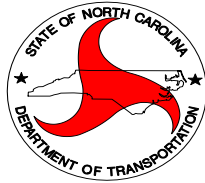


STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Division 14

District 3

ID/IQ SBE Contract

CONTRACT: DN12213885
TIP Number: N/A
FEDERAL: STATE FUNDED
WBS Element: GMR14.CHE.1P, GMR14.CLA.2P, GMR14.GRA.1P,
GMR14.MAC.1P, GMR14.CHE.2P, GMR14.CLA.2U,
GMR14.GRA.2P, GMR14.MAC.2P
LOCATION: VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT CHEROKEE,
CLAY, GRAHAM, AND MACON COUNTIES
COUNTY: CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, MACON
DESCRIPTION: ID/IQ TREE CLEARING AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS
THROUGHOUT CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, AND
MACON COUNTIES

Contractor: R & J Land Clearing LLC
Address: PO Box 123
Robbinsville, NC 28771

Division Engineer: Wesley Grindstaff, P.E.
District Engineer: J. A. Russell, P.E.

Letting Date: 1/27/2026

Contract Execution: 02/12/2026

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION 14

SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE ID/IQ PROPOSAL

DATE AND TIME OF BID OPENING: JANUARY 27, 2026 AT 2:00 PM

CONTRACT ID: DN12213885

**WBS ELEMENT NO.: GMR14.CHE.1P, GMR14.CLA.2P, GMR14.GRA.1P,
GMR14.MAC.1P, GMR14.CHE.2P, GMR14.CLA.2U,
GMR14.GRA.2P, GMR14.MAC.2P**

FEDERAL AID NO.: STATE FUNDED

COUNTY: CHEROKEE, CLAY, GRAHAM, AND MACON

TIP NO.: N/A

MILES: VARIES

ROUTE NO.: VARIES

**LOCATION: VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT CHEROKEE, CLAY,
GRAHAM, AND MACON COUNTIES**

TYPE OF WORK: ID/IQ TREE CLEARING

NOTICE:

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PROGRAM, A N.C. GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE IS NOT REQUIRED AND CONTRACT PAYMENT AND CONTRACT PERFORMANCE BONDS IS NOT REQUIRED . BIDDERS SHALL ALSO COMPLY WITH ALL OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THOSE REGULATING THE PRACTICES OF ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION CONTRACTING AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 87 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA.

THIS IS A ROADWAY PROJECT.

BID BOND IS NOT REQUIRED.

R & J Land Clearing LLC

NAME OF BIDDER

PO Box 123, Robbinsville, NC 28771

ADDRESS OF BIDDER

**PROPOSAL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
CONTRACT No. DN12213885 IN Cherokee, Clay, Graham and Macon Counties, NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA**

The Bidder has carefully examined the location of the proposed work to be known as Contract No. **DN12213885**; has carefully examined the plans and specifications, which are acknowledged to be part of the proposal, the special provisions, the proposal, the form of contract; and thoroughly understands the stipulations, requirements and provisions. The undersigned bidder agrees to be bound upon his execution of the bid and subsequent award to him by the Department of Transportation in accordance with this proposal. Payment and performance bonds are not required on this project. The undersigned Bidder further agrees to provide all necessary machinery, tools, labor, and other means of construction; and to do all the work and to furnish all materials, except as otherwise noted, necessary to perform and complete the said contract in accordance with the *2024 Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures* by the dates(s) specified in the Project Special Provisions and in accordance with the requirements of the Engineer, and at the unit or lump sum prices, as the case may be, for the various items given on the sheets contained herein.

The Bidder shall provide and furnish all the materials, machinery, implements, appliances and tools, and perform the work and required labor to construct and complete Contract No. **DN12213885** in **Cherokee, Clay, Graham and Macon Counties**, for the unit or lump sum prices, as the case may be, bid by the Bidder in his bid and according to the proposal, plans, and specifications prepared by said Department, which proposal, plans, and specifications show the details covering this project, and hereby become a part of this contract.

The published volume entitled *North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures, January 2024* with all amendments and supplements thereto, is by reference incorporated into and made a part of this contract; that, except as herein modified, all the construction and work included in this contract is to be done in accordance with the specifications contained in said volume, and amendments and supplements thereto, under the direction of the Engineer.

If the proposal is accepted and the award is made, the contract is valid only when signed either by the Contract Officer or such other person as may be designated by the Secretary to sign for the Department of Transportation. The conditions and provisions herein cannot be changed except over the signature of the said Contract Officer or Division Engineer.

The quantities shown in the itemized proposal for the project are considered to be approximate only and are given as the basis for comparison of bids. The Department of Transportation may increase or decrease the quantity of any item or portion of the work as may be deemed necessary or expedient.

An increase or decrease in the quantity of an item will not be regarded as sufficient ground for an increase or decrease in the unit prices, nor in the time allowed for the completion of the work, except as provided for the contract.



Signed by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeannette L. White".

29BD93927CF24F6...
01/30/2026

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INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE PREPARING AND SUBMITTING YOUR BID.

All bids shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with the following requirements. Failure to comply with any requirement may cause the bid to be considered irregular and may be grounds for rejection of the bid.

TRADITIONAL PAPER BIDS:

1. Small Business Enterprise bidders shall submit a SBE Application for Certification Form within the NC Online Certification System on the Department's website and have been approved by the Office of Civil Rights prior to bidding. The SBE shall submit this form for approval at a minimum of one week prior to bidding.
2. Download the entire proposal from the Connect NCDOT website and return the entire proposal with your bid.
3. In accordance with Article 102-3 of the Standard Specifications, registration on the Interested Parties List is required unless SP1 G02 Interested Parties List Not Required provision is included in the proposal.
4. All entries on the itemized proposal sheet (bid form) shall be written in ink or typed.
5. The Bidder shall submit a unit price for every item on the itemized proposal sheet. The unit prices for the various contract items shall be written in figures. Unit prices shall be rounded off by the Bidder to contain no more than FOUR decimal places.
6. An amount bid shall be entered on the itemized proposal sheet for every item. The amount bid for each item shall be determined by multiplying each unit bid by the quantity for that item, and shall be written in figures in the "Amount" column of the form.
7. The total amount bid shall be written in figures in the proper place on the bid form. The total amount bid shall be determined by adding the amounts bid for each item.
8. Changes to any entry shall be made by marking through the entry in ink and making the correct entry adjacent thereto in ink. A representative of the Bidder shall initial the change in ink. Do not use correction fluid, correction tape or similar product to make corrections.
9. The bid shall be properly executed on the included **Execution of Bid – Non-collusion, Debarment and Gift Ban Certification** form. All bids shall show the following information:
 - a. Name of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.
Corporations that have a corporate seal shall include it on the bid, otherwise write your corporations name in the seal location.
 - b. Name of individual or representative submitting bid and position or title held on behalf of the bidder.
 - c. Name, signature, and position or title of witness.
10. The bid shall not contain any unauthorized additions, deletions, or conditional bids.
11. The Bidder shall not add any provision reserving the right to accept or reject an award, or to enter into a contract pursuant to an award.
12. **THE PROPOSAL WITH THE ITEMIZED PROPOSAL SHEET ATTACHED SHALL BE PLACED IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND SHALL BE DELIVERED TO AND RECEIVED IN THE NCDOT DIVISION OFFICE, LOCATED AT 253 Webster Road Sylva, NC 28779, BY 2:00 PM ON, January 27, 2026.**
13. The sealed bid must display the following statement on the front of the sealed envelope:

QUOTATION FOR – CONTRACT ID DN12203231 – ID/IQ TREE CLEARING AT VARIES TO BE OPENED AT 2:00 PM ON, January 27, 2026.

As well as the following information:

- a. Name of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.
- b. Name of individual or representative submitting bid and position or title held on behalf of the bidder.

- c. Address of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.
 - d. SAP Vendor Number of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.
 - e. Contractor License Number, if available, of corporation, partnership, Limited Liability Company, joint venture, individual or firm, submitting bid.
14. If delivered by mail, the sealed envelope shall be placed in another sealed envelope and the outer envelope shall be addressed as follows:

**N. C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS, DIVISION 14**

**ATTN: Jeffrey E. Alspaugh, EI
253 Webster Road
Sylva, NC 28779**

15. Questions should be emailed 7 calendar days prior to the bid opening to **Jeffrey E. Alspaugh, EI** at **d14contracts@ncdot.gov**. Contact with any other NCDOT personnel concerning this project is strictly prohibited, unless otherwise noted, and may result in bids being considered non-responsive.

PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS**GENERAL****MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE (Prequalifying To Bid):**

(7-18-06) (Rev. 3-25-13)

SPD 1-310

In order for all prospective bidders to have an extensive knowledge of the project, all prospective bidders shall attend a mandatory pre-bid conference on **Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 9:30 AM.**

Location: **NCDOT Division 14 Office
253 Webster Rd
Sylva NC 28779**

Point of Contact: **Andy Russell and James Hollingsworth
(828) 321-4104**

The pre-bid conference will include a thorough discussion of the plans, contract pay items, special provisions, etc.

Only bidders who have attended and properly registered at the above scheduled pre-bid conference and who have met all other prequalification requirements will be considered prequalified to bid on this project. A bid received from a bidder who has not attended and properly registered at the above scheduled pre-bid conference will not be accepted and considered for award.

Attendance at the pre-bid conference will not meet the requirements of proper registration unless the individual attending has registered at the pre-bid conference in accordance with the following:

- (A) The individual has signed his name on the official roster prior to the above noted time for the beginning of the conference.
- (B) The individual has written in the name and address of the company he or she represents.
- (C) Only one company has been shown as being represented by the individual attending.
- (D) The individual attending is an officer or permanent employee of the company they are representing.

Any individual arriving after the official roster has been received by the Engineer will not be eligible to bid. Attendance at any prior pre-bid conference will not meet the requirement of this provision.

INTERESTED PARTIES LIST NOT REQUIRED:

(6-21-22)(Rev. 2-20-24)

102

SP1 G02

Revise the *Standard Specifications* as follows:

The *Interested Parties List* sign up process is not applicable to this contract.

Page 1-13, Article 102-3 PROPOSALS AND INTERESTED PARTIES LIST, lines 12-15, delete the first paragraph.

Page 1-14, Article 102-8 PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF BIDS, lines 43-44, delete the first sentence of the first paragraph.

HAUL ROADS:

(7-16-24)

105

SP1 G04

Revise the *Standard Specifications* as follows:

Page 1-45, Article 105-15 RESTRICTION OF LOAD LIMITS, line 31, add the following after second sentence of the second paragraph:

At least 30 days prior to use, the Contractor shall notify the Engineer of any public road proposed for use as a haul road for the project.

CONTRACT TIME FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)(Rev. 4-15-25)

108

SP1 G11

The date of availability for this contract is **February 9, 2026.**

The completion date for this contract is **February 8, 2027.**

Except where otherwise provided by the contract, observation periods required by the contract will not be a part of the work to be completed by the completion date and/or intermediate contract times stated in the contract. The acceptable completion of the observation periods that extend beyond the final completion date shall be a part of the work covered by the performance and payment bonds.

Work shall be accomplished in a continuous manner once the contractor begins.

The liquidated damages for this contract will be assessed per the Mobilization and Liquidated Damages for ID/IQ provision located elsewhere in this contract.

NON-EXCLUSIVE CONTRACT:

(6-1-15)

SPD 01-750

The Department may, as it deems to be in the best interest of the state and the Department of Transportation, execute more than one contract based on this proposal. The Contractor(s) understands and agrees, by signature on the Purchase Order Contract Bid Proposal, that this agreement does not constitute an exclusive contract. If awarded, the contracts will be executed with the lowest responsible bidders. The Department of Transportation reserves the right to make

multiple awards for the services provided by this contract. Furthermore, the Department reserves the right to reject all bids received.

WORK ORDER ASSIGNMENT (MULTIPLE AWARDS) FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)(Rev. 4-19-22)

SPD 01-800B

Work orders will be assigned based on the lowest work order cost for the line items and estimated quantities necessary to complete the work order. Unit prices from each awarded contractor's bid will be used to determine the lowest cost for each work order. The assigned Contractor shall respond to the work order assignment with the anticipated start date, within three working days of notification unless noted otherwise. Failure on the part of the Contractor to reply within the specified time frame may be received as a rejection of the work order. If the Contractor with the lowest work order cost cannot complete the work within the time specified in the assignment, the Engineer may contact the Contractor with the next lowest work order cost. If that Contractor can complete the work within the time specified in the assignment, then the work order will be assigned to that contractor. If not, assignment of work order will continue in order of work order cost until all awarded Contractors have had a chance to accept the terms of the assignment.

For federal ID/IQ contracts, all work orders will be assigned via the Work Order Assignment form (Form IDIQ-1MA), and the Contractor is required to formally respond in writing for federal work orders within three working days, unless noted otherwise. The Work Order Assignment form will also be used for any state ID/IQ contract in which the estimated work order cost meets the threshold for Performance and Payment Bonds in accordance with the Bonding Requirements for ID/IQ provision found elsewhere in this contract. For state ID/IQ contracts in which the work order assignment doesn't meet the threshold for bonds, the Department has the option to use the Work Order Assignment Form or other methods for work order assignments as agreed upon by the Engineer and Contractor.

The Contractor shall be required to prosecute the work in a continuous and uninterrupted manner from the time they begin the work until completion and final acceptance of the work order. Multiple failures of the Contractor to mobilize and begin work on the work order within the agreed upon time frame or failure to complete the work within the given time frame may result in the Contractor being excluded from future work on this contract in accordance with the *Standard Specifications*.

BONDING REQUIREMENTS FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)

SPD 01-810

For purposes of this ID/IQ contract, the following definitions apply:

Project Agreement: A transportation improvement with a defined scope of work; a written agreement between NCDOT and the Federal Government defining the extent of construction work to be undertaken in accordance with the submitted plans, specifications and estimates. Execution of the agreement prompts the authorization to proceed (construction funding).

Project: An undertaking issued to a contractor through a Work Order Assignment. The construction under a Project Agreement may be accomplished by one or more work order

assignments, from one or more ID/IQ contracts. Note that for ID/IQ contracts this definition supersedes the definition in the Standard Specifications.

Award: The issuance of a signed Work Order Assignment by NCDOT shall constitute the notice of award of a project.

In accordance with North Carolina General Statute 44A-26, bonds are required on contracts awarded for any one project that exceeds \$500,000. Beyond statutory requirements, NCDOT policy requires payment and performance bonds on all projects where the engineer's estimate is \$450,000 or greater, all Asphalt Surface Treatment projects, and projects containing the 12-month guarantee provision. The limit for waiving bonds for all bridge replacement and major bridge rehabilitation projects (latex overlays, etc.) is \$300,000 based on the engineer's estimate. The decision of bonding of a work order assignment below the dollar amounts listed shall be at the discretion of the Division's evaluation of the risks associated with the project.

The need for contract payment and performance bonds will be determined at the Work Order Assignment level. The Work Order Assignment will notify the Contractor of an award of a project and if required, to provide contract payment and performance bonds per Article 103-7 of the *Standard Specifications*. The Work Order Assignment replaces the Notification of Award Letter mentioned in Article 103-4(A) of the *Standard Specifications*.

MOBILIZATION AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)

SPD 01-820

The Contractor shall mobilize to each location he is required to perform work. There will be no direct pay for Mobilization as it will be incidental to the other bid items. The only exception is if there is an Emergency Mobilization provision within the contract.

The Contractor will be provided a Work Order Assignment for each project with location(s), estimated quantities, and liquidated damages unless waived by the Engineer. Notification will be verbal followed by a faxed or emailed signed Work Order Assignment. There will be no minimum quantities for any line item associated with a particular mobilization. The Contractor shall complete the work identified on each Work Order Assignment.

The Contractor shall mobilize and complete the work within the time specified on the Work Order Assignment. Failure to complete the work by the completion date may result in the application of liquidated damages. Liquidated damage amounts will be based on the work order estimate and the liquidated damage table below.

Work Order Value	Liquidated Damages (per calendar day)
\$0 - \$100K	\$100.00
\$100K - \$200K	\$250.00
\$200K - \$300K	\$500.00
\$300K - \$500K	\$600.00

\$500K - \$1M	\$700.00
\$1M - \$2M	\$850.00

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT (CPI PRICE ADJUSTMENT) FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)(Rev. 9-19-23)

SPD 01-840

The Contractor shall submit a bid for one year. At the option of the Department, this contract may be extended for **Two (2)** additional periods of one year each (maximum (3) three years total). Each year shall have a limit of **One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00)**.

The compensation payable to the contractor shall be fixed for the first twelve months of this contract. However, upon an application of renewal of the contract, or thirty days prior to the end of each contract period, the renewal contract may be adjusted to reflect the adjustment in the Consumer Price Index over the latest twelve month period as published by the US Bureau of Labor and Statistics at <http://www.bls.gov/cpi> to be applied to new work order assignments. The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), US City Average, All Items, 1982-84=100, not seasonally adjusted will be used. If the amount of the requested adjustment is more than ten percent, the Department of Transportation reserves the right to cancel this contract.

CPI adjustment values can be determined using the calculator on the NCDOT Construction website.

This price escalation method will not be applied to items of work that are separately covered under commodity price escalation clauses. No other changes in the terms, conditions, etc. of this contract will be made when an extension to the contract is implemented. The Engineer will notify the Contractor in writing by **60** if the contract may be extended. The Contractor must notify the Engineer in writing by **30** of his acceptance or rejection of this offer. Failure on the part of the Contractor to reply will be received as a rejection of contract extension.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS FOR ID/IQ:

(2-15-22)(Rev. 1-16-24)

SPD 01-850

If a question should arise on the contract or assignment of a work order, the contractor should notify the Engineer noted on the assignment documentation or the Division Engineer within 48 hours after the scheduled time of bid opening or work order assignment. The following should be included in the notification if applicable:

- (A) the contract for which bids were solicited;
- (B) the particular law, regulation, or contract specification violated;
- (C) a detailed description of the alleged violation; and
- (D) any other information deemed to be relevant.

Once the initial evaluation has been completed, the contractor may be asked to attend a meeting for further discussion and clarification.

Once a determination has been made, the contractor will be notified of the decision by the Division Engineer. If the decision does not meet the satisfaction of the contractor, they have 24 hours from the Division Engineer's notification to elevate the dispute to the Chief Engineer. The Chief Engineer will make the final decision and will not be subject to further review by NCDOT.

INTERMEDIATE CONTRACT TIME NUMBER 1 AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES:

(2-20-07)

108

SP1 G14 A

The Contractor shall complete the required work of installing, maintaining, and removing the traffic control devices for lane closures and restoring traffic to the existing traffic pattern. The Contractor shall not close or narrow a lane of traffic on **ANY ROAD** during the following time restrictions:

DAY AND TIME RESTRICTIONS**MONDAY THRU FRIDAY****7:00 AM TO 8:00 AM****AND****5:00 PM TO 6:00 PM**

In addition, the Contractor shall not close or narrow a lane of traffic on **ANY ROAD**, detain and/or alter the traffic flow on or during holidays, holiday weekends, special events, or any other time when traffic is unusually heavy, including the following schedules:

HOLIDAY AND HOLIDAY WEEKEND LANE CLOSURE RESTRICTIONS

1. For **unexpected occurrence** that creates unusually high traffic volumes, as directed by the Engineer.
2. For **New Year's Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** December 31st and **7:00 AM** January 2nd. If New Year's Day is on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday, then until **7:00 AM** the following Tuesday.
3. For **Easter**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** Thursday and **7:00 AM** Monday.
4. For **Memorial Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** Friday and **7:00 AM** Tuesday.
5. For **Independence Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** the day before Independence Day and **7:00 AM** the day after Independence Day.

If **Independence Day** is on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday, then between the hours of **4:00 PM** the Thursday before Independence Day and **7:00 AM** the Tuesday after Independence Day.
6. For **Labor Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** Friday and **7:00 AM** Tuesday.
7. For **Thanksgiving Day**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** Tuesday and **7:00 AM** Monday.
8. For **Christmas**, between the hours of **4:00 PM** the Friday before the week of Christmas Day and **7:00 AM** the following Tuesday after the week of Christmas Day.

Holidays and holiday weekends shall include New Year's, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The Contractor shall schedule his work so that

lane closures will not be required during these periods, unless otherwise directed by the Engineer.

The time of availability for this intermediate contract work shall be the time the Contractor begins to install all traffic control devices for lane closures according to the time restrictions listed herein.

The completion time for this intermediate contract work shall be the time the Contractor is required to complete the removal of all traffic control devices for lane closures according to the time restrictions stated above and place traffic in the existing traffic pattern.

The liquidated damages are **Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$ 250.00)** per hour.

CONSTRUCTION MORATORIUM:

(7-15-14)

SP1 G18A

No in-water work or land disturbance within the 25 foot wide buffer zone will be allowed from **OCTOBER 15** through **APRIL 15** of any year.

CONSTRUCTION MORATORIUM:

(1-19-16)

SP1 G18C

No tree cutting will be allowed from **APRIL 1** through **OCTOBER 15** of any year.

NO MAJOR CONTRACT ITEMS:

(2-19-02) (Rev. 8-21-07)

104

SP1 G31

None of the items included in this contract will be major items.

NO SPECIALTY ITEMS:

(7-1-95)(Rev. 1-16-24)

108-6

SP1 G34

None of the items included in this contract will be specialty items (see Article 108-6 of the *Standard Specifications*).

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WORK IN NATIONAL FOREST:

(7-1-95)

107-13

SP1 G40

In addition to other requirements in this proposal with respect to clearing, erosion control, protection of environment, etc., comply with the following requirements:

- (A) Comply with the portions of these Special Requirements, entitled "Fire Plan," "Clearing Plan," and "Landscape and Erosion Control Plan." Note the fact that merchantable timber within Forest Service Property will become the property of the Contractor.
- (B) Comply with the following recommendations of the State Fish and Game Department and Forest Service for wildlife and fish management:
 - (1) Take all necessary precautions to avoid damage to fish habitat and exercise every reasonable precaution to prevent muddying or silting live streams.

- (2) Do not deposit material removed from the roadway or channel changes in live streams or into the streams or stream channel where it would be washed away by high stream flows.
- (3) Do not haul materials, including logs, brush, and debris, by fording live streams. Instead, provide temporary bridges or other structures for this purpose.
- (C) Dispose of waste material resulting from slides during construction and surplus material at locations approved by the Forest Supervisor. Submit a plan showing the proposed method of disposal at the time approval is requested.
- (D) Treat sections of existing road to be abandoned as a result of the proposed new construction, as designated by the Forest Supervisor, to restore them to their natural state. The necessary treatment will be determined during a joint review between the Forest Service and the State and may include ripping of roadbed, removal of drainage structure, and opening drainage channels. Plans and specifications as mutually deemed appropriate to accomplish the objective will become a part of this stipulation.
- (E) Permanently monument the right of way prior to completion of construction in accordance with State requirements for such right of way, but in any event the minimum requirements will be to place permanent monuments at the intersection of right of way with all property lines, section lines, and at intervals of not more than 1,000 feet along the right-of-way limits.
- (F) Re-establish or restore public land monuments disturbed or destroyed by construction, reconstruction, or maintenance according to instructions of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior. Do not damage, destroy, or obliterate other land monuments and property corners or witness markers without the prior permission of the Regional Forester. Relocate or re-establish these land monuments, property corners, and witness markers in accordance with standards satisfactory to the Regional Forester.

Fire Protection Plan

During the period of construction, perform both independently and in cooperation with the Forest Service everything that is reasonable and practical to prevent and suppress forest fires on the easement area and in its immediate vicinity. Include provisions in all subcontracts for the construction of the road requiring subcontractors and their respective employees to do likewise. The contractors and subcontractors, shall conform to, but not be limited to, the following Fire Plan:

- (A) Take immediate independent or cooperative action to control and extinguish any fire, regardless of cause, within the easement area and its vicinity.
- (B) Maintain at readily available sites one or more boxes of firefighting tools to be furnished by the Forest Service for forest fire fighting purposes only.
- (C) Perform debris burning only in the center of the right of way, and only after a strip 20 feet wide around each pile is cleared to mineral soil.

- (D) Keep fires compact by throwing in the larger material as it burns. If piles are too close together or burn hot, light every second or third pile; allow these to cool down before firing the others. On slopes start burning at the top and work down. Confine fires to piles at all times.
- (E) Do not leave fires unattended.
- (F) Discontinue burning upon notification by the District Forest Ranger or his representative that fire danger is such that there is abnormal risk.
- (G) Whenever a fire escapes, notify the District Ranger immediately even if the fire is suppressed without Forest Service assistance.
- (H) The contractor or subcontractor responsible will bear the costs, including Forest Service direct costs and value of resources damages, incurred by the Forest Service in controlling and extinguishing any fire on or threatening National Forest lands which they or their employees caused with or without negligence in connection with construction operations.
- (I) Contact the District Ranger 24 hours in advance of burning.

Clearing Plan

Conform to the following clearing plan:

- (A) Dispose of unmerchantable materials including tops, branches, etc., by piling and burning as directed by the Forest Service or used in brush barriers. Alternate methods of disposal, including any of the following methods or combinations of methods (lop and scatter, chip, remove, pile only), shall be approved in advance by the Forest Service.
- (B) The maximum clearing and grubbing limits are to be as shown on the plans except that cutting of hazard trees outside these limits may be done with approval. Confine construction machinery within the clearing limits.

Landscape and Erosion Control Plan

The erosion control plan will be designed and implemented to prevent visible sediment, as defined by NC DEQ regulations, from reaching any defined stream channel.

Conform to, but not be limited to, the following Landscape and Erosion Control Plan.

- (A) Prevent visible sediment from entering any stream channel. If an erosion control practice must be sited in a channel, it shall stop further down-channel transport of visible sediment.
- (B) Bear responsibility for the prevention and control of soil erosion and gully on the right of way and lands adjacent thereto resulting from the construction or maintenance of the road. Revegetate with grass (not Love Grass) or herbaceous plants all ground where the

soil has been exposed. Accomplish revegetation within 20 working days following final grading.

- (C) Round the ends of cut sections and the tops of back slopes.
- (D) Vegetate all front and back slopes by liming, fertilizing, mulching and seeding; including any waste area. Mulch critical areas if they are to be exposed greater than 5 working days of probable inclement weather during seasons when seeding is impracticable. Critical areas include all bare soils within 100 feet (slope distance) of perennial and intermittent streams. Mulch these as soon as practical and after final seeding.
- (E) Maintain all erosion control practices in a timely manner to prevent visible sediment from entering any stream channel, until such time that the final revegetation stabilizes the site and prevents erosion and off-site movement of sediment.

FUEL PRICE ADJUSTMENT PAPER BID:

(11-15-05)(Rev. 1-16-24)

109-8

SP1 G44

Revise the *Standard Specifications* as follows:

Page 1-82, Article 109-8, FUEL PRICE ADJUSTMENTS, add the following:

The base index price for DIESEL #2 FUEL is \$ **2.2685** per gallon. Where any of the following are included as pay items in the contract, they will be eligible for fuel price adjustment.

The pay items and the fuel factor used in calculating adjustments to be made will be as follows:

Description	Units	Fuel Usage Factor Diesel
Unclassified Excavation	Gal/CY	0.29
Borrow Excavation	Gal/CY	0.29
Class IV Subgrade Stabilization	Gal/Ton	0.55
Aggregate Base Course	Gal/Ton	0.55
Sub-Ballast	Gal/Ton	0.55
Erosion Control Stone	Gal/Ton	0.55
Rip Rap, Class _____	Gal/Ton	0.55
Asphalt Concrete Base Course, Type _____	Gal/Ton	0.90 or 2.90
Asphalt Concrete Intermediate Course, Type _____	Gal/Ton	0.90 or 2.90
Asphalt Concrete Surface Course, Type _____	Gal/Ton	0.90 or 2.90
Open-Graded Asphalt Friction Course	Gal/Ton	0.90 or 2.90
Permeable Asphalt Drainage Course, Type _____	Gal/Ton	0.90 or 2.90
Sand Asphalt Surface Course, Type _____	Gal/Ton	0.90 or 2.90
Ultra-thin Bonded Wearing Course	Gal/Ton	0.90 or 2.90
Aggregate for Cement Treated Base Course	Gal/Ton	0.55
Portland Cement for Cement Treated Base Course	Gal/Ton	0.55
> 11" Portland Cement Concrete Pavement	Gal/SY	0.327
Concrete Shoulders Adjacent to > 11" Pavement	Gal/SY	0.327
9" to 11" Portland Cement Concrete Pavement	Gal/SY	0.272
Concrete Shoulders Adjacent to 9" to 11" Pavement	Gal/SY	0.272
< 9" Portland Cement Concrete Pavement	Gal/SY	0.245
Concrete Shoulders Adjacent to < 9" Pavement	Gal/SY	0.245

For the asphalt items noted in the chart as eligible for fuel adjustments, the bidder may include the *Fuel Usage Factor Adjustment Form for Paper Bid* with their bid submission if they elect to use the fuel usage factor. The *Fuel Usage Factor Adjustment Form for Paper Bid* is included toward the end of this paper bid document when asphalt items noted in the chart as eligible for fuel adjustments are part of the project.

Select either 2.90 Gal/Ton fuel factor or 0.90 Gal/Ton fuel factor for each asphalt line item on the *Fuel Usage Factor Adjustment Form for Paper Bid*. The selected fuel factor for each asphalt item will remain in effect for the duration of the contract.

Failure to complete the *Fuel Usage Factor Adjustment Form for Paper Bid* will result in using 2.90 gallons per ton as the Fuel Usage Factor for Diesel for the asphalt items noted above. The contractor will not be permitted to change the Fuel Usage Factor after the bids are submitted.

SCHEDULE OF ESTIMATED COMPLETION PROGRESS:

(7-15-08)(Rev. 6-17-25)

108-2

SP1 G58

The Contractor's attention is directed to the Standard Special Provision entitled *Availability of Funds Termination of Contracts* included elsewhere in this proposal. The Department of Transportation's schedule of estimated completion progress for this project as required by that Standard Special Provision is as follows:

	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Progress (% of Dollar Value)</u>
2026	(7/01/25 - 6/30/26)	35% of Total Amount Bid
2027	(7/01/26 - 6/30/27)	65% of Total Amount Bid

The Contractor shall also furnish his own progress schedule in accordance with Article 108-2 of the *Standard Specifications*. Any acceleration of the progress as shown by the Contractor's progress schedule over the progress as shown above shall be subject to the approval of the Engineer.

SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MULTI-YEAR MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS):

(4-20-21)(Rev. 2-15-22)

SP1 G74

This contract is a multi-year maintenance contract let pursuant to the Small Business Enterprise provisions of N.C. General Statute §136-28.10. No minimum quantity of services is guaranteed to be awarded bidders under this contract. In accordance with N.C. General Statute §136-28.10, an award in a contract may be for an amount less but shall not exceed \$1,000,000 per year. No payments in excess of this amount will be disbursed, in accordance with the Statute.

RESTRICTIONS ON ITS EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES:

(11-17-20)

SP01 G090

All telecommunications, video or other ITS equipment or services installed or utilized on this project must be in conformance with **UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS 2 CFR, § 200.216 Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment.**

USE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS):

(8-20-19)(Rev. 8-19-25)

SP1 G092

The Contractor shall adhere to all Federal, State and Local regulations and guidelines for the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). This includes but is not limited to US 14 CFR Part 107, NC GS 15A-300, all FAA rules, regulations and policies and all NCDOT UAS Policies. The required operator certifications include possessing a current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Remote Pilot Certificate, as well as operating a UAS registered with the FAA.

All UAS operations shall be approved by the Engineer prior to beginning the operations.

All contractors or subcontractors operating UAS shall have UAS specific general liability insurance to cover all operations under this contract.

The use of UAS is at the Contractor's discretion. No measurement or payment will be made for the use of UAS. In the event that the Department directs the Contractor to utilize UAS, payment will be in accordance with Article 104-7 Extra Work.

EQUIPMENT IDLING GUIDELINES:

(1-19-21)

107

SP1 G096

Exercise reduced fuel consumption and reduced equipment emissions during the construction of all work associated with this contract. Employees engaged in the construction of this project should turn off vehicles when stopped for more than thirty (30) minutes and off-highway equipment should idle no longer than fifteen (15) consecutive minutes.

These guidelines for turning off vehicles and equipment when idling do not apply to:

1. Idling when queuing.
2. Idling to verify the vehicle is in safe operating condition.
3. Idling for testing, servicing, repairing or diagnostic purposes.
4. Idling necessary to accomplish work for which the vehicle was designed (such as operating a crane, mixing concrete, etc.).
5. Idling required to bring the machine system to operating temperature.
6. Emergency vehicles, utility company, construction, and maintenance vehicles where the engines must run to perform needed work.
7. Idling to ensure safe operation of the vehicle.
8. Idling when the propulsion engine is providing auxiliary power for other than heating or air conditioning. (such as hydraulic systems for pavers)
9. When specific traffic, safety, or emergency situations arise.
10. If the ambient temperature is less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Limited idling to provide for the safety of vehicle occupants (e.g. to run the heater).
11. If the ambient temperature is greater than 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Limited idling to provide for the safety of vehicle occupants of off-highway equipment (e.g. to run the air conditioning) no more than 30 minutes.
12. Diesel powered vehicles may idle for up to 30 minutes to minimize restart problems.

Any vehicle, truck, or equipment in which the primary source of fuel is natural gas or electricity is exempt from the idling limitations set forth in this special provision.

OUTSOURCING OUTSIDE THE USA:

(9-21-04) (Rev. 5-16-06)

SP1 G150

All work on consultant contracts, services contracts, and construction contracts shall be performed in the United States of America. No work shall be outsourced outside of the United States of America.

Outsourcing for the purpose of this provision is defined as the practice of subcontracting labor, work, services, staffing, or personnel to entities located outside of the United States.

The North Carolina Secretary of Transportation shall approve exceptions to this provision in writing.

NOTES TO CONTRACTOR:

(8-19-25)

SP1 G999B

Gravel Construction Entrances may be required for sites identified in the work orders. For those work orders requiring these, refer to the *2024 Roadway Standard Drawing, Index 1607.01, Sheet 1 of 1*. The required materials to construct this entrance are included in the pay items found elsewhere in the contract.

PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS**ROADWAY****CONES:**

(3-19-24)

1135

SP11 R35

Revise the *Standard Specifications* as follows:

Page 11-11, Article 1135-3 CONSTRUCTION METHODS, lines 19-20, delete the third sentence of the first paragraph, “Do not use cones in the upstream taper of lane or shoulder closures for multi-lane roadways.”.

FLAGGERS:

(12-17-24)(Rev. 12-23-25)

1150

SP11 R50

Revise Section 1150 of the *Standard Specification* as follows:

Page 11-13, Article 1150-1, DESCRIPTION, add the following after line 31:

Alternatively, at the discretion of the Contractor, the Contractor may furnish, install, place in operation, repair, maintain, relocate, and remove remotely controlled Automated Flagging Assistance Devices (AFAD) or Temporary Portable Traffic Signal units (PTS units) to assist, supplement, or replace human flaggers for one-lane, two-way traffic maintenance during construction in accordance with this provision and the *Standard Specifications*.

For the purpose of this provision, an "approach" refers to a single lane of traffic moving in one direction toward a point of control or work zone. Flaggers, AFAD and PTS units are only used to control one lane of approaching traffic in a specific direction.

Page 11-13, Article 1150-2, MATERIALS, add the following after line 34:

Provide documentation to the Engineer that the AFAD or PTS units meets or exceeds the requirements of this special provision and is on the NCDOT APL or ITS and Signals QPL.

(A) Automated Flagging Assistance Devices (AFAD)**(1) AFAD General**

Cover the automated gate arm with Department approved Type VII, VIII or IX retroreflective sheeting of vertical alternating red and white stripes at 16 inch intervals measured horizontally. When the gate arm is in the down position the minimum vertical aspect of the arm and sheeting shall be 4 inches. The retroreflectorized sheeting shall be on both sides of the gate arm. With the AFAD parked or positioned 2 feet outside or in a location deemed acceptable for the lane being controlled, the gate arm shall reach at least to the center of the lane but shall not exceed the width of the lane being controlled.

Design the system to be fail-safe. Provide a conflict monitor, malfunction monitoring unit, or similar device that monitors for malfunctions and prevents the display of conflicting indications. This system shall be electronic and operated by remote control.

(2) AFAD Type I System: RED/YELLOW

Provide a Red/Yellow AFAD with at least one set of CIRCULAR RED and CIRCULAR YELLOW lenses in a vertical configuration that are 12 inches in diameter. The bottom of the housing (including brackets) shall be at least 7 feet (2.1 meters) above the pavement.

This system is required to have yellow 12 inch aluminum or polycarbonate vehicle signal heads with 10 inch tunnel visors, backplates, and Light Emitting Diode (LED) modules. Provide signal heads, backplates, and LED modules listed on the ITS and Signals QPL available on the Department's website.

Provide an automated gate arm on the AFAD that descends to a down position across the approaching lane of traffic when the steady CIRCULAR RED lens is illuminated and then ascends to an upright position when the flashing CIRCULAR YELLOW lens is illuminated. The automated gate arm is to be designed such that if a motorist pulls underneath the gate arm while lowering, no damage to the vehicle occurs.

A STOP HERE ON RED (R10-6 or R10-6a) sign shall be installed on the right-hand side of the approach at the point at which drivers are expected to stop when the steady CIRCULAR RED lens is illuminated.

To stop traffic, the AFAD shall transition from the flashing CIRCULAR YELLOW lens by initiating a minimum 5 second steadily illuminated CIRCULAR YELLOW lens followed by the CIRCULAR RED lens.

Once the CIRCULAR RED lens is displayed, the system is to have a minimum 2 second delay between the time the steady CIRCULAR RED is displayed and the time the gate arm begins to lower. The maximum delay between CIRCULAR RED and the time the gate arm lowers is 4 seconds. To permit stopped road users to proceed, the AFAD shall display the flashing CIRCULAR YELLOW lens and the gate arm shall be placed in the upright position.

Ensure the system monitors for a lack of yellow or red signal voltage, total loss of indication in any direction, presence of multiple indications on any approach and low power conditions.

Additional sets of CIRCULAR RED and CIRCULAR YELLOW lenses located over the roadway or on the left side of the approach and operated in unison with the primary set, may be used to improve visibility of the AFAD. If the set of lenses is located over any portion of the roadway that can be used by motor vehicles, the bottom of the housing (including brackets) shall be at least 15 feet (4.6 meters) above the pavement.

(3) AFAD Type II System: STOP/SLOW

Provide STOP/SLOW signs that are octagonal in shape, made of rigid material, and at least 36 inch x 36 inch in size. Letters shall be a minimum of 8 inches high. The STOP face shall have a red background with white letters and border.

The SLOW face shall be diamond shaped, orange, or yellow background with black letters and border. Cover both faces in a Department approved Type VII, VIII or IX retroreflective sheeting. The minimum mounting height for the sign faces shall be 7 feet above the pavement to the bottom of the sign.

The AFAD's STOP/SLOW signs shall be supplemented with active conspicuity devices by incorporating a stop beacon (red lens) and a warning beacon (yellow lens). The stop beacon shall be no more than 24 inches above the STOP face. Mount the warning beacon no more than 24 inches above or beside of the SLOW face. Except for the mounting locations, the beacons shall conform to the provisions of Chapter 4L of the MUTCD and have 12 inch signal lenses.

Strobe/flashing lights are an acceptable alternative to flashing beacons. If utilized, they shall be either white or red flashing lights located within the STOP face and white or yellow flashing lights within the SLOW face and conform to the provisions of Chapter 6D of the MUTCD. If used, the lens diameter shall be a minimum of 5 inches with a minimum height of 6 inches. Equip strobes/flashing lights for both dual and quad flash patterns.

Type B warning lights shall not be used in lieu of the beacons or the strobe lights.

The faces of the AFADs STOP/SLOW sign may include louvers. If louvers are used, design the louvers such that the aspect of the sign face to approaching traffic is a full sign face at a distance of 50 feet or greater.

A WAIT ON STOP (R1-7) sign and a GO ON SLOW (R1-8) sign shall be displayed to traffic approaching the AFAD. Position signs on the same support structure as the AFAD. Both signs shall have black legends and borders on white Type III sheeting backgrounds. Each of these signs shall be rectangular in shape and be at least 24 inch x 30 inch size with letters at least 6 inches high.

Provide an automated gate arm on the AFAD that descends to a down position across the approaching lane of traffic when the STOP face is displayed and then ascends to an upright position when the SLOW face is displayed.

The automated gate arm is to be designed such that if a motorist pulls underneath the gate arm while lowering, no damage to the vehicle occurs.

A STOP HERE ON RED (R10-6 or R10-6a) sign shall be installed on the right-hand side of the approach at the point at which drivers are expected to stop when the STOP face is displayed.

When approaching motorists are to proceed, display the SLOW face and the warning beacon or strobes are to flash on the AFAD. When approaching motorists are will be stopped, display the STOP face and the stop beacon or strobes are to flash on the AFAD.

To stop traffic, the AFAD will transition from the SLOW face to the STOP face by initiating a minimum 5 second change cycle. First, the warning beacon is to be steadily illuminated for the change cycle. If strobes are used in lieu of a warning beacon, they are to be placed in the quad flash pattern. At the end of the change cycle, the STOP face is to be displayed with the stop beacon flashing and the warning beacon or strobes are to stop flashing. Once the STOP face is displayed, the system is to have a minimum 2 second delay between the time the STOP face is displayed and the time the gate arm begins to lower. The maximum delay between the time the STOP face is displayed and the time the gate arm lowers is 4 seconds.

To permit stopped road users to proceed, the gate arm shall be placed in the upright position and the AFAD shall display the SLOW face and the warning beacon or strobes are to flash in the dual flash pattern.

Do not flash the stop beacon when the SLOW face is displayed, and do not flash the warning beacon when the STOP face is displayed.

(B) Portable Traffic Signals (PTS) Units

Provide PTS units with at least one set of CIRCULAR RED, CIRCULAR YELLOW, and CIRCULAR GREEN lenses in a vertical configuration that are 12 inch diameter aluminum or polycarbonate vehicle signal heads with 10 inch tunnel visors, backplates, and Light Emitting Diode (LED) modules. All signal heads, tunnel visors, and backplates shall be yellow in color.

The bottom of the housing (including brackets) shall be at least 7 feet above the pavement for single set units. Additional signal heads on units with more than one signal head shall be capable of extending over the travel lane.

Communication Requirements

All PTS units within the signal set up systems shall maintain communication at all times by either hardwire cable or wireless radio link communication. If the hardwire cable communication is utilized the communication cable shall be deployed in a manner that will not intrude in the direct work area of the project or obstruct vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Utilize radio communication with 900MHz frequency band and frequency hopping capability. The radio link communication system shall have a minimum range of 1 mile.

Fault Mode Requirements

Revert PTS units to a flashing red mode upon system default unless otherwise specified by the Engineer. Equip the PTS units with a remote monitoring system. Where cell

communication availability exists, the remote monitoring system shall adhere to the remote monitoring system section of this provision.

Remote Monitoring System

The remote monitoring system (RMS) shall be capable of reporting signal location, battery voltage / battery history and system default. Provide a password protected website viewable from any computer with internet capability for the RMS. In the event of a system default, the RMS shall provide specific information concerning the cause of the system default (i.e. red lamp on signal number 1). Equip the RMS with a mechanism capable of immediately contacting a minimum of three previously designated individuals via text messaging and/or email upon a default.

The running program operating the PTS units shall be always available and viewable through the RMS website. Maintain a history of the RMS operating system in each signal including operating hours and events and the location of the PTS units.

Trailer / Cart

The AFAD and PTS units may be mounted on either a trailer or a moveable cart system.

Finish all exterior metal surfaces with Federal orange enamel per AMS-STD-595, color chip ID# 13538 or 12473 respectively with a minimum paint thickness of 2.5 mils (64 microns).

Design and test the AFAD or PTS units trailer / cart to withstand an 80 MPH wind load while in the operational position. Provide independent certification that the assembly meets the design wind load.

Equip the AFAD or PTS units with leveling jacks capable of stabilizing the unit in a horizontal position when located on slopes 6:1 or flatter.

Equip trailers in compliance with North Carolina Law governing motor vehicles and include a 12-volt trailer lighting system complying *with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations 393*, safety chains and a minimum 2 inch ball hitch.

Provide a minimum 4 inch wide strip of fluorescent conspicuity sheeting retroreflective sheeting to the frame of the trailer. Apply the sheeting to all sides of the trailer. The sheeting shall meet the ASTM requirements of Type VII, VIII or IX.

Power System

Design the systems to operate both with and without an external power source. Furnish transmitters, generators, batteries, controls and all other components necessary to operate the device.

Provide equipment that is solar powered and supplemented with a battery backup system that includes a minimum 110/120 VAC powered on-board charging system capable of powering the

unit for 7 continuous days with no solar power. Each unit shall also be capable of being powered by standard 110/120 VAC power sources, if applicable.

Locate batteries and electronic controls in a locked, weather and vandal resistant housings.

Page 11-14, Article 1150-3, CONSTRUCTION METHODS, add the following after line 11:

Flaggers shall have a path to escape an errant approaching vehicle at all times, unimpeded by barrier, guardrail, guiderail, parked vehicles, construction materials, slopes steeper than 2:1, or any other obstruction at all times. If an unimpeded path cannot be maintained, the Contractor shall use AFAD or PTS units in lieu of a flagger.

Provide documentation to the Engineer prior to deploying the device that the AFAD or PTS units operator(s) are qualified flagger(s) that have been properly trained through an NCDOT approved training agency or other NCDOT approved training provider and that the qualified flagger(s) have received manufacturer training to operate that specific device. This training shall include proper installation, remote control operation, central control systems and maintenance of the AFAD or PTS units. The training shall take place off the project site where training conditions are removed from live traffic. The documentation shall include the names of the authorized trainer, the trainees, the device on which they have been trained and the date of the training. Provide updated documentation to the Engineer prior to deploying any additional operators.

Install advance warning signs and operate AFADs in accordance with the attached detail drawings in this provision.

Install advance warning signs and operate PTS units in accordance with *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* No. 1101.02, Sheet 17.

AFAD and PTS units shall only be used in situations where there is only one lane of approaching traffic in the direction to be controlled. **At no time shall an AFAD unit controlling traffic through the work area be placed in an autonomous mode and/or left unattended.**

Signal timing and operation of PTS units shall be field verified and accepted by the Engineer before use.

Do not use AFAD or PTS units in locations where queueing from the AFAD or PTS units will extend to within 150 feet of a signalized intersection or railroad crossing. Do not use AFAD and PTS units as a substitute for or a replacement for a continuously operating temporary traffic control signal as described in Section 6F.84 of the MUTCD.

If used at night, illuminate each AFAD or PTS units as described in Section 6D of the MUTCD.

Provide a complete AFAD or PTS units that is capable of being relocated as traffic conditions demand.

If AFADs or PTS units become inoperative, be prepared at all times to replace the unit with the same type and model of AFAD or PTS units, revert to human flagging operations or terminate all

construction activities requiring the use of the AFAD or PTS units until the AFAD or PTS units become operative or qualified human flaggers are available.

When the work requiring the AFAD or PTS units is not pursued for 30 minutes or longer, power off each AFAD or PTS units. Removed the AFAD or PTS units from the travel lane and relocated to a minimum of 5 feet from the edge line. AFAD gate arms shall be in the upright position. Remove all traffic control devices from the road, place two cones by each AFAD or PTS units and all signs associated with the lane closure operation shall be removed or laid down. At the end of each workday, remove all AFADs or PTS units from the roadway and shoulder areas.

Ensure the system's wireless communication links continuously monitor and verify proper transmission and reception of data used to monitor and control each AFAD or PTS units. Ensure ambient mobile or other radio transmissions or adverse weather conditions do not affect the system.

In the event of a loss of communications, immediately display the flashing RED or STOP indication on all AFAD or PTS units.

AFAD Specific Construction Methods

The flagger/operator controlling the AFAD units shall be on the project site at all times. If multiple AFAD units are used, one AFAD unit shall be the Main AFAD unit and all other units shall be remote AFAD units. Ensure that each device meets the physical display and operational characteristics as specified in the MUTCD.

Multiple AFAD units may be controlled with **one** flagger/operator when the AFAD units meet each of the following requirements:

- (1) AFAD units are spaced no greater than the manufacturer's recommendations.
- (2) Both AFAD units can be seen at the same time from the flagger/operator's position, or the AFAD is operating on its own secure network with malfunction detection and notification to the flagger/operator.
- (3) The flagger/operator has an unobstructed view of approaching traffic in both directions from the flagger/operator position or the AFAD is operating on its own secure network, with cameras that provide the flagger/operator an unobstructed view of approaching traffic from both directions. The flagger/operator may control the AFAD units from a pilot vehicle.

If any of the above requirements are not met, flagger/operator control each AFAD unit.

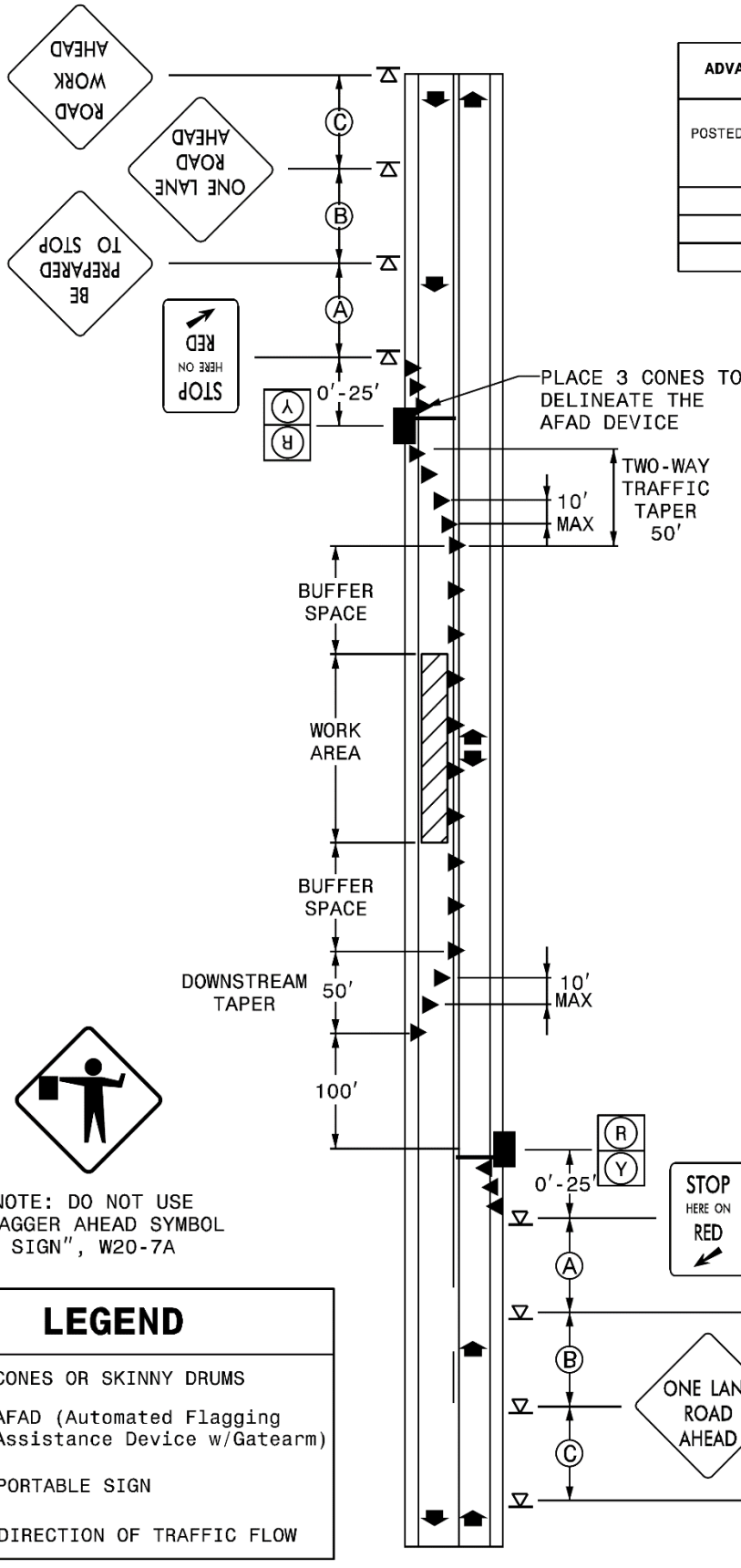
AFAD operators may either control traffic at side streets or driveways between the AFAD units or operate the pilot car while operating the AFAD system if approved by the Engineer. AFAD units must continue to be within clear sight of the operator during these work activities.

Page 11-14, Article 1150-4, MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, add the following after line 24:

Each AFAD or PTS unit will be measured and paid for as *Flaggers* paid by day in accordance with Article 1150-4 of the *Standard Specifications*. Where the pay item for *Flaggers* is not included in the original contract then no separate payment will be made for this item and payment will be included in the lump sum price bid for *Temporary Traffic Control* found elsewhere in this contract. Each approach controlled by AFAD or PTS units will be measured and paid as one flagger, irrespective of the number of devices used. If multiple PTS units are required to control a single approach, these units will collectively be considered as replacing one flagger.

No separate measurement or payment will be made for AFAD or PTS unit operators, as the cost of such including their training and operational costs shall be included in the unit or lump sum price for *Flaggers* or *Temporary Traffic Control*. Such price and payment also includes the relocation, maintenance, and removal during repair periods of AFAD or PTS units as well as the signal controller, communication, vehicle detection system, traffic signal software of PTS units and any other incidentals necessary to complete the work.

Red/Yellow Lens AFAD (TYPE I)



ADVANCE WARNING SIGN SPACING CHART			
POSTED SPEED LIMIT (MPH)	RECOMMENDED DISTANCE BETWEEN SIGNS FEET (+/-) SEE NOTE #1		
	(A)	(B)	(C)
≤ 35	200	200	200
40-50	350	350	350
55	500	500	500

DESIGN SPEED (MPH)	BUFFER SPACE (FEET)
30	85
35	120
40	155
45	195
50	240
55	290
60	345
65	405
70	470
75	540
80	615

NOTE: DO NOT USE "FLAGGER AHEAD SYMBOL SIGN", W20-7A

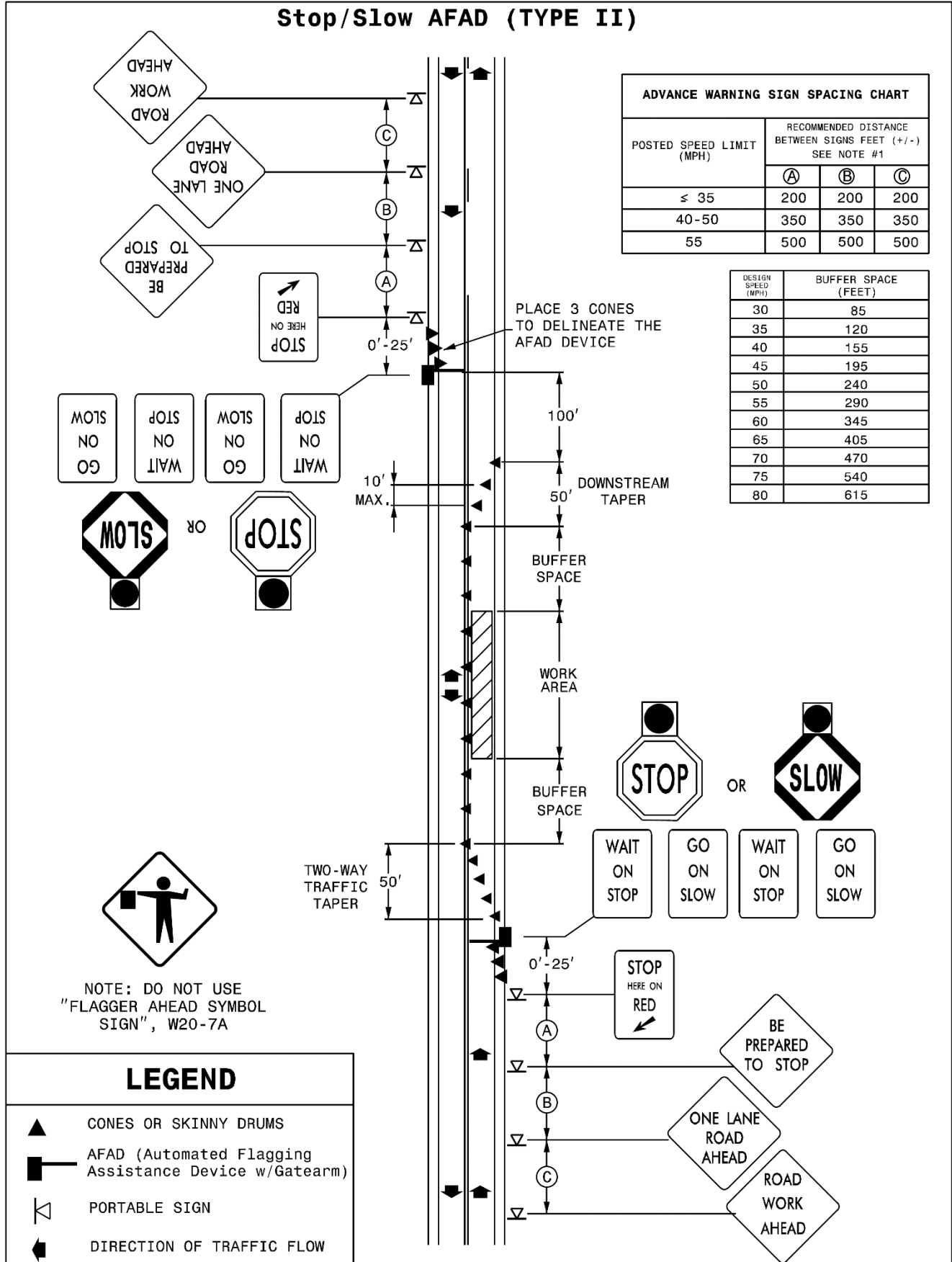
LEGEND

- CONES OR SKINNY DRUMS
- AFAD (Automated Flagging Assistance Device w/Gatearm)
- PORTABLE SIGN
- DIRECTION OF TRAFFIC FLOW

Stop/Slow AFAD (TYPE II)

ADVANCE WARNING SIGN SPACING CHART			
POSTED SPEED LIMIT (MPH)	RECOMMENDED DISTANCE BETWEEN SIGNS FEET (+/-) SEE NOTE #1		
	(A)	(B)	(C)
≤ 35	200	200	200
40-50	350	350	350
55	500	500	500

DESIGN SPEED (MPH)	BUFFER SPACE (FEET)
30	85
35	120
40	155
45	195
50	240
55	290
60	345
65	405
70	470
75	540
80	615



NOTE: DO NOT USE "FLAGGER AHEAD SYMBOL SIGN", W20-7A

LEGEND

- CONES OR SKINNY DRUMS
- AFAD (Automated Flagging Assistance Device w/Gatearm)
- PORTABLE SIGN
- DIRECTION OF TRAFFIC FLOW

WATTLE DEVICES:

(1-1-24)(Rev. 9-16-25)

1642

SP16 R10

Page 16-23, Subarticle 1642-2(B) Wattle, lines 10-12, delete and replace with the following:

(B) Wattle and Wattle Barrier

Wattles shall meet Table 1642-1.

TABLE 1642-1	
100% CURLED WOOD (EXCELSIOR) FIBERS - WATTLE	
Property	Property Value
Minimum Diameter	12 inches
Minimum Density	2.5 pcf +/- 10%
Net Material	Synthetic
Net Openings	1 inch x 1 inch
Net Configuration	Totally Encased
Minimum Weight	20 lb +/- 10% per 10 foot length

Coir Fiber Wattles shall meet Table 1642-2.

TABLE 1642-2	
100% COIR (COCONUT) FIBERS WATTLE	
Property	Property Value
Minimum Diameter	12 inches
Minimum Density	3.5 pcf +/- 10%
Net Material	Coir Fiber
Net Openings	2 inch x 2 inch
Net Strength	90 lb
Minimum Weight	2.6 pcf +/- 10%

Wattle Barriers shall meet Table 1642-3.

TABLE 1642-3	
100% CURLED WOOD (EXCELSIOR) FIBERS – WATTLE BARRIER	
Property	Property Value
Minimum Diameter	18 inches
Minimum Density	2.9 pcf +/- 10%
Net Material	Synthetic
Net Openings	1 inch x 1 inch
Net Configuration	Totally Encased
Minimum Weight	5 pcf +/- 10%

Coir Fiber Wattle Barriers shall meet Table 1642-4.

TABLE 1642-4	
100% COIR (COCONUT) FIBERS WATTLE BARRIER	
Property	Property Value
Minimum Diameter	18 inches
Minimum Density	5 pcf +/- 10%
Net Material	Coir Fiber
Net Openings	2 inch x 2 inch
Net Strength	90 lb
Minimum Weight	10 pcf +/- 10%

Pages 16-24 & 16-25, Article 1642-5 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, lines 42-47 & lines 1-2, delete and replace with the following:

Wattle will be measured and paid for by the actual number of linear feet of wattles which are installed and accepted. Such price and payment will be full compensation for all work covered by this section, including, but not limited to, furnishing all materials, labor, equipment and incidentals necessary to install the *Wattle*.

Coir Fiber Wattles will be measured and paid for by the actual number of linear feet of coir fiber wattles which are installed and accepted. Such price and payment will be full compensation for all work covered by this section, including, but not limited to, furnishing all materials, labor, equipment and incidentals necessary to install the *Coir Fiber Wattles*.

Wattle Barrier will be measured and paid as the actual number of linear feet of wattle barrier installed and accepted. Such price and payment will be full compensation for all work covered by this provision, including, but not limited to, furnishing all materials, labor, equipment and incidentals necessary to install the *Wattle Barrier*.

Coir Fiber Wattle Barrier will be measured and paid as the actual number of linear feet of coir fiber wattle barrier installed and accepted. Such price and payment will be full compensation for all work covered by this provision, including, but not limited to, furnishing all materials, labor, equipment and incidentals necessary to install the *Coir Fiber Wattle Barrier*.

Page 16-25, Article 1642-5 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, after line 9, delete and replace “___ Wattle Check” with “Wattle”.

Page 16-25, Article 1642-5 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, after line 9, delete and replace “___ Wattle Barrier” with “Wattle Barrier”.

Page 16-25, Article 1642-5 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, after line 9, add the following:

Pay Item	Pay Unit
Coir Fiber Wattle	Linear Foot
Coir Fiber Wattle Barrier	Linear Foot

STANDARD TREE CREW:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R001

Description

This work consists of felling, limbing, pruning, cutting, and removal of trees, cutting and removal of brush, cutting and removal of low-growing vegetation.

Equipment

At a minimum, the Contractor shall provide the following tools in good working condition: gas-powered chainsaws with working chain brakes and with various bar lengths up to 48 inches; gas powered pole saws with a 10-foot minimum length; straight shaft hand trimmers equipped with blades for cutting brush and low growing vegetation; and any other small hand tools necessary to perform such work.

Each saw operator shall be equipped with all personal protective equipment required by 29 CFR 1910.242, for these tree services operations, including, but not limited to: head protection, hearing protection, eye and face protection, leg protection, foot protection, and hand protection. The Contractor shall provide a vehicle for transporting crew, equipment, and tools.

Personnel

The Contractor shall provide a 3-man crew of qualified and equipped saw operators to perform the assigned work. Crewman qualification consists of each saw operator having received proper training and experience in safely and efficiently performing tree felling and various other chain saw operations, per OSHA General Industry Standards 29 CFR 1910.132 thru 1910.138. Prior to beginning work under this contract, the Contractor must provide the Department with a listing of saw operators who will be utilized on this project along with a statement detailing their prior experience performing tree work and the related safety training that these operators have received.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Standard Tree Crew will be measured and paid for as the actual number of hours that the 3-man crew performs work that is accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

Any 3-man crew member, performing dual duties (equipment operation, flagger, etc.) on a jobsite will only be paid under the *Standard Tree Crew* line item for the actual hours he/she is

performing the specific duties described above. Any additional member needed for the assigned work order will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item	Pay Unit
Standard Tree Crew	Hour

ADDITIONAL STANDARD TREE CREW MEMBER:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R002

Description

This work consists of felling, limbing, pruning, cutting, removal of trees, flagging, sawman, cutting and removal of brush, cutting and removal of low-growing vegetation.

Equipment

At a minimum, the Contractor shall provide the following tools in good working condition: gas-powered chainsaws with working chain brakes and with various bar lengths up to 48 inches; gas powered pole saws with a 10-foot minimum length; straight shaft hand trimmers equipped with blades for cutting brush and low growing vegetation; and any other small hand tools necessary to perform such work.

Each saw operator shall be equipped with all personal protective equipment required by 29 CFR 1910.242, for these tree services operations, including, but not limited to: head protection, hearing protection, eye and face protection, leg protection, foot protection, and hand protection. Any personal safety equipment needed for flagging operations.

The Contractor shall provide a vehicle for transporting crew, equipment, and tools.

Personnel

The Contractor shall provide an additional tree crew member(s) of qualified and equipped saw operators to perform the assigned work. Crewman qualification consists of each saw operator having received proper training and experience in safely and efficiently performing tree felling and various other chain saw operations, per OSHA General Industry Standards 29 CFR 1910.132 thru 1910.138. Prior to beginning work under this contract, the Contractor must provide the Department with a listing of saw operators who will be utilized on this project along with a statement detailing their prior experience performing tree work and the related safety training that these operators have received.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Additional Standard Tree Crew Member will be measured and paid for as the actual number of hours that the member(s) performs work that is accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above, are considered incidental to the work. Any additional tree crew member performing dual duties (equipment operation, flagger, etc.) on a jobsite will only be paid under the *Additional Standard Tree Crew Member* line item for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above.

DN12213885

R-16

Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Additional Standard Tree Crew Member

Pay Unit

Hour

TREE CLIMBING:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R003

Description

The work consists of tree services utilizing a tree climber for those situations when the other tree service methods in this contract cannot be done without risk to the public or damage to private property, or where site conditions make it impractical to use those.

Equipment

The Contractor shall furnish all safety and operational equipment sufficient to perform the required work; this includes but is not limited to climbing spikes, harnesses, rigging, lanyards, blocks, pulleys, and other equipment in accordance with all applicable OSHA requirements, ANSI requirements, and industry standards.

Personnel

The Contractor shall provide tree climbers, who are properly trained and certified as an ISA Certified Tree Worker Climber Specialist, TCIA Tree Climber Specialist, or an approved equivalent. Certifications shall be submitted to the Engineer 10 days prior to work beginning on a work order. Tree climbers shall not be utilized unless approved by the Engineer.

Tree climbers shall perform climbing activities utilizing all necessary harnesses, rigging, lanyards, blocks, pulleys, and other equipment in accordance with all applicable OSHA requirements, ANSI requirements, and industry standards.

Personnel designated as a “tree climber” in addition to tree service crew members and shall not be counted to satisfy the required number of standard tree crew members.

Construction Methods

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Tree Climbing will be measured and paid for by the actual number of hours that each tree climber approved by the Engineer is used during tree service operations. The contract unit price for *Tree Climbing* will be full compensation for supplying all labor, tools, equipment, and incidentals necessary to complete the required work.

Any tree climber performing dual duties (equipment operation, flagger, etc.) on a jobsite will only be paid under *Tree Climbing* for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above.

DN12213885

R-18

Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item
Tree Climbing

Pay Unit
Hour

STUMP REMOVAL:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R004

Description

This work consists of mechanically uprooting tree stumps at various locations identified in the work order or as directed by the Engineer.

Equipment

The Contractor shall utilize equipment, listed elsewhere this contract, to complete this work.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Stump Removal will be measured and paid for as the number of tree stumps that have been uprooted as identified in the work order and as accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Stump Removal

Pay Unit

Each

TIPPING FEES:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R005

Description

This item consists of the actual cost assessed to the Contractor by an approved landfill for disposal of materials generated directly from work under this contract.

Construction Method

Removal and disposal of all logs, stumps, snags, brush, loose roots, down timber, slabs, tree laps, dead or partially dead trees, broken trees or brush, dead brush, sawdust piles, and leaf piles from those areas designated by the work order or by the Engineer.

No burning or burying of debris will be allowed on highway right of way.

Measurement and Payment

Tipping Fees will be measured and paid as the actual cost assessed to the Contractor by an approved landfill for disposal of materials generated directly from work under this contract, plus 3% to cover overhead processing. The unit price of Tipping Fees for all prospective bidders shall be pre-set by the Department at \$1.00. The Contractor shall submit a detailed receipt from the facility showing tipping fee payment has been made. Payment will not be issued without submission of this receipt.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Tipping Fees

Pay Unit

Dollar

BRUSH CHIPPER WITH TRUCK AND OPERATOR:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R006

Description

This work consists of operating a brush chipper with truck that includes chipping of limbs, trees and removal of chips as directed by the Engineer.

Equipment

The Contractor shall provide a brush chipper with truck and competent operator for assigned work. Both the brush chipper and truck shall be in good working order and shall be equipped with all safety guards in place and fully functional. Brush chipper shall be fuel-powered and rated to accept trees and limbs up to 12 inches in diameter. The truck must be rated to legally tow the chipper and come equipped with an enclosed box capable of holding a minimum of 7 cubic yards of chipped debris.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Brush Chipper with Truck and Operator will be measured and paid for as the actual number of hours that an approved brush chipper with truck and operator is functioning in the capacity scoped by the work order and as accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. Brush chipper with truck operators performing dual duties on a jobsite will only be paid under the *Brush Chipper with Truck and Operator* line item for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above. When performing additional duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Brush Chipper with Truck and Operator

Pay Unit

Hour

BRUSH DEBRIS GRINDING AND REMOVAL:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R007

Description

Grinding of all logs, stumps, snags, brush, loose roots, down timber, slabs, tree laps, dead or partially dead trees, broken trees or brush, dead brush, etc..., as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Equipment

Provide a commercial grade tub grinder and all equipment necessary to grind, stage, load, and remove vegetative debris within the work order period.

Construction

Grind all stump and brush material and deposit either directly into a haul truck or into a neat mulch pile at the location specified by the work order or by the Engineer.

Stockpiling of the mulch material shall be temporary. The duration of stockpiling is limited to such time as the grinding operations are complete and hauling operations commence. All mulch shall be removed from the site. All mulch shall become the property of the contractor at the time that it is removed from the site.

The Contractor shall be responsible for any disposal permits or agreements.

Measurement and Payment

Brush Debris Grinding and Removal will be measured and paid as the actual number of cubic yards of brush debris ground and hauled away from the site. The volume of mulched material will be determined, based on mulched material processed and loaded in the hauling truck. Brush debris in stockpile measurement is an estimated value only.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. No separate payment will be made for the relocation of the equipment at the work location. Such price and payment will be full compensation for all work covered by this provision, including but not limited to operators, fuel, maintenance of the equipment, hauling, loading, and permits.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Brush Debris Grinding and Removal

Pay Unit

Cubic Yard

BRUSH TRAILER WTH TRUCK AND OPERATOR:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R008

Description

This work consists of operating a brush trailer with truck for hauling any limbs, brush debris, tree canopy, and stumps from job site to an approved location.

Equipment

The Contractor shall provide a tandem axle trailer and truck suitable for assigned work. The trailer shall be capable of handling a minimum of 15 cubic yards of debris. Equipment models and specifications must be approved by the Engineer prior to any work. The brush trailer and truck shall be in good working condition, equipped with all required safety guards in place and fully functional.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Brush Trailer with Truck and Operator will be measured and paid as the actual number of hours used for brush debris or mulch and hauled away from the site. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. Any brush trailer operators performing dual duties on a jobsite will only be paid under *Brush Trailer with Truck and Operator* for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above. When performing additional duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Brush Trailer with Truck and Operator

Pay Unit

Hour

BUCKET TRUCK WITH OPERATOR:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R009

Description

This work consists of operating a bucket truck for top-down felling trees, removal of limbs overhanging roadways and utility corridors, or any other scope that is best performed with a bucket truck.

Equipment

The Contractor shall provide a bucket truck and competent operator for assigned work. The bucket truck shall be in good working condition with all safety guards in place and fully functional. The boom shall have a minimum lift height of 50 feet.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Bucket Truck with Operator will be measured and paid for as the actual number of hours that an approved bucket truck with operator is functioning in the capacity scoped by the work order and as accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above, are considered incidental to the work.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. Bucket truck operators performing dual duties a jobsite will only be paid under the *Bucket Truck with Operator* line item for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above. When performing additional duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Bucket Truck with Operator

Pay Unit

Hour

EXCAVATOR WITH OPERATOR:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R010

Description

This work consists of operating an excavator and mechanically loading logs, stumps, snags, brush, loose roots, down timber, slabs, tree laps, dead or partially dead trees, broken trees or brush, dead brush, sawdust piles, and leaf piles from the job site to an approved location acceptable for loading.

Equipment

The Contractor shall provide an excavator for the purpose of mechanically loading from right of way to an approved location. The excavator shall be 30HP minimum. The excavator shall be in good working condition and equipped with all safety guards present and functional.

For site conditions that require the excavator to operate from paved surfaces, the excavator shall be equipped with rubber tracks capable of working on paved surfaces without causing damage to the asphalt or concrete. For unpaved surfaces, the excavator may be equipped with standard tracks.

Personnel

The Contractor shall provide a competent excavator operator for the purpose of mechanically loading from right of way to an approved location.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Excavator with Operator will be measured and paid as the actual number of hours that an approved excavator and operator is functioning in the capacity scoped by the work order and as accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. Excavator operators performing dual duties on a job site will only be paid under the *Excavator with Operator* line item for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above. When performing additional duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item

Excavator with Operator

Pay Unit

Hour

GRAPPLE TRUCK WITH OPERATOR:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R011

Description

This work consists of operating a grapple truck and mechanically loading, unloading, and transporting brush debris and trees from job site to an approved location.

Equipment

The Contractor shall provide a Grapple Truck and competent operator for the purpose of mechanically loading, unloading, and transporting brush and trees from right of way to an approved waste facility. The Grapple Truck shall be equipped with a box bed capable of holding a minimum of 50 cubic yards. The Grapple Truck shall be in good working conditions and equipped with all safety guards present and functional.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Grapple Truck with Operator will be measured and paid as the actual number of hours that an approved grapple truck and operator is functioning in the capacity scoped by the work order and as accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. Grapple Truck operators performing dual duties on a jobsite will only be paid under *Grapple Truck with Operator* for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above. When performing additional duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item	Pay Unit
Grapple Truck with Operator	Hour

MECHANICAL TREE HARVESTER WITH OPERATOR:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R012

Description

This work consists of operating a mechanical tree harvester for removal of limbs, tree canopy or entire tree that overhangs roadways, utility corridors, or any other situation that is best performed with a mechanical tree harvester.

Equipment

The Contractor shall provide a 4-wheel drive rubber-tired tree harvester with a minimum of four wheels and competent operator for assigned work. The tree harvester shall be powered by a diesel engine capable of producing a minimum of 140 horsepower and shall have a boom capable of extending to minimum 40 feet. Equipment models and specifications must be approved by the Engineer prior to any work. The mechanical tree harvester shall be in good working condition, equipped with all required safety guards in place and fully functional.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Mechanical Tree Harvester with Operator will be measured and paid as the actual number of hours that an approved tree harvester with operator is functioning in the capacity scoped by the work order and as accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. Any tree harvester operator performing dual duties on a jobsite will only be paid under *Mechanical Tree Harvester with Operator* for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above. When performing additional duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item	Pay Unit
Mechanical Tree Harvester with Operator	Hour

MECHANICAL TREE TRIMMER WITH OPERATOR:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R013

Description

This work consists of operating a mechanical tree trimmer for removal of limbs and tree canopy overhanging roadways, utility corridors, or any other situation that is best performed with a mechanical tree trimmer.

Equipment

The Contractor shall provide a 4-wheel drive rubber-tired tree trimmer with telescoping boom and competent operator for assigned work. The tree trimmer shall be powered by a diesel engine capable of producing a minimum of 120 horsepower and shall have a telescoping boom capable of extending to minimum 75 feet with a minimum 24-inch cutting blade. Equipment models and specifications must be approved by the Engineer prior to any work. The mechanical tree trimmer shall be in good working condition, equipped with all required safety guards in place and fully functional.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Mechanical Tree Trimmer with Operator will be measured and paid as the actual number of hours that an approved tree trimmer with operator is functioning in the capacity scoped by the work order and as accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. Any tree trimmer operator performing dual duties on a jobsite will only be paid under *Mechanical Tree Trimmer with Operator* for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above. When performing additional duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item	Pay Unit
Mechanical Tree Trimmer with Operator	Hour

SKID STEER LOADER WITH GRAPPLE AND OPERATOR:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R014

Description

This work consists of operating a skid steer loader with grapple and mechanically transporting logs, stumps, snags, brush, loose roots, down timber, slabs, tree laps, dead or partially dead trees, broken trees or brush, dead brush, sawdust piles, and leaf piles from job site to an approved location.

Equipment

The Contractor shall provide a skid steer loader and competent operator for the purpose of mechanically loading, unloading, and transporting brush and trees from right-of-way to an approved location. The skid steer loader shall be 70HP minimum and be equipped with a grapple bucket capable of raking and cleaning the ground with minimal disturbance. The skid steer loader shall be in good working conditions and equipped with all safety guards present and functional.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Skid Steer Loader with Grapple and Operator will be measured and paid as the actual number of hours that an approved skid steer loader with grapple and operator is functioning in the capacity scoped by the work order and as accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. Skid steer loader operators performing dual duties on a jobsite will only be paid under skid steer loader line item for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above. When performing additional duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item	Pay Unit
Skid Steer Loader with Grapple and Operator	Hour

STUMP GRINDER WITH OPERATOR:

(01-13-26)

PSP 2 R015

Description

This work consists of grinding tree stumps and vegetative stumps at various locations as directed by the Engineer.

Equipment

The Contractor shall provide a stump grinder and competent operator for assigned work. The stump grinder shall be in good working order, with all safety guards in place and fully functional. The stump grinder shall be fuel-powered by an engine rated at 25 HP or greater and shall have an above-ground cutting capacity of no less than 25 inches.

Construction Method

The Contractor shall render services as detailed in work order assignments or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Stump Grinder with Operator will be measured and paid for as the actual number of hours that an approved stump grinder with operator is functioning in the capacity scoped by the work order and as accepted by the Engineer during the life of the work order. Costs for any tools, fuel, materials, and additional equipment needed to support the operation and equipment detailed above are considered incidental to the work.

No payment will be made for idle equipment. Stump grinder operators performing dual duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) on a jobsite will only be paid under the *Stump Grinder and Operator* line item for the actual hours he/she is performing the specific duties described above. When performing additional duties (sawman, flagger, etc.) will be paid at Additional Standard Tree Crew Member rate.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item	Pay Unit
Stump Grinder with Operator	Hour

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS – TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS**

(5-20-08)(Rev. 1-16-24)

Z-2

General Statute 143C-6-11. (h) Highway Appropriation is hereby incorporated verbatim in this contract as follows:

(h) Amounts Encumbered. – Transportation project appropriations may be encumbered in the amount of allotments made to the Department of Transportation by the Director for the estimated payments for transportation project contract work to be performed in the appropriation fiscal year. The allotments shall be multiyear allotments and shall be based on estimated revenues and shall be subject to the maximum contract authority contained in *General Statute 143C-6-11(c)*. Payment for transportation project work performed pursuant to contract in any fiscal year other than the current fiscal year is subject to appropriations by the General Assembly. Transportation project contracts shall contain a schedule of estimated completion progress, and any acceleration of this progress shall be subject to the approval of the Department of Transportation provided funds are available. The State reserves the right to terminate or suspend any transportation project contract, and any transportation project contract shall be so terminated or suspended if funds will not be available for payment of the work to be performed during that fiscal year pursuant to the contract. In the event of termination of any contract, the contractor shall be given a written notice of termination at least 60 days before completion of scheduled work for which funds are available. In the event of termination, the contractor shall be paid for the work already performed in accordance with the contract specifications.

Payment will be made on any contract terminated pursuant to the special provision in accordance with Subarticle 108-13(D) of the *Standard Specifications*.

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION
NCDOT GENERAL SEED SPECIFICATION FOR SEED QUALITY

(5-17-11)

Z-3

Seed shall be sampled and tested by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Seed Testing Laboratory. When said samples are collected, the vendor shall supply an independent laboratory report for each lot to be tested. Results from seed so sampled shall be final. Seed not meeting the specifications shall be rejected by the Department of Transportation and shall not be delivered to North Carolina Department of Transportation warehouses. If seed has been delivered it shall be available for pickup and replacement at the supplier's expense.

Any re-labeling required by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Seed Testing Laboratory, that would cause the label to reflect as otherwise specified herein shall be rejected by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Seed shall be free from seeds of the noxious weeds Johnsongrass, Balloonvine, Jimsonweed, Witchweed, Itchgrass, Serrated Tussock, Showy Crotalaria, Smooth Crotalaria, Sicklepod, Sandbur, Wild Onion, and Wild Garlic. Seed shall not be labeled with the above weed species on the seed analysis label. Tolerances as applied by the Association of Official Seed Analysts will NOT be allowed for the above noxious weeds except for Wild Onion and Wild Garlic.

Tolerances established by the Association of Official Seed Analysts will generally be recognized. However, for the purpose of figuring pure live seed, the found pure seed and found germination percentages as reported by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Seed Testing Laboratory will be used. Allowances, as established by the NCDOT, will be recognized for minimum pure live seed as listed on the following pages.

The specifications for restricted noxious weed seed refers to the number per pound as follows:

<u>Restricted Noxious Weed</u>	<u>Limitations per Lb. Of Seed</u>	<u>Restricted Noxious Weed</u>	<u>Limitations per Lb. of Seed</u>
Blessed Thistle	4 seeds	Cornflower (Ragged Robin)	27 seeds
Cocklebur	4 seeds	Texas Panicum	27 seeds
Spurred Anoda	4 seeds	Bracted Plantain	54 seeds
Velvetleaf	4 seeds	Buckhorn Plantain	54 seeds
Morning-glory	8 seeds	Broadleaf Dock	54 seeds
Corn Cockle	10 seeds	Curly Dock	54 seeds
Wild Radish	12 seeds	Dodder	54 seeds
Purple Nutsedge	27 seeds	Giant Foxtail	54 seeds
Yellow Nutsedge	27 seeds	Horsenettle	54 seeds
Canada Thistle	27 seeds	Quackgrass	54 seeds
Field Bindweed	27 seeds	Wild Mustard	54 seeds
Hedge Bindweed	27 seeds		

Seed of Pensacola Bahiagrass shall not contain more than 7% inert matter, Kentucky Bluegrass, Centipede and Fine or Hard Fescue shall not contain more than 5% inert matter whereas a maximum of 2% inert matter will be allowed on all other kinds of seed. In addition, all seed

shall not contain more than 2% other crop seed nor more than 1% total weed seed. The germination rate as tested by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture shall not fall below 70%, which includes both dormant and hard seed. Seed shall be labeled with not more than 7%, 5% or 2% inert matter (according to above specifications), 2% other crop seed and 1% total weed seed.

Exceptions may be made for minimum pure live seed allowances when cases of seed variety shortages are verified. Pure live seed percentages will be applied in a verified shortage situation. Those purchase orders of deficient seed lots will be credited with the percentage that the seed is deficient.

FURTHER SPECIFICATIONS FOR EACH SEED GROUP ARE GIVEN BELOW:

Minimum 85% pure live seed; maximum 1% total weed seed; maximum 2% total other crop seed; maximum 144 restricted noxious weed seed per pound. Seed less than 83% pure live seed will not be approved.

Sericea Lespedeza
Oats (seeds)

Minimum 80% pure live seed; maximum 1% total weed seed; maximum 2% total other crop; maximum 144 restricted noxious weed seed per pound. Seed less than 78% pure live seed will not be approved.

Tall Fescue (all approved varieties)	Bermudagrass
Kobe Lespedeza	Browntop Millet
Korean Lespedeza	German Millet – Strain R
Weeping Lovegrass	Clover – Red/White/Crimson
Carpetgrass	

Minimum 78% pure live seed; maximum 1% total weed seed; maximum 2% total other crop seed; maximum 144 restricted noxious weed seed per pound. Seed less than 76% pure live seed will not be approved.

Common or Sweet Sundangrass

Minimum 76% pure live seed; maximum 1% total weed seed; maximum 2% total other crop seed; maximum 144 restricted noxious weed seed per pound. Seed less than 74% pure live seed will not be approved.

Rye (grain; all varieties)
Kentucky Bluegrass (all approved varieties)
Hard Fescue (all approved varieties)
Shrub (bicolor) Lespedeza

Minimum 70% pure live seed; maximum 1% total weed seed; maximum 2% total other crop seed; maximum 144 noxious weed seed per pound. Seed less than 70% pure live seed will not be approved.

Centipedegrass	Japanese Millet
Crownvetch	Reed Canary Grass
Pensacola Bahiagrass	Zoysia

Creeping Red Fescue

Minimum 70% pure live seed; maximum 1% total weed seed; maximum 2% total other crop seed; maximum 5% inert matter; maximum 144 restricted noxious weed seed per pound.

Barnyard Grass
Big Bluestem
Little Bluestem
Bristly Locust
Birdsfoot Trefoil
Indiangrass
Orchardgrass
Switchgrass
Yellow Blossom Sweet Clover

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION
ERRATA

(1-16-24)(Rev. 1-20-26)

Z-4

Revise the *2024 Standard Specifications* as follows:

Division 1

Page 1-36, Subarticle 104-12(B) Evaluation of Proposals, line 21, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Page 1-36, Subarticle 104-12(D) Preliminary Review, line 37, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Page 1-37, Subarticle 104-12(E) Final Proposal, line 3, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Page 1-37, Subarticle 104-12(F) Design-Build VEPs, line 36, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Page 1-38, Subarticle 104-12(G) Modifications, line 1, replace "Design-Build Unit" with "Alternative Delivery Unit".

Division 3

Page 3-5, Article 305-2 MATERIALS, after line 16, replace " 1032-3(A)(7)" with "1032-3" and add the item "Galvanized Corrugated Steel Pipe" with Section "1032-3".

Page 3-6, Article 310-2 MATERIALS, after line 9, add the item "Galvanized Corrugated Steel Pipe" with Section "1032-3".

Division 6

Page 6-15, Article 610-1 DESCRIPTION, line 20, replace "The work includes" with "The work includes, but is not limited to,".

Page 6-15, Article 610-1 DESCRIPTION, line 22, replace "applying the tack coat as specified." with "applying the tack coat in accordance with Section 605.".

Page 6-30, Article 610-14 DENSITY ACCEPTANCE, line 39, replace "QC process." with "QC process in accordance with Section 609.".

Page 6-31, Article 610-16 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 13, replace "*Hot Mix Asphalt Pavement*" with "*Asphalt Concrete _____ Course, Type _____*".

Page 6-50, Subarticle 661-4(A) Equipment, lines 4-7, replace the first two sentences of the seventh paragraph with the following:

When an erected fixed stringline is utilized for longitudinal profile and cross slope control furnish and erect the necessary guide line for the equipment.

Division 7

Page 7-18, Subarticle 710-10(A) General, lines 7-8, delete “for *Surface Testing Concrete Pavement*” from the last paragraph.

Division 8

Page 8-27, Article 846-1 DESCRIPTION, line 8, delete “4 inch” from the first paragraph.

Division 9

Page 9-17, Article 904-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, prior to line 1, replace " Sign Erection, Relocate Type (Ground Mounted)" with “Sign Erection, Relocate Type ___ (Ground Mounted)”.

Division 10

Page 10-51, Article 1024-4 WATER, prior to line 1, delete the “unpopulated blank row” in Table 1024-2 between “Time of set, deviation from control” and “Chloride Ion Content, Max.”.

Page 10-170, Subarticle 1081-1(C) Requirements, line 4, replace "maximum" with “minimum”.

Division 11

Page 11-15, Article 1160-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 24, replace “Where barrier units are moved more than one” with “Where barrier units are moved more than once”.

Division 15

Page 15-10, Article 1515-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, lines 11, replace " All piping" with “All labor, the manhole, other materials, excavation, backfilling, piping”.

Division 16

Page 16-14, Article 1633-5 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 20-24 and prior to line 25, delete and replace with the following " *Flocculant* will be measured and paid in accordance with Article 1642-5 applied to the temporary rock silt checks.”

Page 16-3, Article 1609-2 MATERIALS, after line 26, replace "Type 4" with “Type 4a”.

Page 16-25, Article 1644-2 MATERIALS, after line 22, replace "Type 4" with “Type 4a”.

Division 17

Page 17-15, Article 1715-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 23, delete and replace “1.25” with “1-1/4”.

Page 17-15, Article 1715-4 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT, line 24, delete and replace “(1.25” with “, 1-1/4”.

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**PLANT AND PEST QUARANTINES**

(Imported Fire Ant, Guava Root Knot Nematode, Spongy Moth (formerly known as gypsy moth), Witchweed, Cogon Grass, And Any Other Regulated Noxious Weed or Plant Pest)

(3-18-03)(Rev. 3-18-25)

Z-04a

Within Quarantined Area

This project may be within a county regulated for plant and/or pests. If the project or any part of the Contractor's operations is located within a quarantined area, thoroughly clean all equipment prior to moving out of the quarantined area. Comply with federal/state regulations by obtaining a certificate or limited permit for any regulated article moving from the quarantined area.

Originating in a Quarantined County

Obtain a certificate or limited permit issued by the N.C. Department of Agriculture/United States Department of Agriculture. Have the certificate or limited permit accompany the article when it arrives at the project site.

Contact

Contact the N.C. Department of Agriculture/United States Department of Agriculture at 1-800-206-9333, 919-707-3730, or <https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/plant-industry/plant-protection/plant-industry-plant-pest-quarantines> to determine those specific project sites located in the quarantined area or for any regulated article used on this project originating in a quarantined county.

Regulated Articles Include

1. Soil, sand, gravel, compost, peat, humus, muck, and decomposed manure, separately or with other articles. This includes movement of articles listed above that may be associated with cut/waste, ditch pulling, and shoulder cutting.
2. Plants with roots including grass sod.
3. Plant crowns and roots.
4. Bulbs, corms, rhizomes, and tubers of ornamental plants.
5. Hay, straw, fodder, and plant litter of any kind.
6. Clearing and grubbing debris.
7. Used agricultural cultivating and harvesting equipment.
8. Used earth-moving equipment.
9. Any other products, articles, or means of conveyance of any character, if determined by an inspector present a hazard of spreading imported fire ant, guava root knot nematode, spongy moth (formerly known as gypsy moth), witchweed, cogon grass, or other regulated noxious weed or plant pest.

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**MINIMUM WAGES**

(7-21-09)

Z-5

FEDERAL: The Fair Labor Standards Act provides that with certain exceptions every employer shall pay wages at the rate of not less than SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

STATE: The North Carolina Minimum Wage Act provides that every employer shall pay to each of his employees, wages at a rate of not less than SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all skilled labor employed on this contract shall be SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all intermediate labor employed on this contract shall be SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all unskilled labor on this contract shall be SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$7.25) per hour.

This determination of the intent of the application of this act to the contract on this project is the responsibility of the Contractor.

The Contractor shall have no claim against the Department of Transportation for any changes in the minimum wage laws, Federal or State. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to keep fully informed of all Federal and State Laws affecting his contract.

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**TITLE VI AND NONDISCRIMINATION:**

(6-28-77)(Rev 1/16/2024)

Z-6

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is committed to carrying out the U.S. Department of Transportation's policy of ensuring nondiscrimination in the award and administration of contracts.

The provisions of this section related to United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) Order 1050.2A, Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 21, 23 United States Code (U.S.C.) 140 and 23 CFR part 200 (or 49 CFR 303, 49 U.S.C. 5332 or 49 U.S.C. 47123) are applicable to all North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) contracts and to all related subcontracts, material supply, engineering, architectural and other service contracts, regardless of dollar amount. Any Federal provision that is specifically required not specifically set forth is hereby incorporated by reference.

(1) Title VI Assurances (USDOT Order 1050.2A, Appendix A)

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the "contractor") agrees as follows:

(a) Compliance with Regulations

The contractor (hereinafter includes consultants) shall comply with the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.

(b) Nondiscrimination

The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor shall not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Acts and the Regulations, including employment practices when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 49 CFR Part 21.

(c) Solicitations for Subcontractors, Including Procurements of Materials and Equipment

In all solicitations, either by competitive bidding, or negotiation made by the contractor for work to be performed under a subcontract, including procurements of materials, or leases of equipment, each potential subcontractor or supplier shall be notified by the contractor of the contractor's obligations under this contract and the Acts and the Regulations relative to Nondiscrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin.

(d) Information and Reports

The contractor shall provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations, and directives issued pursuant thereto and shall permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be

determined by the Recipient or the FHWA to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Acts, Regulations, and instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish the information, the contractor shall so certify to the Recipient or the FHWA, as appropriate, and shall set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.

(e) Sanctions for Noncompliance:

In the event of a contractor's noncompliance with the Non-discrimination provisions of this contract, the Recipient will impose such contract sanctions as it and/or the FHWA may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:

- (i) Withholding payments to the contractor under the contract until the contractor complies; and/or
- (ii) Cancelling, terminating, or suspending a contract, in whole or in part.

(f) Incorporation of Provisions

The contractor shall include the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (f) in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant thereto. The contractor shall take action with respect to any subcontract or procurement as the Recipient or the FHWA may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, that if the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with litigation by a subcontractor, or supplier because of such direction, the contractor may request the Recipient to enter into any litigation to protect the interests of the Recipient. In addition, the contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

(2) Title VI Nondiscrimination Program (23 CFR 200.5(p))

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has assured the USDOT that, as a condition to receiving federal financial assistance, NCDOT will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all requirements imposed by Title 49 CFR part 21 and related nondiscrimination authorities to ensure that no person shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, sex, age, or disability (including religion/creed or income-level, where applicable), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any programs, activities, or services conducted or funded by NCDOT. Contractors and other organizations under contract or agreement with NCDOT must also comply with Title VI and related authorities, therefore:

- (a) During the performance of this contract or agreement, contractors (e.g., subcontractors, consultants, vendors, prime contractors) are responsible for complying with NCDOT's Title VI Program. Contractors are not required to prepare or submit Title VI Programs. To comply with this section, the prime contractor shall:
 - 1. Post NCDOT's Notice of Nondiscrimination and the Contractor's own Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy in conspicuous locations accessible to all employees, applicants and subcontractors on the jobsite.

2. Physically incorporate the required Title VI clauses into all subcontracts on federally-assisted and state-funded NCDOT projects, and ensure inclusion by subcontractors into all lower-tier subcontracts.
 3. Required Solicitation Language. The Contractor shall include the following notification in all solicitations for bids and requests for work or material, regardless of funding source:

“The North Carolina Department of Transportation, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award. In accordance with other related nondiscrimination authorities, bidders and contractors will also not be discriminated against on the grounds of sex, age, disability, low-income level, creed/religion, or limited English proficiency in consideration for an award.”
 4. Physically incorporate the FHWA-1273, in its entirety, into all subcontracts and subsequent lower tier subcontracts on Federal-aid highway construction contracts only.
 5. Provide language assistance services (i.e., written translation and oral interpretation), free of charge, to LEP employees and applicants. Contact NCDOT OCR for further assistance, if needed.
 6. For assistance with these Title VI requirements, contact the NCDOT Title VI Nondiscrimination Program at 1-800-522-0453.
- (b) Subrecipients (e.g. cities, counties, LGAs, planning organizations) may be required to prepare and submit a Title VI Plan to NCDOT, including Title VI Assurances and/or agreements. Subrecipients must also ensure compliance by their contractors and subrecipients with Title VI. (23 CFR 200.9(b)(7))
- (c) If reviewed or investigated by NCDOT, the contractor or subrecipient agrees to take affirmative action to correct any deficiencies found within a reasonable time period, not to exceed 90 calendar days, unless additional time is granted by NCDOT. (23 CFR 200.9(b)(15))
- (d) The Contractor is responsible for notifying subcontractors of NCDOT’s External Discrimination Complaints Process.
1. Applicability

Title VI and related laws protect participants and beneficiaries (e.g., members of the public and contractors) from discrimination by NCDOT employees, subrecipients and contractors, regardless of funding source.

2. Eligibility

Any person—or class of persons—who believes he/she has been subjected to discrimination based on race, color, national origin, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), sex, age, or disability (and religion in the context of employment, aviation, or transit) may file a written complaint. The law also prohibits intimidation or retaliation of any sort.

3. Time Limits and Filing Options

Complaints may be filed by the affected individual(s) or a representative and must be filed no later than 180 calendar days after the following:

- (i) The date of the alleged act of discrimination; or
- (ii) The date when the person(s) became aware of the alleged discrimination; or
- (iii) Where there has been a continuing course of conduct, the date on which that conduct was discontinued or the latest instance of the conduct.

Title VI and related discrimination complaints may be submitted to the following entities:

- North Carolina Department of Transportation, Office of Civil Rights, Title VI Program, 1511 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1511; toll free 1-800-522-0453
- Federal Highway Administration, North Carolina Division Office, 310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410, Raleigh, NC 27601, 919-747-7010
- US Department of Transportation, Departmental Office of Civil Rights, External Civil Rights Programs Division, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590; 202-366-4070

4. Format for Complaints

Complaints must be in writing and signed by the complainant(s) or a representative, and include the complainant's name, address, and telephone number. Complaints received by fax or e-mail will be acknowledged and processed. Allegations received by telephone will be reduced to writing and provided to the complainant for confirmation or revision before processing. Complaints will be accepted in other languages, including Braille.

5. Discrimination Complaint Form

Contact NCDOT Civil Rights to receive a full copy of the Discrimination Complaint Form and procedures.

6. Complaint Basis

Allegations must be based on issues involving race, color, national origin (LEP), sex, age, disability, or religion (in the context of employment, aviation or transit). "Basis" refers to the complainant's membership in a protected group category.

**TABLE 103-1
COMPLAINT BASIS**

Protected Categories	Definition	Examples	Applicable Nondiscrimination Authorities
Race and Ethnicity	An individual belonging to one of the accepted racial groups; or the perception, based usually on physical characteristics that a person is a member of a racial group	Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, White	Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 49 CFR Part 21; 23 CFR 200; 49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123. (<i>Executive Order 13166</i>)
Color	Color of skin, including shade of skin within a racial group	Black, White, brown, yellow, etc.	
National Origin (<i>Limited English Proficiency</i>)	Place of birth. Citizenship is not a factor. (<i>Discrimination based on language or a person's accent is also covered</i>)	Mexican, Cuban, Japanese, Vietnamese, Chinese	
Sex	Gender. The sex of an individual. <i>Note: Sex under this program does not include sexual orientation.</i>	Women and Men	1973 Federal-Aid Highway Act; 49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123.
Age	Persons of any age	21-year-old person	Age Discrimination Act of 1975 49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123.
Disability	Physical or mental impairment, permanent or temporary, or perceived.	Blind, alcoholic, para-amputee, epileptic, diabetic, arthritic	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
Religion (in the context of employment) (<i>Religion/ Creed in all aspects of any aviation or transit-related construction</i>)	An individual belonging to a religious group; or the perception, based on distinguishable characteristics that a person is a member of a religious group. In practice, actions taken as a result of the moral and ethical beliefs as to what is right and wrong, which are sincerely held with the strength of traditional religious views. <i>Note: Does not have to be associated with a recognized religious group or church; if an individual sincerely holds to the belief, it is a protected religious practice.</i>	Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Hindu, etc.	Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; 23 CFR 230; FHWA-1273 Required Contract Provisions. (<i>49 U.S.C. 5332(b); 49 U.S.C. 47123</i>)

(3) Pertinent Nondiscrimination Authorities

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest agrees to comply with the following non-discrimination statutes and authorities, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin); and 49 CFR Part 21.

- (b) The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, (42 U.S.C. § 4601), (prohibits unfair treatment of persons displaced or whose property has been acquired because of Federal or Federal-aid programs and projects);
- (c) Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, (23 U.S.C. § 324 et seq.), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- (d) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 U.S.C. § 794 et seq.), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability) and 49 CFR Part 27;
- (e) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, (42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age);
- (f) Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, (49 USC § 471, Section 47123), as amended, (prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex);
- (g) The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (PL 100-209), (Broadened the scope, coverage and applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, by expanding the definition of the terms "programs or activities" to include all of the programs or activities of the Federal-aid recipients, sub-recipients and contractors, whether such programs or activities are Federally funded or not);
- (h) Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131-12189) as implemented by Department of Transportation regulations at 49 C.F.R. parts 37 and 38;
- (i) The Federal Aviation Administration's Nondiscrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex);
- (j) Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, which ensures Nondiscrimination against minority populations by discouraging programs, policies, and activities with disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations;
- (k) Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, and resulting agency guidance, national origin discrimination includes discrimination because of Limited English proficiency (LEP). To ensure compliance with Title VI, you must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to your programs (70 Fed. Reg. at 74087 to 74100);
- (l) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits you from discriminating because of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq).
- (m) Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq., Pub. L. 88-352), (prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin).

(4) Additional Title VI Assurances

***The following Title VI Assurances (Appendices B, C and D) shall apply, as applicable*

- (a) Clauses for Deeds Transferring United States Property (1050.2A, Appendix B)

The following clauses will be included in deeds effecting or recording the transfer of real property, structures, or improvements thereon, or granting interest therein from the United States pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 4.

NOW, THEREFORE, the U.S. Department of Transportation as authorized by law and upon the condition that the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will accept title to the lands and maintain the project constructed thereon in accordance with the North Carolina General Assembly, the Regulations for the Administration of the Federal-Aid Highway Program, and the policies and procedures prescribed by the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance and in compliance with all requirements imposed by Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation pertaining to and effectuating the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252; 42 U.S.C. § 2000d to 2000d-4), does hereby remise, release, quitclaim and convey unto the NCDOT all the right, title and interest of the U.S. Department of Transportation in and to said lands described in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

(HABENDUM CLAUSE)

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said lands and interests therein unto the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and its successors forever, subject, however, to the covenants, conditions, restrictions and reservations herein contained as follows, which will remain in effect for the period during which the real property or structures are used for a purpose for which Federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits and will be binding on the NCDOT, its successors and assigns.

The NCDOT, in consideration of the conveyance of said lands and interests in lands, does hereby covenant and agree as a covenant running with the land for itself, its successors and assigns, that (1) no person will on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination with regard to any facility located wholly or in part on, over, or under such lands hereby conveyed [,] [and]* (2) that the NCDOT will use the lands and interests in lands and interests in lands so conveyed, in compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Non-discrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and as said Regulations and Acts may be amended [, and (3) that in the event of breach of any of the above-mentioned nondiscrimination conditions, the Department will have a right to enter or re-enter said lands and facilities on said land, and that above described land and facilities will thereon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the U.S. Department of Transportation and its assigns as such interest existed prior to this instruction].*

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

(b) Clauses for Transfer of Real Property Acquired or Improved Under the Activity, Facility, or Program (1050.2A, Appendix C)

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, leases, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(a):

1. The (grantee, lessee, permittee, etc. as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree [in the case of deeds and leases add "as a covenant running with the land"] that:
 - (i.) In the event facilities are constructed, maintained, or otherwise operated on the property described in this (deed, license, lease, permit, etc.) for a purpose for which a U.S. Department of Transportation activity, facility, or program is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits, the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will maintain and operate such facilities and services in compliance with all requirements imposed by the Acts and Regulations (as may be amended) such that no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities.
2. With respect to licenses, leases, permits, etc., in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the NCDOT will have the right to terminate the (lease, license, permit, etc.) and to enter, re-enter, and repossess said lands and facilities thereon, and hold the same as if the (lease, license, permit, etc.) had never been made or issued. *
3. With respect to a deed, in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the NCDOT will have the right to enter or re-enter the lands and facilities thereon, and the above described lands and facilities will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the NCDOT and its assigns. *

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

(c) Clauses for Construction/Use/Access to Real Property Acquired Under the Activity, Facility or Program (1050.2A, Appendix D)

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, permits, or similar instruments/ agreements entered into by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) pursuant to the provisions of Assurance 7(b):

1. The (grantee, licensee, permittee, etc., as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree (in the case of deeds and leases add, "as a covenant running with the land") that (1) no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities, (2) that in the construction of any improvements on, over, or under such land, and the furnishing of services thereon, no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination, (3) that the (grantee, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will use the premises in compliance with all other requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Acts and Regulations, as amended, set forth in this Assurance.
2. With respect to (licenses, leases, permits, etc.), in the event of breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, the NCDOT will have the right to terminate the (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) and to enter or re-enter and repossess said land and the facilities thereon, and hold the same as if said (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) had never been made or issued. *
3. With respect to deeds, in the event of breach of any of the above Nondiscrimination covenants, the NCDOT will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the NCDOT and its assigns. *

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISION**ON-THE-JOB TRAINING**

(10-16-07) (Rev. 4-21-15)

Z-10

Description

The North Carolina Department of Transportation will administer a custom version of the Federal On-the-Job Training (OJT) Program, commonly referred to as the Alternate OJT Program. All contractors (existing and newcomers) will be automatically placed in the Alternate Program. Standard OJT requirements typically associated with individual projects will no longer be applied at the project level. Instead, these requirements will be applicable on an annual basis for each contractor administered by the OJT Program Manager.

On the Job Training shall meet the requirements of 23 CFR 230.107 (b), 23 USC – Section 140, this provision and the On-the-Job Training Program Manual.

The Alternate OJT Program will allow a contractor to train employees on Federal, State and privately funded projects located in North Carolina. However, priority shall be given to training employees on NCDOT Federal-Aid funded projects.

Minorities and Women

Developing, training and upgrading of minorities and women toward journeyman level status is a primary objective of this special training provision. Accordingly, the Contractor shall make every effort to enroll minority and women as trainees to the extent that such persons are available within a reasonable area of recruitment. This training commitment is not intended, and shall not be used, to discriminate against any applicant for training, whether a member of a minority group or not.

Assigning Training Goals

The Department, through the OJT Program Manager, will assign training goals for a calendar year based on the contractors' past three years' activity and the contractors' anticipated upcoming year's activity with the Department. At the beginning of each year, all contractors eligible will be contacted by the Department to determine the number of trainees that will be assigned for the upcoming calendar year. At that time the Contractor shall enter into an agreement with the Department to provide a self-imposed on-the-job training program for the calendar year. This agreement will include a specific number of annual training goals agreed to by both parties. The number of training assignments may range from 1 to 15 per contractor per calendar year. The Contractor shall sign an agreement to fulfill their annual goal for the year.\

Training Classifications

The Contractor shall provide on-the-job training aimed at developing full journeyman level workers in the construction craft/operator positions. Preference shall be given to providing training in the following skilled work classifications:

Equipment Operators	Office Engineers
Truck Drivers	Estimators
Carpenters	Iron / Reinforcing Steel Workers
Concrete Finishers	Mechanics
Pipe Layers	Welders

The Department has established common training classifications and their respective training requirements that may be used by the contractors. However, the classifications established are not all-inclusive. Where the training is oriented toward construction applications, training will be allowed in lower-level management positions such as office engineers and estimators. Contractors shall submit new classifications for specific job functions that their employees are performing. The Department will review and recommend for acceptance to FHWA the new classifications proposed by contractors, if applicable. New classifications shall meet the following requirements:

Proposed training classifications are reasonable and realistic based on the job skill classification needs, and

The number of training hours specified in the training classification is consistent with common practices and provides enough time for the trainee to obtain journeyman level status.

The Contractor may allow trainees to be trained by a subcontractor provided that the Contractor retains primary responsibility for meeting the training and this provision is made applicable to the subcontract. However, only the Contractor will receive credit towards the annual goal for the trainee.

Where feasible, 25 percent of apprentices or trainees in each occupation shall be in their first year of apprenticeship or training. The number of trainees shall be distributed among the work classifications on the basis of the contractor's needs and the availability of journeymen in the various classifications within a reasonable area of recruitment.

No employee shall be employed as a trainee in any classification in which they have successfully completed a training course leading to journeyman level status or in which they have been employed as a journeyman.

Records and Reports

The Contractor shall maintain enrollment, monthly and completion reports documenting company compliance under these contract documents. These documents and any other information as requested shall be submitted to the OJT Program Manager.

Upon completion and graduation of the program, the Contractor shall provide each trainee with a certification Certificate showing the type and length of training satisfactorily completed.

Trainee Interviews

All trainees enrolled in the program will receive an initial and Trainee/Post graduate interview conducted by the OJT program staff.

Trainee Wages

Contractors shall compensate trainees on a graduating pay scale based upon a percentage of the prevailing minimum journeyman wages (Davis-Bacon Act). Minimum pay shall be as follows:

60 percent	of the journeyman wage for the first half of the training period
75 percent	of the journeyman wage for the third quarter of the training period
90 percent	of the journeyman wage for the last quarter of the training period

In no instance shall a trainee be paid less than the local minimum wage. The Contractor shall adhere to the minimum hourly wage rate that will satisfy both the NC Department of Labor (NCDOL) and the Department.

Achieving or Failing to Meet Training Goals

The Contractor will be credited for each trainee employed by him on the contract work who is currently enrolled or becomes enrolled in an approved program and who receives training for at least 50 percent of the specific program requirement. Trainees will be allowed to be transferred between projects if required by the Contractor's scheduled workload to meet training goals.

If a contractor fails to attain their training assignments for the calendar year, they may be taken off the NCDOT's Bidders List.

Measurement and Payment

No compensation will be made for providing required training in accordance with these contract documents.

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DN12213885

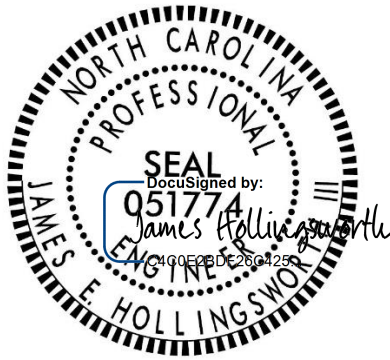
Clay, Cherokee, Graham, and Macon Counties

WORK ZONE TRAFFIC CONTROL

Project Special Provisions

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Clay, Cherokee, Graham, and Macon Counties

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL

(9/1/2021) (10/13/2023) (Rev. 12/17/2024)

General Requirements

Maintain traffic on all roads in accordance with Divisions 10, 11 and 12 of the *NCDOT Standard Specifications* and the following provisions:

Install Work Zone Advance Warning Signs when work is within 40 feet from the edge of the travel lane in accordance with Standard Drawing No. 1101.01 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* prior to beginning any other work. If signs are installed more than 3 calendar days prior to the beginning of work, cover the signs until the work begins. Install each work zone advance warning sign separately and not on the same post or stand with any other sign.

When personnel and/or equipment are working within 15 feet of an open travel lane, close the nearest open shoulder using Standard Drawing No. 1101.04 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* unless the work area is protected by barrier or guardrail or a lane closure is installed.

When personnel and/or equipment are working within 5 feet of an open travel lane of an undivided facility, close the nearest open travel lane using Standard Drawing No. 1101.02 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* unless the work area is protected by barrier or guardrail.

When personnel and/or equipment are working within 10 feet of an open travel lane of a divided facility, close the nearest open travel lane using Standard Drawing No. 1101.02 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings*, unless the work area is protected by barrier or guardrail.

When personnel and/or equipment are working within a lane of travel of an undivided or divided facility, close the lane using Standard Drawing No. 1101.02 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* or as directed by the Engineer.

Conduct the work so that all personnel and/or equipment remain within the closed travel lane. Perform work only when weather and visibility conditions allow safe operations as directed by the Engineer.

Do not work simultaneously within 15 feet on both sides of an open travel way, ramp, or loop within the same location, unless protected with guardrail or barrier.

Remove lane closure devices from the lane when work is not being performed behind the lane closure or when a lane closure is no longer needed or as directed by the Engineer.

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Clay, Cherokee, Graham, and Macon Counties

Temporary Traffic Control (TTC)

Refer to Standard Drawing No. 1101.02, 1101.03, 1101.04, 1101.11, 1110.01, 1110.02, 1115.01, 1130.01, 1135.01, 1145.01, 1150.01, 1165.01, and 1180.01 of the *NCDOT Roadway Standard Drawings* when closing a lane of travel or shoulder in the work zone.

Notify the Engineer 30 calendar days prior to any traffic pattern alteration.

Ensure all necessary signing is in place prior to altering any traffic pattern.

When lane closures are not in effect, space channelizing devices in work areas no greater in feet than twice the posted speed limit (MPH), except 10 feet on-center in radii, and 3 feet off the edge of an open travelway. Refer to *NCDOT Standard Specifications* Sections 1130 (Drums), 1135 (Cones), and 1180 (Skinny Drums) for additional requirements.

Place additional sets of three channelizing devices (Drums, Cones, or Skinny Drums) perpendicular to the edge of travelway on 100 to 500 feet centers, as directed by the Engineer, when unopened lanes are closed to traffic.

Place Type III Barricades with “ROAD CLOSED” sign R11-2 attached, of sufficient length to close the entire roadway.

Install black on orange “DIP” (W8-2) and/or “BUMP” (W8-1) signs in advance of the uneven area in accordance with Standard Drawing 1101.11, or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Two Lane Work Zone Traffic Control will be paid for as per each day in which traffic control operations for Two Lane Work Zone Traffic Control are conducted as required by the work order.

Multi-lane Work Zone Traffic Control will be paid for as per each day in which traffic control operations for Multi-lane Work Zone Traffic Control are conducted as required by the work order.

Shoulder Closure Work Zone Traffic Control will be paid for as per each day in which traffic control operations for Shoulder Closure Work Zone Traffic Control are conducted as required by the work order.

Price and payment for each of the Work Zone Traffic Control scenario may include but not be limited to providing Signs (portable, stationary, and/or barricade mounted), including detour signing, Truck Mounted Attenuators (TMA), Portable Changeable Message Signs (PCMS),

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Clay, Cherokee, Graham, and Macon Counties

Flashing Arrow Boards (FAB), Pilot Vehicle, Flaggers, Cones, Skinny Drums and Drums as shown in the applicable Roadway Standard Drawings and all labor, tools, equipment and incidental necessary to furnish, install, maintain and to remove traffic control devices when no longer required.

None of the Work Zone Traffic Control scenarios include Portable Concrete Barrier, Waterfilled Barrier, Temporary Crash Cushions, Digital Speed Limit Signs, Sequential Flashing Lights, or Presence Lights as these devices are beyond the scope of this provision.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item	Pay Unit
Two Lane Work Zone Traffic Control	Day
Multi-Lane Work Zone Traffic Control	Day
Shoulder Closure Work Zone Traffic Control	Day

PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS**EROSION CONTROL****CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS MANAGEMENT**

(3-19-19) (rev. 04-27-20)

Description

The requirements set forth shall be adhered to in order to meet the applicable materials handling requirements of the NCG010000 permit. Structural controls installed to manage construction materials stored or used on site shall be shown on the E&SC Plan. Requirements for handling materials on construction sites shall be as follows:

Polyacrylamides (PAMS) and Flocculants

Polyacrylamides (PAMS) and flocculants shall be stored in leak-proof containers that are kept under storm-resistant cover or surrounded by secondary containment structures designed to protect adjacent surface waters. PAMS or other flocculants used shall be selected from the NC DWR List of Approved PAMS/Flocculants. The concentration of PAMS and other flocculants used shall not exceed those specified in the NC DWR List of Approved PAMS/Flocculants and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The NC DWR List of Approved PAMS/Flocculants is available at:

https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/Water+Quality/Environmental+Sciences/ATU/PAM8_30_18.pdf

Equipment Fluids

Fuels, lubricants, coolants, and hydraulic fluids, and other petroleum products shall be handled and disposed of in a manner so as not to enter surface or ground waters and in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations. Equipment used on the site must be operated and maintained properly to prevent discharge of fluids. Equipment, vehicle, and other wash waters shall not be discharged into E&SC basins or other E&SC devices. Alternative controls should be provided such that there is no discharge of soaps, solvents, or detergents.

Waste Materials

Construction materials and land clearing waste shall be disposed of in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 130A, Article 9 - Solid Waste Management, and rules governing the disposal of solid waste (15A NCAC 13B). Areas dedicated for managing construction material and land clearing waste shall be at least 50 feet away from storm drain inlets and surface waters unless it can be shown that no other alternatives are reasonably available. Paint and other liquid construction material waste shall not be dumped into storm drains. Paint and other liquid construction waste washouts should be located at least 50 feet away from storm drain inlets unless there is no alternative. Other options are to install lined washouts or use portable, removable bags or bins. Hazardous or toxic waste shall be managed in accordance with the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and NC Hazardous Waste Rules at 15A NCAC,

Subchapter 13A. Litter and sanitary waste shall be managed in a manner to prevent it from entering jurisdictional waters and shall be disposed of offsite.

Herbicide, Pesticide, and Rodenticides

Herbicide, pesticide, and rodenticides shall be stored and applied in accordance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, North Carolina Pesticide Law of 1971 and labeling restrictions.

Concrete Materials

Concrete materials onsite, including excess concrete, must be controlled and managed to avoid contact with surface waters, wetlands or buffers. No concrete or cement slurry shall be discharged from the site. (Note that discharges from onsite concrete plants require coverage under a separate NPDES permit – NCG140000.) Concrete wash water shall be managed in accordance with the *Concrete Washout Structure* provision. Concrete slurry shall be managed and disposed of in accordance with *NCDOT DGS and HOS DCAR Distribution of Class A Residuals Statewide* (Permit No. WQ0035749). Any hardened concrete residue will be disposed of, or recycled on site, in accordance with state solid waste regulations.

Earthen Material Stock Piles

Earthen material stock piles shall be located at least 50 feet away from storm drain inlets and surface waters unless it can be shown that no other alternatives are reasonably available.

Measurement and Payment

Conditions set within the *Construction Materials Management* provision are incidental to the project for which no direct compensation will be made.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS:**Description**

This project is located in an *Environmentally Sensitive Area*. This designation requires special procedures to be used for clearing and grubbing, temporary stream crossings, and grading operations within the Environmentally Sensitive Areas identified on the plans and as designated by the Engineer. This also requires special procedures to be used for seeding and mulching and staged seeding within the project.

The Environmentally Sensitive Area shall be defined as a 50-foot buffer zone on both sides of the stream or depression measured from top of streambank or center of depression.

Construction Methods**(A) Clearing and Grubbing**

In areas identified as Environmentally Sensitive Areas, the Contractor may perform clearing operations, but not grubbing operations until immediately prior to beginning grading operations as described in Article 200-1 of the *Standard Specifications*. Only clearing operations (not grubbing) shall be allowed in this buffer zone until immediately prior to beginning grading operations. Erosion control devices shall be installed immediately following the clearing operation.

(B) Grading

Once grading operations begin in identified Environmentally Sensitive Areas, work shall progress in a continuous manner until complete. All construction within these areas shall progress in a continuous manner such that each phase is complete and areas are permanently stabilized prior to beginning of next phase. Failure on the part of the Contractor to complete any phase of construction in a continuous manner in Environmentally Sensitive Areas will be just cause for the Engineer to direct the suspension of work in accordance with Article 108-7 of the *Standard Specifications*.

(C) Temporary Stream Crossings

Any crossing of streams within the limits of this project shall be accomplished in accordance with the requirements of Subarticle 107-12 of the *Standard Specifications*.

(D) Seeding and Mulching

Seeding and mulching shall be performed in accordance with Section 1660 of the *Standard Specifications* and vegetative cover sufficient to restrain erosion shall be installed immediately following grade establishment.

Seeding and mulching shall be performed on the areas disturbed by construction immediately following final grade establishment. No appreciable time shall lapse into the contract time without stabilization of slopes, ditches and other areas within the Environmentally Sensitive Areas.

(E) Stage Seeding

The work covered by this section shall consist of the establishment of a vegetative cover on cut and fill slopes as grading progresses. Seeding and mulching shall be done in stages on cut and fill slopes that are greater than 20 feet in height measured along the slope, or greater than 2 acres in area. Each stage shall not exceed the limits stated above.

Additional payments will not be made for the requirements of this section, as the cost for this work shall be included in the contract unit prices for the work involved.

MINIMIZE REMOVAL OF VEGETATION:

The Contractor shall minimize removal of vegetation within project limits to the maximum extent practicable. Vegetation along stream banks and adjacent to other jurisdictional resources outside the construction limits shall only be removed upon approval of Engineer. No additional payment will be made for this minimization work.

Native Grass Seeding And Mulching (West)

Native Grass Seeding and Mulching shall be performed on the disturbed areas of wetlands and riparian areas, and adjacent to Stream Relocation and/or trout stream construction within a 50 foot zone on both sides of the stream or depression, measured from top of stream bank or center of depression. The stream bank of the stream relocation shall be seeded by a method that does not alter the typical cross section of the stream bank. Native Grass Seeding and Mulching shall also be performed in the permanent soil reinforcement mat section of preformed scour holes, and in other areas as directed.

The kinds of seed and fertilizer, and the rates of application of seed, fertilizer, and limestone, shall be as stated below. During periods of overlapping dates, the kind of seed to be used shall be determined. All rates are in pounds per acre.

August 1 - June 1

18# Creeping Red Fescue
 8# Big Bluestem
 6# Indiangrass
 4# Switchgrass
 35# Rye Grain
 500# Fertilizer
 4000# Limestone

May 1 – September 1

18# Creeping Red Fescue
 8# Big Bluestem
 6# Indiangrass
 4# Switchgrass
 25# German or Browntop Millet
 500# Fertilizer
 4000# Limestone

Approved Creeping Red Fescue Cultivars:

Aberdeen

Boreal

Epic

Cindy Lou

Fertilizer shall be 10-20-20 analysis. A different analysis of fertilizer may be used provided the 1-2-2 ratio is maintained and the rate of application adjusted to provide the same amount of plant food as a 10-20-20 analysis and as directed.

Native Grass Seeding and Mulching shall be performed in accordance with Section 1660 of the *Standard Specifications* and vegetative cover sufficient to restrain erosion shall be installed immediately following grade establishment.

Measurement and Payment

Native Grass *Seeding and Mulching* will be measured and paid for in accordance with Article 1660-8 of the *Standard Specifications*.

SAFETY FENCE AND JURISDICTIONAL FLAGGING:**Description**

Safety Fence shall consist of furnishing materials, installing and maintaining polyethylene or polypropylene fence along the outside riparian buffer, wetland, or water boundary, or other boundaries located within the construction corridor to mark the areas that have been approved to infringe within the buffer, wetland, endangered vegetation, culturally sensitive areas or water. The fence shall be installed prior to any land disturbing activities.

Interior boundaries for jurisdictional areas noted above shall be delineated by stakes and highly visible flagging.

Jurisdictional boundaries at staging areas, waste sites, or borrow pits, whether considered outside or interior boundaries shall be delineated by stakes and highly visible flagging.

Materials**(A) Safety Fencing**

Polyethylene or polypropylene fence shall be a highly visible preconstructed safety fence approved by the Engineer. The fence material shall have an ultraviolet coating.

Either wood posts or steel posts may be used. Wood posts shall be hardwood with a wedge or pencil tip at one end, and shall be at least 5 ft. in length with a minimum nominal 2" x 2" cross section. Steel posts shall be at least 5 ft. in length, and have a minimum weight of 0.85 lb/ft of length.

(B) Boundary Flagging

Wooden stakes shall be 4 feet in length with a minimum nominal 3/4" x 1-3/4" cross section. The flagging shall be at least 1" in width. The flagging material shall be vinyl and shall be orange in color and highly visible.

Construction Methods

No additional clearing and grubbing is anticipated for the installation of this fence. The fence shall be erected to conform to the general contour of the ground.

(A) Safety Fencing

Posts shall be set at a maximum spacing of 10 ft., maintained in a vertical position and hand set or set with a post driver. Posts shall be installed a minimum of 2 ft. into the ground. If hand set, all backfill material shall be thoroughly tamped. Wood posts may be sharpened to a dull point if power driven. Posts damaged by power driving shall be removed and replaced prior to final

acceptance. The tops of all wood posts shall be cut at a 30-degree angle. The wood posts may, at the option of the Contractor, be cut at this angle either before or after the posts are erected.

The fence geotextile shall be attached to the wood posts with one 2" galvanized wire staple across each cable or to the steel posts with wire or other acceptable means.

Place construction stakes to establish the location of the safety fence in accordance with Article 105-9 or Article 801-1 of the *Standard Specifications*. No direct pay will be made for the staking of the safety fence. All stakeouts for safety fence shall be considered incidental to the work being paid for as "Construction Surveying", except that where there is no pay item for construction surveying, all safety fence stakeout will be performed by state forces.

The Contractor shall be required to maintain the safety fence in a satisfactory condition for the duration of the project as determined by the Engineer.

(B) Boundary Flagging

Boundary flagging delineation of interior boundaries shall consist of wooden stakes on 25 feet maximum intervals with highly visible orange flagging attached. Stakes shall be installed a minimum of 6" into the ground. Interior boundaries may be staked on a tangent that runs parallel to buffer but must not encroach on the buffer at any location. Interior boundaries of hand clearing shall be identified with a different colored flagging to distinguish it from mechanized clearing.

Boundary flagging delineation of interior boundaries will be placed in accordance with Article 105-9 or Article 801-1 of the *Standard Specifications*. No direct pay will be made for delineation of the interior boundaries. This delineation will be considered incidental to the work being paid for as *Construction Surveying*, except that where there is no pay item or construction surveying the cost of boundary flagging delineation shall be included in the unit prices bid for the various items in the contract. Installation for delineation of all jurisdictional boundaries at staging areas, waste sites, or borrow pits shall consist of wooden stakes on 25 feet maximum intervals with highly visible orange flagging attached. Stakes shall be installed a minimum of 6" into the ground. Additional flagging may be placed on overhanging vegetation to enhance visibility but does not substitute for installation of stakes.

Installation of boundary flagging for delineation of all jurisdictional boundaries at staging areas, waste sites, or borrow pits shall be performed in accordance with Subarticle 230-4(B)(5) or Subarticle 802-2(F) of the *Standard Specifications*. No direct pay will be made for this delineation, as the cost of same shall be included in the unit prices bid for the various items in the contract.

The Contractor shall be required to maintain alternative stakes and highly visible flagging in a satisfactory condition for the duration of the project as determined by the Engineer.

Measurement and Payment

Safety Fence will be measured and paid as the actual number of linear feet of polyethylene or polypropylene fence installed in place and accepted. Such payment will be full compensation

including but not limited to furnishing and installing fence geotextile with necessary posts and post bracing, staples, tie wires, tools, equipment and incidentals necessary to complete this work.

Payment will be made under:

Pay Item
Safety Fence

Pay Unit
Linear Foot

STABILIZATION REQUIREMENTS:

(4-30-2019)(Rev. 1-21-2025)

Stabilization for this project shall comply with the time frame guidelines as specified by the NCG-010000 general construction permit issued by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources. Temporary or permanent ground cover stabilization shall occur within the following time frames from the last land-disturbing activity:

- Stabilize perimeter dikes, swales, ditches, and perimeter slopes within 7 calendar days.
- Stabilize high quality water (HQW) zones within 7 calendar days.
- Stabilize slopes steeper than 3:1 within 7 calendar days.
 - If slopes are 10 feet or less in length and are not steeper than 2:1, 14 calendar days are allowed.
- Stabilize slopes 3:1 to 4:1 within 14 calendar days.
 - 7 calendar days for slopes greater than 50 feet in length and with slopes steeper than 4:1.
 - 7 calendar days for perimeter dikes, swales, ditches, perimeter slopes, and HQW Zones.
- Stabilize areas with slopes flatter than 4:1 within 14 calendar days.
 - 7 calendar days for perimeter dikes, swales, ditches, perimeter slopes, and HQW Zones.

The stabilization timeframe for High Quality Water (HQW) Zones shall be 7 calendar days with no exceptions for slope grades or lengths. High Quality Water Zones (HQW) Zones are defined by North Carolina Administrative Code 15A NCAC 04A.0105 (25). Temporary and permanent ground cover stabilization shall be achieved in accordance with the provisions in this contract and as directed.

SEEDING AND MULCHING:**(WestEd)**

The kinds of seed and fertilizer, and the rates of application of seed, fertilizer, and limestone, shall be as stated below. During periods of overlapping dates, the kind of seed to be used shall be determined. All rates are in pounds per acre.

Shoulder and Median Areas

August 1 - June 1		May 1 - September 1	
20#	Kentucky Bluegrass	20#	Kentucky Bluegrass
75#	Hard Fescue	75#	Hard Fescue
25#	Rye Grain	10#	German or Browntop Millet
500#	Fertilizer	500#	Fertilizer
4000#	Limestone	4000#	Limestone

Areas Beyond the Mowing Pattern, Waste and Borrow Areas:

August 1 - June 1**May 1 - September 1**

100#	Tall Fescue	100#	Tall Fescue
15#	Kentucky Bluegrass	15#	Kentucky Bluegrass
30#	Hard Fescue	30#	Hard Fescue
25#	Rye Grain	10#	German or Browntop Millet
500#	Fertilizer	500#	Fertilizer
4000#	Limestone	4000#	Limestone

Approved Tall Fescue Cultivars:

06 Dust	Escalade	Kalahari	Serengeti
2 nd Millennium	Essential	Kitty Hawk 2000	Shelby
3 rd Millennium	Evergreen 2	Legitimate	Shenandoah III
Avenger	Faith	Lexington	Shenandoah Elite
Bar Fa	Falcon IV	LifeGuard	Sheridan
Barlexas	Falson NG	LSD	Sidewinder
Barlexas II	Falcon V	Magellan	Signia
Barrera	Fat Cat	Masterpiece	Silver Hawk
Barrington	Fesnova	Millennium SRP	Skyline
Barrobusto	Fidelity	Monet	Solara
Barvado	Finelawn Elite	Mustang 4	Southern Choice II
Biltmore	Finelawn Xpress	Naturally Green	Speedway
Bingo	Finesse II	Ninja 2	Spyder LS
Bizem	Firebird	Ol' Glory	Sunset Gold
Black Tail	Firecracker LS	Padre	Tacoca
Blackwatch	Firenza	Patagonia	Tahoe II
Blade Runner II	Five Point	Pedigree	Talladega
Bonsai	Focus	Picasso	Tanzania
Braveheart	Forte	Piedmont	Temple
Bravo	Garrison	Plantation	Terrano
Bullseye	Gazelle II	Proseeds 5301	Thor
Cannavaro	GLX Aced	Prospect	Thunderstruck
Catalyst	Gold Medallion	Quest	Titanium LS
Cayenne	Grande 3	RainDance	Titan LTD
Cezanne RZ	Greenbrooks	Raptor II	Tracer
Chipper	Greenkeeper	Rebel IV	Traverse SRP
Cochise IV	Gremlin	Rebel Exeda	Trio
Constitution	Greystone	Rebel Sentry	Tulsa Time
Corgi	Guardian 21	Regenerate	Turbo
Corona	Guardian 41	Regiment II	Turbo RZ
Coyote	Hemi	Rembrandt	Tuxedo
Cumberland	Honky Tonk	Rendition	Ultimate
Darlington	Hot Rod	Reunion	Umbrella
DaVinci	Hunter	Rhambler 2 SRP	Van Gogh
Desire	Inferno	Riverside	Venture
Diablo	Integrity	RNP	Watchdog
Dominion	Jaguar 3	Rocket	Wolfpack II

Dynamic
Dynasty

Jamboree
Justice

Saltillo
Scorpion

Xtremegreen

Approved Kentucky Bluegrass Cultivars:

4-Season	Blue Coat	Granite	Prosperity
Alexa II	Blue Note	Hampton	Quantum Leap
America	Blue Velvet	Harmonie	Rambo
Apollo	Boomerang	Impact	Rhapsody
Aramintha	Cabernet	Jackrabbit	Rhythm
Arcadia	Champagne	Jefferson	Royce
Aries	Champlain	Juliet	Rubicon
Armada	Chicago II	Keeneland	Rugby II
Arrow	Corsair	Langara	Rush
Arrowhead	Courtyard	Legend	Shariz
Aura	Dauntless	Liberator	Showcase
Avid	Delight	Lunar	Skye
Award	Diva	Madison	Solar Eclipse
Awesome	Dynamo	Mazama	Sonoma
Bandera	Eagleton	Mercury	Sorbonne
Barduke	Emblem	Merlot	Starburst
Barnique	Empire	Midnight	Sudden Impact
Baron	Envicta	Midnight II	Thermal Blue
Baroness	Everest	Moon Shadow	Total Eclipse
Barrister	Everglade	Mystere	Touche
Barvette HGT	Excursion	Nu Destiny	Tsunami
Bedazzled	Freedom II	NuChicago	Valor
Belissimo	Fredon III	NuGlade	Washington
Bewitched	Front Page	Oasis	Zedor
Beyond	Futurity	Odyssey	Zinfandel
Blackjack	Gaelic	Perfection	
Bluebank	Ginney II	Pinot	
Blueberry	Gladstone	Princeton 105	

Approved Hard Fescue Cultivars:

Aurora Gold	Firefly	Nordic	Rhino
Azay Blue	Gladiator	Oxford	Scaldis II
Beacon	Granite	Predator	Spartan II
Berkshire	Heron	Quatro	Stonehenge
Beudin	Jetty	Reliant II	Sword
Blueray	Minimus	Reliant IV	Warwick
Chariot	Miser	Rescue 911	
Eureka II	Nancock	Resolute	

On cut and fill slopes 2:1 or steeper add 20# Sericea Lespedeza and 15# Crown Vetch January 1 - December 31.

The Crown Vetch Seed should be double inoculated if applied with a hand seeder. Four times the normal rate of inoculant should be used if applied with a hydroseeder. If a fertilizer-seed slurry is used, the required limestone should also be included to prevent fertilizer acidity from killing the inoculant bacteria. Caution should be used to keep the inoculant below 80° F to prevent harm to the bacteria. The rates and grades of fertilizer and limestone shall be the same as specified for *Seeding and Mulching*.

Fertilizer shall be 10-20-20 analysis. A different analysis of fertilizer may be used provided the 1-2-2 ratio is maintained and the rate of application adjusted to provide the same amount of plant food as a 10-20-20 analysis and as directed.

TEMPORARY SEEDING:

Fertilizer shall be the same analysis as specified for *Seeding and Mulching* and applied at the rate of 400 pounds and seeded at the rate of 50 pounds per acre. German Millet, or Browntop Millet shall be used in summer months and rye grain during the remainder of the year. The Engineer will determine the exact dates for using each kind of seed.

FERTILIZER TOPDRESSING:

Fertilizer used for topdressing shall be 16-8-8 grade and shall be applied at the rate of 500 pounds per acre. A different analysis of fertilizer may be used provided the 2-1-1 ratio is maintained and the rate of application adjusted to provide the same amount of plant food as 16-8-8 analysis and as directed.

SUPPLEMENTAL SEEDING:

The kinds of seed and proportions shall be the same as specified for *Seeding and Mulching*, and the rate of application may vary from 25# to 75# per acre. The actual rate per acre will be determined prior to the time of topdressing and the Contractor will be notified in writing of the rate per acre, total quantity needed, and areas on which to apply the supplemental seed. Minimum tillage equipment, consisting of a sod seeder shall be used for incorporating seed into the soil as to prevent disturbance of existing vegetation. A clodbuster (ball and chain) may be used where degree of slope prevents the use of a sod seeder.

MOWING:

The minimum mowing height on this project shall be six inches.

WASTE AND BORROW SOURCES:

(2-16-11) (Rev. 3-17-22)

Payment for temporary erosion control measures, except those made necessary by the Contractor's own negligence or for his own convenience, will be paid for at the appropriate contract unit price for the devices or measures utilized in borrow sources and waste areas.

No additional payment will be made for erosion control devices or permanent seeding and mulching in any commercial borrow or waste pit. All erosion and sediment control practices that may be required on a commercial borrow or waste site will be done at the Contractor's expense.

All offsite Staging Areas, Borrow and Waste sites shall be in accordance with "Borrow and Waste Site Reclamation Procedures for Contracted Projects" located at:

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/roadside/FieldOperationsDocuments/Contract%20Reclamation%20Procedures.pdf>

All forms and documents referenced in the "Borrow and Waste Site Reclamation Procedures for Contracted Projects" shall be included with the reclamation plans for offsite staging areas, and borrow and waste sites.

DN12213885

Contract No.

Rev. 10-31-24

County Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon

**EXECUTION OF CONTRACT
NON-COLLUSION, DEBARMENT AND GIFT BAN CERTIFICATION**

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

The Contractor declares (or certifies, verifies, or states) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that neither he, nor any official, agent or employee has entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action which is in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with this Contract, that the Contractor has not been convicted of violating *N.C.G.S. § 133-24* within the last three years, and that the Contractor intends to do the work with its own bona fide employees or subcontractors and did not bid for the benefit of another contractor.

By submitting this Execution of Contract, non-collusion, debarment and gift ban certification, the Contractor is certifying his status under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States in accordance with the Debarment Certification attached, provided that the Debarment Certification also includes any required statements concerning exceptions that are applicable.

N.C.G.S. § 133-32 and Executive Order 24 prohibit the offer to, or acceptance by, any State Employee of any gift from anyone with a contract with the State, or from any person seeking to do business with the State. By execution of any response in this procurement, you attest, for your entire organization and its employees or agents, that you are not aware that any such gift has been offered, accepted, or promised by any employees of your organization.

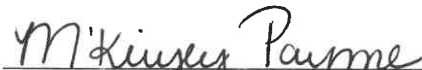
SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR

R & J Land Clearing, LLC

Full Name of Firm

P.O. Box 123 Robbinsville, NC 28771

Address as prequalified


Signature of Witness


Signature of ~~Member~~ **Manager, Authorized Agent**
Select appropriate title

MKinzey Payne

Print or type Signer's name

William Robert Adams

Print or type Signer's Name

DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION

Conditions for certification:

1. The prequalified bidder shall provide immediate written notice to the Department if at any time the bidder learns that his certification was erroneous when he submitted his debarment certification or explanation filed with the Department, or has become erroneous because of changed circumstances.
2. The terms *covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded*, as used in this provision, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. A copy of the Federal Rules requiring this certification and detailing the definitions and coverages may be obtained from the Contract Officer of the Department.
3. The prequalified bidder agrees by submitting this form, that he will not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in NCDOT contracts, unless authorized by the Department.
4. For Federal Aid projects, the prequalified bidder further agrees that by submitting this form he will include the Federal-Aid Provision titled *Required Contract Provisions Federal-Aid Construction Contract (Form FHWA PR 1273)* provided by the Department, without subsequent modification, in all lower tier covered transactions.
5. The prequalified bidder may rely upon a certification of a participant in a lower tier covered transaction that he is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless he knows that the certification is erroneous. The bidder may decide the method and frequency by which he will determine the eligibility of his subcontractors.
6. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this provision. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
7. Except as authorized in paragraph 6 herein, the Department may terminate any contract if the bidder knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available by the Federal Government.

DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION

The prequalified bidder certifies to the best of his knowledge and belief, that he and his principals:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
- b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records; making false statements; or receiving stolen property;
- c. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph b. of this certification; and
- d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
- e. Will submit a revised Debarment Certification immediately if his status changes and will show in his bid proposal an explanation for the change in status.

If the prequalified bidder cannot certify that he is not debarred, he shall provide an explanation with this submittal. An explanation will not necessarily result in denial of participation in a contract.

Failure to submit a non-collusion and debarment certification will result in the prequalified bidder's bid being considered non-responsive.

Check here if an explanation is attached to this certification.

ITEMIZED PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACT NO. DN122003231							
Line #	Item Number	Sec #	Description	Qty	Units	Unit Cost	Extended Amount
ROADWAY ITEMS							
0001	0000860000-N	SP	Generic Miscellaneous Item Tipping Fees	1	DOL	\$1.00	\$1.00
0002	3656000000-E	876	Geotextile For Drainage	100	SY	\$3.00	\$300.00
0003	4609000000-N	SP	Generic Traffic Control Item Two Lane Work Zone Traffic Control	30	DAY	\$ 825.00	\$ 24,750.00
0004	4609000000-N	SP	Generic Traffic Control Item Multi-Lane Work Zone Traffic Control	14	DAY	\$900.00	\$ 12,600.00
0005	4609000000-N	SP	Generic Traffic Control Item Shoulder Closure Work Zone Traffic Control	30	DAY	\$ 650.00	\$ 19,500.00
0006	6000000000-E	1605	Temporary Silt Fence	500	LF	\$ 4.00	\$ 2,000.00
0007	6006000000-E	1610	Stone For Erosion Control, Class A	20	TON	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,500.00
0008	6015000000-E	1615	Temporary Mulching	5	ACR	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 9,000.00
0009	6018000000-E	1620	Seed For Temporary Seeding	100	LB	\$ 4.50	\$ 450.00
0010	6021000000-E	1620	Fertilizer For Temporary Seeding	1	TON	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
0011	6029000000-E	SP	Safety Fence	500	LF	\$ 3.00	\$ 1,500.00
0012	6036000000-E	1631	Matting For Erosion Control	100	SY	\$ 2.50	\$ 250.00
0013	6071010000-E	1642	Wattle	100	LF	\$ 12.00	\$ 1,200.00
0014	6071012000-E	1642	Coir Fiber Wattle	100	LF	\$ 14.00	\$ 1,400.00
0015	6084000000-E	1660	Seeding & Mulching	2	ACR	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
0016	6087000000-E	1660	Mowing	1	ACR	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
0017	6090000000-E	1661	Seed For Repair Seeding	50	LB	\$ 3.00	\$ 150.00
0018	6093000000-E	1661	Fertilizer For Repair Seeding	1	TON	\$1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00
0019	6096000000-E	1662	Seed For Supplemental Seeding	100	LB	\$6.00	\$ 600.00
0020	6108000000-E	1665	Fertilizer Topdressing	1	TON	\$1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00
0021	6132000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Stump Removal	10	EA	\$800.00	\$ 8,000.00
0022	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Standard Tree Crew	160	HR	\$225.00	\$ 36,000.00
0023	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Additional Standard Tree Crew Member	320	HR	\$ 55.00	\$ 17,600.00
0024	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Bucket Truck with Operator	160	HR	\$ 130.00	\$ 20,800.00
0025	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Stump Grinder with Operator	40	HR	\$ 150.00	\$ 6,000.00
0026	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Brush Chipper with Truck and Operator	160	HR	\$ 120.00	\$ 19,200.00
0027	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Grapple Truck with Operator	320	HR	\$ 155.00	\$ 49,600.00
0028	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Mechanical Tree Trimmer with Operator	160	HR	\$ 175.00	\$ 28,000.00

0029	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Skid Steer Loader with Grapple and Operator	160	HR	\$ 115.00	\$ 18,400.00
0030	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Excavator with Operator	160	HR	\$ 115.00	\$ 18,400.00
0031	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Tree Climbing	160	HR	\$ 90.00	\$ 14,400.00
0032	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Mechanical Tree Harvester with Operator	40	HR	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 48,000.00
0033	6134000000-N	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Brush Trailer with Truck and Operator	320	HR	\$100.00	\$ 32,000.00
0034	6138000000-E	SP	Generic Erosion Control Item Brush Debris Grinding and Removal	8000	CY	\$ 14.00	\$ 112,000.00
Total Amount Of Bid For Entire Project:							\$ 517,001.00

ITEMIZED PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACT NO. DN122003231

Contractor: R & J Land Clearing, LLC

Address: P.O. Box 123 Robbinsville, NC 28771

Phone: 828-342-8178 Federal ID: 86-3278967

Contractor License Number (If Available): _____

Authorized Agent: William Robert Adams Title: Managing Partner

Signature:  Date: 1/27/2026

Execution of Contract

Contract No: DN12213885

County: Cherokee, Clay, Graham, and Macon

ACCEPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT

DocuSigned by:
Jeffrey E. Alspaugh
160F4BFF87884E1...

Proposals Engineer

02/09/2026

Date

EXECUTION OF CONTRACT AND BONDS
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:
Wesley Grindstaff
5D4EEBBB3C7C4DC...

Division Engineer

02/12/2026

Date

POLICY NUMBER: 0140778-24

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

**ADDITIONAL INSURED - PRIMARY AND NONCONTRIBUTORY -
AUTOMATIC STATUS WHEN REQUIRED IN A WRITTEN CONTRACT OR
AGREEMENT
(Including Completed Operations)**

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART

SCHEDULE

Date: 05/28/2025

A. Section II - Who Is An Insured is amended to include as an additional insured any person or organization for whom you are performing operations when you and such person or organization have agreed in writing in a contract or agreement that such person or organization be added as an additional insured on your policy. Such person or organization is an additional insured only with respect to liability for "bodily injury", "property damage" or "personal and advertising injury" caused, in whole or in part, by:

1. Your acts or omissions, or the acts or omissions of those acting on your behalf in the performance of your ongoing operations for the additional insured; or
2. "Your work" and included in the "products-completed operations hazard".

but only for "occurrences" or coverages not otherwise excluded in the Coverage Part to which this endorsement applies.

However the insurance afforded to such additional insured:

1. Only applies to the extent permitted by law; and
2. Will not be broader than that which you are required by the contract or agreement to provide for such additional insured.

B. Status as an additional insured for the person or organization to which this endorsement applies commences during the policy period and after such written contract or agreement has been executed.

C. With respect to the insurance afforded to the additional insured, the following additional exclusions apply:

This insurance does not apply to:

1. "Bodily injury", "property damage", "personal and advertising injury" or medical payments arising out of the rendering of, or the failure to render, any professional architectural, engineering or surveying services, including:
 - a. The preparing, approving, or failure to prepare or approve, maps, shop drawings, opinions, reports, surveys, field orders, change orders or drawings and specifications; or
 - b. Supervisory, inspection, architectural or engineering activities.

This exclusion applies even if the claims against any insured allege negligence or other wrongdoing in the supervision, hiring, employment, training or monitoring of others by that insured, if the "occurrence" which caused the "bodily injury" or "property damage", or the offense which caused the "personal and advertising injury", involved the rendering of or the failure to render any professional architectural, engineering, or surveying services.

2. "Bodily injury" or "property damage" included in the "products-completed operations hazard" and arising out of "your work" that was completed by or on behalf of any insured prior to the date shown in the Schedule of this endorsement.

D. With respect to the insurance afforded to the additional insured, the following is added to **Section III - Limits Of Insurance:**

The most we will pay on behalf of the additional insured is the amount of insurance:

1. Required by the contract or agreement you have entered into with the additional insured; or
2. Available under the applicable limits of insurance;

whichever is less.

This endorsement shall not increase the applicable limits of insurance.

E. The following condition is added to **4.a. of Other Insurance of Section IV - Commercial General Liability Conditions:**

If required in a written contract, the Coverage Part to which this endorsement applies is primary and noncontributory in the event of an "occurrence" caused, in whole or in part, by your acts or omissions, or the acts or omissions of those acting on your behalf that:

1. Occurs while performing ongoing operations for the additional insured, or
2. Is included in the "products-completed operations hazard" and arises out of "your work" that was completed by or on behalf of any insured after the date shown in the Schedule of this endorsement.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

EXCESS LIABILITY POLICY

Various provisions in this policy restrict coverage. Read the entire policy carefully to determine rights, duties and what is and is not covered.

Throughout this policy the words "you" and "your" refer to the "Named Insured" shown in the Declarations. The words "we", "us" and "our" refer to the Company providing this insurance.

Other words and phrases that appear in quotation marks have special meaning. Refer to **Section IV-Definitions** and relevant references in the text of this policy.

SECTION I - EXCESS LIABILITY COVERAGE

1. Insuring Agreement

- a. We will pay on behalf of the "insured" the "ultimate net loss" in excess of the "underlying insurance limit" because of injury or damage caused by a "loss event" to which this insurance applies provided:
 - (1) The aggregate amount of all limits of "Underlying Insurance", as shown in the Schedule of "Underlying Insurance", has been exhausted by payment of judgments, settlements, costs or expenses; and
 - (2) The "loss event" occurs or is committed during the policy period.

However, this insurance does not apply to:

- (a) Any sums for which the "insured" is legally liable, costs or expenses arising out of, caused by or contributed to by any injury or damage, whether such injury or damage is known or unknown:
 - i. Which first occurred prior to the inception date of this policy; or
 - ii. Which are, or are alleged to be, in the process of occurring or being committed as of the inception date of the policy even if the injury or damage continues to occur or continues to be committed during this policy period.

(b) Any sums for which the "insured" is legally liable, costs or expenses arising out of or related to any injury or damage, whether known or unknown, which are in the process of settlement, adjustment or "suit" as of the inception date of this policy.

- b. Except to the extent any terms, definitions, limits of insurance, conditions or exclusions of the "controlling underlying insurance" are different from any terms, definitions, limits of insurance, conditions or exclusions of this policy, this policy will provide the same coverage for "ultimate net loss" as provided by the "controlling underlying insurance". If any terms, definitions, limits of insurance, conditions or exclusions of this policy are more restrictive than those of the "controlling underlying insurance", then this policy's terms, definitions, limits of insurance, conditions or exclusions will apply. However, under no circumstance will this policy provide broader coverage than that provided by the "underlying insurance".
- c. The amount we will pay for the "ultimate net loss" is limited as described in **Section II - Limits of Insurance**.

2. Defense

- a. We will have no duty to investigate or defend any claim or "suit". We will have the right and be given the opportunity to associate with any "insured" or "underlying insurer" in the investigation, settlement or defense of any claim or "suit" that may involve this insurance.
- b. At our discretion, we may investigate and settle any claim or "suit".
- c. If we exercise our rights as described in **2. a.** and **2. b.** above, we will pay, with respect to any claim we investigate or settle, or any "suit" against an "insured" we defend, the following supplementary payments:
 - (1) All expenses we incur, including but not limited to attorney fees;

- (2) The cost of bonds to release attachments, but only for bond amounts within the applicable limit of insurance. We do not have to furnish these bonds;
- (3) All reasonable expenses incurred by the "insured" at our request to assist us in the investigation or defense of the claim or "suit", including actual loss of earnings up to \$100 a day because of time off from work;
- (4) All costs taxed against the "insured" in the "suit";
- (5) Prejudgment interest awarded against the "insured" on that part of the judgment we pay. If we make an offer to pay the applicable limit of insurance, we will not pay any prejudgment interest based on that period of time after the offer; and
- (6) All interest on the full amount of any judgment that accrues after entry of the judgment and before we have paid, offered to pay, or deposited in court the part of the judgment that is within the applicable limit of insurance.

These payments will not reduce the limits of insurance.

- d. If we exercise our rights as described in 2.a. and 2. b. above, we are under no obligation to continue any investigation, settlement or defense when we have used up the applicable limit of insurance in the payment of judgments or settlements.

3. Exclusions

The following exclusions apply in addition to any applicable exclusion contained in the "controlling underlying insurance".

This insurance does not apply to:

a. Asbestos

- (1) Any injury or damage arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by any manufacturing, distribution, sale, resale, rebranding, installation, repair, removal, encapsulation, abatement, replacement or handling of, exposure to or testing for asbestos or products containing asbestos whether or not the asbestos is or was at any time airborne as a fiber or particle, contained in a product, carried on clothing, inhaled, transmitted in any fashion or found in any form whatsoever.

- (2) Any loss, cost or expenses arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by:
 - (a) The clean up or removal of asbestos or products and materials containing asbestos;
 - (b) Actions as may be necessary to monitor, assess and evaluate the release or threat of asbestos or products and material containing asbestos;
 - (c) Disposal of asbestos substances or the taking of such other action as may be necessary to temporarily or permanently prevent, minimize or mitigate damage to the public health or welfare or to the environment, which may otherwise result; or
 - (d) The cost of compliance with any law or regulation regarding asbestos.
- (3) Any obligation to share damages with or repay someone else in connection with (1) or (2) of this exclusion.

b. Auto Coverage Exclusion

Any loss, cost or expense payable under or resulting from any first party automobile physical damage coverage; any obligation under any automobile no-fault law; personal injury protection or auto medical payments coverage; or uninsured or underinsured motorist act, law or obligation.

c. Exterior Insulation And Finish System (EIFS)

Any injury or damage arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by:

- (1) The design, manufacture, construction, fabrication, preparation, installation, application, maintenance or repair, including remodeling, service, correction or replacement of:
 - (a) Any "exterior insulation and finish system" (commonly referred to as synthetic stucco or EIFS); or any part thereof; or
 - (b) Any substantially similar system or any part thereof
- including the application or use of conditioners, primers, accessories, flashing, coatings, caulking or sealants in connection with such a system;

- (2) Any work or operations with respect to any exterior component, fixture or feature of any structure if an "exterior insulation and finish system", is used on any part of that structure; or
- (3) Any obligation to share damages with or repay someone else in connection with (1) or (2) of this exclusion.

d. Employment-Related Practices

Injury to:

- (1) A person arising out of and in the course of any:
 - (a) Refusal to employ that person;
 - (b) Termination of that person's employment; or
 - (c) Employment-related practices, policies, acts or omissions, such as coercion, demotion, evaluation, reassignment, discipline, defamation, harassment, humiliation or discrimination directed at that person.
- (2) The spouse, child, parent, brother or sister of that employee; or any other person; as a consequence of injury to that person at whom any of the employment-related practices described in Paragraphs (a), (b), or (c) above is directed.

This exclusion applies whether the "insured" may be liable as an employer or in any other capacity, and to any obligation to share damages with or repay someone else who must pay damages because of the injury.

e. Mold, Fungi or Bacteria

- (1) Any injury or damage arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by any actual, alleged or threatened inhalation of, ingestion of, contact with, exposure to, existence of, or presence of, any mold, "fungi" or bacteria on or within a building or structure, including it's contents, regardless of whether any other cause, event, material or product contributed concurrently or in any sequence to such injury or damage.

- (2) Any loss, cost or expenses arising out of resulting from, caused or contributed to by the abating, testing for, monitoring, cleaning up, removing, containing, treating, detoxifying, neutralizing, remediating or disposing of, or in any way responding to, or assessing the effects of, mold, "fungi" or bacteria, by any "insured" or by any other person or entity.

- (3) The cost or expense of compliance with any law or regulation regarding mold, "fungi" or bacteria.

- (4) Any obligation to share damages with or repay someone else in connection with (1), (2) or (3) of this exclusion.

This exclusion does not apply to any mold, "fungi" or bacteria that are on, or contained in, a good or product intended for consumption.

f. Lead

- (1) Any injury or damage arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by any manufacturing, distribution, sale, resale, rebranding, installation, repair, removal, encapsulation, abatement, replacement, or handling of, exposure to, or testing for lead or products containing lead, whether or not the lead is or was at any time airborne as a fiber or particle, contained in a product, carried on clothing, inhaled, transmitted in any fashion, or found in any form whatsoever.

- (2) Any loss, cost or expenses arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by:

- (a) The clean up or removal of lead or products and materials containing lead;

- (b) Actions as may be necessary to monitor, assess and evaluate the release or threat of lead or products and material containing lead;

(c) Disposal of lead substances, or the taking of such other action as may be necessary, to temporarily or permanently prevent, minimize, or mitigate damage to the public health or welfare, or to the environment, which may otherwise result; or

(d) Compliance with any law or regulation regarding lead.

(3) Any obligation to share damages with or repay someone else in connection with (1) or (2) of this exclusion.

g. Named Insured versus Named Insured

Any injury or damages for which any "Named Insured" or its employees is legally liable and costs or expenses of any "Named Insured" or its employees arising out of, caused, or contributed to by any injury or damage claimed by any other "Named Insured" or its employees.

h. Nuclear

Any injury or damage arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by any "nuclear material", "waste material", "radioactive material", or the "hazardous properties" of "nuclear material", "radioactive material" or "waste material", or from any radiation or "radioactivity".

As used in this exclusion:

"Hazardous Properties" include radioactive, toxic or explosive properties of "nuclear material", "radioactive material" or "waste material".

"Nuclear Material" means "source material", "special nuclear material" or "by-product material".

"Radioactive Material" means any materials which are radioactive or caused by or exhibit "radioactivity"

"Radioactivity" means the property possessed by some elements of spontaneously emitting alpha or beta rays and sometimes also gamma rays by the disintegration of the nuclei of atoms.

"Source Material", "special nuclear material" and "by-product material" have the meaning given them in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 or in any law amendatory thereto.

"Waste Materials" means any waste material containing "by-product material" or any other by-product of any "nuclear material" or "radioactive material".

i. Pollution

(1) Any injury or damage based upon, arising out of, resulting from, caused by, or contributed to by the presence, discharge, dispersal, release, or escape of smoke, vapors, soot, fumes, acids, alkalis, toxic chemicals, liquids, or gases, oil or other petroleum substances or derivatives, waste materials or other irritants, contaminants, pollutants or any substances, including asbestos and silica, which are or may be injurious to public health or the environment (herein called "hazardous substances") into or upon land, the atmosphere, or any water course or body of water.

(2) Any loss, cost or expense arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by:

(a) Clean up or removal of hazardous substances;

(b) Such actions as may be necessary to monitor, assess and evaluate the presence, discharge, disposal, escape, release, or threat of same, of hazardous substances;

(c) Disposal of hazardous substances or the taking of such other action as may be necessary to temporarily or permanently prevent, minimize, or mitigate damage to the public health or welfare, or to the environment, which may otherwise result; or

(d) Any governmental direction or request that the "insured" or others test for, monitor, clean up, remove, contain, treat, detoxify, or neutralize pollutants.

This exclusion applies whether or not such injury or damage arises out of, results from, is caused, or contributed to by "your product" or "your work".

As used in this exclusion:

"Your product" means:

(1) Any goods or products, other than real property, manufactured, sold, handled, distributed, or disposed of by:

(a) You;

(b) Others trading under your name; or

(c) A person or organization whose business or assets you have acquired; and

- (2) Containers (other than vehicles), materials, parts, or equipment furnished in connection with such goods or products.

"Your work" means:

- (1) Work or operations performed by you or on your behalf; and
- (2) Materials, parts, or equipment furnished in connection with such work or operations.

j. Silica

- (1) Any injury or damages arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by the manufacture, distribution, sale, resale, rebranding, installation, repair, removal, encapsulation, abatement, replacement, or handling of, exposure to, ingestion of, testing for, or failure to disclose the presence of, failure to warn or advise of silica, products containing silica, or products designed or used to protect from the inhalation, ingestion, contact with or any other exposure to silica, whether or not the silica is or was at any time airborne as a fiber or particle, contained in a product, carried on clothing, inhaled, transmitted in any fashion, or found in any form whatsoever.
- (2) Any loss, cost or expense arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by any:
 - (a) Clean up or removal of silica or products and materials containing silica;
 - (b) Such actions as may be necessary to monitor, assess and evaluate the release or threat of same, of silica or products and material containing silica;
 - (c) Disposal of silica substances or the taking of such other action as may be necessary to temporarily or permanently prevent, minimize or mitigate damage to the public health or welfare, or to the environment, which may otherwise result;
 - (d) Compliance with any law or regulation regarding silica;
 - (e) Existence, storage, handling or transportation of silica; or

- (f) Any supervision, instructions, recommendations, warranties (express or implied), warnings or advice given, or which should have been given.

- (3) Any obligation to share damages with or repay someone else in connection with (1) or (2) of this exclusion.

k. Sublimited Coverage

Any claim for injury or damage under a coverage that is subject to a limit of insurance that is less than the limit shown in the Schedule of "Underlying Insurance".

l. War

Any injury or damage due to war, whether or not declared, or any act or condition incident to war. War includes civil war, insurrection, rebellion, or revolution.

m. Beryllium

- (1) Any injury or damage related to actual, alleged, or threatened past, present, or future claims arising in whole or in part, either directly or indirectly, out of mining, the manufacture, distribution, sale, resale, rebranding, installation, repair, removal, encapsulation, abatement, replacement, or handling of, exposure to, testing for, or failure to disclose the presence of beryllium, products containing beryllium, or products designed or used to protect from the inhalation, ingestion, contact with, or other exposure to beryllium whether or not the beryllium is or was at any time airborne as a fume, dust, powder, fiber, or particle contained in a product, carried on clothing, inhaled, transmitted in any fashion, or found in any form whatsoever.
- (2) Any loss, cost or expense including, but not limited to, payment for investigation, defense, fines, penalties, or interest and other costs or expenses arising out of or related to any:
 - (a) Clean up or removal of beryllium or products and materials containing beryllium;
 - (b) Such actions as may be necessary to monitor, assess and evaluate the release, or threat of same, of beryllium or products and material containing beryllium;

- (c) Disposal of beryllium substances or the taking of such other action as may be necessary to temporarily or permanently prevent, minimize, or mitigate damage to the public health or welfare, or to the environment, which may otherwise result;
- (d) Compliance with any law or regulation regarding beryllium;
- (e) Existence, storage, handling, or transportation of beryllium; or
- (f) Any supervision, instructions, recommendations, warranties (express or implied), warnings, or advice given or which should have been given.

n. Absolute Unsolicited Communications

Any injury or damage of any kind, including costs or expenses, allegedly or actually arising out of, related to, caused by, contributed to by, or in any way connected with "unsolicited communications" made by or on behalf of any "insured".

"Unsolicited communications" also includes, but is not limited to, actual or alleged violations of:

- (1) The Telephone Consumer Protection Act (47 U.S.C. §227), including any amendment of, or addition to, such statute;
- (2) The Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act (15 U.S.C. §7701, *et seq.*, including any amendment of, or addition to, such statute; or
- (3) Any other statute, ordinance or regulation relating to the communication, distribution, or transmittal of unwanted content, information or material.

This exclusion also applies to liability, injury, or damage of any kind, including costs or expenses for which the "insured" is obligated, or is alleged to be obligated, to pay damages or defend any claim or "suit" by reason of the assumption of liability in a contract or agreement.

o. Benzene

- (1) Any injury or damage of any kind, costs or expenses, actually or allegedly arising out of, related to, caused by, or contributed to by, or in any way connected with any manufacturing, distribution, sale, resale, rebranding, installation, repair, removal, encapsulation, abatement, replacement or handling of, exposure to, or testing for benzene or products containing benzene whether or not the benzene is or was at any time airborne as a fume, dust, powder, fiber, or particle, contained in a product, carried on clothing, inhaled, transmitted in any fashion, or found in any form whatsoever.
- (2) Any loss, cost or expenses actually or allegedly arising out of, related to, caused by, or contributed to by, or in any way connected with:
 - (a) The clean up or removal of benzene or products and materials containing benzene;
 - (b) Actions as may be necessary to monitor, assess and evaluate the release or threat of benzene or products and material containing benzene;
 - (c) Disposal of benzene or the taking of such other action as may be necessary to temporarily or permanently prevent, minimize, or mitigate damage to the public health or welfare or to the environment, which may otherwise result; or
 - (d) The cost of compliance with any law or regulation regarding benzene.
- (3) Any obligation to share damages with or repay someone else in connection with Paragraphs (1) or (2) of this exclusion.

p. Professional Services

Any injury or damage of any kind, including costs or expenses, arising out of, resulting from, caused, or contributed to by the rendering or failure to render any professional service. This includes but is not limited to:

- (1) Legal, accounting or advertising services;
- (2) Preparing, approving, or failing to prepare or approve, maps, drawings, opinions, reports, surveys, change orders, designs, or specifications;
- (3) Engineering services, including related supervisory or inspection services;
- (4) Medical, surgical, dental, x-ray, or nursing services, treatment, advice, or instruction;
- (5) Any health or therapeutic service, treatment, advice, or instruction;
- (6) Any service, treatment, advice, or instruction for the purpose of appearance or skin enhancement, hair removal or replacement, or personal grooming;
- (7) Optometry or optical, or hearing aid services, including the prescribing, preparation, fitting, demonstration, or distribution of ophthalmic lenses, and similar products, or hearing aid devices;
- (8) Body piercing services;
- (9) Services in the practice of pharmacy; but this exclusion does not apply if you are a retail druggist or your operations are those of a retail drugstore;
- (10) Law enforcement or firefighting services;
- (11) Real estate services;
- (12) Insurance and financial services; and
- (13) Handling, embalming, disposal, burial, cremation, or disinterment of dead bodies.

SECTION II – LIMITS OF INSURANCE

1. Subject to Item 2. and 3. below, the Loss Event Limit shown in the Declarations is the most we will pay with respect to any one "loss event" to which this insurance applies.

2. The Policy Aggregate Limit shown in the Declarations and the rules below fix the most we will pay regardless of the number of:
 - a. "Insureds";
 - b. Claims made, "suits" brought, or number of vehicles involved; or
 - c. Persons or organizations making claims or bringing "suits".
3. The Policy Aggregate Limit is the most we will pay for:
 - a. The sum of all "ultimate net loss", except "ultimate net loss" because of injury or damage arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of an auto if such auto is not subject to an aggregate in the "underlying insurance"; and
 - b. Each "loss event" as regards "ultimate net loss" because of injury or damage arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of an auto if such auto is not subject to an aggregate in the "underlying insurance".

The Policy Aggregate Limit, as described in Paragraph 3. above, applies to the policy period, shown in the Declarations. Any extension of the policy period will be deemed part of the policy period that is being extended and therefore subject to the Policy Aggregate Limit.

SECTION III – CONDITIONS

1. Appeals

If the "underlying insurer" or "insured" elects not to appeal a judgment in excess of the applicable "underlying insurance limit", we may do so at our own expense. We will be liable for taxable costs, pre- and postjudgment interest and disbursements.

2. Bankruptcy

a. Bankruptcy Of Insured

Bankruptcy or insolvency of the "insured" or of the "insured's" estate will not relieve us of our obligations under this policy.

b. Bankruptcy Of Underlying Insurer

Bankruptcy of the "underlying insurer" will not relieve us of our obligations under this policy.

However, this insurance will not replace the "underlying insurance" in the event of bankruptcy or insolvency of the "underlying insurer". This insurance will apply as if the "underlying insurance" were in full effect.

3. Cancellation

- a. The first "Named Insured" shown in the Declarations may cancel this policy by mailing or delivering to us advance written notice of cancellation.
- b. We may cancel this policy by mailing or delivering to the first "Named Insured" written notice of cancellation at least:
 - (1) 10 days before the effective date of cancellation if we cancel for nonpayment of premium; or
 - (2) 30 days before the effective date of cancellation if we cancel for any other reason.
- c. We will mail or deliver our notice to the first "Named Insured's" last mailing address known to us.
- d. Notice of cancellation will state the effective date of cancellation. The policy period will end on that date.
- e. If this policy is cancelled, we will send the first "Named Insured" any premium refund due. If we cancel, the refund will be pro rata. If the first "Named Insured" cancels, the refund may be less than pro rata. The cancellation will be effective even if we have not made or offered a refund.
- f. If notice is mailed, proof of mailing will be sufficient proof of notice.

4. Changes

This policy contains all the agreements between you and us concerning the insurance afforded. The first "Named Insured" shown in the Declarations is authorized to make changes in the terms of this policy with our consent. This policy's terms can be amended or waived only by endorsement issued by us and made a part of this policy.

5. Duties In The Event Of Occurrence, Offense, Claim Or Suit

- a. You must see to it that we are notified, in writing, as soon as practicable, of any act, "loss event" or an offense, regardless of the amount, which may reasonably be expected to result in a claim under this policy. To the extent possible, notice should include:
 - (1) How, when and where the act, "loss event" or offense took place;

- (2) The names and addresses of any injured persons and witnesses; and
- (3) The nature and location of any injury or damage arising out of the act, "loss event" or offense.

- b. If a claim is made or "suit" is brought against any "insured", you must:

- (1) Immediately record the specifics of the claim or "suit" and the date received; and
- (2) Notify us as soon as practicable.

You must see to it that we receive written notice of the claim or "suit" as soon as practicable.

- c. You and any other involved "insured" must:

- (1) Immediately send us copies of any demands, notices, summonses or legal papers received in connection with the claim or "suit";
- (2) Authorize us to obtain records and other information;
- (3) Cooperate with us in the investigation or settlement of the claim or defense against the "suit"; and
- (4) Assist us, upon our request, in the enforcement of any right against any person or organization which may be liable to the "insured" because of injury or damage to which this insurance may also apply.

- d. No "insured" will, except at that "insured's" own cost, voluntarily make a payment, assume any obligation, or incur any expense, other than for first aid, without our consent.

6. Examination Of Your Books And Records

We may examine and audit your books and records as they relate to this policy at any time during the policy period and up to three years afterward.

7. Inspections And Surveys

- a. We have the right to:

- (1) Make inspections and surveys at any time;
- (2) Give you reports on the conditions we find; and
- (3) Recommend changes.

b. We are not obligated to make any inspections, surveys, reports or recommendations and any such actions we do undertake relate only to insurability and the premiums to be charged. We do not make safety inspections. We do not undertake to perform the duty of any person or organization to provide for the health or safety of workers or the public. We do not warrant that conditions:

- (1) Are safe or healthful; or
- (2) Comply with laws, regulations, codes or standards.

Paragraphs a. and b. of this condition apply not only to us, but also to any rating, advisory, rate service or similar organization which makes insurance inspections, surveys, reports or recommendations on our behalf.

8. Legal Action Against Us

No person or organization has a right under this policy:

- a. To join us as a party or otherwise bring us into a "suit" asking for damages from an "insured"; or
- b. To sue us on this policy unless all of its terms have been fully complied with.

A person or organization may sue us to recover on an agreed settlement or on a final judgment against an "insured"; but we will not be liable for damages that are not payable under the terms of this policy or that are in excess of the applicable limit of insurance. An agreed settlement means a settlement and release of liability signed by us, the "insured" and the claimant or the claimant's legal representative.

9. Other Insurance

- a. This insurance is excess over, and shall not contribute with any of the other insurance, whether primary, excess, contingent or on any other basis. This condition will not apply to insurance specifically written as excess over this policy.
- b. When this insurance is excess over other insurance, we will pay only our share of the "ultimate net loss" that exceeds the sum of:
 - (1) The total amount that all such other insurance would pay for the loss in the absence of this insurance; and
 - (2) The total of all deductible and self-insured amounts under all that other insurance.

10. Premium Audit

- a. We will compute all premiums for this policy in accordance with our rules and rates.
- b. If this policy is auditable, the premium shown in this policy as advance premium is a deposit premium only. At the close of each audit period we will compute the earned premium for that period and send notice to the first "Named Insured". The due date for audit and retrospective premiums is the date shown as the due date on the bill. If the sum of the advance and audit premiums paid for the policy period is greater than the earned premium, we will return the excess to the first "Named Insured", but not if such audit premium is less than the Minimum Premium shown in the Declarations.
- c. The first "Named Insured" must keep records of the information we need for premium computation, and send us copies at such times as we may request.

11. Premiums

The first "Named Insured" shown in the Declarations:

- a. Is responsible for the payment of all premiums; and
- b. Will be the payee for any return premiums we pay.

12. Representations Or Fraud

By accepting this policy, you agree, represent and warrant that:

- a. The statements in the Declarations are accurate and complete;
- b. The statements and information contained in the application for insurance and any supplementary information are true and correct and that no facts have been suppressed or misstated;
- c. This policy is being issued in full reliance upon the statements and representations made in the application and any supplementary information;
- d. The application and any supplementary information are incorporated and made part of this policy by reference; and
- e. This policy is void in any case of fraud and or misrepresentation by you as it relates to this policy or any claim under this policy.

13. Separation Of Insureds

Except with respect to the Limits of Insurance, and any rights or duties specifically assigned in this policy to the first "Named Insured", this insurance applies:

- a. As if each "Named Insured" were the only "Named Insured"; and
- b. Separately to each "insured" against whom claim is made or "suit" is brought.

14. Transfer Of Rights Of Recovery Against Others To Us

If the "insured" has rights to recover all or part of any payment we have made under this policy those rights are transferred to us. The "insured" must do nothing after loss to impair them. At our request, the "insured" will bring "suit" or transfer those rights to us and help us enforce them.

15. Transfer Of Your Rights And Duties Under This Policy

Your rights and duties under this policy may not be transferred without our written consent except in the case of death of an individual named "insured".

If you die, your rights and duties will be transferred to your legal representative but only while acting within the scope of duties as your legal representative. Until your legal representative is appointed, anyone having proper temporary custody of your property will have your rights and duties but only with respect to that property.

16. No Duty To Notify If We Do Not Renew

If we decide not to renew this policy, we are under no obligation to mail or deliver to any "insured" notice of the nonrenewal.

17. Loss Payable

Liability under this policy shall not apply unless and until the "insured" or "insured's" "underlying insurer" has become obligated to pay the full and complete amount of the applicable "underlying insurance limit". Such obligation by the "insured" to pay part of the "ultimate net loss" shall have been previously determined by a final settlement or judgment after an actual trial or written agreement between the "insured", claimant, and us.

18. Maintenance Of Underlying Insurance

You must maintain the "underlying insurance" affording in total the coverage and limits as stated in the Schedule Of "Underlying Insurance" in full force and effect during this policy period, except for reduction of aggregate limits, where applicable, solely as a result of the payment of claims, settlement, or judgments for acts, occurrences or offenses which:

- a. Take place during the policy period of this policy; and
- b. Are for injury or damage, costs or expenses covered by this policy.

You must notify us in writing within thirty days if any company replaces or changes any terms or conditions of any of the "underlying insurance". You must notify us immediately of the exhaustion of any aggregate limits of the "underlying insurance".

Policies or coverages written on a claims-made policy form or endorsement do not meet the requirements of maintaining "underlying insurance".

Your failure to comply with the foregoing will not invalidate this policy, but in the event of such failure, we will be liable only to the extent that we would have been liable had you complied herewith.

SECTION IV - DEFINITIONS

1. "Controlling underlying insurance" means the policy or policies that are indicated as such on the Schedule Of "Underlying Insurance".
2. "Exterior insulation and finish system" (commonly referred to as synthetic stucco or EIFS) means an exterior cladding or finish system used on any part of any structure and consisting of:
 - a. A rigid or semi-rigid insulation board made of expanded polystyrene or other materials;
 - b. The adhesive or mechanical fasteners used to attach the insulation board to the substrate;
 - c. A reinforced base coat; and
 - d. A finish coat providing surface texture and color.

3. "Fungi" means any type or form of fungus, including mold or mildew and any mycotoxins, spores, wet or dry rot, scents or byproducts produced or released by fungi.
4. "Insured" means any person or organization qualifying as such under the "controlling underlying insurance".
5. "Loss Event" means the happening, situation or circumstance that initiates the application of the "underlying insurance" as designated in the Schedule of "Underlying Insurance".
6. "Named Insured" means the entity(ies) or individual(s) named in the Declarations.
7. "Suit" means a civil proceeding in which damages because of a "loss event" to which this insurance applies are alleged. "Suit" includes:
 - a. An arbitration proceeding in which such damages are claimed and to which the "insured" must submit or does submit with our consent; or
 - b. Any other alternative dispute resolution proceedings in which such damages are claimed and to which the "insured" submits with our consent or the "underlying insurer's" consent.
8. "Ultimate net loss":
 - a. Means the total sum, after reduction for recoveries or salvages collectible, that the "insured" becomes legally obligated to pay by reason of a judgment against the "insured" after actual trial, or alternative dispute resolution by written agreement of the "insured", the claimant or the claimant's legal representative and us;
 - b. Includes the costs of attorneys fees in defending any claim or "suit" incurred by any "underlying insurer" if such costs are included within the limits of insurance of the "underlying insurance". However, these costs do not include salaries and expenses of employees or regular officials of the "underlying insurer" or the "insured"; and
 - c. Includes all interest on judgments paid by the "insured" or any "underlying insurer".
9. "Underlying insurance" means the coverage(s) afforded under insurance policies, for the limits shown, as designated in the Schedule of "Underlying Insurance", and any renewals or replacements of those policies. Policies endorsements or coverages written on a claims-made policy form will not be considered "underlying insurance."
10. "Underlying insurance limit" means the sum of amounts applicable to any claim or "suit" from:
 - a. "Underlying insurance", whether such "underlying insurance" is collectible or not;
 - b. Other insurance; whether primary, excess, contingent or on any other basis, except such insurance as is specifically purchased to apply in excess of this policy's Limits of Insurance; and
 - c. Any applicable self-insured retention or deductible.

"Underlying insurance limit" does not include limits of policies, coverages and endorsements written on a claims-made policy form.
11. "Underlying insurer" means any insurer who provides any policy or coverages of "underlying insurance".
12. "Unsolicited communications" means any form of communication, distribution, transmittal or publication of information or material, which the recipient has not specifically requested. This includes but is not limited to facsimile, electronic mail, postal mail, express mail, telephone, internet or web-based advertisement, instant message, SMS message or text message.

COMMERCIAL EXCESS LIABILITY COVERAGE FORM

Various provisions in this policy restrict coverage. Read the entire policy carefully to determine rights, duties and what is and is not covered.

Throughout this policy the words "you" and "your" refer to the Named Insured shown in the Declarations, and any other person or organization qualifying as a Named Insured under this policy or under "controlling underlying insurance". The words "we", "us" and "our" refer to the company providing this insurance. The word "insured" means any person or organization qualifying as such under the "controlling underlying insurance".

Other words and phrases that appear in quotation marks in this Coverage Part have special meaning. Refer to Section IV - Definitions. Other words and phrases that are not defined under this Coverage Part but defined in the "controlling underlying insurance" will have the meaning described in the policy of "controlling underlying insurance".

The insurance provided under this Coverage Part will follow the same provisions, exclusions and limitations that are contained in the applicable "controlling underlying insurance", unless otherwise directed by this insurance. To the extent such provisions differ or conflict, the provisions of this Coverage Part will apply. However, the coverage provided under this Coverage Part will not be broader than that provided by the applicable "controlling underlying insurance".

There may be more than one "controlling underlying insurance" listed in the Declarations and provisions in those policies conflict, and which are not superseded by the provisions of this Coverage Part. In such a case, the provisions, exclusions and limitations of the "controlling underlying insurance" applicable to the particular "event" for which a claim is made or suit is brought will apply.

SECTION I - COVERAGES

1. Insuring Agreement

- a. We will pay on behalf of the insured, except as stated in this Coverage Part, those sums in excess of the "retained limit" any insured becomes legally obligated to pay as damages to which insurance provided under this Coverage Part applies.

- b. The amount we will pay for "loss" is limited as described in Section II - Limits Of Insurance.
- c. This insurance applies to damages that are subject to an applicable "retained limit". If any other limit, such as, a sublimit, is specified in the "controlling underlying insurance", this insurance does not apply to damages arising out of that exposure unless that limit is specified in the Declarations under the Schedule of "controlling underlying insurance".
- d. If the "controlling underlying insurance" requires, for a particular claim, that the injury or damages occur during its policy period in order for that coverage to apply, then this insurance will only apply to that injury or damages if it occurs during the policy period of this Coverage Part. If the "controlling underlying insurance" requires that the "event" causing the particular damage takes place during its policy period in order for that coverage to apply, then this insurance will apply to the claim only if the "event" causing that damage takes place during the policy period of this Coverage Part.

2. Exclusions

The following exclusions, and any other exclusions added by endorsement, apply to this Coverage Part. The exclusions applicable to any "controlling underlying insurance" apply to this insurance unless superseded by the following exclusions, or superseded by any other exclusions added by endorsement to this Coverage Part.

Insurance provided under this Coverage Part does not apply to:

a. Asbestos

Any liability or damages:

- (1) Caused by or arising out of, attributable to, or in any way related to asbestos in any form or transmitted in any manner; or
- (2) For any asbestos related diseases.

b. Auto

Any loss, cost or expense caused by or resulting from any of the following auto coverages:

- (1) First-party physical damage coverage;
- (2) No-fault coverage;
- (3) Personal injury protection or auto medical payments coverage; or
- (4) Uninsured or underinsured motorists coverage.

c. Recording and Distribution of Material or Information in Violation of Law

Any liability or damages arising out of:

- (1) The Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), including any amendment of or addition to such law;
- (2) The CAN-SPAM Act of 2003, including any amendment of or addition to such law;
- (3) The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), and any amendment of or addition to such law, including the Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act (FACTA); or
- (4) Any federal, state or local statute, ordinance or regulation, other than the TCPA, CAN-SPAM Act of 2003 or FCRA and their amendments and additions, that addresses, prohibits, or limits the printing, dissemination, disposal, collecting, recording, sending, transmitting, communicating or distribution of material or information.

d. E.R.I.S.A.

Any liability or damages arising out of:

- (1) Any insured's activities as a fiduciary under the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, or any amendments thereof or any regulation or orders issued pursuant thereof; or
- (2) The Pension Benefits Act and the Consolidation Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986 (COBRA);

Including any amendments, regulations or enabling statutes pursuant thereto, or any similar federal, state or provincial statute or regulation.

e. Employment Practices

Any injury to:

- (1) A person arising out of any:
 - (a) Refusal to employ that person;
 - (b) Termination of that person's employment; or

(c) Other employment-related practices, policies, acts or omissions including but not limited to coercion, criticism, demotion, evaluation, failure to promote, reassignment, discipline, defamation, harassment, humiliation, discrimination or malicious prosecution directed at that person; or

- (2) The spouse, child, parent, brother or sister of that person as a consequence of injury to that person at whom any of the employment-related practices described in Paragraphs (1)(a), (b) or (c) above is directed.

This exclusion applies:

- (1) Whether the injury-causing event described in Paragraphs (1)(a), (b) or (c) above occurs before employment, during employment or after employment of that person;
- (2) Whether the insured may be liable as an employer or in any other capacity; and
- (3) To any obligation to share "damages" with or repay someone else who must pay "damages" because of the injury.

f. Fines, Penalties, Punitive, Exemplary, Multiplied or Uninsurable Damages

- (1) Civil or criminal fines or penalties imposed by law;
- (2) Punitive or exemplary damages;
- (3) The multiplied portion of multiplied damages;
- (4) Any amount for which an insured is not financially liable; or
- (5) Any award that is uninsurable under the law governing this policy,

g. Nuclear

Any liability or damages based upon, arising out of, directly or indirectly resulting from or in consequence of, or in any way involving the hazardous properties, including radioactive, toxic or explosive properties, of any nuclear material. Nuclear material means any source material, special nuclear material, or by-product materials as those terms are defined under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 or any amendments thereto.

h. Pollutant or Pollutant-Related

- (1) Injury arising out of the actual, alleged or threatened discharge, dispersal, seepage, migration, release, escape or emission of "pollutants" at any time.
- (2) Any loss, cost or expense arising out of any:
 - (a) Request, demand, order or statutory or regulatory requirement that any insured or others test for, monitor, clean up, remove, contain, treat, detoxify or neutral-

ize, or in any way respond to, or assess the effects of, "pollutants"; or

- (b) Claim or suit by or on behalf of a governmental authority for damages because of testing for, monitoring, cleaning up, removing, containing, treating, detoxifying or neutralizing, or in any way responding to, or assessing the effects of, "pollutants".

i. War

Injury, however caused, arising, directly or indirectly, out of:

- (1) War, including undeclared or civil war;
- (2) Warlike action by a military force, including action in hindering or defending against an actual or expected attack, by any government, sovereign or other authority using military personnel or other agents; or
- (3) Insurrection, rebellion, revolution, usurped power, or action taken by governmental authority in hindering or defending against any of these.

j. Workers' Compensation And Similar Laws

Any obligation of the insured under a workers' compensation, disability benefits or unemployment compensation law or any similar law.

3. Defense

- a. We have no duty to defend any insured or participate in the settlement or defense of any claim, suit or proceedings.
- b. We have the right, but not the duty, to be associated with the insured or "controlling underlying insurers" in the investigation, defense or settlement of any claim, suit or proceeding to which we think this Coverage Part may apply.
- c. If the "controlling underlying insurance" limits are exhausted by payment of "loss", we have the right but not the duty to investigate, defend or settle any claim or suit to which we think this Coverage Part may apply. However, at our discretion, if we assume our right to investigate, defend

or settle any claim or suit we may withdraw from such investigation, defense or settlement proceedings after our applicable Limits of Insurance as stated in the Commercial Excess Liability Declarations have been exhausted by payments.

We will not pay any expenses except those we directly incur at our discretion.

SECTION II - LIMITS OF INSURANCE

- 1. The Limits of Insurance shown in the Commercial Excess Liability Coverage Declarations, and the rules below fix the most we will pay regardless of the number of:
 - a. Insureds;
 - b. Claims made or suits brought, or number of vehicles involved;
 - c. Persons or organizations making claims or bringing suits;
 - d. Coverages provided by this insurance; or
 - e. Limits available under any "controlling underlying insurance."
- 2. The Limits of Insurance of this Coverage Part will apply as follows:
 - a. This insurance only applies in excess of the "retained limit".
 - b. The Aggregate Limit is the most we will pay for the sum of all "loss" for all damages covered under this Coverage Part.
 - c. The Each Occurrence Limit is the most we will pay for the sum of all "loss" under this insurance because of all damages arising out of any one "event". Any amount we pay for damages arising out of an "event" will reduce or exhaust the amount of our applicable aggregate limit of insurance available for payment of any other "event".
 - d. With respect to any claim or suit to which this insurance applies and for which we assume charge of the settlement or defense, if the limits of insurance of any "controlling underlying insurance" are reduced by defense expenses then any defense expense payments we make will reduce our applicable Limits of Insurance in the same manner.
- 3. If any "controlling underlying insurance" has a policy period that is different from the policy period of this Coverage Part then, for the purposes of this insurance, the "retained limit" will only be reduced or exhausted by payments made for damages covered under this insurance.

The Aggregate Limits of this Coverage Part applies separately to each consecutive annual period of this Coverage Part and to any remaining period of this Coverage Part of less than 12 months, starting with the beginning of the policy period shown in the Declarations, unless the policy period is extended after issuance for an additional period of less than 12 months. In that case, the additional pe-

riod will be deemed part of the last preceding period for purposes of determining the Limits of Insurance.

SECTION III - CONDITIONS

The following Conditions apply. The Conditions applicable to any "controlling underlying insurance" are also applicable to the coverage provided under this insurance unless superseded by the following conditions.

1. Appeals

If the "controlling underlying insurer" or insured elects not to appeal a judgment in excess of the amount of the "retained limit", we may do so at our own expense. We will also pay for taxable court costs, pre- and post judgment interest and disbursements associated with such appeal. In no event will this provision increase our liability beyond the Limits of Insurance described in Section II - Limits Of Insurance.

2. Bankruptcy

a. Bankruptcy of Insured

Bankruptcy or insolvency of the insured or of the insured's estate will not relieve us of our obligations under this Coverage Part.

b. Bankruptcy of Controlling Underlying Insurer

Bankruptcy of the "controlling underlying insurer" will not relieve us of our obligations under this Coverage Part.

However, insurance provided under this Coverage Part will not replace any "controlling underlying insurance" in the event of bankruptcy or insolvency of the "controlling underlying insurer". The insurance provided under this Coverage Part will apply as if the "controlling underlying insurance" were in full effect and recoverable.

3. Duties in the Event of an Event, Claim or Suit

- a. You must see to it that we are notified in writing as soon as practicable of an "event" which may result in a claim under this insurance.
- b. If a claim is made or suit is brought against any insured, you must:
 - (1) Immediately record the specifics of the claim or suit and the date received; and

- (2) Notify us as soon as practicable.

You must see to it that we receive written notice of the claim or suit as soon as practicable.

c. You and any other insured involved must:

- (1) Immediately send us copies of any demands, notices, summonses or legal papers received in connection with the claim or suit;
- (2) Authorize us to obtain records and other information;
- (3) Cooperate with us in the investigation or settlement of the claim or defense against the suit; and
- (4) Assist us, upon our request, in the enforcement of any right against any person or organization which may be liable to the insured because of damages to which this insurance may also apply.

- d. No insured will, except at that insured's own cost, voluntarily make a payment, admit to any liability, consent to any judgment, settle any claim or suit, assume any obligation, or incur any expense, other than for first aid, without our consent.

4. First Named Insured Duties

The first Named Insured is the person or organization first named in the Declarations and is responsible for the payment of all premiums. The first Named Insured will act on behalf of all other Named Insureds for giving and receiving of notice of cancellation or the receipt of any return premium that may become payable.

At our request, the first Named Insured will furnish us, as soon as practicable, with a complete copy of any "controlling underlying insurance" and any subsequently issued endorsements or policies which may in any way affect the insurance provided under this Coverage Part.

5. Cancellation

- a. The first Named Insured shown in the Declarations may cancel this policy by mailing or delivering to us advance written notice of cancellation.
- b. We may cancel this policy by mailing or delivering to the first Named Insured written notice of cancellation at least:
 - (1) 10 days before the effective date of cancellation if we cancel for nonpayment of premium; or
 - (2) 30 days before the effective date of cancellation if we cancel for any other reason.
- c. We will mail or deliver our notice to the first Named Insured's last mailing address known to us.

- d. Notice of cancellation will state the effective date of cancellation. The policy period will end on that date.
- e. If this policy is cancelled, we will send the first Named Insured any premium refund due. If we cancel, the refund will be pro rata. If the first Named Insured cancels, the refund may be less than pro rata. The cancellation will be effective even if we have not made or offered a refund.
- f. If notice is mailed, proof of mailing will be sufficient proof of notice.

6. Changes

This Coverage Part contains all the agreements between you and us concerning the insurance afforded. The first Named Insured is authorized by all other insureds to make changes in the terms of this Coverage Part with our written consent. This Coverage Part's terms can be amended or waived only by endorsement issued by us and made part of this insurance.

7. Maintenance of Changes to Controlling Underlying Insurance

Any "controlling underlying insurance" must be maintained in full effect without reduction of coverage or limits except for the reduction of aggregate limits in accordance with the provisions of such "controlling underlying insurance" that results from injury or damages to which this insurance applies.

Such exhaustion or reduction is not a failure to maintain "controlling underlying insurance". Failure to maintain "controlling underlying insurance" will not invalidate insurance provided under this Coverage Part, but insurance provided under this Coverage Part will apply as if the "controlling underlying insurance" were in full effect.

The first Named Insured must notify us in writing, as soon as practicable, if any "controlling underlying insurance" is cancelled, not renewed, replaced or otherwise terminated, or if the limits or scope of coverage of any "controlling underlying insurance" is changed.

8. Other Insurance

- a. This insurance is excess over, and shall not contribute with any of the other insurance, whether primary, excess, contingent or on any other basis. This condition will not apply to

insurance specifically written as excess over this Coverage Part.

When this insurance is excess, if no other insurer defends, we may undertake to do so, but we will be entitled to the insured's rights against all those other insurers.

- b. When this insurance is excess over other insurance, we will pay only our share of the "loss" that exceeds the sum of:
 - (1) The total amount that all such other insurance would pay for the loss in the absence of the insurance provided under this Coverage Part; and
 - (2) The total of all deductible and self-insured amounts under all that other insurance.

9. Premium Audit

- a. We will compute all premiums for this Coverage Part in accordance with our rules and rates.
- b. If this policy is auditable, the premium shown in this Coverage Part is a deposit premium only. At the close of each audit period, we will compute the earned premium for that period and send notice to the first Named Insured. The due date for audit premium is the date shown as the due date on the bill. If the sum of the advance and audit premiums paid for the policy period is greater than the earned premium, we will return the excess to the first Named Insured.
- c. The first Named Insured must keep records of the information we need for premium computation, and send us copies at such times as we may request.

10. Loss Payable

Liability under this Coverage Part does not apply to a given claim unless and until:

- a. The insured or insured's "controlling underlying insurer" has become obligated to pay the "retained limit"; and
- b. The obligation of the insured to pay the "loss" in excess of the "retained limit" has been determined by a final settlement or judgment or written agreement among the insured, claimant, "controlling underlying insurer" (or a representative of one or more of these) and us.

11. Legal Action Against Us

No person or organization has a right under this Coverage Part:

- a. To join us as a party or otherwise bring us into a suit asking for damages from an insured; or
- b. To sue us on this Coverage Part unless all of its terms have been fully complied with.

A person or organization may sue us to recover on an agreed settlement or on a final judgment against

an insured; but we will not be liable for damages that are not payable under the terms of this Coverage Part or that are in excess of the applicable limit of insurance. An agreed settlement means a settlement and release of liability signed by us, the insured, "controlling underlying insurer" and the claimant or the claimant's legal representative.

12. Transfer of Defense

a. Defense Transferred To Us

When the limits of "controlling underlying insurance" have been exhausted, in accordance with the provisions of "controlling underlying insurance", we may elect to have the defense transferred to us. We will cooperate in the transfer of control to us of any outstanding claims or suits seeking damages to which this insurance applies and which would have been covered by the "controlling underlying insurance" had the applicable limit not been exhausted.

b. Defense Transferred By Us

If we exercise our right to defend any claim, suit or proceeding, when our limits of insurance have been exhausted our right to provide a defense will cease.

We will cooperate in the transfer of control of defense to any insurer specifically written as excess over this Coverage Part of any outstanding claims or suits seeking damages to which this insurance applies and which would have been covered by the "controlling underlying insurance" had the applicable limit not been exhausted.

In the event that there is no insurance written as excess over this Coverage Part, we will cooperate in the transfer of control to the insured and its designated representative.

13. When We Do Not Renew

If we decide not to renew this Coverage Part, we will mail or deliver to the first Named Insured shown in the Declara-

tions written notice of the nonrenewal not less than 30 days before the expiration date.

If notice is mailed, proof of mailing will be sufficient proof of notice.

SECTION IV - DEFINITIONS

Except as otherwise defined in this Coverage Part or in any endorsement to this Coverage Part, the definition of terms and phrases contained in this Coverage Part and any endorsements will be the same as those terms and phrases are defined in the "controlling underlying insurance".

1. "Controlling underlying insurance" means any policy of insurance or self-insurance listed as such in our Schedule of Controlling Underlying Insurance.
2. "Controlling underlying insurer" means any insurer who provides any policy of insurance listed as such in our Schedule of Controlling Underlying Insurance.
3. "Event" means an occurrence, offense, accident, act, error or omission, or other event to which the applicable "controlling underlying insurance" applies.
4. "Loss" means the total sum, after reduction for recoveries, or salvages collectible, that the insured becomes legally obligated to pay as damages by reason of:
 - a. Settlements, judgments, binding arbitration; or
 - b. Other binding alternate dispute resolution proceeding entered into with our consent."Loss" includes defense expenses if the "controlling underlying insurance" specifies that limits are reduced by defense expenses.
5. "Retained limit" means the available limits of "controlling underlying insurance" applicable to the claim
6. "Pollutants" mean any solid, liquid, gaseous or thermal irritant or contaminant, including smoke, vapor, soot, fumes, acids, alkalis, chemicals, petroleum, petroleum products and petroleum by-products, and waste. Waste includes materials to be recycled, reconditioned or reclaimed. "Pollutants" include but are not limited to, that which has been recognized in industry or government to be harmful or toxic to persons, property or the environment, regardless of whether the injury, damage, or contamination is caused directly or indirectly by the "pollutants" and regardless of whether:
 - a. The insured is regularly or otherwise engaged in activities which taint or degrade the environment; or
 - b. The insured uses, generates or produces the "pollutant".