

RFP 3136 Website Development and Sitecore CMS Administration
Request for Proposal (RFP) 3136
\$775,000

Proposals Due: **August 3, 2015** by 5:00 PM Eastern Time*

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) owns and operates an instance of Sitecore CMS to host its public facing websites (nyserda.ny.gov, greenbank.ny.gov, energyplan.ny.gov, nysun.ny.gov). NYSEDA requires consulting services for developing and maintaining websites within the Sitecore CMS 3-tiered, 3-layer development environment. The selected contractor must be qualified in, and experienced with website and database development using Sitecore CMS v6.6 and higher, ASP.NET, C#.NET, Microsoft Visual Studio.NET, and Microsoft SQL Server 2008 and higher.

The selected contractor will be a developer and supplier of Sitecore CMS implementations, applications, and services. The selected contractor will be an organization with significant technical skills and demonstrated Sitecore CMS expertise, as well as being, at a minimum, a Sitecore Certified Gold Partner.

Proposal Submission: Electronic submission is preferred, but NYSEDA will also accept proposals by mail or hand-delivery. If submitting electronically, proposals must be submitted in either PDF or MS Word format with a completed and signed Proposal Checklist and Disclosure of Prior Findings of Non-Responsibility (PDF format only). Proposal PDFs should be searchable and should be created by direct conversion from MS Word or other conversion utility, rather than scanning. For ease of identification, all electronic files must be named using the Proposer's entity name. Proposals may be submitted electronically by following the link for electronic submissions found on this RFP's webpage, located in the "Current Opportunities" section of NYSEDA's website (<http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Current-Funding-Opportunities.aspx>). Instructions for submitting electronically are available on the website and as Attachment F to this RFP.

If mailing or hand-delivering, Proposers must submit (2) paper copies of their proposal with a completed and signed Proposal Checklist, along with a CD or DVD containing a PDF or MS Word digital copy of the proposal, following the above guidelines. Mailed or hand-delivered proposals must be clearly labeled and submitted to:

Roseanne Viscusi, RFP 3136
NYS Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

All proposals must be received by NYSEDA by 5 pm EST on Aug 3, 2015.

Technical questions concerning this RFP may be submitted to robert.mckeon@nyserda.ny.gov with the subject line "RFP 3136 Website Development and Sitecore CMS Administration." For contractual questions concerning this RFP, contact Elsyda Ahmed at (518) 862-1090, ext. 3232 or Elsyda.ahmed@nyserda.ny.gov.

No communication intended to influence this procurement is permitted except by contacting Robert McKeon (Designated Contact) at (518) 862-1090, ext. 3538 or robert.mckeon@nyserda.ny.gov. Contacting anyone other than this Designated Contact (either directly by a Proposer or indirectly through a lobbyist or other person acting on a Proposer's behalf) in an attempt to influence the procurement: (1) may result in the Proposer being deemed a non-responsible offerer, and (2) may result in the Proposer not being awarded a contract.

*Late proposals will be returned. Incomplete proposals may be subject to disqualification. It is the Proposer's responsibility to ensure that all pages have been included in the proposal. Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be accepted. Proposals will not be accepted at any other NYSEDA location other than the address above. If changes are made to this solicitation, notification will be posted on NYSEDA's web site at www.nyserda.ny.gov.

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Corporate Background

NYSERDA is a public benefit corporation committed to identifying opportunities for reducing commercial and residential energy consumption, promoting the use of renewable energy sources, and protecting the environment. NYSERDA provides financial and technical assistance to help consumers, businesses and institutions assess and implement cost-saving energy efficiency measures.

Energy efficiency programs offered at NYSERDA also strive to provide affordable energy and a cleaner environment for all New Yorkers. This is accomplished by increasing public awareness of the multiple benefits of energy efficiency, by providing residential building performance services, and by making energy-efficient products more widely available to consumers.

1.2 Website System Background

NYSERDA uses Sitecore CMS version 6.6, on a 3-tier, 3-layer architecture utilizing Microsoft IIS version 7, ASP .NET 4.0, C# .NET, Microsoft SQL Server 2008. The websites also utilize Javascript, Bootstrap, CSS 2, CSS 3, HTML 5, responsive web design, Google Analytics, Facebook widgets/buttons, Twitter widgets/buttons, and embedded YouTube videos. NYSERDA currently has 5 Sitecore CMS Content Editors, approximately 10-15 approvers, and up to 30 workflows.

2. PROJECT SCOPE AND REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Background

This is a three-year, time and materials contract in which the selected contractor will provide services including but not limited to: .NET development, database programming and administration, software and hardware upgrades, and management and administration of Sitecore CMS and the related 3-tier technology stack. The selected contractor will manage the development of website resources including, but not limited to: templates, renderings, layouts, sub-layouts, CSS, 508-compliant HTML, end-user accounts, workflows, .NET codebase, and SQL codebase. The selected contractor will adhere to software/system development life cycle (SDLC) process while managing website code bases.

The selected contractor will provide at a minimum the following services:

- Expert guidance on future development projects, as well as organization and use of Sitecore CMS to provide maximum efficiencies for CMS end-users.
- Guidance and tutorials as needed for new and existing functionality to CMS end-users.
- Guidance on Sitecore Online Marketing Suite (OMS)/Digital Marketing System (DMS), Sitecore Engagement Platform, Sitecore Analytics, Sitecore Email Campaign Manager, and other related Sitecore technologies.

In addition to back-end web development services, as needed, the selected contractor will also provide front-end web design services, including User Experience Design, Graphic Design, Web Design, Responsive Web Design, Javascript, Bootstrap, cross-browser compatibility, and Multimedia Design.

2.2 Objectives

The objective of this task-based agreement is to establish access to the selected contractor's consulting and programming services for the development, administration, and maintenance of the web applications within the Sitecore CMS environment as set forth in this RFP.

To achieve this objective, NYSERDA expects this agreement to:

- Build a cost effective technology and design partnership to support NYSERDA's website development efforts.

- Leverage the selected contractor's expertise in Sitecore CMS and Web Development best practices.
- Ensure a timely and efficient turnaround schedule for agreed upon projects.

2.3 Scope/Statement of Work

The scope of work to be performed by the selected contractor consists of to-be-determined tasks listed in the following functional areas: Microsoft .NET development, database development, Sitecore CMS administration and maintenance, website design and development within the Sitecore CMS environment.

The selected contractor shall be assigned individual tasks with associated functional and design requirements, provided by the NYSERDA Web Operations Project Manager. Each task will be given a time and cost estimate by the selected contractor before work proceeds. The finished products will be reviewed and approved by the NYSERDA Web Operations Project Manager.

The selected contractor will provide a method of submitting functional and design requirements and a method to prioritize projects in queue. Delivered projects will include documentation and screenshots, including but not limited-to: new template fields, sizing of resources/images/media, steps to complete end-result, steps to manage content/functionality.

As the basis for invoicing, the selected contractor will keep an active and up-to-date "Activity Log" of requests (see Section 3: Budget and Billing).

All deliverables are expected to be:

- Quality work product, free from material defects in workmanship that will perform as designed, created according to best practices at onset of assignment.
- All new and modified code will remain part of the NYSERDA Sitecore CMS code base, owned by NYSERDA.
- Code will be promoted through 3-tier environment on (1) an ongoing weekly schedule, and (2) on an as-needed basis.

2.4 Qualifications and Requirements

The selected contractor shall:

- at minimum, be a Sitecore Gold Certified Implementation Partner of two years or more;
- have at least two Sitecore Certified Developers on staff;
- have at least one Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert on staff;
- have the ability to scale up development and design resources as needed for large, high-priority projects on an expedited timeline;
- have the ability to perform hardware and software maintenance/upgrades during non-peak hours in order to avoid website downtime during high traffic hours; and
- have deployed a minimum of five Sitecore web sites, each with a minimum page-count of 500 pages.

Additionally:

- Proposers must demonstrate a proven track record of providing consulting services across numerous technical projects.
- No recruitment or consulting employment services will be considered. Submitted personnel must be employees of the firm or a subcontractor that the firm has used successfully in the past (include project name, role, and length of assignment).
- Experience in engagements with NYSERDA's existing hardware and software will be considered, see **Section 1.2 Website System Background**.
- Any MWBE firms responding to this RFP that are seeking MWBE status must submit proof that the firm is certified as an MWBE with the Department of Economic Development. If not an MWBE, the firm must outline how to achieve the MWBE requirement through subcontracting.
- Upon issuance of a contract from NYSERDA, selected firms will be required to show evidence of General Liability, Disability and Workers Compensation insurances. In some instances, Professional Liability insurance may also be required.
- The willingness to work with the Authority to minimize costs is a requirement. NYSERDA reserves the right to negotiate a lower or different fee structure with the selected firm.
- NYSERDA retains the right to end an engagement at any time with or without cause, in accordance with Article XII of Attachment D, Sample Agreement.

3. BUDGET AND BILLING

This time and materials agreement is for a period of 3 years. The selected contractor and the NYSERDA Web Operations Project Manager will agree on tasks to complete, priority, timeline, and associated budget, as well as any other special conditions required to complete the task. Fees for deliverables will be billed on a monthly basis for tasks completed within the period covered by the invoice. Invoices will be paid in accordance with Exhibit D, Prompt Payment Policy Statement. Exhibit D is a part of Attachment D, Sample Agreement. In addition to the invoice, the Selected contractor will provide an itemized "Activity Log" of tasks and the associated costs for each task. The Activity Log will include:

- Project ID
- Project Name
- Estimated Duration
- Estimated Billable Amount
- Assigned Resource
- Start Date
- End Date
- Action Taken (work performed)
- Duration (hours)
- Rate
- Billable Amount
- Category of Work (Enhancement, Bug, Weekly Status Meeting, Meeting, Build, Admin/Project Management)
- Remaining Budget

4. PROPOSAL CONTENT AND FORMAT

A completed and signed Proposal Checklist (Attachment A) must be attached as the front cover of the proposal, and must contain an original signature. Proposals lacking a signed Proposal Checklist will be returned and will not be considered for award.

For the purposes of evaluation, proposals should not be excessively long or submitted in an elaborate format that includes expensive binders or graphics. Unnecessary attachments beyond those sufficient to present a complete, comprehensive, and effective response will not influence the evaluation of the proposal. Each page of the proposal should state the name of the Proposer, the RFP number, and the page number. The proposal must be in the following format:

- Proposal Section I: Executive Summary
- Proposal Section II: Portfolio
- Proposal Section III: Technical Proposal
- Proposal Section IV: Cost Proposal

4.1 Proposal Section I: Executive Summary

Limit to 2 pages maximum. Provide a brief description of the firm's:

1. Overall qualifications and areas of expertise,
2. List of previous clients and a minimum of 3 references,
3. Disclose any potential conflicts of interest, and
4. Affirmation of understanding and acceptance of **Section 2.4 Qualifications and Requirements**.

4.2 Proposal Section II: Portfolio

Limit to 3 pages maximum. Provide examples of, at a minimum, three recent (within the last three years) Sitecore website projects or implementations. Multiple examples can be grouped onto one page. For each example, include a brief synopsis of:

1. Role in project (Sitecore installation, template creation, information architecture, web design, database design/programming, etc.),
2. Goals accomplished and strategy taken to accomplish,
3. Sitecore features taken advantage of, or custom functionality built, and
4. Web address/domain name/url.

4.3 Proposal Section III: Technical Proposal

Following is a listing of the information required to be provided by the proposer. A technical proposal that does not provide all the information requested below may be subject to rejection. Information should be provided in the same order in which it is requested.

1. Outline the approximate number of resources and roles available for contract; include the resumes of key staff and sub-consultants proposed to provide services to NYSERDA, including partners, principals, and associates. Include description/chart of the firm's organizational structure.
2. Please describe your recommended staffing strategy, inclusive of on-site, off-site, near-shore, off-shore, and subcontracting resources. Please be explicit with regard to the management and leadership of any subcontracted resources, how they relate to your resources, and how NYSERDA would fit into the picture.
3. Describe what resources your proposal requires from NYSERDA in order to be successful. Be as specific as possible with regard to roles/skills/staff required (e.g. titles, functional or administrative areas, skill sets, project roles, etc.), time/participation expectations of each NYSERDA resource (e.g. 8 hours a week, quarter-time, half-

time, full-time, 45 hours total, etc.).

4. Describe what preparation (whether on NYSERDA's part or your organization's part or both organizations working together) needs to occur in order for us to hit the ground running on Day 1. Include all types of preparation.
5. Please describe what you consider to be critical success factors for performing this type of work on-time and on-budget.
6. Please describe what you consider to be the three biggest recurring risks that projects of these types encounter and how you plan to mitigate those risks.
7. Provide a description of the firm's experience providing services as outlined in section **2.1 Background**. Provide a description of the firm's approach to providing the scope of services, including the monitoring and management of potential work assignments. Include recent relevant project experience to the public and private sector.
8. The proposer must agree to provide NYSERDA with pre- and post-audit access to documents, personnel and other information necessary to conduct audits upon request both during the term of the Agreement and for six years thereafter.
9. The proposal submitted must contain a representation that the proposer is willing and ready to provide any related services requested or required in a timely manner.
10. Note any special certifications relevant to this RFP that your firm or proposed staff may possess.

4.4 Proposal Section IV - Cost Proposal

Following is a listing of the information required to be provided by the proposer. A cost proposal that does not provide all the information requested below may be subject to rejection. Information should be provided in the same order in which it is requested.

1. Billing rates should be competitive and economical. Provide billing rates for each of the services on which your firm is proposing. Include rates for the following titles, as applicable, plus any additional titles deemed necessary:
 - a. Project Manger
 - b. Information Architect
 - c. Sitecore Developer
 - d. Database Administrator
 - e. Front End Developer
 - f. Web/UXDesigner
 - g. Graphic Artist
 - h. Account Representative
2. List all disbursements or other services for which the firm would expect reimbursement.
3. Indicate any reductions from normal billing rates charged other issuers or public entities in New York State.
4. Indirect Cost (Overhead) Rate(s) - Attach supporting documentation to support indirect cost (overhead) rate(s) included in your proposal as follows: Describe the basis for the rates proposed (i.e., based on prior period actual results; based on projections; based on federal government or other independently-approved rates).
5. If rate(s) is approved by an independent organization, such as the federal government, provide a copy of such approval.

6. If rate(s) is based on estimated costs or prior period actual results, include calculations to support proposed rate(s). Calculation should provide enough information for NYSERDA to evaluate and confirm that the rate(s) are consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for indirect costs.
7. NYSERDA reserves the right to audit any indirect rate presented in the proposal and to make adjustment for such difference. Requests for financial statements or other needed financial information may be made if deemed necessary.

4.5 Sample Agreement

NYSERDA will enter into an agreement with successful Proposers using the attached Sample Agreement (**Attachment D**). **If you do not accept the standard terms and conditions, provide alternate terms with justification based on the risk and benefit to New York State. Any negotiation of terms will be at NYSERDA's sole discretion.** NYSERDA will consider only exceptions to terms that are specifically included with the proposal. Attachment D does not need to be completed; it is provided only for review per the discussion above.

5. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

5.1 General Selection Process

The selection process will begin with the review and evaluation of each of the written proposals. The purpose of this evaluation process is twofold: (1) to examine the responses for compliance with this RFP; (2) to identify the complying firms that have the highest probability of satisfactorily performing the scope of services at a reasonable cost to NYSERDA. All written proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by a Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) selected by NYSERDA. The TEP will score each Proposal according to the criteria and scoring process described herein.

5.2 Interviews

NYSERDA reserves the right to determine whether interviews will be necessary and for which firms. The purpose of the interview is to further document the proposer's ability to provide the required services, and to impart to the TEP an understanding of how specific services will be furnished. The proposed lead principal, as well as all other key personnel proposed to provide the services must be present and participate in the interview. The interview will be evaluated on the basis of whether it substantiates the characteristics and attributes claimed by the proposer in its written response to this RFP and any other information requested by the TEP prior to the interview.

5.3 Evaluation Process

The TEP will evaluate the extent to which the Proposal meets the requirements as specified in this RFP. TEP members will independently score each Proposal and then meet to discuss the merits and scoring justifications of each Proposer. Evaluators will be allowed to revise scores based on the panel discussions.

The evaluation will be conducted in a comprehensive and impartial manner as set forth herein using the following categories.

Step	Evaluation Criteria
1	Satisfactory completion of requirements of: Section 4.1: Proposal Section I - Executive Summary
2	Satisfactory completion of requirements of: Section 4.2: Proposal Section II – Portfolio
3	Satisfactory completion of requirements of: Section 4.3: Proposal Section III – Technical Proposal
4	Satisfactory completion of requirements of: Section 4.4: Proposal Section IV – Cost Proposal
5	Total Final Scores

Step 1: Executive Summary Score

The Executive Summary score will be evaluated relative to each proposer based on the completeness, accuracy, and value of content provided as compared to requirements.

Step 2: Portfolio Score

The Portfolio score will be evaluated relative to each proposer based on use of Sitecore CMS and related platforms and unique features therein, as well as demonstration of custom application development, and use of best-practices based web and software design.

Step 3: Technical Proposal Score

The Total Proposal Score will be evaluated relative to each proposer based on completeness, accuracy, and value of content provided as compared to requirements. Consideration is given for demonstrated skill sets needed to fulfill the requirements of this RFP, particularly of the skills needed to perform the tasks listed in **Section 2.1 Background**.

Step 4: Cost Proposal

Cost Proposals will be evaluated relative to each other based on common titles and common staffing scenarios (on shore, off shore, subcontracting). In addition, NYSERDA will utilize historical rates paid for consulting services when developing the cost proposal score.

Step 4: Final Score, Recommendation, and Board Approval

The TEP will rank the Proposers' final scores in descending order, from highest to lowest score, which will form the basis for the TEP's award recommendation to NYSERDA Management. It is anticipated that there could be multiple selections depending on the number of qualified proposers.

6. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Proprietary Information - Careful consideration should be given before confidential information is submitted to NYSERDA as part of your proposal. Review should include whether it is critical for evaluating a proposal, and whether general, non-confidential information, may be adequate for review purposes. The NYS Freedom of Information Law, Public Officers Law, Article 6, provides for public access to information NYSERDA possesses. Public Officers Law, Section 87(2)(d) provides for exceptions to disclosure for records or portions thereof that "are trade secrets or are submitted to an agency by a commercial enterprise or derived from information obtained from a commercial enterprise and which if disclosed would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the subject enterprise." Information submitted to NYSERDA that the proposer wishes to have treated as proprietary, and confidential trade secret information, should be identified and labeled "Confidential" or "Proprietary" on each page at the time of disclosure. This information should include a written request to except it from disclosure, including a written statement of the reasons why the information should be excepted. See Public Officers Law, Section 89(5) and the procedures set forth in 21 NYCRR Part 501, located at: <http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/-/media/files/about/contact/nyserda-regulations>. However, NYSERDA cannot guarantee the confidentiality of any information submitted.

Omnibus Procurement Act of 1992 - It is the policy of New York State to maximize opportunities for the participation of New York State business enterprises, including minority- and women-owned business enterprises, as bidders, subcontractors, and suppliers on its procurement Agreements.

Information on the availability of New York subcontractors and suppliers is available from:

Empire State Development
Division For Small Business
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12207

A directory of certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises is available from:

Empire State Development
Minority and Women's Business Development Division
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12207

New York Executive Law Article 15-A - NYSERDA is required under the law to promote opportunities for maximum feasible participation of certified minority-and women-owned business enterprises and the employment of minority group members and women in the performance of NYSERDA contracts. The MWBE participation goals and obligations of the selected contractor are set forth in Attachment C.

State Finance Law sections 139-j and 139-k - NYSERDA is required to comply with State Finance Law sections 139-j and 139-k. These provisions contain procurement lobbying requirements which can be found at <http://www.ogs.ny.gov/aboutogs/regulations/advisoryCouncil/StatutoryReferences.html>

The attached Proposal Checklist calls for a signature certifying that the proposer will comply with State Finance Law sections 139-j and 139-k and the Disclosure of Prior Findings of Non-responsibility form includes a disclosure statement regarding whether the proposer has been found non-responsible under section 139-j of the State Finance Law within the previous four years.

Tax Law Section 5-a - NYSERDA is required to comply with the provisions of Tax Law Section 5-a, which requires a prospective contractor, prior to entering an agreement with NYSERDA having a value in excess of \$100,000, to certify to the Department of Taxation and Finance (the "Department") whether the contractor, its affiliates, its subcontractors and the affiliates of its subcontractors have registered with the Department to collect New York State and local sales and compensating use taxes. The Department has created a form to allow a prospective contractor to readily make such certification. See, ST-220-TD (available at http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/st/st220td_fill_in.pdf).

Prior to contracting with NYSERDA, the prospective contractor must also certify to NYSERDA whether it has filed such certification with the Department. The Department has created a second form that must be completed by a prospective contractor prior to contacting and filed with NYSERDA. See, ST-220-CA (available at

http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/st/st220ca_fill_in.pdf). The Department has developed guidance for contractors which is available at <http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/publications/sales/pub223.pdf>.

Contract Award - NYSEDA anticipates making more than one award under this solicitation. It may award a contract based on initial applications without discussion, or following limited discussion or negotiations pertaining to the Statement of Work. Each offer should be submitted using the most favorable cost and technical terms. NYSEDA may request additional data or material to support applications. NYSEDA will use the Sample Agreement to contract successful proposals. NYSEDA reserves the right to limit any negotiations to exceptions to standard terms and conditions in the Sample Agreement to those specifically identified in the submitted proposal (see Proposal Checklist). Proposers should keep in mind that acceptance of all standard terms and conditions will generally result in a more expedited contracting process. NYSEDA expects to notify proposers in approximately two weeks from the proposal due date whether your proposal has been selected to receive an award. NYSEDA may decline to contract with awardees that are delinquent with respect to any obligation under any previous or active NYSEDA agreement.

Limitation - This solicitation does not commit NYSEDA to award a contract, pay any costs incurred in preparing a proposal, or to procure or contract for services or supplies. NYSEDA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals received, to negotiate with all qualified sources, or to cancel in part or in its entirety the solicitation when it is in NYSEDA's best interest. NYSEDA reserves the right to reject proposals based on the nature and number of any exceptions taken to the standard terms and conditions of the Sample Agreement.

Disclosure Requirement - The proposer shall disclose any indictment for any alleged felony, or any conviction for a felony within the past five years, under the laws of the United States or any state or territory of the United States, and shall describe circumstances for each. When a proposer is an association, partnership, corporation, or other organization, this disclosure requirement includes the organization and its officers, partners, and directors or members of any similarly governing body. If an indictment or conviction should come to the attention of NYSEDA after the award of a contract, NYSEDA may exercise its stop-work right pending further investigation, or terminate the agreement; the contractor may be subject to penalties for violation of any law which may apply in the particular circumstances. Proposers must also disclose if they have ever been debarred or suspended by any agency of the U.S. Government or the New York State Department of Labor.

7. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Proposal Checklist

Attachment B: Disclosure of Prior Findings of Non- Responsibility

Attachment C: Cost Proposal Worksheet

Attachment D: Sample Agreement

Attachment E: Electronic Proposal Submission Instructions

Attachment F: **Article 15-A (MWBE) Provisions for Solicitation Documents (non-construction)**



**ATTACHMENT A
PROPOSAL CHECKLIST (MANDATORY)**

Proposal Title		Due Date	
Primary Contact (Prime Contractor)		Title	
Company		Phone	Fax
		e-mail	
<input type="checkbox"/> By checking this box I certify that the TIN number submitted is not a social security number. If your tax id number is your social security number please leave information blank and contact NYSERDA.		Federal Tax Identification Number:	
Address	City	State or Province	Zip
Secondary Contact		Title	
Company		Phone	Fax
		e-mail	
Address	City	State or Province	Zip
THE PRIME CONTRACTOR MUST SIGN THIS FORM BELOW and ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:			
Do you accept all Terms & Conditions in the Sample Agreement? (If no, explain on separate page) (NYSERDA may or may not accept any of the listed exceptions; NYSERDA reserves the right to limit any negotiations to exceptions specifically identified herein.)			
			___Yes ___No
Do you wish to have any information submitted in your proposal package treated as proprietary or confidential trade secret information? If yes, you must identify and label on each applicable page "confidential" or "proprietary" (For additional information regarding this, please refer to the section entitled "Proprietary Information" in the solicitation document).			
			___Yes ___No
Have you been indicted/convicted for a felony within the past 5 years? (if yes, explain on separate pg)			
			___Yes ___No
Are you a Minority or Women-Owned Business Enterprise?			
			___Yes ___No
Does your proposal contain Minority or Women-Owned Business enterprises as subcontractors?			
			___Yes ___No
Are you submitting the required number of copies? (See proposal instructions.)			
			___Yes ___No
Is other public funding pending/awarded on this and/or very similar topic (prior and/or competing proposals)? (if yes, explain on separate page)			
			___Yes ___No
ON WHAT PAGE IN YOUR PROPOSAL CAN THESE ITEMS BE FOUND?			
Provide list of items consistent with Proposal Requirements section of solicitation:		Indictment/Conviction of Felony _____ (if applicable) NYSERDA Contracts Awarded _____ (if applicable) Prior and/or Competing Proposals _____ (if applicable) Exceptions to Terms & Conditions _____ (if applicable) Completed and Signed Contract Pricing Proposal Form(s) _____ Disclosure of Prior Findings of Non-responsibility Form _____	
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE & CERTIFICATION			
I certify that the above information, and all information submitted in connection with State Finance Law §139-j and §139-k, is complete, true, and accurate, that I have read and reviewed the Standard Terms and Conditions set forth in the attached Sample Agreement and that I accept all terms unless otherwise noted herein, and that the proposal requirements noted have been completed and are enclosed. I affirm that I understand and will comply with NYSERDA's procedures under §139-j(3) and §139-j(6)(b) of the State Finance Law. I understand that this proposal may be disqualified if the solicitation requirements are not met. I, the undersigned, am authorized to commit my organization to this proposal.			
Signature		Name	
Title		Organization	
Phone			

NOTE: This completed form **MUST** be signed and attached to the front of all copies of your proposal.

Attachment B

**Disclosure of Prior Findings of Non-responsibility Form
(Mandatory)**

Name of Individual or Entity seeking to enter the procurement contract:		
Address:		
Date:		
Solicitation or Agreement Number:		
Name and Title of Person Submitting this Form:		
Has any Governmental Entity made a finding of non-responsibility regarding the Individual or Entity seeking to enter the Procurement Contract in the last four years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Was the basis for the finding of non-responsibility due to a violation of §139-j of the State Finance Law?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Was the basis for the finding of non-responsibility due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information to a Governmental Entity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
If you answered yes to any of the above questions, please provide details regarding the finding of non-responsibility:		
Government Agency or Authority:		
Date of Finding of Non-responsibility:		



Has any Governmental Entity or other governmental agency terminated or withheld a Procurement Contract with the above-named Individual or Entity due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information?		Yes
		No

If you answered yes, please provide details:

Government Agency or Authority:

Date of Termination or Withholding of Contract:

Offerer certifies that all information provided to NYSERDA with respect to State Finance Law §139-k is complete, true, and accurate.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority Contract Pricing Proposal Form			Solicitation/Contract No. RFP3136	Page
Contractor:			Name of Proposed Project:	
Address:				
Location (where work is to be performed):			NYSERDA funding: Total Project Cost:	
Cost Element	Total Project Cost	Funding & Co-funding via NYSERDA	Cost-sharing & Other Co-funding	
1. Direct Materials				
a. Purchased Parts		WORK		
b. Other				
Total Direct Materials				
2. Materials Overhead Rate:				
3. Direct Labor (specify names/titles) Hours Rate/hr				
Total Direct Labor				
4. Labor Overhead Rate % \$ Base				
Total Labor Overhead				
5. Outside Special Testing				
6. Equipment				
7. Travel				
8. Other Direct Costs				
9. Subcontractors/Consultants				
Total Subcontractors/Consultants				
10. General & Administrative Expense Rate % Element(s)				
11. Fee or Profit (if allowable) Rate:				
12. Total Estimated Project Cost #VALUE!				
This proposal reflects our best estimates as of this date, in accordance with the instructions to proposers.				
Typed Name and Title:			Signature:	
			Date:	
Has any executive agency of the U.S. government performed any review of your records in connection with any prime contract or subcontract within the past twelve months? ___ Yes ___ No				
If yes, identify:				

ATTACHMENT C

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION OF COST ESTIMATE

Your cost proposal may be the basis of contract negotiation; it should be specific and complete in every detail. Supporting schedules (as described in Section B) providing the basis for your estimates must be provided.

A. GENERAL

The schedule must be submitted on NYSERDA's Contract Pricing Proposal Form.

B. INSTRUCTIONS AND DESCRIPTION OF REQUIRED SUPPORT DETAIL

(Title each supporting schedule and cross-reference it to the item number on the Contract Pricing Proposal Form)

1a. DIRECT MATERIALS - PURCHASED PARTS

Provide the following information for each proposed item with an estimated unit cost in excess of \$15,000.

- o Description of item
- o Proposed vendor
- o Quantity needed
- o Unit cost
- o Basis for cost (i.e., catalog, prior purchase, quote, etc.)
- o Total cost
- o Evidence of a competitive selection process in accordance with the requirements of the Subcontract Procedures section of the attached Sample Agreement.

1b. OTHER DIRECT MATERIALS

In accordance with the requirements of the Subcontract Procedures section of the attached Sample Agreement, for all items in excess of \$5,000, provide whatever information would be necessary to understand what is being obtained, how it is being obtained, what it will cost and how the estimated cost was determined with justification for all items.

2. MATERIALS OVERHEAD (also applicable to other Indirect Rate categories: 4. LABOR OVERHEAD and 10. G&A EXPENSE)

- o If Government-approved indirect rates are proposed, then supply a copy of an appropriate Government document verifying those rates.
- o If Government-approved rates are not proposed, supply the following, unless previously provided, for the years comprising the proposed period of contract performance.
 - o A description (chart or other) of the organization of the indirect cost center.
 - o The budget of indirect costs, by account, for each proposed indirect expense rate.
 - o The budget for the base, for each proposed rate, (direct labor dollars, hours, costs, etc.) itemized as to contract hours or costs, research and development hours of costs, and any other direct base effort.
 - o Actual incurred rates for the prior three years, including actual base and pool amounts.

3. DIRECT LABOR

a. Commercial Enterprises

- (1) Attach supporting schedules showing:
 - o Each category or type of labor being estimated
 - o Applicable labor rates per hour (straight-time)
- (2) Explain the method used for computing the rates (i.e., actual of an individual, actual average of a category or other grouping, etc.) Also identify any proposed labor escalation and the bases for it.

b. Educational Institutions

Provide the following for each calendar year of the contract:

- (1) For individuals not on an "actual hours worked" basis:
 - o individual's name
 - o annual salary and the period for which the salary is applicable (preferably in weeks)
 - o the proportionate time to be charged to this effort.
- (2) For individuals who maintain time records as the basis for charging costs, supply the detail as requested in Instructions 3(a)(1)

4. LABOR OVERHEAD (Same as Instructions for 2. MATERIALS OVERHEAD)

5. OUTSIDE SPECIAL TESTING

- a. Describe the effort.
- b. Provide the units of time (hours, days, weeks), cost rates, and the vendor.
- c. In accordance with the requirements of the Subcontract Procedures section of the attached Sample Agreement, provide the basis for selection of the vendor. Identify M/WBE vendors contacted for quotes and if none, explain why. Explain and justify the basis for any non-competitive selection.

6. EQUIPMENT

Capability to perform the work with existing facilities and equipment is assumed. It is NYSERDA's policy not to compensate for general purpose facilities or equipment. If some special purpose items are needed solely for this contract and are not available by other means (contractor assets, lease, etc.), then provide the following information for each item of required equipment.

- o vendor
- o model number
- o quantity
- o competitive selection process
- o unit cost and source of cost/price (i.e., quote, catalog, purchase history)
- o description of the use or application (NYSERDA dedicated, contract dedicated, other)

7. TRAVEL

- a. NYSERDA will accept as a direct charge only that travel required to perform the statement of work.
- b. Attach a schedule indicating the need for the proposed travel, the estimated number of person-trips required, destinations, mode and cost of transportation, and number of days subsistence per trip for each destination.
- c. Identify and support any other special transportation costs required in the performance of this project.

8. OTHER DIRECT COSTS

- a. Identify the type of cost (i.e. postage, telephone, publications, graphics, etc.)
- b. Provide cost details for the amounts estimated (hours or units, rates, etc.)
- c. If any internal service center rates are applied, provide details similar to that required in Instruction #B.
- d. For computer costs identify the make, model and type of computer, hours of service and appropriate rates, and whether the machine is company owned or leased.

9. SUBCONTRACTORS/CONSULTANTS

- a. Explain the specific technical area in which such service is to be used and identify the contemplated consultants.
- b. State the number of days and the hours per day of such service estimated to be required and the consultant's quoted rate per day. Document when/where the consultant has received the proposed rate in performing similar services for others.

10. GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE (G&A) EXPENSE (Same as instructions for 2. MATERIALS OVERHEAD)

11. FEE OR PROFIT

List the rate proposed for profit. No fee or profit is allowed under product development, demonstration or other certain cost-sharing projects.

**New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
("NYSERDA")**

SAMPLE AGREEMENT

1. Agreement Number:
2. Contractor:
3. Project Director:
4. Effective Date:
5. Total Amount of Award:
6. Project Period: **[Optional for defined-scope R&D projects]**
7. Commitment Terms and Conditions

This Agreement consists of this form plus the following documents:

- Exhibit A, Statement of Work;
- Exhibit B, General Contract Provisions, Terms and Conditions;
- Exhibit C, Standard Terms and Conditions;
- Exhibit D, Prompt Payment Policy Statement;
- Exhibit E, NYSERDA Report Format and Style Guide.
- Exhibit F, Article 15-A (MWBE) Provisions for Solicitation Documents

8. ACCEPTANCE. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE UNLESS EXECUTED BELOW BY NYSERDA.

[CONTRACTOR]

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY
RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

By _____

By _____

Name _____

Jeffrey J. Pitkin
Treasurer

Title _____

STATE OF)
) SS.:
COUNTY OF)

On the ____ day of _____ in the year _____, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared _____, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument, the individuals(s), or the person upon behalf of which the individual(s) acted, executed the document.

Notary Public

EXHIBIT B

GENERAL CONTRACT PROVISIONS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Article I

Definitions

Section 1.01. Definitions. Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms defined below shall have, for all purposes of this Agreement, the respective meanings set forth below, the following definitions to be equally applicable to both the singular and plural forms of any of the terms defined.

(a) General Definitions:

Agreement: This Agreement shall consist of Page One and Exhibits A, B, C, D, and E hereto, all of which are made a part hereof as if set forth here in full.

Budget: The Budget set forth at Exhibit A hereto.

Cash-based Expenses: Those obligations of Contractor that shall be settled in cash.

Contract Administrator: NYSERDA's Director of Contract Management, Cheryl L. Earley, or such other person who may be designated, in writing, by NYSERDA.

Contract Information: Recorded information regardless of form or characteristic first produced in the performance of this Agreement, that is specified to be compiled under this Agreement, specified to be delivered under this Agreement, or that is actually delivered in connection with this Agreement, and including the Final Report delivered by Contractor pursuant to Exhibit A, Statement of Work, if applicable.

Proprietary Information: Recorded information regardless of form or characteristic, produced or developed outside the scope of this Agreement and without NYSERDA financial support, provided that such information is not generally known or available from other sources without obligation concerning their confidentiality; has not been made available by the owner to others without obligation concerning its confidentiality; and is not already available to NYSERDA without obligation concerning its confidentiality. Under no circumstances shall any information included in the Final Report delivered by Contractor pursuant to Exhibit A, Statement of Work, if applicable, be considered Proprietary Information.

Person: An individual, a corporation, an association or partnership, an organization, a business or a government or political subdivision thereof, or any governmental agency or instrumentality.

Responsible: Responsible or Responsibility means the financial ability, legal capacity, integrity and past performance of Contractor and as such terms have been interpreted relative to public procurements. See NYS Finance Law § 163(1)(c).

Statement of Work: The Statement of Work attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Subcontract: An agreement for the performance of Work by a Subcontractor, including any purchase order for the procurement of permanent equipment or expendable supplies in connection with the Work.

Subcontractor: A person who performs Work directly or indirectly for or on behalf of the Contractor (and whether or not in privity of contract with the Contractor) but not including any employees of the Contractor or the Subcontractors.

Work: The Work described in the Exhibit A (including the procurement of equipment and supplies in connection therewith) and the performance of all other requirements imposed upon the Contractor under this Agreement.

Article II

Performance of Work

Section 2.01. Manner of Performance. Subject to the provisions of Article XII hereof, the Contractor shall perform all of the Work described in the Statement of Work, or cause such Work to be performed in an efficient and expeditious manner and in accordance with all of the terms and provisions of this Agreement. The Contractor shall perform the Work in accordance with the current professional standards and with the diligence and skill expected for the performance of work of the type described in the Statement of Work. The Contractor shall furnish such personnel and shall procure such materials, machinery, supplies, tools, equipment and other items as may reasonably be necessary or appropriate to perform the Work in accordance with this Agreement.

Section 2.02. Project Personnel. It is understood and agreed that the Project Director identified at Item 3, Page One of this Agreement shall be responsible for the overall supervision and conduct of the Work on behalf of the Contractor and that the persons described in the Statement of Work shall serve in the capacities described therein. Any change of Project Director by the Contractor shall be subject to the prior written approval of NYSERDA. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, and, in the event that notice of approval or disapproval is not received by the Contractor within thirty (30) days after receipt of request for approval by NYSERDA, the requested change in Project Director shall be considered approved. In the event that NYSERDA requires additional time for considering approval, NYSERDA shall notify the Contractor within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request for approval that additional time is required and shall specify the additional amount of time necessary up to thirty (30) days.

Section 2.03. Title to Equipment. Title shall vest in the Contractor to all equipment purchased hereunder.

[OR, if specific equipment has been identified by the Project Manager for NYSERDA to retain title in, then use the following:]

Section 2.03. Title to Equipment. Title shall vest in NYSERDA to all of the following equipment purchased hereunder:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

Upon the request of NYSERDA, the Contractor shall execute, acknowledge, deliver and perform, or cause to be executed, acknowledged, delivered or performed, all such bills of sale, assignments, conveyances or other documents or acts as NYSERDA may reasonably request in order to assure the better vesting in and confirming to NYSERDA, its successor and assigns, of title to and possession of such equipment. If, after six (6) months following the later of (a) Contractor's completion of these obligations, (b) completion of the Work, or (3) the termination of this Agreement, NYSERDA has not removed any such equipment, it will be deemed abandoned and become the property of the Contractor. Any such removal of equipment by NYSERDA shall be at NYSERDA's expense.

Article III

Deliverables

Section 3.01. Deliverables. All deliverables shall be provided in accordance with the Exhibit A, Statement of Work.

Article IV

Payment

Section 4.01. Payment Terms. In consideration for this Agreement and as NYSERDA's full payment for the costs of the performance of all Work, and in respect of all other direct and indirect costs, charges or expenses incurred in connection therewith, NYSERDA shall pay to the Contractor amounts not to exceed the maximum amount set forth in Item 5, Page One of this Agreement for the cost elements identified in the Budget to be funded with NYSERDA funds, subject to the provisions and restrictions contained herein, including, without limitation, the Prompt Payment Policy Statement attached hereto as Exhibit D. NYSERDA's payments shall be on a reimbursement basis, and shall be paid only to the extent that Cash-based Expenses are incurred by the Contractor in

performance of the Work in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, and the following:

(a) Billing Rates: The Contractor shall be reimbursed for the services performed by its employees under the terms of this Agreement at the lesser of employee's billing rate set forth in the Budget or the employee's billing rate applicable at the time the Work is performed. Such billing rates shall be inclusive of actual Cash-based Expenses in the form of wages paid the employee, fringe benefits, overhead, general and administrative (G&A), and other indirect costs. Contractor hereby warrants and guarantees that the billing rates charged herein are Contractor's customary billing rates for performance of work of the type described in the Statement of Work attached hereto.

(b) Direct Charges: To the extent Cash-based Expenses are incurred by the Contractor, the Contractor shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary actual direct costs incurred (e.g., equipment, supplies, travel and other costs directly associated with the performance of the Agreement) to the extent required in the performance of the Work and to the extent such costs are anticipated in the Budget. Travel, lodging, meals and incidental expenses shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary costs incurred. Costs should generally not exceed the daily per diem rates published in the Federal Travel Regulations. Reimbursement for the use of personal vehicles shall be limited to the Internal Revenue Service business standard mileage rate in effect at the time the expense was incurred.

Section 4.02. Progress Payments.

(a) Invoicing: The Contractor may submit invoices for progress payments no more than once each month and no less than once each calendar quarter for Work performed during such period. Invoices shall be addressed to NYSERDA, "Attention: Accounts Payable," or submitted electronically to invoices@nysesda.ny.gov. Such invoices shall make reference to the Agreement number shown at Item 1 on page 1 of this Agreement. Invoices shall be inclusive of the total project costs incurred, delineated into NYSERDA's Funding share and the Cost-Share and Other Co-funding share, if applicable, and they shall be in a format consistent with the cost categories set forth in the Budget. Invoices shall be itemized and provide reasonable documentation for the above to provide evidence of costs incurred. If a wage rate or billing rate is used, Contractor must certify on its invoice that such rate represents the lesser of: (i) the actual rate at the time the Work was performed, and (ii) the rate listed for each such employee listed in the Budget. NYSERDA may adjust amounts payable to correlate the proportion of NYSERDA's funding share paid to the proportion of the Work completed.

Article V

Assignments, Subcontracts and Purchase Orders

Section 5.01. General Restrictions. Except as specifically provided otherwise in this Article, the assignment, transfer, conveyance, subcontracting or other disposal of this

Agreement or any of the Contractor's rights, obligations, interests or responsibilities hereunder, in whole or in part, without the express consent in writing of NYSERDA shall be void and of no effect as to NYSERDA.

Section 5.02. Subcontract Procedures. Without relieving it of, or in any way limiting, its obligations to NYSERDA under this Agreement, the Contractor may enter into Subcontracts for the performance of Work or for the purchase of materials or equipment. Except for a subcontractor or supplier specified in a team arrangement with the Contractor in the Contractor's original proposal, and except for any subcontract or order for equipment, supplies or materials from a single subcontractor or supplier totaling less than \$50,000, the Contractor shall select all subcontractors or suppliers through a process of competitive bidding or multi-source price review. A team arrangement is one where a subcontractor or supplier specified in the Contractor's proposal is performing a substantial portion of the Work and is making a substantial contribution to the management and/or design of the Project. In the event that a competitive bidding or multi-source price review is not feasible, the Contractor shall document an explanation for, and justification of, a sole source selection. The Contractor shall document the process by which a subcontractor or supplier is selected by making a record summarizing the nature and scope of the work, equipment, supplies or materials sought, the name of each person or organization submitting, or requested to submit, a bid or proposal, the price or fee bid, and the basis for selection of the subcontractor or supplier. An explanation for, and justification of, a sole source selection must identify why the work, equipment, supplies or materials involved are obtainable from or require a subcontractor with unique or exceptionally scarce qualifications or experience, specialized equipment, or facilities not readily available from other sources, or patents, copyrights, or proprietary data. All Subcontracts shall contain provisions comparable to those set forth in this Agreement applicable to a subcontractor or supplier, and those set forth in Exhibit C to the extent required by law, and all other provisions now or hereafter required by law to be contained therein. Each Subcontract shall make express reference to this Agreement, and shall state that in the event of any conflict or inconsistency between any Subcontract and this Agreement, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall control as between Subcontractor and Contractor. If this Agreement includes a provision requiring Contractor to make Payments to NYSERDA for the Sale or Licensing of a Product, each Subcontract shall include the provisions of Section 8.02, suitably modified to identify the parties. The Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA's Contract Administrator for review and written approval any subcontract(s) specified in the Statement of Work as requiring NYSERDA approval, including any replacements thereof.

Section 5.03. Performance. The Contractor shall promptly and diligently comply with its obligations under each Subcontract and shall take no action that would impair its rights thereunder. The Contractor shall take no action, and shall take all reasonable steps to prevent its Subcontractors from taking any action, that would impair NYSERDA's rights under this Agreement. The Contractor shall not assign, cancel or terminate any Subcontract without the prior written approval of NYSERDA's Contract Administrator as long as this Agreement remains in effect. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld and, in the event that notice of approval or disapproval is not received by the

Contractor within thirty days after receipt of request for approval by NYSERDA, the requested assignment, cancellation, or termination of the Subcontract shall be considered approved by NYSERDA. In the event that NYSERDA requires additional time for considering approval, NYSERDA shall notify the Contractor within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request for approval that additional time is required and shall specify the additional amount of time necessary up to sixty (60) days.

Article VI

Schedule; Acceptance of Work

Section 6.01. Schedule. The Work shall be performed as expeditiously as possible in conformity with the schedule requirements contained herein and in the Statement of Work. The draft and final versions of all deliverables shall be submitted by the dates specified in the Exhibit A Schedule. It is understood and agreed that the delivery of the draft and final versions of such deliverables by the Contractor shall occur in a timely manner and in accordance with the requirements of the Exhibit A Schedule.

Section 6.02. Acceptance of Work. The completion of the Work shall be subject to acceptance by NYSERDA in writing of all deliverables as defined in Exhibit A, Statement of Work.

Article VII

Force Majeure

Section 7.01. Force Majeure. Neither party hereto shall be liable for any failure or delay in the performance of its respective obligations hereunder if and to the extent that such delay or failure is due to a cause or circumstance beyond the reasonable control of such party, including, without limitation, acts of God or the public enemy, expropriation or confiscation of land or facilities, compliance with any law, order or request of any Federal, State, municipal or local governmental authority, acts of war, rebellion or sabotage or damage resulting therefrom, fires, floods, storms, explosions, accidents, riots, strikes, or the delay or failure to perform by any Subcontractor by reason of any cause or circumstance beyond the reasonable control of such Subcontractor.

Article VIII

Rights in Information; Confidentiality

Section 8.01. Rights in Contract and Proprietary Information.

(a) All Contract Information shall be the property of NYSERDA. The Contractor shall not use Contract Information for any purpose other than to implement its obligations under this Agreement.

(b) All Proprietary Information shall be the property of Contractor.

(c) The use, public performance, reproduction, distribution, or modification of any materials used by Contractor in the performance of this Agreement does not and will not violate the rights of any third parties, including, but not limited to, copyrights, trademarks, service marks, publicity, or privacy. The Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining and paying for any necessary licenses to use any third-party content.

(d) The Contractor agrees that to the extent it receives or is given any information from NYSERDA or a NYSERDA contractor or subcontractor, the Contractor shall treat such data in accordance with any restrictive legend contained thereon or instructions given by NYSERDA, unless another use is specifically authorized by prior written approval of the NYSERDA Project Manager. Contractor acknowledges that in the performance of the Work under this Agreement, Contractor may come into possession of personal information as that term is defined in Section 92 of the New York State Public Officers Law. Contractor agrees not to disclose any such information without the consent of NYSERDA.

Article IX

Warranties and Guarantees

Section 9.01. Warranties and Guarantees. The Contractor warrants and guarantees that:

(a) all information provided and all representations made by Contractor as a part of the Proposal Checklist or application, if any, submitted to NYSERDA in order to obtain this Agreement were, to the best of Contractor's knowledge, complete, true and accurate when provided or made;

(b) as of the Effective Date, it is financially and technically qualified to perform the Work, and is qualified to do business and is in good standing in all jurisdictions necessary for Contractor to perform its obligations under this Agreement;

(c) it is familiar with and will comply with all general and special Federal, State, municipal and local laws, ordinances and regulations, if any, that may in any way affect the performance of this Agreement;

(d) the design, supervision and workmanship furnished with respect to performance of the Work shall be in accordance with sound and currently accepted scientific standards and engineering practices;

(e) all materials, equipment and workmanship furnished by it and by Subcontractors in performance of the Work or any portion thereof shall be free of defects in design, material and workmanship, and all such materials and equipment shall be of first-class quality, shall conform with all applicable codes, specifications, standards and

ordinances and shall have service lives and maintenance characteristics suitable for their intended purposes in accordance with sound and currently accepted scientific standards and engineering practices;

(f) neither the Contractor nor any of its employees, agents, representatives or servants has actual knowledge of any patent issued under the laws of the United States or any other matter which could constitute a basis for any claim that the performance of the Work or any part thereof infringes any patent or otherwise interferes with any other right of any Person;

(g) to the best of Contractor's knowledge, there are no existing undisclosed or threatened legal actions, claims, or encumbrances, or liabilities that may adversely affect the Work or NYSERDA's rights hereunder;

(h) it has no actual knowledge that any information or document or statement furnished by the Contractor in connection with this Agreement contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statement not misleading, and that all facts have been disclosed that would materially adversely affect the Work;

(i) all information provided to NYSERDA with respect to State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k is complete, true and accurate;

(j) Contractor is familiar with and will comply with NYSERDA's Code of Conduct for Contractors, Consultants, and Vendors with respect to the performance of this Agreement;¹ and

(k) its rates for the indirect costs charged herein have been determined based on the Contractor's reasonably anticipated indirect costs during the term of the Agreement and calculated consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

(j) Contractor shall at all times during the Agreement term remain Responsible, and Contractor agrees, if requested by NYSERDA, to present evidence of its continuing legal authority to do business in New York State, integrity, experience, ability, prior performance, and organizational and financial capacity.

Article X

Indemnification

Section 10.01. Indemnification. The Contractor shall protect, indemnify and hold harmless NYSERDA and the State of New York from and against all liabilities, losses, claims, damages, judgments, penalties, causes of action, costs and expenses (including,

¹http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/~media/Files/About/Board%20Governance/CodeConduct.ashx?sc_database=web

without limitation, attorneys' fees and expenses) imposed upon or incurred by or asserted against NYSERDA or the State of New York resulting from, arising out of or relating to Contractor's or its Subcontractors' performance of this Agreement. The obligations of the Contractor under this Article shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement, and shall not be limited by any enumeration herein of required insurance coverage.

Article XI Insurance

Section 11.01. Maintenance of Insurance; Policy Provisions. The Contractor, at no additional direct cost to NYSERDA, shall maintain or cause to be maintained throughout the term of this Agreement, insurance of the types and in the amounts specified in the Section hereof entitled Types of Insurance. All such insurance shall be evidenced by insurance policies, each of which shall:

(a) except policies in evidence of insurance required under Section 11.02(b), name or be endorsed to cover NYSERDA, the State of New York and the Contractor as additional insureds;

(b) provide that such policy may not be cancelled or modified until at least 30 days after receipt by NYSERDA of written notice thereof; and

(c) be reasonably satisfactory to NYSERDA in all other respects.

Section 11.02. Types of Insurance. The types and amounts of insurance required to be maintained under this Article are as follows:

(a) Commercial general liability insurance for bodily injury liability, including death, and property damage liability, incurred in connection with the performance of this Agreement, with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 in respect of claims arising out of personal injury or sickness or death of any one person, \$1,000,000 in respect of claims arising out of personal injury, sickness or death in any one accident or disaster, and \$1,000,000 in respect of claims arising out of property damage in any one accident or disaster; and

(b) Workers Compensation, Employers Liability, and Disability Benefits as required by New York State.

Section 11.03. Delivery of Policies; Insurance Certificates. Prior to commencing the Work, the Contractor shall deliver to NYSERDA certificates of insurance issued by the respective insurers, indicating the Agreement number thereon, evidencing the insurance required by Article XI hereof. **[For contracts containing recoupment, insert:** Upon commencement of marketing of the Product, the Contractor shall deliver to NYSERDA certificates of insurance issued by the respective insurers, indicating the Agreement number thereon, evidencing the insurance required by Section 11.02 (c) hereof and bearing notations evidencing the payment of the premiums thereon or

accompanied by other evidence of such payment satisfactory to NYSERDA.] In the event any policy furnished or carried pursuant to this Article will expire on a date prior to acceptance of the Work by NYSERDA pursuant to the section hereof entitled Acceptance of Work, the Contractor, not less than 15 days prior to such expiration date, shall deliver to NYSERDA certificates of insurance evidencing the renewal of such policies, and the Contractor shall promptly pay all premiums thereon due. In the event of threatened legal action, claims, encumbrances, or liabilities that may affect NYSERDA hereunder, or if deemed necessary by NYSERDA due to events rendering a review necessary, upon request the Contractor shall deliver to NYSERDA a certified copy of each policy.

Article XII

Stop Work Order; Termination; Non-Responsibility

Section 12.01. Stop Work Order.

(a) NYSERDA may at any time, by written Order to the Contractor, require the Contractor to stop all or any part of the Work called for by this Agreement for a period of up to ninety (90) days after the Stop Work Order is delivered to the Contractor, and for any further period to which the parties may agree. Any such order shall be specifically identified as a Stop Work Order issued pursuant to this Section. Upon receipt of such an Order, the Contractor shall forthwith comply with its terms and take all reasonable steps to minimize the incurrence of costs allocable to the Work covered by the Order during the period of work stoppage consistent with public health and safety. Within a period of ninety (90) days after a Stop Work Order is delivered to the Contractor, or within any extension of that period to which the parties shall have agreed, NYSERDA shall either:

- (i) by written notice to the Contractor, cancel the Stop Work Order, which shall be effective as provided in such cancellation notice, or if not specified therein, upon receipt by the Contractor, or
- (ii) terminate the Work covered by such order as provided in the Termination Section of this Agreement.

(b) If a Stop Work Order issued under this Section is cancelled or the period of the Order or any extension thereof expires, the Contractor shall resume Work. An equitable adjustment shall be made in the delivery schedule, the estimated cost, the fee, if any, or a combination thereof, and in any other provisions of the Agreement that may be affected, and the Agreement shall be modified in writing accordingly, if:

- (i) the Stop Work Order results in an increase in the time required for, or in the Contractor's cost properly allocable to, the performance of any part of this Agreement, and
- (ii) the Contractor asserts a claim for such adjustments within 30 days after the end of the period of Work stoppage; provided that, if NYSERDA

decides the facts justify such action, NYSERDA may receive and act upon any such claim asserted at any time prior to final payment under this Agreement.

(c) If a Stop Work Order is not cancelled and the Work covered by such Order is terminated, the reasonable costs resulting from the Stop Work Order shall be allowed by equitable adjustment or otherwise.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 12.01, the maximum amount payable by NYSERDA to the Contractor pursuant to this Section 12.01 shall not be increased or deemed to be increased except by specific written amendment hereto.

Section 12.02. Termination.

(a) This Agreement may be terminated by NYSERDA at any time during the term of this Agreement with or without cause, upon ten (10) days prior written notice to the Contractor. In such event, payment shall be paid to the Contractor for Work performed and expenses incurred prior to the effective date of termination in accordance with the provisions of the Article hereof entitled Payment and in reimbursement of any amounts required to be paid by the Contractor pursuant to Subcontracts; provided, however, that upon receipt of any such notice of termination, the Contractor shall cease the performance of Work, shall make no further commitments with respect thereto and shall reduce insofar as possible the amount of outstanding commitments (including, to the extent requested by NYSERDA, through termination of subcontracts containing provisions therefor). Articles VIII, IX, and X shall survive any termination of this Agreement, and Article XVI shall survive until the payment obligations pursuant to Article VIII have been met.

(b) NYSERDA specifically reserves the right to terminate this agreement in the event that the certification filed by the Contractor in accordance with State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k is found to have been intentionally false or intentionally incomplete, or that the certification filed by the Contractor in accordance with New York State Tax Law Section 5-a is found to have been intentionally false when made. Terminations under this subsection (b) will be effective upon Notice.

(c) Nothing in this Article shall preclude the Contractor from continuing to carry out the Work called for by the Agreement after receipt of a Stop Work Order or termination notice at its own election, provided that, if the Contractor so elects: (i) any such continuing Work after receipt of the Stop Work Order or termination notice shall be deemed not to be Work pursuant to the Agreement, and (ii) NYSERDA shall have no liability to the Contractor for any costs of the Work continuing after receipt of the Stop Work Order or termination notice.

12.03 Suspension or Termination for Non-Responsibility.

(a) Suspension. NYSERDA, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to suspend any or all activities under this Agreement, at any time, when it discovers information that calls into question the Responsibility of the Contractor. In the event of such suspension, the Contractor will be given written notice outlining the particulars of such suspension. Upon issuance of such notice, the Contractor must comply with the terms of the suspension order. Contract activity may resume at such time as NYSERDA issues a written notice authorizing a resumption of performance under the Contract.

(b) Termination. Upon written notice to the Contractor, and a reasonable opportunity to be heard with appropriate NYSERDA officials or staff, this Agreement may be terminated by NYSERDA at the Contractor's expense where the Contractor is determined by NYSERDA to be non-Responsible. In such event, NYSERDA may complete the contractual requirements in any manner it may deem advisable and pursue available legal or equitable remedies for breach.

Article XIII

Independent Contractor

Section 13.01. Independent Contractor. (a) The status of the Contractor under this Agreement shall be that of an independent contractor and not that of an agent, and in accordance with such status, the Contractor, the Subcontractors, and their respective officers, agents, employees, representatives and servants, including the Project Director, shall at all times during the term of this Agreement conduct themselves in a manner consistent with such status and by reason of this Agreement shall neither hold themselves out as, nor claim to be acting in the capacity of, officers, employees, agents, representatives or servants of NYSERDA nor make any claim, demand or application for any right or privilege applicable to NYSERDA, including, without limitation, vicarious liability, professional liability coverage or indemnification, rights or privileges derived from workers' compensation coverage, unemployment insurance benefits, social security coverage and retirement membership or credit. It is understood and agreed that the personnel furnished by Contractor to perform the Work shall be Contractor's employee(s) or agent(s), and under no circumstances are such employee(s) to be considered NYSERDA's employee(s) or agent(s), and shall remain the employees of Contractor, except to the extent required by section 414(n) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(b) Contractor expressly acknowledges NYSERDA's need to be advised, on an immediate basis, of the existence of any claim or event that might result in a claim or claims against NYSERDA, Contractor and/or Contractor's personnel by virtue of any act or omission on the part of NYSERDA or its employees. Accordingly, Contractor expressly covenants and agrees to notify NYSERDA of any such claim or event, including but not limited to, requests for accommodation and allegations of harassment and/or discrimination, immediately upon contractor's discovery of the same, and to fully and honestly cooperate with NYSERDA in its efforts to investigate and/or address such claims or events, including but not limited to, complying with any reasonable request by NYSERDA for disclosure of information concerning such claim or event even in the event that this Agreement should terminate for any reason.

Article XIV

Compliance with Certain Laws

Section 14.01. Laws of the State of New York. The Contractor shall comply with all of the requirements set forth in Exhibit C hereto.

Section 14.02. All Legal Provisions Deemed Included. It is the intent and understanding of the Contractor and NYSERDA that each and every provision of law required by the laws of the State of New York to be contained in this Agreement shall be contained herein, and if, through mistake, oversight or otherwise, any such provision is not contained herein, or is not contained herein in correct form, this Agreement shall, upon the application of either NYSERDA or the Contractor, promptly be amended so as to comply strictly with the laws of the State of New York with respect to the inclusion in this Agreement of all such provisions.

Section 14.03. Other Legal Requirements. The references to particular laws of the State of New York in this Article, in Exhibit C and elsewhere in this Agreement are not intended to be exclusive and nothing contained in such Article, Exhibit and Agreement shall be deemed to modify the obligations of the Contractor to comply with all legal requirements.

Article XV

Notices, Entire Agreement, Amendment, Counterparts

Section 15.01. Notices.

(a) All notices, requests, consents, approvals and other communications which may or are required to be given by either party to the other under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be transmitted either:

- (i) via certified or registered United States mail, return receipt requested;
- (ii) by facsimile transmission;
- (iii) by personal delivery;
- (iv) by expedited delivery service; or
- (v) by e-mail, return receipt requested.

Such notices shall be addressed as follows, or to such different addresses as the parties may from time-to-time designate as set forth in paragraph (c) below:

NYSERDA

Name: Cheryl M. Glanton

Title: Director of Contract Management

Address: 17 Columbia Circle, Albany, New York 12203

Facsimile Number: (518) 862-1091

E-Mail Address: cheryl.glanton@nyserda.ny.gov

Personal Delivery: Reception desk at the above address

[Contractor Name]

Name:

Title:

Address:

Facsimile Number:

E-Mail Address:

(b) Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given either at the time of personal delivery or, in the case of expedited delivery service or certified or registered United States mail, as of the date of first attempted delivery at the address and in the manner provided herein, or in the case of facsimile transmission or email, upon receipt.

(c) The parties may, from time to time, specify any new or different address in the United States as their address for purpose of receiving notice under this Agreement by giving fifteen (15) days written notice to the other party sent in accordance herewith. The parties agree to mutually designate individuals as their respective representatives for the purposes of receiving notices under this Agreement. Additional individuals may be designated in writing by the parties for purposes of implementation and administration/billing, resolving issues and problems and/or for dispute resolution.

Section 15.02. Entire Agreement; Amendment. This Agreement embodies the entire agreement and understanding between NYSERDA and the Contractor and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings relating to the subject matter hereof. Except as otherwise expressly provided for herein, this Agreement may be changed, waived, discharged or terminated only by an instrument in writing, signed by the party against which enforcement of such change, waiver, discharge or termination is sought.

Section 15.03. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

Article XVI

Publicity

Section 16.01. Publicity.

(a) The Contractor shall collaborate with NYSERDA's Director of Communications to prepare any press release and to plan for any news conference concerning the Work. In addition the Contractor shall notify NYSERDA's Director of Communications regarding any media interview in which the Work is referred to or discussed.

(b) It is recognized that during the course of the Work under this Agreement, the Contractor or its employees may from time to time desire to publish information regarding scientific or technical developments made or conceived in the course of or under this Agreement. In any such information, the Contractor shall credit NYSERDA's funding participation in the Project, and shall state that "NYSERDA has not reviewed the information contained herein, and the opinions expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect those of NYSERDA or the State of New York." Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Contractor shall have the right to use and freely disseminate project results for educational purposes, if applicable, consistent with the Contractor's policies.

(c) Commercial promotional materials or advertisements produced by the Contractor shall credit NYSERDA, as stated above, and shall be submitted to NYSERDA for review and recommendations to improve their effectiveness prior to use. The wording of such credit can be approved in advance by NYSERDA, and, after initial approval, such credit may be used in subsequent promotional materials or advertisements without additional approvals for the credit, provided, however, that all such promotional materials or advertisements shall be submitted to NYSERDA prior to use for review, as stated above. Such approvals shall not be unreasonably withheld, and, in the event that notice of approval or disapproval is not received by the Contractor within thirty days after receipt of request for approval, the promotional materials or advertisement shall be considered approved. In the event that NYSERDA requires additional time for considering approval, NYSERDA shall notify the Contractor within thirty days of receipt of the request for approval that additional time is required and shall specify the additional amount of time necessary up to 180 days. If NYSERDA and the Contractor do not agree on the wording of such credit in connection with such materials, the Contractor may use such materials, but agrees not to include such credit.

EXHIBIT C

REVISED 5/12

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR ALL NYSERDA AGREEMENTS

(Based on Standard Clauses for New York State Contracts and Tax Law Section 5-a)

The parties to the Agreement agree to be bound by the following clauses which are hereby made a part of the Agreement:

1. NON-DISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS. To the extent required by Article 15 of the Executive Law (also known as the Human Rights Law) and all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, disability, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or marital status. Furthermore, in accordance with Section 220-e of the Labor Law, if this is an Agreement for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work or for the manufacture, sale or distribution of materials, equipment or supplies, and to the extent that this Agreement shall be performed within the State of New York, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall, by reason of race, creed, color, disability, sex or national origin: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this Agreement. If this is a building service Agreement as defined in Section 230 of the Labor Law, then, in accordance with Section 239 thereof, Contractor agrees that neither it nor its subcontractors shall, by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or disability: (a) discriminate in hiring against any New York State citizen who is qualified and available to perform the work; or (b) discriminate against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract. Contractor is subject to fines of \$50.00 per person per day for any violation of Section 220-e or Section 239 as well as possible termination of this Agreement and forfeiture of all moneys due hereunder for a second subsequent violation.

2. WAGE AND HOURS PROVISIONS. If this is a public work Agreement covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law or a building service Agreement covered by Article 9 thereof, neither Contractor's employees nor the employees of its subcontractors may be required or permitted to work more than the number of hours or days stated in said statutes, except as otherwise provided in the Labor Law and as set forth in prevailing wage and supplement schedules issued by the State Labor Department. Furthermore, Contractor and its subcontractors must pay at least the prevailing wage rate and pay or provide the prevailing supplements, including the premium rates for overtime pay, as determined by the State Labor Department in accordance with the Labor Law. Additionally, effective April 28, 2008, if this is a public work contract covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law, the Contractor understands and agrees that the filing of payrolls in a

manner consistent with Subdivision 3-a of Section 220 of the Labor Law shall be a condition precedent to payment by NYSERDA of any NYSERDA-approved sums due and owing for work done upon the project.

3. NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENT. In accordance with Section 2878 of the Public Authorities Law, if this Agreement was awarded based upon the submission of bids, Contractor warrants, under penalty of perjury, that its bid was arrived at independently and without collusion aimed at restricting competition. Contractor further warrants that, at the time Contractor submitted its bid, an authorized and responsible person executed and delivered to NYSERDA a non-collusive bidding certification on Contractor's behalf.

4. INTERNATIONAL BOYCOTT PROHIBITION. If this Agreement exceeds \$5,000, the Contractor agrees, as a material condition of the Agreement, that neither the Contractor nor any substantially owned or affiliated person, firm, partnership or corporation has participated, is participating, or shall participate in an international boycott in violation of the Federal Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 USC App. Sections 2401 et seq.) or regulations thereunder. If such Contractor, or any of the aforesaid affiliates of Contractor, is convicted or is otherwise found to have violated said laws or regulations upon the final determination of the United States Commerce Department or any other appropriate agency of the United States subsequent to the Agreement's execution, such Agreement, amendment or modification thereto shall be rendered forfeit and void. The Contractor shall so notify NYSERDA within five (5) business days of such conviction, determination or disposition of appeal. (See and compare Section 220-f of the Labor Law, Section 139-h of the State Finance Law, and 2 NYCRR 105.4).

5. SET-OFF RIGHTS. NYSERDA shall have all of its common law and statutory rights of set-off. These rights shall include, but not be limited to, NYSERDA's option to withhold for the purposes of set-off any moneys due to the Contractor under this Agreement up to any amounts due and owing to NYSERDA with regard to this Agreement, any other Agreement, including any Agreement for a term commencing prior to the term of this Agreement, plus any amounts due and owing to NYSERDA for any other reason including, without limitation, tax delinquencies, fee delinquencies or monetary penalties relative thereto.

6. PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in the Agreement, Contractor and NYSERDA acknowledge and agree that all information, in any format, submitted to NYSERDA shall be subject to and treated in accordance with the NYS Freedom of Information Law ("FOIL," Public Officers Law, Article 6). Pursuant to FOIL, NYSERDA is required to make available to the public, upon request, records or portions thereof which it possesses, unless that information is statutorily exempt from disclosure. Therefore, unless the Agreement specifically requires otherwise, Contractor should submit information to NYSERDA in a non-confidential, non-proprietary format. FOIL does provide that NYSERDA may deny access to records or portions thereof that "are trade secrets or are submitted to an agency by a commercial

enterprise or derived from information obtained from a commercial enterprise and which if disclosed would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the subject enterprise.” [See Public Officers Law, § 87(2)(d)]. Accordingly, if the Agreement specifically requires submission of information in a format Contractor considers a proprietary and/or confidential trade secret, Contractor shall fully identify and plainly label the information “confidential” or “proprietary” at the time of disclosure. By so marking such information, Contractor represents that the information has actual or potential specific commercial or competitive value to the competitors of Contractor. Without limitation, information will not be considered confidential or proprietary if it is or has been (i) generally known or available from other sources without obligation concerning its confidentiality; (ii) made available by the owner to others without obligation concerning its confidentiality; or (iii) already available to NYSERDA without obligation concerning its confidentiality. In the event of a FOIL request, it is NYSERDA’s policy to consider records as marked above pursuant to the trade secret exemption procedure set forth in 21 New York Codes Rules & Regulations § 501.6 and any other applicable law or regulation. However, NYSERDA cannot guarantee the confidentiality of any information submitted. More information on FOIL, and the relevant statutory law and regulations, can be found at the website for the Committee on Open Government (<http://www.dos.state.ny.us/coog/foil2.html>) and NYSERDA’s Regulations, Part 501 (<http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/en/About/~media/Files/About/Contact/NYSERDARegulations.ashx>).

7. **IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND PRIVACY NOTIFICATION.** (a) **FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER and/or FEDERAL SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.** As a condition to NYSERDA’s obligation to pay any invoices submitted by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement, Contractor shall provide to NYSERDA its Federal employer identification number or Federal social security number, or both such numbers when the Contractor has both such numbers. Where the Contractor does not have such number or numbers, the Contractor must give the reason or reasons why the payee does not have such number or numbers.

(b) **PRIVACY NOTIFICATION.** The authority to request the above personal information from a seller of goods or services or a lessor of real or personal property, and the authority to maintain such information, is found in Section 5 of the State Tax Law. Disclosure of this information by Contractor to the State is mandatory. The principal purpose for which the information is collected is to enable the State to identify individuals, businesses and others who have been delinquent in filing tax returns or may have understated their tax liabilities and to generally identify persons affected by the taxes administered by the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance. The information will be used for tax administration purposes and for any other purpose authorized by law.

8. **CONFLICTING TERMS.** In the event of a conflict between the terms of the Agreement (including any and all attachments thereto and amendments thereof) and the terms of this Exhibit C, the terms of this Exhibit C shall control.

9. GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York except where the Federal supremacy clause requires otherwise.

10. NO ARBITRATION. Disputes involving this Agreement, including the breach or alleged breach thereof, may not be submitted to binding arbitration (except where statutorily required) without the NYSERDA's written consent, but must, instead, be heard in a court of competent jurisdiction of the State of New York.

11. SERVICE OF PROCESS. In addition to the methods of service allowed by the State Civil Practice Law and Rules ("CPLR"), Contractor hereby consents to service of process upon it by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. Service hereunder shall be complete upon Contractor's actual receipt of process or upon NYSERDA's receipt of the return thereof by the United States Postal Service as refused or undeliverable. Contractor must promptly notify NYSERDA, in writing, of each and every change of address to which service of process can be made. Service by NYSERDA to the last known address shall be sufficient. Contractor will have thirty (30) calendar days after service hereunder is complete in which to respond.

12. CRIMINAL ACTIVITY. If subsequent to the effectiveness of this Agreement, NYSERDA comes to know of any allegation previously unknown to it that the Contractor or any of its principals is under indictment for a felony, or has been, within five (5) years prior to submission of the Contractor's proposal to NYSERDA, convicted of a felony, under the laws of the United States or Territory of the United States, then NYSERDA may exercise its stop work right under this Agreement. If subsequent to the effectiveness of this Agreement, NYSERDA comes to know of the fact, previously unknown to it, that Contractor or any of its principals is under such indictment or has been so convicted, then NYSERDA may exercise its right to terminate this Agreement. If the Contractor knowingly withheld information about such an indictment or conviction, NYSERDA may declare the Agreement null and void and may seek legal remedies against the Contractor and its principals. The Contractor or its principals may also be subject to penalties for any violation of law which may apply in the particular circumstances. For a Contractor which is an association, partnership, corporation, or other organization, the provisions of this paragraph apply to any such indictment or conviction of the organization itself or any of its officers, partners, or directors or members of any similar governing body, as applicable.

13. PERMITS. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to acquire and maintain, at its own cost, any and all permits, licenses, easements, waivers and permissions of every nature necessary to perform the work.

14. PROHIBITION ON PURCHASE OF TROPICAL HARDWOODS. The Contractor certifies and warrants that all wood products to be used under this Agreement will be in accordance with, but not limited to, the specifications and provisions of State Finance Law Section 165 (Use of Tropical Hardwoods), which prohibits purchase and use of tropical hardwoods, unless specifically exempted by NYSERDA.

15. OMNIBUS PROCUREMENT ACT OF 1992. It is the policy of New York State to maximize opportunities for the participation of New York State business enterprises, including minority and women-owned business enterprises as bidders, subcontractors and suppliers on its procurement contracts.

Information on the availability of New York State subcontractors and suppliers is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development
Division for Small Business
30 South Pearl St -- 7th Floor
Albany, New York 12245
Telephone: 518-292-5220
Fax: 518-292-5884
<http://www.esd.ny.gov>

A directory of certified minority and women-owned business enterprises is available from:

NYS Department of Economic Development
Division of Minority and Women's Business Development
30 South Pearl St -- 2nd Floor
Albany, New York 12245
Telephone: 518-292-5250
Fax: 518-292-5803
<http://www.empire.state.ny.us>

The Omnibus Procurement Act of 1992 requires that by signing this Agreement, Contractors certify that whenever the total amount is greater than \$1 million:

(a) The Contractor has made reasonable efforts to encourage the participation of New York State Business Enterprises as suppliers and subcontractors, including certified minority and women-owned business enterprises, on this project, and has retained the documentation of these efforts to be provided upon request to the State;

(b) The Contractor has complied with the Federal Equal Opportunity Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-261), as amended;

(c) The Contractor agrees to make reasonable efforts to provide notification to New York State residents of employment opportunities on this project through listing any such positions with the Job Service Division of the New York State Department of Labor, or providing such notification in such manner as is consistent with existing collective bargaining contracts or agreements. The Contractor agrees to document these efforts and to provide said documentation to the State upon request; and

(d) The Contractor acknowledges notice that the State may seek to obtain offset credits from foreign countries as a result of this contract and agrees to cooperate with the State in these efforts.

16. RECIPROCITY AND SANCTIONS PROVISIONS. Bidders are hereby notified that if their principal place of business is located in a country, nation, province, state or political subdivision that penalizes New York State vendors, and if the goods or services they offer will be substantially produced or performed outside New York State, the Omnibus Procurement Act 1994 and 2000 amendments (Chapter 684 and Chapter 383, respectively) require that they be denied contracts which they would otherwise obtain. NOTE: As of May 15, 2002, the list of discriminatory jurisdictions subject to this provision includes the states of South Carolina, Alaska, West Virginia, Wyoming, Louisiana and Hawaii. Contact NYS Department of Economic Development for a current list of jurisdictions subject to this provision.

17. COMPLIANCE WITH NEW YORK STATE INFORMATION SECURITY BREACH AND NOTIFICATION ACT. Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the New York State Information Security Breach and Notification Act (General Business Law Section 899-aa; State Technology Law Section 208).

18. PROCUREMENT LOBBYING. To the extent this Agreement is a “procurement contract” as defined by State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k, by signing this Agreement the Contractor certifies and affirms that all disclosures made in accordance with State Finance Law Sections 139-j and 139-k are complete, true and accurate. In the event such certification is found to be intentionally false or intentionally incomplete, NYSERDA may terminate the agreement by providing written notification to the Contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

19. COMPLIANCE WITH TAX LAW SECTION 5-a. The following provisions apply to Contractors that have entered into agreements in an amount exceeding \$100,000 for the purchase of goods and services:

- a) Before such agreement can take effect, the Contractor must have on file with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance a Contractor Certification form (ST-220-TD).
- b) Prior to entering into such an agreement, the Contractor is required to provide NYSERDA with a completed Contractor Certification to Covered Agency form (Form ST-220-CA).
- c) Prior to any renewal period (if applicable) under the agreement, the Contractor is required to provide NYSERDA with a completed Form ST-220-CA.

Certifications referenced in paragraphs (b) and (c) above will be maintained by NYSERDA and made a part hereof and incorporated herein by reference.

NYSERDA reserves the right to terminate this agreement in the event it is found that the certification filed by the Contractor in accordance with Tax Law Section 5-a was false when made.

20. IRANIAN ENERGY SECTOR DIVESTMENT. In accordance with Section 2879-c of the Public Authorities Law, by signing this contract, each person and each person signing on behalf of any other party certifies, and in the case of a joint bid or partnership each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that each person is not on the list created pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision 3 of [section 165-a of the State Finance Law](#) (See www.ogs.ny.gov/about/regs/ida.asp).

EXHIBIT D

NYSERDA PROMPT PAYMENT POLICY STATEMENT

504.1. Purpose and Applicability. (a) The purpose of this Exhibit is to provide a description of Part 504 of NYSERDA's regulations, which consists of NYSERDA's policy for making payment promptly on amounts properly due and owing by NYSERDA under this Agreement. The section numbers used in this document correspond to the section numbers appearing in Part 504 of the regulations.²

(b) This Exhibit applies generally to payments due and owing by the NYSERDA to the Contractor pursuant to this Agreement. However, this Exhibit does not apply to Payments due and owing when NYSERDA is exercising a Set-Off against all or part of the Payment, or if a State or Federal law, rule or regulation specifically requires otherwise.

504.2. Definitions. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this Exhibit shall have the same meaning as set forth earlier in this Agreement. In addition to said terms, the following terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context shall indicate another or different meaning or intent:

(a) "Date of Payment" means the date on which NYSERDA requisitions a check from its statutory fiscal agent, the Department of Taxation and Finance, to make a Payment.

(b) "Designated Payment Office" means the Office of NYSERDA's Controller, located at 17 Columbia Circle, Albany, New York 12203.

(c) "Payment" means payment properly due and owing to Contractor pursuant to Article IV, Exhibit B of this Agreement.

(d) "Prompt Payment" means a Payment within the time periods applicable pursuant to Sections 504.3 through 504.5 of this Exhibit in order for NYSERDA not to be liable for interest pursuant to Section 504.6.

(e) "Payment Due Date" means the date by which the Date of Payment must occur, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 504.3 through 504.5 of this Exhibit, in order for NYSERDA not to be liable for interest pursuant to Section 504.6.

(f) "Proper Invoice" means a written request for Payment that is submitted by a Contractor setting forth the description, price or cost, and quantity of goods, property or services delivered or rendered, in such form, and supported by such other substantiating documentation, as NYSERDA may reasonably require, including but not limited to any requirements set forth in Exhibits A or B to this Agreement; and addressed to

² This is only a summary; the full text of Part 504 can be accessed at:
<http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/en/About/~media/Files/About/Contact/NYSERDARegulations.ashx>

NYSERDA's Controller, marked "Attention: Accounts Payable," at the Designated Payment Office.

(g)(1) "Receipt of an Invoice" means:

(i) if the Payment is one for which an invoice is required, the later of:

(a) the date on which a Proper Invoice is actually received in the Designated Payment Office during normal business hours; or

(b) the date by which, during normal business hours, NYSERDA has actually received all the purchased goods, property or services covered by a Proper Invoice previously received in the Designated Payment Office.

(ii) if the Agreement provides that a Payment will be made on a specific date or at a predetermined interval, without having to submit a written invoice the 30th calendar day, excluding legal holidays, before the date so specified or predetermined.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, if the Agreement requires a multifaceted, completed or working system, or delivery of no less than a specified quantity of goods, property or services and only a portion of such systems or less than the required goods, property or services are working, completed or delivered, even though the Contractor has invoiced NYSERDA for the portion working, completed or delivered, NYSERDA will not be in Receipt of an Invoice until the specified minimum amount of the systems, goods, property or services are working, completed or delivered.

(h) "Set-off" means the reduction by NYSERDA of a payment due a Contractor by an amount equal to the amount of an unpaid legally enforceable debt owed by the Contractor to NYSERDA.

504.3. Prompt Payment Schedule. Except as otherwise provided by law or regulation or in Sections 504.4 and 504.5 of this Exhibit, the Date of Payment by NYSERDA of an amount properly due and owing under this Agreement shall be no later than thirty (30) calendar days, excluding legal holidays, after Receipt of a Proper Invoice.

504.4. Payment Procedures.

(a) Unless otherwise specified in this Agreement, a Proper Invoice submitted by the Contractor to the Designated Payment Office shall be required to initiate payment for goods, property or services. As soon as any invoice is received in the Designated Payment Office during normal business hours, such invoice shall be date-stamped. The invoice shall then promptly be reviewed by NYSERDA.

(b) NYSERDA shall notify the Contractor within fifteen (15) calendar days after

Receipt of an Invoice of:

- (1) any defects in the delivered goods, property or services;
- (2) any defects in the invoice; or
- (3) suspected improprieties of any kind.

(c) The existence of any defects or suspected improprieties shall prevent the commencement of the time period specified in Section 504.3 until any such defects or improprieties are corrected or otherwise resolved.

(d) If NYSERDA fails to notify a Contractor of a defect or impropriety within the fifteen (15) calendar day period specified in subdivision (b) of this section, the sole effect shall be that the number of days allowed for Payment shall be reduced by the number of days between the 15th day and the day that notification was transmitted to the Contractor. If NYSERDA fails to provide reasonable grounds for its contention that a defect or impropriety exists, the sole effect shall be that the Payment Due Date shall be calculated using the original date of Receipt of an Invoice.

(e) In the absence of any defect or suspected impropriety, or upon satisfactory correction or resolution of a defect or suspected impropriety, NYSERDA shall make Payment, consistent with any such correction or resolution and the provisions of this Exhibit.

504.5. Exceptions and Extension of Payment Due Date. NYSERDA has determined that, notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 504.3 and 504.4 of this Exhibit, any of the following facts or circumstances, which may occur concurrently or consecutively, reasonably justify extension of the Payment Due Date:

(a) If this Agreement provides Payment will be made on a specific date or at a predetermined interval, without having to submit a written invoice, if any documentation, supporting data, performance verification, or notice specifically required by this Agreement or other State or Federal mandate has not been submitted to NYSERDA on a timely basis, then the Payment Due Date shall be extended by the number of calendar days from the date by which all such matter was to be submitted to NYSERDA and the date when NYSERDA has actually received such matter.

(b) If an inspection or testing period, performance verification, audit or other review or documentation independent of the Contractor is specifically required by this Agreement or by other State or Federal mandate, whether to be performed by or on behalf of NYSERDA or another entity, or is specifically permitted by this Agreement or by other State or Federal provision and NYSERDA or other entity with the right to do so elects to have such activity or documentation undertaken, then the Payment Due Date shall be extended by the number of calendar days from the date of Receipt of an Invoice to the date when any such activity or documentation has been completed, NYSERDA

has actually received the results of such activity or documentation conducted by another entity, and any deficiencies identified or issues raised as a result of such activity or documentation have been corrected or otherwise resolved.

(c) If an invoice must be examined by a State or Federal agency, or by another party contributing to the funding of the Contract, prior to Payment, then the Payment Due Date shall be extended by the number of calendar days from the date of Receipt of an Invoice to the date when the State or Federal agency, or other contributing party to the Contract, has completed the inspection, advised NYSERDA of the results of the inspection, and any deficiencies identified or issues raised as a result of such inspection have been corrected or otherwise resolved.

(d) If appropriated funds from which Payment is to be made have not yet been appropriated or, if appropriated, not yet been made available to NYSERDA, then the Payment Due Date shall be extended by the number of calendar days from the date of Receipt of an Invoice to the date when such funds are made available to NYSERDA.

504.6. Interest Eligibility and Computation. If NYSERDA fails to make Prompt Payment, NYSERDA shall pay interest to the Contractor on the Payment when such interest computed as provided herein is equal to or more than ten dollars (\$10.00). Interest shall be computed and accrue at the daily rate in effect on the Date of Payment, as set by the New York State Tax Commission for corporate taxes pursuant to Section 1096(e)(1) of the Tax Law. Interest on such a Payment shall be computed for the period beginning on the day after the Payment Due Date and ending on the Date of Payment.

504.7. Sources of Funds to Pay Interest. Any interest payable by NYSERDA pursuant to Exhibit shall be paid only from the same accounts, funds, or appropriations that are lawfully available to make the related Payment.

504.8. Incorporation of Prompt Payment Policy Statement into Contracts. The provisions of this Exhibit shall apply to all Payments as they become due and owing pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, notwithstanding that NYSERDA may subsequently amend its Prompt Payment Policy by further rulemaking.

504.9. Notice of Objection. Contractor may object to any action taken by NYSERDA pursuant to this Exhibit that prevents the commencement of the time in which interest will be paid by submitting a written notice of objection to NYSERDA. Such notice shall be signed and dated and concisely and clearly set forth the basis for the objection and be addressed to the Vice President, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, at the notice address set forth in Exhibit B to this Agreement. The Vice President of NYSERDA, or his or her designee, shall review the objection for purposes of affirming or modifying NYSERDA's action. Within fifteen (15) working days of the receipt of the objection, the Vice President, or his or her designee, shall notify the Contractor either that NYSERDA's action is affirmed or that it is modified or that, due to the complexity of the issue, additional time is needed to conduct the review; provided, however, in no event shall the extended review period

exceed thirty (30) working days.

504.10. Judicial Review. Any determination made by NYSERDA pursuant to this Exhibit that prevents the commencement of the time in which interest will be paid is subject to judicial review in a proceeding pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules. Such proceedings shall only be commenced upon completion of the review procedure specified in Section 504.9 of this Exhibit or any other review procedure that may be specified in this Agreement or by other law, rule, or regulation.

504.11. Court Action or Other Legal Processes.

(a) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the liability of NYSERDA to make an interest payment to a Contractor pursuant to this Exhibit shall not extend beyond the date of a notice of intention to file a claim, the date of a notice of a claim, or the date commencing a legal action for the payment of such interest, whichever occurs first.

(b) With respect to the court action or other legal processes referred to in subdivision (a) of this section, any interest obligation incurred by NYSERDA after the date specified therein pursuant to any provision of law other than Public Authorities Law Section 2880 shall be determined as prescribed by such separate provision of law, shall be paid as directed by the court, and shall be paid from any source of funds available for that purpose.

Exhibit E
NYSERDA Report Format and Style Guide

Exhibit F

Article 15-A (MWBE) Provisions for Solicitation Documents (non-construction)

New York State Law

Pursuant to New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, NYSERDA recognizes its obligation under the law to promote opportunities for maximum feasible participation of certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises and the employment of minority group members and women in the performance of NYSERDA contracts.

In 2006, the State of New York commissioned a disparity study to evaluate whether minority and women-owned business enterprises had a full and fair opportunity to participate in state contracting. The findings of the study were published on April 29, 2010, under the title "The State of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises: Evidence from New York" ("Disparity Study"). The report found evidence of statistically significant disparities between the level of participation of minority- and women-owned business enterprises in state procurement contracting versus the number of minority- and women-owned business enterprises that were ready, willing and able to participate in state procurements. As a result of these findings, the Disparity Study made recommendations concerning the implementation and operation of the statewide certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises program. The recommendations from the Disparity Study culminated in the enactment and the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, which requires, among other things, that NYSERDA establishes goals for maximum feasible participation of New York State Certified minority- and women – owned business enterprises ("MWBE") and the employment of minority groups members and women in the performance of New York State contracts.

Article 15-A EEO Policy

- (1) Contractors and subcontractors shall undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed (religion), color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status, or domestic violence victim status. For these purposes, affirmative action shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgradings, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation. This requirement does not apply to: (i) work, goods, or services unrelated to the Contract; or (ii) employment outside New York State.
- (2) Following the award of a State contract and as a precondition to entering into that contract, a winning proposer shall submit an equal employment opportunity ("EEO") policy statement to NYSERDA within seventy-two (72) hours following such proposer's receipt of NYSERDA's award letter. A proposer's failure to timely submit the EEO policy statement could result in NYSERDA's rejection of that proposer's proposal.
- (3) The proposer's EEO policy statement shall contain, but not necessarily be limited to, and the proposer, as a precondition to entering into a valid and binding State contract, shall, during the performance of the State contract, agree to the following:
 - (i) The proposer will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, and will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative

action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on State contracts.

- (ii) The proposer shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.
 - (iii) At the request of NYSERDA, the proposer shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the proposer's obligations.
 - (iv) Pursuant to Article 15 of the Executive Law (the "Human Rights Law"), all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor and sub-contractors will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.
- (4) Within ten (10) business days following a winning proposer's receipt of NYSERDA's award letter, such proposer shall submit to NYSERDA a staffing plan of the anticipated work force to be utilized on the State contract. The form of the staffing plan shall be supplied by NYSERDA. In the case where the workforce to be utilized in the performance of this Agreement cannot be separated out from the Contractor's and/or its subcontractor workforce, the Contractor shall submit, in lieu of a staffing plan, information on the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce. The staffing plan or workforce information shall be broken down by ethnic background, gender and Federal occupational categories, or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA. A proposer's failure to submit the staffing plan or workforce data could result in NYSERDA's rejection of that proposer's proposal. If a proposer changes its utilization plan after submission, it shall notify NYSERDA in writing of such change and obtain approval from NYSERDA in accordance with the Regulations §§ 142.6 & 142.8.
- (5) A proposer's failure to submit an EEO policy statement and staffing plan or total work force data shall result in NYSERDA's rejection of proposer's proposal, unless the proposer provides NYSERDA with a reasonable justification in writing for such failure (e.g., the failure to submit a staffing plan where proposer has a work force of 10 employees or less), or makes a commitment to submit an EEO policy statement and a staffing plan or total work force data by a date to be specified by NYSERDA.
- (6) To demonstrate compliance with the stated participation goals as set forth herein, a contractor shall be required to periodically submit compliance reports to NYSERDA, on the forms attached to the contract, during the entire term of the contract.

Contract Participation Goals by MWBE on NYSERDA procurements

In accordance with Article 15-A of the N.Y. Executive Law (“Article 15-A”) and pursuant to the regulations adopted thereto, NYSERDA has established certain contract participation goals for minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBE). NYSERDA's participation goals for contracts awarded pursuant to this solicitation are **15%** for minority-owned business enterprises and **15%** for women-owned business enterprises. These participation goals are subject to the requirements of Article 15-A, and its implementing regulations as set forth in Title 5, Chapter XIV, Parts 140-144 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (the “Regulations”).

NYSERDA requires every winning proposer to undertake "good faith" efforts to actively solicit MWBE participation in connection with its potential award of the NYSERDA contract. Within ten (10) business days following the receipt of NYSERDA's award letter, a winning proposer must submit to NYSERDA an MWBE Utilization Plan Form, in a form provided by NYSERDA. Within twenty (20) days following its receipt of the Utilization Plan, NYSERDA will issue a written notice of acceptance or deficiency. If NYSERDA issues a notice of deficiency then proposer must provide NYSERDA with a written remedy in response to said notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of its receipt. If the proposer's remedy to the notice of deficiency is not timely provided or if it is found by NYSERDA to be inadequate, NYSERDA shall so notify proposer and request proposer to submit a waiver form within five (5) business days. Failure to file the written remedy or a waiver form in a timely manner as set forth above may be grounds for disqualification of proposer's award for non-responsibility, after NYSERDA gives proposer notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with Article 15-A § 313(5)(c) and the Regulations § 142.9.

A winning proposer may request a total or partial waiver of the requirements of the participation goals set forth above. In such event, NYSERDA shall provide proposer with a waiver form to be provided by proposer prior to the award of the NYSERDA contract. Prior to granting or denying a waiver, NYSERDA shall evaluate proposer's “good faith efforts” and may consider the factors set forth in the Regulations §143.7. In the event NYSERDA refuses to grant proposer a waiver, proposer may file a complaint with the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (the “Division”) in accordance with Sections 313(8) & (9) of Article 15-A and Section 142.12 of the Regulations.

Relevant sections of the Regulations may be found at the following link, which Regulations and each party's rights and obligations set forth therein, are incorporated herein by this reference (in the event of a conflict between this solicitation and the Regulations, the Regulations shall govern):

http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/Data/122210_MWBE15-ARegs.pdf.

A Directory of certified MWBEs may be found at the Division's website, here:

<http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/directorySearch.html>

Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures

NYSERDA, and applicable proposers and contractors shall be subject to and bound by the disqualification and dispute resolution procedures contained in Article 15-A (including, without

limitation, Sections 312(5), 313(5)(c), 313(8), 313(9) and 316), and in relevant sections of the Regulations (including, without limitation, Sections 142.9, 142.12 and 143.6), as and where applicable.

NYSERDA may disqualify a proposer as being non-responsive under the following circumstances:

- a) If a proposer fails to submit a MWBE Utilization Plan;
- b) If a proposer fails to submit a written remedy to a notice of deficiency;
- c) If a proposer fails to submit a request for waiver; or
- d) If NYSERDA determines that the proposer has failed to document good faith efforts.

Penalties

In accordance with the Regulations §142.13, NYSERDA's contract shall require contractor to agree that its willful and intentional failure to comply with the MWBE requirements of Article 15-A shall create liability to NYSERDA for damages in an amount equal to NYSERDA's actual cost related to its expenses for personnel, supplies and overhead related to establishing, monitoring and reviewing certified minority- and women-owned business enterprise programmatic goals and Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity compliance.

Article 15-A Contract Provisions (non-construction contract)

1. General Provisions.

(a) NYSERDA is required to implement the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR Parts 140-144 (“Regulations”) for all State contracts as defined therein, with a value (1) in excess of \$25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of \$100,000 for real property renovations and construction.

(b) The Contractor to the subject contract (the “Contractor” and the “Contract,” respectively) agrees, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the Contract and at no additional cost to NYSERDA, to fully comply and cooperate with NYSERDA in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women (“EEO”) and contracting opportunities for certified minority and women-owned business enterprises (“MWBEs”). Contractor’s demonstration of “good faith efforts” pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the “Human Rights Law”) or other applicable federal, state, or local laws.

(c) Failure to comply with all of the requirements herein may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of contract, leading to the withholding of funds or such other actions, liquidated damages pursuant to Section 9 of these provisions or enforcement proceedings as allowed by the Contract.

(d) The Contractor further agrees to fully cooperate with NYSERDA in the implementation of such additional reporting requirements as may be required by the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development during the duration of this Agreement.

2. Equal Employment Opportunities.

(a) The Contractor shall submit an EEO policy statement to NYSERDA within seventy two (72) hours after the date of the notice by NYSERDA to award the Contract to the Contractor. If Contractor or Subcontractor does not have an existing EEO policy statement, Contractor or Subcontractor may adopt the model statement provided as **Attachment 1 – Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises And Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement**. Contractor hereby agrees that this policy shall remain in full force and effect during the performance of this Agreement.

(b) During the performance of this Agreement, Contractor agrees to the following:

(i) Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document Contractor’s conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on this Agreement. For these purposes, affirmative action shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.

(ii) At the request of NYSERDA, Contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status; and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the contractor's obligations herein.

(iii) Contractor shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.

(iv) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status, or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

(c) Contractor shall include, in all subcontracts related to its performance of its obligations in this Agreement, the requirements set forth in Section 2(b) above, in such a manner that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with this Agreement.

(d) The provisions of this Section shall not be binding upon Contractors or its subcontractors in the performance of work or the provision of services or any other activity that are unrelated, separate, or distinct from this Agreement, as expressed by its terms.

(e) The requirements of this Section shall not apply to any employment outside New York State or application for employment outside New York State or solicitations or advertisements therefor, or any existing programs of affirmative action regarding employment outside New York State.

3. Contract Goals. For purposes of this procurement, NYSERDA hereby establishes the following goals for MWBE participation: 15% for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises ("MBE") participation and 15% for Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("WBE") participation.

4. Participation Goals. The Contractor represents that it has reviewed and familiarized itself with the regulations related to Article 15-A found at 5 NYCRR Parts 140-144 (see http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/Data/122210_MWBE15-ARegs.pdf), which regulations (the "Regulations") are hereby incorporated herein by this reference. Any conflicts between this Agreement and the Regulations shall be resolved in favor of the Regulations. Contractor shall, in accordance with the Regulations, make good faith efforts and, in a manner that can be established in documentary form, solicit active participation by certified MWBE businesses as identified in the applicable state directory maintained by the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (see

<http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/directorySearch.html>). Additionally, Contractor is encouraged to contact the Division of Minority and Woman Business Development ((518) 292-5250; (212) 803-2414; or (716) 846-8200) to discuss additional methods of maximizing participation by MWBEs on the Contract. In furtherance thereof, the Contractor has submitted the following information to NYSERDA, which information sets forth NYSERDA's and Contractor's agreed upon participation goals during the performance of this Agreement:

- (a) A completed MWBE Utilization Plan Form (see **Attachment 2**) and/or a NYSERDA-approved Waiver Form (see **Attachment 6**); and
- (b) A staffing plan of the anticipated workforce to be utilized by the Contractor during this Agreement, or in the case where the workforce to be utilized in the performance of this Agreement cannot be separated out from the Contractor's and/or its subcontractor workforce, information on the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce. The staffing plan or workforce data, as applicable, is broken down by ethnic background, gender and Federal occupational categories, or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA (see **Attachment 3**).

5. Compliance Reporting Requirements. In order to demonstrate compliance with the stated participation and staffing goals as set forth above, Contractor shall be required to submit compliance reports as follows:

- (a) Unless NYSERDA has granted a total waiver or Contractor is a certified MWBE with the Division and is responsible for one hundred percent (100%) of the performance of this Agreement, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA an MWBE Compliance Report on a quarterly basis in the form attached hereto as **Attachment 4**; and
- (b) Where the workforce to be utilized during the performance of this Agreement can be separated out from the Contractor's total workforce, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA on a quarterly basis, in the form attached hereto as **Attachment 5** (Workforce Employment Utilization Report): 1) the total number of employees performing work on the State contract, and 2) the Contractor's and all subcontractor's work force on the State contract broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA; or
- (c) In the circumstances where the workforce cannot be separated out from the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA information related to the Contractor's total workforce data broken down by ethnic background, gender and Federal occupational categories on a semi-annual basis, or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA.

The Contractor's failure to follow the applicable reporting requirements or failure to comply with the stated participation goals in the previous Section set forth above may result in NYSERDA's submission of a complaint to the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (the "Division") in accordance with the Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures set forth herein.

6. Waiver of participation goal requirements. In accordance with the Regulations § 142.7(c), Contractor may submit, at any time prior to its request for final payment, a request to NYSERDA for partial or total waiver of the MWBE participation goals set forth above. Upon Contractor's submission of a waiver form, NYSERDA may grant a partial or total waiver of the requirements of the participation goals established hereunder. Prior to granting or denying a waiver, NYSERDA shall evaluate the Contractor's "good faith efforts" and may consider the factors set forth in the Regulations §142.8. If NYSERDA, upon review of the MWBE Utilization Plan and updated Quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Reports determines that Contractor is failing or refusing to comply with the Contract goals and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, NYSERDA may issue a notice of deficiency to the Contractor. The Contractor must respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of MWBE Contract Goals. In the event NYSERDA refuses to grant Contractor a waiver, Contractor may file a complaint with the Division in accordance with the Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures set forth herein. A waiver form is provided in **Attachment 6**.

7. Article 15-A Compliance Monitoring. NYSERDA is responsible for monitoring Contractor's compliance with the applicable regulations. In that regard, NYSERDA may, at its discretion, notify the Contractor in writing of NYSERDA's intent to inspect relevant records and documents related to Article 15-A compliance. NYSERDA shall analyze and consider such records, documents and other data to determine whether the Contractor has made conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women on the State contract.

8. Article Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures. NYSERDA and Contractor hereby agree to be subject to and bound by the disqualification and dispute resolution procedures contained in Article 15-A of the Executive Law (including, without limitation, Sections 312(5), 313(8), 313(9) and 316), and in relevant sections of the Regulations (including, without limitation, Sections 142.12 and 143.6), as and where applicable.

9. Penalties. In accordance with the Regulations §142.13, Contractor hereby agrees that its willful and intentional failure to comply with the M/WBE requirements of Article 15-A as set forth in this Agreement shall create liability to NYSERDA for damages in an amount equal to NYSERDA's actual cost related to its expenses for personnel, supplies and overhead related to establishing, monitoring and reviewing certified minority- and women-owned business enterprise programmatic goals and Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity compliance.

ATTACHMENT 1

**MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT**

MWBE AND EEO POLICY STATEMENT

I, _____, the (awardee/contractor) _____ agree to adopt the following policies with respect to the project being developed or services rendered at _____

M/WBE

This organization will and will cause its contractors and subcontractors to take good faith actions to achieve the M/WBE contract participations goals set by the State for that area in which the State-funded project is located, by taking the following steps:

- (1) Actively and affirmatively solicit bids for contracts and subcontracts from qualified State certified MBEs or WBEs, including solicitations to M/WBE contractor associations.
- (2) Request a list of State-certified M/WBEs from AGENCY and solicit bids from them directly.
- (3) Ensure that plans, specifications, request for proposals and other documents used to secure bids will be made available in sufficient time for review by prospective M/WBEs.
- (4) Where feasible, divide the work into smaller portions to enhanced participations by M/WBEs and encourage the formation of joint venture and other partnerships among M/WBE contractors to enhance their participation.
- (5) Document and maintain records of bid solicitation, including those to M/WBEs and the results thereof. Contractor will also maintain records of actions that its subcontractors have taken toward meeting M/WBE contract participation goals.
- (6) Ensure that progress payments to M/WBEs are made on a timely basis so that undue financial hardship is avoided, and that bonding and other credit requirements are waived or appropriate alternatives developed to encourage M/WBE participation.

EEO

(a) This organization will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, ; will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination; and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on state contracts.

(b) This organization shall state in all solicitation or advertisements for employees that in the performance of the State contract all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, .

(c) At the request of the contracting agency, this organization shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, ; and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of this organization's obligations herein.

(d) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

(e) This organization will include the provisions of sections (a) through (d) of this agreement in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the State contract

Agreed to this _____ day of _____, 2_____

By _____

Print: _____ Title: _____

ATTACHMENT 2
NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE UTILIZATION PLAN FORM

Contract No. _____ Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____
Address _____
Telephone No. () _____ Federal ID # _____
Contract Award Amount \$ _____
Brief Description of Work _____
Prime Contractor M/WBE Status M/WBE Non-M/WBE

II. I, _____ HEREBY AGREE TO THE ____% MINORITY OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MBE) GOAL AND THE ____% WOMEN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (WBE) GOAL AS SET FOR IN THIS CONTRACT NO.
. I FURTHER SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING NYS CERTIFIED M/WBES FOR YOUR REVIEW AND APPROVAL IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE GOAL REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN THIS CONTRACT.

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

The Contractor shall undertake "good faith" efforts to actively solicit MBE/WBE participation in connection with its potential award of the NYSERDA contract.

III. MBE SUBMISSIONS

For each MBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name, Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

IV. WBE SUBMISSIONS

For each WBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name, Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

V. Provide the name, title, address and telephone of person(s) responsible for implementing this subcontracting plan.

VI. If the Contractor anticipates that it will not be able to meet the contract M/WBE participation levels, a written detailed explanation must be submitted with the bid or proposal.

I hereby declare that the above information is to the best of my ability and intention correct and that every effort will be made in the attainment of the established M/WBE goal.

Name _____ Title _____

ATTACHMENT 3

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINORITY/WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (M/WBE) STAFFING PLAN FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. () _____ Federal ID # _____

Contract Award Amount \$ _____

Brief Description of Work _____

II. I, _____ HEREBY SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING STAFFING PLAN.

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. WORKFORCE DESCRIPTION

Provide a description of the work force to be utilized on the State contract, including the work force of any subcontractors, broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories.

I hereby declare that the above information is to the best of my ability and intention correct.

Name _____ Title _____

ATTACHMENT 4

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE COMPLIANCE REPORT FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. (____) _____ Federal ID# _____

Brief Description of Work

**II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_____) PROGRESS TOWARD
ACHIEVEMENT OF THE NYSERDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT NO., THE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH SUBMITTED.**

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

- i. Provide the names, addresses and telephone numbers of each M/WBE you are actually using in compliance with your M/WBE goal.
- ii. Provide a brief description of work performed by the M/WBE, their scheduled dates for performance and current working status.
- iii. Provide a copy of your written agreement with the M/WBE. (A one-time request.)
- iv. In the event you have let a blanket purchase order or other open-ended contracts, only specify that amount actually awarded.
- v. Provide the actual amounts of payments made to any M/WBES as of the date the work force utilization report is submitted. Documentation must include copies of cancelled checks.
- vi. Provide the name, title and telephone number of person(s) responsible for submitting work force utilization reports.
- vii. Compliance Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter, beginning three months after contract award date.

ATTACHMENT 5

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
WORKFORCE UTILIZATION REPORT FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. (____) _____ Federal ID# _____

Brief Description of Work

**II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_____) PROGRESS TOWARD
ACHIEVEMENT OF THE NYSEDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT NO.
, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH SUBMITTED.**

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

i. If the work force of the contractor and/or subcontractors has changed since the last work force utilization report, provide 1) the total number of employees performing work on the State contract; and 2) the contractor's and all subcontractor's work force on the State contract broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories.

If the contractor's and/or subcontractor's work force has not changed since the last work force utilization report, check here:

ii. Work Force Utilization Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter, beginning three months after contract award date.

IV. ALTERNATIVE SUBMITTAL ITEMS

In the event that the Contractor cannot separate the workforce to be utilized in the performance of the NYSEDA contract from its total workforce, the Contractor shall submit, on a semi-annual basis:

(i) The total workforce of the Contractor described categorically by: specified ethnic background, gender and the Federal occupational data.

- (ii) The Contractor acknowledges that the overall goal of an equal employment opportunity program involves the implementation of procedures and methods for the identification, recruitment and employment of minority group members and women.

ATTACHMENT 6

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINORITY WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWBE) REQUEST FOR WAIVER
FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. () _____

Federal ID # _____

Brief Description of Work:

- II. I, (_____) HEREBY REQUEST A PARTIAL OR TOTAL (Circle One) WAIVER OF MY MBE AND/OR WBE GOALS AS ESTABLISHED IN CONTRACT NO. I AGREED TO ATTAIN ___% MBE PARTICIPATION AND ___% WBE PARTICIPATION OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT PRICE. TO SUBSTANTIATE AND DEMONSTRATE MY GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED FOR THE AUTHORITY'S REVIEW AND APPROVAL.**

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

1. Provide a statement setting forth your basis for requesting a partial or total waiver.
2. Provide all names of general circulation, trade association and M/WBE-oriented publications in which you solicited M/WBEs for the purposes of complying with your participation levels.
3. List all dates solicitations for M/WBE participation were published in any of the above publications.
4. List all M/WBEs appearing in the NYS Directory of certified vendors which were solicited for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.
5. Provide proof of all dates on which solicitations were made in writing and copies of such solicitations, or a sample copy of the solicitations if an identical solicitation was made to all M/WBEs.

6. Provide copies of responses made by M/WBEs to your solicitations.
7. Provide a description of any contract documents, plans or specifications made available to M/WBEs for purposes of soliciting their bids and the date and manner in which these documents were made available.
8. Provide documentation of any negotiations between you, the Contractor, and M/WBEs undertaken for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.
9. Provide any other information you deem relevant which may help us in evaluating your request for a waiver.
10. Provide the name, title, address and telephone number of contractor's representative authorized to discuss and negotiate this waiver request.
11. Have you explored or identified any other area where your company can implement an effective equal employment opportunity program to expand the employment opportunities of minority group members and women? If so, please provide the data supporting such efforts and the results.

Article 15-A (MWBE) Provisions for Solicitation Documents (construction)

New York State Law

Pursuant to New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, NYSERDA recognizes its obligation under the law to promote opportunities for maximum feasible participation of certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises and the employment of minority group members and women in the performance of NYSERDA contracts.

In 2006, the State of New York commissioned a disparity study to evaluate whether minority and women-owned business enterprises had a full and fair opportunity to participate in state contracting. The findings of the study were published on April 29, 2010, under the title "The State of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises: Evidence from New York" ("Disparity Study"). The report found evidence of statistically significant disparities between the level of participation of minority- and women-owned business enterprises in state procurement contracting versus the number of minority- and women-owned business enterprises that were ready, willing and able to participate in state procurements. As a result of these findings, the Disparity Study made recommendations concerning the implementation and operation of the statewide certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises program. The recommendations from the Disparity Study culminated in the enactment and the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, which requires, among other things, that NYSERDA establishes goals for maximum feasible participation of New York State Certified minority- and women – owned business enterprises ("MWBE") and the employment of minority groups members and women in the performance of New York State contracts.

Article 15-A EEO Policy

- (1) Contractors and subcontractors shall undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed (religion), color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status, or domestic violence victim status. For these purposes, affirmative action shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgradings, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation. This requirement does not apply to: (i) work, goods, or services unrelated to the Contract; or (ii) employment outside New York State.
- (2) Following the award of a State contract and as a precondition to entering into that contract, a winning proposer shall submit an equal employment opportunity ("EEO") policy statement to NYSERDA within seventy-two (72) hours following such proposer's receipt of NYSERDA's award letter. A proposer's failure to timely submit the EEO policy statement could result in NYSERDA's rejection of that proposer's proposal.
- (3) The proposer's EEO policy statement shall contain, but not necessarily be limited to, and the proposer, as a precondition to entering into a valid and binding State contract, shall, during the performance of the State contract, agree to the following:
 - (i) The proposer will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, and will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal

employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on State contracts.

- (ii) The proposer shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.
 - (iii) At the request of NYSERDA, the proposer shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the proposer's obligations.
 - (iv) Pursuant to Article 15 of the Executive Law (the "Human Rights Law"), all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor and sub-contractors will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.
- (4) A proposer's failure to submit an EEO policy statement shall result in NYSERDA's rejection of proposer's proposal, unless the proposer provides NYSERDA with a reasonable justification in writing for such failure, or makes a commitment to submit an EEO policy statement by a date to be specified by NYSERDA.
- (5) To demonstrate compliance with the stated participation goals as set forth herein, a contractor shall be required to periodically submit compliance reports to NYSERDA, on the forms attached to the contract, during the entire term of the contract.

Contract Participation Goals by MWBE on NYSERDA procurements

In accordance with Article 15-A of the N.Y. Executive Law ("Article 15-A") and pursuant to the regulations adopted thereto, NYSERDA has established certain contract participation goals for minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBE). NYSERDA's participation goals for contracts awarded pursuant to this solicitation are [REDACTED] % for minority-owned business enterprises and [REDACTED] % for women-owned business enterprises. These participation goals are subject to the requirements of Article 15-A, and its implementing regulations as set forth in Title 5, Chapter XIV, Parts 140-144 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (the "Regulations").

NYSERDA requires every winning proposer to undertake "good faith" efforts to actively solicit MWBE participation in connection with its potential award of the NYSERDA contract. Within ten (10) business days following the receipt of NYSERDA's award letter, a winning proposer must submit to NYSERDA an MWBE Utilization Plan Form, in a form provided by NYSERDA. Within twenty (20) days following its receipt of the Utilization Plan, NYSERDA will issue a

written notice of acceptance or deficiency. If NYSERDA issues a notice of deficiency then proposer must provide NYSERDA with a written remedy in response to said notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of its receipt. If the proposer's remedy to the notice of deficiency is not timely provided or if it is found by NYSERDA to be inadequate, NYSERDA shall so notify proposer and request proposer to submit a waiver form within five (5) business days. Failure to file the written remedy or a waiver form in a timely manner as set forth above may be grounds for disqualification of proposer's award for non-responsibility, after NYSERDA gives proposer notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with Article 15-A § 313(5)(c) and the Regulations § 142.9.

A winning proposer may request a total or partial waiver of the requirements of the participation goals set forth above. In such event, NYSERDA shall provide proposer with a waiver form to be provided by proposer prior to the award of the NYSERDA contract. Prior to granting or denying a waiver, NYSERDA shall evaluate proposer's "good faith efforts" and may consider the factors set forth in the Regulations §143.7. In the event NYSERDA refuses to grant proposer a waiver, proposer may file a complaint with the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (the "Division") in accordance with Sections 313(8) & (9) of Article 15-A and Section 142.12 of the Regulations.

Relevant sections of the Regulations may be found at the following link, which Regulations and each party's rights and obligations set forth therein, are incorporated herein by this reference (in the event of a conflict between this solicitation and the Regulations, the Regulations shall govern):

http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/Data/122210_MWBE15-ARegs.pdf.

A Directory of certified MWBEs may be found at the Division's website, here:

<http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/directorySearch.html>

Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures

NYSERDA, and applicable proposers and contractors shall be subject to and bound by the disqualification and dispute resolution procedures contained in Article 15-A (including, without limitation, Sections 312(5), 313(5)(c), 313(8), 313(9) and 316), and in relevant sections of the Regulations (including, without limitation, Sections 142.9, 142.12 and 143.6), as and where applicable.

NYSERDA may disqualify a proposer as being non-responsive under the following circumstances:

- a) If a proposer fails to submit a MWBE Utilization Plan;
- b) If a proposer fails to submit a written remedy to a notice of deficiency;
- c) If a proposer fails to submit a request for waiver; or
- d) If NYSERDA determines that the proposer has failed to document good faith efforts.

Penalties

In accordance with the Regulations §142.13, NYSERDA's contract shall require contractor to agree that its willful and intentional failure to comply with the MWBE requirements of Article

15-A shall create liability to NYSERDA for damages in an amount equal to NYSERDA's actual cost related to its expenses for personnel, supplies and overhead related to establishing, monitoring and reviewing certified minority- and women-owned business enterprise programmatic goals and Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity compliance.

Article 15-A Contract Provisions (construction contract)

1. General Provisions.

(a) NYSERDA is required to implement the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR Parts 140-144 (“Regulations”) for all State contracts as defined therein, with a value (1) in excess of \$25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of \$100,000 for real property renovations and construction.

(b) The Contractor to the subject contract (the “Contractor” and the “Contract,” respectively) agrees, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the Contract and at no additional cost to NYSERDA, to fully comply and cooperate with NYSERDA in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women (“EEO”) and contracting opportunities for certified minority and women-owned business enterprises (“MWBEs”). Contractor’s demonstration of “good faith efforts” pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the “Human Rights Law”) or other applicable federal, state, or local laws.

(c) Failure to comply with all of the requirements herein may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of contract, leading to the withholding of funds or such other actions, liquidated damages pursuant to Section 9 of these provisions or enforcement proceedings as allowed by the Contract.

(d) The Contractor further agrees to fully cooperate with NYSERDA in the implementation of such additional reporting requirements as may be required by the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development during the duration of this Agreement.

2. Equal Employment Opportunities.

(a) The Contractor shall submit an EEO policy statement to NYSERDA within seventy two (72) hours after the date of the notice by NYSERDA to award the Contract to the Contractor. If Contractor or Subcontractor does not have an existing EEO policy statement, Contractor or Subcontractor may adopt the model statement provided as **Attachment 1 – Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises And Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement**. Contractor hereby agrees that this policy shall remain in full force and effect during the performance of this Agreement.

(b) During the performance of this Agreement, Contractor agrees to the following:

(i) Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document Contractor’s conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on this Agreement. For these purposes, affirmative action shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.

(ii) At the request of NYSERDA, Contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status; and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the contractor's obligations herein.

(iii) Contractor shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.

(iv) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status, or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

(c) Contractor shall include, in all subcontracts related to its performance of its obligations in this Agreement, the requirements set forth in Section 2(b) above, in such a manner that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with this Agreement.

(d) The provisions of this Section shall not be binding upon Contractors or its subcontractors in the performance of work or the provision of services or any other activity that are unrelated, separate, or distinct from this Agreement, as expressed by its terms.

(e) The requirements of this Section shall not apply to any employment outside New York State or application for employment outside New York State or solicitations or advertisements therefor, or any existing programs of affirmative action regarding employment outside New York State.

3. Contract Goals. For purposes of this procurement, NYSERDA hereby establishes the following goals for MWBE participation: % for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises ("MBE") participation and % for Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("WBE") participation.

4. Participation Goals. The Contractor represents that it has reviewed and familiarized itself with the regulations related to Article 15-A found at 5 NYCRR Parts 140-144 (see http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/Data/122210_MWBE15-ARegs.pdf), which regulations (the "Regulations") are hereby incorporated herein by this reference. Any conflicts between this Agreement and the Regulations shall be resolved in favor of the Regulations. Contractor shall, in accordance with the Regulations, make good faith efforts and, in a manner that can be established in documentary form, solicit active participation by certified MWBE businesses as identified in the applicable state directory maintained by the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (see

<http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/directorySearch.html>). Additionally, Contractor is encouraged to contact the Division of Minority and Woman Business Development ((518) 292-5250; (212) 803-2414; or (716) 846-8200) to discuss additional methods of maximizing participation by MWBEs on the Contract. In furtherance thereof, the Contractor has submitted the following information to NYSERDA, which information sets forth NYSERDA's and Contractor's agreed upon participation goals during the performance of this Agreement:

- (a) A completed MWBE Utilization Plan Form (see **Attachment 2**) and/or a NYSERDA-approved Waiver Form (see **Attachment 5**); and

5. Compliance Reporting Requirements. In order to demonstrate compliance with the stated participation and staffing goals as set forth above, Contractor shall be required to submit compliance reports as follows:

- (a) Unless NYSERDA has granted a total waiver or Contractor is a certified MWBE with the Division and is responsible for one hundred percent (100%) of the performance of this Agreement, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA an MWBE Compliance Report on a quarterly basis in the form attached hereto as **Attachment 3**; and
- (b) Where the workforce to be utilized during the performance of this Agreement can be separated out from the Contractor's total workforce, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA on a quarterly basis, in the form attached hereto as **Attachment 4** (Workforce Employment Utilization Report): 1) the total number of employees performing work on the State contract, and 2) the Contractor's and all subcontractor's work force on the State contract broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA; or
- (c) In the circumstances where the workforce cannot be separated out from the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA information related to the Contractor's total workforce data broken down by ethnic background, gender and Federal occupational categories on a semi-annual basis, or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA.

The Contractor's failure to follow the applicable reporting requirements or failure to comply with the stated participation goals in the previous Section set forth above may result in NYSERDA's submission of a complaint to the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (the "Division") in accordance with the Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures set forth herein.

6. Waiver of participation goal requirements. In accordance with the Regulations § 142.7(c), Contractor may submit, at any time prior to its request for final payment, a request to NYSERDA for partial or total waiver of the MWBE participation goals set forth above. Upon Contractor's submission of a waiver form, NYSERDA may grant a partial or total waiver of the requirements of the participation goals established hereunder. Prior to granting or denying a waiver, NYSERDA shall evaluate the Contractor's "good faith efforts" and may consider the factors set forth in the Regulations §142.8. If NYSERDA, upon review of the MWBE Utilization Plan and updated Quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Reports determines that Contractor is failing or refusing to comply with the Contract goals and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, NYSERDA may issue a notice of deficiency

to the Contractor. The Contractor must respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of MWBE Contract Goals. In the event NYSERDA refuses to grant Contractor a waiver, Contractor may file a complaint with the Division in accordance with the Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures set forth herein. A waiver form is provided in **Attachment 5**.

7. Article 15-A Compliance Monitoring. NYSERDA is responsible for monitoring Contractor's compliance with the applicable regulations. In that regard, NYSERDA may, at its discretion, notify the Contractor in writing of NYSERDA's intent to inspect relevant records and documents related to Article 15-A compliance. NYSERDA shall analyze and consider such records, documents and other data to determine whether the Contractor has made conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women on the State contract.

8. Article Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures. NYSERDA and Contractor hereby agree to be subject to and bound by the disqualification and dispute resolution procedures contained in Article 15-A of the Executive Law (including, without limitation, Sections 312(5), 313(8), 313(9) and 316), and in relevant sections of the Regulations (including, without limitation, Sections 142.12 and 143.6), as and where applicable.

9. Penalties. In accordance with the Regulations §142.13, Contractor hereby agrees that its willful and intentional failure to comply with the M/WBE requirements of Article 15-A as set forth in this Agreement shall create liability to NYSERDA for damages in an amount equal to NYSERDA's actual cost related to its expenses for personnel, supplies and overhead related to establishing, monitoring and reviewing certified minority- and women-owned business enterprise programmatic goals and Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity compliance.

ATTACHMENT 1

**MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT**

MWBE AND EEO POLICY STATEMENT

I, _____, the (awardee/contractor) _____ agree to adopt the following policies with respect to the project being developed or services rendered at _____

M/WBE

This organization will and will cause its contractors and subcontractors to take good faith actions to achieve the M/WBE contract participations goals set by the State for that area in which the State-funded project is located, by taking the following steps:

- (7) Actively and affirmatively solicit bids for contracts and subcontracts from qualified State certified MBEs or WBEs, including solicitations to M/WBE contractor associations.
- (8) Request a list of State-certified M/WBEs from AGENCY and solicit bids from them directly.
- (9) Ensure that plans, specifications, request for proposals and other documents used to secure bids will be made available in sufficient time for review by prospective M/WBEs.
- (10) Where feasible, divide the work into smaller portions to enhanced participations by M/WBEs and encourage the formation of joint venture and other partnerships among M/WBE contractors to enhance their participation.
- (11) Document and maintain records of bid solicitation, including those to M/WBEs and the results thereof. Contractor will also maintain records of actions that its subcontractors have taken toward meeting M/WBE contract participation goals.
- (12) Ensure that progress payments to M/WBEs are made on a timely basis so that undue financial hardship is avoided, and that bonding and other credit requirements are waived or appropriate alternatives developed to encourage M/WBE participation.

EEO

(a) This organization will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, ; will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination; and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on state contracts.

(b) This organization shall state in all solicitation or advertisements for employees that in the performance of the State contract all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, .

(c) At the request of the contracting agency, this organization shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, ; and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of this organization's obligations herein.

(d) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

(e) This organization will include the provisions of sections (a) through (d) of this agreement in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the State contract

Agreed to this _____ day of _____, 2_____

By _____

Print: _____ Title: _____

ATTACHMENT 2
NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE UTILIZATION PLAN FORM

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. () _____ Federal ID # _____

Contract Award Amount \$ _____

Brief Description of Work _____

Prime Contractor M/WBE Status M/WBE Non-M/WBE

II. I, _____ HEREBY AGREE TO THE ____% MINORITY OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MBE) GOAL AND THE ____% WOMEN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (WBE) GOAL AS SET FOR IN THIS CONTRACT NO.

. I FURTHER SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING NYS CERTIFIED M/WBES FOR YOUR REVIEW AND APPROVAL IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE GOAL REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN THIS CONTRACT.

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

The Contractor shall undertake "good faith" efforts to actively solicit MBE/WBE participation in connection with its potential award of the NYSERDA contract.

III. MBE SUBMISSIONS

For each MBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name, Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

IV. WBE SUBMISSIONS

For each WBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name, Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

V. Provide the name, title, address and telephone of person(s) responsible for implementing this subcontracting plan.

VI. If the Contractor anticipates that it will not be able to meet the contract M/WBE participation levels, a written detailed explanation must be submitted with the bid or proposal.

I hereby declare that the above information is to the best of my ability and intention correct and that every effort will be made in the attainment of the established M/WBE goal.

Name _____ Title _____

ATTACHMENT 3

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE COMPLIANCE REPORT FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. (____) _____ Federal ID# _____

Brief Description of Work

**II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_____) PROGRESS TOWARD
ACHIEVEMENT OF THE NYSERDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT NO., THE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH SUBMITTED.**

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

- i. Provide the names, addresses and telephone numbers of each M/WBE you are actually using in compliance with your M/WBE goal.
- ii. Provide a brief description of work performed by the M/WBE, their scheduled dates for performance and current working status.
- iii. Provide a copy of your written agreement with the M/WBE. (A one-time request.)
- iv. In the event you have let a blanket purchase order or other open-ended contracts, only specify that amount actually awarded.
- v. Provide the actual amounts of payments made to any M/WBES as of the date the work force utilization report is submitted. Documentation must include copies of cancelled checks.
- vi. Provide the name, title and telephone number of person(s) responsible for submitting work force utilization reports.
- vii. Compliance Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter, beginning three months after contract award date.

ATTACHMENT 4

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
WORKFORCE UTILIZATION REPORT FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. (____) _____ Federal ID# _____

Brief Description of Work

**II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_____) PROGRESS TOWARD
ACHIEVEMENT OF THE NYSERDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT NO.
, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH SUBMITTED.**

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

i. If the work force of the contractor and/or subcontractors has changed since the last work force utilization report, provide 1) the total number of employees performing work on the State contract; and 2) the contractor's and all subcontractor's work force on the State contract broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories.

If the contractor's and/or subcontractor's work force has not changed since the last work force utilization report, check here:

ii. Work Force Utilization Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter, beginning three months after contract award date.

IV. ALTERNATIVE SUBMITTAL ITEMS

In the event that the Contractor cannot separate the workforce to be utilized in the performance of the NYSERDA contract from its total workforce, the Contractor shall submit, on a semi-annual basis:

(i) The total workforce of the Contractor described categorically by: specified ethnic background, gender and the Federal occupational data.

- (ii) The Contractor acknowledges that the overall goal of an equal employment opportunity program involves the implementation of procedures and methods for the identification, recruitment and employment of minority group members and women.

ATTACHMENT 5

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINORITY WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWBE) REQUEST FOR WAIVER
FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. () _____

Federal ID # _____

Brief Description of Work:

- II. I, (_____) HEREBY REQUEST A PARTIAL OR TOTAL (Circle One) WAIVER OF MY MBE AND/OR WBE GOALS AS ESTABLISHED IN CONTRACT NO. I AGREED TO ATTAIN ___% MBE PARTICIPATION AND ___% WBE PARTICIPATION OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT PRICE. TO SUBSTANTIATE AND DEMONSTRATE MY GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED FOR THE AUTHORITY'S REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

1. Provide a statement setting forth your basis for requesting a partial or total waiver.
2. Provide all names of general circulation, trade association and M/WBE-oriented publications in which you solicited M/WBEs for the purposes of complying with your participation levels.
3. List all dates solicitations for M/WBE participation were published in any of the above publications.
4. List all M/WBEs appearing in the NYS Directory of certified vendors which were solicited for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.
5. Provide proof of all dates on which solicitations were made in writing and copies of such solicitations, or a sample copy of the solicitations if an identical solicitation was made to all M/WBEs.

6. Provide copies of responses made by M/WBEs to your solicitations.
7. Provide a description of any contract documents, plans or specifications made available to M/WBEs for purposes of soliciting their bids and the date and manner in which these documents were made available.
8. Provide documentation of any negotiations between you, the Contractor, and M/WBEs undertaken for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.
9. Provide any other information you deem relevant which may help us in evaluating your request for a waiver.
10. Provide the name, title, address and telephone number of contractor's representative authorized to discuss and negotiate this waiver request.
11. Have you explored or identified any other area where your company can implement an effective equal employment opportunity program to expand the employment opportunities of minority group members and women? If so, please provide the data supporting such efforts and the results.

Confidential Information - Addendum A

Pursuant to Agreement XXXXX, _____ (“Contractor” or “you”) provides services to the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA” or “we”), as specified in Exhibit A, Statement of Work (the “Project”). In conjunction with _____ performance of the Project NYSEDA furnishes _____ with certain information concerning the Project that is either non-public, confidential or proprietary in nature (the “Information”). Exhibit B, Article VIII of the Agreement governs the handling of confidential or proprietary information. This Addendum supplements Article VIII with regards to _____’s use of the Information

1. The Information will be kept confidential and will not, without NYSEDA’s prior written consent, be disclosed by you, your agents, employees, contractors or professional advisors, in any manner whatsoever, in whole or in part, and will not be used by you, your agents, employees, contractors or professional advisors other than in connection with the Project. You agree to transmit the Information only to your agents, employees, contractors and professional advisors who need to know the Information for that purpose and who are informed by you of the confidential nature of the Information and who will agree in writing to be bound by the terms and conditions of Exhibit B, Article VIII of NYSEDA Agreement XXXXX and this Addendum.
2. You shall conform to requirements of the New York State Office of Cyber Security Policy P03-002 v.3.4 and any amendments thereto, to maintain the security of and to prevent unauthorized access to Information that is maintained in electronic form on your systems. Such measures shall include:
 - a. Access Control on Servers, Systems, Apps, Databases, i.e., role-based permissions, authentication, authorization, and password policy;
 - b. Network Security, i.e., isolation of Information, secure V-LANS, Firewalls;
 - c. Patch Management, i.e., formal patch cycles and maintenance process;
 - d. Malware Prevention, i.e., anti-virus, anti-spyware, vulnerability assessments, penetration testing, audits;
 - e. Encryption of Information in transit and Information in storage on desktops, backups, and removable media;
 - f. Change Control to ensure that new and modified system software are authorized, tested, and implemented accurately;
 - g. Security Event Logging/Monitoring that provides real time alerting of security events
 - h. IDS, WS, Website Monitoring of websites for compromise indicators which indicates website defacements, compromises or inappropriate content (Application/Host/Network IDS and IPS);
 - i. Web Application scanning that is performed on code and application in compliance with Open Web Application Security project (OWASP) and SANS (SysAdmin, Audit, Network, and Security) Institute standards.
3. You will keep a record of the location of the Information. At the conclusion of the Project, you will return to NYSEDA all the Information and/or provide proof to NYSEDA that the Information was destroyed. You also agree to submit to an audit of its data security/destruction practices by NYSEDA or its representative during the contract term and for up to two years following the expiration of the contract.

NYSERDA - INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING ELECTRONIC PROPOSALS (January 2014)

Please read the following instructions before submitting a proposal.

1. Locate the Funding Opportunity (PON, RFP, RFQ) on the “**Current Funding Opportunities**” page of NYSERDA’s website at:
<http://www.nysesda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Current-Funding-Opportunities.aspx>
2. While on the “**Current Funding Opportunities**” page, click the link/title of the individual Funding Opportunity.
3. While on the individual Funding Opportunity page, click the “**Submit Proposal Online**” button.
4. Enter your e-mail address and click the “Validate Email” button.
5. You will receive an automatic email containing a link to validate your email address. Click the link to be taken back to the Funding Opportunity to begin the online submission process.
6. Upload as many files as needed, one at a time. The electronic file names should include the proposing entity’s name in the title of the document.
7. After clicking the “Upload File” button, a list of your files will appear on the web page. You can delete files from this list if needed.
8. After all necessary files have been uploaded; review the list of documents to ensure that your proposal is complete and accurate.
9. Click the “Submit Proposal button.”
10. You will then be brought to a confirmation page listing the files received. Please print and save the confirmation page.
11. An auto-generated confirmation e-mail will be sent to the e-mail address you entered. Please save this e-mail.
12. When choosing to submit files electronically, the award/non-award notification letter will be sent to the e-mail address used to submit the proposal.

Important Reminders:

1. Submit only one proposal for each session
2. You may submit Word, Excel, Zip, or PDF files. PDF files must be searchable and therefore should be converted directly from an electronic document to PDF, rather than scanned.
3. E-mail or facsimile submittals will not be accepted.

If you make an error:

If after you click “Submit Proposals” you discover that the document(s) you submitted are incomplete or inaccurate follow these instructions:

1. Start the process over again and **resubmit the entire proposal**. You will receive another confirmation e-mail.
2. Immediately forward both confirmation e-mails (original and resubmission) to proposals@nysesda.ny.gov with the subject line of “**Resubmittal**” and the PON/RFP/RFQ number.
3. NYSERDA will accept the second submission as your proposal. The first submission will be disregarded.

If you need help:

If you need help with this electronic proposal submission process, please contact Rosanne Viscusi at rdv@nysesda.ny.gov or 518-862-1090 ext. 3418.

Article 15-A (MWBE) Provisions for Solicitation Documents (non-construction)

New York State Law

Pursuant to New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, NYSERDA recognizes its obligation under the law to promote opportunities for maximum feasible participation of certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises and the employment of minority group members and women in the performance of NYSERDA contracts.

In 2006, the State of New York commissioned a disparity study to evaluate whether minority and women-owned business enterprises had a full and fair opportunity to participate in state contracting. The findings of the study were published on April 29, 2010, under the title "The State of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises: Evidence from New York" ("Disparity Study"). The report found evidence of statistically significant disparities between the level of participation of minority- and women-owned business enterprises in state procurement contracting versus the number of minority- and women-owned business enterprises that were ready, willing and able to participate in state procurements. As a result of these findings, the Disparity Study made recommendations concerning the implementation and operation of the statewide certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises program. The recommendations from the Disparity Study culminated in the enactment and the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, which requires, among other things, that NYSERDA establishes goals for maximum feasible participation of New York State Certified minority- and women – owned business enterprises ("MWBE") and the employment of minority groups members and women in the performance of New York State contracts.

Article 15-A EEO Policy

- (1) Contractors and subcontractors shall undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed (religion), color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status, or domestic violence victim status. For these purposes, affirmative action shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgradings, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation. This requirement does not apply to: (i) work, goods, or services unrelated to the Contract; or (ii) employment outside New York State.
- (2) Following the award of a State contract and as a precondition to entering into that contract, a winning proposer shall submit an equal employment opportunity ("EEO") policy statement to NYSERDA within seventy-two (72) hours following such proposer's receipt of NYSERDA's award letter. A proposer's failure to timely submit the EEO policy statement could result in NYSERDA's rejection of that proposer's proposal.
- (3) The proposer's EEO policy statement shall contain, but not necessarily be limited to, and the proposer, as a precondition to entering into a valid and binding State contract, shall, during the performance of the State contract, agree to the following:
 - (i) The proposer will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, and will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on State contracts.

- (ii) The proposer shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.
 - (iii) At the request of NYSERDA, the proposer shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the proposer's obligations.
 - (iv) Pursuant to Article 15 of the Executive Law (the "Human Rights Law"), all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor and sub-contractors will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.
- (4) Within ten (10) business days following a winning proposer's receipt of NYSERDA's award letter, such proposer shall submit to NYSERDA a staffing plan of the anticipated work force to be utilized on the State contract. The form of the staffing plan shall be supplied by NYSERDA. In the case where the workforce to be utilized in the performance of this Agreement cannot be separated out from the Contractor's and/or its subcontractor workforce, the Contractor shall submit, in lieu of a staffing plan, information on the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce. The staffing plan or workforce information shall be broken down by ethnic background, gender and Federal occupational categories, or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA. A proposer's failure to submit the staffing plan or workforce data could result in NYSERDA's rejection of that proposer's proposal. If a proposer changes its utilization plan after submission, it shall notify NYSERDA in writing of such change and obtain approval from NYSERDA in accordance with the Regulations §§ 142.6 & 142.8.
- (5) A proposer's failure to submit an EEO policy statement and staffing plan or total work force data shall result in NYSERDA's rejection of proposer's proposal, unless the proposer provides NYSERDA with a reasonable justification in writing for such failure (e.g., the failure to submit a staffing plan where proposer has a work force of 10 employees or less), or makes a commitment to submit an EEO policy statement and a staffing plan or total work force data by a date to be specified by NYSERDA.
- (6) To demonstrate compliance with the stated participation goals as set forth herein, a contractor shall be required to periodically submit compliance reports to NYSERDA, on the forms attached to the contract, during the entire term of the contract.

Contract Participation Goals by MWBE on NYSERDA procurements

In accordance with Article 15-A of the N.Y. Executive Law ("Article 15-A") and pursuant to the regulations adopted thereto, NYSERDA has established certain contract participation goals for minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBE). NYSERDA's participation goals for contracts awarded pursuant to this solicitation are 15 % for minority-owned business enterprises and 15 % for women-owned business enterprises. These participation goals are subject to the requirements of Article 15-A, and its implementing regulations as set forth in Title 5, Chapter XIV, Parts 140-144 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (the "Regulations").

NYSERDA requires every winning proposer to undertake "good faith" efforts to actively solicit MWBE participation in connection with its potential award of the NYSERDA contract. Within ten (10) business days following the receipt of NYSERDA's award letter, a winning proposer must submit to NYSERDA an MWBE Utilization Plan Form, in a form provided by NYSERDA. Within twenty (20) days following its receipt of the Utilization Plan, NYSERDA will issue a written notice of acceptance or deficiency. If NYSERDA issues a notice of deficiency then proposer must provide NYSERDA with a written remedy in response to said notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of its receipt. If the proposer's remedy to the notice of deficiency is not timely provided or if it is found by NYSERDA to be inadequate, NYSERDA shall so notify proposer and request proposer to submit a waiver form within five (5) business days. Failure to file the written remedy or a waiver form in a timely manner as set forth above may be grounds for disqualification of proposer's award for non-responsibility, after NYSERDA gives proposer notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with Article 15-A § 313(5)(c) and the Regulations § 142.9.

A winning proposer may request a total or partial waiver of the requirements of the participation goals set forth above. In such event, NYSERDA shall provide proposer with a waiver form to be provided by proposer prior to the award of the NYSERDA contract. Prior to granting or denying a waiver, NYSERDA shall evaluate proposer's "good faith efforts" and may consider the factors set forth in the Regulations §143.7. In the event NYSERDA refuses to grant proposer a waiver, proposer may file a complaint with the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (the "Division") in accordance with Sections 313(8) & (9) of Article 15-A and Section 142.12 of the Regulations.

Relevant sections of the Regulations may be found at the following link, which Regulations and each party's rights and obligations set forth therein, are incorporated herein by this reference (in the event of a conflict between this solicitation and the Regulations, the Regulations shall govern):

http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/Data/122210_MWBE15-AREgs.pdf.

A Directory of certified MWBEs may be found at the Division's website, here:

<http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/directorySearch.html>

Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures

NYSERDA, and applicable proposers and contractors shall be subject to and bound by the disqualification and dispute resolution procedures contained in Article 15-A (including, without limitation, Sections 312(5), 313(5)(c), 313(8), 313(9) and 316), and in relevant sections of the Regulations (including, without limitation, Sections 142.9, 142.12 and 143.6), as and where applicable.

NYSERDA may disqualify a proposer as being non-responsive under the following circumstances:

- a) If a proposer fails to submit a MWBE Utilization Plan;
- b) If a proposer fails to submit a written remedy to a notice of deficiency;
- c) If a proposer fails to submit a request for waiver; or
- d) If NYSERDA determines that the proposer has failed to document good faith efforts.

Penalties

In accordance with the Regulations §142.13, NYSERDA's contract shall require contractor to agree that its willful and intentional failure to comply with the MWBE requirements of Article 15-A shall create liability to NYSERDA for damages in an amount equal to NYSERDA's actual cost related to its expenses for personnel, supplies and overhead related to establishing, monitoring and reviewing certified minority- and women-owned business enterprise programmatic goals and Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity compliance.

Article 15-A Contract Provisions (non-construction contract)

1. General Provisions.

(a) NYSERDA is required to implement the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR Parts 140-144 (“Regulations”) for all State contracts as defined therein, with a value (1) in excess of \$25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of \$100,000 for real property renovations and construction.

(b) The Contractor to the subject contract (the “Contractor” and the “Contract,” respectively) agrees, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the Contract and at no additional cost to NYSERDA, to fully comply and cooperate with NYSERDA in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women (“EEO”) and contracting opportunities for certified minority and women-owned business enterprises (“MWBES”). Contractor’s demonstration of “good faith efforts” pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the “Human Rights Law”) or other applicable federal, state, or local laws.

(c) Failure to comply with all of the requirements herein may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of contract, leading to the withholding of funds or such other actions, liquidated damages pursuant to Section 9 of these provisions or enforcement proceedings as allowed by the Contract.

(d) The Contractor further agrees to fully cooperate with NYSERDA in the implementation of such additional reporting requirements as may be required by the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development during the duration of this Agreement.

2. Equal Employment Opportunities.

(a) The Contractor shall submit an EEO policy statement to NYSERDA within seventy two (72) hours after the date of the notice by NYSERDA to award the Contract to the Contractor. If Contractor or Subcontractor does not have an existing EEO policy statement, Contractor or Subcontractor may adopt the model statement provided as **Attachment 1 – Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises And Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement**. Contractor hereby agrees that this policy shall remain in full force and effect during the performance of this Agreement.

(b) During the performance of this Agreement, Contractor agrees to the following:

(i) Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document Contractor’s conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on this Agreement. For these purposes, affirmative action shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.

(ii) At the request of NYSERDA, Contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or

marital status; and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the contractor's obligations herein.

(iii) Contractor shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.

(iv) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status, or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

(c) Contractor shall include, in all subcontracts related to its performance of its obligations in this Agreement, the requirements set forth in Section 2(b) above, in such a manner that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with this Agreement.

(d) The provisions of this Section shall not be binding upon Contractors or its subcontractors in the performance of work or the provision of services or any other activity that are unrelated, separate, or distinct from this Agreement, as expressed by its terms.

(e) The requirements of this Section shall not apply to any employment outside New York State or application for employment outside New York State or solicitations or advertisements therefor, or any existing programs of affirmative action regarding employment outside New York State.

3. Contract Goals. For purposes of this procurement, NYSERDA hereby establishes the following goals for MWBE participation: 15% for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises ("MBE") participation and 15% for Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("WBE") participation.

4. Participation Goals. The Contractor represents that it has reviewed and familiarized itself with the regulations related to Article 15-A found at 5 NYCRR Parts 140-144 (see http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/Data/122210_MWBE15-ARegs.pdf), which regulations (the "Regulations") are hereby incorporated herein by this reference. Any conflicts between this Agreement and the Regulations shall be resolved in favor of the Regulations. Contractor shall, in accordance with the Regulations, make good faith efforts and, in a manner that can be established in documentary form, solicit active participation by certified MWBE businesses as identified in the applicable state directory maintained by the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (see <http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/directorySearch.html>). Additionally, Contractor is encouraged to contact the Division of Minority and Woman Business Development ((518) 292-5250; (212) 803-2414; or (716) 846-8200) to discuss additional methods of maximizing participation by MWBEs on the Contract. In furtherance thereof, the Contractor has submitted the following information to NYSERDA, which information sets forth NYSERDA's and Contractor's agreed upon participation goals during the performance of this Agreement:

- (a) A completed MWBE Utilization Plan Form (see **Attachment 2**) and/or a NYSERDA-approved Waiver Form (see **Attachment 6**); and
- (b) A staffing plan of the anticipated workforce to be utilized by the Contractor during this Agreement, or in the case where the workforce to be utilized in the performance of this Agreement cannot be separated out from the Contractor's and/or its subcontractor workforce, information on the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce. The staffing plan or workforce data, as

applicable, is broken down by ethnic background, gender and Federal occupational categories, or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA (see **Attachment 3**).

5. Compliance Reporting Requirements. In order to demonstrate compliance with the stated participation and staffing goals as set forth above, Contractor shall be required to submit compliance reports as follows:

- (a) Unless NYSERDA has granted a total waiver or Contractor is a certified MWBE with the Division and is responsible for one hundred percent (100%) of the performance of this Agreement, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA an MWBE Compliance Report on a quarterly basis in the form attached hereto as **Attachment 4**; and
- (b) Where the workforce to be utilized during the performance of this Agreement can be separated out from the Contractor's total workforce, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA on a quarterly basis, in the form attached hereto as **Attachment 5** (Workforce Employment Utilization Report): 1) the total number of employees performing work on the State contract, and 2) the Contractor's and all subcontractor's work force on the State contract broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA; or
- (c) In the circumstances where the workforce cannot be separated out from the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA information related to the Contractor's total workforce data broken down by ethnic background, gender and Federal occupational categories on a semi-annual basis, or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA.

The Contractor's failure to follow the applicable reporting requirements or failure to comply with the stated participation goals in the previous Section set forth above may result in NYSERDA's submission of a complaint to the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (the "Division") in accordance with the Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures set forth herein.

6. Waiver of participation goal requirements. In accordance with the Regulations § 142.7(c), Contractor may submit, at any time prior to its request for final payment, a request to NYSERDA for partial or total waiver of the MWBE participation goals set forth above. Upon Contractor's submission of a waiver form, NYSERDA may grant a partial or total waiver of the requirements of the participation goals established hereunder. Prior to granting or denying a waiver, NYSERDA shall evaluate the Contractor's "good faith efforts" and may consider the factors set forth in the Regulations §142.8. If NYSERDA, upon review of the MWBE Utilization Plan and updated Quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Reports determines that Contractor is failing or refusing to comply with the Contract goals and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, NYSERDA may issue a notice of deficiency to the Contractor. The Contractor must respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of MWBE Contract Goals. In the event NYSERDA refuses to grant Contractor a waiver, Contractor may file a complaint with the Division in accordance with the Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures set forth herein. A waiver form is provided in **Attachment 6**.

7. Article 15-A Compliance Monitoring. NYSERDA is responsible for monitoring Contractor's compliance with the applicable regulations. In that regard, NYSERDA may, at its discretion, notify the Contractor in writing of NYSERDA's intent to inspect relevant records and documents related to Article 15-A compliance. NYSERDA shall analyze and consider such records, documents and other data to determine whether the Contractor

has made conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women on the State contract.

8. Article Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures. NYSERDA and Contractor hereby agree to be subject to and bound by the disqualification and dispute resolution procedures contained in Article 15-A of the Executive Law (including, without limitation, Sections 312(5), 313(8), 313(9) and 316), and in relevant sections of the Regulations (including, without limitation, Sections 142.12 and 143.6), as and where applicable.

9. Penalties. In accordance with the Regulations §142.13, Contractor hereby agrees that its willful and intentional failure to comply with the M/WBE requirements of Article 15-A as set forth in this Agreement shall create liability to NYSERDA for damages in an amount equal to NYSERDA's actual cost related to its expenses for personnel, supplies and overhead related to establishing, monitoring and reviewing certified minority- and women-owned business enterprise programmatic goals and Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity compliance.

ATTACHMENT 1

**MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT**

MWBE AND EEO POLICY STATEMENT

I, _____, the (awardee/contractor)_____ agree to adopt the following policies with respect to the project being developed or services rendered at _____

M/WBE

This organization will and will cause its contractors and subcontractors to take good faith actions to achieve the M/WBE contract participations goals set by the State for that area in which the State-funded project is located, by taking the following steps:

- (1) Actively and affirmatively solicit bids for contracts and subcontracts from qualified State certified MBEs or WBEs, including solicitations to M/WBE contractor associations.
- (2) Request a list of State-certified M/WBEs from AGENCY and solicit bids from them directly.
- (3) Ensure that plans, specifications, request for proposals and other documents used to secure bids will be made available in sufficient time for review by prospective M/WBEs.
- (4) Where feasible, divide the work into smaller portions to enhanced participations by M/WBEs and encourage the formation of joint venture and other partnerships among M/WBE contractors to enhance their participation.
- (5) Document and maintain records of bid solicitation, including those to M/WBEs and the results thereof. Contractor will also maintain records of actions that its subcontractors have taken toward meeting M/WBE contract participation goals.
- (6) Ensure that progress payments to M/WBEs are made on a timely basis so that undue financial hardship is avoided, and that bonding and other credit requirements are waived or appropriate alternatives developed to encourage M/WBE participation.

EEO

(a) This organization will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, ; will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination; and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on state contracts.

(b)This organization shall state in all solicitation or advertisements for employees that in the performance of the State contract all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, .

(c) At the request of the contracting agency, this organization shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, ; and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of this organization's obligations herein.

(d) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

(e) This organization will include the provisions of sections (a) through (d) of this agreement in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the State contract

Agreed to this _____ day of _____, 2_____

By _____

Print: _____ Title: _____

ATTACHMENT 2
NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE UTILIZATION PLAN FORM

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. () _____ Federal ID # _____

Contract Award Amount \$ _____

Brief Description of Work _____

Prime Contractor M/WBE Status M/WBE Non-M/WBE

II. I, _____ HEREBY AGREE TO THE ___% MINORITY OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MBE) GOAL AND THE ___% WOMEN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (WBE) GOAL AS SET FOR IN THIS CONTRACT NO. _____. I FURTHER SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING NYS CERTIFIED M/WBES FOR YOUR REVIEW AND APPROVAL IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE GOAL REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN THIS CONTRACT.

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

The Contractor shall undertake "good faith" efforts to actively solicit MBE/WBE participation in connection with its potential award of the NYSERDA contract.

III. MBE SUBMISSIONS

For each MBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name, Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

IV. WBE SUBMISSIONS

For each WBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name, Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

V. Provide the name, title, address and telephone of person(s) responsible for implementing this subcontracting plan.

VI. If the Contractor anticipates that it will not be able to meet the contract M/WBE participation levels, a written detailed explanation must be submitted with the bid or proposal.

I hereby declare that the above information is to the best of my ability and intention correct and that every effort will be made in the attainment of the established M/WBE goal.

Name _____ Title _____

ATTACHMENT 3

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINORITY/WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (M/WBE) STAFFING PLAN FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. () _____ Federal ID # _____

Contract Award Amount \$ _____

Brief Description of Work _____

II. I, _____ HEREBY SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING STAFFING PLAN.

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. WORKFORCE DESCRIPTION

Provide a description of the work force to be utilized on the State contract, including the work force of any subcontractors, broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories.

I hereby declare that the above information is to the best of my ability and intention correct.

Name _____ Title _____

ATTACHMENT 4

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE COMPLIANCE REPORT FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. (____) _____ Federal ID# _____

Brief Description of Work _____

**II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_____) PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF THE
NYSERDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS
OF CONTRACT NO., THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH SUBMITTED.**

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

- i. Provide the names, addresses and telephone numbers of each M/WBE you are actually using in compliance with your M/WBE goal.
- ii. Provide a brief description of work performed by the M/WBE, their scheduled dates for performance and current working status.
- iii. Provide a copy of your written agreement with the M/WBE. (A one-time request.)
- iv. In the event you have let a blanket purchase order or other open-ended contracts, only specify that amount actually awarded.
- v. Provide the actual amounts of payments made to any M/WBES as of the date the work force utilization report is submitted. Documentation must include copies of cancelled checks.
- vi. Provide the name, title and telephone number of person(s) responsible for submitting work force utilization reports.
- vii. Compliance Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter, beginning three months after contract award date.

ATTACHMENT 5

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
WORKFORCE UTILIZATION REPORT FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. (____) _____ Federal ID# _____

Brief Description of Work _____

**II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_____) PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF THE
NYSERDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS
OF CONTRACT NO. _____, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH
SUBMITTED.**

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

- i. If the work force of the contractor and/or subcontractors has changed since the last work force utilization report, provide 1) the total number of employees performing work on the State contract; and 2) the contractor's and all subcontractor's work force on the State contract broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories.

If the contractor's and/or subcontractor's work force has not changed since the last work force utilization report, check here:

- ii. Work Force Utilization Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter, beginning three months after contract award date.

IV. ALTERNATIVE SUBMITTAL ITEMS

In the event that the Contractor cannot separate the workforce to be utilized in the performance of the NYSERDA contract from its total workforce, the Contractor shall submit, on a semi-annual basis:

- (i) The total workforce of the Contractor described categorically by: specified ethnic background, gender and the Federal occupational data.
- (ii) The Contractor acknowledges that the overall goal of an equal employment opportunity program involves the implementation of procedures and methods for the identification, recruitment and employment of minority group members and women.

ATTACHMENT 6

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINORITY WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWBE) REQUEST FOR WAIVER FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. () _____

Federal ID # _____

Brief Description of Work:

II. I, (_____) HEREBY REQUEST A PARTIAL OR TOTAL (Circle One) WAIVER OF MY MBE AND/OR WBE GOALS AS ESTABLISHED IN CONTRACT NO. _____ I AGREED TO ATTAIN ___% MBE PARTICIPATION AND ___% WBE PARTICIPATION OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT PRICE. TO SUBSTANTIATE AND DEMONSTRATE MY GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED FOR THE AUTHORITY'S REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

1. Provide a statement setting forth your basis for requesting a partial or total waiver.
2. Provide all names of general circulation, trade association and M/WBE-oriented publications in which you solicited M/WBEs for the purposes of complying with your participation levels.
3. List all dates solicitations for M/WBE participation were published in any of the above publications.
4. List all M/WBEs appearing in the NYS Directory of certified vendors which were solicited for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.
5. Provide proof of all dates on which solicitations were made in writing and copies of such solicitations, or a sample copy of the solicitations if an identical solicitation was made to all M/WBEs.
6. Provide copies of responses made by M/WBEs to your solicitations.
7. Provide a description of any contract documents, plans or specifications made available to M/WBEs for purposes of soliciting their bids and the date and manner in which these documents were made available.

8. Provide documentation of any negotiations between you, the Contractor, and M/WBEs undertaken for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.
9. Provide any other information you deem relevant which may help us in evaluating your request for a waiver.
10. Provide the name, title, address and telephone number of contractor's representative authorized to discuss and negotiate this waiver request.
11. Have you explored or identified any other area where your company can implement an effective equal employment opportunity program to expand the employment opportunities of minority group members and women? If so, please provide the data supporting such efforts and the results.

Article 15-A (MWBE) Provisions for Solicitation Documents (construction)

New York State Law

Pursuant to New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, NYSERDA recognizes its obligation under the law to promote opportunities for maximum feasible participation of certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises and the employment of minority group members and women in the performance of NYSERDA contracts.

In 2006, the State of New York commissioned a disparity study to evaluate whether minority and women-owned business enterprises had a full and fair opportunity to participate in state contracting. The findings of the study were published on April 29, 2010, under the title "The State of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises: Evidence from New York" ("Disparity Study"). The report found evidence of statistically significant disparities between the level of participation of minority- and women-owned business enterprises in state procurement contracting versus the number of minority- and women-owned business enterprises that were ready, willing and able to participate in state procurements. As a result of these findings, the Disparity Study made recommendations concerning the implementation and operation of the statewide certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises program. The recommendations from the Disparity Study culminated in the enactment and the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, which requires, among other things, that NYSERDA establishes goals for maximum feasible participation of New York State Certified minority- and women – owned business enterprises ("MWBE") and the employment of minority groups members and women in the performance of New York State contracts.

Article 15-A EEO Policy

- (1) Contractors and subcontractors shall undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed (religion), color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status, or domestic violence victim status. For these purposes, affirmative action shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgradings, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation. This requirement does not apply to: (i) work, goods, or services unrelated to the Contract; or (ii) employment outside New York State.
- (2) Following the award of a State contract and as a precondition to entering into that contract, a winning proposer shall submit an equal employment opportunity ("EEO") policy statement to NYSERDA within seventy-two (72) hours following such proposer's receipt of NYSERDA's award letter. A proposer's failure to timely submit the EEO policy statement could result in NYSERDA's rejection of that proposer's proposal.
- (3) The proposer's EEO policy statement shall contain, but not necessarily be limited to, and the proposer, as a precondition to entering into a valid and binding State contract, shall, during the performance of the State contract, agree to the following:
 - (i) The proposer will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, and will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on State contracts.

- (ii) The proposer shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.
 - (iii) At the request of NYSERDA, the proposer shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the proposer's obligations.
 - (iv) Pursuant to Article 15 of the Executive Law (the "Human Rights Law"), all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions, the Contractor and sub-contractors will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.
- (4) A proposer's failure to submit an EEO policy statement shall result in NYSERDA's rejection of proposer's proposal, unless the proposer provides NYSERDA with a reasonable justification in writing for such failure, or makes a commitment to submit an EEO policy statement by a date to be specified by NYSERDA.
- (5) To demonstrate compliance with the stated participation goals as set forth herein, a contractor shall be required to periodically submit compliance reports to NYSERDA, on the forms attached to the contract, during the entire term of the contract.

Contract Participation Goals by MWBE on NYSERDA procurements

In accordance with Article 15-A of the N.Y. Executive Law ("Article 15-A") and pursuant to the regulations adopted thereto, NYSERDA has established certain contract participation goals for minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBE). NYSERDA's participation goals for contracts awarded pursuant to this solicitation are [redacted] % for minority-owned business enterprises and [redacted] % for women-owned business enterprises. These participation goals are subject to the requirements of Article 15-A, and its implementing regulations as set forth in Title 5, Chapter XIV, Parts 140-144 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (the "Regulations").

NYSERDA requires every winning proposer to undertake "good faith" efforts to actively solicit MWBE participation in connection with its potential award of the NYSERDA contract. Within ten (10) business days following the receipt of NYSERDA's award letter, a winning proposer must submit to NYSERDA an MWBE Utilization Plan Form, in a form provided by NYSERDA. Within twenty (20) days following its receipt of the Utilization Plan, NYSERDA will issue a written notice of acceptance or deficiency. If NYSERDA issues a notice of deficiency then proposer must provide NYSERDA with a written remedy in response to said notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of its receipt. If the proposer's remedy to the notice of deficiency is not timely provided or if it is found by NYSERDA to be inadequate, NYSERDA shall so notify proposer and request proposer to submit a waiver form within five (5) business days. Failure to file the written remedy or a waiver form in a timely manner as set forth above may be grounds for disqualification of proposer's award for non-responsibility, after NYSERDA gives proposer notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with Article 15-A § 313(5)(c) and the Regulations § 142.9.

A winning proposer may request a total or partial waiver of the requirements of the participation goals set forth above. In such event, NYSEERDA shall provide proposer with a waiver form to be provided by proposer prior to the award of the NYSEERDA contract. Prior to granting or denying a waiver, NYSEERDA shall evaluate proposer's "good faith efforts" and may consider the factors set forth in the Regulations §143.7. In the event NYSEERDA refuses to grant proposer a waiver, proposer may file a complaint with the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (the "Division") in accordance with Sections 313(8) & (9) of Article 15-A and Section 142.12 of the Regulations.

Relevant sections of the Regulations may be found at the following link, which Regulations and each party's rights and obligations set forth therein, are incorporated herein by this reference (in the event of a conflict between this solicitation and the Regulations, the Regulations shall govern):

http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/Data/122210_MWBE15-ARegs.pdf.

A Directory of certified MWBEs may be found at the Division's website, here:

<http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/directorySearch.html>

Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures

NYSEERDA, and applicable proposers and contractors shall be subject to and bound by the disqualification and dispute resolution procedures contained in Article 15-A (including, without limitation, Sections 312(5), 313(5)(c), 313(8), 313(9) and 316), and in relevant sections of the Regulations (including, without limitation, Sections 142.9, 142.12 and 143.6), as and where applicable.

NYSEERDA may disqualify a proposer as being non-responsive under the following circumstances:

- a) If a proposer fails to submit a MWBE Utilization Plan;
- b) If a proposer fails to submit a written remedy to a notice of deficiency;
- c) If a proposer fails to submit a request for waiver; or
- d) If NYSEERDA determines that the proposer has failed to document good faith efforts.

Penalties

In accordance with the Regulations §142.13, NYSEERDA's contract shall require contractor to agree that its willful and intentional failure to comply with the MWBE requirements of Article 15-A shall create liability to NYSEERDA for damages in an amount equal to NYSEERDA's actual cost related to its expenses for personnel, supplies and overhead related to establishing, monitoring and reviewing certified minority- and women-owned business enterprise programmatic goals and Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity compliance.

Article 15-A Contract Provisions (construction contract)

1. General Provisions.

(a) NYSERDA is required to implement the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR Parts 140-144 (“Regulations”) for all State contracts as defined therein, with a value (1) in excess of \$25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of \$100,000 for real property renovations and construction.

(b) The Contractor to the subject contract (the “Contractor” and the “Contract,” respectively) agrees, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the Contract and at no additional cost to NYSERDA, to fully comply and cooperate with NYSERDA in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women (“EEO”) and contracting opportunities for certified minority and women-owned business enterprises (“MWBES”). Contractor’s demonstration of “good faith efforts” pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the “Human Rights Law”) or other applicable federal, state, or local laws.

(c) Failure to comply with all of the requirements herein may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of contract, leading to the withholding of funds or such other actions, liquidated damages pursuant to Section 9 of these provisions or enforcement proceedings as allowed by the Contract.

(d) The Contractor further agrees to fully cooperate with NYSERDA in the implementation of such additional reporting requirements as may be required by the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development during the duration of this Agreement.

2. Equal Employment Opportunities.

(a) The Contractor shall submit an EEO policy statement to NYSERDA within seventy two (72) hours after the date of the notice by NYSERDA to award the Contract to the Contractor. If Contractor or Subcontractor does not have an existing EEO policy statement, Contractor or Subcontractor may adopt the model statement provided as **Attachment 1 – Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises And Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement**. Contractor hereby agrees that this policy shall remain in full force and effect during the performance of this Agreement.

(b) During the performance of this Agreement, Contractor agrees to the following:

(i) Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document Contractor’s conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on this Agreement. For these purposes, affirmative action shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.

(ii) At the request of NYSERDA, Contractor shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment agency, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or

marital status; and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the contractor's obligations herein.

(iii) Contractor shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the State contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.

(iv) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status, or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

(c) Contractor shall include, in all subcontracts related to its performance of its obligations in this Agreement, the requirements set forth in Section 2(b) above, in such a manner that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with this Agreement.

(d) The provisions of this Section shall not be binding upon Contractors or its subcontractors in the performance of work or the provision of services or any other activity that are unrelated, separate, or distinct from this Agreement, as expressed by its terms.

(e) The requirements of this Section shall not apply to any employment outside New York State or application for employment outside New York State or solicitations or advertisements therefor, or any existing programs of affirmative action regarding employment outside New York State.

3. Contract Goals. For purposes of this procurement, NYSERDA hereby establishes the following goals for MWBE participation: % for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises ("MBE") participation and % for Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("WBE") participation.

4. Participation Goals. The Contractor represents that it has reviewed and familiarized itself with the regulations related to Article 15-A found at 5 NYCRR Parts 140-144 (see http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/Data/122210_MWBE15-ARegs.pdf), which regulations (the "Regulations") are hereby incorporated herein by this reference. Any conflicts between this Agreement and the Regulations shall be resolved in favor of the Regulations. Contractor shall, in accordance with the Regulations, make good faith efforts and, in a manner that can be established in documentary form, solicit active participation by certified MWBE businesses as identified in the applicable state directory maintained by the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (see <http://www.empire.state.ny.us/MWBE/directorySearch.html>). Additionally, Contractor is encouraged to contact the Division of Minority and Woman Business Development ((518) 292-5250; (212) 803-2414; or (716) 846-8200) to discuss additional methods of maximizing participation by MWBEs on the Contract. In furtherance thereof, the Contractor has submitted the following information to NYSERDA, which information sets forth NYSERDA's and Contractor's agreed upon participation goals during the performance of this Agreement:

(a) A completed MWBE Utilization Plan Form (see **Attachment 2**) and/or a NYSERDA-approved Waiver Form (see **Attachment 5**); and

5. Compliance Reporting Requirements. In order to demonstrate compliance with the stated participation and staffing goals as set forth above, Contractor shall be required to submit compliance reports as follows:

- (a) Unless NYSERDA has granted a total waiver or Contractor is a certified MWBE with the Division and is responsible for one hundred percent (100%) of the performance of this Agreement, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA an MWBE Compliance Report on a quarterly basis in the form attached hereto as **Attachment 3**; and
- (b) Where the workforce to be utilized during the performance of this Agreement can be separated out from the Contractor's total workforce, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA on a quarterly basis, in the form attached hereto as **Attachment 4** (Workforce Employment Utilization Report): 1) the total number of employees performing work on the State contract, and 2) the Contractor's and all subcontractor's work force on the State contract broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA; or
- (c) In the circumstances where the workforce cannot be separated out from the Contractor's and/or subcontractor's total workforce, the Contractor shall submit to NYSERDA information related to the Contractor's total workforce data broken down by ethnic background, gender and Federal occupational categories on a semi-annual basis, or other appropriate categories specified by NYSERDA.

The Contractor's failure to follow the applicable reporting requirements or failure to comply with the stated participation goals in the previous Section set forth above may result in NYSERDA's submission of a complaint to the NYS Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women Business Development (the "Division") in accordance with the Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures set forth herein.

6. Waiver of participation goal requirements. In accordance with the Regulations § 142.7(c), Contractor may submit, at any time prior to its request for final payment, a request to NYSERDA for partial or total waiver of the MWBE participation goals set forth above. Upon Contractor's submission of a waiver form, NYSERDA may grant a partial or total waiver of the requirements of the participation goals established hereunder. Prior to granting or denying a waiver, NYSERDA shall evaluate the Contractor's "good faith efforts" and may consider the factors set forth in the Regulations §142.8. If NYSERDA, upon review of the MWBE Utilization Plan and updated Quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Reports determines that Contractor is failing or refusing to comply with the Contract goals and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, NYSERDA may issue a notice of deficiency to the Contractor. The Contractor must respond to the notice of deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of MWBE Contract Goals. In the event NYSERDA refuses to grant Contractor a waiver, Contractor may file a complaint with the Division in accordance with the Article 15-A Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures set forth herein. A waiver form is provided in **Attachment 5**.

7. Article 15-A Compliance Monitoring. NYSERDA is responsible for monitoring Contractor's compliance with the applicable regulations. In that regard, NYSERDA may, at its discretion, notify the Contractor in writing of NYSERDA's intent to inspect relevant records and documents related to Article 15-A compliance. NYSERDA shall analyze and consider such records, documents and other data to determine whether the Contractor has made conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women on the State contract.

8. Article Disqualification and Dispute Resolution Procedures. NYSERDA and Contractor hereby agree to be subject to and bound by the disqualification and dispute resolution procedures contained in Article 15-A of the Executive Law (including, without limitation, Sections 312(5), 313(8), 313(9) and 316), and in relevant sections of the Regulations (including, without limitation, Sections 142.12 and 143.6), as and where applicable.

9. **Penalties.** In accordance with the Regulations §142.13, Contractor hereby agrees that its willful and intentional failure to comply with the M/WBE requirements of Article 15-A as set forth in this Agreement shall create liability to NYSERDA for damages in an amount equal to NYSERDA's actual cost related to its expenses for personnel, supplies and overhead related to establishing, monitoring and reviewing certified minority- and women-owned business enterprise programmatic goals and Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity compliance.

ATTACHMENT 1

**MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT**

MWBE AND EEO POLICY STATEMENT

I, _____, the (awardee/contractor)_____ agree to adopt the following policies with respect to the project being developed or services rendered at _____

M/WBE

This organization will and will cause its contractors and subcontractors to take good faith actions to achieve the M/WBE contract participations goals set by the State for that area in which the State-funded project is located, by taking the following steps:

- (7) Actively and affirmatively solicit bids for contracts and subcontracts from qualified State certified MBEs or WBEs, including solicitations to M/WBE contractor associations.
- (8) Request a list of State-certified M/WBEs from AGENCY and solicit bids from them directly.
- (9) Ensure that plans, specifications, request for proposals and other documents used to secure bids will be made available in sufficient time for review by prospective M/WBEs.
- (10) Where feasible, divide the work into smaller portions to enhanced participations by M/WBEs and encourage the formation of joint venture and other partnerships among M/WBE contractors to enhance their participation.
- (11) Document and maintain records of bid solicitation, including those to M/WBEs and the results thereof. Contractor will also maintain records of actions that its subcontractors have taken toward meeting M/WBE contract participation goals.
- (12) Ensure that progress payments to M/WBEs are made on a timely basis so that undue financial hardship is avoided, and that bonding and other credit requirements are waived or appropriate alternatives developed to encourage M/WBE participation.

EEO

(a) This organization will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, ; will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination; and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on state contracts.

(b)This organization shall state in all solicitation or advertisements for employees that in the performance of the State contract all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, .

(c) At the request of the contracting agency, this organization shall request each employment agency, labor union, or authorized representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, ; and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of this organization's obligations herein.

(d) Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

(e) This organization will include the provisions of sections (a) through (d) of this agreement in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the State contract

Agreed to this _____ day of _____, 2_____

By _____

Print: _____ Title: _____

ATTACHMENT 2
NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE UTILIZATION PLAN FORM

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. () _____ Federal ID # _____

Contract Award Amount \$ _____

Brief Description of Work _____

Prime Contractor M/WBE Status M/WBE Non-M/WBE

II. I, _____ HEREBY AGREE TO THE ___% MINORITY OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MBE) GOAL AND THE ___% WOMEN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (WBE) GOAL AS SET FOR IN THIS CONTRACT NO. _____. I FURTHER SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING NYS CERTIFIED M/WBES FOR YOUR REVIEW AND APPROVAL IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE GOAL REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN THIS CONTRACT.

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

The Contractor shall undertake "good faith" efforts to actively solicit MBE/WBE participation in connection with its potential award of the NYSERDA contract.

III. MBE SUBMISSIONS

For each MBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name, Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

IV. WBE SUBMISSIONS

For each WBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name, Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

V. Provide the name, title, address and telephone of person(s) responsible for implementing this subcontracting plan.

VI. If the Contractor anticipates that it will not be able to meet the contract M/WBE participation levels, a written detailed explanation must be submitted with the bid or proposal.

I hereby declare that the above information is to the best of my ability and intention correct and that every effort will be made in the attainment of the established M/WBE goal.

Name _____ Title _____

ATTACHMENT 3

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE COMPLIANCE REPORT FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. (____) _____ Federal ID# _____

Brief Description of Work _____

**II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_____) PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF THE
NYSERDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS
OF CONTRACT NO., THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH SUBMITTED.**

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

- i. Provide the names, addresses and telephone numbers of each M/WBE you are actually using in compliance with your M/WBE goal.
- ii. Provide a brief description of work performed by the M/WBE, their scheduled dates for performance and current working status.
- iii. Provide a copy of your written agreement with the M/WBE. (A one-time request.)
- iv. In the event you have let a blanket purchase order or other open-ended contracts, only specify that amount actually awarded.
- v. Provide the actual amounts of payments made to any M/WBES as of the date the work force utilization report is submitted. Documentation must include copies of cancelled checks.
- vi. Provide the name, title and telephone number of person(s) responsible for submitting work force utilization reports.
- vii. Compliance Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter, beginning three months after contract award date.

ATTACHMENT 4

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
WORKFORCE UTILIZATION REPORT FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. (____) _____ Federal ID# _____

Brief Description of Work _____

**II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_____) PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF THE
NYSERDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS
OF CONTRACT NO. _____, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH
SUBMITTED.**

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

- i. If the work force of the contractor and/or subcontractors has changed since the last work force utilization report, provide 1) the total number of employees performing work on the State contract; and 2) the contractor's and all subcontractor's work force on the State contract broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories.

If the contractor's and/or subcontractor's work force has not changed since the last work force utilization report, check here:

- ii. Work Force Utilization Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter, beginning three months after contract award date.

IV. ALTERNATIVE SUBMITTAL ITEMS

In the event that the Contractor cannot separate the workforce to be utilized in the performance of the NYSERDA contract from its total workforce, the Contractor shall submit, on a semi-annual basis:

- (i) The total workforce of the Contractor described categorically by: specified ethnic background, gender and the Federal occupational data.
- (ii) The Contractor acknowledges that the overall goal of an equal employment opportunity program involves the implementation of procedures and methods for the identification, recruitment and employment of minority group members and women.

ATTACHMENT 5

**NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINORITY WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWBE) REQUEST FOR WAIVER FORM**

Contract No. _____

Date _____

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. () _____

Federal ID # _____

Brief Description of Work:

II. I, (_____) HEREBY REQUEST A PARTIAL OR TOTAL (Circle One) WAIVER OF MY MBE AND/OR WBE GOALS AS ESTABLISHED IN CONTRACT NO. _____ I AGREED TO ATTAIN ___% MBE PARTICIPATION AND ___% WBE PARTICIPATION OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT PRICE. TO SUBSTANTIATE AND DEMONSTRATE MY GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED FOR THE AUTHORITY'S REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

1. Provide a statement setting forth your basis for requesting a partial or total waiver.
2. Provide all names of general circulation, trade association and M/WBE-oriented publications in which you solicited M/WBEs for the purposes of complying with your participation levels.
3. List all dates solicitations for M/WBE participation were published in any of the above publications.
4. List all M/WBEs appearing in the NYS Directory of certified vendors which were solicited for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.
5. Provide proof of all dates on which solicitations were made in writing and copies of such solicitations, or a sample copy of the solicitations if an identical solicitation was made to all M/WBEs.
6. Provide copies of responses made by M/WBEs to your solicitations.
7. Provide a description of any contract documents, plans or specifications made available to M/WBEs for purposes of soliciting their bids and the date and manner in which these documents were made available.

8. Provide documentation of any negotiations between you, the Contractor, and M/WBEs undertaken for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.
9. Provide any other information you deem relevant which may help us in evaluating your request for a waiver.
10. Provide the name, title, address and telephone number of contractor's representative authorized to discuss and negotiate this waiver request.
11. Have you explored or identified any other area where your company can implement an effective equal employment opportunity program to expand the employment opportunities of minority group members and women? If so, please provide the data supporting such efforts and the results.