1. SOLICITATION NUMBER

2. TYPE OF SOLICITATION

3. DATE ISSUED

PAGE OF PAGES

4. CONTRACT NUMBER

5. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQUEST NUMBER

6. PROJECT NUMBER

7. ISSUED BY

CODE

8. ADDRESS OFFER TO

a. NAME

b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include area code) (NO COLLECT CALLS)

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

12a. THE CONTRACTOR MUST FURNISH ANY REQUIRED PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS?

(If "YES," indicate within how many calendar days after award in Item 12B.)

12b. CALENDAR DAYS

13. ADDITIONAL SOLICITATION REQUIREMENTS:

STANDARD FORM 1442 (REV. 8/2014)

STANDARD FORM 1442

Prescribed by GSA-FAR (48 CFR) 52.236-1(d)

SOLICITATION, OFFER,

AND AWARD

(Construction, Alteration, or Repair)

SOLICITATION

SOLICITATION

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

9. FOR INFORMATION

 CALL:

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

SEALED BID (IFB)

NEGOTIATED (RFP)

11. The Contractor shall begin performance within \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ calendar days and complete it within

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

calendar days after receiving

award,

notice to proceed. This performance period is

mandatory

negotiable. (See \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_).

YES

NO

a.

Sealed offers in original and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_copies to perform the work required are due at the place specified in Item 8 by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(hour) local time \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (date). If this is a sealed bid solicitation, offers must be publicly opened at that time. Sealed

envelopes containing offers shall be marked to show the offeror's name and address, the solicitation number, the date and time offers are due.

b.

An offer guarantee

is,

is not required.

c.

All offers are subject to the (1) work requirements, and (2) other provisions and clauses incorporated in the solicitation in full text or by reference.

 .

d.

Offers providing less than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ calendar days for Government acceptance after the date offers are due will not be

considered and will be rejected.

1 to

72

36C26324B0008

X

437-24-3-6602-0039

437-23-150

36C263

Department of Veterans Affairs

NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE

Daniel Dobler Contract Specialist

316 Robert Street N. STE. 506

St. Paul MN 55101

Department of Veterans Affairs

NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE

Daniel Dobler Contract Specialist

316 Robert Street N. STE. 506

St. Paul MN 55101

Daniel Dobler

651-293-3015

Project Number: 437-23-150 Test Fire Dampers

POC: Daniel Dobler; daniel.dobler@va.gov; 651-293-3015

Contractor shall provide all tools, materials, equipment, labor, and supervision necessaryto inspect and test

approximately 382 fire dampers and complete Fargo VA Health Care System construction project 437-23-150. All work

shall be in accordance with Contracting Documents, Scope of Work (SOW), NFPA, local building codes, VA facility

standards, and other applicable requirements.

This solicitation is issued in accordance with Public Law 109-461, the Veterans Benefits, Healthcare Information

and Technology Act of 2006, Sections 502 and 503, as a set-aside for Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business

(SDVOSB) concerns. Pursuant to 38 USC 8127(d), Veterans First Contracting Program, competition is restricted to

SDVOSB construction firms, as there is an expectation that offers will be received by two (2) or more SDVOSB

contractors under this solicitation. In accordance with VAAR 819.7003(b), at the time of submission of offers

and prior to award of a contract, the offeror must represent to the Contracting Officer that it is a (1) SDVOSB

eligible under VAAR 819.70; (2) small business concern under the NAICS code assigned to this acquisition; and

(3)listed as a verified SDVOSB in VetCert (formally VIP) database at https://www.veterans.certify.sba.gov.

The applicable NAICS Code for this acquisition is 236220 with a $45 Million small business size standard. The

magnitude of construction cost range is between $250,000.00and $500,000.00.

See Contracting Officer's Special Information and Instructions for more information pertaining to this

solicitation.

14

150

X

52.211-10

X

10

one (1)

2:00 pm

CDT

08-30-2024

X

90

14. NAME AND ADDRESS OF OFFEROR

15. TELEPHONE NUMBER

16. REMITTANCE ADDRESS

CODE

FACILITY CODE

17. The offeror agrees to perform the work required at the prices specified below in strict accordance with the terms of the solicitation, if this offer is

accepted by the Government in writing within \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ calendar days after the date offers are due.

AMOUNTS

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

19. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENT

NUMBER

DATE.

20a. NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN OFFER

20b. SIGNATURE

20c. OFFER DATE

21. ITEMS ACCEPTED:

22. AMOUNT

23. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA

24. SUBMIT INVOICES TO ADDRESS SHOWN IN

ITEM

25. OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION PURSUANT TO

10 U.S.C. 2304(c)(

 )

41 U.S.C. 3304(a) (

 )

26. ADMINISTERED BY

27. PAYMENT WILL BE MADE BY

PHONE:

FAX:

28. NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT

29. AWARD

Your

Contractor agrees

offer on this solicitation is hereby accepted as to the items listed. This

to furnish and deliver all items or perform all work requirements identified

award consummates the contract, which consists of (a) the Government

on this form and any continuation sheets for the consideration stated in

solicitation and your offer, and (b) this contract award. No further cont-

this contract. The rights and obligations of the parties to this contract

ractual document is necessary.

shall be governed by (a) this contract award, (b) the solicitation, and (c)

the clauses, representations, certifications, and specifications incorporated

by reference in or attached to this contract.

30a. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTOR OR PERSON AUTHORIZED

31a. NAME OF CONTRACTING OFFICER

TO SIGN

30b. SIGNATURE

30c. DATE

31b. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

31c. AWARD DATE

BY

**OFFER**

**AWARD**

**STANDARD FORM 1442 (REV. 8/2014) BACK**

(Include ZIP Code)

(Include area code)

(Include only if different than Item 14.)

(Insert any number equal to or greater than

the minimum requirement stated in Item 13d. Failure to insert any number means the offeror accepts the minimum in Item 13d.)

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

(Type or print)

(4 copies unless otherwise specified)

(Type or print)

(Type or print)

(Contractor is required to sign this

document and return \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ copies to issuing office.)

(Contractor is not required to sign this document.)

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

**(To be completed by Government)**

**CONTRACTING OFFICER WILL COMPLETE ITEM 28 OR 29 AS APPLICABLE**

See Price Schedule Sheet.

437-3640162-6602-854200 -3222 23NRNR000

Obligation Number:

Department of Veterans Affairs

NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE

Daniel Dobler

316 Robert Street N. STE. 506

St. Paul MN 55101

Y

Department of Veterans Affairs

Financial Services Center

PO Box 149971

Austin TX 78714-9971

Zachary Koutz

## A.3 PRICE/COST SCHEDULE

### ITEM INFORMATION

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ITEM NUMBER | DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES | QUANTITY | UNIT | UNIT PRICE | AMOUNT |
| 0001 |  | 0.00 | jb | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | Construction work shall include, but shall not be limited to providing all labor, materials, equipment, etc. necessary to inspect and test approximately 382 fire dampers and completeFargo VA Health Care System construction project 437-23-150. All work shall be in accordance with Contracting Documents, Scope of Work (SOW), NFPA, local building codes, VA facility standards, and other applicable requirements. Period of Performance will be 150 days from receipt of the Notice to Proceed or (NTP). Period of performance will start upon notice to proceed. Contract Period: BasePOP Begin: POP End: PRINCIPAL NAICS CODE: 236220 - Commercial and Institutional Building ConstructionPRODUCT/SERVICE CODE: Z1DA - Maintenance of Hospitals and Infirmaries |  |
|  |  |  |  | **GRAND TOTAL** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

## A.4 DELIVERY SCHEDULE

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ITEM NUMBER | SHIPPING INFORMATION | QUANTITY | DELIVERY DATE |
| 0001 |  |  | 0.00 |  |

Table of Contents

[PART I - THE SCHEDULE 1](#_Toc256000000)

[SECTION A - SOLICITATION/CONTRACT FORM 1](#_Toc256000001)

[A.1 SF 1442 SOLICITATION, OFFER, AND AWARD (Construction, Alteration, or Repair) 1](#_Toc256000002)

[A.2 SF 1442 SOLICITATION, OFFER, AND AWARD (CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, OR REPAIR)– BACK 2](#_Toc256000003)

[A.3 PRICE/COST SCHEDULE 3](#_Toc256000004)

[ITEM INFORMATION 3](#_Toc256000005)

[A.4 DELIVERY SCHEDULE 3](#_Toc256000006)

[CONTRACT AWARD 6](#_Toc256000007)

[CONTRACTOR'S SIGNATURE 6](#_Toc256000008)

[SITE VISIT 7](#_Toc256000009)

[TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES 7](#_Toc256000010)

[BIDDING MATERIAL 8](#_Toc256000011)

[PREPARATION OF BIDS 8](#_Toc256000012)

[BID SUBMISSION DOCUMENTS 8](#_Toc256000013)

[DELIVERY OF BIDS 10](#_Toc256000014)

[BID OPENING 10](#_Toc256000015)

[INFORMATION REGARDING BID GUARANTEE AND BONDS 11](#_Toc256000016)

[DETERMINATION OF NON-RESPONSIVE 12](#_Toc256000017)

[DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY 12](#_Toc256000018)

[VETS 4212 14](#_Toc256000019)

[SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM) 14](#_Toc256000020)

[REVIEW REQUIRED REGISTRATION WITH CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT REPORTING SYSTEM (CPARS) 14](#_Toc256000021)

[BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS AND SPECIAL AGREEMENT CHECKS 16](#_Toc256000022)

[HHS/OIG EXCLUSIONS 16](#_Toc256000023)

[REFERENCES TO VA ENGINEER, RESIDENT ENGINEER, OR PROJECT MANAGER 17](#_Toc256000024)

[PRE-CONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE 17](#_Toc256000025)

[INSTRUCTIONS, CONDITIONS AND OTHER STATEMENTS TO BIDDERS/OFFERORS 19](#_Toc256000026)

[2.1 52.201-1 ACQUISITION 360: VOLUNTARY SURVEY (SEP 2023) 19](#_Toc256000027)

[2.2 52.204-7 SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (OCT 2018) 19](#_Toc256000028)

[2.3 52.204-16 COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENT ENTITY CODE REPORTING (AUG 2020) 20](#_Toc256000029)

[2.4 52.204-22 ALTERNATIVE LINE ITEM PROPOSAL (JAN 2017) 22](#_Toc256000030)

[2.5 52.204-26 COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES—REPRESENTATION (OCT 2020) 22](#_Toc256000031)

[2.6 52.211-6 BRAND NAME OR EQUAL (AUG 1999) 23](#_Toc256000032)

[2.7 52.214-3 AMENDMENTS TO INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (DEC 2016) 23](#_Toc256000033)

[2.8 52.214-4 FALSE STATEMENTS IN BIDS (APR 1984) 24](#_Toc256000034)

[2.9 52.214-5 SUBMISSION OF BIDS (DEC 2016) 24](#_Toc256000035)

[2.10 52.214-6 EXPLANATION TO PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS (APR 1984) 24](#_Toc256000036)

[2.11 52.214-7 LATE SUBMISSIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND WITHDRAWALS OF BIDS (NOV 1999) 24](#_Toc256000037)

[2.12 52.214-18 PREPARATION OF BIDS—CONSTRUCTION (APR 1984) 25](#_Toc256000038)

[2.13 52.214-19 CONTRACT AWARD—SEALED BIDDING—CONSTRUCTION (AUG 1996) 26](#_Toc256000039)

[2.14 52.214-34 SUBMISSION OF OFFERS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE (APR 1991) 26](#_Toc256000040)

[2.15 52.214-35 SUBMISSION OF OFFERS IN U.S. CURRENCY (APR 1991) 26](#_Toc256000041)

[2.16 VAAR 852.214-71 RESTRICTIONS ON ALTERNATE ITEM(S) (MAY 2018) 27](#_Toc256000042)

[2.17 52.216-1 TYPE OF CONTRACT (APR 1984) 27](#_Toc256000043)

[2.18 52.222-5 CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS—SECONDARY SITE OF THE WORK (MAY 2014) 27](#_Toc256000044)

[2.19 52.225-12 NOTICE OF BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENT—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS UNDER TRADE AGREEMENTS (MAY 2014) 27](#_Toc256000045)

[2.20 52.233-2 SERVICE OF PROTEST (SEP 2006) 28](#_Toc256000046)

[2.21 52.252-1 SOLICITATION PROVISIONS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998) 29](#_Toc256000047)

[2.22 52.252-5 AUTHORIZED DEVIATIONS IN PROVISIONS (NOV 2020) 29](#_Toc256000048)

[2.23 VAAR 852.209-70 ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (OCT 2020) 30](#_Toc256000049)

[2.24 VAAR 852.214-72 ALTERNATE ITEM(S) (MAY 2018) 30](#_Toc256000050)

[2.25 VAAR 852.233-70 PROTEST CONTENT/ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (OCT 2018) 30](#_Toc256000051)

[2.26 VAAR 852.233-71 ALTERNATE PROTEST PROCEDURE (OCT 2018) 31](#_Toc256000052)

[2.27 VAAR 852.239-75 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY NOTICE (FEB 2023) 31](#_Toc256000053)

[2.28 VAAR 852.252-70 SOLICITATION PROVISIONS OR CLAUSES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (JAN 2008) 32](#_Toc256000054)

[REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS 33](#_Toc256000055)

[3.1 52.204-8 ANNUAL REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS (MAY 2024) 33](#_Toc256000056)

[3.2 52.204-24 REPRESENTATION REGARDING CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT (NOV 2021) 37](#_Toc256000057)

[3.3 52.219-14 LIMITATIONS ON SUBCONTRACTING (OCT 2022) 39](#_Toc256000058)

[3.4 52.229-11 TAX ON CERTAIN FOREIGN PROCUREMENTS—NOTICE AND REPRESENTATION (JUN 2020) 41](#_Toc256000059)

[GENERAL CONDITIONS 44](#_Toc256000060)

[4.1 52.204-21 BASIC SAFEGUARDING OF COVERED CONTRACTOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS (NOV 2021) 44](#_Toc256000061)

[4.2 52.211-10 COMMENCEMENT, PROSECUTION, AND COMPLETION OF WORK (APR 1984) 45](#_Toc256000062)

[4.3 52.219-28 POST-AWARD SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM REREPRESENTATION (FEB 2024) 45](#_Toc256000063)

[4.4 52.223-20 AEROSOLS (MAY 2024) 48](#_Toc256000064)

[4.5 52.223-21 FOAMS (MAY 2024) 49](#_Toc256000065)

[4.6 52.225-9 BUY AMERICAN—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS (OCT 2022) 50](#_Toc256000066)

[4.7 52.236-4 PHYSICAL DATA (APR 1984) 55](#_Toc256000067)

[4.8 52.252-2 CLAUSES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998) 55](#_Toc256000068)

[4.9 52.252-6 AUTHORIZED DEVIATIONS IN CLAUSES (NOV 2020) 56](#_Toc256000069)

[4.10 VAAR 852.201-70 CONTRACTING OFFICER'S REPRESENTATIVE (DEC 2022) 59](#_Toc256000070)

[4.11 VAAR 852.203-70 COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING (MAY 2018) 59](#_Toc256000071)

[4.12 VAAR 852.204-70 PERSONAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL (MAY 2020) 59](#_Toc256000072)

[4.13 VAAR 852.211-72 TECHNICAL INDUSTRY STANDARDS (NOV 2018) 60](#_Toc256000073)

[4.14 VAAR 852.219-73 VA NOTICE OF TOTAL SET-ASIDE FOR CERTIFIED SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES (JAN 2023) (DEVIATION) 60](#_Toc256000074)

[4.15 VAAR 852.219-75 VA NOTICE OF LIMITATIONS ON SUBCONTRACTING—CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION (JAN 2023) (DEVIATION) 63](#_Toc256000075)

[4.16 VAAR 852.223-71 SAFETY AND HEALTH (SEP 2019) 65](#_Toc256000076)

[4.17 VAAR 852.228-70 BOND PREMIUM ADJUSTMENT (JAN 2008) 66](#_Toc256000077)

[4.18 VAAR 852.228-72 ASSISTING SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED AND VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES IN OBTAINING BONDS (DEC 2009) 66](#_Toc256000078)

[4.19 852.228-73 INDEMNIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR—HAZARDOUS RESEARCH PROJECTS (MAR 2018) 66](#_Toc256000079)

[4.20 VAAR 852.232-70 PAYMENTS UNDER FIXED-PRICE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS (WITHOUT NAS– CPM) (NOV 2018) 67](#_Toc256000080)

[4.21 VAAR 852.232-72 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PAYMENT REQUESTS (NOV 2018) 70](#_Toc256000081)

[4.22 VAAR 852.236-71 SPECIFICATIONS AND DRAWINGS FOR CONSTRUCTION (APR 2019) 71](#_Toc256000082)

[4.23 VAAR 852.236-72 PERFORMANCE OF WORK BY THE CONTRACTOR (APR 2019) 72](#_Toc256000083)

[4.24 VAAR 852.236-79 CONTRACTOR PRODUCTION REPORT (APR 2019) 73](#_Toc256000084)

[4.25 VAAR 852.236-80 SUBCONTRACTS AND WORK COORDINATION (APR 2019) ALTERNATE I (APR 2019) 73](#_Toc256000085)

[4.26 VAAR 852.242-70 GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION (OCT 2020) 74](#_Toc256000086)

[4.27 VAAR 852.242-71 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACTING OFFICER (OCT 2020) 75](#_Toc256000087)

[4.28 VAAR 852.243-70 CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT CHANGES—SUPPLEMENT (SEP 2019) 76](#_Toc256000088)

[ATTACHMENTS: 78](#_Toc256000089)

CONTRACTING OFFICER’S SPECIAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

# CONTRACT AWARD

Award may only be made with the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to the solicitation, will be most advantageous to the government, considering only price (see **FAR 52.214-19**). The low price will be evaluated by the Contracting Officer prior to award to confirm that it is “a fair and reasonable price that is most advantageous to the Government.”

Note: Funds are not presently available for this contract. The Government's obligation under this contract is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from which payment for contract purposes can be made. The Government anticipates funds will become available by September 30, 2024. If current Fiscal Year (FY24) funds become available, contract award will be made no later than September 30, 2024. If FY24 funds are not made available, the Government intends to fund this project with FY25 funds by November 30, 2024. No legal liability on the part of the Government for any payment may arise until funds are made available to the Contracting Officer for this contract and until the Contractor receives notice of such availability, to be confirmed in writing by the Contracting Officer. Additionally, the Government reserves the right to cancel this solicitation, either before or after Request for Proposal closing date with no obligation to the offeror by the Government.

# CONTRACTOR'S SIGNATURE

Contractual documents (e.g. bids, proposals, awards, modifications, etc.) shall be completed and signed by the Contractor as follows (see **FAR 4.102**):

* Individuals. Signed by the individual. Individual doing business as a firm. Signed by that individual, and the signature shall be followed by the individual's typed, stamped, or printed name and the words, "an individual doing business as

 (insert name of firm)".

* Partnership. Signed in the partnership name. Prior to award, provide list of all partners and designate which partners have authority to bind the partnership.
* Corporations. Signed in the corporate name followed by the word "by" and the signature, and title of the person authorized to sign. Prior to award, provide list of individuals who have authority to bind the corporation.
* Joint Ventures. Signed by each participant in the joint venture in the manner prescribed in (a) through (d) above.
* Agents. When an agent is to sign the contract, other than as stated in paragraph

(a) through (e) above, the agent's authorization to bind the principal must be established by evidence satisfactory to the contracting officer.

# SITE VISIT

A formal site visit has been scheduled for this project (see FAR 52.236-27). **The pre- bid site visit will be at 2:00 pm (CT) on Thursday August 15, 2024,** at the Fargo VA Health Care System, 2101 Elm St NE, Fargo, ND 58102, in Building 1 Room BC 91.

This will be the only opportunity for potential bidders to visit the site. **All potential bidders, subcontractors, and suppliers are strongly encouraged to attend this site visit.**

# TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES

Questions of a technical nature and inquiries concerning this solicitation must be provided in writing and shall be submitted by the prospective offerors to the Contract Specialist, Daniel Dobler. Questions shall be submitted only via email to: daniel.dobler@va.gov. The subject line must read: ***PN: 437-23-150 Test Fire Dampers Questions***. Telephone inquiries will not be accepted. **Questions, inquiries, or such are due no later than August 19, 2024, at 2:00 PM (CT)**. No late questions will be accepted or answered after this deadline. All questions will be answered and/or responded to via an amendment after the closing date.

YOU ARE INSTRUCTED SPECIFICALLY TO CONTACT **ONLY** THE CONTRACTING OFFICER ISSUING THE SOLICITATION ABOUT ANY ASPECT OF THIS REQUIREMENT PRIOR TO CONTRACT AWARD.

# BIDDING MATERIAL

Bidding materials consisting of Invitation for Bids, drawings, specifications, and contract forms will be available on https://sam.gov in electronic format only. All interested parties (subcontractors & primes) should register at https://sam.gov as an “Interested Vendor” so that others will know of your interest in participating in this procurement. A Bidder’s mailing list WILL NOT BE prepared by the Contracting Officer.

Amendments to the solicitation will be posted at https://sam.gov. Paper copies of the amendments will NOT be individually mailed. No other notification of amendments will be provided. By registering to “Receive Notification”, you will be notified by email of any new amendments that have been issued and posted. Offerors are reminded that they are responsible for obtaining and acknowledging all amendments to this solicitation prior to the time for receipt of offers. Failure to acknowledge an amendment may result in the offeror’s bid being considered non-responsive.

# PREPARATION OF BIDS

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

# BID SUBMISSION DOCUMENTS

Files should be in Adobe\* PDF (Portable Document Format) Files: **Size: Maximum size of the e-mail message shall not exceed five (5) megabytes. If the size limits are exceeded, the VA may not receive the file and/or you may not be considered. Only one email is permitted.** This email should contain at least the following:

* **Standard Form (SF) 1442 Solicitation, Offer, and Award:** The offeror shall complete and sign the “OFFER” section of the SF 1442. Please include your company’s Unique Entity Identifier associated with SAM.gov in Block 14.
* **Acknowledgement of All Amendments:** The offeror shall agree to and acknowledge all amendments by either 1.) completing block 19 of the SF 1442, or 2.) returning the signed amendment form(s) with the submission.
* **Price Schedule:** The offeror shall complete the Price Schedule which is provided with the solicitation.
* **Bid Guarantee:** The offeror shall furnish a bid guarantee (see **FAR 52.228-1**). The bid guarantee shall be provided on Standard Form 24. The Power of Attorney document will be included with the bid guarantee.
* **Tax on Certain Foreign Procurements – Notice and Representation:** The offeror shall provide their response to **FAR 52.229-11 (d)**.
* **Representations & Certifications:** As the provision at **FAR 52.204-7** is included in the solicitation, **FAR 52.204-8 (d)** applies and the fill-in for **FAR 52.204-8 (b)(2)** does not need to be completed. The offeror is required to complete the annual representations and certifications electronically at https://sam.gov.
* **Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment:** The offeror shall provide their response to **FAR 52.204-24 (d)** *Representations.*
* **Information Regarding Responsibility Matters:** The offeror shall provide their response to **FAR 52.209-7 (b)**.
* **Post Award Small Business Program Representations:** The offeror shall provide their response to **FAR 52.219-28 (h)**, if applicable.
* **Limitations on Subcontracting:** The offeror shall complete and sign the VA Notice of Limitations on Subcontracting - Certificate of Compliance for Services and Construction required in VAAR 852.219-75 and return it with their bid submission. A copy of the clause to be completed and included with the bid is attached as a separate document (**Limitations on Subcontracting Cert of Compliance (2pages)**). The completed and signed form will become part of the official award documentation.
* **Experience Modification Rate:** The offeror shall provide the Safety and Environmental Violations and Experience Modification Rating (EMR) information, including filling out the attached document (**Safety or Environmental Violations and EMR Information (2 pages)**).

# DELIVERY OF BIDS

In accordance with FAR 14.202-8, send ***all submission documents via email*** to the Contract Specialist, Daniel Dobler at daniel.dobler@va.gov by **2:00 PM (CT), Wednesday, August 31, 2024.** The subject line must read: ***PN: 437-23-150 Test Fire Dampers.***

Bids received after this time may be rejected. Bidders are responsible for ensuring and verifying their bid and all required bid documents are received at the email address designated in block eight (8) of the SF 1442 solicitation and by the date and time specified in block thirteen (13)a of the SF 1442 solicitation (subject to amendment).

# BID OPENING

There will not be a face-to-face public bid opening. All Contractors providing an electronic bid submission must still meet all requirements listed under “Bid Submission Documents” in the solicitation. The bid opening and public reading of the bids will be via Microsoft Teams the date and time that the bids are due. Bidders join by calling 205-235-3524 and using passcode 9VZT4L. The meeting ID number is 228 593 183 39. The bid submission emails will be kept in an electronic folder unread until the stated date and time at which time they will be opened and read to the public. In the event there are any concerns with the bids, in accordance with **FAR 14.402-1 (c)**, Microsoft Teams will be used to assist in the examination of the bid(s).

# INFORMATION REGARDING BID GUARANTEE AND BONDS

Offerors are to ensure the most current version of SF24, SF25, and SF25A bond forms are used. Current versions of these forms can be found and downloaded from the GSA Forms Library (<https://gsa.gov/reference/forms>).

A bid guarantee (SF24) is required in an amount not less than 20 percent of the bid price but shall not exceed $3,000,000.00. Failure to furnish the required bid guarantee in the proper form and amount, by the time set for opening of bids, will require rejection of the bid in all cases except those listed in FAR 28.101-4, and may be cause for rejection even then. A copy of the bid guarantee shall be submitted as part of the electronic submission and the original hard copy of the bid bond shall be retained by the Contractor. Failure to provide electronic bid guarantee by the date and time set for receipt of bids may deem the bid non-responsive.

Performance bond (SF25) and payment bond (SF25A) in the penal sum of 100% of the awarded contract amount shall be submitted within ten (10) calendar days after award to the Contracting Officer for approval. Commencement of construction is contingent upon approval of required bonds. Copies of SFs 25 and 25A may be obtained upon application to the issuing office.

# DETERMINATION OF NON-RESPONSIVE

Bids received pertaining to this solicitation will be reviewed for responsiveness. Failure to provide documentation as outlined in the Bid Submission Documents section of the solicitation by the date and time set for receipt of bids may deem the bid non- responsive. Any exception to the terms and conditions of this Invitation for Bid (IFB) will result in a nonresponsive bid. Failure to provide a definitive price will result in a nonresponsive bid.

# DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

A Determination of Responsibility will be conducted for the apparent low bidder/awardee prior to award of the project. The above information, along with other information obtained from Government systems, such as, but not limited to the OSHA and EPA online inspection history databases, as well as any other information the Contracting Officer has determined to be valid, will be used to make the Determination of Responsibility. Note: Any information received by the Government that would be cause for a negative Determination of Responsibility may make the offeror ineligible for award. The winning bidder must be determined as "responsible" by the Contracting Officer in accordance with FAR Part 9, Contractor Qualifications.

To be determined responsible, a prospective contractor must –

* Have adequate financial resources to perform the contract, or the ability to obtain them.
* Be able to comply with the required or proposed delivery or performance schedule, taking into consideration all existing commercial and governmental business commitments.
* Have a satisfactory performance record.
* Have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics.
* Have the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls, and technical skills, or the ability to obtain them (including, as appropriate, such elements as production control procedures, property control systems, quality assurance measures, and safety programs applicable to materials to be produced or services to be performed by the prospective contractor and subcontractors).
* Have the necessary production, construction, and technical equipment and facilities, or the ability to obtain them.
* Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.

**Note:** The contracting officer shall obtain information regarding the responsibility of the prospective low bidder, including requesting pre-award surveys, when necessary, promptly after a bid opening in accordance with FAR 9.105-1—Obtaining Information. The prospective low bidder shall be prepared to provide documentation to support this determination within two business days following bid opening.

# VETS 4212

Title 38, USC Section 4212(d), codified at 41 CFR Section 61-300, requires that federal contractors report, at least annually, the number and category of veterans who are within their workforce. Submission of the VETS-4212 reporting information can be done electronically ([https://www.dol.gov/vets/vets4212](http://www.dol.gov/vets/vets4212%29)). Award cannot be made unless the awardee has filed their VETS-4212 report. Therefore, all offerors are encouraged to file every year. The Contracting Officer may request a copy of the email confirmation of receipt notification prior to awarding the project.

# SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)

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

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

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

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

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

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

# BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS AND SPECIAL AGREEMENT CHECKS

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

# HHS/OIG EXCLUSIONS

To ensure the individuals providing services under the contract have not engaged in fraud or abuse regarding Sections 1128 and 1128A of the Social Security Act regarding federal health care programs, the contractor is required to check the Exclusions Database – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG), List of Excluded Individuals/Entities on the website (https://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov) for each person providing services under this contract. Further the Contractor is required to certify in its proposal that all persons listed in the contractor’s proposal have been compared against the OIG list and are NOT listed. During the performance of this contract the contractor is prohibited from using any individual or business listed on the List of Excluded Individuals/Entities.

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

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

# PRE-CONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE

Before any work is started, a Pre-Construction Conference between the Contractor, Contracting Officer, and Project Engineer will be arranged through the Contracting Officer. Such matters as work commencement, sequence of work, estimated time for accomplishment, subcontractor information, and the overall responsibilities of the Contractor, Contracting Officer, and Project Engineer in the fulfillment of all aspects of the contract will be discussed.

# INSTRUCTIONS, CONDITIONS AND OTHER STATEMENTS TO BIDDERS/OFFERORS

## 2.1 52.201-1 ACQUISITION 360: VOLUNTARY SURVEY (SEP 2023)

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

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

 (End of Clause)

## 2.2 52.204-7 SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (OCT 2018)

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

 *Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) indicator* means a four-character suffix to the unique entity identifier. The suffix is assigned at the discretion of the commercial, nonprofit, or Government entity to establish additional System for Award Management records for identifying alternative EFT accounts (see subpart 32.11) for the same entity.

 *Registered in the System for Award Management (SAM)* means that—

 (1) The Offeror has entered all mandatory information, including the unique entity identifier and the EFT indicator, if applicable, the Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code, as well as data required by the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (see subpart 4.14) into SAM;

 (2) The offeror has completed the Core, Assertions, and Representations and Certifications, and Points of Contact sections of the registration in SAM;

 (3) The Government has validated all mandatory data fields, to include validation of the Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The offeror will be required to provide consent for TIN validation to the Government as a part of the SAM registration process; and

 (4) The Government has marked the record “Active”.

 *Unique entity identifier* means a number or other identifier used to identify a specific commercial, nonprofit, or Government entity. See [*http://www.sam.gov/*](http://www.sam.gov/) for the designated entity for establishing unique entity identifiers.

 (b)(1) An Offeror is required to be registered in SAM when submitting an offer or quotation, and shall continue to be registered until time of award, during performance, and through final payment of any contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchasing agreement resulting from this solicitation.

 (2) The Offeror shall enter, in the block with its name and address on the cover page of its offer, the annotation ‘‘Unique Entity Identifier’’ followed by the unique entity identifier that identifies the Offeror’s name and address exactly as stated in the offer. The Offeror also shall enter its EFT indicator, if applicable. The unique entity identifier will be used by the Contracting Officer to verify that the Offeror is registered in SAM.

 (c) If the Offeror does not have a unique entity identifier, it should contact the entity designated at [*http://www.sam.gov/*](http://www.sam.gov/) for establishment of the unique entity identifier directly to obtain one. The Offeror should be prepared to provide the following information:

 (1) Company legal business name.

 (2) Tradestyle, doing business, or other name by which your entity is commonly recognized.

 (3) Company physical street address, city, state, and Zip Code.

 (4) Company mailing address, city, state and Zip Code (if separate from physical).

 (5) Company telephone number.

 (6) Date the company was started.

 (7) Number of employees at your location.

 (8) Chief executive officer/key manager.

 (9) Line of business (industry).

 (10) Company headquarters name and address (reporting relationship within your entity).

 (d) Processing time should be taken into consideration when registering. Offerors who are not registered in SAM should consider applying for registration immediately upon receipt of this solicitation. See [*https://www.sam.gov/*](https://www.sam.gov/) for information on registration.

(End of Provision)

## 2.3 52.204-16 COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENT ENTITY CODE REPORTING (AUG 2020)

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

 *Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code* means—

 (1) An identifier assigned to entities located in the United States or its outlying areas by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Branch to identify a commercial or government entity by unique location; or

 (2) An identifier assigned by a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) or by the NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) to entities located outside the United States and its outlying areas that the DLA Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Branch records and maintains in the CAGE master file. This type of code is known as a NATO CAGE (NCAGE) code.

 (b) The Offeror shall provide its CAGE code with its offer with its name and location address or otherwise include it prominently in its proposal. The CAGE code must be for that name and location address. Insert the word "CAGE" before the number. The CAGE code is required prior to award.

 (c) CAGE codes may be obtained via—

 (1) Registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) at [*www.sam.gov*](http://www.sam.gov)*.* If the Offeror is located in the United States or its outlying areas and does not already have a CAGE code assigned, the DLA Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Branch will assign a CAGE code as a part of the SAM registration process. SAM registrants located outside the United States and its outlying areas shall obtain a NCAGE code prior to registration in SAM (see paragraph (c)(3) of this provision).

 (2) The DLA Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Branch. If registration in SAM is not required for the subject procurement, and the Offeror does not otherwise register in SAM, an Offeror located in the United States or its outlying areas may request that a CAGE code be assigned by submitting a request at <https://cage.dla.mil>.

 (3) The appropriate country codification bureau. Entities located outside the United States and its outlying areas may obtain an NCAGE code by contacting the Codification Bureau in the foreign entity's country if that country is a member of NATO or a sponsored nation. NCAGE codes may be obtained from the NSPA at <https://eportal.nspa.nato.int/AC135Public/scage/CageList.aspx> if the foreign entity's country is not a member of NATO or a sponsored nation. Points of contact for codification bureaus, as well as additional information on obtaining NCAGE codes, are available at <http://www.nato.int/structur/AC/135/main/links/contacts.htm>.

 (d) Additional guidance for establishing and maintaining CAGE codes is available at <https://cage.dla.mil>.

 (e) When a CAGE code is required for the immediate owner and/or the highest-level owner by Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 52.204-17 or 52.212-3(p), the Offeror shall obtain the respective CAGE code from that entity to supply the CAGE code to the Government.

 (f) Do not delay submission of the offer pending receipt of a CAGE code.

 (g) If the solicitation includes FAR clause 52.204-2, Security Requirements, a subcontractor requiring access to classified information under a contract shall be identified with a CAGE code on the DD Form 254. The Contractor shall require a subcontractor requiring access to classified information to provide its CAGE code with its name and location address or otherwise include it prominently in the proposal. Each location of subcontractor performance listed on the DD Form 254 is required to reflect a corresponding unique CAGE code for each listed location unless the work is being performed at a Government facility, in which case the agency location code shall be used. The CAGE code must be for that name and location address. Insert the word "CAGE" before the number. The CAGE code is required prior to award.

(End of Provision)

## 2.4 52.204-22 ALTERNATIVE LINE ITEM PROPOSAL (JAN 2017)

 (a) The Government recognizes that the line items established in this solicitation may not conform to the Offeror's practices. Failure to correct these issues can result in difficulties in acceptance of deliverables and processing payments. Therefore, the Offeror is invited to propose alternative line items for which bids, proposals, or quotes are requested in this solicitation to ensure that the resulting contract is economically and administratively advantageous to the Government and the Offeror.

 (b) The Offeror may submit one or more additional proposals with alternative line items, provided that alternative line items are consistent with subpart 4.10 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation. However, acceptance of an alternative proposal is a unilateral decision made solely at the discretion of the Government. Offers that do not comply with the line items specified in this solicitation may be determined to be nonresponsive or unacceptable.

(End of Provision)

## 2.5 52.204-26 COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES—REPRESENTATION (OCT 2020)

 (a) *Definitions.* As used in this provision, “covered telecommunications equipment or services” and “reasonable inquiry” have the meaning provided in the clause 52.204-25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

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

 (c) *Representations*. (1) The Offeror represents that it [ ] does, [ ] does not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services as a part of its offered products or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract, or other contractual instrument.

 (2) After conducting a reasonable inquiry for purposes of this representation, the offeror represents that it [ ] does, [ ] does not use covered telecommunications equipment or services, or any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services.

(End of Provision)

## 2.6 52.211-6 BRAND NAME OR EQUAL (AUG 1999)

 (a) If an item in this solicitation is identified as "brand name or equal," the purchase description reflects the characteristics and level of quality that will satisfy the Government's needs. The salient physical, functional, or performance characteristics that "equal" products must meet are specified in the solicitation.

 (b) To be considered for award, offers of "equal" products, including "equal" products of the brand name manufacturer, must—

 (1) Meet the salient physical, functional, or performance characteristic specified in this solicitation;

 (2) Clearly identify the item by—

 (i) Brand name, if any; and

 (ii) Make or model number;

 (3) Include descriptive literature such as illustrations, drawings, or a clear reference to previously furnished descriptive data or information available to the Contracting Officer; and

 (4) Clearly describe any modifications the offeror plans to make in a product to make it conform to the solicitation requirements. Mark any descriptive material to clearly show the modifications.

 (c) The Contracting Officer will evaluate "equal" products on the basis of information furnished by the offeror or identified in the offer and reasonably available to the Contracting Officer. The Contracting Officer is not responsible for locating or obtaining any information not identified in the offer.

 (d) Unless the offeror clearly indicates in its offer that the product being offered is an "equal" product, the offeror shall provide the brand name product referenced in the solicitation.

(End of Provision)

## 2.7 52.214-3 AMENDMENTS TO INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (DEC 2016)

 (a) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

 (b)(1) Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation—

 (i) By signing and returning the amendment;

 (ii) By identifying the amendment number and date in space provided for this purpose on the form for submitting a bid;

 (iii) By letter;

 (iv) By facsimile, if facsimile bids are authorized in the solicitation; or

 (v) By email, if email bids are authorized in the solicitation.

 (2) The Government must receive the acknowledgement by the time and at the place specified for receipt of bids.

(End of Provision)

## 2.8 52.214-4 FALSE STATEMENTS IN BIDS (APR 1984)

 Bidders must provide full, accurate, and complete information as required by this solicitation and its attachments. The penalty for making false statements in bids is prescribed in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

(End of Provision)

## 2.9 52.214-5 SUBMISSION OF BIDS (DEC 2016)

 (a) Bids and bid modifications shall be submitted in sealed envelopes or packages (unless submitted by electronic means) (1) addressed to the office specified in the solicitation, and (2) showing the time and date specified for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the bidder.

 (b) Bidders using commercial carrier services shall ensure that the bid is addressed and marked on the outermost envelope or wrapper as prescribed in subparagraphs (a) (1) and (2) of this provision when delivered to the office specified in the solicitation.

 (c) Facsimile bids, modifications, or withdrawals, will not be considered unless authorized by the solicitation; or

 (d) Bids submitted by electronic commerce shall be considered only if the electronic commerce method was specifically stipulated or permitted by the solicitation.

(End of Provision)

## 2.10 52.214-6 EXPLANATION TO PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS (APR 1984)

 Any prospective bidder desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, drawings, specifications, etc., must request it in writing soon enough to allow a reply to reach all prospective bidders before the submission of their bids. Oral explanations or instructions given before the award of a contract will not be binding. Any information given a prospective bidder concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective bidders as an amendment to the solicitation, if that information is necessary in submitting bids or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to other prospective bidders.

(End of Provision)

## 2.11 52.214-7 LATE SUBMISSIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND WITHDRAWALS OF BIDS (NOV 1999)

 (a) Bidders are responsible for submitting bids, and any modifications or withdrawals, so as to reach the Government office designated in the invitation for bids (IFB) by the time specified in the IFB. If no time is specified in the IFB, the time for receipt is 4:30 p.m., local time, for the designated Government office on the date that bids are due.

 (b)(1) Any bid, modification, or withdrawal received at the Government office designated in the IFB after the exact time specified for receipt of bids is ``late'' and will not be considered unless it is received before award is made, the Contracting Officer determines that accepting the late bid would not unduly delay the acquisition; and—

 (i) If it was transmitted through an electronic commerce method authorized by the IFB, it was received at the initial point of entry to the Government infrastructure not later than 5:00 p.m. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of bids; or

 (ii) There is acceptable evidence to establish that it was received at the Government installation designated for receipt of bids and was under the Government's control prior to the time set for receipt of bids.

 (2) However, a late modification of an otherwise successful bid that makes its terms more favorable to the Government, will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

 (c) Acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the Government installation includes the time/date stamp of that installation on the bid wrapper, other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the installation, or oral testimony or statements of Government personnel.

 (d) If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that bids cannot be received at the Government office designated for receipt of bids by the exact time specified in the IFB and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the IFB, the time specified for receipt of bids will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume.

 (e) Bids may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before the exact time set for receipt of bids. If the IFB authorizes facsimile bids, bids may be withdrawn via facsimile received at any time before the exact time set for receipt of bids, subject to the conditions specified in the provision at 52.214-31, Facsimile Bids. A bid may be withdrawn in person by a bidder or its authorized representative if, before the exact time set for receipt of bids, the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the bid.

(End of Provision)

## 2.12 52.214-18 PREPARATION OF BIDS—CONSTRUCTION (APR 1984)

 (a) Bids must be—

 (1) Submitted on the forms furnished by the Government or on copies of those forms, and

 (2) *Manually signed.* The person signing a bid must initial each erasure or change appearing on any bid form.

 (b) The bid form may require bidders to submit bid prices for one or more items on various bases, including—

 (1) Lump sum bidding;

 (2) Alternate prices;

 (3) Units of construction; or

 (4) Any combination of subparagraphs (1) through (3) above.

 (c) If the solicitation requires bidding on all items, failure to do so will disqualify the bid. If bidding on all items is not required, bidders should insert the words "no bid" in the space provided for any item on which no price is submitted.

 (d) Alternate bids will not be considered unless this solicitation authorizes their submission.

(End of Provision)

## 2.13 52.214-19 CONTRACT AWARD—SEALED BIDDING—CONSTRUCTION (AUG 1996)

 (a) The Government will evaluate bids in response to this solicitation without discussions and will award a contract to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to the solicitation, will be most advantageous to the Government, considering only price and the price-related factors specified elsewhere in the solicitation.

 (b) The Government may reject any or all bids, and waive informalities or minor irregularities in bids received.

 (c) The Government may accept any item or combination of items, unless doing so is precluded by a restrictive limitation in the solicitation or the bid.

 (d) The Government may reject a bid as nonresponsive if the prices bid are materially unbalanced between line items or subline items. A bid is materially unbalanced when it is based on prices significantly less than cost for some work and prices which are significantly overstated in relation to cost for other work, and if there is a reasonable doubt that the bid will result in the lowest overall cost to the Government even though it may be the low evaluated bid, or if it is so unbalanced as to be tantamount to allowing an advance payment.

(End of Provision)

## 2.14 52.214-34 SUBMISSION OF OFFERS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE (APR 1991)

 Offers submitted in response to this solicitation shall be in the English language. Offers received in other than English shall be rejected.

(End of Provision)

## 2.15 52.214-35 SUBMISSION OF OFFERS IN U.S. CURRENCY (APR 1991)

 Offers submitted in response to this solicitation shall be in terms of U.S. dollars. Offers received in other than U.S. dollars shall be rejected.

(End of Provision)

## 2.16 VAAR 852.214-71 RESTRICTIONS ON ALTERNATE ITEM(S) (MAY 2018)

 Bids on will be considered only if acceptable bids on are not received or do not satisfy the total requirement.

(End of Provision)

## 2.17 52.216-1 TYPE OF CONTRACT (APR 1984)

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

(End of Provision)

## 2.18 52.222-5 CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS—SECONDARY SITE OF THE WORK (MAY 2014)

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

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

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

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

(End of Provision)

## 2.19 52.225-12 NOTICE OF BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENT—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS UNDER TRADE AGREEMENTS (MAY 2014)

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

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

 (c) Evaluation of offers.

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

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

 (d) Alternate offers.

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

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

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

 (i) Will be rejected as nonresponsive if this acquisition is conducted by sealed bidding; or

 (ii) May be accepted if revised during negotiations.

(End of Provision)

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

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

 Zachary Koutz

 zachary.koutz@va.gov

 Hand-Carried Address:

 Department of Veterans Affairs

 NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE

 316 Robert Street N. STE. 506

 St. Paul MN 55101

 Mailing Address:

 Department of Veterans Affairs

 NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE

 316 Robert Street N. STE. 506

 St. Paul MN 55101

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

(End of Provision)

## 2.21 52.252-1 SOLICITATION PROVISIONS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998)

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

 https://www.acquisition.gov/browse/index/far

 https://www.va.gov/oal/library/vaar/

(End of Provision)

## 2.22 52.252-5 AUTHORIZED DEVIATIONS IN PROVISIONS (NOV 2020)

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

 (b) The use in this solicitation of any VAAR Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Chapter FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION (48 CFR Chapter 1)) provision with an authorized deviation is indicated by the addition of “(DEVIATION)” after the name of the regulation.

(End of Provision)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **FAR Number** | **Title** | **Date** |
| 52.222-23 | NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO ENSURE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR CONSTRUCTION | FEB 1999 |
| 52.228-1 | BID GUARANTEE | SEP 1996 |
| 52.228-17 | INDIVIDUAL SURETY—PLEDGE OF ASSETS (BID GUARANTEE) | FEB 2021 |
| 52.236-27 | SITE VISIT (CONSTRUCTION) ALTERNATE I (FEB 1995) | FEB 1995 |

## 2.23 VAAR 852.209-70 ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (OCT 2020)

 (a) It is in the best interest of the Government to avoid situations which might create an organizational conflict of interest or where the Offeror’s performance of work under the contract may provide the Contractor with an unfair competitive advantage. The term ‘‘organizational conflict of interest’’ means that because of other activities or relationships with other persons, a person is unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the Government, or the person’s objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired, or the person has an unfair competitive advantage.

 (b) The Offeror shall provide a statement with its offer which describes, in a concise manner, all relevant facts concerning any past, present, or currently planned interest (financial, contractual, organizational, or otherwise) or actual or potential organizational conflicts of interest relating to the services to be provided under this solicitation. The Offeror shall also provide statements with its offer containing the same information for any consultants and subcontractors identified in its proposal and which will provide services under the solicitation. The Offeror may also provide relevant facts that show how its organizational and/or management system or other actions would avoid or mitigate any actual or potential organizational conflicts of interest.

 (c) Based on this information and any other information solicited or obtained by the Contracting Officer, the Contracting Officer may determine that an organizational conflict of interest exists which would warrant disqualifying the Contractor for award of the contract unless the organizational conflict of interest can be mitigated to the Contracting Officer’s satisfaction by negotiating terms and conditions of the contract to that effect. If the conflict of interest cannot be mitigated and if the Contracting Officer finds that it is in the best interest of the United States to award the contract, the Contracting Officer shall request a waiver in accordance with FAR 9.503.

 (d) Nondisclosure or misrepresentation of actual or potential organizational conflicts of interest at the time of the offer or arising as a result of a modification to the contract, may result in the termination of the contract at no expense to the Government.

(End of Provision)

## 2.24 VAAR 852.214-72 ALTERNATE ITEM(S) (MAY 2018)

 Bids on will be given equal consideration along with bids on and any such bids received may be accepted if to the advantage of the Government. Tie bids will be decided in favor of .

(End of Provision)

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

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

 (1) Include the name, address, fax number, email and telephone number of the protester;

 (2) Identify the solicitation and/or contract number;

 (3) Include an original signed by the protester or the protester’s representative and at least one copy;

 (4) Set forth a detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds of the protest, including a description of resulting prejudice to the protester, and provide copies of relevant documents;

 (5) Specifically request a ruling of the individual upon whom the protest is served;

 (6) State the form of relief requested; and

 (7) Provide all information establishing the timeliness of the protest.

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

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

(End of Provision)

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

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

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

(End of Provision)

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

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

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

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

(End of Provision)

## 2.28 VAAR 852.252-70 SOLICITATION PROVISIONS OR CLAUSES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (JAN 2008)

 The following provisions or clauses incorporated by reference in this solicitation must be completed by the offeror or prospective contractor and submitted with the quotation or offer. Copies of these provisions or clauses are available on the Internet at the Web sites provided in the provision at FAR 52.252-1, Solicitation Provisions Incorporated by Reference, or the clause at FAR 52.252-2, Clauses Incorporated by Reference. Copies may also be obtained from the contracting officer.

[Contracting officer shall list all FAR and 48 CFR Chapter 8 (VAAR) provisions and clauses incorporated by reference that must be completed by the offeror or prospective contractor and submitted with the quotation or offer.]

(End of Provision)

# REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

## 3.1 52.204-8 ANNUAL REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS (MAY 2024)

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

 (2) The small business size standard is $19 Million.

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

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

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

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

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

 (2) If the provision at 52.204-7, System for Award Management, is not included in this solicitation, and the Offeror has an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM), the Offeror may choose to use paragraph (d) of this provision instead of completing the corresponding individual representations and certifications in the solicitation. The Offeror shall indicate which option applies by checking one of the following boxes:

 [ ] (i) Paragraph (d) applies.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

 (B) Exceed the simplified acquisition threshold; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

 [X] (ii) 52.204-20, Predecessor of Offeror.

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

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

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

 [] (vi) 52.227-6, Royalty Information.

 [] (A) Basic.

 [] (B) Alternate I.

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

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FAR Clause # | Title | Date | Change |
|  |  |  |  |

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

(End of Provision)

## 3.2 52.204-24 REPRESENTATION REGARDING CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT (NOV 2021)

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

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

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

 (b) *Prohibition*. (1) Section 889(a)(1)(A) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115–232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2019, from procuring or obtaining, or extending or renewing a contract to procure or obtain, any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. Nothing in the prohibition shall be construed to—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

 (i) For covered equipment—

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

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

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

 (ii) For covered services—

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

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

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

 (i) For covered equipment—

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

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

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

 (ii) For covered services—

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

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

(End of Provision)

## 3.3 52.219-14 LIMITATIONS ON SUBCONTRACTING (OCT 2022)

 (a) This clause does not apply to the unrestricted portion of a partial set-aside.

 (b) *Definition. Similarly situated entity*, as used in this clause, means a first-tier subcontractor, including an independent contractor, that—

 (1) Has the same small business program status as that which qualified the prime contractor for the award (*e.g.*, for a small business set-aside contract, any small business concern, without regard to its socioeconomic status); and

 (2) Is considered small for the size standard under the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code the prime contractor assigned to the subcontract.

 (c) *Applicability*. This clause applies only to—

 (1) Contracts that have been set aside for any of the small business concerns identified in 19.000(a)(3);

 (2) Part or parts of a multiple-award contract that have been set aside for any of the small business concerns identified in 19.000(a)(3);

 (3) Contracts that have been awarded on a sole-source basis in accordance with subparts 19.8, 19.13, 19.14, and 19.15;

 (4) Orders expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold and that are—

 (i) Set aside for small business concerns under multiple-award contracts, as described in 8.405–5 and 16.505(b)(2)(i)(F); or

 (ii) Issued directly to small business concerns under multiple-award contracts as described in 19.504(c)(1)(ii);

 (5) Orders, regardless of dollar value, that are—

 (i) Set aside in accordance with subparts 19.8, 19.13, 19.14, or 19.15 under multiple-award contracts, as described in 8.405–5 and 16.505(b)(2)(i)(F); or

 (ii) Issued directly to concerns that qualify for the programs described in subparts 19.8, 19.13, 19.14, or 19.15 under multiple-award contracts, as described in 19.504(c)(1)(ii); and

 (6) Contracts using the HUBZone price evaluation preference to award to a HUBZone small business concern unless the concern waived the evaluation preference.

 (d) *Independent contractors*. An independent contractor shall be considered a subcontractor.

 (e) *Limitations on subcontracting*. By submission of an offer and execution of a contract, the Contractor agrees that in performance of a contract assigned a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for—

 (1) Services (except construction), it will not pay more than 50 percent of the amount paid by the Government for contract performance to subcontractors that are not similarly situated entities. Any work that a similarly situated entity further subcontracts will count towards the prime contractor’s 50 percent subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded. When a contract includes both services and supplies, the 50 percent limitation shall apply only to the service portion of the contract;

 (2) Supplies (other than procurement from a nonmanufacturer of such supplies), it will not pay more than 50 percent of the amount paid by the Government for contract performance, excluding the cost of materials, to subcontractors that are not similarly situated entities. Any work that a similarly situated entity further subcontracts will count towards the prime contractor’s 50 percent subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded. When a contract includes both supplies and services, the 50 percent limitation shall apply only to the supply portion of the contract;

 (3) General construction, it will not pay more than 85 percent of the amount paid by the Government for contract performance, excluding the cost of materials, to subcontractors that are not similarly situated entities. Any work that a similarly situated entity further subcontracts will count towards the prime contractor’s 85 percent subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded; or

 (4) Construction by special trade contractors, it will not pay more than 75 percent of the amount paid by the Government for contract performance, excluding the cost of materials, to subcontractors that are not similarly situated entities. Any work that a similarly situated entity further subcontracts will count towards the prime contractor’s 75 percent subcontract amount that cannot be exceeded.

 (f) The Contractor shall comply with the limitations on subcontracting as follows:

 (1) For contracts, in accordance with paragraphs (c)(1), (2), (3) and (6) of this clause—

 [X] By the end of the base term of the contract and then by the end of each subsequent option period; or

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

 (2) For orders, in accordance with paragraphs (c)(4) and (5) of this clause, by the end of the performance period for the order.

 (g) A joint venture agrees that, in the performance of the contract, the applicable percentage specified in paragraph (e) of this clause will be performed by the aggregate of the joint venture participants.

 (1) In a joint venture comprised of a small business protégé and its mentor approved by the Small Business Administration, the small business protégé shall perform at least 40 percent of the work performed by the joint venture. Work performed by the small business protégé in the joint venture must be more than administrative functions.

 (2) In an 8(a) joint venture, the 8(a) participant(s) shall perform at least 40 percent of the work performed by the joint venture. Work performed by the 8(a) participants in the joint venture must be more than administrative functions.

(End of Clause)

## 3.4 52.229-11 TAX ON CERTAIN FOREIGN PROCUREMENTS—NOTICE AND REPRESENTATION (JUN 2020)

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

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

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

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

 (1) A citizen or resident of the United States;

 (2) A domestic partnership;

 (3) A domestic corporation;

 (4) Any estate (other than a foreign estate, within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. 701(a)(31)); and

 (5) Any trust if—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(End of Provision)

# GENERAL CONDITIONS

## 4.1 52.204-21 BASIC SAFEGUARDING OF COVERED CONTRACTOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS (NOV 2021)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(End of Clause)

## 4.2 52.211-10 COMMENCEMENT, PROSECUTION, AND COMPLETION OF WORK (APR 1984)

 The Contractor shall be required to (a) commence work under this contract within 14 calendar days after the date the Contractor receives the notice to proceed, (b) prosecute the work diligently, and (c) complete the entire work ready for use not later than 150 days after receipt of award. The time stated for completion shall include final cleanup of the premises.

(End of Clause)

## 4.3 52.219-28 POST-AWARD SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM REREPRESENTATION (FEB 2024)

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

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

 *Small business concern*—

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

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

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

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

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

 (3) For long-term contracts—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(End of Clause)

## 4.4 52.223-20 AEROSOLS (MAY 2024)

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

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

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

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

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

 (1) In-use emission rates, energy efficiency;

 (2) Safety, such as flammability or toxicity;

 (3) Ability to meet technical performance requirements; and

 (4) Commercial availability at a reasonable cost.

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

(End of Clause)

## 4.5 52.223-21 FOAMS (MAY 2024)

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

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

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

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

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

 (1) In-use emission rates, energy efficiency, and safety;

 (2) Ability to meet performance requirements; and

 (3) Commercial availability at a reasonable cost.

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

(End of Clause)

## 4.6 52.225-9 BUY AMERICAN—CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS (OCT 2022)

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

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

 (1) Means any item of supply (including construction material) that is—

 (i) A commercial product (as defined in paragraph (1) of the definition of ‘‘commercial product’’ at Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 2.101;

 (ii) Sold in substantial quantities in the commercial marketplace; and

 (iii) Offered to the Government, under a contract or subcontract at any tier, without modification, in the same form in which it is sold in the commercial marketplace; and

 (2) Does not include bulk cargo, as defined in 46 U.S.C. 40102(4), such as agricultural products and petroleum products.

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

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

 *Cost of components* means—

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

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

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

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

 *Domestic construction material* means—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

 (b) Domestic preference.

 (1) This clause implements 41 U.S.C. chapter 83, Buy American, by providing a preference for domestic construction material. In accordance with 41 U.S.C. 1907, the domestic content test of the Buy American statute is waived for construction material that is a COTS item, except that for construction material that consists wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both, the domestic content test is applied only to the iron and steel content of the construction materials, excluding COTS fasteners. (See FAR 12.505(a)(2)). The Contractor shall use only domestic construction material in performing this contract, except as provided in paragraphs (b)(2) and (b)(3) of this clause.

 (2) This requirement does not apply to information technology that is a commercial product or to the construction materials or components listed by the Government as follows:

*[Contracting Officer to list applicable excepted materials or indicate ‘‘none’’]*

 (3) The Contracting Officer may add other foreign construction material to the list in paragraph (b)(2) of this clause if the Government determines that—

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

 (A) *For domestic construction material that is not a critical item or does not contain critical components.*

 (*1*) The cost of a particular domestic construction material subject to the requirements of the Buy American statute is unreasonable when the cost of such material exceeds the cost of foreign material by more than 20 percent;

 (*2*) For construction material that is not a COTS item and does not consist wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both, if the cost of a particular domestic construction material is determined to be unreasonable or there is no domestic offer received, and the low offer is for foreign construction material that is manufactured in the United States and does not exceed 55 percent domestic content, the Contracting Officer will treat the lowest offer of foreign construction material that exceeds 55 percent domestic content as a domestic offer and determine whether the cost of that offer is unreasonable by applying the evaluation factor listed in paragraph (b)(3)(i)(A)(*1*) of this clause.

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

 (B) *For domestic construction material that is a critical item or contains critical components.*

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

 (*2*) For construction material that does not consist wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both, if the cost of a particular domestic construction material is determined to be unreasonable or there is no domestic offer received, and the low offer is for foreign construction material that does not exceed 55 percent domestic content, the Contracting Officer will treat the lowest foreign offer of construction material that is manufactured in the United States and exceeds 55 percent domestic content as a domestic offer, and determine whether the cost of that offer is unreasonable by applying the evaluation factor listed in paragraph (b)(3)(i)(B)(*1*) of this clause.

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

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

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

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

 (1)(i) Any Contractor request to use foreign construction material in accordance with paragraph (b)(3) of this clause shall include adequate information for Government evaluation of the request, including—

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

 (B) Unit of measure;

 (C) Quantity;

 (D) Price;

 (E) Time of delivery or availability;

 (F) Location of the construction project;

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

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

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

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

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

 (2) If the Government determines after contract award that an exception to the Buy American statute applies and the Contracting Officer and the Contractor negotiate adequate consideration, the Contracting Officer will modify the contract to allow use of the foreign construction material. However, when the basis for the exception is the unreasonable price of a domestic construction material, adequate consideration is not less than the differential established in paragraph (b)(3)(i) of this clause.

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

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

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS PRICE COMPARISON

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

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

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

[Include other applicable supporting information.]

(End of Clause)

## 4.7 52.236-4 PHYSICAL DATA (APR 1984)

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

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

 (b) Weather Conditions:

 (c) Transportation Facilities

 (d) Other Physical Data

(End of Clause)

## 4.8 52.252-2 CLAUSES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998)

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

 https://www.acquisition.gov/browse/index/far

 https://www.va.gov/oal/library/vaar/

(End of Clause)

## 4.9 52.252-6 AUTHORIZED DEVIATIONS IN CLAUSES (NOV 2020)

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

 (b) The use in this solicitation or contract of any VAAR (48 CFR Chapter FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION (48 CFR Chapter 1)) clause with an authorized deviation is indicated by the addition of "(DEVIATION)" after the name of the regulation.

(End of Clause)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **FAR Number** | **Title** | **Date** |
| 52.202-1 | DEFINITIONS | JUN 2020 |
| 52.203-3 | GRATUITIES | APR 1984 |
| 52.203-5 | COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES | MAY 2014 |
| 52.203-6 | RESTRICTIONS ON SUBCONTRACTOR SALES TO THE GOVERNMENT | JUN 2020 |
| 52.203-7 | ANTI-KICKBACK PROCEDURES | JUN 2020 |
| 52.203-8 | CANCELLATION, RESCISSION, AND RECOVERY OF FUNDS FOR ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER ACTIVITY | MAY 2014 |
| 52.203-10 | PRICE OR FEE ADJUSTMENT FOR ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER ACTIVITY | MAY 2014 |
| 52.203-12 | LIMITATION ON PAYMENTS TO INFLUENCE CERTAIN FEDERAL TRANSACTIONS | JUN 2020 |
| 52.203-16 | PREVENTING PERSONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST | JUN 2020 |
| 52.203-17 | CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS | NOV 2023 |
| 52.203-19 | PROHIBITION ON REQUIRING CERTAIN INTERNAL CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS OR STATEMENTS | JAN 2017 |
| 52.204-9 | PERSONAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL | JAN 2011 |
| 52.204-10 | REPORTING EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND FIRST-TIER SUBCONTRACT AWARDS | JUN 2020 |
| 52.204-13 | SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT MAINTENANCE | OCT 2018 |
| 52.204-14 | SERVICE CONTRACT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS | OCT 2016 |
| 52.204-18 | COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENT ENTITY CODE MAINTENANCE | AUG 2020 |
| 52.204-19 | INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS | DEC 2014 |
| 52.204-23 | PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTING FOR HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, AND SERVICES DEVELOPED OR PROVIDED BY KASPERSKY LAB COVERED ENTITIES | DEC 2023 |
| 52.204-25 | PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTING FOR CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT | NOV 2021 |
| 52.204-27 | PROHIBITION ON A BYTEDANCE COVERED APPLICATION | JUN 2023 |
| 52.209-6 | PROTECTING THE GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST WHEN SUBCONTRACTING WITH CONTRACTORS DEBARRED, SUSPENDED, OR PROPOSED FOR DEBARMENT | NOV 2021 |
| 52.209-10 | PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTING WITH INVERTED DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS | NOV 2015 |
| 52.219-8 | UTILIZATION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS | FEB 2024 |
| 52.219-27 | NOTICE OF SET-ASIDE FOR, OR SOLE-SOURCE AWARD TO, SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS (SDVOSB) CONCERNS ELIGIBLE UNDER THE SDVOSB PROGRAM | FEB 2024 |
| 52.222-1 | NOTICE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF LABOR DISPUTES | FEB 1997 |
| 52.222-3 | CONVICT LABOR | JUN 2003 |
| 52.222-4 | CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND SAFETY STANDARDS—OVERTIME COMPENSATION | MAY 2018 |
| 52.222-6 | CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS | AUG 2018 |
| 52.222-7 | WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS | MAY 2014 |
| 52.222-8 | PAYROLLS AND BASIC RECORDS | JUL 2021 |
| 52.222-9 | APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES | JUL 2005 |
| 52.222-10 | COMPLIANCE WITH COPELAND ACT REQUIREMENTS | FEB 1988 |
| 52.222-11 | SUBCONTRACTS (LABOR STANDARDS) | MAY 2014 |
| 52.222-12 | CONTRACT TERMINATION—DEBARMENT | MAY 2014 |
| 52.222-13 | COMPLIANCE WITH CONSTRUCTION WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS AND RELATED REGULATIONS | MAY 2014 |
| 52.222-14 | DISPUTES CONCERNING LABOR STANDARDS | FEB 1988 |
| 52.222-15 | CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY | MAY 2014 |
| 52.222-19 | CHILD LABOR—COOPERATION WITH AUTHORITIES AND REMEDIES | FEB 2024 |
| 52.222-20 | CONTRACTS FOR MATERIALS, SUPPLIES, ARTICLES, AND EQUIPMENT | JUN 2020 |
| 52.222-21 | PROHIBITION OF SEGREGATED FACILITIES | APR 2015 |
| 52.222-26 | EQUAL OPPORTUNITY | SEP 2016 |
| 52.222-27 | AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION | APR 2015 |
| 52.222-35 | EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR VETERANS | JUN 2020 |
| 52.222-36 | EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WORKERS WITH DISABILITIES | JUN 2020 |
| 52.222-37 | EMPLOYMENT REPORTS ON VETERANS | JUN 2020 |
| 52.222-40 | NOTIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT | DEC 2010 |
| 52.222-50 | COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS | NOV 2021 |
| 52.222-54 | EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION | MAY 2022 |
| 52.222-55 | MINIMUM WAGES FOR CONTRACTOR WORKERS UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 14026 | JAN 2022 |
| 52.222-62 | PAID SICK LEAVE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 13706 | JAN 2022 |
| 52.223-2 | REPORTING OF BIOBASED PRODUCTS UNDER SERVICE AND CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS | MAY 2024 |
| 52.223-3 | HAZARDOUS MATERIAL IDENTIFICATION AND MATERIAL SAFETY DATA | FEB 2021 |
| 52.223-5 | POLLUTION PREVENTION AND RIGHT-TO-KNOW INFORMATION | MAY 2024 |
| 52.223-10 | WASTE REDUCTION PROGRAM | MAY 2024 |
| 52.223-11 | OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES AND HIGH GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL HYDROFLUOROCARBONS | MAY 2024 |
| 52.223-12 | MAINTENANCE, SERVICE, REPAIR, OR DISPOSAL OF REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT AND AIR CONDITIONERS | MAY 2024 |
| 52.223-15 | ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN ENERGY-CONSUMING PRODUCTS | MAY 2020 |
| 52.223-19 | COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS | MAY 2011 |
| 52.223-23 | SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES | MAY 2024 |
| 52.224-3 | PRIVACY TRAINING | JAN 2017 |
| 52.225-13 | RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN FOREIGN PURCHASES | FEB 2021 |
| 52.226-7 | DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE | MAY 2024 |
| 52.226-8 | ENCOURAGING CONTRACTOR POLICIES TO BAN TEXT MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING | MAY 2024 |
| 52.227-1 | AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT | JUN 2020 |
| 52.227-2 | NOTICE AND ASSISTANCE REGARDING PATENT AND COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT | JUN 2020 |
| 52.227-4 | PATENT INDEMNITY—CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS | DEC 2007 |
| 52.228-2 | ADDITIONAL BOND SECURITY | OCT 1997 |
| 52.228-5 | INSURANCE—WORK ON A GOVERNMENT INSTALLATION | JAN 1997 |
| 52.228-11 | INDIVIDUAL SURETY—PLEDGE OF ASSETS | FEB 2021 |
| 52.228-12 | PROSPECTIVE SUBCONTRACTOR REQUESTS FOR BONDS | DEC 2022 |
| 52.228-14 | IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF CREDIT | NOV 2014 |
| 52.228-15 | PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS—CONSTRUCTION | JUN 2020 |
| 52.229-3 | FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXES | FEB 2013 |
| 52.229-12 | TAX ON CERTAIN FOREIGN PROCUREMENTS | FEB 2021 |
| 52.232-5 | PAYMENTS UNDER FIXED-PRICE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS | MAY 2014 |
| 52.232-17 | INTEREST | MAY 2014 |
| 52.232-18 | AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS | APR 1984 |
| 52.232-23 | ASSIGNMENT OF CLAIMS | MAY 2014 |
| 52.232-27 | PROMPT PAYMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS | JAN 2017 |
| 52.232-33 |  PAYMENT BY ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER—SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT | OCT 2018 |
| 52.232-39 | UNENFORCEABILITY OF UNAUTHORIZED OBLIGATIONS | JUN 2013 |
| 52.232-40 | PROVIDING ACCELERATED PAYMENTS TO SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTORS | MAR 2023 |
| 52.233-1 | DISPUTES | MAY 2014 |
| 52.233-3 | PROTEST AFTER AWARD | AUG 1996 |
| 52.233-4 | APPLICABLE LAW FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT CLAIM | OCT 2004 |
| 52.236-1 | PERFORMANCE OF WORK BY THE CONTRACTOR | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-2 | DIFFERING SITE CONDITIONS | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-3 | SITE INVESTIGATION AND CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE WORK | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-5 | MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-6 | SUPERINTENDENCE BY THE CONTRACTOR | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-7 | PERMITS AND RESPONSIBILITIES | NOV 1991 |
| 52.236-8 | OTHER CONTRACTS | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-9 | PROTECTION OF EXISTING VEGETATION, STRUCTURES, EQUIPMENT, UTILITIES, AND IMPROVEMENTS | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-10 | OPERATIONS AND STORAGE AREAS | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-11 | USE AND POSSESSION PRIOR TO COMPLETION | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-12 | CLEANING UP | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-13 | ACCIDENT PREVENTION | NOV 1991 |
| 52.236-14 | AVAILABILITY AND USE OF UTILITY SERVICES | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-15 | SCHEDULES FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-17 | LAYOUT OF WORK | APR 1984 |
| 52.236-21 | SPECIFICATIONS AND DRAWINGS FOR CONSTRUCTION ALTERNATE II (APR 1984) | FEB 1997 |
| 52.236-26 | PRECONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE | FEB 1995 |
| 52.242-5 | PAYMENTS TO SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTORS | JAN 2017 |
| 52.242-13 | BANKRUPTCY | JUL 1995 |
| 52.242-14 | SUSPENSION OF WORK | APR 1984 |
| 52.243-4 | CHANGES | JUN 2007 |
| 52.243-5 | CHANGES AND CHANGED CONDITIONS | APR 1984 |
| 52.244-5 | COMPETITION IN SUBCONTRACTING | DEC 1996 |
| 52.244-6 | SUBCONTRACTS FOR COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES | FEB 2024 |
| 52.246-12 | INSPECTION OF CONSTRUCTION | AUG 1996 |
| 52.246-21 | WARRANTY OF CONSTRUCTION | MAR 1994 |
| 52.246-26 | REPORTING NONCONFORMING ITEMS | NOV 2021 |
| 52.248-3 | VALUE ENGINEERING—CONSTRUCTION | OCT 2020 |
| 52.249-2 | TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT (FIXED PRICE) ALTERNATE I (SEPT 1996) | APR 2012 |
| 52.249-10 | DEFAULT (FIXED-PRICE CONSTRUCTION) | APR 1984 |
| 52.253-1 | COMPUTER GENERATED FORMS | JAN 1991 |

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

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

(End of Clause)

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

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

(End of Clause)

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

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

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

(End of Clause)

## 4.13 VAAR 852.211-72 TECHNICAL INDUSTRY STANDARDS (NOV 2018)

 (a) The Contractor shall conform to the standards established by: as to .

 (b) The Contractor shall submit proof of conformance to the standard. This proof may be a label or seal affixed to the equipment or supplies, warranting that the item(s) have been tested in accordance with the standards and meet the contract requirement. Proof may also be furnished by the organization listed above certifying that the item(s) furnished have been tested in accordance with and conform to the specified standards.

 (c) Offerors may obtain the standards cited in this provision by submitting a request, including the solicitation number, title and number of the publication to:

 (d) The offeror shall contact the Contracting Officer if response is not received within two weeks of the request.

(End of Clause)

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

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

 (1) Means a small business concern—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

 (1) *Services*. In the case of a contract for services (except construction), the SDVOSB prime contractor will not pay more than 50% of the amount paid by the government to the prime for contract performance to firms that are not certified SDVOSBs listed in the SBA certification database (excluding direct costs to the extent they are not the principal purpose of the acquisition and the SDVOSB/ VOSB does not provide the service, such as airline travel, cloud computing services, or mass media purchases). When a contract includes both services and supplies, the 50 percent limitation shall apply only to the service portion of the contract.

 (2) *Supplies/products*.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

 (f) *Joint ventures*. A joint venture may be considered eligible as an SDVOSB if the joint venture complies with the requirements in 13 CFR 128.402 and the managing joint venture partner makes the representations under paragraph (c) of this clause. A joint venture agrees that, in the performance of the contract, the applicable percentage specified in paragraph (d) of this clause will be performed by the aggregate of the joint venture participants.

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

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

(End of Clause)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

 (i) Referral to the VA Suspension and Debarment Committee;

 (ii) A fine under section 16(g)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 645(g)(1)); and

 (iii) Prosecution for violating 18 U.S.C. 1001.

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

 (c) The offeror further agrees to cooperate fully and make available any documents or records as may be required to enable VA to determine compliance with the limitations on subcontracting requirement. The offeror understands that failure to provide documents as requested by VA may result in remedial action as the Government deems appropriate.

 (d) Offeror completed certification/fill-in required. The formal certification must be completed, signed and returned with the offeror’s bid, quotation, or proposal. The Government will not consider offers for award from offerors that do not provide the certification, and all such responses will be deemed ineligible for evaluation and award.

Certification

I hereby certify that if awarded the contract, [insert name of offeror] will comply with the limitations on subcontracting specified in this clause and in the resultant contract. I further certify that I am authorized to execute this certification on behalf of [insert name of offeror].

Printed Name of Signee: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Title of Signee: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Company Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(End of Clause)

## 4.16 VAAR 852.223-71 SAFETY AND HEALTH (SEP 2019)

 (a) To help ensure the protection of the life and health of all persons, and to help prevent damage to property, the Contractor shall comply with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations applicable to the work being performed under this contract. These laws are implemented or enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and other regulatory/enforcement agencies at the Federal, State, and local levels.

 (1) Additionally, the Contractor shall comply with the following regulations when developing and implementing health and safety operating procedures and practices for both personnel and facilities involving the use or handling of hazardous materials and the conduct of research, development, or test projects:

 (i) 29 CFR 1910.1030, Bloodborne pathogens; 29 CFR 1910.1450, Occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals in laboratories. These regulations are available at <https://www.osha.gov/>.

 (ii) Nuclear Regulatory Commission Standards and Regulations, pursuant to the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5801 et seq.) Copies are available from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

 (2) The following Government guidelines are recommended for developing and implementing health and safety operating procedures and practices for both personnel and facilities:

 (i) Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), available at <http://www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/index.htm>.

 (ii) Prudent Practices in the Laboratory, National Research Council, National Academy Press, Washington, DC 20001, available at <http://www.nap.edu>.

 (b)(1) The Contractor shall maintain an accurate record of, and promptly report to the Contracting Officer, all accidents or incidents resulting in the exposure of persons to toxic substances, hazardous materials; the injury or death of any person; or damage to property incidental to work performed under the contract resulting from toxic or hazardous materials and resulting in any or all violations for which the Contractor has been cited by any Federal, State or local regulatory/enforcement agency.

 (2) The report shall include a copy of the notice of violation and the findings of any inquiry or inspection, and an analysis addressing the impact these violations may have on the work remaining to be performed. The report shall also state the required action(s), if any, to be taken to correct any violation(s) noted by the Federal, State, or local regulatory/enforcement agency and the time frame allowed by the agency to accomplish the necessary corrective action.

 (c) If the Contractor fails or refuses to comply with the Federal, State or local regulatory/enforcement agency's directive(s) regarding any violation(s) and prescribed corrective action(s), the Contracting Officer may issue an order stopping all or part of the work until satisfactory corrective action (as approved by the Federal, State, or local regulatory/enforcement agencies) has been taken and documented to the Contracting Officer. No part of the time lost due to any such stop work order shall form the basis for a request for extension or costs or damages by the Contractor.

 (d) The Contractor shall insert this clause in each subcontract involving toxic substances or hazardous materials. The Contractor is responsible for the compliance of its subcontractors with the provisions of this clause.

(End of Clause)

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

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

(End of Clause)

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

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

(End of Clause)

## 4.19 852.228-73 INDEMNIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR—HAZARDOUS RESEARCH PROJECTS (MAR 2018)

 (a) This contract involves work with a risk of an unusually hazardous nature as specifically defined in the contract. The government shall indemnify the Contractor, including subcontractors of any tier, against losses or liability specified in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this clause if—

 (1) The losses or liability arise out of or results from a risk defined in this contract as unusually hazardous; and

 (2) The losses or liability are not covered by the financial protection required by paragraph (c).

 (b) The Government shall indemnify a Contractor for—

 (1) Liability (including reasonable expenses of litigation or settlement) to third persons for death, bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property from a risk that the contract defines as unusually hazardous. This indemnification shall not cover liability under State or Federal worker’s injury compensation laws to employees of the Contractor who are both:

 (i) Employed at the site of the contract work; and

 (ii) Working on the contract for which indemnification is granted.

 (2) The Government shall also indemnify the Contractor for loss of or damage to property of the Contractor from a risk that the contract defines as unusually hazardous.

 (c) A Contractor shall have and maintain an amount of financial protection to cover liability to third persons and loss of or damage to the Contractor’s property. Financial protection may include private insurance, private contractual indemnities, self-insurance, other proof of financial responsibility, or a combination that provides the maximum amount required. The financial protection provided must meet one of the following—

 (1) The maximum amount of insurance available from private sources; or

 (2) A lesser amount that the Secretary establishes after taking into consideration the cost and terms of private insurance.

 (d) Actions in event of a claim—

 (1) The Contractor shall notify the Contracting Officer of any claim or suit against the Contractor for death, bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property; and

 (2) The Government may elect to control or assist in the defense of any suit or claim for which indemnification is provided in the contract.

(End of Clause)

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

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

 (a) Retainage.

 (1) The Contracting Officer may retain funds—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(End of Clause)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(End of Clause)

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

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

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

 (b) The Contractor shall—

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

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

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

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

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

 (c) In general—

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

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

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

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Title | File | Drawing No. |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

(End of Clause)

## 4.23 VAAR 852.236-72 PERFORMANCE OF WORK BY THE CONTRACTOR (APR 2019)

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

 (b) The Contractor shall submit, simultaneously with the schedule of costs required by the Payments under Fixed-Price Construction Contracts clause of the contract, a statement designating the portions of contract work to be performed with the Contractor’s own forces. The approved schedule of costs will be used in determining the value of a work activity/event, or portions thereof, of the work for the purpose of this article.

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

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

(End of Clause)

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

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

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

(End of Clause)

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

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

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

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

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

(End of Clause)

## 4.26 VAAR 852.242-70 GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION (OCT 2020)

 (a) Contract administration functions set forth in FAR 42.302 are hereby delegated to:

Department of Veterans Affairs

NETWORK 23 CONTRACTING OFFICE

Daniel Dobler Contract Specialist

316 Robert Street N. STE. 506

St. Paul, MN 55101

 (b) The following functions will be retained by the Contracting Officer or Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO) and are not redelegable to Resident Engineers:

 (1) Award of contract modifications either through supplemental agreements or change orders that exceed the ACO’s appointed warrant limitations.

 (2) Issuance of default letters.

 (3) Issuance of Cure or Show-Cause Notices.

 (4) Suspension of work letters and/or modifications.

 (5) Issuance of Contracting Officer final determination letters.

 (6) Issuance of termination notices.

 (7) Authorization of final payment.

 (c) The work will be under the direction of a Department of Veterans Affairs Contracting Officer, who may designate another VA employee to act as resident engineer at the construction site who possesses limited warranted authority.

 (d) Except as provided below, the resident engineer’s directions will not conflict with or change contract requirements. Within the limits of any specific authority delegated by the Contracting Officer, the resident engineer may, by written direction, make changes in the work. The Contractor shall be advised of the extent of such authority prior to execution of any work under the contract.

 (e) The Contracting Officer or an Administrative Contracting Officer identified in paragraph (a) may further delegate limited authority and specialized support services responsibilities below to the following warranted Resident Engineer personnel on site, not to exceed the dollar value and threshold of their warrant:

 (1) Conduct post-award orientation conferences.

 (2) Issue administrative changes (see FAR 43.101) correcting errors or omissions, contractor address, facility or activity code, remittance address, computations which do not required additional contract funds, and other such changes.

 (3) For actions not to exceed negotiate and execute supplemental agreements resulting from change orders issued under the Changes clause.

 (4) Negotiate and execute supplemental agreements changing contract delivery schedules where the time extension does not exceed calendar days.

(End of Clause)

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

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

(End of Clause)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(End of Clause)

# ATTACHMENTS:

See attached document: Attachment A Test Fire Damper Combined Specification - 80 pages.

See attached document: Attachment B SOW - 5 pages.

See attached document: Attachment C Wage Determination 12 July 2024 eff - 7 pages.

See attached document: Attachment D Questions Request Form - 1 page.

See attached document: Attachment E Contractor Safety and EMR - 2 pages.

See attached document: Attachment F Limits of Subcontracting Cert of Compliance - 2 pages.

See attached document: Attchment G Price Schedule Breakdown Sheet - 1 page.

See attached document: Attchment H Drawings - 13 pages.