Control and Disarmament Act (22 U.S.C. 2593a). The report is available at <https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-arms-control-and-international-security-affairs/bureau-of-arms-control-verification-and-compliance/>; or

\_\_\_\_\_ (2) The Offeror is providing separate information with its offer in accordance with paragraph (d)(2) of this provision.

(c) Procedures for reviewing the annual unclassified report (see paragraph (b)(1) of this provision). For clarity, references to the report in this section refer to the entirety of the annual unclassified report, including any separate reports that are incorporated by reference into the annual unclassified report.

(1) Check the table of contents of the annual unclassified report and the country section headings of the reports incorporated by reference to identify the foreign countries listed there. Determine whether the Offeror or any person owned or controlled by the Offeror may have engaged in any activity related to one or more of such foreign countries.

(2) If there may have been such activity, review all findings in the report associated with those foreign countries to determine whether or not each such foreign country was determined to be in violation of its obligations undertaken in an arms control, nonproliferation, or disarmament agreement to which the United States is a party, or to be not adhering to its arms control, nonproliferation, or disarmament commitments in which the United States is a participating state. For clarity, in the annual report an explicit certification of noncompliance is equivalent to a determination of violation. However, the following statements in the annual report are not equivalent to a determination of violation:

- (i) An inability to certify compliance.
- (ii) An inability to conclude compliance.
- (iii) A statement about compliance concerns.

(3) If so, determine whether the Offeror or any person owned or controlled by the Offeror has engaged in any activity that contributed to or is a significant factor in the determination in the report that one or more of these foreign countries is in violation of its obligations undertaken in an arms control, nonproliferation, or disarmament agreement to which the United States is a party, or is not adhering to its arms control, nonproliferation, or disarmament commitments in which the United States is a participating state. Review the narrative for any such findings reflecting a determination of violation or non-adherence related to those foreign countries in the report, including the finding itself, and to the extent necessary, the conduct giving rise to the compliance or adherence concerns, the analysis of compliance or adherence concerns, and efforts to resolve compliance or adherence concerns.

(4) The Offeror may submit any questions with regard to this report by email to [NDAA1290Cert@state.gov](mailto:NDAA1290Cert@state.gov). To the extent feasible, the Department of State will respond to such email inquiries within 3 business days.

(d) Do not submit an offer unless—

(1) A certification is provided in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision and submitted with the offer;  
or

(2) In accordance with paragraph (b)(2) of this provision, the Offeror provides with its offer information that the President of the United States has—

(i) Waived application under U.S.C. 2593e(d) or (e); or

(ii) Determined under 22 U.S.C. 2593e(g)(2) that the entity has ceased all activities for which measures were imposed under 22 U.S.C.2593e(b).

(e) *Remedies.* The certification in paragraph (b)(1) of this provision is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making award. If it is later determined that the Offeror knowingly submitted a false certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Government, such as suspension or debarment, the Contracting Officer may terminate any contract resulting from the false certification.

(End of Provision)

### **3.6 52.229-11 TAX ON CERTAIN FOREIGN PROCUREMENTS—NOTICE AND REPRESENTATION (JUN 2020)**

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this provision—

*Foreign person* means any person other than a United States person.

*Specified Federal procurement payment* means any payment made pursuant to a contract with a foreign contracting party that is for goods, manufactured or produced, or services provided in a foreign country that is not a party to an international procurement agreement with the United States. For purposes of the prior sentence, a foreign country does not include an outlying area.

*United States person* as defined in 26 U.S.C. 7701(a)(30) means—

- (1) A citizen or resident of the United States;
- (2) A domestic partnership;
- (3) A domestic corporation;
- (4) Any estate (other than a foreign estate, within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. 701(a)(31)); and
- (5) Any trust if—

(i) A court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust; and

(ii) One or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

(b) Unless exempted, there is a 2 percent tax of the amount of a specified Federal procurement payment on any foreign person receiving such payment. See 26 U.S.C. 5000C and its implementing regulations at 26 CFR 1.5000C-1 through 1.5000C-7.

(c) Exemptions from withholding under this provision are described at 26 CFR 1.5000C-1(d)(5) through (7). The Offeror would claim an exemption from the withholding by using the Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Form W-14, Certificate of Foreign Contracting Party Receiving Federal Procurement Payments, available via the internet at [www.irs.gov/w14](http://www.irs.gov/w14). Any exemption claimed and self-certified on the IRS Form W-14 is subject to audit by the IRS. Any disputes regarding the imposition and collection of the 26 U.S.C. 5000C tax are adjudicated by the IRS as the 26 U.S.C. 5000C tax is a tax matter, not a contract issue. The IRS Form W-14 is provided to the acquiring agency rather than to the IRS.

(d) For purposes of withholding under 26 U.S.C. 5000C, the Offeror represents that—

(1) It  is  is not a foreign person; and

(2) If the Offeror indicates “is” in paragraph (d)(1) of this provision, then the Offeror represents that—I am claiming on the IRS Form W-14  a full exemption, or  partial or no exemption [*Offeror shall select one*] from the excise tax.

(e) If the Offeror represents it is a foreign person in paragraph (d)(1) of this provision, then—

(1) The clause at FAR 52.229-12, Tax on Certain Foreign Procurements, will be included in any resulting contract; and

(2) The Offeror shall submit with its offer the IRS Form W-14. If the IRS Form W-14 is not submitted with the offer, exemptions will not be applied to any resulting contract and the Government will withhold a full 2 percent of each payment.

(f) If the Offeror selects “is” in paragraph (d)(1) and “partial or no exemption” in paragraph (d)(2) of this provision, the Offeror will be subject to withholding in accordance with the clause at FAR 52.229-12, Tax on Certain Foreign Procurements, in any resulting contract.

(g) A taxpayer may, for a fee, seek advice from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as to the proper tax treatment of a transaction. This is called a private letter ruling. Also, the IRS may publish a revenue ruling, which is an official interpretation by the IRS of the Internal Revenue Code, related statutes, tax treaties, and regulations. A revenue ruling is the conclusion of the IRS on how the law is applied to a specific set of facts. For questions relating to the interpretation of the IRS regulations go to <https://www.irs.gov/help/tax-law-questions>.

(End of Provision)

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

### 4.1 52.203-14 DISPLAY OF HOTLINE POSTER(S) (NOV 2021)

(a) *Definition.*

*United States*, as used in this clause, means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and outlying areas.

(b) *Display of fraud hotline poster(s).* Except as provided in paragraph (c)—

(1) During contract performance in the United States, the Contractor shall prominently display in common work areas within business segments performing work under this contract and at contract work sites-

(i) Any agency fraud hotline poster or Department of Homeland Security (DHS) fraud hotline poster identified in paragraph (b)(3) of this clause; and

(ii) Any DHS fraud hotline poster subsequently identified by the Contracting Officer.

(2) Additionally, if the Contractor maintains a company website as a method of providing information to employees, the Contractor shall display an electronic version of the poster(s) at the website.

(3) Any required posters may be obtained as follows:

<b>Poster(s)</b>	<b>Obtain from</b>
VA Hotline Poster	<a href="http://www.va.gov/oig/hotline/default.asp">http://www.va.gov/oig/hotline/default.asp</a>

(Contracting Officer shall insert—

(i) Appropriate agency name(s) and/or title of applicable Department of Homeland Security fraud hotline poster; and

(ii) The website(s) or other contact information for obtaining the poster(s).)

(c) If the Contractor has implemented a business ethics and conduct awareness program, including a reporting mechanism, such as a hotline poster, then the Contractor need not display any agency fraud hotline posters as required in paragraph (b) of this clause, other than any required DHS posters.

(d) *Subcontracts.* The Contractor shall include the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (d), in all subcontracts that exceed the threshold specified in Federal Acquisition Regulation 3.1004(b)(1) on the date of subcontract award, except when the subcontract—

(1) Is for the acquisition of a commercial product or commercial service; or

(2) Is performed entirely outside the United States.

(End of Clause)

## 4.2 52.204-21 BASIC SAFEGUARDING OF COVERED CONTRACTOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS (NOV 2021)

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

*Covered contractor information system* means an information system that is owned or operated by a contractor that processes, stores, or transmits Federal contract information.

*Federal contract information* means information, not intended for public release, that is provided by or generated for the Government under a contract to develop or deliver a product or service to the Government, but not including information provided by the Government to the public (such as on public Web sites) or simple transactional information, such as necessary to process payments.

*Information* means any communication or representation of knowledge such as facts, data, or opinions, in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual (Committee on National Security Systems Instruction (CNSSI) 4009).

*Information system* means a discrete set of information resources organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or disposition of information (44 U.S.C. 3502).

*Safeguarding* means measures or controls that are prescribed to protect information systems.

(b) *Safeguarding requirements and procedures.* (1) The Contractor shall apply the following basic safeguarding requirements and procedures to protect covered contractor information systems. Requirements and procedures for basic safeguarding of covered contractor information systems shall include, at a minimum, the following security controls:

(i) Limit information system access to authorized users, processes acting on behalf of authorized users, or devices (including other information systems).

(ii) Limit information system access to the types of transactions and functions that authorized users are permitted to execute.

(iii) Verify and control/limit connections to and use of external information systems.

(iv) Control information posted or processed on publicly accessible information systems.

(v) Identify information system users, processes acting on behalf of users, or devices.

(vi) Authenticate (or verify) the identities of those users, processes, or devices, as a prerequisite to allowing access to organizational information systems.

(vii) Sanitize or destroy information system media containing Federal Contract Information before disposal or release for reuse.

(viii) Limit physical access to organizational information systems, equipment, and the respective operating environments to authorized individuals.

(ix) Escort visitors and monitor visitor activity; maintain audit logs of physical access; and control and manage physical access devices.

(x) Monitor, control, and protect organizational communications (i.e., information transmitted or received by organizational information systems) at the external boundaries and key internal boundaries of the information systems.

(xi) Implement subnetworks for publicly accessible system components that are physically or logically separated from internal networks.

(xii) Identify, report, and correct information and information system flaws in a timely manner.

(xiii) Provide protection from malicious code at appropriate locations within organizational information systems.

(xiv) Update malicious code protection mechanisms when new releases are available.

(xv) Perform periodic scans of the information system and real-time scans of files from external sources as files are downloaded, opened, or executed.

(2) *Other requirements.* This clause does not relieve the Contractor of any other specific safeguarding requirements specified by Federal agencies and departments relating to covered contractor information systems generally or other Federal safeguarding requirements for controlled unclassified information (CUI) as established by Executive Order 13556.

(c) *Subcontracts.* The Contractor shall include the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (c), in subcontracts under this contract (including subcontracts for the acquisition of commercial products or commercial services, other than commercially available off-the-shelf items), in which the subcontractor may have Federal contract information residing in or transiting through its information system.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.3 52.204-30 FEDERAL ACQUISITION SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY ACT ORDERS—PROHIBITION (DEC 2023)**

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

*Covered article*, as defined in 41 U.S.C. 4713(k), means—

(1) Information technology, as defined in 40 U.S.C. 11101, including cloud computing services of all types;

(2) Telecommunications equipment or telecommunications service, as those terms are defined in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153);

(3) The processing of information on a Federal or non-Federal information system, subject to the requirements of the Controlled Unclassified Information program (see 32 CFR part 2002); or

(4) Hardware, systems, devices, software, or services that include embedded or incidental information technology.

*FASCSA order* means any of the following orders issued under the Federal Acquisition Supply Chain Security Act (FASCSA) requiring the removal of covered articles from executive agency



information systems or the exclusion of one or more named sources or named covered articles from executive agency procurement actions, as described in 41 CFR 201–1.303(d) and (e):

(1) The Secretary of Homeland Security may issue FASCSA orders applicable to civilian agencies, to the extent not covered by paragraph (2) or (3) of this definition. This type of FASCSA order may be referred to as a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FASCSA order.

(2) The Secretary of Defense may issue FASCSA orders applicable to the Department of Defense (DoD) and national security systems other than sensitive compartmented information systems. This type of FASCSA order may be referred to as a DoD FASCSA order.

(3) The Director of National Intelligence (DNI) may issue FASCSA orders applicable to the intelligence community and sensitive compartmented information systems, to the extent not covered by paragraph (2) of this definition. This type of FASCSA order may be referred to as a DNI FASCSA order.

*Intelligence community*, as defined by 50 U.S.C. 3003(4), means the following—

- (1) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence;
- (2) The Central Intelligence Agency;
- (3) The National Security Agency;
- (4) The Defense Intelligence Agency;
- (5) The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency;
- (6) The National Reconnaissance Office;
- (7) Other offices within the Department of Defense for the collection of specialized national intelligence through reconnaissance programs;
- (8) The intelligence elements of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Department of Energy;
- (9) The Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the Department of State;
- (10) The Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of the Treasury;
- (11) The Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security; or
- (12) Such other elements of any department or agency as may be designated by the President, or designated jointly by the Director of National Intelligence and the head of the department or agency concerned, as an element of the intelligence community.

*National security system*, as defined in 44 U.S.C. 3552, means any information system (including any telecommunications system) used or operated by an agency or by a contractor of an agency, or other organization on behalf of an agency—

(1) The function, operation, or use of which involves intelligence activities; involves cryptologic activities related to national security; involves command and control of military forces; involves equipment that is an integral part of a weapon or weapons system; or is critical to the direct fulfillment of military or intelligence missions, but does not include a system that is to be used for routine administrative and business applications (including payroll, finance, logistics, and personnel management applications); or

(2) Is protected at all times by procedures established for information that have been specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order or an Act of Congress to be kept classified in the interest of national defense or foreign policy.

*Reasonable inquiry* means an inquiry designed to uncover any information in the entity's possession about the identity of any covered articles, or any products or services produced or provided by a source. This applies when the covered article or the source is subject to an applicable FASCSA order. A reasonable inquiry excludes the need to include an internal or third-party audit.

*Sensitive compartmented information* means classified information concerning or derived from intelligence sources, methods, or analytical processes, which is required to be handled within formal access control systems established by the Director of National Intelligence.

*Sensitive compartmented information system* means a national security system authorized to process or store sensitive compartmented information.

*Source* means a non-Federal supplier, or potential supplier, of products or services, at any tier.

(b) *Prohibition.* (1) Unless an applicable waiver has been issued by the issuing official, Contractors shall not provide or use as part of the performance of the contract any covered article, or any products or services produced or provided by a source, if the covered article or the source is prohibited by an applicable FASCSA orders as follows:

(i) For solicitations and contracts awarded by a Department of Defense contracting office, DoD FASCSA orders apply.

(ii) For all other solicitations and contracts DHS FASCSA orders apply.

(2) The Contractor shall search for the phrase "FASCSA order" in the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov> to locate applicable FASCSA orders identified in paragraph (b)(1).

(3) The Government may identify in the solicitation additional FASCSA orders that are not in SAM, which are effective and apply to the solicitation and resultant contract.

(4) A FASCSA order issued after the date of solicitation applies to this contract only if added by an amendment to the solicitation or modification to the contract (see FAR 4.2304(c)). However, see paragraph (c) of this clause.

(5)(i) If the contractor wishes to ask for a waiver of the requirements of a new FASCSA order being applied through modification, then the Contractor shall disclose the following:

(A) Name of the product or service provided to the Government;

(B) Name of the covered article or source subject to a FASCSA order;

(C) If applicable, name of the vendor, including the Commercial and Government Entity code and unique entity identifier (if known), that supplied or supplies the covered article or the product or service to the Offeror;

(D) Brand;

(E) Model number (original equipment manufacturer number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number);

(F) Item description;

(G) Reason why the applicable covered article or the product or service is being provided or used;

(ii) *Executive agency review of disclosures.* The contracting officer will review disclosures provided in paragraph (b)(5)(i) to determine if any waiver is warranted. A contracting officer may choose not to pursue a waiver for covered articles or sources otherwise covered by a FASCSA order and to instead pursue other appropriate action.

(c) *Notice and reporting requirement.* (1) During contract performance, the Contractor shall review *SAM.gov* at least once every three months, or as advised by the Contracting Officer, to check for covered articles subject to FASCSA order(s), or for products or services produced by a source subject to FASCSA order(s) not currently identified under paragraph (b) of this clause.

(2) If the Contractor identifies a new FASCSA order(s) that could impact their supply chain, then the Contractor shall conduct a reasonable inquiry to identify whether a covered article or product or service produced or provided by a source subject to the FASCSA order(s) was provided to the Government or used during contract performance.

(3)(i) The Contractor shall submit a report to the contracting office as identified in paragraph (c)(3)(ii) of this clause, if the Contractor identifies, including through any notification by a subcontractor at any tier, that a covered article or product or service produced or provided by a source was provided to the Government or used during contract performance and is subject to a FASCSA order(s) identified in paragraph (b) of this clause, or a new FASCSA order identified in paragraph (c)(2) of this clause. For indefinite delivery contracts, the Contractor shall report to both the contracting office for the indefinite delivery contract and the contracting office for any affected order.

(ii) If a report is required to be submitted to a contracting office under (c)(3)(i) of this clause, the Contractor shall submit the report as follows:

(A) If a Department of Defense contracting office, the Contractor shall report to the website at <https://dibnet.dod.mil>.

(B) For all other contracting offices, the Contractor shall report to the Contracting Officer.

(4) The Contractor shall report the following information for each covered article or each product or service produced or provided by a source, where the covered article or source is subject to a FASCSA order, pursuant to paragraph (c)(3)(i) of this clause:

(i) Within 3 business days from the date of such identification or notification:

(A) Contract number;

(B) Order number(s), if applicable;

(C) Name of the product or service provided to the Government or used during performance of the contract;

(D) Name of the covered article or source subject to a FASCSA order;

(E) If applicable, name of the vendor, including the Commercial and Government Entity code and unique entity identifier (if known), that supplied the covered article or the product or service to the Contractor;

(F) Brand;

(G) Model number (original equipment manufacturer number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number);

(H) Item description; and

(I) Any readily available information about mitigation actions undertaken or recommended.

(ii) Within 10 business days of submitting the information in paragraph (c)(4)(i) of this clause:

(A) Any further available information about mitigation actions undertaken or recommended.

(B) In addition, the Contractor shall describe the efforts it undertook to prevent submission or use of the covered article or the product or service produced or provided by a source subject to an applicable FASCSA order, and any additional efforts that will be incorporated to prevent future submission or use of the covered article or the product or service produced or provided by a source that is subject to an applicable FASCSA order.

(d) *Removal.* For Federal Supply Schedules, Governmentwide acquisition contracts, multi-agency contracts or any other procurement instrument intended for use by multiple agencies, upon notification from the Contracting Officer, during the performance of the contract, the Contractor shall promptly make any necessary changes or modifications to remove any product or service produced or provided by a source that is subject to an applicable FASCSA order.

(e) *Subcontracts.* (1) The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (e) and excluding paragraph (c)(1) of this clause, in all subcontracts and other contractual instruments, including subcontracts for the acquisition of commercial products and commercial services.

(2) The Government may identify in the solicitation additional FASCSA orders that are not in SAM, which are effective and apply to the contract and any subcontracts and other contractual instruments under the contract. The Contractor or higher-tier subcontractor shall notify their subcontractors, and suppliers under other contractual instruments, that the FASCSA orders in the solicitation that are not in SAM apply to the contract and all subcontracts.

(End of Clause)

#### 4.4 52.211-10 COMMENCEMENT, PROSECUTION, AND COMPLETION OF WORK (APR 1984)

The Contractor shall be required to (a) commence work under this contract within 10 (TEN) calendar days after the date the Contractor receives the notice to proceed, (b) prosecute the work diligently, and (c) complete the entire work ready for use not later than 730 days after the date the contractor receives the notice to proceed. The time stated for completion shall include final cleanup of the premises.

(End of Clause)

#### 4.5 52.219-28 POST-AWARD SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM REREPRESENTATION (FEB 2024)

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

*Long-term contract* means a contract of more than five years in duration, including options. However, the term does not include contracts that exceed five years in duration because the period of performance has been extended for a cumulative period not to exceed six months under the clause at 52.217-8, Option to Extend Services, or other appropriate authority.

*Small business concern*—

(1) Means a concern, including its affiliates, that is independently owned and operated, not dominant in its field of operation, and qualified as a small business under the criteria in 13 CFR part 121 and the size standard in paragraph (d) of this clause.

(2) *Affiliates*, as used in this definition, means business concerns, one of whom directly or indirectly controls or has the power to control the others, or a third party or parties control or have the power to control the others. In determining whether affiliation exists, consideration is given to all appropriate factors including common ownership, common management, and contractual relationships. SBA determines affiliation based on the factors set forth at 13 CFR 121.103.

(b) If the Contractor represented that it was any of the small business concerns identified in 19.000(a)(3) prior to award of this contract, the Contractor shall rerepresent its size and socioeconomic status according to paragraph (f) of this clause or, if applicable, paragraph (h) of this clause, upon occurrence of any of the following:

(1) Within 30 days after execution of a novation agreement or within 30 days after modification of the contract to include this clause, if the novation agreement was executed prior to inclusion of this clause in the contract.

(2) Within 30 days after a merger or acquisition that does not require a novation or within 30 days after modification of the contract to include this clause, if the merger or acquisition occurred prior to inclusion of this clause in the contract.

(3) For long-term contracts—

(i) Within 60 to 120 days prior to the end of the fifth year of the contract; and

(ii) Within 60 to 120 days prior to the date specified in the contract for exercising any option thereafter.

(c) If the Contractor represented that it was any of the small business concerns identified in 19.000(a)(3) prior to award of this contract, the Contractor shall rerepresent its size and socioeconomic status according to paragraph (f) of this clause or, if applicable, paragraph (h) of this clause, when the Contracting Officer explicitly requires it for an order issued under a multiple-award contract.

(d) The Contractor shall rerepresent its size status in accordance with the size standard in effect at the time of this rerepresentation that corresponds to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code(s) assigned to this contract. The small business size standard corresponding to this NAICS code(s) can be found at <https://www.sba.gov/document/support-table-size-standards>.

(e) The small business size standard for a Contractor providing an end item that it does not manufacture, process, or produce itself, for a contract other than a construction or service contract, is 500 employees, or 150 employees for information technology value-added resellers under NAICS code 541519, if the acquisition—

(1) Was set aside for small business and has a value above the simplified acquisition threshold;

(2) Used the HUBZone price evaluation preference regardless of dollar value, unless the Contractor waived the price evaluation preference; or

(3) Was an 8(a), HUBZone, service-disabled veteran-owned, economically disadvantaged women-owned, or women-owned small business set-aside or sole-source award regardless of dollar value.

(f) Except as provided in paragraph (h) of this clause, the Contractor shall make the representation(s) required by paragraph (b) and (c) of this clause by validating or updating all its representations in the Representations and Certifications section of the System for Award Management (SAM) and its other data in SAM, as necessary, to ensure that they reflect the Contractor's current status. The Contractor shall notify the contracting office in writing within the timeframes specified in paragraph (b) of this clause, or with its offer for an order (see paragraph (c) of this clause), that the data have been validated or updated, and provide the date of the validation or update.

(g) If the Contractor represented that it was other than a small business concern prior to award of this contract, the Contractor may, but is not required to, take the actions required by paragraphs (f) or (h) of this clause.

(h) If the Contractor does not have representations and certifications in SAM, or does not have a representation in SAM for the NAICS code applicable to this contract, the Contractor is required to complete the following rerepresentation and submit it to the contracting office, along with the contract number and the date on which the rerepresentation was completed:

(1) The Contractor represents that it [ ] is, [ ] is not a small business concern under NAICS Code 236220 assigned to contract number .

(2) *[Complete only if the Contractor represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (h)(1) of this clause.]* The Contractor represents that it  is,  is not, a small disadvantaged business concern as defined in 13 CFR 124.1001.

(3) *[Complete only if the Contractor represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (h)(1) of this clause.]* The Contractor represents that it  is,  is not a women-owned small business concern.

(4) Women-owned small business (WOSB) concern eligible under the WOSB Program. The Contractor represents that it  is,  is not a joint venture that complies with the requirements of 13 CFR 127.506(a) through (c). *[The Contractor shall enter the name and unique entity identifier of each party to the joint venture: \_\_\_\_\_.]*

(5) Economically disadvantaged women-owned small business (EDWOSB) joint venture. The Contractor represents that it  is,  is not a joint venture that complies with the requirements of 13 CFR 127.506(a) through (c). *[The Contractor shall enter the name and unique entity identifier of each party to the joint venture: \_\_\_\_\_.]*

(6) *[Complete only if the Contractor represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (h)(1) of this clause.]* The Contractor represents that it  is,  is not a veteran-owned small business concern.

(7) *[Complete only if the Contractor represented itself as a veteran-owned small business concern in paragraph (h)(6) of this clause.]* The Contractor represents that it  is,  is not a service-disabled veteran-owned small business concern.

(8) *Service-disabled veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB) joint venture eligible under the SDVOSB Program.* The Contractor represents that it  is,  is not an SDVOSB joint venture eligible under the SDVOSB Program that complies with the requirements of 13 CFR 128.402. *[The Contractor shall enter the name and unique entity identifier of each party to the joint venture: \_\_\_\_\_.]*

(9) *[Complete only if the Contractor represented itself as a small business concern in paragraph (h)(1) of this clause.]* The Contractor represents that—

(i) It  is,  is not a HUBZone small business concern listed, on the date of this representation, on the List of Qualified HUBZone Small Business Concerns maintained by the Small Business Administration, and no material changes in ownership and control, principal office, or HUBZone employee percentage have occurred since it was certified in accordance with 13 CFR part 126; and

(ii) It  is,  is not a HUBZone joint venture that complies with the requirements of 13 CFR part 126, and the representation in paragraph (h)(8)(i) of this clause is accurate for each HUBZone small business concern participating in the HUBZone joint venture. *[The Contractor shall enter the names of each of the HUBZone small business concerns participating in the HUBZone joint venture: \_\_\_\_\_.]* Each HUBZone small business concern participating in the HUBZone joint venture shall submit a separate signed copy of the HUBZone representation.

*[Contractor to sign and date and insert authorized signer's name and title.]*

(End of Clause)

#### 4.6 52.223-20 AEROSOLS (MAY 2024)

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

*Global warming potential* means how much a given mass of a chemical contributes to global warming over a given time period compared to the same mass of carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide's global warming potential is defined as 1.0.

*High global warming potential hydrofluorocarbons* means any hydrofluorocarbons in a particular end use for which EPA's Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program has identified other acceptable alternatives that have lower global warming potential. The SNAP list of alternatives is found at 40 CFR part 82, subpart G, with supplemental tables of alternatives available at (<https://www.epa.gov/snap/>).

*Hydrofluorocarbons* means compounds that contain only hydrogen, fluorine, and carbon.

(b) Unless otherwise specified in the contract, the Contractor shall reduce its use, release, or emissions of high global warming potential hydrofluorocarbons, when feasible, from aerosol propellants or solvents under this contract. When determining feasibility of using a particular alternative, the Contractor shall consider environmental, technical, and economic factors such as—

- (1) In-use emission rates, energy efficiency;
- (2) Safety, such as flammability or toxicity;
- (3) Ability to meet technical performance requirements; and
- (4) Commercial availability at a reasonable cost.

(c) The Contractor shall refer to EPA's SNAP program to identify alternatives. The SNAP list of alternatives is found at 40 CFR part 82, subpart G, with supplemental tables available at <https://www.epa.gov/snap/>.

(End of Clause)

#### 4.7 52.223-21 FOAMS (MAY 2024)

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

*Global warming potential* means how much a given mass of a chemical contributes to global warming over a given time period compared to the same mass of carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide's global warming potential is defined as 1.0.

*High global warming potential hydrofluorocarbons* means any hydrofluorocarbons in a particular end use for which EPA's Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program has identified other acceptable alternatives that have lower global warming potential. The SNAP list of alternatives is found at 40 CFR part 82, subpart G, with supplemental tables of alternatives available at <https://www.epa.gov/snap/>.



*Hydrofluorocarbons* means compounds that contain only hydrogen, fluorine, and carbon.

(b) Unless otherwise specified in the contract, the Contractor shall reduce its use, release, and emissions of high global warming potential hydrofluorocarbons and refrigerant blends containing hydrofluorocarbons, when feasible, from foam blowing agents, under this contract. When determining feasibility of using a particular alternative, the Contractor shall consider environmental, technical, and economic factors such as—

- (1) In-use emission rates, energy efficiency, and safety;
- (2) Ability to meet performance requirements; and
- (3) Commercial availability at a reasonable cost.

(c) The Contractor shall refer to EPA's SNAP program to identify alternatives. The SNAP list of alternatives is found at 40 CFR part 82, subpart G, with supplemental tables available at <https://www.epa.gov/snap/>.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.8 52.225-11 BUY AMERICAN—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS UNDER TRADE AGREEMENTS (NOV 2023)**

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

*Caribbean Basin country construction material* means a construction material that—

- (1) Is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of a Caribbean Basin country; or
- (2) In the case of a construction material that consists in whole or in part of materials from another country, has been substantially transformed in a Caribbean Basin country into a new and different construction material distinct from the materials from which it was transformed.

*Commercially available off-the-shelf (COTS) item*—

- (1) Means any item of supply (including construction material) that is—
  - (i) A commercial product (as defined in paragraph (1) of the definition of “commercial product” at Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 2.101;
  - (ii) Sold in substantial quantities in the commercial marketplace; and
  - (iii) Offered to the Government, under a contract or subcontract at any tier, without modification, in the same form in which it is sold in the commercial marketplace; and
- (2) Does not include bulk cargo, as defined in 46 U.S.C. 40102(4), such as agricultural products and petroleum products.

*Component* means an article, material, or supply incorporated directly into a construction material.

*Construction material* means an article, material, or supply brought to the construction site by the Contractor or subcontractor for incorporation into the building or work. The term also

includes an item brought to the site preassembled from articles, materials, or supplies. However, emergency life safety systems, such as emergency lighting, fire alarm, and audio evacuation systems, that are discrete systems incorporated into a public building or work and that are produced as complete systems, are evaluated as a single and distinct construction material regardless of when or how the individual parts or components of those systems are delivered to the construction site. Materials purchased directly by the Government are supplies, not construction material.

*Cost of components* means—

(1) For components purchased by the Contractor, the acquisition cost, including transportation costs to the place of incorporation into the construction material (whether or not such costs are paid to a domestic firm), and any applicable duty (whether or not a duty-free entry certificate is issued); or

(2) For components manufactured by the Contractor, all costs associated with the manufacture of the component, including transportation costs as described in paragraph (1) of this definition, plus allocable overhead costs, but excluding profit. Cost of components does not include any costs associated with the manufacture of the construction material.

*Critical component* means a component that is mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States and deemed critical to the U.S. supply chain. The list of critical components is at FAR 25.105.

*Critical item* means a domestic construction material or domestic end product that is deemed critical to U.S. supply chain resiliency. The list of critical items is at FAR 25.105.

*Designated country* means any of the following countries:

(1) A World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement (WTO GPA) country (Armenia, Aruba, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Ukraine, or United Kingdom);

(2) A Free Trade Agreement (FTA) country (Australia, Bahrain, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Korea (Republic of), Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama, Peru, or Singapore);

(3) A least developed country (Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Laos, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu, Yemen, or Zambia); or

(4) A Caribbean Basin country (Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Curacao, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saba, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten, or Trinidad and Tobago).

*Designated country construction material* means a construction material that is a WTO GPA country construction material, an FTA country construction material, a least developed country construction material, or a Caribbean Basin country construction material.

*Domestic construction material* means—

(1) For construction material that does not consist wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both—

(i) An unmanufactured construction material mined or produced in the United States; or

(ii) A construction material manufactured in the United States, if—

(A) The cost of its components mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States exceeds 60 percent of the cost of all its components, except that the percentage will be 65 percent for items delivered in calendar years 2024 through 2028 and 75 percent for items delivered starting in calendar year 2029. Components of foreign origin of the same class or kind for which nonavailability determinations have been made are treated as domestic. Components of unknown origin are treated as foreign; or

(B) The construction material is a COTS item; or

(2) For construction material that consists wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both, a construction material manufactured in the United States if the cost of foreign iron and steel constitutes less than 5 percent of the cost of all components used in such construction material. The cost of foreign iron and steel includes but is not limited to the cost of foreign iron or steel mill products (such as bar, billet, slab, wire, plate, or sheet), castings, or forgings utilized in the manufacture of the construction material and a good faith estimate of the cost of all foreign iron or steel components excluding COTS fasteners. Iron or steel components of unknown origin are treated as foreign. If the construction material contains multiple components, the cost of all the materials used in such construction material is calculated in accordance with the definition of “cost of components”.

*Fastener* means a hardware device that mechanically joins or affixes two or more objects together. Examples of fasteners are nuts, bolts, pins, rivets, nails, clips, and screws.

*Foreign construction material* means a construction material other than a domestic construction material.

*Foreign iron and steel* means iron or steel products not produced in the United States. Produced in the United States means that all manufacturing processes of the iron or steel must take place in the United States, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, except metallurgical processes involving refinement of steel additives. The origin of the elements of the iron or steel is not relevant to the determination of whether it is domestic or foreign.

*Free Trade Agreement country construction material* means a construction material that—

(1) Is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) country; or

(2) In the case of a construction material that consists in whole or in part of materials from another country, has been substantially transformed in a FTA country into a new and different construction material distinct from the materials from which it was transformed.

*Least developed country construction material* means a construction material that—

(1) Is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of a least developed country; or

(2) In the case of a construction material that consists in whole or in part of materials from another country, has been substantially transformed in a least developed country into a new and different construction material distinct from the materials from which it was transformed.

*Predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both* means that the cost of the iron and steel content exceeds 50 percent of the total cost of all its components. The cost of iron and steel is the cost of the iron or steel mill products (such as bar, billet, slab, wire, plate, or sheet), castings, or forgings utilized in the manufacture of the product and a good faith estimate of the cost of iron or steel components excluding COTS fasteners.

*Steel* means an alloy that includes at least 50 percent iron, between 0.02 and 2 percent carbon, and may include other elements.

*United States* means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and outlying areas.

*WTO GPA country construction material* means a construction material that—

(1) Is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of a WTO GPA country; or

(2) In the case of a construction material that consists in whole or in part of materials from another country, has been substantially transformed in a WTO GPA country into a new and different construction material distinct from the materials from which it was transformed.

(b) Construction materials.

(1) This clause implements 41 U.S.C. chapter 83, Buy American, by providing a preference for domestic construction material. In accordance with 41 U.S.C. 1907, the domestic content test of the Buy American statute is waived for construction material that is a COTS item, except that for construction material that consists wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both, the domestic content test is applied only to the iron and steel content of the construction material, excluding COTS fasteners. (See FAR 12.505(a)(2)). In addition, the Contracting Officer has determined that the WTO GPA and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) apply to this acquisition. Therefore, the Buy American restrictions are waived for designated country construction materials.

(2) The Contractor shall use only domestic or designated country construction material in performing this contract, except as provided in paragraphs (b)(3) and (b)(4) of this clause.

(3) The requirement in paragraph (b)(2) of this clause does not apply to information technology that is a commercial product or to the construction materials or components listed by the Government as follows:

None

(4) The Contracting Officer may add other foreign construction material to the list in paragraph (b)(3) of this clause if the Government determines that—

(i) The cost of domestic construction material would be unreasonable.

*(A) For domestic construction material that is not a critical item or does not contain critical components.* (1) The cost of a particular domestic construction material subject to the restrictions of the Buy American statute is unreasonable when the cost of such material exceeds the cost of foreign material by more than 20 percent;

(2) For construction material that is not a COTS item and does not consist wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both, if the cost of a particular domestic construction material is determined to be unreasonable or there is no domestic offer received, and the low offer is for foreign construction material that does not exceed 55 percent domestic content, the Contracting Officer will treat the lowest offer of foreign construction material that is manufactured in the United States and exceeds 55 percent domestic content as a domestic offer and determine whether the cost of that offer is unreasonable by applying the evaluation factor listed in paragraph (b)(4)(i)(A)(1) of this clause.

(3) The procedures in paragraph (b)(4)(i)(A)(2) of this clause will no longer apply as of January 1, 2030.

*(B) For domestic construction material that is a critical item or contains critical components.* (1) The cost of a particular domestic construction material that is a critical item or contains critical components, subject to the requirements of the Buy American statute, is unreasonable when the cost of such material exceeds the cost of foreign material by more than 20 percent plus the additional preference factor identified for the critical item or construction material containing critical components listed at FAR 25.105.

(2) For construction material that does not consist wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both, if the cost of a particular domestic construction material is determined to be unreasonable or there is no domestic offer received, and the low offer is for foreign construction material that does not exceed 55 percent domestic content, the Contracting Officer will treat the lowest offer of foreign construction material that is manufactured in the United States and exceeds 55 percent domestic content as a domestic offer, and determine whether the cost of that offer is unreasonable by applying the evaluation factor listed in paragraph (b)(4)(i)(B)(1) of this clause.

(3) The procedures in paragraph (b)(4)(i)(B)(2) of this clause will no longer apply as of January 1, 2030.

(ii) The application of the restriction of the Buy American statute to a particular construction material would be impracticable or inconsistent with the public interest; or

(iii) The construction material is not mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available commercial quantities of a satisfactory quality.

(c) Request for determination of inapplicability of the Buy American statute.

(1)(i) Any Contractor request to use foreign construction material in accordance with paragraph (b)(4) of this clause shall include adequate information for Government evaluation of the request, including—

(A) A description of the foreign and domestic construction materials;

(B) Unit of measure;

(C) Quantity;

(D) Price;

(E) Time of delivery or availability;

(F) Location of the construction project;

(G) Name and address of the proposed supplier; and

(H) A detailed justification of the reason for use of foreign construction materials cited in accordance with paragraph (b)(3) of this clause.

(ii) A request based on unreasonable cost shall include a reasonable survey of the market and a completed price comparison table in the format in paragraph (d) of this clause.

(iii) The price of construction material shall include all delivery costs to the construction site and any applicable duty (whether or not a duty-free certificate may be issued).

(iv) Any Contractor request for a determination submitted after contract award shall explain why the Contractor could not reasonably foresee the need for such determination and could not have requested the determination before contract award. If the Contractor does not submit a satisfactory explanation, the Contracting Officer need not make a determination.

(2) If the Government determines after contract award that an exception to the Buy American statute applies and the Contracting Officer and the Contractor negotiate adequate consideration, the Contracting Officer will modify the contract to allow use of the foreign construction material. However, when the basis for the exception is the unreasonable price of a domestic construction material, adequate consideration is not less than the differential established in paragraph (b)(4)(i) of this clause.

(3) Unless the Government determines that an exception to the Buy American statute applies, use of foreign construction material is noncompliant with the Buy American statute.

(d) *Data*. To permit evaluation of requests under paragraph (c) of this clause based on unreasonable cost, the Contractor shall include the following information and any applicable supporting data based on the survey of suppliers:

Foreign and Domestic Construction Materials Price Comparison

Construction Material Description	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Price (Dollars)*
Item 1:			
Foreign Construction Material			
Domestic Construction Material			
Item 2:			
Foreign Construction Material			
Domestic Construction Material			

[List name, address, telephone number, and contact for suppliers surveyed. Attach copy of response; if oral, attach summary.]

[Include other applicable supporting information.]

[\* Include all delivery costs to the construction site and any applicable duty (whether or not a duty-free entry certificate is issued).]

(End of Clause)

#### **4.9 52.228-11 INDIVIDUAL SURETY—PLEDGE OF ASSETS (FEB 2021)(DEVIATION APR 2020)**

(a) The Contractor shall obtain from each person acting as an individual surety on a performance bond or a payment bond—

(1) A pledge of assets that meets the eligibility, valuation, and security requirements described in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 28.203–1; and

(2) Standard Form 28, Affidavit of Individual Surety, **except that the words “being duly sworn, depose and say” on the Standard Form 28 are replaced with the word “affirm” and the Standard Form 28 is not required to be sworn and notarized in block 12.**

(b) The Contracting Officer may release a portion of the security interest on the individual surety’s assets based upon substantial performance of the Contractor’s obligations under its performance bond. The security interest in support of a performance bond shall be maintained—

(1) *Contracts for the construction, alteration, or repair of any public building or public work of the Federal Government exceeding \$150,000 (40 U.S.C. 3131).* Until completion of any warranty period, or for 1 year following final payment, whichever is later.

(2) *Contracts subject to alternative payment protection (see FAR 28.102–1(b)(1)).* For the full contract performance period plus 1 year.

(3) *Other contracts not subject to the requirements of paragraph (b)(1) of this clause.* Until completion of any warranty period, or for 90 days following final payment, whichever is later.

(c) A surety's assets pledged in support of a payment bond may be released to a subcontractor or supplier upon Government receipt of a Federal district court judgment, or a sworn statement by the subcontractor or supplier that the claim is correct along with a notarized authorization of the release by the surety stating that it approves of such release. The security interest on the individual surety's assets in support of a payment bond shall be maintained—

(1) *Contracts for the construction, alteration, or repair of any public building or public work of the Federal Government exceeding \$150,000 which require performance and payment bonds (40 U.S.C. 3131).* For 1 year following final payment, or until resolution of all pending claims filed against the payment bond during the 1-year period following final payment, whichever is later.

(2) *Contracts subject to alternative payment protection (see FAR 28.102–1(b)(1)).* For the full contract performance period plus 1 year.

(3) *Other contracts not subject to the requirements of paragraph (c)(1) of this clause.* For 90 days following final payment.

(d) The Contracting Officer may allow the Contractor to substitute an individual surety, for a performance or payment bond, after contract award. The Contractor shall comply with the requirements of paragraph (a) of this clause within the timeframe established by the Contracting Officer.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.10 52.228-15 PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS—CONSTRUCTION (JUN 2020)(DEVIATION APR 2020)**

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

"Original contract price" means the award price of the contract; or, for requirements contracts, the price payable for the estimated total quantity; or, for indefinite-quantity contracts, the price payable for the specified minimum quantity. Original contract price does not include the price of any options, except those options exercised at the time of contract award.

(b) *Amount of required bonds.* Unless the resulting contract price is valued at or below the threshold specified in Federal Acquisition Regulation 28.102–1(a) on the date of award of this contract, the successful offeror shall furnish performance and payment bonds to the Contracting Officer as follows:

(1) *Performance bonds* (Standard Form 25, **except that a seal is not required**). The penal amount of performance bonds at the time of contract award shall be 100 percent of the original contract price.

(2) *Payment Bonds* (Standard Form 25-A, **except that a seal is not required**). The penal amount of payment bonds at the time of contract award shall be 100 percent of the original contract price.

(3) Additional bond protection.



(i) The Government may require additional performance and payment bond protection if the contract price is increased. The increase in protection generally will equal 100 percent of the increase in contract price.

(ii) The Government may secure the additional protection by directing the Contractor to increase the penal amount of the existing bond or to obtain an additional bond.

(c) *Furnishing executed bonds.* The Contractor shall furnish all executed bonds, including any necessary reinsurance agreements, to the Contracting Officer, within the time period specified in the Bid Guarantee provision of the solicitation, or otherwise specified by the Contracting Officer, but in any event, before starting work.

(d) *Surety or other security for bonds.* The bonds shall be in the form of firm commitment, supported by corporate sureties whose names appear on the list contained in Treasury Department Circular 570, individual sureties, or by other acceptable security such as postal money order, certified check, cashier's check, irrevocable letter of credit, or, in accordance with Treasury Department regulations, certain bonds or notes of the United States. Treasury Circular 570 is published in the *Federal Register* or may be obtained from the:

U.S. Department of Treasury  
 Financial Management Service  
 Surety Bond Branch  
 3700 East West Highway, Room 6F01  
 Hyattsville, MD 20782.  
 Or via the internet at <http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570/>.

(e) *Notice of subcontractor waiver of protection (40 U.S.C. 3133(c)).* Any waiver of the right to sue on the payment bond is void unless it is in writing, signed by the person whose right is waived, and executed after such person has first furnished labor or material for use in the performance of the contract.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.11 52.229-3 FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXES (FEB 2013)**

(a) As used in this clause—

"After-imposed Federal tax," means any new or increased Federal excise tax or duty, or tax that was exempted or excluded on the contract date but whose exemption was later revoked or reduced during the contract period, on the transactions or property covered by this contract that the Contractor is required to pay or bear as the result of legislative, judicial, or administrative action taking effect after the contract date. It does not include social security tax or other employment taxes.

"After-relieved Federal tax," means any amount of Federal excise tax or duty, except social security or other employment taxes, that would otherwise have been payable on the transactions or property covered by this contract, but which the Contractor is not required to pay or bear, or for which the Contractor obtains a refund or drawback, as the result of legislative, judicial, or administrative action taking effect after the contract date.

"All applicable Federal, State, and local taxes and duties," means all taxes and duties, in effect on the contract date, that the taxing authority is imposing and collecting on the transactions or property covered by this contract.

"Contract date," means the date set for bid opening or, if this is a negotiated contract or a modification, the effective date of this contract or modification.

Local taxes includes taxes imposed by a possession or territory of the United States, Puerto Rico, or the Northern Mariana Islands, if the contract is performed wholly or partly in any of those areas.

(b)(1) The contract price includes all applicable Federal, State, and local taxes and duties, except as provided in subparagraph (b)(2)(i) of this clause.

(2) Taxes imposed under 26 U.S.C. 5000C may not be—

- (i) Included in the contract price; nor
- (ii) Reimbursed.

(c) The contract price shall be increased by the amount of any after-imposed Federal tax, provided the Contractor warrants in writing that no amount for such newly imposed Federal excise tax or duty or rate increase was included in the contract price, as a contingency reserve or otherwise.

(d) The contract price shall be decreased by the amount of any after-relieved Federal tax.

(e) The contract price shall be decreased by the amount of any Federal excise tax or duty, except social security or other employment taxes, that the Contractor is required to pay or bear, or does not obtain a refund of, through the Contractor's fault, negligence, or failure to follow instructions of the Contracting Officer.

(f) No adjustment shall be made in the contract price under this clause unless the amount of the adjustment exceeds \$250.

(g) The Contractor shall promptly notify the Contracting Officer of all matters relating to any Federal excise tax or duty that reasonably may be expected to result in either an increase or decrease in the contract price and shall take appropriate action as the Contracting Officer directs.

(h) The Government shall, without liability, furnish evidence appropriate to establish exemption from any Federal, State, or local tax when the Contractor requests such evidence and a reasonable basis exists to sustain the exemption.

**Special Notes regarding FAR 52.229-3: Federal, State and Local Taxes:**

Offerors are hereby notified that all state and local sales or use taxes for construction materials must be included in their bid or proposal price. It is solely the responsibility of the offeror to include all other applicable taxes in their bid or proposal price as well. The Government has determined that for this acquisition it cannot take advantage of any sales or use tax exemptions that may be available to it under applicable state law. Under no circumstances will any

Contractor be designated as an agent of the Government for purposes of any tax exemption, nor will the Government authorize any Contractor's use of any tax exemption directly applicable to the Government under this procurement.

#### **4.12 52.236-4 PHYSICAL DATA (APR 1984)**

Data and information furnished or referred to below is for the Contractor's information. The Government shall not be responsible for any interpretation of or conclusion drawn from the data or information by the Contractor.

(a) The indications of physical conditions on the drawings and in the specifications are the result of site investigations by:

See Attachment 12 - Geotechnical Report

(b) Weather Conditions:

N/A

(c) Transportation Facilities

N/A

(d) Other Physical Data

N/A

(End of Clause)

#### **4.13 52.252-6 AUTHORIZED DEVIATIONS IN CLAUSES (NOV 2020)**

(a) The use in this solicitation or contract of any Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Chapter 1) clause with an authorized deviation is indicated by the addition of "(DEVIATION)" after the date of the clause.

(b) The use in this solicitation or contract of any VA Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Chapter ) clause with an authorized deviation is indicated by the addition of "(DEVIATION)" after the name of the regulation.

(End of Clause)

#### 4.14 SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with FAR 28.307-2 and FAR 52.228-5, the following minimum coverage shall apply to this contract:

(a) Workers' compensation and employers liability: Contractors are required to comply with applicable Federal and State workers' compensation and occupational disease statutes. If occupational diseases are not compensable under those statutes, they shall be covered under the employer's liability section of the insurance policy, except when contract operations are so commingled with a Contractor's commercial operations that it would not be practical to require this coverage. Employer's liability coverage of at least \$100,000 is required, except in States with exclusive or monopolistic funds that do not permit workers' compensation to be written by private carriers.

(b) General Liability: \$500,000.00 per occurrences.

(c) Automobile liability: \$200,000.00 per person; \$500,000.00 per occurrence and \$20,000.00 property damage.

(d) The successful bidder must present to the Contracting Officer, prior to award, evidence of general liability insurance without any exclusionary clauses for asbestos that would void the general liability coverage.

(End of Clause)

#### 4.15 52.252-2 CLAUSES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998)

This contract incorporates one or more clauses by reference, with the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Upon request, the Contracting Officer will make their full text available. Also, the full text of a clause may be accessed electronically at this/these address(es):

<https://www.acquisition.gov/browse/index/far>  
<https://www.va.gov/oal/library/vaar/>

(End of Clause)

<u>FAR Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
52.202-1	DEFINITIONS	JUN 2020
52.203-3	GRATUITIES	APR 1984
52.203-5	COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES	MAY 2014
52.203-6	RESTRICTIONS ON SUBCONTRACTOR SALES TO THE GOVERNMENT	JUN 2020
52.203-7	ANTI-KICKBACK PROCEDURES	JUN 2020
52.203-8	CANCELLATION, RESCISSION, AND RECOVERY OF FUNDS FOR ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER ACTIVITY	MAY 2014
52.203-10	PRICE OR FEE ADJUSTMENT FOR ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER ACTIVITY	MAY 2014
52.203-12	LIMITATION ON PAYMENTS TO INFLUENCE CERTAIN FEDERAL TRANSACTIONS	JUN 2020

52.203-13	CONTRACTOR CODE OF BUSINESS ETHICS AND CONDUCT	NOV 2021
52.203-17	CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS	NOV 2023
52.203-19	PROHIBITION ON REQUIRING CERTAIN INTERNAL CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS OR STATEMENTS	JAN 2017
52.204-9	PERSONAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL	JAN 2011
52.204-10	REPORTING EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND FIRST-TIER SUBCONTRACT AWARDS	JUN 2020
52.204-13	SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT MAINTENANCE	OCT 2018
52.204-14	SERVICE CONTRACT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	OCT 2016
52.204-18	COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENT ENTITY CODE MAINTENANCE	AUG 2020
52.204-19	INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS	DEC 2014
52.204-23	PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTING FOR HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, AND SERVICES DEVELOPED OR PROVIDED BY KASPERSKY LAB COVERED ENTITIES	DEC 2023
52.204-25	PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTING FOR CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT	NOV 2021
52.204-27	PROHIBITION ON A BYTEDANCE COVERED APPLICATION	JUN 2023
52.209-6	PROTECTING THE GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST WHEN SUBCONTRACTING WITH CONTRACTORS DEBARRED, SUSPENDED, OR PROPOSED FOR DEBARMENT	NOV 2021
52.209-10	PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTING WITH INVERTED DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS	NOV 2015
52.210-1	MARKET RESEARCH	NOV 2021
52.215-2	AUDIT AND RECORDS—NEGOTIATION	JUN 2020
52.219-8	UTILIZATION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS	FEB 2024
52.219-27	NOTICE OF SET-ASIDE FOR, OR SOLE-SOURCE AWARD TO, SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS (SDVOSB) CONCERNS ELIGIBLE UNDER THE SDVOSB PROGRAM	FEB 2024
52.222-3	CONVICT LABOR	JUN 2003
52.222-4	CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND SAFETY STANDARDS—OVERTIME COMPENSATION	MAY 2018
52.222-6	CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS	AUG 2018
52.222-7	WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS	MAY 2014
52.222-8	PAYROLLS AND BASIC RECORDS	JUL 2021
52.222-9	APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES	JUL 2005
52.222-10	COMPLIANCE WITH COPELAND ACT REQUIREMENTS	FEB 1988
52.222-11	SUBCONTRACTS (LABOR STANDARDS)	MAY 2014
52.222-12	CONTRACT TERMINATION—DEBARMENT	MAY 2014
52.222-13	COMPLIANCE WITH CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS AND RELATED REGULATIONS	MAY 2014
52.222-14	DISPUTES CONCERNING LABOR STANDARDS	FEB 1988
52.222-15	CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY	MAY 2014
52.222-21	PROHIBITION OF SEGREGATED FACILITIES	APR 2015
52.222-26	EQUAL OPPORTUNITY	SEP 2016
52.222-27	AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION	APR 2015

52.222-36	EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WORKERS WITH DISABILITIES	JUN 2020
52.222-50	COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS	NOV 2021
52.222-54	EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION	MAY 2022
52.222-55	MINIMUM WAGES FOR CONTRACTOR WORKERS UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 14026	JAN 2022
52.222-62	PAID SICK LEAVE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 13706	JAN 2022
52.223-2	REPORTING OF BIOBASED PRODUCTS UNDER SERVICE AND CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS	MAY 2024
52.223-5	POLLUTION PREVENTION AND RIGHT-TO-KNOW INFORMATION	MAY 2024
52.223-11	OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES AND HIGH GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL HYDROFLUOROCARBONS	MAY 2024
52.223-12	MAINTENANCE, SERVICE, REPAIR, OR DISPOSAL OF REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT AND AIR CONDITIONERS	MAY 2024
52.223-23	SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES	MAY 2024
52.225-13	RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN FOREIGN PURCHASES	FEB 2021
52.226-7	DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE	MAY 2024
52.226-8	ENCOURAGING CONTRACTOR POLICIES TO BAN TEXT MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING	MAY 2024
52.227-1	AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT	JUN 2020
52.227-2	NOTICE AND ASSISTANCE REGARDING PATENT AND COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT	JUN 2020
52.227-4	PATENT INDEMNITY—CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS	DEC 2007
52.228-2	ADDITIONAL BOND SECURITY	OCT 1997
52.228-5	INSURANCE—WORK ON A GOVERNMENT INSTALLATION	JAN 1997
52.228-12	PROSPECTIVE SUBCONTRACTOR REQUESTS FOR BONDS	DEC 2022
52.228-14	IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF CREDIT	NOV 2014
52.228-15	PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS—CONSTRUCTION	JUN 2020
<b><u>FAR</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
<b><u>Number</u></b>		
52.229-12	TAX ON CERTAIN FOREIGN PROCUREMENTS	FEB 2021
52.232-5	PAYMENTS UNDER FIXED-PRICE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS	MAY 2014
52.232-17	INTEREST	MAY 2014
52.232-23	ASSIGNMENT OF CLAIMS	MAY 2014
52.232-27	PROMPT PAYMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS	JAN 2017
52.232-33	PAYMENT BY ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER—SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT	OCT 2018
52.232-39	UNENFORCEABILITY OF UNAUTHORIZED OBLIGATIONS	JUN 2013
52.232-40	PROVIDING ACCELERATED PAYMENTS TO SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTORS	MAR 2023
52.233-1	DISPUTES ALTERNATE I (DEC 1991)	MAY 2014
52.233-3	PROTEST AFTER AWARD	AUG 1996
52.233-4	APPLICABLE LAW FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT CLAIM	OCT 2004
52.236-2	DIFFERING SITE CONDITIONS	APR 1984
52.236-3	SITE INVESTIGATION AND CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE WORK	APR 1984
52.236-5	MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP	APR 1984
52.236-6	SUPERINTENDENCE BY THE CONTRACTOR	APR 1984
52.236-7	PERMITS AND RESPONSIBILITIES	NOV 1991

52.236-8	OTHER CONTRACTS	APR 1984
52.236-9	PROTECTION OF EXISTING VEGETATION, STRUCTURES, EQUIPMENT, UTILITIES, AND IMPROVEMENTS	APR 1984
52.236-10	OPERATIONS AND STORAGE AREAS	APR 1984
52.236-11	USE AND POSSESSION PRIOR TO COMPLETION	APR 1984
52.236-12	CLEANING UP	APR 1984
52.236-13	ACCIDENT PREVENTION	NOV 1991
52.236-14	AVAILABILITY AND USE OF UTILITY SERVICES	APR 1984
52.236-15	SCHEDULES FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS	APR 1984
52.236-17	LAYOUT OF WORK	APR 1984
52.236-21	SPECIFICATIONS AND DRAWINGS FOR CONSTRUCTION ALTERNATE I (APR 1984)	FEB 1997
52.236-26	PRECONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE	FEB 1995
52.240-1	PROHIBITION ON UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS MANUFACTURED OR ASSEMBLED BY AMERICAN SECURITY DRONE ACT—COVERED FOREIGN ENTITIES	NOV 2024
52.242-13	BANKRUPTCY	JUL 1995
52.242-14	SUSPENSION OF WORK	APR 1984
52.243-4	CHANGES	JUN 2007
52.244-5	COMPETITION IN SUBCONTRACTING	AUG 2024
52.244-6	SUBCONTRACTS FOR COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES	NOV 2024
52.246-12	INSPECTION OF CONSTRUCTION	AUG 1996
52.246-21	WARRANTY OF CONSTRUCTION ALTERNATE I (APR 1984)	MAR 1994
52.248-3	VALUE ENGINEERING—CONSTRUCTION ALTERNATE I (APR 1984)	OCT 2020
52.249-2	TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT (FIXED PRICE) ALTERNATE I (SEPT 1996)	APR 2012
52.249-10	DEFAULT (FIXED-PRICE CONSTRUCTION)	APR 1984
52.253-1	COMPUTER GENERATED FORMS	JAN 1991

#### **4.16 VAAR 852.201-70 CONTRACTING OFFICER'S REPRESENTATIVE (DEC 2022)**

The Contracting Officer reserves the right to designate representatives to act for him/her in furnishing technical guidance and advice or generally monitor the work to be performed under this contract. Such designation will be in writing and will define the scope and limitation of the designee's authority. A copy of the designation letter shall be furnished to the Contractor.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.17 VAAR 852.204-70 PERSONAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL (MAY 2020)**

(a) The Contractor shall comply with current Department of Veterans Affairs policy for personal identity verification of all employees performing under this contract when frequent and continuing access to VA facilities or information systems is required.

(b) The Contractor shall insert this clause in all subcontracts when the subcontractor's employees will require frequent and continuing access to VA facilities or information systems.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.18 VAAR 852.204-71 INFORMATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY (FEB 2023)**

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—*Business Associate* means an entity, including an individual (other than a member of the workforce of a covered entity), company, organization or another covered entity, as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule, that performs or assists in the performance of a function or activity on behalf of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) that involves the creating, receiving, maintaining, transmitting of, or having access to, protected health information (PHI). The term also includes a subcontractor of a business associate that creates, receives, maintains, or transmits PHI on behalf of the business associate.

*Business Associate Agreement (BAA)* means the agreement, as dictated by the Privacy Rule, between VHA and a business associate, which must be entered into in addition to the underlying contract for services and before any release of PHI can be made to the business associate, in order for the business associate to perform certain functions or activities on behalf of VHA.

*Information system* means a discrete set of information resources organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or disposition of information whether automated or manual.

*Information technology* (see FAR 2.101) also means Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

*Information technology-related contracts* means those contracts which include services (including support services), and related resources for information technology as defined in 802.101.

*Privacy officer* means the VA official with responsibility for implementing and oversight of privacy related policies and practices that impact a given VA acquisition.

*Sensitive personal information* means, with respect to an individual, any information about the individual maintained by VA, including but not limited to the following:

(1) Education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history.

(2) Information that can be used to distinguish or trace the individual's identity, including but not limited to name, social security number, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, or biometric records.

*Security plan* means a formal document that provides an overview of the security requirements for an information system or an information security program and describes the security controls in place or planned for meeting those requirements.

*VA Information Security Rules of Behavior for Organizational Users (VA National Rules of Behavior)* means a set of VA rules that describes the responsibilities and expected behavior of users of VA information or information systems.



*VA sensitive information* means all VA data, on any storage media or in any form or format, which requires protection due to the risk of harm that could result from inadvertent or deliberate disclosure, alteration, or destruction of the information and includes sensitive personal information. The term includes information where improper use or disclosure could adversely affect the ability of VA to accomplish its mission, proprietary information, records about individuals requiring protection under various confidentiality provisions such as the Privacy Act and the HIPAA Privacy Rule, and information that can be withheld under the Freedom of Information Act. Examples of VA sensitive information include the following:

individually-identifiable medical, benefits, and personnel information; financial, budgetary, research, quality assurance, confidential commercial, critical infrastructure, investigatory, and law enforcement information; information that is confidential and privileged in litigation such as information protected by the deliberative process privilege, attorney work-product privilege, and the attorney-client privilege; and other information which, if released, could result in violation of law or harm or unfairness to any individual or group, or could adversely affect the national interest or the conduct of Federal programs.

(b) *General.* Contractors, subcontractors, their employees, third-parties, and business associates with access to VA information, information systems, or information technology (IT) or providing and accessing IT-related goods and services, shall adhere to VA Directive 6500, VA Cybersecurity Program, and the directives and handbooks in the VA 6500 series related to VA information (including VA sensitive information and sensitive personal information and information systems security and privacy), as well as those set forth in the contract specifications, statement of work, or performance work statement. These include, but are not limited to, VA Handbook 6500.6, Contract Security; and VA Directive and Handbook 0710, *Personnel Security and Suitability Program*, which establishes VA's procedures, responsibilities, and processes for complying with current Federal law, Executive Orders, policies, regulations, standards and guidance for protecting VA information, information systems (see 802.101, Definitions) security and privacy, and adhering to personnel security requirements when accessing VA information or information systems.

(c) *Access to VA information and VA information systems.*

(1) Contractors are limited in their request for logical or physical access to VA information or VA information systems for their employees, subcontractors, third parties and business associates to the extent necessary to perform the services or provide the goods as specified in the contracts, agreements, task, delivery or purchase orders.

(2) All Contractors, subcontractors, third parties, and business associates working with VA information are subject to the same investigative requirements as those of VA appointees or employees who have access to the same types of information. The level and process of background security investigations for contractors to access VA information and VA information systems shall be in accordance with VA Directive and Handbook 0710, *Personnel Security and Suitability Program*.

(3) Contractors, subcontractors, third parties, and business associates who require access to national security programs must have a valid security clearance.

(4) HIPAA Business Associate Agreement requirement. Contractors shall enter into a Business Associate Agreement (BAA) with VHA, VA's Covered Entity, when contract requirements and access to protected health information is required and when requested by the Contracting Officer, or the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) (see VAAR 824.103-70). Under the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules, a Covered Entity (VHA) must have a satisfactory assurance that its PHI will be safeguarded from misuse. To do so, a Covered Entity enters into a BAA with a contractor (now the business associate), which obligates the business associate to only use the Covered Entity's PHI for the purposes for which it was engaged, provide the same protections and safeguards as is required from the Covered Entity, and agree to the same disclosure restrictions to PHI that is required of the Covered Entity in situations where a contractor—

(i) Creates, receives, maintains, or transmits VHA PHI or that will store, generate, access, exchange, process, or utilize such PHI in order to perform certain health care operations activities or functions on behalf of the Covered Entity; or

(ii) Provides one or more of the services specified in the Privacy Rule to or for the Covered Entity.

(A) *Contractors or entities required to execute BAAs for contracts and other agreements become VHA business associates.* BAAs are issued by VHA or may be issued by other VA programs in support of VHA. The HIPAA Privacy Rule requires VHA to execute compliant BAAs with persons or entities that create, receive, maintain, or transmit VHA PHI or that will store, generate, access, exchange, process, or utilize such PHI in order to perform certain activities, functions or services to, for, or on behalf of VHA. There may be other VA components or staff offices which also provide certain services and support to VHA and must receive PHI in order to do so. If these components award contracts or enter into other agreements, purchase/delivery orders, modifications and issue governmentwide purchase card transactions to help in the delivery of these services to VHA, they will also fall within the requirement to obtain a satisfactory assurance from these contractors by executing a BAA.

(B) *BAA requirement flow down to subcontractors.* A prime Contractor required to execute a BAA shall also obtain a satisfactory assurance, in the form of a BAA, that any of its subcontractors who will also create, receive, maintain, or transmit VHA PHI or that will store, generate, access, exchange, process, or utilize such PHI will comply with HIPAA requirements to the same degree as the Contractor. Contractors employing a subcontractor who creates, receives, maintains, or transmits VHA PHI or that will store, generate, access, exchange, process, or utilize such VHA PHI under a contract or agreement is required to execute a BAA with each of its subcontractors which also obligates the subcontractor (*i.e.*, also a business associate) to provide the same protections and safeguards and agree to the same disclosure restrictions to VHA's PHI that is required of the Covered Entity and the prime Contractor.

(d) *Contractor operations required to be in United States.* Custom software development and outsourced operations must be located in the U.S. to the maximum extent practicable. If such services are proposed to be performed outside the continental United States, and are not otherwise disallowed by other Federal law, regulations or policy, or other VA policy or other mandates as stated in the contract, specifications, statement of work or performance work statement (including applicable Business Associate Agreements), the Contractor/subcontractor

must state in its proposal where all non-U.S. services are provided. At a minimum, the Contractor/ subcontractor must include a detailed Information Technology Security Plan, for review and approval by the Contracting Officer, specifically to address mitigation of the resulting problems of communication, control, and data protection.

(e) *Contractor/subcontractor employee reassignment and termination notification.* Contractors and subcontractors shall provide written notification to the Contracting Officer and Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) immediately, and not later than four (4) hours, when an employee working on a VA information system or with access to VA information is reassigned or leaves the Contractor or subcontractor's employment on the cognizant VA contract. The Contracting Officer and COR must also be notified immediately by the Contractor or subcontractor prior to an unfriendly termination.

(f) *VA information custodial requirements.*

(1) *Release, publication, and use of data.* Information made available to a Contractor or subcontractor by VA for the performance or administration of a contract or information developed by the Contractor/subcontractor in performance or administration of a contract shall be used only for the stated contract purpose and shall not be used in any other way without VA's prior written approval. This clause expressly limits the Contractor's/ subcontractor's rights to use data as described in Rights in Data—General, FAR 52.227–14(d).

(2) *Media sanitization.* VA information shall not be co-mingled with any other data on the Contractors/subcontractor's information systems or media storage systems in order to ensure federal and VA requirements related to data protection, information segregation, classification requirements, and media sanitization can be met (see VA Directive 6500, VA Cybersecurity Program). VA reserves the right to conduct scheduled or unscheduled on-site inspections, assessments, or audits of Contractor and subcontractor IT resources, information systems and assets to ensure data security and privacy controls, separation of data and job duties, and destruction/media sanitization procedures are in compliance with Federal and VA requirements. The Contractor and subcontractor will provide all necessary access and support to VA and/or GAO staff during periodic control assessments or audits.

(3) *Data retention, destruction, and contractor self-certification.* The Contractor and its subcontractors are responsible for collecting and destroying any VA data provided, created, or stored under the terms of this contract, to a point where VA data or materials are no longer readable or reconstructable to any degree, in accordance with VA Directive 6371, Destruction of Temporary Paper Records, or subsequent issue. Prior to termination or completion of this contract, the Contractor/subcontractor must provide its plan for destruction of all VA data in its possession according to VA Handbook 6500, and VA Cybersecurity Program, including compliance with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) 800–88, Guidelines for Media Sanitization, for the purposes of media sanitization on all IT equipment. The Contractor must certify in writing to the Contracting Officer within 30 days of termination of the contract that the data destruction requirements in this paragraph have been met.

(4) *Return of VA data and information.* When information, data, documentary material, records and/or equipment is no longer required, it shall be returned to the VA (as stipulated by the Contracting Officer or the COR) or the Contractor/subcontractor must hold it until otherwise directed. Items returned will be hand carried, securely mailed, emailed, or securely electronically

transmitted to the Contracting Officer or to the address as provided in the contract or by the assigned COR, and/or accompanying BAA. Depending on the method of return, Contractor/subcontractor must store, transport, or transmit VA sensitive information, when permitted by the contract using VA-approved encryption tools that are, at a minimum, validated under Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 140-3 (or its successor). If mailed, Contractor/subcontractor must send via a trackable method (USPS, UPS, Federal Express, etc.) and immediately provide the Contracting Officer with the tracking information. No information, data, documentary material, records or equipment will be destroyed unless done in accordance with the terms of this contract and the VHA Records Control Schedule 10-1.

(5) *Use of VA data and information.* The Contractor/subcontractor must receive, gather, store, back up, maintain, use, disclose and dispose of VA information only in compliance with the terms of the contract and applicable Federal and VA information confidentiality and security laws, regulations and policies. If Federal or VA information confidentiality and security laws, regulations and policies become applicable to the VA information or information systems after execution of the contract, or if the National NIST issues or updates applicable FIPS or Special Publications (SP) after execution of this contract, the parties agree to negotiate in good faith to implement the information confidentiality and security laws, regulations and policies for this contract as a result of any updates, if required.

(6) *Copying VA data or information.* The Contractor/subcontractor shall not make copies of VA information except as authorized and necessary to perform the terms of the contract or to preserve electronic information stored on Contractor/ subcontractor electronic storage media for restoration in case any electronic equipment or data used by the Contractor/subcontractor needs to be restored to an operating state. If copies are made for restoration purposes, after the restoration is complete, the copies must be appropriately destroyed.

(7) *Violation of information custodial requirements.* If VA determines that the Contractor has violated any of VA's information confidentiality, privacy, or security provisions, it shall be sufficient grounds for VA to withhold payment to the Contractor or third-party or terminate the contract for default in accordance with FAR part 49 or terminate for cause in accordance with FAR 12.403.

(8) *Encryption.* The Contractor/ subcontractor must store, transport, or transmit VA sensitive information, when permitted by the contract, using cryptography, and VA-approved encryption tools that are, at a minimum, validated under FIPS 140-3 (or its successor).

(9) *Firewall and web services security controls.* The Contractor/subcontractor's firewall and web services security controls, if applicable, shall meet or exceed VA's minimum requirements. VA Configuration Guidelines are available upon request.

(10) *Disclosure of VA data and information.* Except for uses and disclosures of VA information authorized in a cognizant contract for performance of the contract, the Contractor/subcontractor may use and disclose VA information only in two other situations:

(i) subject to paragraph (f)(10) of this section, in response to a court order from a court of competent jurisdiction, or

(ii) with VA's prior written approval. The Contractor/ subcontractor must refer all requests for, demands for production of, or inquiries about, VA information and information systems to the Contracting Officer for response. If the Contractor/subcontractor is in receipt of a court order or other request or believes it has a legal requirement to disclose VA information, that Contractor/ subcontractor shall immediately refer such court order or other request to the Contracting Officer for response. If the Contractor or subcontractor discloses information on behalf of VHA, the Contractor and/or subcontractor must maintain an accounting of disclosures. Accounting of Disclosures documentation maintained by the Contractor/subcontractor will include the name of the individual to whom the information pertains, the date of each disclosure, the nature or description of the information disclosed, a brief statement of the purpose of each disclosure or, in lieu of such statement, a copy of a written request for a disclosure, and the name and address of the person or agency to whom the disclosure was made. The Contractor/ subcontractor will provide its Accounting of Disclosures upon request and within 15 calendar days to the assigned COR and Privacy Officer. Accounting of disclosures should be provided electronically via encrypted email to the COR and designated VA facility Privacy Officer as provided in the contract, BAA, or by the Contracting Officer. If providing the Accounting of Disclosures electronically cannot be done securely, the Contractor/subcontractor will provide copies via trackable methods (UPS, USPS, Federal Express, etc.) immediately, providing the designated COR and Privacy Officer with the tracking information.

(11) *Compliance with privacy statutes and applicable regulations.* The Contractor/ subcontractor shall not disclose VA information protected by any of VA's privacy statutes or applicable regulations including but not limited to: the Privacy Act of 1974, 38 U.S.C. 5701, confidential nature of claims, 38 U.S.C. 5705, confidentiality of medical quality assurance records and/or 38 U.S.C. 7332, confidentiality of certain health records pertaining to drug addiction, sickle cell anemia, alcoholism or alcohol abuse, or infection with human immunodeficiency virus or the HIPAA Privacy Rule. If the Contractor/subcontractor is in receipt of a court order or other requests for VA information or has questions if it can disclose information protected under the abovementioned confidentiality statutes because it is required by law, that Contractor/subcontractor shall immediately refer such court order or other request to the Contracting Officer for response.

(g) *Report of known or suspected security/ privacy incident.* The Contractor, subcontractor, third-party affiliate or business associate, and its employees shall notify VA immediately via the Contracting Officer and the COR or within one (1) hour of an incident which is an occurrence (including the discovery or disclosure of successful exploits of system vulnerability) that

(A) actually or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful authority, the integrity, confidentiality, or the availability of its data and operations, or of its information or information system(s); or

(B) constitutes a violation or imminent threat of violation of law, security policies, security procedures, or acceptable use policies. The initial notification may first be made verbally but must be followed up in writing within one (1) hour. See VA Data Breach Response Service at [https://www.oprm.va.gov/dbrs/about\\_dbrs.aspx](https://www.oprm.va.gov/dbrs/about_dbrs.aspx). Report all actual or suspected security/privacy incidents and report the information to the Contracting Officer and the COR as identified in the contract or as directed in the contract, within one hour of discovery or suspicion.

(1) Such issues shall be remediated as quickly as is practical, but in no event longer than [] day. The Contractor shall notify the Contracting Officer in writing.

(2) When the security fixes involve installing third party patched (e.g., Microsoft OS patches or Adobe Acrobat), the Contractor will provide written notice to VA that the patch has been validated as not affecting the systems within 10 working days. When the Contractor is responsible for operations or maintenance of the systems, they shall apply the security fixes within [].

(3) All other vulnerabilities shall be remediated in a timely manner based on risk, but within 60 days of discovery or disclosure. Contractors shall notify the Contracting Officer, and COR within 2 business days after remediation of the identified vulnerability. Exceptions to this paragraph (e.g., for the convenience of VA) must be requested by the Contractor through the COR and shall only be granted with approval of the Contracting Officer and the VA Assistant Secretary for Office of Information and Technology. These exceptions will be tracked by the Contractor in concert with the Government in accordance with VA Directive 6500.6 and related VA Handbooks.

*(h) Security and privacy incident investigation.*

(1) The term “privacy incident” means the unauthorized disclosure or use of VA information protected under a confidentiality statute or regulation.

(2) The term “security incident” means an occurrence that

(A) actually or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful authority, the integrity, confidentiality, or availability of information systems; or

(B) constitutes a violation or imminent threat of violation of law, security policies, security procedures, or acceptable policies. The Contractor/subcontractor shall immediately notify the Contracting Officer and COR for the contract of any known or suspected security or privacy incident, or any other unauthorized disclosure of sensitive information, including that contained in system(s) to which the Contractor/subcontractor has access.

(3) To the extent known by the Contractor/ subcontractor, the Contractor/subcontractor’s notice to VA shall identify the information involved, the circumstances surrounding the incident (including to whom, how, when, and where the VA information or assets were placed at risk or compromised), and any other information that the Contractor/subcontractor considers relevant.

(4) With respect to unsecured PHI, the Business Associate is deemed to have discovered a security incident as defined above when the Business Associate either knew, or by exercising reasonable diligence should have been known to an employee of the Business Associate. Upon discovery, the Business Associate must notify VHA of the security incident immediately within one hour of discovery or suspicion as agreed to in the BAA.

(5) In instances of theft or break-in or other criminal activity, the Contractor/subcontractor must concurrently report the incident to the appropriate law enforcement entity (or entities) of jurisdiction, including the VA OIG and the VA Office of Security and Law Enforcement. The Contractor, its employees, and its subcontractors and their employees shall cooperate with VA and any law enforcement authority responsible for the investigation and prosecution of any

possible criminal law violation(s) associated with any incident. The Contractor/subcontractor shall cooperate with VA in any civil litigation to recover VA information, obtain monetary or other compensation from a third party for damages arising from any incident, or obtain injunctive relief against any third party arising from, or related to, the incident.

(i) *Data breach notification requirements.*

(1) This contract may require access to sensitive personal information. If so, the Contractor is liable to VA for liquidated damages in the event of a data breach involving any VA sensitive personal information the Contractor/Subcontractor processes or maintains under the contract as set forth in clause 852.211–76, Liquidated Damages—Reimbursement for Data Breach Costs.

(2) The Contractor/subcontractor shall provide notice to VA of a privacy or security incident as set forth in the Security and Privacy Incident Investigation section of this clause. The term 'data breach' means the loss, theft, or other unauthorized access, or any access other than that incidental to the scope of employment, to data containing sensitive personal information, in electronic or printed form, that results in the potential compromise of the confidentiality or integrity of the data. The Contractor shall fully cooperate with VA or third-party entity performing an independent risk analysis on behalf of VA. Failure to cooperate may be deemed a material breach and grounds for contract termination.

(3) The Contractor/subcontractor shall fully cooperate with VA or any Government agency conducting an analysis regarding any notice of a data breach or potential data breach or security incident which may require the Contractor to provide information to the Government or third-party performing a risk analysis for VA, and shall address all relevant information concerning the data breach, including the following:

(i) Nature of the event (loss, theft, unauthorized access).

(ii) Description of the event, including—

(A) Date of occurrence;

(B) Date of incident detection;

(C) Data elements involved, including any PII, such as full name, social security number, date of birth, home address, account number, disability code.

(D) Number of individuals affected or potentially affected.

(E) Names of individuals or groups affected or potentially affected.

(F) Ease of logical data access to the lost, stolen or improperly accessed data in light of the degree of protection for the data, e.g., unencrypted, plain text.

(G) Amount of time the data has been out of VA control.

(H) The likelihood that the sensitive personal information will or has been compromised (made accessible to and usable by unauthorized persons).

(I) Known misuses of data containing sensitive personal information, if any.

(J) Assessment of the potential harm to the affected individuals.

(K) Data breach analysis as outlined in 6500.2 Handbook, Management of Breaches Involving Sensitive Personal Information, as appropriate.

(L) Whether credit protection services may assist record subjects in avoiding or mitigating the results of identity theft based on the sensitive personal information that may have been compromised.

(M) Steps taken in response to mitigate or prevent a repetition of the incident.

(j) *Training.*

(1) All Contractor employees and subcontractor employees requiring access to VA information or VA information systems shall complete the following before being granted access to VA information and its systems:

(i) On an annual basis, successfully complete the VA Privacy and Information Security Awareness and VA Information Security Rules of Behavior training.

(ii) On an annual basis, sign and acknowledge (either manually or electronically) understanding of and responsibilities for compliance with the VA Information Security Rules of Behavior for Organizational Users, relating to access to VA information and information systems.

(iii) Successfully complete any additional cyber security or privacy training, as required for VA personnel with equivalent information system access.

(2) The Contractor shall provide to the Contracting Officer and/or the COR a copy of the training certificates and affirmation that VA Information Security Rules of Behavior for Organizational Users signed by each applicable employee have been completed and submitted within five (5) days of the initiation of the contract and annually thereafter, as required.

(3) Failure to complete the mandatory annual training and acknowledgement of the VA Information Security Rules of Behavior, within the timeframe required, is grounds for suspension or termination of all physical or electronic access privileges and removal from work on the contract until such time as the training and documents are complete.

(k) *Subcontract flow down.* The Contractor shall include the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (k), in subcontracts, third-party agreements, and BAAs, of any amount and in which subcontractor employees, third-party servicers/employees, and business associates will perform functions where they will have access to VA information (including VA sensitive information, *i.e.*, sensitive personal information and protected health information), information systems, information technology (IT) or providing and accessing information technology-related contract services, support services, and related resources (see VAAR 802.101 definition of information technology-related contracts).

(End of Clause)



#### 4.19 VAAR 852.228-70 BOND PREMIUM ADJUSTMENT (JAN 2008)

When net changes in original contract price affect the premium of a Corporate Surety Bond by \$5 or more, the Government, in determining the basis for final settlement, will provide for bond premium adjustment computed at the rate shown in the bond.

(End of Clause)

#### 4.20 VAAR 852.232-72 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PAYMENT REQUESTS (NOV 2018)

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

(1) *Contract financing payment* has the meaning given in FAR 32.001;

(2) *Designated agency office* means the office designated by the purchase order, agreement, or contract to first receive and review invoices. This office can be contractually designated as the receiving entity. This office may be different from the office issuing the payment;

(3) *Electronic form* means an automated system transmitting information electronically according to the accepted electronic data transmission methods and formats identified in paragraph (c) of this clause. Facsimile, email, and scanned documents are not acceptable electronic forms for submission of payment requests;

(4) *Invoice payment* has the meaning given in FAR 32.001; and

(5) *Payment request* means any request for contract financing payment or invoice payment submitted by the contractor under this contract.

(b) *Electronic payment requests.* Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this clause, the contractor shall submit payment requests in electronic form. Purchases paid with a Government-wide commercial purchase card are considered to be an electronic transaction for purposes of this rule, and therefore no additional electronic invoice submission is required.

(c) *Data transmission.* A contractor must ensure that the data transmission method and format are through one of the following:

(1) VA's Electronic Invoice Presentment and Payment System at the current website address provided in the contract.

(2) Any system that conforms to the X12 electronic data interchange (EDI) formats established by the Accredited Standards Center (ASC) and chartered by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

(d) *Invoice requirements.* Invoices shall comply with FAR 32.905.

(e) *Exceptions.* If, based on one of the circumstances in this paragraph (e), the Contracting Officer directs that payment requests be made by mail, the Contractor shall submit payment requests by mail through the United States Postal Service to the designated agency office. Submission of payment requests by mail may be required for—

(1) Awards made to foreign vendors for work performed outside the United States;

(2) Classified contracts or purchases when electronic submission and processing of payment requests could compromise the safeguarding of classified or privacy information;

(3) Contracts awarded by contracting officers in the conduct of emergency operations, such as responses to national emergencies;

(4) Solicitations or contracts in which the designated agency office is a VA entity other than the VA Financial Services Center in Austin, Texas; or

(5) Solicitations or contracts in which the VA designated agency office does not have electronic invoicing capability as described above.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.21 VAAR 852.236-71 SPECIFICATIONS AND DRAWINGS FOR CONSTRUCTION (APR 2019)**

The clause entitled “Specifications and Drawings for Construction” in FAR 52.236– 21 is supplemented as follows:

(a) The Contracting Officer’s interpretation of the drawings and specifications will be final, subject to the Disputes clause.

(b) The Contractor shall—

(1) Check all drawings and specifications furnished immediately upon receipt;

(2) Compare all drawings and the specifications, and verify the figures before laying out the work;

(3) Promptly notify the Contracting Officer of any discrepancies;

(4) Be responsible for any errors that might have been avoided by complying with this paragraph (b); and

(5) Reproduce and print contract drawings and specifications as needed.

(c) In general—

(1) Drawings of greater detail shall govern over drawings of lesser detail unless specifically noted otherwise; and

(2) Figures and numerical quantities noted on drawings govern over scale measurements.

(d) Omissions from the drawings or specifications or the misdescription of details of work that are manifestly necessary to carry out the intent of the drawings and specifications, or that are customarily performed, shall not relieve the Contractor from performing such omitted or misdescribed details of the work. The Contractor shall perform such details as if fully and correctly set forth and described in the drawings and specifications.

(e) The work shall conform to the specifications and the contract drawings identified on the following index of drawings:

Title	File	Drawing No.
See Attachments 2 - 8 Drawings		
See Attachment 9 - Specifications		

(End of Clause)

#### **4.22 VAAR 852.236-72 PERFORMANCE OF WORK BY THE CONTRACTOR (APR 2019) ALTERNATE I (APR 2019)**

(a) In accordance with FAR 52.236–1, the contract work accomplished on the site by laborers, mechanics, and foreman/superintendent on the Contractor's payroll and under their direct supervision shall be used in establishing the percent of work to be performed by the Contractor. Cost of material and equipment installed by such labor may be included. The work by the Contractor's executive, administrative and clerical forces shall be excluded in establishing compliance with the requirements of this clause.

(b) The Contractor shall submit, simultaneously with the cost per activity of the construction schedule required by Section 01310 or 01311, NETWORK ANALYSIS SYSTEM, a responsibility code for all activities of the network for which the Contractor's forces will perform the work. The cost of these activities will be used in determining the portions of the total contract work to be executed by the Contractor's forces for the purpose of this article.

(c) Changes to established activity/event identifiers or responsibility codes for Contractor activities shall not be made without approval from the Contracting Officer.

(d) In the event the Contractor fails to comply with FAR 52.236–1, Performance of Work by the Contractor, the Contracting Officer will withhold retention in the amount of 15% of the value of any work activity/element being invoiced that was not authorized by the Contracting Officer to be performed by someone other than the prime Contractor's own workforce.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.23 VAAR 852.236-79 CONTRACTOR PRODUCTION REPORT (APR 2019)**

(a) The Contractor shall furnish to the resident engineer, for each workday, a consolidated report for the preceding workday. Reporting shall begin from date of mobilization until the date of final acceptance except for authorized holidays. VA Form 10101, Contractor Production Report, or a Contractor generated form containing the same type of information shall be signed, dated and submitted by the Contractor superintendent.

(b) Each report shall include and specifically identify at least one safety topic germane to the jobsite that day.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.24 VAAR 852.236-80 SUBCONTRACTS AND WORK COORDINATION (APR 2019) ALTERNATE I (APR 2019)**

(a) Nothing contained in this contract shall be construed as creating any contractual relationship between any subcontractor and the Government. Divisions or sections of specifications are not intended to control the Contractor in dividing work among subcontractors, or to limit work performed by any trade.

(b) The Contractor shall be responsible to the Government for acts and omissions of his/her own employees, and subcontractors and their employees. The Contractor shall also be responsible for coordination of the work of the trades, subcontractors, and material suppliers. The Contractor shall, in advance of the work, prepare coordination drawings showing the location of openings through slabs, the pipe sleeves and hanger inserts, as well as the location and elevation of utility lines, including, but not limited to, conveyor systems, pneumatic tubes, ducts, and conduits and pipes two inches and larger in diameter. These drawings, including plans, elevations, and sections as appropriate, shall clearly show the manner in which the utilities fit into the available space and relate to each other and to existing building elements. Drawings shall be of appropriate scale to satisfy the previously stated purposes, but not smaller than 3/8-inch scale. Drawings may be composite (with distinctive colors for the various trades) or may be separate but fully coordinated drawings (such as sepias or photographic paper reproducibles) of the same scale. Separate drawings shall depict identical building areas or sections and shall be capable of being overlaid in any combination. The submitted drawings for a given area of the project shall show the work of all trades that will be involved in that particular area. Six complete composite drawings or six complete sets of separate reproducible drawings shall be received by the Government not less than 20 days prior to the scheduled start of the work in the area illustrated by the drawings, for the purpose of showing the Contractor's planned methods of installation. The objectives of such drawings are to promote carefully planned work sequence and proper trade coordination, in order to assure the expeditious solutions of problems and the installation of lines and equipment as contemplated by the contract documents while avoiding or minimizing additional costs to the Contractor and to the Government. In the event the Contractor, in coordinating the various installations and in planning the method of installation, finds a conflict in location or elevation of any of the utilities with themselves, with structural items or with other construction items, he/she shall bring this conflict to the attention of the Contracting Officer immediately. In doing so, the Contractor shall explain the proposed method of solving the problem or shall request instructions as to how to proceed if adjustments beyond those of usual trades' coordination are necessary. Utilities installation work will not proceed in any area prior to the submission and completion of the Government review of the coordinated drawings for that area, nor in any area in which conflicts are disclosed by the coordination drawings, until the conflicts have been corrected to the satisfaction of the Contracting Officer. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to submit the required drawings in a timely manner consistent with the requirements to complete the work covered by this contract within the prescribed contract time.

(c) The Government or its representatives will not undertake to settle any differences between the Contractor and subcontractors or between subcontractors.

(d) The Government reserves the right to refuse to permit employment on the work, or require dismissal from the work, of any subcontractor or subcontractor employee who, by reason of previous unsatisfactory work on Department of Veterans Affairs projects or for any other reason, is considered by the Contracting Officer to be incompetent, careless, or otherwise objectionable.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.25 VAAR 852.236-90 RESTRICTION ON SUBMISSION AND USE OF EQUAL PRODUCTS (APR 2019)**

(a) This clause applies to the following items:

Door Hardware  
Corbin Russwin with Assa Abloy Medeco CLIQ X4 cylinders  
See Attachment - 15 Brand Name Justification  
for additional information

(b) Notwithstanding the “Material and Workmanship” clause of this contract, FAR 52.236–5(a), nor any other clause or provision, only brand name products for the items listed above will be authorized for use on this contract.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.26 VAAR 852.239-76 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY (FEB 2023)**

(a) All information and communication technology (ICT) (formerly referred to as electronic and information technology (EIT)) supplies, information, documentation and services support developed, acquired, maintained or delivered under this contract or order must comply with the “Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board Electronic and Information Technology (EIT) Accessibility Standards” (see 36 CFR part 1194). Information about Section 508 is available at <http://www.section508.va.gov/>.

(b) The Section 508 accessibility standards applicable to this contract or order are identified in the specification, statement of work, or performance work statement. If it is determined by the Government that ICT supplies and services provided by the Contractor do not conform to the described accessibility standards in the contract, remediation of the supplies or services to the level of conformance specified in the contract will be the responsibility of the Contractor at its own expense.

(c) The Section 508 accessibility standards applicable to this contract are: FAR Parts 407.7, 407.8, 407.12

(d) In the event of a modification(s) to this contract or order, which adds new EIT supplies or services or revises the type of, or specifications for, supplies or services, the Contracting Officer may require that the Contractor submit a completed VA Section 508 Checklist and any other additional information necessary to assist the Government in determining that the ICT supplies or services conform to Section 508 accessibility standards. If it is determined by the

Government that ICT supplies and services provided by the Contractor do not conform to the described accessibility standards in the contract, remediation of the supplies or services to the level of conformance specified in the contract will be the responsibility of the Contractor at its own expense.

(e) If this is an Indefinite-Delivery type contract, a Blanket Purchase Agreement or a Basic Ordering Agreement, the task/delivery order requests that include ICT supplies or services will define the specifications and accessibility standards for the order. In those cases, the Contractor may be required to provide a completed VA Section 508 Checklist and any other additional information necessary to assist the Government in determining that the ICT supplies or services conform to Section 508 accessibility standards. If it is determined by the Government that ICT supplies and services provided by the Contractor do not conform to the described accessibility standards in the provided documentation, remediation of the supplies or services to the level of conformance specified in the contract will be the responsibility of the Contractor at its own expense.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.27 VAAR 852.242-71 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACTING OFFICER (OCT 2020)**

The Contracting Officer reserves the right to designate an Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO) for the purpose of performing certain tasks/duties in the administration of the contract. Such designation will be in writing through an ACO Letter of Delegation and will identify the responsibilities and limitations of the ACO. A copy of the ACO Letter of Delegation will be furnished to the Contractor.

(End of Clause)

#### **4.28 VAAR 852.243-70 CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT CHANGES— SUPPLEMENT (SEP 2019)**

The FAR clauses 52.236-2, Differing Site Conditions; 52.243-4, Changes; and 52.243-5, Changes and Changed Conditions, are supplemented as follows:

(a) Submission of request for equitable adjustment proposals. When directed by the Contracting Officer or requested by the Contractor, the Contractor shall, in accordance with FAR 15.403-5, submit proposals for changes in the work exceeding \$500,000 in writing to the Contracting Officer or Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO), and to the resident engineer.

(1) The Contractor must provide an itemized breakdown for changes exceeding the micro-purchase threshold (see FAR 2.101).

(2) The itemized breakdown shall include materials, quantities, unit prices, labor costs (separated into trades), construction equipment, etc. Labor costs shall be identified with specific material placed or operation performed.

(3) Proposals shall be submitted to the Contracting Officer or ACO and the resident engineer as expeditiously as possible, but not later than 30 calendar days, after receipt of a written change order by the Contracting Officer.

(4) Proposals shall be signed by each subcontractor participating in the change.

(5) The Contracting Officer will consider issuing a settlement by determination to the contract if the Contractor's proposal required by paragraph (a)(3) of this clause is not received within the time period specified in paragraph (a)(3), or if agreement has not been reached.

(b) Paragraphs (a)(1) through (5) of this clause and the following paragraphs (b)(1) and (2) apply to proposals for changes in the work \$500,000 or less:

(1) As a basis for negotiation, allowances not to exceed 10 percent each for overhead and profit for the party performing the work will be based on the value of labor, material, and equipment required to accomplish the change. As the value of the change increases, a declining scale will be used in negotiating the percentage of overhead and profit. This declining scale will also be used to negotiate the prime Contractor's or upper-tier subcontractor's fee when work is performed by lower-tier subcontractors (to a maximum of three tiers) and will be based on the net increased cost to the prime or upper-tier subcontractor, as applicable. Profit (fee) shall be computed by multiplying the profit percentage by the sum of the direct costs and computed overhead costs. Allowable percentages on changes will not exceed the following:

(i) 10 percent overhead and/or 10 percent profit (fee) on the first \$20,000.

(ii) 7.5 percent overhead and/or 7.5 percent profit (fee) on the next \$30,000.

(iii) 5 percent overhead and/or 5 percent profit (fee) on a balance over \$50,000.

(2) The Contracting Officer will consider issuing a settlement by determination to the contract if the Contractor's proposal required by paragraph (3) is not received within 30 calendar days, or if agreement has not been reached.

(c)(1) Overhead and Contractor's fee percentages shall be considered to include insurance other than mentioned herein, field and office supervisors and assistants, security police, use of small tools, incidental job burdens, and general home office expenses and no separate allowance will be made. Assistants to office supervisors include all clerical, stenographic and general office help. Incidental job burdens include, but are not necessarily limited to, office equipment and supplies, temporary toilets, telephone and conformance to OSHA requirements. Items such as, but not necessarily limited to, review and coordination, estimating and expediting relative to contract changes are associated with field and office supervision and are considered to be included in the Contractor's overhead and/or fee percentage.

(2) Where the Contractor's or subcontractor's portion of a change involves credit items, such items must be deducted prior to adding overhead and profit for the party performing the work. The Contractor's fee is limited to the net increase to Contractor or subcontractors' portions of cost computed in accordance with this clause.

(3) Where a change involves credit items only, a proper measure of the amount of downward adjustment in the contract price is the reasonable cost to the Contractor if it had performed the deleted work. A reasonable allowance for overhead and profit are properly includable as part of the downward adjustment for a deductive change. The amount of such allowance is subject to negotiation.

(End of Clause)

#### 4.29 MANDATORY WRITTEN DISCLOSURES

Mandatory written disclosures required by FAR clause 52.203-13 to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Inspector General (OIG) must be made electronically through the VA OIG Hotline at <https://www.vaogig.gov/hotline/online-forms> and clicking on "FAR clause 52.203-13 Reporting." If you experience difficulty accessing the website, call the Hotline at 1-800-488-8244 for further instructions.

#### 4.30 VAAR 852.203-70 COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING (MAY 2018)

The Contractor shall not make reference in its commercial advertising to Department of Veterans Affairs contracts in a manner that states or implies the Department of Veterans Affairs approves or endorses the Contractor's products or services or considers the Contractor's products or services superior to other products or services.

(End of Clause)

#### 4.31 VAAR 852.219-73 VA NOTICE OF TOTAL SET-ASIDE FOR CERTIFIED SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES (JAN 2023) (DEVIATION)

(a) *Definition.* for the Department of Veterans Affairs, "*Service-disabled Veteran-owned small business concern or SDVOSB*":

(1) Means a small business concern—

(i) Not less than 51 percent of which is owned by one or more service-disabled Veterans or, in the case of any publicly owned business, not less than 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more service-disabled Veterans or eligible surviving spouses (see VAAR 802.201, Surviving Spouse definition);

(ii) The management and daily business operations of which are controlled by one or more service-disabled Veterans (or eligible surviving spouses) or, in the case of a service-disabled Veteran with permanent and severe disability, the spouse or permanent caregiver of such Veteran;

(iii) The business meets Federal small business size standards for the applicable North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code identified in the solicitation document;

(iv) The business has been certified for ownership and control pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 8127, 13 CFR 128, and is listed as certified in the SBA certification database at <https://veterans.certify.sba.gov/>; and

(v) The business agrees to comply with VAAR subpart 819.70 and Small Business Administration (SBA) regulations regarding small business size, government contracting, and the Veteran Small Business Certification Program at 13 CFR parts 121, 125, and 128.

(2) The term "Service-disabled Veteran" means a Veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(2), with a disability that is service-connected, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(16).



(3) The term “small business concern” has the meaning given that term under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(4) The term “small business concern owned and controlled by Veterans with service-connected disabilities” has the meaning given the term “*small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans*” under section 3(q)(2) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(q)(2)).

(5) The term “*SDVOSB participant*” or *certified SDVOSB* means a small business that has been certified in the SBA Veteran Small Business Certification Program and listed in the SBA certification database (see 13 CFR 128.102).

(b) *General*. In order for a concern to submit an offer and be eligible for the award of an SDVOSB set-aside or sole source contract, the concern must qualify as a small business concern under the size standard corresponding to the NAICS code assigned to the contract and be listed as an SDVOSB participant in the SBA certification database as set forth in 13 CFR 128.

(1) Offers received from entities that are not certified SDVOSBs and listed in the SBA certification database at the time of offer shall not be considered.

(2) Any award resulting from this solicitation shall be made to a certified SDVOSB listed in the SBA certification database who is eligible at the time of submission of offer(s) and at the time of award.

(3) The requirements in this clause apply to any contract, order or subcontract where the firm receives a benefit or preference from its designation as an SDVOSB, including set-asides, sole source awards, and evaluation preferences.

(c) *Representation*. Pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 8127(e), only certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification database are considered eligible to receive award of a resulting contract. By submitting an offer, the prospective contractor represents that it is an eligible and certified SDVOSB as defined in this clause, 13 CFR 121, 125, and 128, and VAAR subpart 819.70.

(d) *Agreement/LOS certification*. When awarded a contract action, including orders under multipleaward contracts, an SDVOSB agrees that in the performance of the contract, the SDVOSB shall comply with requirements in VAAR subpart 819.70 and SBA regulations on small business size, and government contracting programs at 13 CFR part 121 and part 125, including the non-manufacturer rule and limitations on subcontracting (LOS) requirements in 13 CFR 121.406(b) and 13 CFR 125.6. For the purpose of limitations on subcontracting, only certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification database (including independent contractors) shall be considered eligible and/or “similarly situated” (i.e., a firm that has the same small business program status as the prime contractor). An otherwise eligible firm further agrees to comply with the required LOS certification requirements in this solicitation (see 852.219–75 or 852.219–76 as applicable). These requirements are summarized as follows:

(1) *Services*. In the case of a contract for services (except construction), the SDVOSB prime contractor will not pay more than 50% of the amount paid by the government to the prime for contract performance to firms that are not certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification

database (excluding direct costs to the extent they are not the principal purpose of the acquisition and the SDVOSB/ VOSB does not provide the service, such as airline travel, cloud computing services, or mass media purchases). When a contract includes both services and supplies, the 50 percent limitation shall apply only to the service portion of the contract.

(2) *Supplies/products.*

(i) In the case of a contract for supplies or products (other than from a non-manufacturer of such supplies), the SDVOSB prime contractor will not pay more than 50% of the amount paid by the government to the prime for contract performance, excluding the cost of materials, to firms that are not certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification database. When a contract includes both supply and services, the 50 percent limitation shall apply only to the supply portion of the contract.

(ii) In the case of a contract for supplies from a non-manufacturer, the SDVOSB prime contractor will supply the product of a domestic small business manufacturer or processor, unless a waiver as described in 13 CFR 121.406(b)(5) has been granted. Refer to 13 CFR 125.6(a)(2)(ii) for guidance pertaining to multiple item procurements.

(3) *General construction.* In the case of a contract for general construction, the SDVOSB prime contractor will not pay more than 85% of the amount paid by the government to the prime for contract performance, excluding the cost of materials, to firms that are not certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification database.

(4) *Special trade construction contractors.* In the case of a contract for special trade contractors, no more than 75% of the amount paid by the government to the prime for contract performance, excluding the cost of materials, may be paid to firms that are not certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification database.

(5) *Subcontracting.* An SDVOSB subcontractor must meet the NAICS size standard assigned by the prime contractor and be certified and listed in the SBA certification database to count as similarly situated. Any work that a first tier SDVOSB subcontractor further subcontracts will count towards the percent of subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded. For supply or construction contracts, the cost of materials is excluded and not considered to be subcontracted. When a contract includes both services and supplies, the 50 percent limitation shall apply only to the portion of the contract with the preponderance of the expenditure upon which the assigned NAICS is based. For information and more specific requirements, refer to 13 CFR 125.6.

(e) *Required limitations on subcontracting compliance measurement period.* An SDVOSB shall comply with the limitations on subcontracting as follows:

By the end of the base term of the contract or order, and then by the end of each subsequent option period; or

By the end of the performance period for each order issued under the contract.

(f) *Joint ventures.* A joint venture may be considered eligible as an SDVOSB if the joint venture complies with the requirements in 13 CFR 128.402 and the managing joint venture partner makes the representations under paragraph (c) of this clause. A joint venture agrees that, in the

performance of the contract, the applicable percentage specified in paragraph (d) of this clause will be performed by the aggregate of the joint venture participants.

(g) *Precedence*. The VA Veterans First Contracting Program, as defined in VAAR 802.101, subpart 819.70, and this clause, takes precedence over any inconsistencies between the requirements of the SBA Veteran Small Business Certification Program and the VA Veterans First Contracting Program.

(h) *Misrepresentation*. Pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 8127(g), any business concern, including all its principals, that is determined by VA to have willfully and intentionally misrepresented a company's SDVOSB status is subject to debarment from contracting with the Department for a period of not less than five years (see VAAR 809.406–2 Causes for Debarment).

(End of Clause)

#### **4.32 VAAR 852.219-75 VA NOTICE OF LIMITATIONS ON SUBCONTRACTING—CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION (JAN 2023) (DEVIATION)**

(a) Pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 8127(l)(2), the offeror certifies that—

(1) If awarded a contract (see FAR 2.101 definition), it will comply with the limitations on subcontracting requirement as provided in the solicitation and the resultant contract, as follows:

(i)  *Services*. In the case of a contract for services (except construction), the contractor will not pay more than 50% of the amount paid by the government to it to firms that are not certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification database as set forth in 852.219–73 or certified VOSBs listed in the SBA certification database as set forth in 852.219–74. Any work that a similarly situated certified SDVOSB/VOSB subcontractor further subcontracts will count towards the 50% subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded. Other direct costs may be excluded to the extent they are not the principal purpose of the acquisition and small business concerns do not provide the service as set forth in 13 CFR 125.6.

(ii)  *General construction*. In the case of a contract for general construction, the contractor will not pay more than 85% of the amount paid by the government to it to firms that are not certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification database as set forth in 852.219–73 or certified VOSBs listed in the SBA certification database as set forth in 852.219–74. Any work that a similarly situated certified SDVOSB/VOSB subcontractor further subcontracts will count towards the 85% subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded. Cost of materials are excluded and not considered to be subcontracted.

(iii)  *Special trade construction contractors*. In the case of a contract for special trade contractors, the contractor will not pay more than 75% of the amount paid by the government to it to firms that are not certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification database as set forth in 852.219–73 or certified VOSBs listed in the SBA certification database as set forth in 852.219–74. Any work that a similarly situated certified SDVOSB/VOSB subcontractor further subcontracts will count towards the 75% subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded. Cost of materials are excluded and not considered to be subcontracted.

(2) The offeror acknowledges that this certification concerns a matter within the jurisdiction of an Agency of the United States. The offeror further acknowledges that this certification is subject to Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001, and, as such, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent certification may render the offeror subject to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties, including prosecution.

(3) If VA determines that an SDVOSB/ VOSB awarded a contract pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 8127 did not act in good faith, such SDVOSB/VOSB shall be subject to any or all of the following:

- (i) Referral to the VA Suspension and Debarment Committee;
- (ii) A fine under section 16(g)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 645(g)(1)); and
- (iii) Prosecution for violating 18 U.S.C. 1001.

(b) The offeror represents and understands that by submission of its offer and award of a contract it may be required to provide copies of documents or records to VA that VA may review to determine whether the offeror complied with the limitations on subcontracting requirement specified in the contract. Contracting officers may, at their discretion, require the contractor to demonstrate its compliance with the limitations on subcontracting at any time during performance and upon completion of a contract if the information regarding such compliance is not already available to the contracting officer. Evidence of compliance includes, but is not limited to, invoices, copies of subcontracts, or a list of the value of tasks performed.

(c) The offeror further agrees to cooperate fully and make available any documents or records as may be required to enable VA to determine compliance with the limitations on subcontracting requirement. The offeror understands that failure to provide documents as requested by VA may result in remedial action as the Government deems appropriate.

(d) Offeror completed certification/fill-in required. The formal certification must be completed, signed and returned with the offeror's bid, quotation, or proposal. The Government will not consider offers for award from offerors that do not provide the certification, and all such responses will be deemed ineligible for evaluation and award.

Certification

I hereby certify that if awarded the contract, [insert name of offeror] will comply with the limitations on subcontracting specified in this clause and in the resultant contract. I further certify that I am authorized to execute this certification on behalf of [insert name of offeror].

Printed Name of Signee: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Title of Signee: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(End of Clause)

### 4.33 VAAR 852.223-71 SAFETY AND HEALTH (SEP 2019)

(a) To help ensure the protection of the life and health of all persons, and to help prevent damage to property, the Contractor shall comply with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations applicable to the work being performed under this contract. These laws are implemented or enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and other regulatory/enforcement agencies at the Federal, State, and local levels.

(1) Additionally, the Contractor shall comply with the following regulations when developing and implementing health and safety operating procedures and practices for both personnel and facilities involving the use or handling of hazardous materials and the conduct of research, development, or test projects:

(i) 29 CFR 1910.1030, Bloodborne pathogens; 29 CFR 1910.1450, Occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals in laboratories. These regulations are available at <https://www.osha.gov/>.

(ii) Nuclear Regulatory Commission Standards and Regulations, pursuant to the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5801 et seq.) Copies are available from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

(2) The following Government guidelines are recommended for developing and implementing health and safety operating procedures and practices for both personnel and facilities:

(i) Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), available at <http://www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/index.htm>.

(ii) Prudent Practices in the Laboratory, National Research Council, National Academy Press, Washington, DC 20001, available at <http://www.nap.edu>.

(b)(1) The Contractor shall maintain an accurate record of, and promptly report to the Contracting Officer, all accidents or incidents resulting in the exposure of persons to toxic substances, hazardous materials; the injury or death of any person; or damage to property incidental to work performed under the contract resulting from toxic or hazardous materials and resulting in any or all violations for which the Contractor has been cited by any Federal, State or local regulatory/enforcement agency.

(2) The report shall include a copy of the notice of violation and the findings of any inquiry or inspection, and an analysis addressing the impact these violations may have on the work remaining to be performed. The report shall also state the required action(s), if any, to be taken to correct any violation(s) noted by the Federal, State, or local regulatory/enforcement agency and the time frame allowed by the agency to accomplish the necessary corrective action.

(c) If the Contractor fails or refuses to comply with the Federal, State or local regulatory/enforcement agency's directive(s) regarding any violation(s) and prescribed corrective action(s), the Contracting Officer may issue an order stopping all or part of the work until satisfactory corrective action (as approved by the Federal, State, or local regulatory/enforcement agencies) has been taken and documented to the Contracting Officer.

No part of the time lost due to any such stop work order shall form the basis for a request for extension or costs or damages by the Contractor.

(d) The Contractor shall insert this clause in each subcontract involving toxic substances or hazardous materials. The Contractor is responsible for the compliance of its subcontractors with the provisions of this clause.

(End of Clause)

See attached document: Attachment 1 - SOW - EHRM Tuscaloosa.

See attached document: Attachment 2 - EHRM RTA Drawings\_Electrical.

See attached document: Attachment 3 - EHRM RTA Drawings\_Fire Protection.

See attached document: Attachment 4 - EHRM RTA Drawings\_General and Civil.

See attached document: Attachment 5 - EHRM RTA Drawings\_Mechanical and Plumbing.

See attached document: Attachment 6 - EHRM RTA Drawings\_Structural and Architecture.

See attached document: Attachment 7 - EHRM RTA Drawings\_Telecommunications  
General and Demolition.

See attached document: Attachment 8 -EHRM RTA Drawings\_Telecommunications General  
and New Work.

See attached document: Attachment 9 - EHRM RTA Specifications.

See attached document: Attachment 10 - Submittal Register RTA.

See attached document: Attachment 11 - TVAMC Site Map\_PSRDM.

See attached document: Attachment 12 - Geotechnical Report - EHRM Data Center.

See attached document: Attachment 13 - Limitations on Subcontracting - Construction.

See attached document: Attachment 14 - WD - AL20240098 - 01.03.2025.

See attached document: Attachment 15 - Brand Name - EHRM Tuscaloosa.

See attached document: Attachment 16 - Brand Name - Corbin Russwin - Manufacture  
Document.

See attached document: Attachment 17 - Division Cost Breakdown.

End of Document