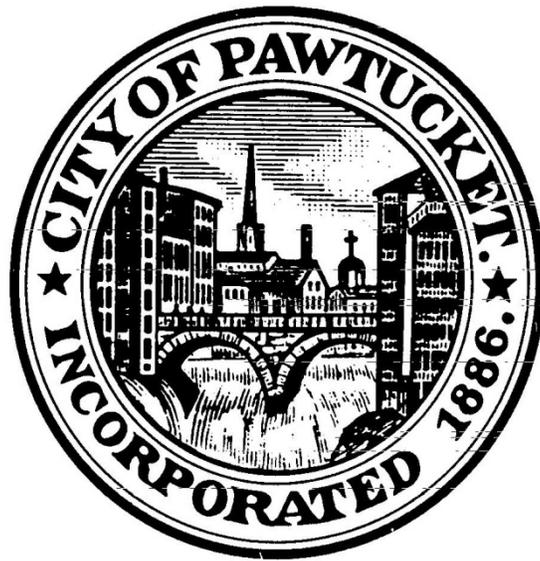


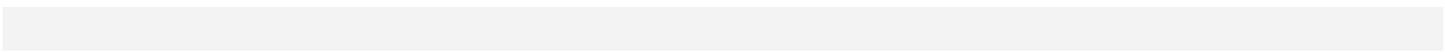
CITY OF PAWTUCKET
and
PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD
REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS



Pawtucket
WATER SUPPLY BOARD

BID No. 23-045
Water Meters, AMI and Appurtenances

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1.0 - Bid/Solicitation Information

Schedule

Pre-Bid/Proposal Conference: No Yes

Requests for Further Information Prior to: **June 16, 2023 @ 4:00 PM**

Requests for information or clarification must be made electronically to the attention of:

Stephen Soito – Engineering Manager

E-mail: ssoito@pwsb.org

Please reference the Sealed Bid number on all correspondence. Answers to questions received, if any, will be posted on the internet as an addendum to this bid solicitation.

Sealed Bid Submission Deadline: June 22, 2023 at 12:00 PM

Late submittals will not be considered.

Sealed Bids must be mailed or hand-delivered in a sealed envelope **marked with the Sealed Bid # and Project Name** to:

Pawtucket City Hall - Purchasing Office
137 Roosevelt Avenue
Pawtucket, RI 02860

Bids will be Publicly Opened on June 22, 2023 at 4:00 PM at a scheduled Purchasing Board Meeting to be held in City Council Chambers of Pawtucket City Hall

Bonds/Surety Required

Surety Bond: No Yes

Bidder is required to provide a bid surety in the form of a bid bond or certified check payable to the City of Pawtucket in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price.

Fidelity Bond: No Yes

Performance Bond and Labor and Material Bond: No Yes

The successful bidder will be required to furnish all insurance documentation as outlined in the specifications document.

Miscellaneous

The bid process and resulting contract are subject to the Rules and Regulations and General Terms and Conditions of Purchase. Submission of a bid in response to this solicitation is acknowledgement and acceptance of these Rules and Regulations and General Terms and Conditions of Purchase.

The City of Pawtucket reserves the right to award on the basis of cost alone, accept or reject any or all bids, and to act in its best interest including, but not limited to, directly negotiating with any vendor who submits a proposal in response to this Sealed Bid and to award a contract based upon the results of those negotiations alone. Proposals found to be technically or substantially non-responsive at any point in the evaluation process will be rejected and not considered further. The City of Pawtucket may, at its sole option, elect to require presentations(s) by bidders clearly in consideration for award.

2.0 - Instructions and Notifications to Bidders

- The words “City of Pawtucket” when used, shall also mean the Pawtucket Water Supply Board acting through its Chairman.
- It is the vendor's responsibility to examine all specifications and conditions thoroughly and comply fully with specifications and all attached terms and conditions. Vendors must comply with all Federal, State, and City laws, ordinances and regulations, and meet any and all registration requirements where required for contractors as set forth by the State of Rhode Island. Failure to make a complete submission as described herein may result in a rejection of the proposal.
- All costs associated with developing or submitting a proposal in response to this Request, or to provide oral or written clarification of its content shall be borne by the bidder. The City of Pawtucket assumes no responsibility for these costs.
- A submittal may be withdrawn by written request to the Purchasing Agent by the proposer prior to the stated Sealed Bid deadline.
- Prior to the proposal deadline established for this Sealed Bid, changes may be made to a proposal already received by the City if that vendor makes a request to the Purchasing Agent, in writing, to do so. No changes to a proposal shall be made after the Sealed Bid deadline.
- Proposals are considered to be irrevocable for a period of not less than ninety (90) days following the opening date, and may not be withdrawn, except with the express written permission of the Purchasing Agent. Should any vendor object to this condition, the vendor must provide objection through a question and/or complaint to the Purchasing Agent prior to the proposal deadline.
- All pricing submitted will be considered to be firm and fixed unless otherwise indicated herein.
- The vendor has full responsibility to ensure that the proposal arrives at the Purchasing Division Office prior to the deadline set out herein. The City assumes no responsibility for delays caused by the U.S. Postal Service or any other delivery service. Postmarking by the due date will not substitute for actual receipt of response by the due date. Proposals arriving after the deadline may be returned, unopened, to the vendor, or may simply be declared non-responsive and not subject to evaluation, at the sole discretion of the Purchasing Agent. **For the purposes of this requirement, the official time and date shall be that of the time clock in the City of Pawtucket’s Purchasing Office.**
- It is intended that an award pursuant to this Sealed Bid will be made to a prime contractor, who will assume responsibility for all aspects of the work. Joint venture and cooperative proposals will not be considered, but subcontracts are permitted, provided that their use is clearly indicated in the bidder's proposal, and the subcontractor(s) proposed to be used are identified in the proposal.
- Bidders are advised that all materials submitted to the City of Pawtucket for consideration in response to this Sealed Bid shall be considered to be public records as defined in Title 38 Chapter 2 of the Rhode Island General Laws, without exception, and may be released for inspection immediately upon request once an award has been made.

- Vendors are responsible for errors and omissions in their proposals. No such error or omission shall diminish the vendor's obligations to the City.
- The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, at any time, with no penalty. The City also has the right to waive immaterial defects and minor irregularities in any submitted proposal at its sole discretion. All material submitted in response to this Sealed Bid shall become the property of the City of Pawtucket upon delivery to the Purchasing Agent.

3.0 - Overview

The City of Pawtucket desires to seek sealed bids for the furnishing of ultrasonic type water meters and appurtenances for the Pawtucket Water Supply Board.

4.0 - Scope of Work

All meters, 5/8" to 2", furnished shall meet or exceed the performance requirements specified in the "Standard Specifications for Cold Water Meters – Electromagnetic and Ultrasonic Type, for Revenue Applications" C715, latest revision, issued by AWWA.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Information to Bidders

General: All tools, equipment and materials to be furnished shall conform to existing industry standards as established by the following: American Water Works Association (AWWA), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), and other established standards organizations as applicable. All items shall conform as a minimum to the above referenced standards as they are applicable to the specific item, and shall further conform to any specific requirements called for in this specification; it is understood that the latest revision of the standards referenced shall apply. Where a specific manufacturer and part number are listed in the proposal with an "or equal" allowable, the bidder shall provide, along with his bid documents, data supporting the "or equal" product to be of a quality better than or equal to the specified product in every way, as determined by the Pawtucket Water Supply Board, including, but not limited to, function, durability, operability, serviceability, and reliability.

COMPLIANCE OF MATERIALS

The Bidder fully understands that the Pawtucket Water Supply Board reserves the right to inspect, and reject and return, at the Bidder's expense, any and all items and materials it finds to be unacceptable, of poor quality, or not in conformance with this Specification, Proposal and/or referenced Standards.

METERS, METER COUPLINGS, CABLE

Cold Water Meter

All cold water meters (solid state meters 5/8" – 2") furnished shall be produced in a manufacturing facility whose QMS is ISO 9001 certified and meets or exceeds the accuracy requirements specified in the "Standard Specifications for Cold Water Meters" C715 latest revision issued by AWWA. Meters shall be Mach 10 solid state ultrasonic as manufactured and supplied by Neptune or equivalents that meet the performance standards of the specification.

The size, capacity, and meter lengths shall be as specified in AWWA Standard C715 latest revision.

All meter maincases shall be cast from NSF/ANSI 61 certified lead free bronze alloy containing a minimum of 85% copper. Maincases that do not accommodate inline piping stresses are not acceptable. The serial number should be displayed in a permanent location on the meter maincase and register. Maincase markings shall indicate size, model, direction of flow, and NSF 61 certification. Plastic maincases or flow tubes are not acceptable as the spuds are susceptible to cross threading or breaking during installation, or from pipe stress over time. Maincases such as coated steel that are susceptible to corrosion over time are not acceptable.

All lead free maincases shall have a lifetime warranty and be free from manufacturing defects in workmanship and material. All maincase bolts shall be 316 non-magnetic stainless steel to prevent corrosion. Connections shall be furnished as specified.

Only meters featuring ultrasonic solid state metrology will be accepted because of enhanced low flow accuracy performance and extended accuracy over meter life.

The solid state meter technology provided must be ultrasonic-based technology featuring continuous measurement (greater or equal to 4 times per second) to ensure desired accuracy at low-end flow and during typical variable flow conditions.

Meter Register

- The unit of measure shall be in Cubic Feet.
- The register shall provide at least a 9-digit visual registration at the meter to facilitate testing.
- The register shall provide an 8-digit meter reading for transmission through the RF AMR/AMI endpoint.
- The register shall employ a visual LCD leak detection indicator as well as provide remote leak detection through an ASCII format to the RF AMR/AMI endpoint.
- The register shall provide and display reverse flow detection on the LCD and communicated as ASCII format data to the RF AMR/AMI endpoint.
- Reverse flow detection shall be calculated based on 15-minute interval consumption.
- The register shall provide an indication of days of zero consumption, communicated as ASCII format data to the RF AMR/AMI endpoint.
- The register should accumulate and register consumption whether or not it is connected to a receptacle or RF AMR/AMI endpoint.
- The register shall provide empty pipe detection that is visibly displayed on the meter's LCD register.
- The register shall display flow rate information (interleaved with the current meter reading).
- The register shall subtract reverse flow from the total registration.
- The register shall provide and display low battery detection on the LCD and communicated as ASCII format data to the RF AMR/AMI endpoint.
- The meter endpoint shall provide a minimum of 96 days of downloadable consumption data.

PERFORMANCE – To ensure accuracy, each meter must be accompanied by a factory test tag certifying the accuracy at the flows required by AWWA C715 (low, intermediate, and full flow). The meter(s) shall have an Extended Low Flow measured at 100% +/- 3% which exceeds AWWA Standard C715 extended low flow accuracy requirements.

All meters shall be warranted as follows:

<u>Size</u>	<u>Low Flow</u>	<u>Low Flow</u> <u>New Meter Accuracy</u>	<u>Low Flow</u> <u>Repaired Meter Accuracy</u>
5/8"	0.05 gpm @ 100%	5 Yrs or 500,000 Gal	5-10 years or 1,500,000 Gal
3/4"	0.05 gpm @ 100%	5 Yrs or 750,000 Gal	5-10 years or 2,300,000 Gal
1"	0.25 gpm @ 100%	5 Yrs or 1,000,000 Gal	5-10 years or 3,000,000 Gal
1-1/2"	0.30 gpm @ 100%	1 year	1 year
2"	0.50 gpm @ 100%	1 year	1 year

Normal meter operating range shall be warranted per AWWA C715 Section 4.2 Table 1.

<u>Size</u>	<u>Range (100 +/- 1.5)</u>
5/8"	0.10 – 25 gpm
3/4"	0.10 – 35 gpm
1"	0.40 – 55 gpm
1-1/2"	0.80 – 125 gpm
2"	1.50 – 160 gpm

Meters and meter parts shall be manufactured, assembled, and tested within the Continental United States. Manufacturers may be required to provide proof of where and of what percentage of the meter register, chamber, and maincase is manufactured as per specified. Manufacturers shall have a minimum of fifteen years of field and production experience with all sizes of the model quoted for model standardization. Manufacturers shall provide only one model of meter that complies with these specifications.

Automatic Meter Reading System (AMR) Description – General

The utility issues this RFP to procure a System capable of meeting the current and future meter reading needs within our service area. The scope of work involves, but is not limited to, providing and installing the System which includes software, hardware, and all necessary training and installation support. The reading equipment shall be capable of receiving meter readings while utilizing a handheld reading device and/or a mobile reading unit (collectively as "AMR" or "mobile") and permanently mounted data collector units (collectively "AMI" or "fixed network"). The AMI System shall be configured to collect data from 100% of PWSB's water meters.

The System must have the capability to improve meter reading efficiency, increase meter reader safety, and provide data that facilitates resolution of customer bill complaints, water conservation initiatives, and distribution system management efforts. The vendor shall describe the upgrade requirements to incorporate radio frequency (RF) technology.

During upgrade to RF meter reading, the System shall still be able to read probed water meters, direct read water meters via manual keyed entry, and meters equipped with RF meter interface units (MIUs) within the same meter reading route without detaching the receptacle or RF meter interface unit or switching modes within the meter reading equipment.

All System components furnished (software, reading equipment, RF MIUs, meters with absolute encoders) shall be produced in a manufacturing facility whose QMS is ISO 9001 certified. **All system components shall comply with federal regulations at 2 CFR 200.216, *Prohibition on certain telecommunication and video surveillance services or equipment*, implementing section 889 of Public Law 115-232.**

System Overview

The System shall be comprised of RF MIUs, data collection devices, and host software. The System shall be capable of operating simultaneously in a walk-by (handheld), mobile (drive-by), full fixed network (permanently mounted data collectors), or any combination of these data collection methods without the need for reprogramming RF MIUs.

The transition from walk-by, to mobile, to fixed network shall be seamless and allow all meter reading methods to operate together simultaneously. MIUs shall transmit messages required for both mobile AND fixed network operation on an interleaved basis, allowing both mobile AND fixed network data collection capability at the same time. Systems with MIUs that must be configured or programmed to operate in either one "mode" or the other will not be allowed. The System shall provide 8-digit meter reading resolution capability for encoders using Neptune E-CODER® or Sensus UI-1203 protocol in mobile as well as fixed network data collection applications.

For reliability and meter reading integrity, the vendor shall be the sole manufacturer of the different components of the System (water meters, RF MIUs, meter reading equipment, and meter reading software) and provide a turnkey system offering to the utility.

Mobile AMR Functionality

- When used as mobile AMR, the System shall provide 96 days of hourly consumption data storage at the MIU, retrievable from mobile data collection devices. Mobile data devices shall facilitate retrieval of consumption data for field presentment on a handheld, laptop, or Android/iOS powered mobile device, as well as storage for later use with the host software application.
- The System shall provide capability of mobile retrieval of individual off-cycle (specific date) reads as stored for 96 days in the MIU. Mobile data devices shall facilitate retrieval of off-cycle reads for field presentment on a handheld or Android/iOS powered mobile device, as well as storage for later use with the host software application.

AMI Network Functionality

- When deployed as a fixed network, the System shall provide hourly consumption interval data, time synchronized at the host meter reading software. The host software shall provide individual account consumption interval data displayed in graphical as well as tabular format and readily accessible to utility Customer Service Representatives to facilitate customer bill complaint resolution without the need for a truck roll.
- When deployed as a fixed network, the System shall provide priority alarm notification of potential leak and/or reverse flow events with user configurable email or text messages for notification to utility personnel.
- When operating as a fixed network, the System shall provide the capability for a demand read initiated from the host software application. The number of demand read requests made over the lifetime of an MIU shall not impact the battery life or warranty.

RF Meter Interface Unit (MIU)

The MIUs must be compact electronic devices connected to the water meters. They shall interrogate the encoder register and transmit the meter reading and other information to a remote reading device. They shall be compatible with encoder registers using either Neptune ProRead/E-CODER® protocol or Sensus-protocol (UI-1203).

MIUs shall feature “auto detect” functionality to detect the type of encoder connected and shall not require reprogramming in the field. The same RF MIUs must be capable of being read by a walk-by handheld computer equipped with a RF receiver, a mobile system with an RF receiver mounted in a vehicle, and a fixed network data collection system. This shall allow an easy migration between the three-meter reading systems without any change to the MIU devices or revisiting the site.

The MIU shall log 96 days of hourly consumption data, available for retrieval via RF activation from the handheld or mobile data collection device

The MIUs shall be attached to new meters or shall retrofit to existing meters in the field. The MIUs shall be manufactured in both wall and pit models. The wall MIU shall have the ability to be mounted in a basement or on the outside of a house. The pit MIU shall have the ability to be mounted in a pit or an underground vault and offer an optional through-the-pit-lid antenna. The wall and pit MIUs shall have a fully-potted, submersible design.

MIUs shall also be available as integrated devices in which the encoder register, and RF transmitter module are integrated into a single module. The unit shall interrogate the integrated absolute encoder register and transmit the meter reading and other information to a data collection reading device.

The absolute solid-state encoder register with integrated MIU shall be attached to new meters, or they shall retrofit existing meters in the field via a bayonet mount on top of the meter main case. The absolute solid-state encoder register with integrated MIU shall be manufactured in both inside and pit models. The inside MIU shall have a water-resistant enclosure and a permanent internal antenna. The pit MIU enclosure shall be a roll-sealed copper can and glass lens, designed to ensure a watertight seal with a permanent internal antenna and offer an optional through-the-pit-lid antenna to optimize performance in hard-to-read or fixed network applications.

Physical / Mechanical Requirements

Wall Unit

- The MIU housing shall be constructed of a polycarbonate plastic compound and be capable of mounting both indoors and outdoors on wall or pole or attached directly to the meter. The device must be water resistant and capable of exposure to spray and splash. The device must be able to withstand a 200-hour salt fog test as specified in NEMA 4 standard.
- The device shall provide a location for a tamper-deterrent seal. Tampering with the device functions or connections shall not be possible without causing visible damage to the device exterior or to the seal.
- The device shall be capable of operating at temperatures of -22°F to +149°F (-30°C to +65°C) with operating humidity of 0 to 100% condensing.
- The circuit board and the battery will be protected by a potting material.

- The MIU device must be protected against static discharge without loss of data per IEC 801-2, issue 2.
- The unit must retrofit to existing installations.
- The unit can be mounted either outside the building or inside the building. The Pawtucket Water Supply Board intends to install wall-mount MIU's on the exterior of all buildings. MIU's may also be integrated into the electronic solid state register.

Pit Unit

- For pit or vault applications, the MIU antenna shall be designed to be installed through the industry standard 1³/₄" hole in the pit lid with no degradation of transmission range. The MIU antenna unit will be capable of mounting to various thicknesses of pit lids from 1/2" to 2 1/2".
- The device shall be capable of operating at temperatures of -22°F to +149°F (-30°C to +65°C) and operating humidity of 0 to 100% condensing.
- The range will not be affected when the pit is flooded.
- The circuit board and the battery will be protected by a potting material.
- The antenna shall be made of a metallic and polymer material to withstand traffic and shall have a dual seal connection to the MIU housing.
- The MIU device must be protected against static discharge without loss of data per IEC 801-2, issue 2.

Operation Specifications

FCC Licensing and Certification:

- The MIU shall operate within FCC Part 15.247 regulations for devices operating in the 902 MHz to 928 MHz unlicensed band. The output power of the devices will be governed by their conformance to these relevant FCC standards.
- To minimize the potential for RF interference from other devices, the MIU shall transmit using the frequency hopping, spread spectrum technique comprised of alternating pseudo-random frequencies within the 902 MHz to 928 MHz unlicensed band.
- For ease of implementation, the System shall not require any special licensing, including licenses from the FCC. The System must, therefore, operate in the 902 MHz to 928 MHz unlicensed band.
- The System must be expandable at any time without getting authorization from the FCC.
- No wake-up tone shall be necessary.

Field and Installation Operations:

- No MIU programming shall be necessary for installation.
- The MIU shall be mounted per the manufacturer's installation instructions to ensure a reliable and quality installation throughout the life of the MIU.
- The handheld reading equipment shall provide a test mode to verify proper operation of the MIU by displaying the MIU ID number and meter reading.
- The handheld reading equipment shall provide a test mode to verify proper operation as well as troubleshooting of the MIU on the AMI network by displaying the MIU ID number and latest meter reading.

- The MIU shall be capable of being received by a handheld receiver, mobile receiver, or fixed network data collector without special configuration, programming of operation modes, or re-manufacture.

Data Transport:

- The MIU shall provide 8-digit reading resolution from encoded registers using either Neptune E-CODER® or Sensus UI-1203 protocol in mobile as well as AMI network data collection applications, simultaneously, without need for programming.
- The MIU shall read the encoded register at 15-minute intervals to provide accurate leak and reverse flow detection using 8-digit resolution reads.
- The MIU shall transmit readings from the encoder that are not older than 15 minutes.
- The MIU shall transmit the meter reading continuously at a predetermined transmission interval.
- The MIU shall transmit AMI network messages every 7 ½ minutes – standard. No programming shall be necessary to activate transmission of AMI network messages.
- Each AMI network message shall include capability to include 3-meter readings for redundancy to improve read success rates.
- The MIU shall transmit mobile messages every 14 seconds – standard. No programming shall be necessary to activate or revert to transmission of mobile messages.
- In the event of a cut wire, the MIU shall not send the last good read as this can lead to miss-billing. The MIU shall transmit a trouble code in lieu of the meter reading.
- Tamper – If wiring has been disconnected, a “non-reading” shall be provided indicating wire tamper; a reading that gives the last available reading is an incorrect reading.
- Each device shall have unique pre-programmed identification numbers of ten (10) characters. ID numbers will be permanent and shall not be altered. Each device shall be labeled with the ID number in numeric and barcode form. The label shall also display FCC approval information, manufacturer’s designation, and date of manufacture.
- The MIU shall transmit the encoder meter reading and a unique MIU ID number.
- The MIU shall interface to encoder registers using Neptune ProRead, Neptune E-CODER® or Sensus UI- 1203 communication protocol via a 3-conductor wire without need for special configuration to the MIU.
- The MIU shall periodically transmit a packet that includes the register information such as register ID, register type, and other status information no less than weekly.

Operational Characteristics:

- Power shall be supplied to the MIU by a lithium battery with capacitor.
- The number of radio-based meter reads performed must not affect the battery life.
- The battery life shall not be affected by outside erroneous wake-up tones (e.g., other water, gas, or electric utilities reading and therefore sending out a wake-up tone).
- The battery shall be a fully potted component of the MIU with no external wires.

- The vendor shall warrant that the MIUs shall be free of manufacture and design defects for a period of twenty (20) years – the first ten (10) years from the date of shipment from factory without prorating and the second ten (10) years with prorating, as long as the MIU is working under the environmental and meter reading conditions specified.

Data Collection Devices

The System shall provide a means of communication between the MIU installed at the meter site and the host software. In a walk-by system, it must be a handheld computer capable of reading meters using keyed-entry, inductive encoder probing, or RF communications with an attached receiver device without the need to switch modes within the handheld.

In the case of a mobile application, the data collection device must be a portable tablet, or smartphone that is Android or iOS compatible.

For the fixed network application, the data collection device must be an environmentally sealed control box able to adapt to various installation settings and must have the capability to receive, store, and communicate meter readings to the host software for further use and analysis.

Walk-by System

For Walk-By applications, the System must give user the ability to collect metering data in several ways:

- Keyed entry.
- Inductive probing.
- RF communication: The handheld must connect via Bluetooth to an RF receiving device.

The proposed walk-by data collection system must include:

- Handheld data collector device Bluetooth paired RF receiving device.
- Communication cradles for charging and loading the handheld unit (only for devices running Windows Mobile OS).
- Probes for interrogating Neptune ProRead/E-CODER® or Sensus UI 1203 protocol absolute encoders (optional).

Handheld Data Collector Device

Basic Functions

The handheld data collection device shall have the capability to collect and store meter readings at any time of the meter reading route by any of the following methods:

- Manual use through the use of an alphanumeric keypad.
- Probing of water meters equipped with supported absolute encoders.
- Via radio frequency through a Bluetooth-paired receiver.

The unit shall be able to obtain all types of readings on any particular route without requiring:

- Reprogramming of the handheld computer.
- Physical change of software contained within the unit while in the field.
- Access through special software menus contained within a given route/program.

The handheld data collection device must be able to multi-task by reading RF meters while in keyed entry (manual) meter reading mode.

Handheld Hardware Requirements

Operating System

The System must support a variety of handheld data collection devices. These devices must run Windows Mobile 6.1 or 6.5 Operating System, Android Operating System, or Apple iOS Operating System.

Case (only for devices running windows mobile OS)

- The unit must be able to withstand 26 drops at room temperature from four (4) feet onto plywood over concrete.
- The handheld shall be ergonomically designed to be comfortable for handheld meter reading.
- The handheld must meet and exceed MIL-STD 810F standard, method 516.5, procedure IV for drop tests.

Display

- The size of the display characters must be selectable, allowing the use of larger characters that are easier to read. The screen must support a minimum resolution of 480 by 640 pixels or 640 by 480 pixels.
- There must also be a manual contrast adjustment feature which will allow the user to adjust the contrast to his or her satisfaction.

Keyboard (only for devices running windows mobile OS)

- The handheld must support one of the two keyboard options:
 - The keyboard must have independent numerical keys with adequate separation for use with a gloved hand. Must have a full-on screen, customizable alphanumeric keyboard.
 - Full QWERTY keypad with adequate separation with a gloved hand with number pad as well as directional buttons with four programmable buttons.
- There must be an auto-repeat function on keys and a rapid response between keying and seeing results on the screen.

Battery

- The battery capacity must be sufficient for a minimum of ten (10) hours of meter reading.
- The handheld must come with a power management system designed to conserve power.

Memory

- The handheld data collection device must include a minimum of 128 MB of DDR SDRAM.
- The handheld must have 512MB or greater of on-board non-volatile flash storage.

Carrying Method (only for devices running windows mobile OS)

- A carrying mechanism must be provided with each unit and must provide ease of use for right- or left-handed operators.

Size

The handheld data collection device dimensions must not be larger than:

- Length: 10.5" (17.6 cm).
- Width: 5.2" (10 cm).
- Height: 1.9" (5.0 cm).
- Or device specific for Android and iOS powered devices.

Weight

The unit's weight must be no more than 2.3lbs with battery installed.

Environmental Characteristics (only for devices running windows mobile OS)

The handheld must include but not be limited to the following:

- The unit must operate in a temperature range of -30°C to +60°C (-22° F to +140° F).
- The device shall be water-resistant, capable of unlimited exposure to spray or splash (such as rain or snow).
- The handheld unit must be capable of being immersed in 3.3ft (1 meter) of water for 30 minutes.
- The device must be protected against an 8kV static discharge without loss of data.
- The unit must be resistant to various chemical products and must be sealed to keep out dust, humidity, and water.
- The device must be shock-resistant exceeding IEC 68-2-32 method 1 (a one-meter drop on concrete).
- The unit must be CE and FCC certified.

Handheld Software Requirements

Basic Functions

The handheld software must be easy to use and give the meter reader control over the route in searching for accounts, entering related notes, and manually reading meters.

The handheld software must include entry of meter readings.

In addition, the handheld software shall include but shall not be limited to the following basic features:

- User customizable key assignments.
- Allow manual or automatic entry of meter readings, ID numbers, and note codes.
- Perform high/low test on readings.
- Date and time stamped to each reading.
- Identify type of reading – manual keyed, probed, or RF MIU.
- Perform unread meter search.
- Found meter processing for new accounts.
- Data search capability (display, notes, and ID).
- Auto-search for automatic reading of encoded meters.
- Display the number of read and unread accounts on demand.

Sounds

- Successful meter readings must be confirmed by an audible tone.

Communication

Communications between the handheld and the PC software must be established using a wireless synchronization or cradle connected via Ethernet or USB. In addition, the following basic features must be included:

- Extensive error checking is provided to ensure data integrity during communications between the handheld and the PC.
- A typical route of 400-500 accounts can be loaded or unloaded in less than one minute with the ability to load more than 5,000 records into a single handheld unit.
- Routes/books can be split at the PC level.
- Once loaded, routes may be individually selected on the handheld.

Charging / Communications Cradles

- The communications/charging cradle will be housed in a suitable material that can be wall or tabletop mounted.
- It will have the capability of recharging the handheld unit within four hours and also provide the communication port connection to the computer.
- The cradle will be capable of communicating with the host computer at 10 Mbps.
- The cradle must be capable of both USB and Ethernet communications with a PC.
- The charging units must carry the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) seal of approval.

Probes

The handheld must be compatible with a wireless probe capable of reading Neptune ProRead/E-CODER or Sensus UI 1203 protocol absolute encoders.

Radio Frequency Capability

The meter reading system must be capable of being upgraded to radio frequency communications. Utility plans to read water meters equipped with radio frequency MIUs. Only absolute encoder registers using Neptune ProRead/E-Coder® or Sensus UI-1203 communication protocols shall be acceptable. For the radio frequency-based meter reading system, the encoder registers will be connected to an RF MIU that shall provide the radio link from the meter to the handheld interface unit. MIUs shall feature "auto detect" functionality and shall not require reprogramming in the field.

The handheld radio frequency receiver must be separate from the handheld unit itself.

Radio Frequency Reading Function

The function of the handheld and external receiver in radio frequency mode is to provide utility the capability of reading meters via radio signals transmitted by the RF MIUs. The external receiver must be capable of receiving RF readings and transferring those readings to the handheld via Bluetooth connection. All transmissions from supported MIUs will be collected. The reading of any MIU shall be automatically stored in the proper account record without the intervention of the meter reader.

Should any MIU not be able to be read during the route, the software shall support storage of a flag in the account record, indicating clearly that the MIU could not be read. When reading the meters in the RF mode, it should not require the meter reader to activate any wake-up tone.

The handheld with the external receiver reading equipment must provide a test mode to verify operation of the MIU. This test mode must be accessible from within the meter reading application as well as accessible from a handheld's main screen (no login required). The test application must be capable of reporting statistics for an individual MIU or displaying all MIUs within range.

Walk-By RF Transceiver

- The walk-by RF transceiver must be a separate belt clip, wearable, transmit/receive device which communicates via Bluetooth to the handheld.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must support the ability to remotely command the MIU to transmit data log interval data.
- The walk-by RF transceiver antenna shall be internally mounted.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must meet FCC Class B certification.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must contain an SD card.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must utilize SDR (software-defined radio) technology.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must contain a mini-USB port for both battery charging and PC communications.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must contain a field replaceable battery.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must have four (4) LEDs displaying the following:
 - Battery/Power status
 - RF status
 - Bluetooth status
 - Mode status
- The external RF transceiver must be capable of unattended operations where the receiver is not paired with any handheld device but hears and stores any received reading packets to the SD card. This data must be able to be imported into the host software for use as billing reads.

The following specifications must be met:

Radio Characteristics

- Receiving Frequency: 910-920 MHz unlicensed RF.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must have 50 channels.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must support reading eight (8) channels simultaneously.
- The walk-by RF transceiver must be capable of processing 360 RF packets per second.

Size and Weight

Physical specifications of the external RF receiver must be within the following parameters:

Length:	5.75" (14.6 cm)
Width:	1.66" (4.22 cm)
Height:	3.58" (9.1 cm)
Weight:	(with battery): 1.3 lbs. (without battery): 1.1 lbs.

Environmental Operating Conditions

- Operating conditions: -4°F to +122°F (-20°C to +50°C)
- Storage temperature: -40°F to +185°F (-30°C to +70°C)
- Designed to and tested to MIL-STD-810F specifications
- Designed to withstand electrostatic discharges per EN61000-4-2

RF Walk-By Receiver Battery Life

The data collection device battery must provide enough power to support RF meter reading for a minimum of eight (8) hours.

Mobile Data Collection System

The mobile data collection device must be a portable, compact electronic system mountable in any vehicle and shall be easily transportable from vehicle to vehicle or from vehicle to office.

Hardware Specifications

The key components of the mobile data collection device must consist of a portable personal computer (PPC) or Android/iOS mobile device, an integrated radio receiver unit, and remote rooftop magnet mount antenna.

The mobile data collection device must be easily installed in any vehicle that will drive to the field for meter reading. It must be mounted securely in the passenger seat with a standard seat belt. Through a 12V DC plug-in power cord, the unit must be powered from the vehicle's power supply (cigarette lighter).

The mobile data collection device must include a magnetic base antenna and the antenna cord as well as all necessary power and communication cables.

The mobile data collection device shall draw no more than one (1) AMP of power. The mobile data collection device dimensions must be no larger than the following parameters: 11.0" x 8.0" x 3.15". The weight shall not be more than five (5) lbs.

The mobile data collection device shall support the connection to any mobile device that meets the following minimum system requirements:

- Operating System: Android Operating System 6 and above, iOS Operating System 11 and above
- Communication: Internal 801.11 b/g wireless LAN or Cellular Connectivity
- Bluetooth

The mobile data collection unit should also be capable of supporting Itron R300 and Itron electric bubble-up ERTs in the event the utility supports electric meters.

Environmental Conditions

The mobile data collection device must work in the following environmental conditions:

- Operating Temperature: 32° to +122°F (0° to +50°C)
- Storage Temperature: -40°F to +185°F (-40°C to +85°C)
- Operating Humidity: 5 to 95% non-condensing relative humidity

Mobile Data Collection Software Requirements

Basic Functions

- The software must be a dialog-based, intuitive, easy-to-use meter reading application.
- After the meter reader starts the reading process, the software must automatically collect the meter reading data received from the radio receiver unit. The software should capture all readings for any routes loaded without having to select the route for reading.
- The software should have an option to wirelessly synchronize meter reading routes and reading data with the host software in real-time or on-demand.
- The software shall be touchscreen friendly and operate on Android or iOS devices.
- Unit must be capable of optimizing the memory storage space by filtering out duplicate readings from the same MIU and keeping only the last reading received.
- Each reading record must contain an MIU ID and a time stamp of the reading.
- The software must be capable of performing high/low test on readings.
- The software must provide a progress bar that provides route reading status for individual as well as all routes combined.
- The software must support retrieval and graphing of 96 days of data logging intervals from the MIU.
- The software must contain a test mode used to validate MIU installation. The test mode must provide MIU ID reading, as well as flag status.
- The software must have an option to geocode meter reading routes by address.
- The software must allow a manual reading to be entered into the account record.
- The software must allow freeform notes to be entered to record conditions in the field that require noting and may require an additional work order created to address at a later date.
- The software must have a GIS mapping option compatible with ESRI ArcGIS.
- The software must have advanced filtering to allow the user to view route mapping data by conditions such as flag type/status, audit status, and read status.
- The software must be capable of displaying meter points and read success and unread accounts via GIS mapping interface. The software must be capable of collecting the following information for the host to generate reports; leak detection, tamper detection, and backflow conditions.
- The software must allow for GPS location tracking of the meter reading vehicle.
- The software must allow for GPS breadcrumb tracking of the meter reading vehicle during the route reading process.

Mobile Data Collection Device Performance Requirements

- The magnet mount antenna must be omni-directional and support a gain of 5 dB minimum.
- The receiver utilized must operate with a minimum sensitivity of greater than 110 dBm.
- The receiver module must process at minimum 72 discreet channels across a 10 MHz bandwidth utilizing a digital signal processor capable of capturing eight-meter readings simultaneously from these channels.
- The receiver module must operate with a dynamic range of greater than or equal to 100 dB with a message success rate greater than 50%.
- The mobile data collection device must be able to maintain a minimum sustained processing rate of 70 unique meter reading accounts per second.
- The mobile data collection device must reject a minimum 45 dB of noise energy above the target message in adjacent channels.
- The mobile data collection device must operate effectively at posted speed limits.

Fixed Network Compatibility

Basic Requirements

- The fixed network functionality must be able to operate in parallel with other meter reading technologies such as walk-by, handheld, and mobile systems and utilize a common interface to the CIS/billing software system. The fixed network functionality must also support the migration of technologies (example: handheld to mobile, mobile to fixed network).
- The fixed network functionality is comprised of two major components; data collection software and fixed network data collection units.
- The fixed network functionality must be capable of automatically retrieving reading information from the same MIUs being read by walk-by and mobile data collection devices to manage customer account and meter reading data, to provide usage analysis, and to provide a flexible host interface to utility's CIS system.
- The fixed network functionality must be capable of retrieving consumption information from MIUs via walk-by, mobile drive-by, and fixed network data collection without the need for mode changes or reprogramming.
- The host software must be capable of storing meter readings with the capability to store up to 96 readings per day per meter. The host software must also provide meter reading management reports, usage analysis reports (flow profiling, leak detection, tamper detection, and reverse flow conditions), off-cycle reads, and system management diagnostics. Must provide comprehensive coverage for all selected strategic commercial and industrial customers, including indoor, outside, and in pits/vaults, utilizing a single or hybrid technology solution. The network architecture should provide scalability and adequate bandwidth to provide hourly reading requirements.
- The WAN architecture must be flexible to allow communications via common public communication networks such as CDMA, GSM, and LTE cellular systems.
- The fixed network functionality must utilize an unlicensed radio frequency band for LAN communications.
- Network management tools must be available to properly monitor the performance of the system to ensure reliable data delivery to utility for all billing and/or other customer service applications.
- Both the fixed network WAN and host software shall remain the property of utility. All costs associated with the ongoing operation of the system will be the responsibility of utility.
- Utility shall be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the fixed network infrastructure.

Hardware Requirements

- Fixed network data collection must support flexible installation configurations for rooftop, pole, and wall installations.
- The fixed network data collection units must utilize a 50-channel, software-defined radio (SDR) capable of processing up to 360 readings per second and eight (8) readings simultaneously. The fixed network data collector must support a web service connection to the host software.
- The fixed network data collection units must provide USB flash drive data retrieval in the event of a backhaul outage. All data stored to the USB flash drive must be encrypted via AES128.
- The fixed network collector shall utilize an SD card for flash memory storage.
- The fixed network shall encrypt all stored reading files via AES128.
- The fixed network data collection units with AC power must have an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) capable of powering the data collector for eight (8) hours in the event of a power outage.
- The fixed network data collection units must support the following backhaul options:
 - EVDO Rev A (CDMA)
 - UMTS/HSPA (GSM)
 - 4G LTE
 - Fiber
 - Ethernet
- The data collection units shall consist of the following:
 - NEMA 4X enclosure
 - 100-140V power supply with UPS or solar cell with battery backup
 - LAN: Receiver shall support unlicensed communication protocol from MIUs and comply with FCC part 15.247
 - WAN: Multi-carrier cellular modem or Ethernet
- Must be able to provide a minimum daily meter reading resolution.
- Must be able to store a minimum of seven (7) days of data in the fixed network data collector.
- The data collection unit must meet the following environmental operating requirements:
 - Temperature range: -20° F to +140° F (-30° C to +60° C)
 - Humidity: 0 to 95% non-condensing inside enclosure

AMI & AMR Utility Software Application Overview

The utility application must provide all the controls needed in the network for the essential functions of the metering data output received from the communication with field collection devices. The application must present this data within an intuitive user interface that is easy to interpret and understand. It must integrate seamlessly with other third-party applications the utility utilizes such as CIS/billing software applications and work order management systems. It must provide Customers with a convenient, proactive consumer portal to monitor their own water consumption 24/7.

Basic Functionality For AMR & AMI

- The utility application shall have the capability of interfacing with the utility's CIS/billing software through a file layout that meets the specifications provided by the systems vendor.
- The application must have a method to import and export files for billing processes.
- A method must be available for a user to specify the routes to be exported and for transferring files from the application to the billing system.
- The application must be accessible through an internet web browser for accessibility anywhere.
- The utility application must operate within a Microsoft Windows platform and is hosted by the systems vendor.
- A geographical view of metering assets shall be available within the user interface.
- The utility application must allow Mobile AMR and AMI networks metering processes to be run in parallel within a single user interface.
- Graphical presentation of consumption data must be viewable within the user interface.
- The application must have a method to display individual account consumption based on meter size, meter type and unit of measure.
- Multiple levels of user security access must be available within the utility application.
- A method to search for records matching an MIU ID, Account, Name, or Address must be available within the application.
- The application must support meter readings (4-8 digits) and MIU ID numbers up to 10 digits.
- All metering output data, such as leaks and reverse flow indications, shall be viewable within the application. Granular reporting shall be available that defines all accounts that have triggered the event.
- The utility application shall display the top 10 consumers with the highest consumption within the user interface. A method to view additional high usage consumers should be available.
- Reading performance reports and usage analysis capabilities shall be available within the utility application.
- All available reports shall be exportable to Microsoft Excel or PDF formats.
- The utility application shall present to the user the number of successful, unsuccessful and invalid readings.

AMI Network Software Functionality

- The application must have the capability to store all meter data information obtained from the AMI Data Collection Devices.
- The application must provide system critical alarms, such as reverse flow and potential continuous consumption, in a statistical view within the utility application and provide notification to utility personnel.
- The utility application shall have a method to clone a specific AMI collection device for a replacement device when required.
- The application must have the capability to monitor MIUs that have transmitted for the first time to identify reading success.
- Monthly, daily and hourly consumption shall be viewable within the user interface in a tabular and graphical data presentment.
- Daily and hourly readings shall be viewable within the user interface in a tabular format.

Mobile AMR System Functionality

The cloud platform must provide the capabilities of collecting metering data from the Mobile AMR collection devices and present the data in a user-friendly view for consumption by utility users.

The following functionality shall be provided within the software:

- The utility application must have a method to view, load, and make route assignments for meter readers.
- A method of loading routes to handheld, mobile drive-by handheld, cellular phones and tablet devices shall be viewable within the application.
- The application shall provide a method of data transfer to the mobile drive-by device and accept data from the device.
- The application shall manage the routes that are loaded into the data collection device.
- The application shall have a method to communicate wirelessly to handheld, cellular phones or tablet devices.
- The utility application shall have a method to split routes by collection method or into equal parts for managing meter reading load activities.

Mobile Application Device Compatibility

- The mobile application shall contain a method of completing meter reading tasks via an Android or an iOS mobile phone or tablet device.
- The mobile application shall contain a method to provide data log capabilities via a mobile phone or tablet device.
- When using a mobile device for meter reading, the software platform shall provide a method of real-time synchronization for loading and unloading routes on the device.
- The mobile application shall have a method to data log a meter endpoint, and it shall include graphical and tabular views that include any meter output such as leaks and reverse flow indications.

Software-as-a-Service (SaaS)

The utility requires a vendor that is responsible for ownership of the software and all associated hardware to operate the software. The utility shall only be responsible for the computers or laptops needed to access the applications via a web browser. The City shall maintain ownership of all data received by the AMR system or the AMI network and shall be provided online access to all data during an active subscription. In the event the subscription terminates, the vendor shall provide the data to the utility in an agreed upon media format.

The vendor shall provide the following services to the utility during the subscription:

- The SaaS vendor must have a minimum of two years' experience providing hosting services within the water utility space.
- The SaaS subscription must cover all software patches, operating system updates, security and network monitoring, and platform preventive maintenance.
- The vendor shall provide the utility with a service level agreement that meets 99% application availability during business hours of operation, excluding corporate holidays.
- A disaster recovery plan for any failures at the managed services center to ensure continuity of the utility's data and continued access that meets agreed upon contract SLAs shall be provided by the SaaS vendor.
- The SaaS vendor must have a data backup strategy and process.

- A method of communicating or alerting the utility in the event of system failure or downtime must be provided by the vendor.
- The vendor shall have security and monitoring services in place that ensures the privacy and security of the utility's data.
- The vendor shall ensure that the data and all redundant data is housed in the country in which the utility resides.
- All data in transit to the cloud must be encrypted.

Training and Support

An approved, detailed training plan must be developed by the vendor with approval by the utility based on results of pre-implementation meetings. The following are items to be determined during these meetings:

- Identify the training personnel and the employees to be trained.
- Identify training schedules for hardware, software, and complete system products.
- Define acceptance criteria for system deployment.

The vendor shall be responsible for fully training utility personnel in the system mapping, deployment planning, and installation of all end-point hardware and reading systems.

Support Services

The vendor shall have a customer support department. The customer support department is required to maintain a telephone help desk and must have the capability of continuing the support through the use of a service agreement. A list of required services to be provided by the help desk includes but is not limited to the following:

- Answer and resolve hardware/operation/maintenance questions and problems.
- Answer and resolve software operation questions and problems.
- Evaluate information for updates or revisions.
- Evaluate personnel for training needs.
- Perform additional on-site training or evaluation as needed.

The help desk must be available weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. EST with after-hours numbers available as needed.

Installation and Training

Complete installation and operating instructions will be included for all supplied hardware and software equipment. The training must be supplied by the System manufacturer or approved VAR. Proposal must include any additional costs for training and assistance to install and begin operation of the System. The vendor will also inform the customer of what pre-installation activities are to be completed and what support material will be needed for all hardware installation.

Performance Warranties

In evaluating bid submittals, warranty coverage will be considered. The vendor shall be required to state its warranty and/or guarantee policy in writing with respect to each item of proposed equipment. The procedure for submitting warranty claims must also be provided.

System Maintenance Support

In addition to warranty periods, vendors are required to supply information on required or optional maintenance programs beyond the warranty period for both hardware and software.

Vendor must offer multiple-year maintenance contracts, so utility can take advantage of multi-year discounts.

The location of and procedures for obtaining such support shall be stated. A toll-free help desk number must be provided for system support.

Vendor Qualifications

The qualified vendor will have a minimum of thirty (30) years of experience with meter reading systems. The selected vendor shall be thoroughly versed in encoder meter and RF AMR/AMI technology and be a major supplier in the marketplace. The proposed System shall be manufactured and maintained by the selected vendor or an equity partner.

All vendors shall document which water meter manufacturers and models with which they are capable of interrogating with the proposed meter reading equipment. A customer reference list shall be enclosed with the proposal.

5.0 - Insurance

The vendor shall maintain and keep in force such comprehensive general liability insurance as shall protect them from claims which may arise from operations under any contract entered into with the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB, whether such operations be by themselves or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by them.

The amounts of insurance shall not be less than \$1,000,000.00 combined single limit for any one occurrence covering both bodily injury and property damage, including accidental death.

The City of Pawtucket and the PWSB shall be named as additional insured on the vendor's General Liability Policy.

The vendor shall maintain and keep in force such workers' compensation insurance limits as required by the statutes of the State of Rhode Island, and Employer's Liability with limits no less than \$500,000.00.

6.0 - Acknowledgement of Risk & Hold Harmless Agreement

In addition to the indemnity provisions in the City of Pawtucket's Terms and Conditions of Purchase and to the fullest extent permitted by law, the selected vendor, its officers, agents, servants, employees, parents, subsidiaries, partners, officers, directors, attorneys, insurers, and/or affiliates (Releasors) agree to release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB, its officers, agents, servants or employees (Releasees) from any and all liability, claims, cross-claims, rights in law or in equity, agreements, promises demands, actions and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or related to any loss, damage, expenses (including without limitation, all legal fees, expenses, interest and penalties) or injury (including death), of any type, kind or nature whatsoever, whether based in contract, tort, warranty, or other legal, statutory, or equitable theory of recovery, which relate to or arise out of the Releasors use of or presence in and/or on City of Pawtucket property. The Releasors agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from (a) any and all claims, loss, liability, damages or costs by any person, firm, corporation or other entity claiming by, through or under Releasors in any capacity whatsoever, including all subrogation claims and/or claims for reimbursement, including any court costs and attorney's fees, that may incur due to Releasors use of or presence in and on City of Pawtucket property; and (b) any and all legal actions, including third-party actions, cross-actions, and/or claims for contribution and/or indemnity with respect to any claims by any other persons, entities, parties, which relate to or arise out of Releasors use of or presence in and on City of Pawtucket property.

The Releasors acknowledge the risks that may be involved and hazards connected with use of or presence in and on City of Pawtucket property but elect to provide services under any contract with the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB with full knowledge of such risks. Releasors also acknowledge that any loss, damage, and/or injury sustained by Releasors is not covered by Releasees insurance. Releasors agree to become fully aware of any safety risks involved with the performance of services under any contract with the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB and any safety precautions that need to be followed and agree to take all such precautions.

The duty to indemnify and/or hold harmless the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB shall not be limited by the insurance required under the City of Pawtucket Terms and Conditions of Purchase.

7.0 - Additional Insurance Requirements

In addition to the insurance provisions in the City of Pawtucket Terms and Conditions of Purchase, the liability insurance coverage, except Professional Liability, Errors and Omissions or Workers' Compensation insurance required for performance of a contract with the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB shall include the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB, its divisions, officers and employees as Additional Insureds but only with respect to the selected vendor's activities under the contract. The insurance required through a policy or endorsement shall include:

- A. a Waiver of Subrogation waiving any right to recovery the insurance company may have against the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB; and
- B. a provision that the selected vendor's insurance coverage shall be primary with respect to any insurance, self-insurance or self-retention maintained by the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB and that any insurance, self-insurance or self-retention maintained by the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB shall be in excess of the selected vendor's insurance and shall not contribute.

There shall be no cancellation, material change, potential exhaustion of aggregate limits or non-renewal without thirty (30) days written notice from the selected vendor or its insurer(s) to the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent. Any failure to comply with the reporting provision of this clause shall be grounds for immediate termination of the contract with the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB.

Insurance coverage required under the contract shall be obtained from insurance companies acceptable to the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB. The selected vendor shall pay for all deductibles, self-insured retentions and/or self-insurance included hereunder.

The City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent reserves the right to consider and accept alternative forms and plans of insurance or to require additional or more extensive coverage for any individual requirement.

8.0 - Proposal Content and Organization

Pricing must include all costs as specified in this solicitation. Pricing for this proposal must be indicated on the Bid Form in Section 11.0 and must be submitted in a separate, sealed envelope marked with the words "Pricing Proposal".

All Bid Forms must be signed.

Vendors must include on the Bid Form a list of at least four (4) references with whom they have contracted to do similar work by including the company name, telephone number, contact person, and number of years they have served this customer. Preferably, references should be municipalities which are of approximate size as the City of Pawtucket, and a website address should be included if available.

Respondents must also include an overview of their company's experience including, but not limited to, the number of years the company has been providing these services, the size of the company (including the number of employees and locations), a description of work undertaken that is similar to what is being requested in this Sealed Bid, and, if applicable, certifications that show a knowledge of equipment that would be serviced or provided under this contract.

If any subcontractors are to be used in the performance of any work contracted for under this Sealed Bid, please list their name(s), contractor license #, address and phone number, and specific description of the subcontract work to be performed.

Two (2) copies of your proposal, one (1) original and one (1) copy, must be submitted at the time of submission. Proposals must be comprised of the following:

- Bid Form
- MBE/DBE Forms
- Anti-Kickback Acknowledgment (Appendix A)

Please state any and all additions, deletions, and exceptions, if any, that you are taking to any portion of this proposal. If not addressed specifically, the City of Pawtucket assumes that the vendor will adhere to all terms and conditions listed in this Sealed Bid.

Submission of a proposal is acknowledgement and acceptance of the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Rules and Regulations and General Terms and Conditions of Purchase.

9.0 - Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation of proposals will be conducted in a time frame convenient to the City.

The City of Pawtucket reserves the right to award on the basis of cost alone, accept or reject any or all proposals, and to otherwise act in its best interest including, but not limited to, directly negotiating with any Supplier who submits a proposal in response to this Sealed Bid and to award a contract based upon the results of those negotiations alone. Further, the City reserves the right to waive irregularities it may deem minor in its consideration of proposals.

Proposals found to be technically or substantially non-responsive at any point in the evaluation process will be rejected and not considered further. The City of Pawtucket may elect to require presentation(s) by vendors in consideration for award.

Proposals will be evaluated in three (3) phases:

1. The first phase is an initial review to determine if the proposal, as submitted, is complete. To be complete, a proposal must meet all the requirements of this RFP.
2. The second phase is to check all of the references as provided by the vendor.
3. The third is a comparison of each bidder's references relative to the costs proposed.

Evaluation Criteria	Importance
Cost	80%
References & Experience	20%

In the event that the City requires further information and/or a demonstration of any equipment or process offered in any proposal, all vendors asked for same will do so at no cost to the City.

10.0 - Miscellaneous

Vendors shall at all times comply with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances and regulations and shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the City of Pawtucket against any claims arising from the violation of any such laws, ordinances and regulations, including but not limited to challenges as to the legality of any and all vendor installations.

The City is exempt from the payment of the Rhode Island State Sales Tax under the 1956 General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 44-18-30, Paragraph 1, as amended. Further, the City is also exempt from the payment of any excise or federal transportation taxes. The proposal prices submitted must be exclusive of same and will be so construed.

The City of Pawtucket reserves the right to cancel an agreement with the Vendor with thirty (30) days written notice and to award the contract to the next highest evaluated bidder.

The City of Pawtucket reserves the right to renegotiate the terms of this contract with the Vendor for subsequent years provided the Vendor agrees to the contract terms for the renewal period.

The payment and performance of any obligations under this contract for years beyond the first fiscal year are subject to the availability of funds.

The words "City of Pawtucket" when used, shall also mean the Pawtucket Water Supply Board acting through its Chairman.

11.0 – Bid Form and Specifications

FURNISHING WATER METERS AND APPURTENANCES

The Pawtucket Water Supply Board (PWSB) is soliciting bids for the furnishing of Ultrasonic Water Meters, Appurtenances and an Automatic Meter Reading & Infrastructure (AMR & AMI) System. Several shipments may, therefore, be required during the course of the contract. The bidder agrees that all materials shall be shipped as ordered and shall be delivered to the Pawtucket Water Supply Board meter stock room or other location as directed by PWSB as soon as possible after an itemized order is placed. Complete delivery of all items ordered at various times must be made within 30 days of the order unless a longer lead time is noted for specific items on the bid sheet. At least 24 hours advance notice shall be provided prior to making any delivery. No delivery will be accepted before 7:30 A.M. nor after 3:00 P.M.

The undersigned hereby proposes to furnish the materials, equipment and services listed in the Proposal for the unit prices indicated and in accordance with the attached specifications. The unit prices will include all charges such as freight, unloading, etc. Material quantities as listed are estimates only and the actual quantity of materials ordered may vary from the stated quantities. The bidder further agrees that, if awarded the contract, the unit prices offered in this Proposal shall remain valid through December 31, 2024. Materials may be ordered at any time during this period at the unit prices shown in the bid. Certain items may not be ordered at all. Upon mutual agreement of both parties, the contract may be extended for not more than one (1) additional year with no change in unit prices.

To be eligible for consideration, Bidder must quote on EACH AND EVERY ITEM and complete the “Anti-Kickback Acknowledgment” form attached (APPENDIX A) to this document.

Payment will be made for the total quantity of materials delivered at the unit prices stipulated in the Proposal. Payment will be made only after all items to be supplied on each order or partial order as requested by the PWSB are delivered.

23-045: Water Meters, AMI and Appurtenances

BID PROPOSAL

(All blanks on this form must be completed in ink or typewritten)

Bidder acknowledges receipt of the following addenda:

Name of Bidder (Type or Print)

Signature

Title

Company

Address

Telephone Number and Extension

The bidder understands that the Pawtucket Water Supply Board reserves the right to determine equivalent proposals, reject any or all bids and to award contracts which will be in the best interest of the Pawtucket Water Supply Board.

A. Bidder proposes to furnish water meters and appurtenances in accordance with the Contract Documents at the following prices:

Item	Description	Estimated Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Price
1.	5/8" Water Meter	22,050	\$	\$
2.	3/4" Water Meter	300	\$	\$
3.	1" Water Meter	560	\$	\$
4.	1-1/2" Water Meter	215	\$	\$
5.	2" Water Meter	375	\$	\$
6.	RF Meter Interface Unit – Wall Mount	23,000	\$	\$
7.	1-1/2" Flange Kits with Gaskets	200	\$	\$
8.	2" Flange Kits with Gaskets	350	\$	\$
9.	1-1/2" Flange/FIP Meter Flange Coupling	200	\$	\$
10.	2" Flange/FIP Meter Flange Coupling	350	\$	\$
	SUBTOTAL for Meters and Appurtenances (Sum of Items 1 – 10)			\$

B. Bidder proposes to furnish and install an Automatic Meter Reading/Infrastructure System in accordance with the Contract Documents at the following prices:

Item	Description	Estimated Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Price
11.	AMR & AMI System (Includes all hardware, software, installation, programming, support during system integration and five-year warranty period)	Lump Sum	\$	\$
12.	Handheld Data Collector Device	4	\$	\$
13.	Mobile Data Collection Device	4	\$	\$
14.	Training (hours)	80	\$	\$
	SUBTOTAL for AMR & AMI System (Sum of Items 11 – 14)			\$

C. The Total Contract Price is equal to the sum of the Subtotals of Part A and B of the Bid Proposal as shown above:

_____dollars (\$_____)

D. Optional Price for Annual Maintenance Program:

_____dollars (\$_____)

E. Optional Price for Multi-year Maintenance Program:

_____dollars (\$_____)

References

Please list at least four (4) companies with whom you have contracted to provide similar services. Preferably, references should be municipalities which are of approximate size as the City of Pawtucket, and a website/e-mail address should be included if available. Also please include the contract amount and the size/nature of the work performed by your company.

Reference #1

Company/Municipality Name: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone #: _____

Website / E-mail Address: _____

Contract Dates: _____ To _____

Contract Amount (\$): _____

Nature and Size of Contract Work: _____

Reference # 2

Company/Municipality Name: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone #: _____

Website / E-mail Address: _____

Contract Dates: _____ To _____

Contract Amount (\$): _____

Nature and Size of Contract Work: _____

Reference # 3

Company/Municipality Name: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone #: _____

Website / E-mail Address: _____

Contract Dates: _____ To _____

Contract Amount (\$): _____

Nature and Size of Contract Work: _____

Reference # 4

Company/Municipality Name: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone #: _____

Website / E-mail Address: _____

Contract Dates: _____ To _____

Contract Amount (\$): _____

Nature and Size of Contract Work: _____



**State of Rhode Island
 Division of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (DEDI)
 Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office
 Minority Business Enterprise Utilization Plan**

Company Name: _____

Representative's Name who administers MBE Program: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____ Project Location: _____

Bid or Project #: _____ Date Bid Opened: _____

Description of Work: _____

Contract Value: _____ MBE % Assigned: _____

Total # of All Subcontractors/Suppliers used: _____ # of MBE Subcontractors/Suppliers used: _____

List All Subcontractors/Suppliers/Consultants/Independent Contractors – Total Dollar Amounts – Scope of Work:

Subcontractor / Supplier	Dollar Award	Scope/Description of Work	RI Certified M/WBE Yes/No

Please note that all MBE/WBE firms must be certified by the RI MBE Compliance Office, and that MBE/WBE firms must self-perform 100% of the work with their own forces or subcontract to another RI certified MBE/WBE in order to receive participation credit. Vendors may count 60% of expenditures for materials and supplies obtained from an MBE certified as a regular dealer/supplier, and 100% of such expenditures obtained from an MBE/WBE certified as a manufacturer. For firms certified as a broker, you may receive MBE participation credit only for the fees and commissions charged for the procurement of the good and materials, but not the cost of the materials themselves.

The above referenced contract will not be released until this plan has been approved by the Director of the Department of Administration or its designee.

For assistance and advice in identifying MBE/WBE firms, please call the Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office at (401) 574-8253. The directory of all certified MBE firms is also located at www.mbe.ri.gov.

Signature of Authorized Agent of Business: _____ Date: _____

Send Completed Form to:
Kate Constance Brody, Esq. Administrator – MBE Compliance Office
Division of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (DEDI)
Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office
One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor
Providence, RI 02908
Phone: (401) 574-8670
Kate.Brody@doa.ri.gov

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program
DBE Subcontractor Participation Form**

An EPA Financial Assistance Agreement Recipient must require its prime contractors to provide this form to its DBE subcontractors. This form gives a DBE¹ subcontractor² the opportunity to describe work received and/or report any concerns regarding the EPA-funded project (e.g., in areas such as termination by prime contractor, late payments, etc.). The DBE subcontractor can, as an option, complete and submit this form to the EPA DBE Coordinator at any time during the project period of performance.

Subcontractor Name		Project Name	
Bid/ Proposal No.	Assistance Agreement ID No. (if known)	Point of Contact	
Address			
Telephone No.		Email Address	
Prime Contractor Name		Issuing/Funding Entity:	

Contract Item Number	Description of Work Received from the Prime Contractor Involving Construction, Services, Equipment or Supplies	Amount Received by Prime Contractor

¹ A DBE is a Disadvantaged, Minority, or Woman Business Enterprise that has been certified by an entity from which EPA accepts certifications as described in 40 CFR 33.204-33.205 or certified by EPA. EPA accepts certifications from entities that meet or exceed EPA certification standards as described in 40 CFR 33.202.

² Subcontractor is defined as a company, firm, joint venture, or individual who enters into an agreement with a contractor to provide services pursuant to an EPA award of financial assistance.

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program
DBE Subcontractor Performance Form**

This form is intended to capture the DBE¹ subcontractor's² description of work to be performed and the price of the work submitted to the prime contractor. An EPA Financial Assistance Agreement Recipient must require its prime contractor to have its DBE subcontractors complete this form and include all completed forms in the prime contractors bid or proposal package.

Subcontractor Name		Project Name	
Bid/ Proposal No.	Assistance Agreement ID No. (if known)	Point of Contact	
Address			
Telephone No.		Email Address	
Prime Contractor Name		Issuing/Funding Entity:	

Contract Item Number	Description of Work Submitted to the Prime Contractor Involving Construction, Services, Equipment or Supplies	Price of Work Submitted to the Prime Contractor
DBE Certified By: <input type="checkbox"/> DOT <input type="checkbox"/> SBA <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		Meets/ exceeds EPA certification standards? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown

¹ A DBE is a Disadvantaged, Minority, or Woman Business Enterprise that has been certified by an entity from which EPA accepts certifications as described in 40 CFR 33.204-33.205 or certified by EPA. EPA accepts certifications from entities that meet or exceed EPA certification standards as described in 40 CFR 33.202.

² Subcontractor is defined as a company, firm, joint venture, or individual who enters into an agreement with a contractor to provide services pursuant to an EPA award of financial assistance.

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program
DBE Subcontractor Performance Form**

I certify under penalty of perjury that the forgoing statements are true and correct. Signing this form does not signify a commitment to utilize the subcontractors above. I am aware of that in the event of a replacement of a subcontractor, I will adhere to the replacement requirements set forth in 40 CFR Part 33 Section 33.302 (c).

Prime Contractor Signature	Print Name
Title	Date

Subcontractor Signature	Print Name
Title	Date

The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average three (3) hours per response. Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the Director, Collection Strategies Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2822T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program
DBE Subcontractor Utilization Form**

This form is intended to capture the prime contractor's actual and/or anticipated use of identified certified DBE¹ subcontractors² and the estimated dollar amount of each subcontract. An EPA Financial Assistance Agreement Recipient must require its prime contractors to complete this form and include it in the bid or proposal package. Prime contractors should also maintain a copy of this form on file.

Prime Contractor Name		Project Name	
Bid/ Proposal No.	Assistance Agreement ID No. (if known)	Point of Contact	
Address			
Telephone No.		Email Address	
Issuing/Funding Entity:			

I have identified potential DBE certified subcontractors	__ YES	__ NO	
If yes, please complete the table below. If no, please explain:			
Subcontractor Name/ Company Name	Company Address/ Phone/ Email	Est. Dollar Amt	Currently DBE Certified?

Continue on back if needed

¹ A DBE is a Disadvantaged, Minority, or Woman Business Enterprise that has been certified by an entity from which EPA accepts certifications as described in 40 CFR 33.204-33.205 or certified by EPA. EPA accepts certifications from entities that meet or exceed EPA certification standards as described in 40 CFR 33.202.

² Subcontractor is defined as a company, firm, joint venture, or individual who enters into an agreement with a contractor to provide services pursuant to an EPA award of financial assistance.

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program
DBE Subcontractor Utilization Form**

I certify under penalty of perjury that the forgoing statements are true and correct. Signing this form does not signify a commitment to utilize the subcontractors above. I am aware of that in the event of a replacement of a subcontractor, I will adhere to the replacement requirements set forth in 40 CFR Part 33 Section 33.302 (c).

Prime Contractor Signature	Print Name
Title	Date

The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average three (3) hours per response. Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the Director, Collection Strategies Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2822T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.

**Office of Diversity, Equity and Opportunity (ODEO)
 MBE Compliance Office
 1 Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor
 Providence, RI 02908**

(401) 574-8670
www.mbe.ri.gov

Pursuant to RIGL 37-14.1 as well as the regulations promulgated thereto, the MBE Compliance Office requires that you complete the following table. Please note that these figures will be verified with the MBEs identified. If there are outstanding issues, such as retainage or a dispute, please indicate and attach supporting documentation for same. Also note that copies of invoice and cancelled checks for payment to all MBE subcontractors and suppliers are required.

Contractor/Vendor Name: _____ **Current Prime Contract Amount:** \$ _____ **% Complete:** _____
Project Name & Location: _____

MBE/WBE Subcontractor	Original Contract Amount	Change Orders	Revised Contract Value	% Completed To Date	Amount Paid To Date	Amount Due	Retainage %	Retainage Amount	Explanation

I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the information provided in this verification form and supporting documents is true and correct.

 Signature Date

 Printed Name

Notary Certificate:

Sworn before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

 Notary Signature Commission Expires

DEBARMENT & SUSPENSION

Executive Order 12549--Debarment and Suspension

Source: The provisions of Executive Order 12549 of Feb. 18, 1986, appear at 51 FR 6370, 3 CFR, 1986 Comp., p. 189, unless otherwise noted.

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, and in order to curb fraud, waste, and abuse in Federal programs, increase agency accountability, and ensure consistency among agency regulations concerning debarment and suspension of participants in Federal programs, it is hereby ordered that:

Section 1. (a) To the extent permitted by law and subject to the limitations in Section 1(c), Executive departments and agencies shall participate in a system for debarment and suspension from programs and activities involving Federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits. Debarment or suspension of a participant in a program by one agency shall have government-wide effect.

(b) Activities covered by this Order include but are not limited to: grants, cooperative agreements, contracts of assistance, loans, and loan guarantees.

(c) This Order does not cover procurement programs and activities, direct Federal statutory entitlements or mandatory awards, direct awards to foreign governments or public international organizations, benefits to an individual as a personal entitlement, or Federal employment.

Sec. 2. To the extent permitted by law, Executive departments and agencies shall:

(a) Follow government-wide criteria and government-wide minimum due process procedures when they act to debar or suspend participants in affected programs.

(b) Send to the agency designated pursuant to Section 5 identifying information concerning debarred and suspended participants in affected programs, participants who have agreed to exclusion from participation, and participants declared ineligible under applicable law, including Executive Orders. This information shall be included in the list to be maintained pursuant to Section 5.

(c) Not allow a party to participate in any affected program if any Executive department or agency has debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded (to the extent specified in the exclusion agreement) that party from participation in an affected program. An agency may grant an exception permitting a debarred, suspended, or excluded party to participate in a particular transaction upon a written determination by the agency head or authorized designee stating the reason(s) for deviating from this Presidential policy. However, I intend that exceptions to this policy should be granted only infrequently.

Sec. 3. Executive departments and agencies shall issue regulations governing their implementation of this Order that shall be consistent with the guidelines issued under Section 6. Proposed regulations shall be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for review within four months of the date of the guidelines issued under Section 6. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget may return for reconsideration proposed regulations that the Director believes are inconsistent with the guidelines. Final regulations shall be published within twelve months of the date of the guidelines.

Sec. 4. There is hereby constituted the Interagency Committee on Debarment and Suspension, which shall monitor implementation of this Order. The Committee shall consist of representatives of agencies designated by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sec. 5. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall designate a Federal agency to perform the following functions: maintain a current list of all individuals and organizations excluded from program participation under this Order, periodically distribute the list to Federal agencies, and study the feasibility of automating the list; coordinate with the lead agency responsible for government-wide debarment and suspension of contractors; chair the Interagency Committee established by Section 4; and report periodically to the Director on implementation of this Order, with the first report due within two years of the date of the Order.

Sec. 6. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget is authorized to issue guidelines to Executive departments and agencies that govern which programs and activities are covered by this Order, prescribe government-wide criteria and government-wide minimum due process procedures, and set forth other related details for the effective administration of the guidelines.

Sec. 7. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall report to the President within three years of the date of this Order on Federal agency compliance with the Order, including the number of exceptions made under Section 2(c), and shall make recommendations as are appropriate further to curb fraud, waste, and abuse.

Implementation in the SRF Programs

A company or individual who is debarred or suspended cannot participate in primary and lower-tiered covered transactions. These transactions include SRF loans and contracts and subcontracts awarded with SRF loan funds.

Under 40 C.F.R. 32.510, the SRF agency must submit a certification stating that it shall not knowingly enter into any transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in the SRF program. This certification is reviewed by the EPA regional office before the capitalization grant is awarded.

A recipient of SRF assistance directly made available by capitalization grants must provide a certification that it will not knowingly enter into a contract with anyone who is ineligible under the regulations to participate in the project. Contractors on the project have to provide a similar certification prior to the award of a contract and subcontractors on the project have to provide the general contractor with the certification prior to the award of any subcontract.

In addition to actions taken under 40 C.F.R. Part 32, there are a wide range of other sanctions that can render a party ineligible to participate in the SRF program. Lists of debarred, suspended and otherwise ineligible parties are maintained by the General Services Administration and should be checked by the SRF agency and all recipients of funds directly made available by capitalization grants to ensure the accuracy of certifications.

Additional References

C 40 C.F.R. Part 32: EPA Regulations on Debarment and Suspension.

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT & SUSPENSION
AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS**

In accordance with the Executive Order 12549, the prospective primary participant certifies to the best of his / her knowledge and belief, that its principals:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency;
- b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offence in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- c. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1) (b) of this certification.
- d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this application / proposal had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause of default.
- e. Acknowledge that all sub-contractors selected for this project must be in compliance with paragraphs (1) (a – d) of this certification.

Name and Title of Authorized Agent

Date

Signature of Authorized Agent

Company Name

_____ I am unable to certify to the above statements. My explanation is attached.

Appendix A

ANTI-KICKBACK ACKNOWLEDGMENT

ALL BIDDERS/OFFERORS MUST ATTEST TO THE FOLLOWING:

The vendor acknowledges, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that he/she has not been offered, paid, or solicited for any contribution or compensation, nor has he/she been granted a gift, gratuity, or other consideration, either directly or indirectly by any officer, employee or member of the governing body of the City of Pawtucket who exercises any functions or responsibilities in connection with either the award or execution of the project to which this contract pertains.

Further, the vendor acknowledges, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that he/she has not offered, paid, or solicited by way of any contribution or compensation, nor has he/she granted a gift, gratuity or other consideration either directly or indirectly to any officer, employee, or member of the governing body of the City of Pawtucket who exercises any functions or responsibilities in connection with either the award or execution of the project to which this project or contract pertains.

SIGNATURE OF OFFEROR

DATE

TITLE

COMPANY

Title of RFP or Bid:

23-045: Water Meters, AMI and Appurtenances

Appendix B

CITY OF PAWTUCKET GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PURCHASE

Preamble

The City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Office may, from time to time, make amendments to the General Terms and Conditions when the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent determines that such amendments are in the best interest of the City of Pawtucket. Amendments shall be made available for public inspection at the Purchasing Office located in Pawtucket City Hall but shall not require formal public notice and hearing. Copies of the Terms and Conditions shall be provided to any individual or firm requesting them. The words "City of Pawtucket" when used, shall also mean the Pawtucket Water Supply Board acting through its Chairman.

CITY OF PAWTUCKET'S PURCHASING OFFICE GENERAL CONDITIONS OF PURCHASE

All City of Pawtucket purchase orders, contracts, solicitations, delivery orders and service requests shall incorporate and be subject to the provisions of Rhode Island General Laws 8-15-4 and the City of Pawtucket purchasing rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, all other applicable provisions of the Rhode Island General Laws, the Pawtucket City Charter, specific requirements described in the Request or Contract, and the following General Conditions of Purchase:

a. GENERAL

All purchase orders, contracts, solicitations, delivery orders, and service requests are for specified goods and services, in accordance with express terms and conditions of purchase, as defined herein. For the purposes of this document, the terms "bidder" and "contractor" refer to any individual, firm, corporation, or other entity presenting a proposal indicating a desire to enter into contracts with the City of Pawtucket, or with whom a contract is executed by the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent, and the term "contractor" shall have the same meaning as "vendor".

b. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

The City of Pawtucket's Purchase Order, or other City of Pawtucket contract endorsed by the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Office, shall constitute the entire and exclusive agreement between the City of Pawtucket and any contractor receiving an award. In the event any conflict between the bidder's standard terms of sale, these conditions or more specific provisions contained in the solicitation shall govern. All communication between the City of Pawtucket and any contractor pertaining to any award or contract shall be accomplished in writing.

- a. Each proposal will be received with the understanding that the acceptance, in writing, by contract or Purchase Order by the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent of the offer to do work or to furnish any or all the materials, equipment, supplies or services described therein shall constitute a contract between the bidder and the City of Pawtucket. This shall bind the bidder on his part to furnish and deliver at the prices and in accordance with the conditions of said accepted proposal and detailed specifications and the City of Pawtucket on its part to order from such contractor (except in case of emergency) and to pay for at the agreed prices, all materials, equipment, supplies or services specified and delivered. A contract shall be deemed executory only to the extent of funds available for payment of the amounts shown on Purchase Orders issued by the City of Pawtucket to the contractors.
- b. No alterations or variations of the terms of the contract shall be valid or binding upon the City of Pawtucket unless submitted in writing and accepted by the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent. All orders and changes thereof must emanate from the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Office: no oral agreement or arrangement made by a contractor with a department or employee will be considered to be binding on the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent, and may be disregarded.
- c. Contracts will remain in force for the contract period specified or until all articles or services ordered before date of termination shall have been satisfactorily delivered or rendered and accepted and thereafter until all terms and conditions have been met, unless:

1. terminated prior to expiration date by satisfactory delivery against orders of entire quantities, or
 2. extended upon written authorization of the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent and accepted by the contractor, to permit ordering of the unordered balances or additional quantities at the contract price and in accordance with the contract terms, or
 3. canceled by the City of Pawtucket in accordance with other provisions stated herein.
- d. It is mutually understood and agreed that the contractor shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet or otherwise dispose of this contract or his right, title or interest therein, or his power to execute such contract, to any other person, company or corporation, without the previous consent, in writing, of the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent.
- c. If, subsequent to the submission of an offer or issuance of a purchase order or execution of a contract, the bidder or contractor shall merge with or be acquired by another entity, the contract may be terminated, except as a corporate resolution prepared by the contractor and the new entity ratifying acceptance of the original bid or contract terms, condition, and pricing is submitted to the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Office, and expressly accepted.
- f. The contractor or bidder further warrants by submission of an offer or acceptance of a purchase order or other contract that he has no knowledge at the time of such action of any outstanding and delinquent or otherwise unsettled debt owed by him to the City of Pawtucket, and agrees that later discovery by the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent that this warranty was given in spite of such knowledge, except where the matter is pending in hearing or from any appeal therefrom, shall form reasonable grounds for termination of the contract.

d. SUBCONTRACTS

No subcontracts or collateral agreements shall be permitted, except with the City of Pawtucket's express written consent. Upon request, contractors must submit to the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Office a list of all subcontractors to be employed in the performance of any Purchase Order or other contract arising from this Request.

e. RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES

The contractor or bidder warrants, by submission of an offer or acceptance of a purchase order or other contract, that he is not an employee, agent, or servant of the City of Pawtucket, and that he is fully qualified and capable in all material regards to provide the specified goods and services. Nothing herein shall be construed as creating any contractual relationship or obligation between the City of Pawtucket and any sub-bidder, subcontractor, supplier, or employee of the contractor or offeror.

5. COSTS OF PREPARATION

All costs associated with the preparation, development, or submission of bids or other offers will be borne by the offeror. The City of Pawtucket will not reimburse any offeror for such costs.

6. SPECIFIED QUANTITY REQUIREMENT

Except where expressly specified to the contrary, all solicitations and contracts are predicated on a specified quantity of goods or services, or for a specified level of funding.

- f. The City of Pawtucket reserves the right to modify the quantity, scope of service, date of delivery or completion, or funding of any contract, with no penalty or charge, by written notice to the contractor, except where alternate terms have been expressly made a part of the contract.
- g. The City of Pawtucket shall not accept quantities in excess of the specified quantity except where the item is normally sold by weight (where sold by weight, the City of Pawtucket will not accept quantities greater than ten per cent [10%] of the specified quantity), or where the Request or Contract provides for awards for other than exact quantities.
- h. Purchase Orders or other contracts may be increased in quantity or extended in term without subsequent solicit with the mutual consent of the contractor and the City of Pawtucket, where determined by the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent to be in the City of Pawtucket's best interest.

7. TERM AND RENEWAL

Where offers have been requested or contracts awarded for terms exceeding periods of twelve (12) months, it is mutually understood and agreed that the City of Pawtucket's commitment is limited to a base term not to exceed twelve (12) months, subject to renewal annually at the City of Pawtucket's sole option for successive terms as otherwise described, except where expressly specified to the contrary. Purchase orders appearing to commit to obligations of funding or terms of performance may be executed for administrative convenience, but are otherwise subject to this provision, and in such cases the City of Pawtucket's renewal shall be deemed to be automatic, conditional on the continued availability of appropriated funds for the purpose, except as written notice of the City of Pawtucket's intent not to renew is served.

8. DELIVERY/COMPLETION

Delivery must be made as ordered and/or projects completed in accordance with the proposal. If delivery qualifications do not appear on the bidder's proposal, it will be interpreted to mean that goods are in stock and that shipment will be made within seven (7) calendar days. If the project completion date is not specified in the proposal, the date shall be determined by the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent. The decision of the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent, as to reasonable compliance with the delivery terms, and date of completion shall be final. Burden of proof of delay in receipt of order shall rest with the contractor. No delivery charges shall be added to invoices except when authorized on the Purchase Order.

9. FOREIGN CORPORATIONS

In accordance with Title 7 Chapter 1.1 ("Business Corporations") of the General Laws of Rhode Island, no foreign corporation shall have the right to transact business in this state until it shall have procured a certificate of authority so to do from the Secretary of State.

10. PRICING

All pricing offered or extended to the City of Pawtucket is considered to be firm and fixed unless expressly provided for to the contrary. All prices shall be quoted F.O.B. Destination with freight costs included in the unit cost to be paid by the City of Pawtucket, except, where the Request or Contract permits, offers reflecting F.O.B. Shipping Point will be considered, and freight costs may then be prepaid and added to the invoice.

11. COLLUSION

Bidder or contractor warrants that he has not, directly or indirectly, entered into any agree participated in any collusion or otherwise taken any action in restraint of full competitive bidding. In special circumstances, an executed affidavit will be required as a part of the bid.

12. PROHIBITION AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES AND GRATUITIES

Bidder or contractor warrants that he has not paid, and agrees not to pay, any bonus, commission, fee, or gratuity to any employee or official of the City of Pawtucket for the purpose of obtaining any contract or award issued by the City of Pawtucket. Bidder or contractor further warrants that no commission or other payment has been or will be received from or paid to any third party contingent on the award of any contract by the City of Pawtucket, except as shall have been expressly communicated to the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent in writing prior to acceptance of the contract or award in question. Subsequent discovery by the City of Pawtucket of non-compliance with these provisions shall constitute sufficient cause for immediate termination of all outstanding contracts and suspension or debarment of the bidder(s) or contractor(s) involved.

13. AWARDS

Awards will be made with reasonable promptness and by written notice to the successful bidder (only); bids are considered to be irrevocable for a period of ninety (90) days following the bid opening unless expressly provided for to the contrary in the Request, and may not be withdrawn during this period without the express permission of the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent.

- a. Awards shall be made to the bidder(s) whose offer(s) constitutes the lowest responsive price offer (or lowest responsive price offer on an evaluated basis) for the item(s) in question or for the Request as a whole, at the option of the City of Pawtucket. The City of Pawtucket reserves the right to determine those offers which are responsive to the Request, or which otherwise serve its best interests.
- b. The City of Pawtucket reserves the right, before making award, to initiate investigations as to whether or not the materials, equipment, supplies, qualifications or facilities offered by the bidder meet the requirements set forth in the proposal and specification, and are ample and sufficient to insure the proper performance of the contract in the event of award. If upon such examination it is found that

the conditions of the proposal are not complied with or that articles or equipment proposed to be furnished do not meet the requirements called for, or that the qualifications or facilities are not satisfactory, the City of Pawtucket may reject such a bid. It is distinctly understood, however, that nothing in the foregoing shall mean or imply that it is obligatory upon the City of Pawtucket to make any examinations before awarding a contract; and it is further understood that if such examination is made, it in no way relieves the contractor from fulfilling all requirements and conditions of the contract.

- c. Qualified or conditional offers which impose limitations of the bidder's liability or modify the requirements of the bid, offers for alternate specifications, or which are made subject to different terms and conditions than those specified by the City of Pawtucket may, at the option of the City of Pawtucket, be
 - 1. rejected as being non-responsive, or
 - 2. set aside in favor of the City of Pawtucket's terms and conditions (with the consent of the bidder), or
 - 3. accepted, where the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent determines that such acceptance best serves the interests of the City of Pawtucket.

Acceptance or rejection of alternate or counter-offers by the City of Pawtucket shall not constitute a precedent which shall be considered to be binding on successive solicitations or procurements.

- d. Bids submitted in pencil, or which do not bear an original signature, in ink, by an owner or authorized agent thereof, will not be accepted.
- e. Bids must be extended in the unit of measure specified in the Request. In the event of any discrepancy between unit prices and their extensions, the unit price will govern.
- f. The City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent reserves the right to determine the responsibility of any bidder for a particular procurement.
- g. The City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent reserves the right to reject any and all bids in whole or in part, to waive technical defects, irregularities, and omissions, and to give consideration to past performance of the offerors where, in his judgment the best interests of the City of Pawtucket will be served by so doing.
- h. The City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent reserves the right to make awards by items, group of items or on the total low bid for all the items specified as indicated in the detailed specification, unless the bidder specifically indicates otherwise in his bid.
- i. Preference may be given to bids on products raised or manufactured in the City of Pawtucket or State of Rhode Island, other things being equal.
- j. The impact of discounted payment terms shall not be considered in evaluating responses to any Request.
- k. The City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent reserves the right to act in the City of Pawtucket's best interests regarding awards caused by clerical errors by the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Office.

14. SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT

The City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent may suspend or debar any vendor or potential bidder, for good cause shown:

- a. A debarment or suspension against a part of a corporate entity constitutes debarment or suspension of all of its divisions and all other organizational elements, except where the action has been specifically limited in scope and application, and may include all known corporate affiliates of a contractor, when such offense or act occurred in connection with the affiliate's performance of duties for or on behalf of the contractor, or with the knowledge, approval, or acquiescence of the contractor or one or more of its principals or directors (or where the contractor otherwise participated in, knew of, or had reason to know of the acts).
- b. The fraudulent, criminal or other serious improper conduct of any officer, director, shareholder, partner, employee, or any other individual associated with a contractor may be imputed to the contractor when the conduct occurred in connection with the individual's performance of duties for or on behalf of the contractor, or with the contractor's knowledge, approval or acquiescence. The contractor's acceptance of benefits derived from the conduct shall be evidence of such knowledge, approval, or acquiescence.
- c. A vendor or contractor who knowingly engages as a subcontractor for a contract awarded by the City of Pawtucket to a vendor or contractor then under a ruling of suspension or debarment by the City of Pawtucket shall be subject to disallowance of cost, annulment or termination of award, issuance of

a stop work order, or debarment or suspension, as may be judged to be appropriate by the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent.

15. PUBLIC RECORDS

Contractors and bidders are advised that certain documents, correspondence, and other submissions to the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Office may be voluntarily made public by the City of Pawtucket absent specific notice that portions of such submittals may contain confidential or proprietary information, such that public access to those items should be withheld.

16. PRODUCT EVALUATION

In all specifications, the words "or equal" are understood after each article when manufacturer's name or catalog are referenced. If bidding on items other than those specified, the bidder must, in every instance, give the trade designation of the article, manufacturer's name and detailed specifications of the item the bidder proposes to furnish; otherwise, the bid will be construed as submitted on the identical commodity described in the detailed specifications. The City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent reserves the right to determine whether or not the item submitted is the approved equal the detailed specifications.

- a. Any objections to specifications must be filed by a bidder, in writing, with the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent at least 96 hours before the time of bid opening to enable the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Office to properly investigate the objections.
- b. All standards are minimum standards except as otherwise provided for in the Request or Contract.
- c. Samples must be submitted to the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Office in accordance with the terms of the proposals and detailed specifications. Samples must be furnished free of charge and must be accompanied by descriptive memorandum invoices indicating whether or not the bidder desires their return and specifying the address to which they are to be returned (at the bidder's risk and expense), provided they have not been used or made useless by tests; and absent instructions, the samples shall be considered to be abandoned. Award samples may be held for comparison with deliveries.
- d. All samples submitted are subject to test by any laboratory the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent may designate.

17. PRODUCT ACCEPTANCE

All merchandise offered or otherwise provided shall be new, of prime manufacture, and of first quality unless otherwise specified by the City of Pawtucket. The City of Pawtucket reserves the right to reject all nonconforming goods, and to cause their return for credit or replacement, at the City of Pawtucket's option. Contract deliverables specified for procurements of services shall be construed to be work products, and subject to the provisions of this section.

- a. Failure by the City of Pawtucket to discover latent defect(s) or concealed damage or non-conformance shall not foreclose the City of Pawtucket's right to subsequently reject the goods in question.
- b. Formal or informal acceptance by the City of Pawtucket of non-conforming goods shall not constitute a precedent for successive receipts or procurements.
- c. Where the contractor fails to promptly cure the defect or replace the goods, the City of Pawtucket reserves the right to cancel the Purchase Order, contract with a different contractor, and to invoice the original contractor for any differential in price over the original contract price.
- d. When materials, equipment or supplies are rejected, the same must be removed by the contractor from the premises of the City of Pawtucket within forty-eight (48) hours of notification. Rejected items left longer than two days will be regarded as abandoned and the City of Pawtucket shall have the right to dispose of them as its own property.

18. PRODUCT WARRANTIES

All product or service warranties normally offered by the contractor or bidder shall accrue to the City of Pawtucket's benefit, in addition to any special requirements which may be imposed by the City of Pawtucket. Every unit delivered must be guaranteed against faulty material and workmanship for a period of one year unless otherwise specified, and the City of Pawtucket may, in the event of failure, order its replacement, repair, or return for full credit, at its sole option.

19. PAYMENT

Unless otherwise provided for by the Request or Contract, payment shall not be made until delivery has been made, or services performed, in full, and accepted. Payment shall not be due prior to thirty (30) working days following the latest of completion, acceptance, or the rendering of a properly submitted invoice.

- a. Payment terms other than the foregoing may be rejected as being nonresponsive.
- b. No partial shipments, or partial completion will be accepted, unless provided for by the Request or Contract.
- c. Where a question of quality is involved, or failure to complete a project by the specified due date, payment in whole or part against which to charge back any adjustment required, shall be withheld at the direction of the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent. In the event a cash discount is stipulated, the withholding of payments, as herein described, will not deprive the City of Pawtucket from taking such discount.
- d. Payments for used portion of inferior delivery or late delivery will be made by the City of Pawtucket on an adjusted price basis.
- e. Payments on contracts under architectural or engineering supervision must be accompanied by a Certificate of Payment and Statement of Account signed by the architect or engineer and submitted to the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Office for approval.

20. THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS

The City of Pawtucket recognizes no assigned or collateral rights to any purchase agreement except as may be expressly provided for in the bid or contract documents, and will not accede to any request for third party or joint payment(s), except as provided for in specific orders by a court of competent jurisdiction, or by express written permission of the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent. Where an offer is contingent upon such payment(s), the offeror is obligated to serve affirmative notice in his bid submission.

21. SET-OFF AGAINST PAYMENTS

Payments due the contractor may be subject to reduction equal to the amount of unpaid and delinquent state taxes (or other just debt owed to the State), except where notice of delinquency has not been served or while the matter is pending in hearing or from any appeal therefrom.

22. CLAIMS

Any claim against a contractor may be deducted by the City of Pawtucket from any money due him in the same or other transactions. If no deduction is made in such fashion, the contractor shall pay the City of Pawtucket the amount of such claim on demand. Submission of a voucher and payment, thereof, by the City of Pawtucket shall not preclude the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent from demanding a price adjustment in any case when the commodity delivered is later found to deviate from the specifications and proposal.

- a. The City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent may assess dollar damages against a vendor or contractor determined to be non-performing or otherwise in default of their contractual obligations equal to the cost of remedy incurred by the City of Pawtucket, and make payment of such damages a condition for consideration for any subsequent award. Failure by the vendor or contractor to pay such damages shall constitute just cause for disqualification and rejection, suspension, or debarment.

23. CERTIFICATION OF FUNDING

The Director of Finance shall provide certification as to the availability of funds to support the procurement for the current fiscal year ending June 30th only. Where delivery or service requirements extend beyond the end of the current fiscal year, such extensions are subject to both the availability of appropriated funds and a determination of continued need.

24. UNUSED BALANCES

Unless otherwise specified, all unused Blanket Order quantities and/or unexpended funds shall be automatically canceled on the expiration of the specified term. Similarly, for orders encompassing more than one fiscal year, unexpended balances of funding allotted for an individual fiscal year may be liquidated at the close of that fiscal year, at the City of Pawtucket's sole option.

25. MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 37 Chapter 14.1 of the General Laws, the City of Pawtucket reserves the right to apply additional consideration to offers, and to direct awards to bidders other than the responsive bid representing the lowest price where:

- a. the offer is fully responsive to the terms and conditions of the Request, and
- b. the price offer is determined to be within a competitive range (not to exceed 5% higher than the lowest responsive price offer) for the product or service, and
- c. the firm making the offer has been certified by the R.I. Department of Economic Development to be a small business concern meeting the criteria established to be considered a Minority Business Enterprise.

26. PREVAILING WAGE REQUIREMENT

In accordance with Title 37 Chapter 13 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, payment of the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for regular, overtime and other working conditions existing in the locality for each craft, mechanic, teamster, or type of workman needed to execute this work is a requirement for both contractors and subcontractors for all public works.

27. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMPLIANCE, HANDICAPPED ACCESS AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Contractors of the City of Pawtucket are required to demonstrate the same commitment to equal opportunity as prevails under federal contracts controlled by Federal Executive Orders 11246, 11625, 11375 and 11830, and Title 28 Chapter 5.1 of the General Laws of Rhode Island.

Affirmative action plans shall be submitted by the contractor for review by the State Equal Opportunity Office. A contractor's failure to abide by the rules, regulations, contract terms and compliance reporting provisions as established shall be grounds for forfeiture and penalties as shall be established, including but not limited to suspension.

28. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENT

Contractors who do business with the City of Pawtucket and their employees shall abide by the State's drug-free workplace policy and the contractor shall so attest by signing a certificate of compliance.

29. TAXES

The City of Pawtucket is exempt from payment of excise, transportation and sales tax imposed by the Federal or State Government. These taxes should not be included in the proposal price. Exemption Certificates will be furnished upon request.

30. INSURANCE

All construction contractors, independent tradesmen, or firms providing any type of maintenance, repair, or other type of service to be performed on City of Pawtucket premises, buildings, or grounds are required to purchase and maintain coverage with a company or companies licensed to do business in the state as follows:

- a. Comprehensive General Liability Insurance
Combined Single Limit not less than \$1,000,000 each occurrence for bodily injury and property damage.
 - 1) Independent Contractors;
 - 2) Contractual - including construction hold harmless and other types of contracts or agreements in effect for insured operations;
 - 3) Products and Completed Operations;
 - 4) Personal Injury (with employee exclusion deleted)
- b. Automobile Liability Insurance
Combined Single Limit not less than \$1,000,000 each occurrence for Bodily Injury and Property Damage including non-owned and/or hired vehicle coverage.

OR

Bodily Injury, per person, \$500,000/ Bodily Injury, \$1,000,000 per accident/Property Damage, \$500,000 per accident including non-owned and/or hired vehicle coverage.

- c. Workers' Compensation Insurance
As required by the General Laws of Rhode Island. Employers liability \$500,000.

The City of Pawtucket and the PWSB shall be named as an additional insured on the vendor's Comprehensive General Liability Policy and Automobile Liability Policy.

The City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent reserves the right to consider and accept alternate forms and plans of insurance or to require additional or more extensive coverage for any individual requirement. Successful bidders shall provide certificates of coverage, reflecting the City of Pawtucket and the PWSB named as additional insured, to the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Office, forty-eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of work, as a condition of award. Failure to comply with this provision shall result in rejection of the offeror's bid.

31. BID SURETY

When requested, a bidder must furnish a Bid Bond or Certified Check for 10% of his bid, or for the stated amount shown in the solicitation. Bid Bonds must be executed by a reliable Surety Company authorized to do business in the State of Rhode Island. Failure to provide Bid Surety with bid may be cause for rejection of bid. The Bid Surety of any three bidders in contention will be held until an award has been made according to the specifications of each proposal. All others will be returned by mail within 48 hours following the bid opening. Upon award of a contract, the remaining sureties will be returned by mail unless instructed to do otherwise.

32. PERFORMANCE AND LABOR AND PAYMENT BONDS

A performance bond and labor and payment bond of up to 100% of an award may be required by the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent. Bonds must meet the following requirements:

- a. Corporation: The Bond must be signed by an official of the corporation above his/her official title and the corporate seal must be affixed over his/her signature.
- b. Firm or Partnership: The Bond must be signed by all of the partners and must indicate that they are " Doing Business As (name of firm)."
- c. Individual: The Bond must be signed by the individual owning the business and indicate "Owner."
- d. The Surety Company executing the Bond must be licensed to do business in the State of Rhode Island or Bond must be countersigned by a company so licensed.
- e. The Bond must be signed by an official of the Surety Company and the corporate seal must be affixed over his signature.
- f. Signatures of two witnesses for both the principal and the Surety must appear on the Bond.
- g. A Power of Attorney for the official signing of the Bond for the Surety Company must be submitted with the Bond.

33. SUSPENSION, DEFAULT AND TERMINATION

a. Suspension of a Contract by the City of Pawtucket

The City of Pawtucket reserves the right at any time and for any reason to suspend all or part of this contract, for a reasonable period, not to exceed sixty days, unless the parties agree to a longer period. The City of Pawtucket shall provide the contractor with written notice of the suspension order signed by the Purchasing Agent or his or her designee, which shall set forth the date upon which the suspension shall take effect, the date of its expiration, and all applicable instructions. Upon receipt of said order, the contractor shall immediately comply with the order and suspend all work under this contract as specified in the order. The contractor shall take all reasonable steps to mitigate costs and adverse impact to the work specified in the contract during the suspension period. Before the order expires, the City of Pawtucket shall either:

1. cancel the suspension order;
2. extend the suspension order for a specified time period not to exceed thirty (30) days; or
3. terminate the contract as provided herein.

The contractor shall resume performance once a suspension order issued under this section is canceled or expires. If as a result of the suspension of performance, there is a financial or schedule impact upon the contract, an appropriate adjustment may be made by, or with the approval of, the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent. Any adjustment shall be set forth in writing. After a suspension order has been canceled or expires, the contractor shall provide any request for adjustment to the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent within thirty (30) days after resuming work performance.

b. Termination of a Contract by the City of Pawtucket

1. Termination for Default or Nonperformance

If, for any reason, the contractor breaches the contract by failing to satisfactorily fulfill or perform any obligations, promises, terms, or conditions, and having been given reasonable notice of and opportunity to cure such default, fails to take satisfactory corrective action within the time specified by the City of Pawtucket, the City of Pawtucket may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, the termination of all outstanding contracts or sub-contracts held by the contractor, and the suspension or debarment of the contractor from future procurements by giving written notice to the contractor specifying the date for termination. The City of Pawtucket shall endeavor to provide such notice at least seven (7) calendar days before the effective date of the termination.

A contractor who fails to commence within the time specified or complete an award made for repairs, alterations, construction, or any other service will be considered in default of contract. If contractor consistently fails to deliver quantities or otherwise perform as specified, the City of Pawtucket's Purchasing Agent reserves the right to terminate the contract and contract for completion of the work with another contractor and seek recourse from the defaulting contractor or his surety. In the event of a termination for default or nonperformance, in whole or in part, the City of Pawtucket may procure similar goods or services in a manner and upon terms it deems appropriate, and the contractor shall be liable for the excess costs incurred by the City of Pawtucket as a result of the contractor's default. The contractor, or its surety, agrees to promptly reimburse the City of Pawtucket for the excess costs, but shall have no claim to the difference should the replacement cost be less.

2. Termination Without Cause

The City of Pawtucket may terminate the contract in whole or in part without cause at any time by giving written notice to the contractor of such termination at least thirty (30) days before the effective date of such termination. The notice shall specify the part(s) of the contract being terminated and the effective termination date.

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the termination of the contract the contractor shall compile and submit to the City of Pawtucket an accounting of the work performed up to the date of termination. The City of Pawtucket may consider the following claims in determining reasonable compensation owed to the contractor for work performed up to the date of termination:

- a. contract prices for goods or services accepted under the contract;
- b. costs incurred in preparing to perform and performing the terminated portion of the contract; or
- c. any other reasonable costs incurred by the contractor as a result of the termination.

The total sum to be paid to the contractor shall not exceed the total contract price, less any payments previously made to the contractor, the proceeds from any sales of goods or manufacturing materials, and the contract price for work not terminated.

3. Contractor's Obligations in the Event of Termination

If the contract is terminated for any reason, or expires pursuant to its terms, the contractor shall transfer and deliver to the City of Pawtucket in the manner and to the extent directed by the City of Pawtucket:

- a. all finished or unfinished material prepared by the contractor; and
- b. all material, if any, provided to the contractor by the City of Pawtucket.

For the purposes of the contract, "material" shall include, but is not limited to, goods, supplies, parts, tools, machinery, equipment, furniture, fixtures, information, data, reports, summaries, tables, maps, charts, photographs, studies, recommendations, files, audiotapes, videotapes, records, keys, security badges, and documents.

If the contract is terminated for cause, the contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the City of Pawtucket for damages sustained because of any breach by the contractor. In such event, the City of Pawtucket may retain any amounts which may be due and owing to the contractor until such time as the exact amount of damages due the City of Pawtucket from the contractor has been determined by the City of Pawtucket

Purchasing Agent. The City of Pawtucket may also set off any damages so determined against the amounts retained.

Upon termination of the contract, the contractor shall stop performance on the date specified, terminate any outstanding orders and subcontracts applicable to the terminated portion of the contract, and shall incur no further commitments or obligations in connection with the terminated performance. The contractor shall settle all liabilities and claims arising out of the termination of subcontracts and order generating from the terminated performance. The City of Pawtucket may direct the contractor to assign the contractor's right, title and interest under terminated orders or subcontracts to the City of Pawtucket or a third party.

Terminations of Purchase Order Contracts or Master Pricing Agreements shall require the signature of the City of Pawtucket Purchasing Agent or his designee. Notice of termination by either party shall be submitted in writing to the other party in accordance with the termination clause of the contract, or where no specific termination clause is included, written notice shall be provided no later than thirty (30) days before the expiration of the contract.

34. INDEMNITY

The contractor guarantees:

- a. To save the City of Pawtucket, its agents and employees, harmless from any liability imposed upon the City of Pawtucket arising from the negligence, either active or passive, of the contractor, as well as for the use of any copyrighted or uncopyrighted composition, secret process, patented or unpatented invention, article or appliance furnished or used in the performance of the contract of which the contractor is not the patentee, assignee or licensee.
- b. To pay for all permits, licenses and fees and give all notices and comply with all laws, ordinances, rules and regulations of the City of Pawtucket and of the State of Rhode Island.
- c. That the equipment offered is standard new equipment, latest model of regular stock product with all parts regularly used with the type of equipment offered; also, that no attachment or part has been substituted or applied contrary to manufacturer's recommendations and standard practice.

35. CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATIONS

In addition to the specific requirements of the contract, construction and building repair contractors bear the following standard responsibilities:

- a. To furnish adequate protection from damage for all work and to repair damages of any kind, for which he or his workmen are responsible, to the building or equipment, to his own work, or to the work of other contractors;
- b. The contractor, its subcontractor(s) and their employees and/or agents, shall protect and preserve property in the contractor or subcontractor's possessions in which the City of Pawtucket has an interest, and any and all materials provided to the contractor or subcontractor by the City of Pawtucket;
- c. To clear and remove all debris and rubbish resulting from his work from time to time, as directed or required, a completion of the work leave the premises in a neat unobstructed condition, broom clean, and in satisfactory order and repair;
- d. To store equipment, supplies, and material at the site only upon approval by the City of Pawtucket, and at his own risk;
- e. To perform all work so as to cause the least inconvenience to the City of Pawtucket, and with proper consideration for the rights of other contractors and workmen;
- f. To acquaint themselves with conditions to be found at the site, and to assume responsibility for the appropriate dispatching of equipment and supervision of his employees during the conduct of the work;
- g. To ensure that his employees are instructed with respect to special regulations, policies, and procedures in effect for any City of Pawtucket facility or site, and that they comply with such rules, including but not limited to security policies or practices and/or criminal background checks for any employees and/or subcontractors;
- h. The contractor shall ensure that its employees or agents are experienced and fully qualified to engage in the activities and services required under the contract;
- i. The contractor shall ensure that at all times while services are being performed under this contract at least one of its employees or agents on the premises has a good command of

the English language and can effectively communicate with the City of Pawtucket and its staff;

- j. The contractor and contractor's employees or agents shall comply with all applicable licensing and operating requirements required by federal or state law and shall meet accreditation and other generally accepted standards of quality in the applicable field of activity;
- k. The contractor shall secure and retain all employee-related insurance coverage for its employees and agents as required by law; and
- l. The contractor, subcontractor, and his or her employees and agents shall not disclose any confidential information of the City of Pawtucket to a third party. Confidential information means:
 - (1) any information of a sensitive or proprietary nature, whether or not specially identified as confidential or proprietary; or
 - (2) any information about the City of Pawtucket gained during the performance of a contract that is not already lawfully in the public domain.

36. **FORCE MAJEURE**

All orders shall be filled by the contractor with reasonable promptness, but the contractor shall not be held responsible for any losses resulting if the fulfillment of the terms of the contract shall be delayed or prevented by wars, acts of public enemies, strikes, fires, floods, acts of God, or for any other acts not within the control of the contractor and which by the exercise of reasonable diligence, the contractor is unable to prevent.

RELEVANT FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS



Rhode Island Department of Health Center for Drinking Water Quality

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program Relevant Federal and State Laws

A. Federal

- 1) Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action (Executive Order 11246)
 - i) OFCCP fact sheet.
 - ii) Equal Opportunity Clause and the Standard Federal Equal Employment Specifications.
 - iii) Notice of Non-Discrimination in Employment.
- 2) Non-discrimination in employment notice.
- 3) Assurance of compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 13 of the FWPCA Amendments of 1972 (EPA form 4700-1).
- 4) Affirmative steps for soliciting MBE/WBE (40 CFR 31.36(e))

Applicable cross-cutting Federal authorities for projects funded through SRF programs are made available at http://water.epa.gov/grants_funding/dwsrf/xcuts.cfm. Additional information is provided in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's cross-cutting handbook available at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-08/documents/crosscutterhandbook.pdf>.

B. State of Rhode Island

- 1) RIGL 37-2.1, Domestic Steel
- 2) RIGL 37-12, Contractors Bonds
- 3) RIGL 37-12.1, Substitution of Security for Retained Earnings of Architects and Engineers.
- 4) RIGL 37-13, Labor and Payment of Debts by Contractors
 - i) Prevailing Wage Rates
- 5) RIGL 37-14.1, Minority Business Enterprise
 - i) Regulations Governing Participation by Minority Business Enterprises in State Funded and Directed Public Construction Projects, Construction Contracts and Procurement Contracts Goods and Services.
- 6) RIGL 37-16, Public Works Arbitration
- 7) RIGL 45-55, Award of Municipal Contracts

NOTE: This package is prepared by DOH as a service of the DWSRF program. While every attempt at accuracy has been made, these are not certified true copies of the laws presented. **The responsibility for compliance with all applicable provisions of Federal and State laws and regulations relating to the bidding, award, and performance of contracts is the applicant's and the bidder's.** Certified true and complete copies of any Rhode Island laws and regulations may be obtained from the Office of the Secretary of State.

Employment Standards Administration Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs

Fact Sheet EXECUTIVE ORDER 11246

EEO and Affirmative Action Guidelines for Federal Contractors Regarding Race, Color, Gender, Religion, and National Origin.

BASIC PROVISIONS

Since 1965, the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) has been committed to ensuring that Government contractors comply with the equal employment opportunity (EEO) and the affirmative action provisions of their contracts.

OFCCP administers and enforces Executive Order 11246, as amended, which prohibits federal contractors and federally-assisted construction contractors and subcontractors, who do over \$10,000 in Government business in one year from discriminating in employment decisions on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.

The Executive Order also requires Government contractors to take affirmative action to insure that equal opportunity is provided in all aspects of their employment.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REQUIREMENTS

Each Government contractor with 50 or more employees and \$50,000 or more in government contracts is required to develop a written affirmative action program (AAP) for each of its establishments.

A written affirmative action program helps the contractor identify and analyze potential problems in the participation and utilization of women and minorities in the contractor's workforce.

If there are problems, the contractor will specify in its AAP the specific procedures it will follow and the good faith efforts it will make to provide equal employment opportunity.

Expanded efforts in outreach, recruitment, training and other areas are some of the affirmative steps contractors can take to help members of the protected groups compete for jobs on equal footing with other applicants and employees.

Affirmative action is not preferential treatment. It does not mean that unqualified persons should be hired or promoted over other people. What affirmative action does mean is that positive steps must be taken to ensure equal employment opportunity for traditionally disadvantaged groups.

ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

Compliance Reviews

OFCCP conducts compliance reviews to investigate the employment practices of Government contractors. During a compliance review, a compliance officer examines the contractor's affirmative action program; checks personnel, payroll, and other employment records; interviews employees and company officials; and investigates virtually all aspects of employment in the company.

The investigator also checks to see whether the contractor is making special efforts to achieve equal opportunity through affirmative action. If problems are discovered, OFCCP will recommend corrective action and suggest ways to achieve equal employment opportunity.

Complaint Investigations

Individuals may file complaints if they believe they have been discriminated against by federal contractors or subcontractors. Complaints also may be filed by organizations on behalf of the person or persons affected.

Complaints must be filed within 180 days from the date of the alleged discrimination, although filing time can be extended for a good reason.

If a complaint filed under Executive Order 11246 involves discrimination against only one person, OFCCP will normally refer it to the EEOC. Cases involving groups of people or indicating patterns of discrimination are generally investigated and resolved by OFCCP. Complaints may be filed directly with any of OFCCP's regional or district offices throughout the country, or with OFCCP in Washington, D.C.

Compliance Assistance

To help contractors understand their contractual obligations for EEO and affirmative action, OFCCP provides technical assistance. District office staff offers guidance to contractors on how to develop an affirmative program through company seminars, training programs held in conjunction with industry liaison groups, and one-on-one consultations on affirmative action practices and procedures.

Enforcing Contract Compliance

When a compliance review discloses problems, OFCCP attempts to work with the contractor, often entering into a conciliation agreement. A conciliation agreement may include back pay, job offers, seniority credit, promotions or other forms of relief for victims of discrimination. It may also involve new training programs, special recruitment efforts, or other affirmative action measures.

When conciliation efforts are unsuccessful, OFCCP refers the case to the Office of the Solicitor for enforcement through administrative enforcement proceedings. A contractor cited for violating EEO and affirmative action requirements may have a formal hearing before an administrative law judge.

If conciliation is not reached before or after the hearing, sanctions may be imposed. For example, a contractor could lose its government contracts or subcontracts or be debarred, i.e., declared ineligible for any future government contracts.

Further Information

For more information about contract compliance, filing complaints, or compliance assistance, contact any of OFCCP's regional or district offices. All offices are listed in telephone directories under U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Executive Order 11246
(Excerpts from 41 CFR 60 Parts 1 and 4)

41 CFR 60-1.4 - Equal opportunity clause

(b) Federally assisted construction contracts. Except as otherwise provided, each administering agency shall require the inclusion of the following language as a condition of any grant, contract, loan, insurance, or guarantee involving federally assisted construction which is not exempt from the requirements of the equal opportunity clause:

The applicant hereby agrees that it will incorporate or cause to be incorporated into any contract for construction work, or modification thereof, as defined in the regulations of the Secretary of Labor at 41 CFR Chapter 60, which is paid for in whole or in part with funds obtained from the Federal Government or borrowed on the credit of the Federal Government pursuant to a grant, contract, loan insurance, or guarantee, or undertaken pursuant to any Federal program involving such grant, contract, loan, insurance, or guarantee, the following *equal opportunity clause*:

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

- (1) The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause. Such action shall include but not be limited to the following:
- (2) Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause. The contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive considerations for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.
- (3) The contractor will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant has inquired about, discussed, or disclosed the compensation of the employee or applicant or another employee or applicant. This provision shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the compensation of such other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a formal complaint or charge, in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or is consistent with the contractor's legal duty to furnish information.
- (4) The contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which he has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided advising the said labor union or workers' representatives of the contractor's commitments under this section, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.
- (5) The contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.
- (6) The contractor will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will

permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.

- (7) In the event of the contractor's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of the said rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part and the contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts or federally assisted construction contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.
- (8) The contractor will include the portion of the sentence immediately preceding paragraph (1) and the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (8) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the administering agency may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance:

Provided, however, that in the event a contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction by the administering agency the contractor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

The applicant further agrees that it will be bound by the above equal opportunity clause with respect to its own employment practices when it participates in federally assisted construction work: Provided, that if the applicant so participating is a State or local government, the above equal opportunity clause is not applicable to any agency, instrumentality or subdivision of such government which does not participate in work on or under the contract.

The applicant agrees that it will assist and cooperate actively with the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor in obtaining the compliance of contractors and subcontractors with the equal opportunity clause and the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor, that it will furnish the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor such information as they may require for the supervision of such compliance, and that it will otherwise assist the administering agency in the discharge of the agency's primary responsibility for securing compliance.

The applicant further agrees that it will refrain from entering into any contract or contract modification subject to Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, with a contractor debarred from, or who has not demonstrated eligibility for, Government contracts and federally assisted construction contracts pursuant to the Executive order and will carry out such sanctions and penalties for violation of the equal opportunity clause as may be imposed upon contractors and subcontractors by the administering agency or the Secretary of Labor pursuant to Part II, Subpart D of the Executive order. In addition, the applicant agrees that if it fails or refuses to comply with these undertakings, the administering agency may take any or all of the following actions: Cancel, terminate, or suspend in whole or in part this grant (contract, loan, insurance, guarantee); refrain from extending any further assistance to the applicant under the program with respect to which the failure or refund occurred until satisfactory assurance of future compliance has been received from such applicant; and refer the case to the Department of Justice for appropriate legal proceedings.

(c) *Subcontracts.* Each nonexempt prime contractor or subcontractor shall include the equal opportunity clause in each of its nonexempt subcontracts.

(d) *Incorporation of the equal opportunity clause by reference.* The equal opportunity clause may be incorporated by reference in all Government contracts and subcontracts, including Government bills of lading, transportation requests, contracts for deposit of Government funds, and contracts for issuing and paying U.S. savings bonds and notes, and such other contracts and subcontracts as the Director may designate.

(e) *Incorporation by operation of the order.* By operation of the order, the equal opportunity clause shall be considered to be a part of every contract and subcontract required by the order and the regulations in this part to include such a clause whether or not it is physically incorporated in such contracts and whether or not the contract between the agency and the contractor is written.

(f) Adaptation of language. Such necessary changes in language may be made in the equal opportunity clause as shall be appropriate to identify properly the parties and their undertakings.

41 CFR 60-4.3 - Equal opportunity clauses

(a) The equal opportunity clause published at 41 CFR 60-1.4(a) of this chapter is required to be included in, and is part of, all nonexempt Federal contracts and subcontracts, including construction contracts and subcontracts. The equal opportunity clause published at 41 CFR 60-1.4(b) is required to be included in, and is a part of, all nonexempt federally assisted construction contracts and subcontracts. In addition to the clauses described above, all Federal contracting officers, all applicants and all non-construction contractors, as applicable, shall include the specifications set forth in this section in all Federal and federally assisted construction contracts in excess of \$10,000 to be performed in geographical areas designated by the Director pursuant to 60-4.6 of this part and in construction subcontracts in excess of \$10,000 necessary in whole or in part to the performance of non-construction Federal contracts and subcontracts covered under the Executive order.

Standard Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Construction Contract Specifications (Executive Order 11246)

1. As used in these specifications:
 - a. "Covered area" means the geographical area described in the solicitation from which this contract resulted;
 - b. "Director" means Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, United States Department of Labor, or any person to whom the Director delegates authority;
 - c. "Employer identification number" means the Federal Social Security number used on the Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return, U.S. Treasury Department Form 941.
 - d. "Minority" includes:
 - (i) Black (all persons having origins in any of the Black African racial groups not of Hispanic origin);
 - (ii) Hispanic (all persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish Culture or origin, regardless of race);
 - (iii) Asian and Pacific Islander (all persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands); and
 - (iv) American Indian or Alaskan Native (all persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North America and maintaining identifiable tribal affiliations through membership and participation or community identification).
2. Whenever the Contractor, or any Subcontractor at any tier, subcontracts a portion of the work involving any construction trade, it shall physically include in each subcontract in excess of \$10,000 the provisions of these specifications and the Notice which contains the applicable goals for minority and female participation and which is set forth in the solicitations from which this contract resulted.
3. If the Contractor is participating (pursuant to 41 CFR 60-4.5) in a Hometown Plan approved by the U.S. Department of Labor in the covered area either individually or through an association, its affirmative action obligations on all work in the Plan area (including goals and timetables) shall be in accordance with that Plan for those trades which have unions participating in the Plan. Contractors must be able to demonstrate their participation in and compliance with the provisions of any such Hometown Plan. Each Contractor or Subcontractor participating in an approved Plan is individually required to comply with its obligations under the EEO clause, and to make a good faith effort to achieve each goal under the Plan in each trade in which it has employees. The overall good faith performance by other Contractors or Subcontractors toward a goal in an approved Plan does not excuse any covered Contractor's or Subcontractor's failure to take good faith efforts to achieve the Plan goals and timetables.
4. The Contractor shall implement the specific affirmative action standards provided in paragraphs 7 a through p of these specifications. The goals set forth in the solicitation from which this contract resulted are expressed as percentages of the total hours of employment and training of minority and female utilization the Contractor should reasonably be able to achieve in each construction trade in which it has employees in the covered area. Covered Construction contractors performing construction work in geographical areas where they do not have a Federal or federally assisted construction contract shall apply the minority and female goals established for the geographical area where the work is being performed. Goals are published periodically in the Federal Register in notice form, and such notices may be obtained from any Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs office or from Federal procurement contracting officers. The Contractor is expected to make substantially uniform progress in meeting its goals in each craft during the period specified.

5. Neither the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement, nor the failure by a union with whom the Contractor has a collective bargaining agreement, to refer either minorities or women shall excuse the Contractor's obligations under these specifications, Executive Order 11246, or the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.
6. In order for the non-working training hours of apprentices and trainees to be counted in meeting the goals, such apprentices and trainees must be employed by the Contractor during the training period, and the Contractor must have made a commitment to employ the apprentices and trainees at the completion of their training, subject to the availability of employment opportunities. Trainees must be trained pursuant to training programs approved by the U.S. Department of Labor.
7. The Contractor shall take specific affirmative actions to ensure equal employment opportunity. The evaluation of the Contractor's compliance with these specifications shall be based upon its effort to achieve maximum results from its actions. The Contractor shall document these efforts fully, and shall implement affirmative action steps at least as extensive as the following:
 - a. Ensure and maintain a working environment free of harassment, intimidation, and coercion at all sites, and in all facilities at which the Contractor's employees are assigned to work. The Contractor, where possible, will assign two or more women to each construction project. The Contractor shall specifically ensure that all foremen, superintendents, and other on-site supervisory personnel are aware of and carry out the Contractor's obligation to maintain such a working environment, with specific attention to minority or female individuals working at such sites or in such facilities.
 - b. Establish and maintain a current list of minority and female recruitment sources, provide written notification to minority and female recruitment sources and to community organizations when the Contractor or its unions have employment opportunities available, and maintain a record of the organizations' responses.
 - c. Maintain a current file of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of each minority and female off-the-street applicant and minority or female referral from a union, a recruitment source or community organization and of what action was taken with respect to each such individual. If such individual was sent to the union hiring hall for referral and was not referred back to the Contractor by the union or, if referred, not employed by the Contractor, this shall be documented in the file with the reason therefor, along with whatever additional actions the Contractor may have taken.
 - d. Provide immediate written notification to the Director when the union or unions with which the Contractor has a collective bargaining agreement has not referred to the Contractor a minority person or woman sent by the Contractor, or when the Contractor has other information that the union referral process has impeded the Contractor's efforts to meet its obligations.
 - e. Develop on-the-job training opportunities and/or participate in training programs for the area which expressly include minorities and women, including upgrading programs and apprenticeship and trainee programs relevant to the Contractor's employment needs, especially those programs funded or approved by the Department of Labor. The Contractor shall provide notice of these programs to the sources compiled under 7b above.
 - f. Disseminate the Contractor's EEO policy by providing notice of the policy to unions and training programs and requesting their cooperation in assisting the Contractor in meeting its EEO obligations; by including it in any policy manual and collective bargaining agreement; by publicizing it in the company newspaper, annual report, etc.; by specific review of the policy with all management personnel and with all minority and female employees at least once a year; and by posting the company EEO policy on bulletin boards accessible to all employees at each location where construction work is performed.
 - g. Review, at least annually, the company's EEO policy and affirmative action obligations under these specifications with all employees having any responsibility for hiring, assignment, layoff, termination or other employment decisions including specific review of these items with onsite supervisory personnel such as Superintendents, General Foremen, etc., prior to the initiation of construction work at any job site. A written record shall be made and maintained identifying the time and place of these meetings, persons attending, subject matter discussed, and disposition of the subject matter.
 - h. Disseminate the Contractor's EEO policy externally by including it in any advertising in the news media, specifically including minority and female news media, and providing written notification to and discussing the Contractor's EEO policy with other Contractors and Subcontractors with whom the Contractor does or anticipates doing business.
 - i. Direct its recruitment efforts, both oral and written, to minority, female and community organizations, to schools with minority and female students and to minority and female recruitment and training organizations

- serving the Contractor's recruitment area and employment needs. Not later than one month prior to the date for the acceptance of applications for apprenticeship or other training by any recruitment source, the Contractor shall send written notification to organizations such as the above, describing the openings, screening procedures, and tests to be used in the selection process.
- j. Encourage present minority and female employees to recruit other minority persons and women and, where reasonable, provide after school, summer and vacation employment to minority and female youth both on the site and in other areas of a Contractor's work force.
 - k. Validate all tests and other selection requirements where there is an obligation to do so under 41 CFR Part 60-3.
 - l. Conduct, at least annually, an inventory and evaluation at least of all minority and female personnel for promotional opportunities and encourage these employees to seek or to prepare for, through appropriate training, etc., such opportunities.
 - m. Ensure that seniority practices, job classifications, work assignments and other personnel practices, do not have a discriminatory effect by continually monitoring all personnel and employment related activities to ensure that the EEO policy and the Contractor's obligations under these specifications are being carried out.
 - n. Ensure that all facilities and company activities are non-segregated except that separate or single-user toilet and necessary changing facilities shall be provided to assure privacy between the sexes.
 - o. Document and maintain a record of all solicitations of offers for subcontracts from minority and female construction contractors and suppliers, including circulation of solicitations to minority and female contractor associations and other business associations.
 - p. Conduct a review, at least annually, of all supervisors' adherence to and performance under the Contractor's EEO policies and affirmative action obligations.
8. Contractors are encouraged to participate in voluntary associations which assist in fulfilling one or more of their affirmative action obligations (7a through p). The efforts of a contractor association, joint contractor-union, contractor-community, or other similar group of which the contractor is a member and participant, may be asserted as fulfilling any one or more of its obligations under 7a through p of these Specifications provided that the contractor actively participates in the group, makes every effort to assure that the group has a positive impact on the employment of minorities and women in the industry, ensures that the concrete benefits of the program are reflected in the Contractor's minority and female workforce participation, makes a good faith effort to meet its individual goals and timetables, and can provide access to documentation which demonstrates the effectiveness of actions taken on behalf of the Contractor. The obligation to comply, however, is the Contractor's and failure of such a group to fulfill an obligation shall not be a defense for the Contractor's noncompliance
9. A single goal for minorities and a separate single goal for women have been established. The Contractor, however, is required to provide equal employment opportunity and to take affirmative action for all minority groups, both male and female, and all women, both minority and non-minority. Consequently, the Contractor may be in violation of the Executive Order if a particular group is employed in a substantially disparate manner (for example, even though the Contractor has achieved its goals for women generally, the Contractor may be in violation of the Executive Order if a specific minority group of women is underutilized).
10. The Contractor shall not use the goals and timetables or affirmative action standards to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
11. The Contractor shall not enter into any Subcontract with any person or firm debarred from Government contracts pursuant to Executive Order 11246.
12. The Contractor shall carry out such sanctions and penalties for violation of these specifications and of the Equal Opportunity Clause, including suspension, termination and cancellation of existing subcontracts as may be imposed or ordered pursuant to Executive Order 11246, as amended, and its implementing regulations, by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs. Any Contractor who fails to carry out such sanctions and penalties shall be in violation of these specifications and Executive Order 11246, as amended.
13. The Contractor, in fulfilling its obligations under these specifications, shall implement specific affirmative action steps, at least as extensive as those standards prescribed in paragraph 7 of these specifications, so as to achieve maximum results from its efforts to ensure equal employment opportunity. If the Contractor fails to

comply with the requirements of the Executive Order, the implementing regulations, or these specifications, the Director shall proceed in accordance with 41 CFR 60-4.8.

14. The Contractor shall designate a responsible official to monitor all employment related activity to ensure that the company EEO policy is being carried out, to submit reports relating to the provisions hereof as may be required by the Government and to keep records. Records shall at least include for each employee the name, address, telephone numbers, construction trade, union affiliation if any, employee identification number when assigned, social security number, race, sex, status (e.g., mechanic, apprentice trainee, helper, or laborer), dates of changes in status, hours worked per week in the indicated trade, rate of pay, and locations at which the work was performed. Records shall be maintained in an easily understandable and retrievable form; however, to the degree that existing records satisfy this requirement, contractors shall not be required to maintain separate records.

15. Nothing herein provided shall be construed as a limitation upon the application of other laws which establish different standards of compliance or upon the application of requirements for the hiring of local or other area residents (e.g., those under the Public Works Employment Act of 1977 and the Community Development Block Grant Program).

(b) The notice set forth in 41 CFR 60-4.2 and the specifications set forth in 41 CFR 60-4.3 replace the New Form for Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Bid Conditions for Federal and Federally Assisted Construction published at 41 FR 32482 and commonly known as the Model Federal EEO Bid Conditions, and the New Form shall not be used after the regulations in 41 CFR Part 60-4 become effective.

[43 FR 49254, Oct. 20, 1978; 43 FR 51401, Nov. 3, 1978, as amended at 45 FR 65978, Oct. 3, 1980]

NOTICE TO LABOR UNIONS OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OF WORKERS

NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

TO: _____
(Name of Union or Organization of Workers)

The undersigned currently holds contract(s) with _____
(Name of Applicant)

involving funds or credit of the U.S. Government of (a) subcontract(s) with a prime contractor holding such contract(s).

You are advised that under the provisions of the above contract(s) or subcontract(s) and in accordance with Executive Order 11246, dated September 24, 1965, the undersigned is obliged not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, age, handicap, veteran status, color, creed, or national origin. This obligation not to discriminate in employment includes, but is not limited to, the following:

**HIRING, PLACEMENT, UPGRADING, TRANSFER, OR DEMOTION,
RECRUITMENT, ADVERTISING, OR SOLICITATION FOR
EMPLOYMENT TRAINING DURING EMPLOYMENT, RATES OF PAY
OR OTHER FORMS OF COMPENSATION, SELECTION FOR TRAINING
INCLUDING APPRENTICESHIP, LAYOFF, OR TERMINATION.**

This notice is furnished you pursuant to the provisions of the above contract(s) or subcontract(s) and Executive Order 11246.

COPIES OF THIS NOTICE WILL BE POSTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED IN CONSPICUOUS PLACES AVAILABLE TO EMPLOYEES OR APPLICANTS FOR EMPLOYMENT.

(Contractor or Subcontractor)

(Date)

**UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE
FOR
TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964
AND
SECTION 13 OF THE FWPCA AMENDMENTS OF 1972**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT/RECIPIENT (<i>Hereinafter called ASSUROR</i>)	GRANT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER <i>(To be completed by EPA)</i>	GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED \$
	TYPE OF GRANT <input type="checkbox"/> DEMONSTRATION <input type="checkbox"/> RESEARCH <input type="checkbox"/> TRAINING <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (<i>Specify</i>):	
	CHECK ONE: <input type="checkbox"/> NEW <input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUATION	

HEREBY AGREES THAT IT will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) and all requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (*hereinafter called "EPA"*) issued pursuant to that title, to the end that in accordance with Title VI of that Act, no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Assuror receives financial assistance from EPA and hereby gives assurance that it will now and hereafter take all necessary measures to effectuate this agreement.

HEREBY AGREES THAT IT will comply with all applicable requirements of Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (P.L. 92-500) and all requirements of EPA issued pursuant to that section, to the end that in accordance with that section of that Act, no person in the United States shall, on the ground of sex be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity under the said Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments for which the Assuror receives assistance from EPA and hereby gives assurance that it will now and hereafter take all necessary measures to effectuate this agreement.

If any real property or structure thereon is provided or improved with the aid of financial assistance extended to the Assuror by EPA, this Assurance obligates the Assuror, or, in the case of any transfer of such property, any transferee for the period during which the real property or structure is used for a purpose involving the provisions of similar services or benefits. If any personal property is so provided, this Assurance obligates the Assuror for the period during which it retains ownership or possession of the property. In all other cases, this Assurance obligates the Assuror for the period during which the financial assistance is extended to it by EPA.

THE ASSURANCE is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtained any and all Federal grants, loans, contracts, property discounts or other financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the Assuror by EPA including installment payments after such date on account of arrangements for Federal financial assistance which were approved before such date. The Assuror recognizes and agrees that such Federal financial assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this Assurance and that the United States shall reserve the right to seek judicial enforcement of this Assurance. The Assurance is binding on the Assuror, its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or persons whose signature appear below are authorized to sign this Assurance on behalf of the Assuror.

The obligations assumed by the Assuror hereunder are in addition to any obligations which may be imposed to the Assuror by any applicable regulation now outstanding or which may hereafter be adopted by EPA to effectuate any provision or goal of the said Title VI and all applicable requirements of the said Section 13, and no part of this Assurance shall be read so as to in any way detract from or modify any obligation which may be imposed on the Assuror by any such regulation standing alone.

SIGNATURE OF ASSUROR BY PRESIDENT, CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OR COMPARABLE AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL	DATE
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CONTRACTING WITH SMALL AND MINORITY FIRMS, WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

40 CFR 31.36(e)

40 CFR 31.36(e) – Contracting with small and minority firms, women's business enterprise and labor surplus area firms.

(1) The grantee and sub-grantee will take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority firms, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.

(2) Affirmative steps shall include:

- (i) Placing qualified small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises on solicitation lists;
- (ii) Assuring that small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
- (iii) Dividing the total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
- (iv) Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
- (v) Using the services and assistance of the Small Business Administration, and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce; and
- (vi) Requiring the prime contractor, if subcontracts are to be let, to take affirmative steps listed in paragraphs (e)(2)(i) through (v) of this section.

TITLE 37

CHAPTER 2.1 DOMESTIC STEEL

Section

37-2.1-1.	Short Title
37-2.1-2.	Purpose
37-2.1-3.	Purchase of steel and steel products
37-2.1-4.	Payment
37-2.1-5.	Definitions

37-2.1-1. Short title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Steel Products Procurement Act".

37-2.1-2. Purpose.

- (a) This chapter shall be deemed to be an exercise of the police powers of the state for the protection of the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the state.
- (b) It is hereby determined by the general assembly of Rhode Island and declared as a matter of legislative findings that:
 - (1) The United States is one of the leading countries in the production and use of steel and its allied products;
 - (2) The use of steel products constitutes a major industry of the United States and, as such, provides the jobs and family incomes of millions of persons in the United States;
 - (3) The taxes paid to Rhode Island and the United States by employers and employees engaged in the production and sale of steel products are one of the largest single sources of public revenues in this country;
 - (4) It has, for many years, been the policy of the state to aid and support the development and expansion of industry in the United States in order to foster the economic well-being of the state and its people; and
 - (5) The economy, general welfare, and national security of the United States, are inseparably related to the preservation and development of the steel industry in the United States.
- (c) The general assembly therefore declares it to be the policy of the state that all public officers and agencies should, at all times, aid and promote the development of the steel industry of the United States in order to stimulate and improve the economic well-being of the state and its people.

37-2.1-3. Purchase of steel and steel products.

- (a) Every public agency shall require that every contract document for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, improvement, or maintenance of public works contain a provision that, if any steel products are to be used or supplied in the performance of the contract, only steel products as herein defined shall be used or supplied in the performance of the contract or any subcontracts thereunder.
- (b) This section shall not apply in any case where the head of the public agency, in writing, determines that steel products as herein defined are not produced in, or readily available in the United States or that such steel products shall not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the costs of any other steel products obtainable nationally or internationally.

37-2.1-4. Payment.

No public agency shall authorize, provide for, or make any payments to any person under any contract containing the provision required by 37-2.1-3 unless the public agency is satisfied that such person has fully complied with that provision. Any such payments made to any person by any public agency which should not have been made, as a result of this section, shall be recoverable directly from the contractor or subcontractor who did not comply with 37-2.1-3 by either such public agency or the attorney general upon suit filed in the court of any county.

37-2.1-5. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

- (a) "Person" means natural persons as well as corporations, partnerships, business units, and associations;
- (b) "Public agency" means (1) the state and its departments, boards, commissions and agencies, (2) cities, towns, school districts, and any other governmental unit or district, (3) any and all other public bodies, authorities, officers, agencies, or instrumentalities, whether exercising a governmental or proprietary function;
- (c) "Public works" means steel to construct, frame or reinforce any public structure, building, highway, waterway, street, bridge, transit system, airport, or other betterment, work or improvement, whether of a permanent or temporary nature, and whether for governmental or proprietary use;
- (d) "Steel products" means products rolled, formed, shaped, drawn, extruded, forged, cast, fabricated, or otherwise similarly processed, or processed by a combination of two or more of such operations, from steel made in the United States by the open hearth, basic oxygen, electric furnace, Bessemer, or other steel making process;
- (e) "United States" means the United States of America and includes all territory, continental or insular, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

TITLE 37

CHAPTER 12 CONTRACTORS' BONDS

Sections

- 37-12-1. Contractors required to give bond – Terms and conditions.
- 37-12-2. Rights of persons furnishing labor and materials.
- 37-12-3. Remedies of creditors and state – Priority of claims.
- 37-12-4. Intervention by creditor in suit brought by state.
- 37-12-5. Time limitation on creditors' actions.
- 37-12-6. Intervention in suit brought by creditor – Consolidation of suits.
- 37-12-7. Notice of Pendency of Suit
- 37-12-8. Certified copies of documents.
- 37-12-9. Payment into court by surety – Discharge.
- 37-12-10. Retainers relating to contracts for public works or sewer or water main construction.
- 37-12-11. Substitution of securities for retained earnings.

§ 37-12-1. Contractors required to give bond – Terms and conditions. – Every person (which word for the purposes of this chapter shall include a co-partnership, a number of persons engaged in a joint enterprise, or a corporation), before being awarded a contract by the department of transportation or by the department of administration, as the case may be, and every person awarded such a contract as a general contractor or construction or project manager for the construction, improvement, completion, or repair of any public road or portion thereof or of any bridge in which the contract price shall be in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$ 50,000), or for a contract for the construction, improvement, completion, or repair of any public building, or portion thereof, shall be required to furnish to the respective department a bond of that person to the state, with good and sufficient surety or sureties (hereafter in this chapter referred to as surety), acceptable to the respective department, in a sum not less than fifty percent (50%) and not more than one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, conditioned that the contractor, principal in the bond, the person's executors, administrators, or successors, shall in all things, well and truly keep and perform the covenants, conditions, and agreements in the contract, and in any alterations thereof made as therein provided, on the person's part to be kept and performed, at the time and in the manner therein specified, and in all respects according to their true intent and meaning, and shall indemnify and save harmless the state, the respective department, and all of its officers, agents, and employees, as therein stipulated, and shall also promptly pay for all such labor performed or furnished and for all such materials and equipment furnished, (which as to equipment shall mean payment of the reasonable rental value, as determined by the respective department, of its use during the period of its use), as shall be used in the carrying on of the work covered by the contract, or shall see that they are promptly paid for, whether or not the labor is directly performed for or furnished to the contractor or is even directly performed upon the work covered by the contract, and whether or not the materials are furnished to the contractor or become component parts of the work, and whether or not the equipment is furnished to the contractor or even directly used upon the work. The bond shall contain the provisions that it is subject to all such rights and powers of the respective department and such other provisions as are set forth in the contract and the plans, specifications, and proposal incorporated by reference in the contract, and that no extension of the time of performance of the contract or delay in the completion of the work thereunder or any alterations thereof, made as therein provided, shall invalidate the bond or release the liability of the surety thereunder. Waiver of the bonding requirements of this section is expressly prohibited.

37-12-2. Rights of persons furnishing labor and materials.

Every person who shall have performed labor and every person who shall have furnished or supplied labor, material, or equipment in the prosecution of the work provided for in the contract, in respect of which a payment bond is furnished under § 37-12-1, and who has not been paid in full therefor before the expiration of a period of ninety (90) days after the day on which the last of the labor was performed or furnished by him or her, or material or equipment furnished or supplied by him or her for which a claim is made, shall have the right to sue on the payment bond for the amount, or the balance thereof, unpaid at the time of institution of the suit and to prosecute the action to final execution and judgment for the sum or sums justly due him or her; provided, however, that any person having direct contractual relationship with a subcontractor but no contractual relationship express or implied with the contractor

furnishing the payment bond shall have a right of action upon the payment bond upon giving written notice to the contractor within ninety (90) days from the date on which the person furnished or performed the last of the labor, or furnished or supplied the last of the material or equipment for which the claim is made, stating with substantial accuracy the amount claimed and the name of the party to whom the labor was furnished or performed or the material or equipment was furnished or supplied. The notice shall be served by mailing the same by certified mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the contractor at any place he or she maintains an office, conducts his or her business, or his or her residence.

37-12-3. Remedies of creditors and state - Priority of claims.

The remedy on the bond shall be by a civil action brought in the superior court for the counties of Providence and Bristol and in any suit brought on the bond the rights of the state shall be prior to those of all creditors. The rights of persons who shall have performed labor as aforesaid shall be prior to the rights of all other creditors, and there shall be no priorities among laborers or among other creditors under the bond. The state, either after having recovered a judgment against the contractor on the contract or without having recovered a judgment, may bring a suit on the bond against the contractor and surety on the bond, and may join as parties defendant in the suit any persons claiming to have rights under the bond as creditors; and, if it has not brought such a suit, it may at any time before a final and conclusive decree, intervene and become a party in any suit brought, as hereafter provided in this chapter, by any person claiming to be a creditor under the bond.

37-12-4. Intervention by creditor in suit brought by state.

Any person claiming to be a creditor under the bond may at any time intervene and become a party in any pending suit brought as aforesaid by the state on the bond, and by so intervening may have the rights to the person adjudicated in the suit.

37-12-5. Time limitation on creditors' actions.

No suit instituted under § 37-12-2 shall be commenced after the expiration of two (2) years, or under the maximum time limit as contained within any labor or material payment bond required under § 37-12-1, whichever period is longer, after the day on which the last of the labor was furnished or performed or material or equipment was furnished or supplied by any person claiming under the section.

37-12-6. Intervention in suit brought by creditor - Consolidation of suits.

When a suit has been so brought on the bond by a person claiming to be a creditor under the bond and is pending, any other person claiming to be a creditor under the bond may intervene and become a party in the first suit thus brought and pending and by so intervening may have the rights of the other person adjudicated in the suit. If two (2) or more of the suits be filed in the court on the same day, the one in which the larger sum shall be claimed shall be regarded as the earlier suit. All suits brought upon the bond as provided in this chapter shall be consolidated together by the court and heard as one suit.

37-12-7. Notice of pendency of suit.

In any suit brought under the provisions of this chapter such personal notice of the pendency of the suit as the court may order shall be given to all such known creditors and persons claiming to be creditors under the bond as shall not have entered their appearances in the suit and, in addition to the notice, notice of the pendency of the suit shall be given by publication in some newspaper published in this state of general circulation in the city or town or every city or town in which the work covered by the contract was carried on, once a week for three (3) successive weeks, in such form as the court may order. The court, however, may dispense with the notices if satisfied that sufficient notices shall have been given in some other suit brought under the provisions of this chapter.

37-12-8. Certified copies of documents.

Any person claiming to be a creditor under the bond and having filed a claim with the respective department, in accordance with the requirements of § 37-12-2, shall have the right, at any time when the person could under this chapter file a suit or intervene in a pending suit, to require the respective department to furnish to the person certified copies of the contract, proposal, plans specifications, and bond.

37-12-9. Payment into court by surety - Discharge.

The surety on the bond may pay into the registry of the court, for distribution among those who may be or become entitled thereto under the decree of the court, the penal sum named in the bond less any amount which the surety

may have paid to the state in satisfaction of the liability of the surety to the state under the bond, and then shall be entitled to be discharged from all further liability under the bond.

37-12-10. Retainers relating to contracts for public works or sewer or water main construction.

(a) Upon substantial completion of the work required by a contract aggregating in amount less than five hundred thousand dollars (\$ 500,000) with any municipality, or any agency or political subdivision thereof, for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair, or improvement of sewers and water mains, or any public works project defined in, the awarding authority may deduct from its payment a retention to secure satisfactory performance of the contractual work not exceeding five percent (5%) of the contract price unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. Upon substantial completion of the work required by a contract aggregating in an amount of five hundred thousand dollars (\$ 500,000) or greater with any municipality, or any agency or political subdivision thereof, for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair, or improvement of sewers and water mains, or any public works project defined in § 37-13-1, the awarding authority may deduct from its payment a retention to secure satisfactory performance of the contractual work not exceeding five percent (5%) of the contract price. In the case of periodic payments with respect to contracts less than the aggregate amount of five hundred thousand dollars (\$ 500,000), the awarding authority may deduct from its payment a retention to secure satisfactory performance of the contractual work not exceeding five percent (5%) of the approved amount of any periodic payment unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. In the case of periodic payments with respect to contracts in the aggregate amount of five hundred thousand dollars (\$ 500,000) or greater, the awarding authority may deduct from its payment a retention to secure satisfactory performance of the contractual work not exceeding five percent (5%) of the approved amount of any periodic payment.

(b) The retainage shall be paid to any contractor or subcontractor within ninety (90) days of the date the work is accepted by the awarding authority unless a dispute exists with respect to the work. If payment is not made within ninety (90) days for any reason other than a dispute, which, if resolved and it is not the fault of the contractor, interest shall be assessed at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum on all money which is to be paid to the contractor or subcontractor.

(c) The retainage shall be paid to any contractor or subcontractor within ninety (90) days of the date his or her work is completed and accepted by the awarding authority. If payment is not made, interest shall be assessed at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum.

(d) There shall also be deducted and retained from the contract price an additional sum sufficient to pay the estimated cost of municipal police traffic control on any public works project. Municipalities shall directly pay the officers working traffic details and shall bill and be reimbursed by the withholding authority for which the contract is being performed every thirty (30) days until the project is complete.

(e) Notwithstanding the foregoing, with respect to projects located within the town of Warren, the withholding authority shall hold an amount from the contract price which shall be reasonably sufficient to pay the estimated cost of municipal police traffic control. The withholding authority shall pay to the town of Warren within seventy-two (72) hours of written demand the actual costs of police traffic control associated with said project on an ongoing basis.

37-12-11. Substitution of securities for retained earnings.

(a) Where any public works contract as defined by § 37-13-1 provides for the retention of earned estimates by the state of Rhode Island, the contractor may, from time to time, withdraw the whole or any portion of the amount retained for payments to the contractor pursuant to the terms of the contract, upon depositing with the general treasurer either; (1) United States treasury bonds, United States treasury notes, United States treasury certificates of indebtedness, or United States treasury bills; (2) Bonds or notes of the state of Rhode Island ; or (3) Bonds of any political subdivision in the state of Rhode Island.

(b) No amount shall be withdrawn in excess of the market value of the securities at the time of deposit or of the par value of the securities, whichever is lower. The general treasurer shall, on a regular basis, collect all interest or income on the obligations so deposited and shall pay the interest or income, when and as collected, to the contractor who deposited the obligations. If the deposit is in the form of coupon bonds, the general treasurer shall deliver each coupon as it matures to the contractor. Any amount deducted by the state, or by any public department or official thereof, pursuant to the terms of the contract, from the retained payments otherwise due the contractor, shall be

deducted, first from that portion of the retained payments for which no security has been substituted, then from the proceeds of any deposited security. In the latter case, the contractor shall be entitled to receive interest, coupons, or income only from those securities which remain after the amount has been deducted. The securities so deposited shall be properly endorsed by the contractor in such manner so as to enable the general treasurer to carry out the provisions of this section.

TITLE 37

CHAPTER 12.1 SUBSTITUTION OF SECURITY FOR RETAINED EARNINGS OF ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

Sections

- 37-12.1-1. Definition of Terms.
- 37-12.1-2. Substitution of security for retained earnings by designers.
- 37-12.1-3. Deduction from retained earnings.
- 37-12.1-4. Endorsement on securities.
- 37-12.1-5. Applicability.

37-12.1-1. Definition of terms.

Terms used in this chapter shall be construed as follows:

- (a) "Designers", means any person, firm or corporation duly authorized pursuant to the laws of this state to engage in the practice of architecture and/or engineering within this state.
- (b) "Public works contract" means a contract to perform design or planning services by a designer with the state or any agency or governmental subdivisions thereof.
- (c) "Retained earnings" means any moneys or earned estimates withheld from a designer pursuant to the terms of a public works contract.

37-12.1-2. Substitution of security for retained earnings by designers.

(a) Where any public works contract provides for the holding of retained earnings from a designer, the designer may from time to time withdraw the whole or any portion of the amount retained upon either depositing with the general treasurer:

- (1) United States treasury bonds, United States treasury notes, United States treasury certificates of indebtedness, or United States treasury bills;
- (2) Bonds or notes of the state of Rhode Island; or
- (3) Bonds of any political subdivision of the state of Rhode Island.

(b) With respect to the deposit of securities, the general treasurer shall, on a regular basis, collect all interest or income on the securities so deposited and shall pay the interest or income when and as collected to the designer depositing the securities. If the security is in the form of coupon bonds, the general treasurer shall deliver each coupon as it matures to the designer.

37-12.1-3. Deduction from retained earnings.

In the event that pursuant to the terms of the public works contract it is necessary to deduct any sum from retained earnings, the state or governmental unit or agency thereof shall first apply such deduction against sums not withdrawn and thereafter from the proceeds of the sale of any securities deposited or from the income earned on such securities, whichever is applicable.

37-12.1-4. Endorsement on securities.

All securities deposited with the general treasurer pursuant to this chapter shall be properly endorsed by the designer in such manner as to enable the general treasurer to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

37-12.1-5. Applicability.

This chapter shall apply to all retained earnings held pursuant to any public works contract as of [June 16, 1991].

TITLE 37

CHAPTER 13 LABOR AND PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS

Sections

- 37-13-1. "Public Works" defined
- 37-13-2. "Contractor" defined – information required.
- 37-13-3. Contractors subject to provisions – Weekly payment of employees.
- 37-13-3.1 State public works contract apprenticeship requirements
- 37-13-4. Provisions applicable to public works contracts – List of Subcontractors.
- 37-13-5. Payment for trucking or materials furnished – Withholding of sums due.
- 37-12-6. Ascertainment of prevailing rate of wages and other payments – Specification of rate in call for bids and in contract.
- 37-13-7. Specification in contract of amount and frequency of payment and wages.
- 37-13-8. Investigation and determination of prevailing wages – Filing of schedule.
- 37-13-9. Statutory provisions included in contracts.
- 37-13-10. Overtime compensation.
- 37-13-11. Posting of prevailing wage rates.
- 37-13-12. Wage records of contractors.
- 37-13-12.1. Obstruction of enforcement.
- 37-13-12.2. Subpoena powers.
- 37-13-12.3. Compelling obedience to subpoenas.
- 37-13-12.4. Penalty for violations.
- 37-13-13. Furnishing payroll record to director of labor.
- 37-13-13.1. Audits of wage records of out of state contractors and subcontractors.
- 37-13-14. Contractor's bond.
- 37-13-14.1. Enforcement – Hearings.
- 37-13-15. Review.
- 37-13-16. Termination of work on failure to pay agreed wages – Completion of work.
- 37-13-17. Private right of action to collect wages or benefits

37-13-1. "Public works" defined.

"Public works" as used in this chapter shall mean any public work consisting of grading, clearing, demolition, improvement, completion, repair, alteration, or construction of any public road or any bridge, or portion thereof, or any public building or portion thereof, or any heavy construction, or any public works projects of any nature or kind whatsoever.

37-13-2. "Contractor" defined - Information required.

The term "contractor" as used in this chapter shall mean the bidder whose bid has been accepted by an authorized agency or awarding authority as the bidder possessing the skills, ability, and integrity necessary to the faithful performance of the contract or work, and who shall certify that he or she is able to furnish labor that can work in harmony with all other elements of labor employed or to be employed on the contract or work. Essential information in regard to qualifications shall be submitted in such form to the awarding authority and the director of labor and training as the director of labor and training shall require. The authorized agency or awarding authority shall reserve the right to reject all bids, if it be in the public interest to do so.

37-13-3. Contractors subject to provisions - Weekly payment of employees.

All contractors, who have been awarded contracts for public works by an awarding agency or authority of the state or of any city, town, committee, or by any person or persons therein, in which state or municipal funds are used and of which the contract price shall be in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) whether payable at the time of the signing of the contract or at a later date, and their subcontractors, on such public works shall pay their employees at weekly intervals and shall comply with the provisions set forth in 37-13-4 - 37-13-14, inclusive, and 37-13-16.

37-13-3.1. State public works contract apprenticeship requirements.

Notwithstanding any laws to the contrary, all general contractors and subcontractors who perform work on any public works contract awarded by the state after passage of this act and valued at one million dollars (\$ 1,000,000) or more shall employ apprentices required for the performance of the awarded contract. The number of apprentices shall comply with the apprentice to journeyman ratio for each trade approved by the apprenticeship council of the department of labor and training. To the extent that any of the provisions contained in this section conflict with the requirements for federal aid contracts, federal laws and regulations shall control.

37-13-4. Provisions applicable to public works contracts - Lists of subcontractors.

All public works shall be done by contract, subject to the same provisions of law relating thereto and to the letting thereof, which are applicable to similar contracts of the awarding authority or authorized agency, hereinafter called the "proper authority," in the general location where the work is to be performed and which are not contrary to the provisions of 37-13-1 - 37-13-14, and 37-13-16. Each contractor after the award of a contract for public works shall submit to the proper authority a list of his or her subcontractors of any part or all of the work. The list shall be submitted in such manner or form as the proper authority shall uniformly require from contractors in all public works.

37-13-5. Payment for trucking or materials furnished - Withholding of sums due.

A contractor or subcontractor on public works authorized by a proper authority shall pay any obligation or charge for trucking and material which have been furnished for the use of the contractor or subcontractor, in connection with the public works being performed by him or her, within ninety (90) days after the obligation or charge is incurred or the trucking service has been performed or the material has been delivered to the site of the work, whichever is later. When it is brought to the notice of the proper authority in a city or town, or the proper authority in the state having supervision of the contract, that the obligation or charge has not been paid by the contractor or subcontractor, the proper authority may deduct and hold for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days, from sums of money due to the contractor or subcontractor, the equivalent amount of such sums certified by a trucker or material man creditor as due him or her, as provided in this section, and which the proper authority determines is reasonable for trucking performed or materials furnished for the public works.

37-13-6. Ascertainment of prevailing rate of wages and other payments - Specification of rate in call for bids and in contract.

Before awarding any contract for public works to be done, the proper authority shall ascertain from the director of labor and training the general prevailing rate of the regular, holiday, and overtime wages paid and the general prevailing payments on behalf of employees only, to lawful welfare, pension, vacation, apprentice training, and educational funds (payments to the funds must constitute an ordinary business expense deduction for federal income tax purposes by contractors) in the city, town, village, or other appropriate political subdivision of the state in which the work is to be performed, for each craft, mechanic, teamster, laborer, or type of worker needed to execute the contract for the public works. The proper authority shall, also, specify in the call for bids for the contract and in the contract itself the general prevailing rate of the regular, holiday, and overtime wages paid and the payments on behalf of employees only, to the welfare, pension, vacation, apprentice training, and education funds existing in the locality for each craft, mechanic, teamster, laborer, or type of worker needed to execute the contract or work.

37-13-7. Specification in contract of amount and frequency of payment of wages.

Every call for bids for every contract in excess of one thousand dollars (\$ 1,000), to which the state of Rhode Island or any political subdivision thereof or any public agency or quasi-public agency is a party, for construction, alteration, and/or repair, including painting and decorating, of public buildings or public works of the state of Rhode Island or any political subdivision thereof, or any public agency or quasi-public agency and which requires or involves the employment of employees, shall contain a provision stating the minimum wages to be paid various types of employees which shall be based upon the wages that will be determined by the director of labor and training to be prevailing for the corresponding types of employees employed on projects of a character similar to the contract work in the city, town, village, or other appropriate political subdivision of the state of Rhode Island in which the work is to be performed. Every contract shall contain a stipulation that the contractor or his or her subcontractor shall pay all the employees employed directly upon the site of the work, unconditionally and not less often than once a week, and without subsequent deduction or rebate on any account, the full amounts accrued at time of payment computed at wage rates not less than those stated in the call for bids, regardless of any contractual relationships which may be alleged to exist between the contractor or subcontractor and the employees, and that the scale of wages to be paid shall be posted by the contractor in a prominent and easily accessible place at the site of the work; and the further stipulation that there may be withheld from the contractor so much of the accrued payments as may be considered necessary to pay to the employees employed by the contractor, or any subcontractor on the work, the difference between the rates of wages required by the contract to be paid the employees on the work and the rates of wages received by the employees and not refunded to the contractor, subcontractors, or their agents.

(b) The terms "wages" , "scale of wages" , "wage rates" , "minimum wages" , and "prevailing wages" shall include:

(1) The basic hourly rate of pay; and

(2) The amount of:

(A) The rate of contribution made by a contractor or subcontractor to a trustee or to a third person pursuant to a fund, plan, or program; and

(B) The rate of costs to the contractor or subcontractor which may be reasonably anticipated in providing benefits to employees pursuant to an enforceable commitment to carry out a financially responsible plan or program which was communicated in writing to the employees affected, for medical or hospital care, pensions on retirement or death, compensation for injuries or illness resulting from occupational activity, or insurance to provide any of the foregoing, for unemployment benefits, life insurance, disability and sickness insurance, or accident insurance, for vacation and holiday pay, for defraying costs of apprenticeship or other similar programs, or for other bona fide fringe benefits, but only where the contractor or subcontractor is not required by other federal, state, or local law to provide any of the benefits ; provided, that the obligation of a contractor or subcontractor to make payment in accordance with the prevailing wage determinations of the director of labor and training insofar as this chapter of this title and other acts incorporating this chapter of this title by reference are concerned may be discharged by the making of payments in cash, by the making of contributions of a type referred to in subsection (b)(2), or by the assumption of an enforceable commitment to bear the costs of a plan or program of a type referred to in this subdivision, or any combination thereof, where the aggregate of any payments, contributions, and costs is not less than the rate of pay described in subsection (b)(1) plus the amount referred to in subsection (b)(2).

(c) The term "employees" , as used in this section, shall include employees of contractors or subcontractors performing jobs on various types of public works including mechanics, apprentices, teamsters, chauffeurs, and laborers engaged in the transportation of gravel or fill to the site of public works, the removal and/or delivery of gravel or fill or ready-mix concrete, sand, bituminous stone, or asphalt flowable fill from the site of public works, or the transportation or removal of gravel or fill from one location to another on the site of public works, and the employment of the employees shall be subject to the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) .

(d) The terms "public agency" and "quasi-public agency" shall include, but not be limited to, the Rhode Island industrial recreational building authority, the Rhode Island economic development corporation, the Rhode Island airport corporation, the Rhode Island industrial facilities corporation, the Rhode Island refunding bond authority, the Rhode Island housing and mortgage finance corporation, the Rhode Island resource recovery corporation, the Rhode Island public transit authority, the Rhode Island student loan authority, the water resources board corporate, the Rhode Island health and education building corporation, the Rhode Island turnpike and bridge authority, the Narragansett Bay water quality management district commission, Rhode Island telecommunications authority, the

convention center authority, the board of governors for higher education, the board of regents for elementary and secondary education, the capital center commission, the housing resources commission, the Quonset Point-Davisville management corporation, the Rhode Island children's crusade for higher education, the Rhode Island depositors economic protection corporation, the Rhode Island lottery commission, the Rhode Island partnership for science and technology, the Rhode Island public building authority, and the Rhode Island underground storage tank board.

37-13-8. Investigation and determination of prevailing wages - Filing of schedule.

The director of labor and training shall investigate and determine the prevailing wages and payments made to or on behalf of employees, as set forth in § 37-13-7, paid in the trade or occupation in the city, town, village, or other appropriate political subdivision of the state and keep a schedule on file in his or her office of the customary prevailing rate of wages and payments made to or on behalf of the employees which shall be open to public inspection. In making a determination, the director of labor may adopt and use such appropriate and applicable prevailing wage rate determinations as have been made by the secretary of labor of the United States of America in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, as amended, 40 U.S.C. § 276a; provided, however, that each contractor awarded a public works contract after July 1, 2007 shall contact the department of labor and training on or before July first of each year, for the duration of such contract to ascertain the prevailing wage rate of wages on a hourly basis and the amount of payment or contributions paid or payable on behalf of each mechanic, laborer or worker employed upon the work contracted to be done each year and shall make any necessary adjustments to such prevailing rate of wages and such payment or contributions paid or payable on behalf of each such employee every July first.

37-13-9. Statutory provisions included in contracts.

A copy of 37-13-5, 37-13-6, and 37-13-7 shall be inserted in all contracts for public works awarded by the state or any city or town, committee, an authorized agency or awarding authority thereof, or any person or persons in their behalf in which state or municipal funds are used if the contract price be in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

37-13-10. Overtime compensation.

Labor performed under the provisions of 37-13-1 - 37-13-16, inclusive, during the period of forty (40) hours in any one week and during the period of eight (8) hours in any one day, shall be considered a legal week's work or a legal day's work, as the case may be, and any number of hours of employment in any one week greater than the number of forty (40) hours or in any one day greater than the number of eight (8) hours shall be compensated at the prevailing rate of wages for overtime employment; provided, however, when the director of labor and training has determined in the investigation provided for in 37-13-7 and 37-13-8 that there is a prevailing practice in a city, town, or other appropriate political subdivision to pay an overtime rate of wages for work of any craft, mechanic, teamster, laborer, or type of worker needed to execute the work other than hours worked in any one week greater than the number of forty (40) or in hours worked in any one day greater than the number of eight (8), then the prevailing practice shall determine the legal workday and the legal workweek in the city or town for the work and the prevailing rate of overtime wages shall be paid for such work in excess of that legal workday or week, as the case may be.

37-13-11. Posting of prevailing wage rates.

Each contractor awarded a contract for public works with a contract price in excess of one thousand dollars (\$ 1,000), and each subcontractor who performs work on those public works, shall post in conspicuous places on the project, where covered workers are employed, posters which contain the current, prevailing rate of wages and the current, prevailing rate of payments to the funds required to be paid for each craft or type of worker employed to execute the contract as set forth in §§ 37-13-6 and 37-13- 7, and the rights and remedies of any employee described in § 37-13-17 for nonpayment of any wages earned pursuant to this chapter. Posters shall be furnished to contractors and subcontractors by the director of labor and training, who shall determine the size and context thereof from time to time, at the time a contract is awarded. A contractor or subcontractor who fails to comply with the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall pay to the director of labor and training one hundred dollars (\$ 100) for each calendar day of noncompliance as determined by him or her. Contracts set forth in this section shall not be awarded by the state, any city, town, or any agency thereof until the director of labor and training has prepared and delivered the posters to the division of purchases, if the state or any agency thereof is the proper authority, or to the city, town, or an agency thereof, if it is the proper authority, and the contractor to whom the contract is to be awarded.

37-13-12. Wage records of contractors.

Each contractor awarded a contract with a contract price in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for public works, and each subcontractor who performs work on those public works, shall keep an accurate record showing the name, occupation, and actual wages paid to each worker employed by him or her and the payments to all the employee funds specified in sections 37-13-6 and 37-13-7 by him or her in connection with the contract or work. The director and his or her authorized representatives shall have the right to enter any place of employment at all reasonable hours for the purpose of inspecting the wage records and seeing that all provisions of this chapter are complied with.

37-13-12.1. Obstruction of enforcement.

Any effort of any employer to obstruct the director and his or her authorized representatives in the performance of their duties shall be deemed a violation of this chapter and punishable as such.

37-13-12.2. Subpoena powers.

The director and his or her authorized representatives shall have power to administer oaths and examine witnesses under oath, issue subpoenas, subpoenas duces tecum, compel the attendance of witnesses, and the production of papers, books, accounts, records, payrolls, documents, and testimony, and to take depositions and affidavits in any proceeding before the director.

37-13-12.3. Compelling obedience to subpoenas.

In case of failure of any person to comply with any subpoena lawfully issued, or subpoena duces tecum, or on the refusal of any witness to testify to any matter regarding which he may be lawfully interrogated, it shall be the duty of the superior court, or any judge thereof, on application by the director, to compel obedience by proceedings in the nature of those for contempt.

37-13-12.4. Penalty for violations.

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any employer who shall violate or fail to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each separate offense, or by imprisonment of up to one year, or by both fine and imprisonment. Each day of failure to pay wages due an employee at the time specified in this chapter shall constitute a separate and distinct violation.

37-13-13. Furnishing payroll record to director of labor.

(a) Every contractor and subcontractor awarded a contract for public works as defined by this chapter shall furnish a certified copy of his or her payroll records of his or her employees employed on the project to the awarding authority on a monthly basis for all work completed in the preceding month on a uniform form prescribed by the director of labor and training. Notwithstanding the foregoing, certified payrolls for department of transportation public works may be submitted on the federal payroll form, provided that, when a complaint is being investigated, the director or his or her designee may require that a contractor resubmit the certified payroll on the uniform department form.

(b) Awarding authorities, contractors and subcontractors shall provide any and all payroll records to the director of labor and training within ten (10) days of their request by the director or his or her designee.

(c) In addition, every contractor and subcontractor shall maintain on the site where public works are being constructed and the general or primary contract is one million dollars (\$1,000,000) or more, a daily log of employees employed each day on the public works project. The log shall include, at a minimum, for each employee his or her name, primary job title, and employer and shall be kept on a uniform form prescribed by the director of labor and training. Such log shall be available for inspection on the site at all times by the awarding authority and/or the director of the department of labor and training and his or her designee. This subsection shall not apply to road, highway, or bridge public works projects.

(d) The director of labor and training may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations to enforce the provisions of this section.

(e) The awarding authority of any public works project shall withhold the next scheduled payment to any contractor or subcontractor who fails to comply with the provisions of subsections (a) or (b) above and shall also

notify the director of labor and training. The awarding authority shall withhold any further payments until such time as the contractor or subcontractor has fully complied. If it is a subcontractor who has failed to comply, the amount withheld shall be proportionate to the amount attributed or due to the offending subcontractor as determined by the awarding authority. The department may also impose a penalty of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each calendar day of noncompliance with this section, as determined by the director of labor and training. Mere errors and/or omissions in the daily logs maintained under subsection (c) shall not be grounds for imposing a penalty under this subsection.

37-13-13.1. Audits of wage records of out of state contractors and subcontractors.

Out of state contractors or subcontractors who perform work on public works in this state authorize the director of labor and training to conduct wage and hour audits of their payroll records pursuant to the provisions of chapter 14 of title 28.

37-13-14. Contractor's bond.

The state or any city, town, agency, or committee therein awarding contracts for public works shall require the contractor awarded a contract with a contract price in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$ 50,000) for public works to file with the proper authority good and sufficient bond with surety furnished by any surety company authorized to do business in the state, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract and upon the payment for labor performed and material furnished in connection therewith, a bond to contain the terms and conditions set forth in chapter 12 of this title, and to be subject to the provisions of that chapter. Waiver of the bonding requirements of this section is expressly prohibited.

37-13-14.1. Enforcement - Hearing

(a) Before issuing an order or determination, the director of labor and training shall order a hearing thereon at a time and place to be specified, and shall give notice thereof, together with a copy of the complaint or the purpose thereof, or a statement of the facts disclosed upon investigation, which notice shall be served personally or by mail on any person, firm, or corporation affected thereby. The person, firm, or corporation shall have an opportunity to be heard in respect to the matters complained of at the time and place specified in the notice, which time shall be not less than five (5) days from the service of the notice personally or by mail. The hearing shall be held within ten (10) days from the order of hearing. The hearing shall be conducted by the director of labor and training or his or her designee. The hearing officer in the hearing shall be deemed to be acting in a judicial capacity and shall have the right to issue subpoenas, administer oaths, and examine witnesses. The enforcement of a subpoena issued under this section shall be regulated by Rhode Island civil practice law and rules. The hearing shall be expeditiously conducted, and upon such hearing, the hearing officer shall determine the issues raised thereon and shall make a determination and enter an order within ten (10) days of the close of the hearing, and forthwith serve a copy of the order, with a notice of the filing thereof, upon the parties to the proceeding, personally or by mail. The order shall dismiss the charges or direct payment of wages or supplements found to be due, including interest at the rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum from the date of the underpayment to the date of payment, and may direct payment of reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the complaining party.

(b) In addition to directing payment of wages or supplements including interest found to be due, the order shall also require payment of a further sum as a civil penalty in an amount up to three times the total amount found to be due. Further, if the amount of salary owed to an employee pursuant to this chapter but not paid to the employee in violation of thereof exceeds five thousand dollars (\$5,000), it shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall be referred to the office of the attorney general. The misdemeanor shall be punishable for a period of not more than one year in prison and/or fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000). In assessing the amount of the penalty, due consideration shall be given to the size of the employer's business, the good faith of the employer, the gravity of the violation, the history of previous violations, and the failure to comply with recordkeeping or other nonwage requirements. The surety of the person, firm, or corporation found to be in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be bound to pay any penalties assessed on such person, firm, or corporation. The penalty shall be paid to the department of labor and training for deposit in the state treasury; provided, however, it is hereby provided that the general treasurer shall establish a dedicated "prevailing wages enforcement fund" for the purpose of depositing the penalties paid as provided herein. There is hereby appropriated to the annual budget of the department of labor and training the amount of the fund collected annually under this section, to be used at the direction of the director of labor and training for the sole purpose of enforcing prevailing wage rates as provided in this chapter.

(c) For the purposes of this chapter, each day or part thereof of violation of any provision of this chapter by a person, firm, or corporation, whether the violation is continuous or intermittent, shall constitute a separate and succeeding violation.

(d) In addition to the above, any person, firm, or corporation found in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter by the director of labor and training, an awarding authority, or the hearing officer, shall be ineligible to bid on, or be awarded work by, an awarding authority or perform any such work for a period of no less than eighteen (18) months and no more than thirty-six (36) months from the date of the order entered by the hearing officer. Once a person, firm, or corporation is found to be in violation of this chapter, all pending bids with any awarding authority shall be revoked, and any bid awarded by an awarding authority prior to the commencement of the work shall also be revoked.

(e) In addition to the above, any person, firm, or corporation found to have committed two (2) or more willful violations in any period of eighteen (18) months of any of the provisions of this chapter by the hearing officer, which violations are not arising from the same incident, shall be ineligible to bid on, or be awarded work by, an awarding authority or perform any work for a period of sixty (60) months from the date of the second violation.

(f) The order of the hearing officer shall remain in full force and effect unless stayed by order of the superior court.

(g) The director of labor and training, awarding authority, or hearing officer shall notify the bonding company of any person, firm, or corporation suspected of violating any section of this chapter. The notice shall be mailed certified mail and shall enumerate the alleged violations being investigated.

(h) In addition to the above, any person, firm, or corporation found to have willfully made a false or fraudulent representation on certified payroll records shall be referred to the office of the attorney general. A first violation of this section shall be considered a misdemeanor and shall be punishable for a period of not more than one year in prison and/or fined one thousand dollars (\$1,000). A second or subsequent violation of this section shall be considered a felony and shall be punishable for a period of not more than three (3) years imprisonment, a fine of three thousand dollars (\$3,000), or both. Further, any person, firm, or corporation found to have willfully made a false or fraudulent representation on certified payroll records shall be required to pay a civil penalty to the department of labor and training in an amount of no less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and not greater than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per representation.

37-13-15. Review.

(a) There is hereby created an appeals board which shall be comprised of three (3) members who shall be appointed by the governor; provided, however, that each member of the appeals board shall have at least five (5) years experience with prevailing wage rates as they apply to the construction industry. The members of such appeals board shall serve without compensation. The members of the appeals board shall be appointed for terms of three (3) years except that of the three (3) members originally appointed by each of the appointing authorities; one (1) shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year, one (1) shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years and one (1) for a term of three (3) years.

(b) Any person aggrieved by any action taken by the director of labor and training or his or her designated hearing officer under the authority of this chapter, or by the failure or refusal of the director of labor and training to take any action authorized by this chapter, may obtain a review thereof for the purpose of obtaining relief from the action or lack of action by filing a petition for administrative review and relief, to the appeals board as provided herein. The petition for administrative review shall be filed within twenty (20) days of the action taken by the director of labor and training or designated hearing officer: The petition for administrative review shall be heard within ten (10) days of the date of filing. An aggrieved person under this section shall include:

- (1) Any person who is required to pay wages to his or her employees or make payments to a fund on behalf of his or her employees, as provided in this chapter;
- (2) Any person who is required to be paid wages for his or her labor or on whose behalf payments are required to be paid to funds, as provided by this chapter;
- (3) The lawful collective bargaining representative of a person defined in subdivision (2) above;
- (4) A trade association of which a person defined in subdivision (1) above is a member;
- (5) A proper authority as defined in this chapter;

- (6) A contractor who submitted a bid for work to be or which has been awarded under the provisions of this chapter or a trade association of which he or her is a member, and
 - (7) A labor organization which has one or more written collective bargaining agreements with one or more employers or a trade association which sets forth the hours, wages, and working conditions of a craft, mechanic, teamster, or type of worker needed to execute the work, as provided in this chapter to the extent that it would be affected by the action or the failure to act of the director of labor and training or the hearing officer.
- (c) Any aggrieved person as defined herein may obtain a review of a decision of the appeals board by filing a petition in the superior court in Providence county pursuant to the provisions of the administrative procedures act, praying for review and relief and the petition shall follow the course of and be subject to the procedures for causes filed in the court.
- (d) The director is hereby empowered to enforce his or her decision and/or the decision of the appeals board in the superior court for the county of Providence.

37-13-16. Termination of work on failure to pay agreed wages - Completion of work.

Every contract within the scope of this chapter shall contain the further provision that in the event it is found by the director of labor and training that any employee employed by the contractor or any subcontractor directly on the site of the work covered by the contract has been or is being paid a rate of wages less than the rate of wages required by the contract to be paid as aforesaid, the awarding party may, by written notice to the contractor or subcontractor, terminate his or her right as the case may be, to proceed with the work, or such part of the work as to which there has been a failure to pay the required wages, and shall prosecute the work to completion by contract or otherwise, and the contractor and his or her sureties shall be liable to the awarding party for any excess costs occasioned the awarding authority thereby.

37-13-17. Private right of action to collect wages or benefits

(a) An employee or former employee, or any organization representing such an employee or former employee, of a contractor or subcontractor may bring a civil action for a violation of § 37-13-7 for appropriate injunctive relief, or actual damages, or both within three (3) years after the occurrence of the alleged violation. An action commenced pursuant to this section, may be brought in the superior court for the county where the alleged violation occurred, the county where the complainant resides, or the county where the person against whom in the civil complaint is filed resides or has their principal place of business. Any contractor or subcontractor who violates the provisions of § 37-13-7 shall be liable to the affected employee or employees in the amount of unpaid wages or benefits, plus interest. A civil action filed in court under this section may be instituted instead of, but not in addition to the director of labor and training enforcement procedures authorized by § 37-13-14.1, provided the civil action is filed prior to the date the director of labor and training issues notice of an administrative hearing.

(b) An employer's responsibility and liability is solely for its own employees.

(c) An action instituted pursuant to this section may be brought by one or more employees or former employees on behalf of himself/herself or themselves and other employees similarly situated, except that no employee shall be a party plaintiff to any such action unless he/she gives his/her consent in writing to become such a party and such consent is filed in the court in which such action is brought.

(d) In an action filed under this section in which the plaintiff prevails, the court shall, in addition to any judgment awarded to the plaintiff, require reasonable attorneys' fees and the costs of the action to be paid by the defendant.

(e) The court in an action filed under this section shall award affected employees or former employees liquidated damages in an amount equal to two (2) times the amount of unpaid wages or benefits owed. Unpaid fringe benefit contributions owed pursuant to this section in any form shall be paid to the appropriate benefit fund, however, in the absence of an appropriate fund the benefit shall be paid directly to the individual.

(f) The filing of a civil action under this section shall not preclude the director of labor and training from referring a matter to the attorney general as provided in § 37-13-14.1(b), from prohibiting a contractor or subcontractor from bidding on or otherwise participating in contracts as provided in § 37-13-14.1(d), (e) and (h), or from prohibiting termination of work on failure to pay agreed wages pursuant to § 37-13-16.

(g) Any person, firm, or corporation found to have willfully made a false or fraudulent representation in connection with wage obligations owed on a contract shall be required to pay a civil penalty to the department of labor and training in an amount of no less than one thousand dollars (\$ 1,000) and not greater than three thousand dollars (\$ 3,000) per representation. Such penalties shall be recoverable in civil actions filed pursuant to this section. For purposes of this subsection "willfully" shall mean representations that are known to be false, or representations made with deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard for their truth or falsity.

(h) An employer shall not discharge, threaten, or otherwise discriminate against an employee, or former employee, regarding compensation terms, conditions, locations or privileges of employment because the employee or former employee, or a person or organization acting on his or her behalf: (1) Reports or makes a complaint under this section; or otherwise asserts his or her rights under this section; and/or (2) Participates in any investigation, hearing or inquiry held by the director of labor and training under § 37-13-14.1. In the event a contractor or subcontractor retaliates or discriminates against an employee in violation of this section, the affected employee may file an action in any court of competent jurisdiction and the court shall order reinstatement and/or restitution of the affected employee, as appropriate, with back pay to the date of the violation, and an additional amount in liquidated damages equal to two (2) times the amount of back pay and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

(i) If any one or more subsections of this section shall for any reason be adjudged unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remaining subsections.

PREVAILING WAGE RATES

(THE PREVAILING WAGE RATES THAT ARE IN EFFECT AT THE TIME THAT THE PROJECT GOES OUT TO BID MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE BID SPECIFICATIONS)

Find current prevailing wage rates using the Department of Labor and Training website:

<https://dlt.ri.gov/regulation-and-safety/prevailing-wage>

TITLE 37

CHAPTER 14.1 MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

Sections

37-14.1-1.	Purpose.
37-14.1-2.	Applicability.
37-14.1-3.	Definitions.
37-14.1-4.	Policy.
37-14.1-5.	Discrimination prohibited.
37-14.1-6.	Minority business enterprise guidelines.
37-14.1-7.	Establishment of criteria and guidelines.
37-14.1-8.	Sanctions.

37-14.1-1. Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to carry out the state's policy of supporting the fullest possible participation of firms owned and controlled by minorities and women (MBE's), in state funded and state directed public construction programs and projects and in state purchases of goods and services. This includes assisting MBE's throughout the life of contracts in which they participate.

37-14.1-2. Applicability.

This chapter shall apply to any and all state purchasing, including, but not limited to the procurement of goods, services, construction projects, or contracts funded in whole or in part by state funds, or funds which, in accordance with a federal grant or otherwise, the state expends or administers or in which the state is a signatory to the construction contract.

37-14.1-3. Definitions.

- (a) "Affirmative action" means taking specific steps to eliminate discrimination and its effects, to ensure nondiscriminatory results and practices in the future, and to involve minority business enterprises fully in contracts and programs funded by the state.
- (b) "Compliance" means the condition existing when a contractor has met and implemented the requirements of this chapter.
- (c) "Contract" means a mutually binding legal relationship or any modification thereof obligating the seller to furnish supplies or services, including construction, and the buyer to pay for them. For purposes of this chapter, a lease is a contract.
- (d) "Contractor" means one who participates, through a contract or subcontract, in any procurement or program covered by this chapter, and includes lessees and material suppliers.
- (e) "Minority" means a person who is a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States and who is:
 - (1) Black (a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa);
 - (2) Hispanic (a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race);
 - (3) Portuguese (a person of Portuguese, Brazilian, or other Portuguese culture or origin, regardless of race);
 - (4) Asian American (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands);
 - (5) American Indian and Alaskan Native (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America.); or
 - (6) Members of other groups, or other individuals, found to be economically and socially disadvantaged by the Small Business Administration under section 8(a) of the Small Business Act, as amended [15 U.S.C. 637(a)].
- (f) "Minority business enterprise" or "MBE" means a small business concern, as defined pursuant to section 3 of the federal Small Business Act [15 U.S.C. 632] and implementing regulations, which is owned and controlled by one or more minorities or women. For the purposes of this chapter, owned and controlled means a business.

- (1) Which is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by one or more minorities or women or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the stock of which is owned by one or more minorities or women; and
- (2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more such individuals.

(g) "MBE coordinator" means the official designated to have overall responsibility for promotion of minority business enterprise in his or her departmental element.

(h) "Noncompliance" means the condition existing when a recipient or contractor has failed to implement the requirements of this chapter.

37-14.1-4. Policy.

It is the policy of the state of Rhode Island that minority business enterprises (MBE's) shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of procurements and projects outlined in 37-14.1-2.

37-14.1-5. Discrimination prohibited.

No person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against in connection with the award and performance of any project covered by this chapter, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex.

37-14.1-6. Minority business enterprise participation.

Minority business enterprises shall be included in all procurements and construction projects under this chapter and shall be awarded a minimum of ten percent (10%) of the dollar value of the entire procurement or project. The director of the department of administration is further authorized to establish by rules and regulation formulas for giving minority business enterprises a preference in contract and subcontract awards.

37-14.1-7. Establishment of criteria and guidelines.

The director of the department of administration shall establish, by rule and regulations adopted in accordance with chapter 35 of title 42, standards which shall determine whether a construction project is covered by this chapter, compliance formulas, procedures for implementation, and procedures for enforcement which are not inconsistent with 49 CFR 23 of the federal regulations. As to Rhode Island department of transportation contracts, the director of administration may delegate this authority to the director of transportation.

37-14.1-8. Sanctions.

(a) The director of the department of administration shall have the power to impose sanctions upon contractors not in compliance with this chapter and shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) Suspension of payments;
- (2) Termination of the contract;
- (3) Recovery by the state of ten percent (10%) of the contract award price as liquidated damages; and
- (4) Denial of right to participate in future projects for up to three (3) years.

(b) As to Rhode Island department of transportation contracts, the director of the department of administration may delegate this authority to the director of transportation.

RHODE ISLAND REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION BY MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES
IN STATE FUNDED AND DIRECTED PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, CONSTRUCTION
CONTRACTS AND PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS

In accordance with RI Gen. Law § 37-14.1-1, it is the policy of the State of Rhode Island to support the fullest possible participation of firms owned and controlled by minorities (MBEs) and women (WBEs). Pursuant to §§ 37-14.1-2 and 37-14.1-6, MBEs and WBEs shall be included in all state purchasing, including, but not limited to, the procurement of goods, services, construction projects, or contracts funded in whole or in part with state funds, or funds which, in accordance with a federal grant or otherwise, the state expends or administers. MBEs and WBEs shall be awarded a minimum of ten percent (10%) of the dollar value of the entire procurement or project. MBE participation credit shall only be granted for firms duly certified as MBEs or WBEs by the State of Rhode Island, Department of Administration, Office of Diversity, Equity and Opportunity, MBE Compliance Office (MBECO). The current directory of firms certified as MBEs or WBEs may be accessed at <http://odeo.ri.gov/offices/mbeco/mbe-wbe.php> or by contacting Kate Constance Brody, Esq. Administrator at the MBECO at (401) 574-8670 or via email at Kate.Brody@doa.ri.gov.

TITLE 37

CHAPTER 16 PUBLIC WORKS ARBITRATION

Sections

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37-16-1. Short title.

This chapter shall be known as the "Public Works Arbitration Act".

37-16-2. Contract provision for arbitration.

(a) A provision in a written contract executed on or after January 1, 1962, for the construction, alteration, repair, or painting of any public building, sewer, highway, bridge, water treatment or disposal projects one party to which is the state, a city, a town, or an authority, a board, a public corporation, or any similar body created by statute or ordinance or any committee, agency, or subdivision of any of them, to settle by arbitration any dispute or claim arising out of or concerning the performance or interpretation of the contract shall be valid, irrevocable, and enforceable, save upon grounds existing in law or equity for the revocation of the contract.

(b) (1) Every contract for the construction, alteration, repair, painting, or demolition of any public building, sewer, water treatment or disposal project, highway, or bridge one party to which is the state, a city, a town, or an authority, a board, a public corporation, or any similar body created by statute or ordinance or any committee, agency, or subdivision of any of them which has a contract price of ten thousand dollars (\$ 10,000) or more and which is executed on or after July 1, 1967, shall contain a provision for arbitration of disputes and claims arising out of or concerning the performance or interpretation of the contract as follows:

(2) "All claims, disputes, and other matters in question arising out of or relating to this contract or the performance or interpretation thereof shall be submitted to arbitration. Arbitration shall be commenced by a demand in writing made by one party to the contract upon the other within a reasonable time after the dispute, claim, or other matter in question arose but in no event after payment in full of the contract price has been made and accepted. The written demand shall contain a statement of the question to be arbitrated and a detailed statement of each item or matter in

dispute and the name of the arbitrator appointed by that party. The other party to the contract within ten (10) days of the receipt of the written demand shall appoint an arbitrator and give notice in writing thereof to the party who commenced arbitration. The two (2) arbitrators appointed by the parties shall within ten (10) days of the date of the appointment of the second arbitrator select a third arbitrator who shall be designated as chairperson and who immediately shall give written notice to the parties of his or her appointment. The third arbitrator shall select a time, date, and place for hearing and give each party five (5) days notice in writing thereof. The date for hearing shall not be more than fifteen (15) days after the date of appointment of the third arbitrator. The award shall be made promptly by the arbitrators and, unless otherwise agreed by the parties or specified by law, no later than thirty (30) days from the date of closing the hearing, or, if oral hearings have been waived, from the date of the transmittal of the final statements and proofs to the arbitrators. The award shall be in writing and shall be signed by a majority of the arbitrators. It shall be executed in the manner required by law. The arbitrator shall provide a written explanation of the reasoning for the award. In the event the party of whom arbitration is demanded shall fail to appoint his or her arbitrator within the time specified or the two (2) arbitrators appointed by the parties are unable to agree on an appointment of the third arbitrator within the time specified, either party may petition the presiding justice of the superior court to appoint a single arbitrator who shall hear the parties and make an award as provided herein. The petitioner shall give five (5) days notice in writing to the other party before filing his or her petition."

(c) Any dispute involving claims less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$ 100,000) and associated with construction of a highway or bridge as referred to in subsection (b) shall be submitted to arbitration. Any dispute involving claims of one hundred thousand dollars (\$ 100,000) or more and associated with construction of a highway or bridge as referred to in subsection (b) shall only be arbitrated with the consent of the parties. If the parties fail to consent to arbitration and the state of Rhode Island is a party to the dispute, then the claim will proceed in accordance with § 37-13.1-1.

(d) For the purposes of this section, the term "claims" shall not mean the aggregate amount sought under the contract or in the arbitration, but shall refer specifically to each item or matter in dispute for which additional compensation is sought or for each item for which a credit is sought.

(e) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or (b) of this section, if any contract except for highway and bridge contracts provides for an arbitration procedure, and a method of appointment of an arbitrator or arbitrators, that method shall be followed instead of the method provided in subsection (b) of this section.

(f) This section shall apply to all written contracts executed on or after January 1, 1986.

37-16-3. Application to subcontracts.

When a contract described in 37-16-2 is in effect and any party thereto has entered into a subcontract to perform part of the work and/or furnish any materials in connection with the work described in the contract and the terms of the subcontract provide for arbitration of a dispute or claim concerning the performance or interpretation thereof, or the subcontract, expressly or by reference to the terms of the contract, provides that the parties to the subcontract shall comply with the arbitration provisions of the contract, the following shall apply when a request is made or an order of court is entered for arbitration either under the terms of the contract or subcontract.

(a) When arbitration under the contract may adversely affect the interest of a party thereto because of the effect of an award of the arbitrator or arbitrators upon the performance or interpretation of the terms of a subcontract to which he or she is also a party, he or she may require any other party or all other parties to the subcontract to become a party or parties to the arbitration.

(b) When a party to a subcontract makes a demand or an order of court is entered for arbitration under the terms of the subcontract which comply with the provision of this chapter, any party thereto who is also a party to the contract and whose rights under the contract may be adversely affected by the effect of an award of the arbitrator or arbitrators upon the performance or interpretation of the contract, may require any other party to the contract to become a party to the arbitration.

(c) When a party to a contract or to a subcontract is made a party to arbitration by virtue of the provisions of this section, he or she shall have all the rights of a party to arbitration as provided in this chapter except the appointment of an arbitrator. Provided, however, he or she may object to the arbitrators appointed by the parties in which event a single arbitrator shall be appointed as provided in 37-16-2 in the petition of either of the original parties to arbitration. The award of the arbitrator or arbitrators shall be valid and shall be binding on him or her to

the extent that it affects the performance or interpretation of the contract and/or subcontract to which he or she is a party. The award of the arbitrator or arbitrators may be enforced, modified, or vacated as this chapter provides an award made in an arbitration of a contract described in 37-16-2 may be enforced, modified, or vacated.

37-16-4. Stay of legal proceedings pending arbitration.

If any suit or proceedings be brought upon any issue referable to arbitration under contract in writing providing for arbitration, the court in which the suit is pending upon being satisfied that the issue involved in the suit or proceedings is referable to arbitration under the contract, shall on application of one of the parties, stay the trial of the action until arbitration has been held.

37-16-5. Jurisdiction of superior court to enforce arbitration provision and awards.

The entering into a contract in writing providing for arbitration shall be deemed a consent of all parties, including those enumerated in 37-16-2, thereto to the jurisdiction of the superior court of this state to enforce the arbitration provision and any award made pursuant to that provision. A party aggrieved by the failure, neglect, or refusal of another to perform under a contract providing for arbitration, may petition the superior court, or a judge thereof, for an order directing that arbitration proceed in the manner provided for in the contract. Five (5) days' notice in writing of the application shall be served upon the party in default. Service thereof shall be made in the manner specified in the contract, and if no manner specified therein, then in the manner provided by law for personal service of a summons, within or without the state, or substituted service of a summons, or upon satisfactory proof that the party aggrieved has been or will be unable with due diligence to make service in any of the foregoing manners, then notice shall be served in such manner as the court or judge may direct. A judge of the superior court shall hear the parties and upon being satisfied that there is no substantial issue as to the making of the contract or the failure to comply therewith, the court, or the judge thereof, hearing the application, shall make an order directing the parties to proceed to arbitration in accordance with the terms of the contract.

37-16-6. Trial upon evidence of substantial issue.

If evidentiary facts are set forth raising a substantial issue as to the making of the contract or the failure to comply therewith, the court, or the judge thereof, shall proceed immediately to the trial of the issues. Whenever an immediate trial is ordered, the order therefor shall provide that, if the court finds that a written contract providing for arbitration was made, and that there was a failure to comply therewith, the parties shall proceed with the arbitration in accordance with the terms of the contract and the order shall provide that if the court finds that there was no contract or failure to comply with the contract, then the proceeding shall be dismissed.

37-16-7. Method of appointing arbitrators or umpire.

If in the contract providing for arbitration, provision is made for a method of naming or appointing an arbitrator or arbitrators or an umpire, that method shall be followed, but if no method be provided therein, then the parties to the contract shall agree to the method of naming or appointing an arbitrator or arbitrators or an umpire and if the parties shall fail to agree, then the court or the judge thereof upon application of either of the parties after due notice to the other party shall appoint an arbitrator to hear the dispute.

37-16-8. Scheduling and notice of arbitration hearing - Adjournment.

Subject to the terms of the contract, if any are specified therein, the arbitrators selected as prescribed in this chapter must appoint a time and place for the hearing of the matters submitted to them, and must cause notice thereof to be given to each of the parties. They, or a majority of them, may adjourn the hearing from time to time upon the application of either party for good cause shown or upon their own motion, but not beyond the day fixed if a date in the contract, if any, for rendering their award, unless the time so fixed is extended by the written consent of the parties to the contract or their attorney, or the parties have continued with the arbitration without objection to such adjournment.

37-16-9. Power of court to direct prompt hearing.

The court shall have power to direct the arbitrators to proceed promptly with the hearing and determination of the dispute, claim, or matter in question.

37-16-10. Arbitrator's oath - Waiver.

Before hearing any testimony, arbitrators selected as prescribed in this chapter must be sworn, by an officer authorized by law to administer an oath, faithfully and fairly to hear and examine the claim, dispute, or matter in question and to make a just award according to the best of their understanding, unless the oath is waived by the

written consent of the parties to the contract or their attorneys or the parties have continued with the arbitration without objection to the failure of the arbitrators to take the oath.

37-16-11. Powers of arbitrators.

The arbitrator or arbitrators selected as prescribed in this chapter, may require any person to attend before them as a witness; and he or she and they have, and each of them has, the same powers with respect to all the proceedings before them which are conferred upon a board or a member of a board authorized by law to hear testimony. All the arbitrators selected as prescribed in this chapter must meet together and hear all the allegations and proofs of the parties; but an award by a majority of them is valid.

37-16-12. Fees.

In any proceeding under this chapter, unless the parties agree as to the arbitrator's or arbitrators' fees, such fees shall be fixed by the court or the judges thereof who shall require the payment equally by both parties of the arbitrators' fees.

37-16-13. Validity of awards.

An award shall be valid and enforceable according to its terms and under the provisions of this chapter, without previous adjudication of the existence of a contract to arbitrate, subject, nevertheless, to the provisions of this section:

- (a) A party who has participated in any of the proceedings before the arbitrator or arbitrators may object to the confirmation of the award only on one or more of the grounds hereinafter specified (provided that he did not continue with the arbitration with notice of the facts or defects upon which his objection is based) because of a failure to comply with 37-16-8 or with 37-16-10 or because of the improper manner of the selection of the arbitrators.
- (b) A party who has not participated in any of the proceedings had before the arbitrator or arbitrators and who has not made or been served with an application to compel arbitration under 37-16-5 may also put in issue the making of the contract or the failure to comply therewith, either by a motion for a stay of the arbitration or in opposition to the confirmation of the award. If a notice shall have been personally served upon such party of an intention to conduct the arbitration pursuant to the provisions of a contract specified in the notice, then the issues specified in this subdivision may be raised only by a motion for a stay of the arbitration, notice of which motion must be served within ten (10) days after the service of the notice of intention to arbitrate. The notice must state in substance that unless within ten (10) days after its service, the party served therewith shall serve a notice of motion to stay the arbitration, he or she shall thereafter be barred from putting in issue the making of the contract or the failure to comply therewith. The arbitration hearing shall be adjourned upon service of the notice pending the determination of the motion. Where the opposing party, either on a motion for a stay or in opposition to the confirmation of an award, sets forth evidentiary facts raising a substantial issue as to the making of the contract or the failure to comply therewith, an immediate trial of the same shall be had. In the event that the party is unsuccessful he or she may, nevertheless, participate in the arbitration if the same is still being carried on.

37-16-14. Arbitration under chapter deemed special proceeding - Jurisdiction of superior court.

Arbitration of a claim, dispute, or matter in question under a contract described in this chapter shall be deemed a special proceeding, of which the superior court for Providence County shall have jurisdiction.

37-16-15. Procedure for hearing of application to court.

Any application to the court, or a judge thereof, hereunder shall be made and heard in the manner provided by law for the making and hearing of motions, except as otherwise herein expressly provided.

37-16-16. Form of award.

To entitle the award to be enforced, as prescribed in this chapter, it must be in writing; and, within the time limited in the contract, if any, subscribed by the arbitrator or arbitrators making it and either filed in the office of the clerk of the court having jurisdiction as provided in 37-16-14 or delivered to one of the parties or his or her attorney.

37-16-17. Court order confirming award.

At any time within one year after the award is made, as prescribed in 37-16-16, any party to the contract by the terms of which arbitration was had, may apply to the court having jurisdiction as provided in 37-16-14 for an order confirming the award. Thereupon the court must grant the order unless the award is vacated, modified, or corrected, as prescribed in 37-16-18 and 37-16-19 or unless the award is unenforceable under the provisions of 37-16-13. Notice of the motion must be served upon the adverse party or parties or his or her or their attorneys, as prescribed by law for service of notice of a motion upon an attorney in an action in the same court.

37-16-18. Court order vacating award.

In any of the following cases, the court must make an order vacating the award, upon the application of any party to the controversy which was arbitrated

- (a) When the award was procured by fraud.
- (b) Where the arbitrator or arbitrators exceeded their powers, or so imperfectly executed them, that a mutual, final, and definite award upon the subject matter submitted was not made.
- (c) If there was no valid contract, and the objection has been raised under the conditions set forth in 37-16-13.

37-16-19. Rehearing after vacation of award.

Where an award is vacated, the court, in its discretion may direct a rehearing either before the same arbitrator or arbitrators or before a new arbitrator or arbitrators to be chosen in the manner provided in the contract for the selection of the original arbitrator or arbitrators or as provided for in 37-16-7 and any provision limiting the time in which the arbitrator or arbitrators may make a decision shall be deemed applicable to the new arbitration and to commence from the date of the court's order.

37-16-20. Court order modifying or correcting award.

In any of the following cases, the court must make an order modifying or correcting the award, upon the application of any party to the contract by the terms of which the arbitration was held.

- (a) Where there was an evident miscalculation of figures or an evident mistake in the description of any persons, thing, or property referred to in the award.
- (b) Where the arbitrator or arbitrators have awarded upon a matter not submitted to them, not affecting the merits of the decision upon the matter submitted.
- (c) Where the award is imperfect in a matter of form not affecting the merits of the controversy, and, if it had been a master's report the defect could have been amended or disregarded by the court.

37-16-21. Notice of motion to vacate, modify, or correct an award.

Notice of a motion to vacate, modify, or correct an award must be served upon all adverse parties, or their attorneys, within sixty (60) days after the award is filed or delivered, as prescribed by law for service of notice of a motion upon an attorney in an action; except that in opposition to a motion to confirm an award, any of the grounds specified in 37-16-18 may be set up. For the purpose of the motion, any judge who might make an order, to stay the proceedings in an action brought in the same court may make an order, to be served with the notice of motion, staying the proceedings of an adverse party or parties to enforce the award.

37-16-22. Entry of judgment - Costs.

Upon the granting of an order confirming, modifying, or correcting an award, judgment may be entered in conformity therewith, except as is otherwise prescribed in this chapter. Costs of the application and of the proceedings subsequent thereto, not exceeding twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and disbursements, may be awarded by the court in its discretion. If awarded, the amount thereof must be included in the judgment.

37-16-23. Filing of papers after judgment.

(a) Immediately after entering judgment, the clerk must attach together and file the following papers:

- (1) The contract, and each written extension of the time, if any, within which to make the award.
- (2) The award.
- (3) Each notice, affidavit or other paper used upon an application to confirm, modify, or correct the award, and a copy of each order of the court upon the application.
- (4) A copy of the judgment.

(b) The judgment may be docketed as if it was rendered in an action.

37-16-24. Effect of judgment.

The judgment so entered has the same force and effect, in all respects as, and is subject to all the provisions of law relating to a judgment in an action. The judgment may be enforced as if it had been rendered in an action in the court in which it is entered.

37-16-25. Appeals.

An appeal may be taken from an order made in a proceeding under this chapter, or from a judgment entered upon an award. The proceedings upon the appeal, including the judgment thereupon and the enforcement of the judgment, are governed by the provisions of statute and rule regulating appeal in actions as far as they are applicable.

37-16-26. Satisfaction of award.

- (a) An award which requires the payment of a sum of money by a city, town, or the state or any body described in 37-16-2 created or organized by or through the authority of any of them, shall be satisfied to the extent of payment of that sum by payment thereof to the party to whom the award was made by the treasurer or officer exercising the duties of a treasurer thereof from its general funds.
- (b) An award which requires the payment of a sum of money to a city, a town, or the state or any body described in 37-16-2 created or organized by or through the authority of any of them shall be satisfied to the extent of payment of that sum by payment thereof to its treasurer or officer exercising the duties of a treasurer thereof who shall deposit the same in its general funds.

37-16-27. Application to sureties.

- (a) If a contractor principal on a bond furnished to guarantee performance or payment on a construction contract and the claimant are parties to a written contract with a provision to submit to arbitration any controversy thereafter arising under the contract, or subject to arbitration as provided in 37-16-2(b), the arbitration provisions shall apply to the surety for all disputes involving questions of the claimant's right of recovery against the surety. Either the claimant, the contractor principal, or surety may demand arbitration in accordance with the written contract or as provided in 37-16-2(b) if applicable in one arbitration proceeding, provided that the provisions of 37-16-3 shall be applicable to any such demand for arbitration. The arbitration award shall decide all controversies subject to arbitration between the claimant, on the one hand, and the contractor principal and surety on the other hand, including all questions involving liability of the contractor principal and surety on the bond, but a claimant must file suit for recovery against the surety within the time limits set forth in 37-12-2 and 37-12-5. The arbitration shall be in accordance with this chapter and the court shall enter judgment thereon as provided therein.
- (b) The arbitrator or arbitrators, if more than one, shall make findings of fact as to the compliance with the requirements for recovery against the surety, and those findings of fact shall be a part of the award binding on all parties to the arbitration.

TITLE 45

CHAPTER 55 AWARD OF MUNICIPAL CONTRACTS

SECTIONS

- 45-55-1 Legislative findings
- 45-55-2. Method of source selection
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- 45-55-5. Competitive sealed bidding.
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- 45-55-8. Sole source procurement and emergency procurements.
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- 45-55-14. Staff consultants.
- 45-55-15. Severability.
- 45-55-16 Prohibition against the use of lead based paints.
- 44-55-17 Penalties

45-55-1. Legislative findings.

It is hereby declared that a need exists to establish a uniform system for the award of contracts by municipalities, utilizing open cooperative bids.

45-55-2. Method of source selection.

Except as otherwise authorized by law, all municipal contracts shall be awarded by:

- (1) Competitive sealed bidding, pursuant to 45-55-5;
- (2) Competitive negotiations, pursuant to 45-55-6;
- (3) Non-competitive negotiations, pursuant to 45-55-7 and 45-55-8;
- (4) Small purchase procedures, pursuant to 45-55-9.
- (5) Qualification based selection (QBS) process for architects/engineers pursuant to 45-55-8.1

45-55-3. Purchasing agent - Appointment - Duties.

Within each city or town or quasi public agency there shall be designated a person or persons to act as purchasing officer to exercise the powers and duties as set forth in this chapter.

45-55-4. Definitions.

The words defined in this section have the following meanings whenever they appear in this chapter, unless the context in which they are used clearly requires a different meaning or a different definition is prescribed for a particular section, group of sections or provision.

- (1) "Business" means any corporation, partnership, individual, sole proprietorship, joint stock company, joint venture, or any other legal entity through which business is conducted.
- (2) "Change order" means a written order signed by the purchasing agent, or contractor directing or allowing the contractor to make changes which the changes clause of the contract authorizes the purchasing agent or contractor to order without the consent of the contractor or purchasing agent.
- (3) "Construction" means the process of building, altering, repairing, improving, or demolishing any public structures or building, or other public improvements of any kind to any public real property. It does not include the routine maintenance or repair of existing structures, buildings, or real property performed by salaried employees of the municipality in the usual course of their job.
- (4) "Contract" means all types of agreements, including grants and orders, for the purchase or disposal of supplies, services, construction, or any other item. It includes awards; contracts of a fixed-price, cost, cost-plus-a-fixed-fee, or incentive type; contracts providing for the issuance of job or task orders; leases; letter contracts, purchase orders, and construction management contracts. It also includes supplemental agreements with respect to any of the preceding. "Contract" does not include labor contracts with employees of the municipality.
- (5) "Contract modification" means any written alteration in the specifications, delivery point, rate of delivery, contract period, price, quantity, or other contract provisions of any existing contract, whether accomplished by unilateral action in accordance with a contract provision, or by mutual action of the parties to the contract. It includes bilateral actions, as supplemental agreements, and unilateral actions, as change orders, administrative changes, notices of termination, and notices of the exercise of a contract option.
- (6) "Contractor" means any person having a contract with a municipality.
- (8) "Data" means recorded information, regardless of form or characteristic.
- (8) "Designee" means a duly authorized representative of a person holding a superior position.
- (9) "Employee" means an individual drawing a salary from a municipality, whether elected or not, and any non-salaried individual performing personal services for any municipality.
- (10) "May" means permissive.
- (11) "Municipality" means the individual cities and towns of the state of Rhode Island.
- (12) "Negotiation" means contracting by either of the methods described in §§ 45-55-6, 45-55-7, and 45-55-8.
- (13) "Person" means any business, individual, organization, or group of individuals.
- (14) "Procurement" means the purchasing, buying, renting, leasing, or otherwise obtaining of any supplies, services, or construction. It also includes all functions that pertain to the obtaining of any supply, service, or construction item, including description of requirements, selection and solicitation of sources, preparation and award of contract, and all phases of contract administration.
- (15) "Purchasing officer" means the person designated in each municipality or quasi public agency pursuant to section 45-55-3.
- (16) "Regulations" means rules and regulations adopted by the individual cities or towns, concerning the implementation of the provisions of this chapter.

(17) "Services" means the rendering, by a contractor, of its time and effort rather than the furnishing of a specific end product, other than reports which are merely incidental to the required performance of services. "Services" does not include labor contracts with employees of governmental agencies.

(18) "Shall" means imperative.

(19) "Supplemental agreement" means any contract modification which is accomplished by the mutual action of the parties.

(20) "Supplies" means all property, including, but not limited to, leases of real property, printing and insurance, except land or permanent interest in land.

45-55-5. Competitive sealed bidding.

(a) Contracts exceeding the amount provided by 45-55-9 shall be awarded by competitive bidding unless they are professional engineering/architectural services pursuant to 45-55-8.1 and it is determined in writing that this method is not practicable. Factors to be considered in determining whether competitive sealed bidding is practicable shall include whether:

- (1) Specifications can be prepared that permit award on the basis of either the lowest qualified bid price or the lowest qualified evaluated bid price; and
 - (2) The available sources, the time and place of performance, and other relevant circumstances as are appropriate for the use of competitive sealed bidding.
- (b) The invitation for bids shall state whether award shall be made on the basis of the lowest bid price or the lowest evaluated or responsive bid price. If the latter basis is used, the objective measurable criteria to be utilized shall be stated in the invitation for bids, if available.
- (c) Adequate public notice of the invitation for bids shall be given a sufficient time prior to the date stated in the notice for the opening of bids. Notice may include publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the state as determined by the purchasing officer for the municipality not less than seven (7) days nor more than twenty-one (21) days before the date set for opening of the bids. The purchasing officer may make a written determination that the twenty-one (21) day limitation needs to be waived. The written determination shall state the reason why the twenty-one (21) day limitation is being waived and shall state the number of days, giving a minimum and maximum, before the date set for the opening of bids when public notice is to be given.
- (4) Bids shall be opened publicly in full view of the public at the time and place designated in the invitation for bids. Each bid, together with the name of the bidder, shall be recorded and an abstract made available for public inspection. Subsequent to the awarding of the bid, all documents pertinent to the awarding of the bid shall be made available and open to public inspection and retained in the bid file.
- (5) The contract shall be awarded with reasonable promptness by written notice to the responsive and responsible bidder whose bid is either the lowest bid price, or lowest evaluated or responsive bid price.
- (6) Correction or withdrawal of bids may be allowed only to the extent permitted by regulations issued by the purchasing officer.

45-55-5.1. Business exempt.

The North Kingstown Bus Contractors Association and the Scituate School Bus Owners Club shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

45-55-5.2. Town of North Smithfield - Exemption.

The town of North Smithfield is exempt from the provisions of this chapter with regard to the contracting for fire and rescue services with the Primrose Volunteer Fire Department and/or North Smithfield Fire Department and/or their respective successors and assigns.

45-55-6. Competitive negotiation.

- (a) When, under regulations adopted by the city or town council, the purchasing agent determines in writing that the use of competitive sealed bidding is not practicable, and except as provided in 45-55-8, 45-55-9, and 45-55-10 a contract may be awarded by competitive negotiation.
- (b) Adequate public notice of the request for proposals shall be given in the same manner as provided in 45-55-5(c).
- (c) Contracts may be competitively negotiated when it is determined, in writing, by the purchasing agent that the bid prices received by competitive sealed bidding either are unreasonable as to all or part of the requirements, or were not independently reached in open competition, and for which:
 - (1) Each competitive bidder has been notified of the intention to negotiate and is given reasonable opportunity to negotiate; and
 - (2) The negotiated price is lower than the lowest rejected bid by any competitive bidder; and
 - (3) The negotiated price is the lowest negotiated price offered by a competitive offeror.
- (d) The request for proposals shall indicate the relative importance of price and other evaluation factors.
- (e) Award shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be the most advantageous to the municipality taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposals.
- (f) Written or oral discussions shall be conducted with all responsible offerors who submit proposals determined, in writing, to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. Discussions shall not disclose any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors. Discussions need not be conducted:
 - (1) With respect to prices, where such prices are fixed by law or regulation, except that consideration shall be given to competitive terms and conditions; or
 - (2) Where time of delivery or performance will not permit discussions; or
 - (3) Where it can be clearly demonstrated and documented from the existence of adequate competition or accurate prior cost experience with the particular supply, service, or construction item, that acceptance of an initial offer without discussion would result in fair and reasonable prices, and the request for proposals notifies all offerors of the possibility that award may be made on the basis of the initial offers.

45-55-7. Negotiations after unsuccessful competitive sealed bidding.

- (a) In the event that all bids submitted pursuant to competitive sealed bidding under 45-55-5 result in bid prices in excess of the funds available for the purchase, and the purchasing officer determines in writing:
 - (1) That there are no additional funds available from any source so as to permit an award to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, and
 - (2) The best interest of the municipality will not permit the delay attendant to a re-solicitation under revised specifications, or for revised quantities, under competitive sealed bidding as provided in 45-55-5, then a negotiated award may be made as stated in subsection (b) or (c) of this section.
- (b) Where there is more than one bidder, competitive negotiations pursuant to 45-55-6, shall be conducted with the three (3) (two (2) if there are only two (2)) bidders determined in writing, to be the lowest responsive and responsible bidders to the competitive sealed bid invitation. Competitive negotiations shall be conducted under the following restrictions:
 - (1) If discussions pertaining to the revision of the specifications or quantities are held with any potential offeror, all other potential offerors shall be afforded an opportunity to take part in the discussions; or

(2) A request for proposals, based upon revised specifications or quantities, shall be issued as promptly as possible, shall provide for an expeditious response to the revised requirements, and shall be awarded upon the basis of the lowest bid price, or lowest evaluated bid price submitted by any responsive and responsible offeror.

(c) When after competitive sealed bidding, it is determined in writing, that there is only one responsive and responsible bidder, a noncompetitive negotiated award may be made with such bidder in accordance with 45-55-8.

45-55-8. Sole source procurement and emergency procurements.

(a) A contract may be awarded for a supply, service, or construction item without competition when, under published regulations, the purchasing officer determines, in writing, that there is only one source for the required supply, service, or construction item.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the purchasing agent may make or authorize others to make emergency procurements when there exists a threat to public health, welfare, or safety under emergency conditions as defined in regulations or where the procurement will be in the best interest of the city as established by properly promulgated rules and regulations; provided, that such emergency procurements shall be made with such competition as is practicable under the circumstances. A written determination of the basis for the emergency, and for the selection of the particular contractor, shall be included in the contract file.

45-55-8.1. Qualification based selection of architects and engineers.

When the purchasing agent determines that the city or town needs the services of a professional architect or engineer, the purchasing agent shall follow the qualification based selection process for the procurement of architectural and engineering consulting services.

45-55-9. Small purchases.

Procurements, not to exceed an aggregate amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for construction and five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for all other purchases may be made in accordance with small purchase regulations promulgated by the municipality. These amounts shall be increased or decreased annually hereafter at the same rate as the Boston Regional Consumer Price Index. Procurement requirements shall not be artificially divided so as to constitute a small purchase under this section. A municipality may further reduce the aggregate purchase amount, as provided for in this section by ordinance.

45-55-10. Cancellation of invitation for bids and requests for proposals.

An invitation for bids, a request for proposals, or other solicitation may be canceled, or all bids or proposals rejected, if it is determined, in writing, that such action if taken is not in the best interest of the municipality and approved by the chief purchasing officer.

45-55-11. Responsibilities of bidders and offerors.

(1) A written determination of responsibility of a bidder or offeror shall be made and it shall be made in accordance with regulations issued by the municipality.

A reasonable inquiry to determine the responsibility of a bidder or offeror may be conducted. The failure of a bidder or offeror to promptly supply information in connection with a reasonable inquiry may be grounds for a determination of non-responsibility with respect to a bidder or offeror.

(2) Except as otherwise provided, by law, information furnished by a bidder or offeror pursuant to this section may not be disclosed outside of the purchasing department administering the contract without prior written consent of the bidder or offeror.

45-55-12. Prequalification of contractors - General.

The municipality may provide for prequalification of suppliers as responsible prospective contractors for particular types of supplies, services, and construction. Municipalities which choose to provide for prequalification of suppliers shall adopt regulations for prequalification in the same manner provided for in the adoption of ordinances in the manner provided for in the legislative or home rule charter of the municipality. Solicitation mailing lists of

potential contractors of supplies, services, and construction shall include but need not be limited to prequalified contractors. Prequalification shall not foreclose a written determination:

- (1) Between the time of the bid opening or receipt of offers and the making of an award, that a prequalified supplier is not responsible; or
- (2) That a supplier who is not prequalified at the time of bid opening or receipt of offers is responsible.

45-55-13. Exclusion of state mandated costs.

The provisions of 45-13-7 through 45-13-10 do not apply to this section.

45-55-13.1. Exclusion of multi-cities or towns insurance corporations and cooperative risk management programs.

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to entities organized pursuant to section 45-5-20.1. Those entities are exempt from all of the provisions of this chapter.

45-55-13.2. Exclusion of multi-cities or towns energy aggregation programs.

The provisions of this chapter do not apply to entities organized for the purpose of negotiating the purchase of electric power pursuant to § 39-3-1.1, or energy or energy related services. Those entities are exempt from all provisions of this chapter.

45-55-13.3. Exclusion of multi-school district combined purchasing consortia.

The provisions of this chapter do not apply to purchases and contracts entered into by those consortia established pursuant to § 16-2-9.2, and such entities shall be exempt from all provisions of this chapter.

45-55-14. Staff consultants.

The procurement of the service of an attorney, physician or dentist by a municipality, is exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

45-55-15. Severability.

If any one or more sections, clauses, sentences or parts of this chapter are for any reason be adjudged unconstitutional or otherwise invalid in any court, that judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remaining provisions of this chapter but shall be confined in its operation to the specific provisions so held unconstitutional or invalid and the inapplicability or invalidity of any section, clause or provisions of this chapter in any one or more instances or circumstances shall not be taken to affect or prejudice in any way its applicability or validity in any other instance.

45-55-16. Prohibition against the use of lead based paints.

When purchasing paint products or contracting or subcontracting for painting, construction, improvement, completion, or repair of any public buildings, public road, public bridge, or public construction, all municipalities, as defined by 45-55-4(11), shall be prohibited from the use of lead based paint.

45-55-17. Penalties.

Any person who knowingly and intentionally violates any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500), or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

DAVIS-BACON PREVAILING WAGE REQUIREMENTS

(a) GENERAL CONTRACT AND SUBCONTRACT PROVISIONS

For any contract in excess of \$2,000 which is entered into for the actual construction, alteration and/or repair, including painting and decorating, of a treatment work under the CWSRF or a construction project under the DWSRF financed in whole or in part from Federal funds or in accordance with guarantees of a Federal agency or financed from funds obtained by pledge of any contract of a Federal agency to make a loan, grant or annual contribution (except where a different meaning is expressly indicated), and which is subject to the labor standards provisions of any of the acts listed in §5.1 or the FY 2010 appropriation, the following clauses shall be inserted in full:

(1) Minimum Wages

(i) All laborers and mechanics employed or working upon the site of the work will be paid unconditionally and not less often than once a week, and without subsequent deduction or rebate on any account (except such payroll deductions as are permitted by regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor under the Copeland Act (29 CFR part 3)), the full amount of wages and bona fide fringe benefits (or cash equivalents thereof) due at time of payment computed at rates not less than those contained in the wage determination of the Secretary of Labor which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, regardless of any contractual relationship which may be alleged to exist between the contractor and such laborers and mechanics.

Contributions made or costs reasonably anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits under section 1(b)(2) of the Davis-Bacon Act on behalf of laborers or mechanics are considered wages paid to such laborers or mechanics, subject to the provisions of paragraph (a)(1)(iv) of this section; also, regular contributions made or costs incurred for more than a weekly period (but not less often than quarterly) under plans, funds, or programs which cover the particular weekly period, are deemed to be constructively made or incurred during such weekly period. Such laborers and mechanics shall be paid the appropriate wage rate and fringe benefits on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed, without regard to skill, except as provided in §5.5(a)(4). Laborers or mechanics performing work in more than one classification may be compensated at the rate specified for each classification for the time actually worked therein: *Provided*, That the employer's payroll records accurately set forth the time spent in each classification in which work is performed. The wage determination (including any additional classification and wage rates conformed under paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section) and the Davis-Bacon poster (WH-1321) shall be posted at all times by the contractor and its subcontractors at the site of the work in a prominent and accessible place where it can be easily seen by the workers.

Wage determinations may be obtained from the U.S. Department of Labor's website, www.dol.gov.

(ii)(A) The Owner, on behalf of the EPA, shall require that any class of laborers or mechanics, including helpers, which is not listed in the wage determination and which is to be employed under the contract shall be classified in conformance with the wage determination. The State award official shall approve an additional classification and wage rate and fringe benefits therefore only when the following criteria have been met:

(1) The work to be performed by the classification requested is not performed by a classification in the wage determination; and

(2) The classification is utilized in the area by the construction industry; and

(3) The proposed wage rate, including any bona fide fringe benefits, bears a reasonable relationship to the wage rates contained in the wage determination.

(B) If the contractor and the laborers and mechanics to be employed in the classification (if known), or their representatives, and the Owner agree on the classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits where appropriate), documentation of the action taken and the request, including the local wage determination shall be sent by the Owner to the State award official. The State award official will transmit the request to the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210 and to the EPA DB Regional Coordinator concurrently. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will approve, modify, or disapprove every additional classification action within 30 days of receipt and so advise the State award official or will notify the State award official within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(C) In the event the contractor, the laborers or mechanics to be employed in the classification or their representatives, and the Owner do not agree on the proposed classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits, where appropriate), the award official shall refer the questions, including the views of all interested parties and the recommendation of the State award official, to the Administrator for determination. The request shall be sent to the EPA DB Regional Coordinator concurrently. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will issue a determination within 30 days of receipt and so advise the State award official or will notify the State award official within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(D) The wage rate (including fringe benefits where appropriate) determined pursuant to paragraphs (a)(1)(ii) (B) or (C) of this section, shall be paid to all workers performing work in the classification under this contract from the first day on which work is performed in the classification.

(iii) Whenever the minimum wage rate prescribed in the contract for a class of laborers or mechanics includes a fringe benefit which is not expressed as an hourly rate, the contractor shall either pay the benefit as stated in the wage determination or shall pay another bona fide fringe benefit or an hourly cash equivalent thereof.

(iv) If the contractor does not make payments to a trustee or other third person, the contractor may consider as part of the wages of any laborer or mechanic the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing bona fide fringe benefits under a plan or program, *Provided*, That the Secretary of Labor has found, upon the written request of the contractor, that the applicable standards of the Davis-Bacon Act have been met. The Secretary of Labor may require the contractor to set aside in a separate account assets for the meeting of obligations under the plan or program.

(2) Withholding

The Owner, shall upon written request of the EPA Award Official or an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, withhold or cause to be withheld from the contractor under this

contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements, which is held by the same prime contractor, so much of the accrued payments or advances as may be considered necessary to pay laborers and mechanics, including apprentices, trainees, and helpers, employed by the contractor or any subcontractor the full amount of wages required by the contract. In the event of failure to pay any laborer or mechanic, including any apprentice, trainee, or helper, employed or working on the site of the work, all or part of the wages required by the contract, the (Agency) may, after written notice to the contractor, sponsor, applicant, or owner, take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds until such violations have ceased.

(3) Payrolls and Basic Records

(i) Payrolls and basic records relating thereto shall be maintained by the contractor during the course of the work and preserved for a period of three years thereafter for all laborers and mechanics working at the site of the work. Such records shall contain the name, address, and social security number of each such worker, his or her correct classification, hourly rates of wages paid (including rates of contributions or costs anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits or cash equivalents thereof of the types described in section 1(b)(2)(B) of the Davis-Bacon Act), daily and weekly number of hours worked, deductions made and actual wages paid. Whenever the Secretary of Labor has found under 29 CFR 5.5(a)(1)(iv) that the wages of any laborer or mechanic include the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing benefits under a plan or program described in section 1(b)(2)(B) of the Davis-Bacon Act, the contractor shall maintain records which show that the commitment to provide such benefits is enforceable, that the plan or program is financially responsible, and that the plan or program has been communicated in writing to the laborers or mechanics affected, and records which show the costs anticipated or the actual cost incurred in providing such benefits. Contractors employing apprentices or trainees under approved programs shall maintain written evidence of the registration of apprenticeship programs and certification of trainee programs, the registration of the apprentices and trainees, and the ratios and wage rates prescribed in the applicable programs.

(ii)(A) The contractor shall submit weekly for each week in which any contract work is performed a copy of all payrolls to the Owner, that is, the entity that receives the sub-grant or loan from the State capitalization grant recipient. Such documentation shall be available on request of the State recipient or EPA. As to each payroll copy received, the Owner shall provide written confirmation in a form satisfactory to the State indicating whether or not the project is in compliance with the requirements of 29 CFR 5.5(a)(1) based on the most recent payroll copies for the specified week. The payrolls submitted shall set out accurately and completely all of the information required to be maintained under 29 CFR 5.5(a)(3)(i), except that full social security numbers and home addresses shall not be included on weekly payrolls. Instead the payrolls shall only need to include an individually identifying number for each employee (e.g. , the last four digits of the employee's social security number). The required weekly payroll information may be submitted in any form desired. Optional Form WH-347 is available for this purpose from the Wage and Hour Division Web site at <http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/forms/wh347instr.htm> or its successor site. The prime contractor is responsible for the submission of copies of payrolls by all subcontractors. Contractors and subcontractors shall maintain the full social security number and current address of each covered worker, and shall provide them upon request to the owner for transmission to the State or EPA if requested by EPA, the State, the contractor, or the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor for purposes of an investigation or audit of

compliance with prevailing wage requirements. It is not a violation of this section for a prime contractor to require a subcontractor to provide addresses and social security numbers to the prime contractor for its own records, without weekly submission to the Owner.

(B) Each payroll submitted shall be accompanied by a "Statement of Compliance," signed by the contractor or subcontractor or his or her agent who pays or supervises the payment of the persons employed under the contract and shall certify the following:

(1) That the payroll for the payroll period contains the information required to be provided under §5.5 (a)(3)(ii) of Regulations, 29 CFR part 5, the appropriate information is being maintained under §5.5 (a)(3)(i) of Regulations, 29 CFR part 5, and that such information is correct and complete;

(2) That each laborer or mechanic (including each helper, apprentice, and trainee) employed on the contract during the payroll period has been paid the full weekly wages earned, without rebate, either directly or indirectly, and that no deductions have been made either directly or indirectly from the full wages earned, other than permissible deductions as set forth in Regulations, 29 CFR part 3;

(3) That each laborer or mechanic has been paid not less than the applicable wage rates and fringe benefits or cash equivalents for the classification of work performed, as specified in the applicable wage determination incorporated into the contract.

(C) The weekly submission of a properly executed certification set forth on the reverse side of Optional Form WH-347 shall satisfy the requirement for submission of the "Statement of Compliance" required by paragraph (a)(3)(ii)(B) of this section.

(D) The falsification of any of the above certifications may subject the contractor or subcontractor to civil or criminal prosecution under section 1001 of title 18 and section 231 of title 31 of the United States Code.

(iii) The contractor or subcontractor shall make the records required under paragraph (a)(3)(i) of this section available for inspection, copying, or transcription by authorized representatives of the State, EPA or the Department of Labor, and shall permit such representatives to interview employees during working hours on the job. If the contractor or subcontractor fails to submit the required records or to make them available, the Federal agency or State may, after written notice to the contractor, sponsor, applicant, or owner, take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds. Furthermore, failure to submit the required records upon request or to make such records available may be grounds for debarment action pursuant to 29 CFR 5.12.

(4) Apprentices and Trainees

(i) *Apprentices.* Apprentices will be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work they performed when they are employed pursuant to and individually registered in a bona fide apprenticeship program registered with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services, or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office, or if a person is employed in his or her first 90 days of probationary employment as an apprentice in such an apprenticeship program, who is not individually registered in the program, but who has been certified by the Office of

Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services or a State Apprenticeship Agency (where appropriate) to be eligible for probationary employment as an apprentice. The allowable ratio of apprentices to journeymen on the job site in any craft classification shall not be greater than the ratio permitted to the contractor as to the entire work force under the registered program. Any worker listed on a payroll at an apprentice wage rate, who is not registered or otherwise employed as stated above, shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed. In addition, any apprentice performing work on the job site in excess of the ratio permitted under the registered program shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the work actually performed. Where a contractor is performing construction on a project in a locality other than that in which its program is registered, the ratios and wage rates (expressed in percentages of the journeyman's hourly rate) specified in the contractor's or subcontractor's registered program shall be observed. Every apprentice must be paid at not less than the rate specified in the registered program for the apprentice's level of progress, expressed as a percentage of the journeymen hourly rate specified in the applicable wage determination. Apprentices shall be paid fringe benefits in accordance with the provisions of the apprenticeship program. If the apprenticeship program does not specify fringe benefits, apprentices must be paid the full amount of fringe benefits listed on the wage determination for the applicable classification. If the Administrator determines that a different practice prevails for the applicable apprentice classification, fringes shall be paid in accordance with that determination. In the event the Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services, or a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office, withdraws approval of an apprenticeship program, the contractor will no longer be permitted to utilize apprentices at less than the applicable predetermined rate for the work performed until an acceptable program is approved.

(ii) *Trainees*. Except as provided in 29 CFR 5.16, trainees will not be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work performed unless they are employed pursuant to and individually registered in a program which has received prior approval, evidenced by formal certification by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. The ratio of trainees to journeymen on the job site shall not be greater than permitted under the plan approved by the Employment and Training Administration. Every trainee must be paid at not less than the rate specified in the approved program for the trainee's level of progress, expressed as a percentage of the journeyman hourly rate specified in the applicable wage determination. Trainees shall be paid fringe benefits in accordance with the provisions of the trainee program. If the trainee program does not mention fringe benefits, trainees shall be paid the full amount of fringe benefits listed on the wage determination unless the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division determines that there is an apprenticeship program associated with the corresponding journeyman wage rate on the wage determination which provides for less than full fringe benefits for apprentices. Any employee listed on the payroll at a trainee rate who is not registered and participating in a training plan approved by the Employment and Training Administration shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed. In addition, any trainee performing work on the job site in excess of the ratio permitted under the registered program shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the work actually performed. In the event the Employment and Training Administration withdraws approval of a training program, the contractor will no longer be permitted to utilize trainees at less than the applicable predetermined rate for the work performed until an acceptable program is approved.

(iii) *Equal employment opportunity*. The utilization of apprentices, trainees and journeymen under this part shall be in conformity with the equal employment opportunity requirements of Executive Order 11246, as amended, and 29 CFR part 30.

(5) Compliance with Copeland Act Requirements

The contractor shall comply with the requirements of 29 CFR part 3, which are incorporated by reference in this contract.

(6) Subcontracts

The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses contained in 29 CFR 5.5(a)(1) through (10) and such other clauses as the (write in the name of the Federal agency) may by appropriate instructions require, and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for the compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with all the contract clauses in 29 CFR 5.5.

(7) Contract Termination: Debarment

A breach of the contract clauses in 29 CFR 5.5 may be grounds for termination of the contract, and for debarment as a contractor and a subcontractor as provided in 29 CFR 5.12.

(8) Compliance with Davis-Bacon and Related Act Requirements

All rulings and interpretations of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts contained in 29 CFR parts 1, 3, and 5 are herein incorporated by reference in this contract.

(9) Disputes Concerning Labor Standards

Disputes arising out of the labor standards provisions of this contract shall not be subject to the general disputes clause of this contract. Such disputes shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures of the Department of Labor set forth in 29 CFR parts 5, 6, and 7. Disputes within the meaning of this clause include disputes between the contractor (or any of its subcontractors) and the Owner, the State, EPA, the U.S. Department of Labor, or the employees or their representatives.

(10) Certification of Eligibility

(i) By entering into this contract, the contractor certifies that neither it (nor he or she) nor any person or firm who has an interest in the contractor's firm is a person or firm ineligible to be awarded Government contracts by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

(ii) No part of this contract shall be subcontracted to any person or firm ineligible for award of a Government contract by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

(iii) The penalty for making false statements is prescribed in the U.S. Criminal Code, 18 U.S.C. 1001.

(b) CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND SAFETY STANDARDS ACT

For any contract in an amount in excess of \$100,000 and subject to the overtime provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, the following clauses set forth in paragraphs (b) (1), (2), (3) and (4) of this section shall be inserted in full. These clauses shall be inserted in addition to the clauses required in Section (a), above or 29 CFR 4.6. As used in this paragraph, the terms laborers and mechanics include watchmen and guards.

(1) Overtime Requirements

No contractor or subcontractor contracting for any part of the contract work which may require or involve the employment of laborers or mechanics shall require or permit any such laborer or mechanic in any workweek in which he or she is employed on such work to work in excess of forty hours in such workweek unless such laborer or mechanic receives compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty hours in such workweek.

(2) Violation; Liability for Unpaid Wages; Liquidated Damages

In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section the contractor and any subcontractor responsible therefor shall be liable for the unpaid wages. In addition, such contractor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States (in the case of work done under contract for the District of Columbia or a territory, to such District or to such territory), for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or mechanic, including watchmen and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, in the sum of \$10 for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(3) Withholding for Unpaid Wages and Liquidated Damages

The Owner, upon written request of the EPA Award Official or an authorized representative of the Department of Labor shall withhold or cause to be withheld, from any moneys payable on account of work performed by the contractor or subcontractor under any such contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, which is held by the same prime contractor, such sums as may be determined to be necessary to satisfy any liabilities of such contractor or subcontractor for unpaid wages and liquidated damages as provided in the clause set forth in paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(4) Subcontracts

The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraph (b)(1) through (4) of this section and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in paragraphs (b)(1) through (4) of this section.

(c) MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

In addition to the clauses contained in Section (a), above, in any contract subject only to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act and not to any of the other statutes cited in §5.1 the contractor or subcontractor shall maintain payrolls and basic payroll records during the course of the work and shall preserve them for a period of three years from the completion of the contract for all laborers and mechanics, including guards and watchmen, working on the contract. Such records shall contain the name and address of each such employee, social security number, correct classifications, hourly rates of wages paid, daily and weekly number of hours worked, deductions made, and actual wages paid. The records to be maintained under this paragraph shall be made available by the contractor or subcontractor for inspection, copying, or transcription by authorized representatives of the Owner, the State, EPA and the Department of Labor, and the contractor or subcontractor will permit such representatives to interview employees during working hours on the job.

(d) COMPLIANCE VERIFICATION

(1) The Owner shall periodically interview a sufficient number of employees entitled to DB prevailing wages (covered employees) to verify that contractors or subcontractors are paying the appropriate wage rates. As provided in 29 CFR 5.6(a)(6), all interviews must be conducted in confidence. The Owner must use Standard Form 1445 (SF 1445) or equivalent documentation to memorialize the interviews. Copies of the SF 1445 are available from EPA on request.

(2) The Owner shall establish and follow an interview schedule based on its assessment of the risks of noncompliance with DB posed by contractors or subcontractors and the duration of the contract or subcontract. At a minimum, the Owner should conduct interviews with a representative group of covered employees within two weeks of each contractor or subcontractor's submission of its initial weekly payroll data and two weeks prior to the estimated completion date for the contract or subcontract. Owners must conduct more frequent interviews if the initial interviews or other information indicates that there is a risk that the contractor or subcontractor is not complying with DB . Owners shall immediately conduct necessary interviews in response to an alleged violation of the prevailing wage requirements. All interviews shall be conducted in confidence.

(3) The Owner shall periodically conduct spot checks of a representative sample of weekly payroll data to verify that contractors or subcontractors are paying the appropriate wage rates. The Owner shall establish and follow a spot check schedule based on its assessment of the risks of noncompliance with DB posed by contractors or subcontractors and the duration of the contract or subcontract. At a minimum, if practicable, the Owner should spot check payroll data within two weeks of each contractor or subcontractor's submission of its initial payroll data and two weeks prior to the completion date the contract or subcontract . Owners must conduct more frequent spot checks if the initial spot check or other information indicates that there is a risk that the contractor or subcontractor is not complying with DB. In addition, during the examinations the Owner shall verify evidence of fringe benefit plans and payments thereunder by contractors and subcontractors who claim credit for fringe benefit contributions.

(4) The Owner shall periodically review contractors and subcontractors use of apprentices and trainees to verify registration and certification with respect to apprenticeship and training programs approved by either the U.S Department of Labor or a state, as appropriate, and that contractors and subcontractors are not using disproportionate numbers of, laborers, trainees

and apprentices. These reviews shall be conducted in accordance with the schedules for spot checks and interviews described in Item 5(b) and (c) above.

(5) Owners must immediately report potential violations of the DB prevailing wage requirements to the EPA DB contact listed above and to the appropriate DOL Wage and Hour District Office listed at <http://www.dol.gov/esa/contacts/whd/america2.htm>.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF WATER

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment in the SRF Programs

FROM: Kiri Anderer, P.E., Acting Associate Branch Chief
Infrastructure Branch, OGWDW

Michael Deane, Branch Chief
State Revolving Fund Branch, OWM

TO: SRF Branch Chiefs
Regions 1-10

Effective August 13, 2020, recipients and subrecipients of EPA funded assistance agreements, including borrowers under EPA funded revolving loan funds, must comply with regulations at [2 CFR 200.216](#), *Prohibition on certain telecommunication and video surveillance services or equipment*, implementing section 889 of [Public Law 115-232](#). The regulation prohibits the use of Federal funds to procure (enter into, extend, or renew contracts) or obtain equipment, systems, or services that use “covered telecommunications equipment or services” identified in the regulation as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. Prohibitions extend to the use of Federal funds by recipients and subrecipients to enter into 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. Certain equipment, systems, or services, including equipment, systems, or services produced or provided by entities subject to the prohibition are recorded in the [System for Award Management](#) exclusion list.

As described in section 889 of Public Law 115-232, covered telecommunications equipment or services includes:

- Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
- For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
- Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.

- Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country.

Applicability in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Programs

Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF (CWSRF and DWSRF) programs may not expend equivalency funds for these products on or after August 13, 2020. States must ensure that equivalency assistance agreements include the telecommunications prohibition condition [provided by EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment](#) (OGD) in OGD's most recent EPA General Terms and Conditions. The condition must also be in construction contracts associated with equivalency assistance agreements.

There is no exhaustive list of components and services that fall under the prohibition. State SRF managers and local assistance recipients should exercise due diligence and be particularly mindful of project components with internet or cellular connections. For example, recipients should be mindful of automatic meter reading (AMR) technology and advanced metering infrastructure (AMI), instrumentation control systems (e.g. process control systems, distributed control systems and programmable logic controls), and security cameras and other electronic security measures to ensure that those items are procured from a non-excluded entity. Items included in the prohibition are not eligible SRF costs, and the SRF programs cannot reimburse borrowers for these costs.

The prohibition also applies to the CWSRF administrative funds (if states are billing those costs to the federal CWSRF capitalization grant) and the four DWSRF set-asides. States should be mindful of items such as cell phones, computers, and mobile WiFi routers or hotspots funded by those accounts.

If you have questions on the implementation of this grant condition, please contact Michael Deane at Deane.Michael@epa.gov or Kiri Anderer at Anderer.Kirsten@epa.gov.

American Iron and Steel Requirement

The Contractor acknowledges to and for the benefit of the City of Pawtucket Water Supply Board (“Purchaser”) and the State of Rhode Island (“State”) that it understands the goods and services under this Agreement are being funded with monies made available by the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund that have statutory requirements commonly known as “American Iron and Steel” that requires all of the iron and steel products used in the MR-10 project be produced in the United States (“American Iron and Steel Requirement”) including iron and steel products provided by the Contractor pursuant to this Agreement. The Contractor hereby represents and warrants to and for the benefit of the Purchaser and the State that (a) the Contractor has reviewed and understands the American Iron and Steel Requirement, (b) all of the iron and steel products used in the MR-10 project will be and/or have been produced in the United States in a manner that complies with the American Iron and Steel requirement, unless a waiver of the requirement is approved, and (c) the Contractor will provide any further verified information, certification or assurance of compliance with this paragraph, or information necessary to support a waiver of the American Iron and Steel Requirement, as may be requested by the Purchaser or the State. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, any failure to comply with this paragraph by the Contractor shall permit the Purchaser or State to recover damages against the Contractor any loss, expense, or cost (including without limitation attorneys’ fees) incurred by the Purchaser or State resulting from such failure (including without limitation any impairment or loss of funding, whether in whole or in part, from the State or any damages owed to the State by the Purchaser). While the Contractor has no direct contractual privity with the State, as a lender to the Purchaser for the funding of this project, the Purchaser and the Contractor agree that the State is a third-party beneficiary and neither this paragraph (nor any other provision of this Agreement necessary to give this paragraph force or effect) shall be amended or waived without the prior written consent of the State.

SIGNATURE OF BIDDER

DATE

TITLE

COMPANY

SRF SIGNAGE SPECIFICATIONS



THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED BY THE

STATE REVOLVING FUND

JOINTLY ADMINISTERED BY THE

**Rhode Island
Infrastructure Bank**

Vahid Ownjazayeri
Chair

Jeffrey R. Diehl
Executive Director



**State of Rhode Island
Department of Health**

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

James V. McDonald,
MD, MPH, Interim Director-
RIDOH



"Dedicated To Protecting And Preserving Our State's Most Important Resource...Clean Water"



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"Dedicated To Protecting And Preserving Our State's Most Important Resource...Clean Water"

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Navy Blue

Black

Green &
Navy Blue

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Navy Blue

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"Dedicated To Protecting And Preserving Our State's Most Important Resource...Clean Water"

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