

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

Agreement No:

Project Title:

To this Agreement between **ALASKA ENERGY AUTHORITY**

hereafter the CONTRACTING AGENCY, and

hereafter the CONTRACTOR, effective on the last date executed by its parties, in consideration of the terms, conditions and promises of Articles 1 through 7 in this document, the parties hereby agree.

CONTRACTOR

Signature: _____
Name: XXXXXX Date _____
Title: _____

Signature: _____
Name: _____ Date _____
Title: _____

CONTRACTING AGENCY

Contract Manager

Executive Director

Signature: _____
Name: _____ Date _____
Title: Contracting Officer

Signature: _____
Name: _____ Date _____
Title: AEA Executive Director

ARTICLE 1 - PURPOSE

1.1 The Contractor shall provide

ARTICLE 2 - COMPENSATION

2.1 The maximum amount payable under this Agreement as set out in Appendix C, shall not exceed:

and no/100 Dollars

(\$0.00)

ARTICLE 3 - PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

3.1 CONTRACTOR shall commence services under this Agreement as authorized by written *Notice(s) to Proceed* and shall complete the services in accordance with any time schedule required by Appendices. This Agreement is of no force or effect until executed by the CONTRACTOR and the CONTRACTING AGENCY and no services shall be undertaken or performed until a Notice to Proceed is issued.

3.2 The Period of Performance under this Agreement shall end on _____.

ARTICLE 4 - APPENDICES

4.1 The following Appendices are attached to this document and incorporated herein:

<u>Appendix</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date Prepared</u>	<u>No. Pages</u>
A	General Conditions,		
B	Statement of Services		
C	Compensation, Form 25A280, plus Exhibits: C-1, C-2, C-3, and C-4		
D	Indemnification & Insurance, Form 25A269, plus Certificates of Insurance (for the prime CONTRACTOR)		
E	Certification of Compliance (Alaska Licenses/Registrations and Insurance)		

ARTICLE 5 - CONTRACTING AGENCY DATA

Office Address

Street: 813 West Northern Lights Blvd.
 PO Box:
 City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99503
 Phone-Voice: 907-771-3036
 Phone-FAX: 907-771-3044

Funding Source:

ARTICLE 6 - CONTRACTOR DATA

Manager:
Title:

Alaska Business License No.:
Federal Tax Identification No.:

Office Address

Street:
 PO Box:
 City, State, Zip:
 Phone-Voice:
 Phone-FAX:
 Email:

Type of Firm

- Individual Partnership
 Corporation in state of:
 Other (specify): Limited Liability Corporation

ARTICLE 7 - SUBCONTRACTORS

7.1 CONTRACTOR shall perform all professional services required under this Agreement except as may be performed by the Subcontractors listed below or as may be allowed under Appendix A, Article A19.

Service or Engineering Discipline

Subcontractor

AEA GENERAL CONDITIONS

APPENDIX A

Agreement No:

Date Prepared:

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Article Number and Title

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ARTICLE A1 DEFINITIONS

A1.1 Additional or Extra Services - Services, work products or actions required of the CONTRACTOR above and beyond provisions of the Agreement.

A1.2 Agreement – This Professional Services Agreement and its appendices that outline the terms and conditions regarding Contractor’s services during the authorized period of performance.

A1.3 Amendment - A written change to this Agreement.

A1.4 Change - A revision in services, complexity, character, or duration of the services or provisions of this Agreement.

A1.5 Executive Director – Executive Director of the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA).

A1.6 CONTRACTING AGENCY – Alaska Energy Authority (AEA).

A1.7 Procurement Officer - The individual or a duly appointed successor designated as the official representative to administer contracts for the CONTRACTING AGENCY.

A1.8 CONTRACTOR - The firm (person or any business combination) providing services.

A1.9 Contractor's Manager - The CONTRACTOR's representative in responsible charge of the project(s) and directly answerable for the required services.

A1.10 Project Manager – CONTRACTING AGENCY’s representative and the CONTRACTOR’s primary point of contact with the CONTRACTING AGENCY.

A1.11 Funding Agency - An agency of a Federal, State, Political subdivision, or Local Government which furnishes funds for the CONTRACTOR's compensation under this Agreement and which may have established regulations and requirements binding upon the CONTRACTING AGENCY and the CONTRACTOR.

A1.12 Notice to Proceed (NTP) - Written authorization from the CONTRACTING AGENCY to the CONTRACTOR to provide all or specified services in accordance with an existing Agreement.

A1.13 Statement of Services - Services and work products required of the CONTRACTOR by this Agreement.

A1.14 Subcontractor - CONTRACTOR engaged to provide a portion of the services by subcontract with the firm which is a party to this Agreement.

**ARTICLE A2
INFORMATION AND SERVICES FROM OTHERS**

A2.1 The CONTRACTING AGENCY may, at its election or in response to a request from the CONTRACTOR, furnish information or services from other contractors. If, in the CONTRACTOR's opinion, such information or services is inadequate, the CONTRACTOR must notify the CONTRACTING AGENCY of the specific service or material deemed inadequate and the extent of the inadequacy prior to use in the performance of this Agreement. The CONTRACTING AGENCY will then evaluate and resolve the matter in writing. Unless so notified by the CONTRACTOR, the CONTRACTING AGENCY may assume the information or services provided are adequate.

**ARTICLE A3
HOLD HARMLESS**

A3.1 See Appendix D, "Indemnification and Insurance".

**ARTICLE A4
INSURANCE**

A4.1 See Appendix D, "Indemnification and Insurance".

**ARTICLE A5
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH**

A5.1 The CONTRACTOR and its Subcontractors shall observe and comply with the Federal Occupational Safety and Health act of 1970 and with all safety and health standards promulgated by the Secretary of Labor under authority thereof and with all State of Alaska Occupational Safety and Health Laws and regulations.

**ARTICLE A6
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

A6.1 The CONTRACTOR shall comply with the following applicable laws and directives and regulations of the CONTRACTING AGENCY which effectuate them; all of which are incorporated herein by reference:

- Title VI of Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
- Federal Executive Order 11625 (Equal Employment Opportunity);
- Title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60 (Equal Employment Opportunity);
- Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 21 (Discrimination);
- Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 26 (Minority Business Enterprises);
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circular 102, Attachment O (Procurement Standards);
- Alaska Statute (AS) 18.80.200-300 (Discrimination).

A6.2 The CONTRACTOR may not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, national origin, age, physical disability, sex, or marital status, change in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood when the reasonable demands of the position do not require distinction on such basis. The CONTRACTOR shall take affirmative action to insure that applicants are employed and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, religion, color, national origin, age, physical disability, sex, or marital status. This action must include, but need not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training including apprenticeship. The CONTRACTOR shall post in conspicuous places, available employees and applicants for employment, notices setting out the provisions of this paragraph.

A6.3 The CONTRACTOR shall state, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees to work in performance of this Agreement, that it is an equal opportunity employer and that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, age, physical disability, sex, or marital status.

A6.4 The CONTRACTOR shall send to each labor union or representative or workers with which the CONTRACTOR has a collective bargaining Agreement or other contract or understanding a notice advising the labor union or workers' representative of the CONTRACTOR's commitments under this article and post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to all employees and applicants for employment.

A6.5 In the event the CONTRACTOR subcontracts any part of the services to be performed under this Agreement, the CONTRACTOR agrees to make good faith efforts to utilize Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, to affirmatively solicit their interest, capability and prices and to furnish documentation of the results of all such direct contacts on forms provided by or acceptable to the CONTRACTING AGENCY.

A6.6 The CONTRACTOR shall make, keep and preserve such records necessary to determine compliance with equal employment opportunity obligations and shall furnish required information and reports. All records must be retained and made available in accordance with Article A9, Audits and Records.

A6.7 The CONTRACTOR shall include the provisions of this article in every contract, and shall require the inclusion of these provisions in every contract entered into by any of its Subcontractors, so that these provisions will be binding upon each Subcontractor.

ARTICLE A7 PAYMENTS TO THE CONTRACTOR

A7.1 Payments shall be based on approved CONTRACTOR's invoices submitted in accordance with this article and the provisions of Appendix C. The sum of payments shall not exceed allowable compensation stated in Notice(s) to Proceed and no payments shall be made in excess of the maximum allowable total for this Agreement.

A7.2 The CONTRACTING AGENCY will exert every effort to obtain required Funding Agency approvals and to issue authorizations in a timely manner. CONTRACTOR shall not perform any services without a Notice to Proceed. Accordingly, the CONTRACTING AGENCY will not pay the CONTRACTOR for services or associated reimbursable costs performed outside those which are authorized by a Notice to Proceed.

A7.3 CONTRACTOR's invoices shall be submitted when services are completed or monthly, for months during which services are performed, as applicable, in a format provided by or acceptable to the CONTRACTING AGENCY.

A7.4 In the event items on an invoice are disputed, payment on those items will be held until the dispute is resolved. Undisputed items will not be held with the disputed items.

A7.5 The CONTRACTOR shall submit a final invoice and required documentation within 90 days after final acceptance of services by the CONTRACTING AGENCY. The CONTRACTING AGENCY will not be held liable for payment of invoices submitted after this time unless prior written approval has been given by the Procurement Officer. Total payment of all Subcontractors and satisfactory compliance with Article A22, Taxes, are conditions precedent to final payment.

ARTICLE A8 CHANGES

A8.1 Changes (including "Supplemental Agreements") in the period of performance, general conditions, statement of services, or other provisions established by this Agreement may be made by written Amendment only. If such changes cause an increase or a decrease in the CONTRACTOR's cost, an equitable adjustment shall be made and specified in the Amendment. The CONTRACTOR shall not perform any additional or extra services prior to receiving a fully executed copy of an Amendment and a Notice to Proceed, except as the CONTRACTOR may be directed under the provisions of Article A20, Claims and Disputes.

A8.2 If at any time the CONTRACTING AGENCY through its authorized representatives, either verbally or in writing, requests or issues instructions for Additional or Extra Services or otherwise directs actions which conflict with any provision of this Agreement, the CONTRACTOR shall, within 30 days of receipt and prior to pursuing such instructions, so notify the CONTRACTING AGENCY in writing, and to the extent possible, describe the services and estimated cost of any Additional or Extra Services. The CONTRACTING AGENCY will then evaluate and, if appropriate, negotiate an Amendment. Unless so notified by the CONTRACTOR, the CONTRACTING AGENCY will conclude such instructions have not changed any provisions of this Agreement nor require additional compensation. No additional payments shall be made to the CONTRACTOR without such notice.

ARTICLE A9 AUDITS AND RECORDS

A9.1 The CONTRACTOR shall maintain records of performances, communications, documents, correspondence and costs pertinent to this Agreement and the Funding or CONTRACTING AGENCY's authorized representatives shall have the right to examine such records and accounting procedures and practices.

A9.2 The Funding or CONTRACTING AGENCY's authorized representatives shall have the right to examine all books, records, documents and other data of the CONTRACTOR related to the negotiation, pricing and performance of this Agreement and any modification or change for the purpose of evaluating the accuracy, completeness and currency of the data submitted. The right of examination shall extend to all documents necessary to permit adequate evaluation of the data, computations and projections used.

A9.3 The materials described in this article shall be made available at a business office of the CONTRACTOR at all reasonable times for inspection, audit or reproduction, for a minimum of 3 years from the date of any resulting final settlement.

A9.3.1 If this Agreement is completely or partially terminated, records relating to the services terminated shall be made available for a minimum of 3 years from the date of any termination or resulting final settlement, whichever is later.

A9.3.2 Records which relate to appeals under Article A20, Claims and Disputes, or litigation or the settlement of Claims arising out of the performance of this Agreement shall be made available until such appeals, litigation or Claims have been concluded.*

ARTICLE A10 CONTRACTING AGENCY INSPECTIONS

A10.1 The CONTRACTING AGENCY has the right to inspect, in the manner and at reasonable times it considers appropriate during the period of this Agreement, all facilities and activities of the CONTRACTOR as may be engaged in the performance of this Agreement.

ARTICLE A11 TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION

A11.1 This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon 10 days written notice if the other party fails substantially to perform in accordance with its terms through no fault of the party initiating the termination (default termination). If the CONTRACTING AGENCY terminates this Agreement, the CONTRACTING AGENCY will pay the CONTRACTOR a sum equal to the percentage of work completed that can be substantiated in whole or in part either by the CONTRACTOR to the satisfaction of the CONTRACTING AGENCY or by the CONTRACTING AGENCY. If the CONTRACTING AGENCY becomes aware of any non-conformance with this Agreement by the CONTRACTOR, the CONTRACTING AGENCY will give prompt written notice thereof to the CONTRACTOR. Should the CONTRACTOR's services remain in non-conformance, the percentage of total compensation attributable to the nonconforming work may be withheld.

A11.2 The CONTRACTING AGENCY may at any time terminate (convenience termination) or suspend this Agreement for its needs or convenience. In the event of a convenience termination, or suspension for more than 3 months, the CONTRACTOR will be compensated for authorized services and authorized expenditures performed to the date of receipt of written notice of termination or suspension plus reasonable expenses. No fee or other compensation for the uncompleted portion of the services will be paid except for already incurred indirect costs which the CONTRACTOR can establish and which would have been compensated for over the life of this Agreement, but because of the termination or suspension would have to be absorbed by the CONTRACTOR without further compensation.

A11.3 If federal funds support this Agreement, settlement for default or convenience termination must be approved by the Funding Agency.

A11.4 In the event of termination or suspension, the CONTRACTOR shall deliver all work products, reports, estimates, schedules and other documents and data prepared pursuant to this Agreement to the CONTRACTING AGENCY.

**ARTICLE A12
OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT**

A12.1 No member of or delegate to Congress, United States Commissioner or other officials of the Federal, State, Political subdivision or Local Government shall be admitted to any share or part of this Agreement or any benefit to arise therefrom.

**ARTICLE A13
INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

A13.1 The CONTRACTOR and its agents and employees shall act in an independent capacity and not as officers or agents of the CONTRACTING AGENCY in the performance of this Agreement except that the CONTRACTOR may function as the CONTRACTING AGENCY's agent as may be specifically set forth in this Agreement.

A13.2 Any and all employees of the CONTRACTOR, while engaged in the performance of any work or services required by the CONTRACTOR under this Agreement, shall be considered employees of the CONTRACTOR only and not of the CONTRACTING AGENCY and any and all Claims that may or might arise under the Worker's Compensation Act on behalf of said employees, while so engaged and any and all Claims made by a third party as a consequence of any negligent act or omission on the part of the CONTRACTOR's employees, while so engaged on any of the services to be rendered herein, shall be the sole obligation and responsibility of the CONTRACTOR.

A13.3 This Agreement will be declared null and void should the CONTRACTING AGENCY determine that by Internal Revenue Service definitions the CONTRACTOR is an employee of the CONTRACTING AGENCY.

**ARTICLE A14
PROSELYTIZING**

A14.1 The CONTRACTOR agrees that it will not engage on a full or part time basis, during the period of this Agreement, any person or persons who are or have been employed by the CONTRACTING AGENCY during the period of this Agreement or during the 90 days immediately preceding the date of this Agreement except those who have been regularly retired or approved in writing by the CONTRACTING AGENCY.

**ARTICLE A15
COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES**

A15.1 The CONTRACTOR shall comply with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (18 USC 874) as supplemented in Federal Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR, part 3), which are incorporated by reference and made a part of this Agreement.

A15.2 The CONTRACTOR warrants that it has not employed or retained any organization or person, other than a bona fide employee, to solicit or secure this Agreement and that it has not paid or agreed to pay any organization or person, other than a bona fide employee, any fee, commission, percentage, brokerage fee, gift or other consideration contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this Agreement. For breach or violation of this warranty, the CONTRACTING AGENCY has the right to annul this Agreement without liability or, in its discretion, to deduct from the allowable compensation the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

A15.3 The CONTRACTING AGENCY warrants that the CONTRACTOR or the CONTRACTOR's representative has not been required, directly or indirectly as an express or implied condition in obtaining or carrying out this Agreement, to employ or retain, or agree to employ or retain, any organization or person or to make a contribution, donation or consideration of any kind.

**ARTICLE A16
PRECEDENCE OF DOCUMENTS**

A16.1 Components of this Agreement shall stand and prevail in the following order: Agreement over General Conditions; General Conditions over Statement of Services; Statement of Services over Basis of Compensation; Basis of Compensation over any appendices beyond Appendix C.

A16.2 If a "Request for Proposal" (RFP) and/or a proposal are appended to this Agreement, the components described in paragraph A16.1 shall stand and prevail over the proposal and the proposal over the RFP.

**ARTICLE A17
ENDORSEMENT ON DOCUMENTS**

A17.1 Endorsements and professional seals, if applicable, must be included on all final drawings, specifications, cost estimates and reports prepared by the CONTRACTOR. Preliminary copies of such documents submitted for review must have seals affixed without endorsement (signature).

**ARTICLE A18
OWNERSHIP OF WORK PRODUCTS**

A18.1 Work products produced under this Agreement, except items which have pre-existing copyrights, are the property of the CONTRACTING AGENCY. Payments to the CONTRACTOR for services hereunder include full compensation for all work products produced by the CONTRACTOR and its Subcontractors and the CONTRACTING AGENCY shall have royalty free non-exclusive and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and to authorize others to use, such work products.

A18.2 Should the CONTRACTING AGENCY elect to reuse work products provided under this Agreement for other than the original project and/or purpose, the CONTRACTING AGENCY will indemnify the CONTRACTOR and its Subcontractors against any responsibilities or liabilities arising from such reuse. Additionally, any reuse of design drawings or specifications provided under this Agreement must be limited to conceptual or preliminary use for adaptation and the original CONTRACTOR's or Subcontractor's signature, professional seals and dates removed. Such reuse of drawings and specifications, which require professional seals and dates removed, will be signed, sealed and dated by the professional who is in direct supervisory control and responsible for all adaptation.

**ARTICLE A19
SUBCONTRACTORS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS**

A19.1 The CONTRACTING AGENCY must concur in the selection of any person or firm that may be engaged in performance of this Agreement to provide negotiable professional or technical services, products, etc., (vs. commodity items available to the general public in stores at market prices).

A19.2 If this Agreement includes named firms or individuals, then such firms or individuals shall be employed for the designated services, unless the Agreement is changed by Amendments.

A19.3 The CONTRACTOR shall not assign, sublet or transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Procurement Officer.

A19.4 The CONTRACTOR binds itself, its partners, its Subcontractors, assignees and legal representatives to this Agreement and to the successors, assignees and legal representatives of the CONTRACTING AGENCY with respect to all covenants of this Agreement.

A19.5 The CONTRACTOR shall include provisions appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Appendix A in all subcontracts executed to perform services under this Agreement which may exceed a cost of \$25,000.

**ARTICLE A20
CLAIMS AND DISPUTES**

A20.1 If the CONTRACTOR becomes aware of any act or occurrence which may form the basis of a Claim by the CONTRACTOR for additional compensation or an extension of time for performance, or if any dispute arises regarding a question of fact or interpretation of this Agreement, the CONTRACTOR shall immediately inform the Procurement Officer. If the matter cannot be resolved within 7 days, the CONTRACTOR shall, within the next 14 days, submit an "Intent to Claim" in writing to the Procurement Officer.

A20.1.1 If the CONTRACTOR believes additional compensation is warranted, the CONTRACTOR shall immediately begin to keep and maintain complete, accurate and specific daily records concerning every detail of the potential Claim including actual costs incurred. The CONTRACTOR shall give the CONTRACTING AGENCY access to any such record and, when so requested, shall forthwith furnish the CONTRACTING AGENCY copies thereof.

A20.1.2 The Claim, if not resolved, shall be presented to the Procurement Officer, in writing, within 60 days following receipt of the "Intent to Claim". Receipt of the Claim will be acknowledged in writing by the Procurement Officer.

A20.1.3 The CONTRACTOR agrees that unless these written notices are provided, the CONTRACTOR will have no entitlement to additional time or compensation for such act, event or condition. The CONTRACTOR shall in any case continue diligent performance under this Agreement.

A20.2 The Claim shall specifically include the following:

A20.2.1 The act, event or condition giving rise to the Claim.

A20.2.2 The provisions of the Agreement which apply to the Claim and under which relief is provided.

A20.2.3 The item or items of project work affected and how they are affected.

A20.2.4 The specific relief requested, including Contract Time if applicable, and the basis upon which it was calculated.

A20.3 The Claim, in order to be valid, must not only show that the CONTRACTOR suffered damages or delay but that those conditions were actually a result of the act, event or condition complained of and that the Agreement provides entitlement to relief to the CONTRACTOR for such act, event, or condition.

A20.3.1 The Procurement Officer reserves the right to make written requests to the CONTRACTOR at any time for additional information which the CONTRACTOR may possess relative to the Claim. The CONTRACTOR agrees to provide the Procurement Officer such additional information within 30 days of receipt of such a request. Failure to furnish such additional information may be regarded as a waiver of the Claim.

A20.3.2 If the Claim is not resolved by Agreement within 90 days of its receipt, the Procurement Officer will issue a written decision to the CONTRACTOR.

A20.3.3 The CONTRACTOR shall certify that the Claim is made in good faith, that the supporting cost and pricing data are accurate and complete to the best of the CONTRACTOR's knowledge and belief, and that the amount requested accurately reflects the adjustment to the Agreement for which the CONTRACTOR believes the CONTRACTING AGENCY is liable.

A20.4 The CONTRACTOR will be furnished a written signed copy of the Procurement Officer's decision within 90 days, unless additional information is requested by the Procurement Officer. The Procurement Officer's decision is final unless, within 14 days of receipt of the decision, the CONTRACTOR delivers a written Notice of Appeal to the Executive Director.

A20.5 Procedures for appeals and hearings are covered under 3 AAC 109.570.

ARTICLE A21 EXTENT OF AGREEMENT

A21.1 This Agreement including appendices represents the entire and integrated Agreement between the CONTRACTING AGENCY and the CONTRACTOR and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations or Agreements, written or oral.

A21.2 Nothing contained herein may be deemed to create any contractual relationship between the CONTRACTING AGENCY and any Subcontractors or material suppliers; nor may anything contained herein be deemed to give any third party Claim or right of action against the CONTRACTING AGENCY or the CONTRACTOR which does not otherwise exist without this Agreement.

A21.3 This Agreement may be changed only by written Amendment executed by both the CONTRACTING AGENCY and the CONTRACTOR.

A21.4 All communications that affect this Agreement must be made or confirmed in writing and must be sent to the addresses designated in this Agreement.

A21.5 The CONTRACTOR on receiving final payment will execute a release, if required, in full of all Claims against the CONTRACTING AGENCY arising out of or by reason of the services and work products furnished and under this Agreement.

ARTICLE A22 TAXES

A22.1 As a condition of performance of this Agreement, the CONTRACTOR shall pay all Federal, State and Local taxes incurred by the CONTRACTOR and shall require their payment by any Subcontractor or any other persons in the performance of this Agreement.

ARTICLE A23 GOVERNING LAW

A23.1 This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Alaska and Federal and Local Laws and Ordinances applicable to the work performed. The CONTRACTOR shall be cognizant and shall at all times observe and comply with

such laws which in any manner affect those engaged or employed in the performance, or which in any way affects the manner of performance, of this Agreement.

ARTICLE A24
FEDERAL AID CERTIFICATION (HIGHWAYS)
(For Agreements exceeding \$100,000)

A24.1 The CONTRACTOR certifies, by executing this Agreement, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

A24.1.1 No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the CONTRACTOR, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employees of any Federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative Agreement, and at the extension, continuation, renewal, Amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative Agreement.

A24.1.2 If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal agency, a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative Agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, in accordance with its instructions. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

A24.2 This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code.

A24.3 The CONTRACTOR also agrees by executing this Agreement that the CONTRACTOR shall require that the language of this certification be included in all lower tier subcontracts, which exceed \$100,000 and that all such subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

ARTICLE A25
TRADE RESTRICTIONS

The contractor or subcontractor, by submission of an offer and/or execution of a contract, certifies that it:

- a. is not owned or controlled by one or more citizens of a foreign country included in the list of countries that discriminate against U.S. firms published by the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR);
- b. Has not knowingly entered into any contract or subcontract for this project with a person that is a citizen or national of a foreign country on said list, or is owned or controlled directly or indirectly by one or more citizens or nationals of a foreign country on said list;
- c. Has not procured any product nor subcontracted for the supply of any product for use on the project that is produced in a foreign country on said list.

Unless the restrictions of this clause are waived by the Secretary of Transportation in accordance with 49 CFR 30.17, no contract shall be awarded to a contractor or subcontractor who is unable to certify to the above. If the contractor knowingly procures or subcontracts for the supply of any product or service of a foreign country on said list for use on the project, the Federal Aviation Administration may direct through the Sponsor cancellation of the contract at no cost to the Government.

Further, the contractor agrees that, if awarded a contract resulting from this solicitation, it will incorporate this provision for certification without modification in each contract and in all lower tier subcontracts. The contractor may rely on the certification of a prospective subcontractor unless it has knowledge that the certification is erroneous.

The contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the sponsor if the contractor learns that its certification or that of a subcontractor was erroneous when submitted by reason of changed circumstances.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making the award. If it is later determined that the contractor or subcontractor knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, the Federal Aviation Administration may direct through the Sponsor cancellation of the contract or subcontract for default at no cost to the Government.

Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the certification required by this provision. The knowledge and information of a contractor is not required to exceed that which is normally posed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

This certification concerns a matter within the jurisdiction of an agency of the United States of America and the making of a false, fictitious or fraudulent certification may render the maker subject to prosecution under Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001.

**ARTICLE A26
SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT**

The bidder/offeror certifies, by submission of this proposal or acceptance of this contract, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency. It further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause without modification in all lower tier transactions, solicitations, proposals, contracts, and subcontracts. Where the bidder/offeror/contractor or any lower tier participant is unable to certify to this statement, it shall attach an explanation to this solicitation/ proposal.

**ARTICLE A27
ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

A27.1 DELAY DAMAGES:

Unless CONTRACTOR notifies the Authority in writing or email no less than FIVE (5) calendar days in advance of a deliverable deadline that the deliverable may be delayed, delay damages may be incurred by the CONTRACTOR for each calendar day that the CONTRACTOR does not meet the deliverable deadlines in the current approved project schedule. The project schedule may be modified at any time as agreed upon in writing or email by the CONTRACTOR and the Project Manager. In no case shall the agreed upon schedule end date exceed the end date of the current Notice to Proceed (NTP) without first amending the NTP.

Delay Damages

Days Late	Delay Damages per Day
1 to 7 days	\$200.00
8 to 14 days	\$300.00
15 to 21 days	\$400.00
21 days plus	\$500.00

*NTE Not to Exceed \$10,000.00

These are delay damages and not penalties. These charges shall reimburse the Authority for additional expenses incurred due to CONTRACTOR'S failure to complete the work within the time specified. Allowing the CONTRACTOR to continue and finish the work or any part of it after the scheduled date has passed does not waive the Authority's rights to collect delay damages. Delay damages collection shall be in the form of payment withheld from the associated NTP. If no money is due the CONTRACTOR, the Authority may recover these sums from the CONTRACTOR, from the Surety, or from both. The NTP scope of work, schedule, and budget shall not be changed as the result of the collection of delay damages by the Authority. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, CONTRACTOR shall incur no delay damages if the delay is caused to any extent by the Authority or by events or parties outside of CONTRACTOR'S reasonable control.

A27.2 **EXTENSION DUE TO DELAYS:**

The right of the CONTRACTOR to proceed shall not be terminated nor the CONTRACTOR charged with delay damages or actual damages because of delays to the schedule or completion of the Work due to unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the CONTRACTOR, including, but not restricted to the following: acts of God or of the public enemy, acts of the AUTHORITY in its contractual capacity, acts of another contractor in the performance of a contract with the AUTHORITY, floods, fires, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, unusually severe weather, acts or restraints of governmental authorities affecting the project or directly or indirectly prohibiting or restricting the furnishing or use of materials or labor required; inability to secure labor because of priority, allocation or other regulations of any governmental authorities, and delays of Subcontractors (not a responsible charge of the CONTRACTOR). Any delay other than one of the specifically mentioned occurrences above, does not of itself justify a time extension, provided that the CONTRACTOR shall within twenty four (24) hours from the beginning of any such delay (unless the Contracting Officer shall grant a further period of the time prior to the date of final settlement of the Contract), notify the Project Manager in writing of the cause of delay. The Contracting Officer shall ascertain the facts and the extent of the delay and extend the time for completing the Work when the findings of fact justify such an extension.

COMPENSATION

APPENDIX C

Project No:
Date Prepared:

C1. Payments will be made on approved invoices submitted for months during which costs are incurred. Except for Fixed Price(s) and Fixed Fees, compensation shall be cost-based on actual costs to the Contractor for providing services. Provisions for Audit are contained in Appendix A.

C2. EXCEPT WHEN PAYMENT IS BY FIXED PRICE, PRIME CONTRACTOR'S LABOR AND ASSOCIATED INDIRECT COST SHALL BE INVOICED TO THE CONTRACTING AGENCY WITHIN 45 DAYS OF PERFORMANCE. SUBCONTRACTORS' LABOR AND ASSOCIATED INDIRECT COST SHALL BE INVOICED TO THE CONTRACTING AGENCY WITHIN 60 DAYS OF PERFORMANCE. ALL OF THE CONTRACTOR'S AND SUBCONTRACTORS' OTHER DIRECT COSTS (EXPENSES) SHALL BE INVOICED TO THE CONTRACTING AGENCY WITHIN 90 DAYS OF BEING INCURRED. **CHARGES SUBMITTED AFTER THE ABOVE STATED TIMES WILL, AT THE CONTRACTING AGENCY'S DISCRETION, NOT BE PAID.**

C3. Price proposals and Notices-to-Proceed (NTPs) for this Agreement must conform to the Labor Rates, Indirect Cost Rate(s), Unit Prices, Fee/Profit Arrangements, Estimated Costs, and Price Caps contained in the Exhibits attached to this Appendix C.

C4. Payments are limited to the amount(s) cited in each Notice-to-Proceed (NTP) issued for this Agreement. The Contractor expressly has no right to any payment in excess of each NTP amount.

C5. Final payment to the Contractor may be withheld until a Release from Agreement, on a form prescribed by the Contracting Agency, is executed by the Contractor.

C6. Payments for this Agreement and any Amendment, including Costs and Fee, will be adjusted to exclude any significant sums by which the Contracting Agency finds that payments are increased because the cost or pricing data furnished by the Contractor or prospective Contractor is inaccurate, incomplete, or not current on the date of the Agreement or subsequent submittal date of pricing data.

C7. The following terminology and explanations are applicable to this Agreement; any inconsistencies appearing in this Agreement must be resolved in accordance with the terminology in paragraphs C7.1-C7.6 and C8.

C7.1 Direct Costs of Direct Labor - Base salary and/or wages paid to employees charged directly to this Agreement exclusive of Fringe Benefits or other Indirect Costs and Fees (including profit).

C7.2 Other Direct Costs ("Expenses") - **PRE-APPROVED** unit priced items, actual costs for specific subcontracts identified in this Agreement, and actual costs for the following:

- Transportation (economy rate/air-coach);
- Food and lodging (Generally, not to exceed agency per diem rates);
- Incidental travel expenses; and
 - If not recovered in the Indirect Cost Rate - the following:
- Equipment & computer use at **PRE-APPROVED** rates;
- Specific materials and supplies; and
- Other **PRE-APPROVED** direct expenses.

Each Expense is limited to reasonable costs which do not exceed that which would be incurred by an ordinarily prudent person in the conduct of competent business.

C7.3 Indirect Costs - Allowable expenses that, because of their incurrence for common or joint cost objectives, must be allocated to this Agreement using a specified Indirect Cost Rate. A cost objective is a function, organizational subdivision, contract, project or work unit for which cost data is accumulated under the Contractor's accounting system. Generally, the Contracting Agency requires Indirect Costs to be segregated into the following categories: Fringe Benefits, Overhead (General & Administrative Expenses - including Indirect Labor), and Allocated Home Office Overhead (if applicable).

C7.3.1 Fringe Benefits - Costs for items such as:

- Vacation time, holidays and authorized leave;
- Group and Worker's Compensation Insurance;
- Deferred Compensation/Retirement plans;
- Social Security and Unemployment Taxes; and
- Group Medical plan and Life Insurance Premiums.

C7.3.2 Overhead - Costs for items such as the following, if they are not included in Direct Costs:

- Indirect Labor (Supervisory, Administrative, etc., base salary or wages)
- Recruiting expenses, travel, food and lodging;
- Rent, heat, power, light and janitorial services;
- Office supplies, reproduction costs, communications;
- Upkeep and depreciation of equipment and computers;
- Rentals of equipment and computers; and,
- Business Insurance premiums not billed to clients;

C7.3.3 Allocated Home Office Overhead (if applicable) - Costs for management, supervisory, and administrative functions which benefit separate unit operations.

C7.3.4 Indirect Cost Rate – An established percentage of incurred expenses for Direct Costs of Direct Labor which is used as a basis of compensation for Indirect Costs. Fees or Profit are not included in the Indirect Cost Rate.

C7.4.1 If this Agreement wholly or partially allocates Indirect Costs on other than a Direct Labor dollar basis, a description of the Indirect Cost pools or service centers used, and the Indirect Cost Rates(s) and base(s), shall be attached in an Exhibit to this Appendix C; otherwise, such an allocation shall not be allowed for this contract.

C7.4.2 Indirect Cost Rates may be fixed or provisional and will be established for the duration of the Agreement, fiscal year, or other time period.

C7.4.3 Provisional Indirect Cost Rates or "Fixed/ Provisional" Rates require a Contracting Agency approved audit of accounting records after each of the Contractor's or Subcontractor's fiscal years during which they perform work under the Agreement.

C7.5 Non-allowable Costs - Payments for the following items and certain other costs defined in 48 CFR Part 31 and related regulations are not allowable. Such costs shall not be included as billable Direct or Indirect Costs or in the calculation of the Indirect Cost Rate.

Interest and other financial costs
Contributions and donations
Federal income taxes & tax return preparation fees

Deferred state income taxes
Bad debts
Fines and penalties
Entertainment, social club memberships, etc.
Goodwill
Provisions for contingencies
Losses on other contracts and related legal fees
Legal fees, etc., related to contract claims

C7.6 Fee - Profit plus any costs not allocable to this contract. The amount of Fee may be fixed or variable, depending on the method of payment used. Non allocable costs shall not be considered by the Contracting Agency when negotiating Fee.

C8. Markup of any costs as compensation for administration, management or handling, etc., is prohibited. Costs of such efforts are included within the elements of Direct Labor and/or Indirect Labor. Compensation for any risk associated with incurring costs is included within Fee (Profit).

C9. The following Exhibits complete this Appendix C (Components of Appendix C - Compensation, shall stand and prevail in the following order: Exhibit C-1, Exhibit C-2, et al, in the order of their number):

Exhibit C-1 Method(s) of Payment
Exhibit C-2 NTP & Invoice Summary
Exhibit C-3 & 4 Compensation Cost Reimbursement

COMPENSATION

APPENDIX C EXHIBIT C-1, METHOD(S) OF PAYMENT

Agreement No: Date Prepared:

1. Payments will be made in accordance with Article A7 (Basic Agreement), Articles C1 - C9 (Appendix C), the following, and the applicable discussions of Methods of Payment presented below.

<u>CONTRACTOR & SUBCONTRACTORS</u>	<u>SUBCONTRACTOR TO: (FIRM)</u>	<u>METHOD OF PAYMENT</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u>	<u>FEE</u>	<u>ESTIMATED PRICE</u>
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Total Agreement Amount: _____

Note: If a Method of Payment is "Fixed Price", then the amount listed under "Estimated Price" is the Fixed Price.

2. **FIXED PRICE(S)** payments will be a single lump sum payment equal to the Fixed Price upon acceptable completion of this Agreement, or progress payments not to exceed the Fixed Price.

3. **FIXED PRICE(S) PLUS EXPENSES** payments will be as follows:

3.1 Payments of the **FIXED PRICE** will be a single lump sum payment equal to the Fixed Price upon acceptable completion of services, or progress payments not to exceed the Fixed Price(s).

3.2 Payments for Other Direct Costs (**EXPENSES**) will be made for actual substantiated costs not to exceed the total specified amount for expenses that are directly chargeable to and necessary for performance of the services assuming they are not recovered through the Indirect Cost Rate.

4. **COST PLUS FIXED FEE** payments will be made according to the following:

4.1 Payments for **DIRECT COST OF DIRECT LABOR** will be equivalent to the number of hours expended by each job classification multiplied by the applicable Direct Labor Rate. Job Classifications, Labor Hours and Direct Hourly Rates are estimated for this contract. Work shall be performed by the lowest paid qualified personnel. Further, when performing work for which they are over qualified, individuals will charge time at rates equivalent to skill levels commensurate with the work they perform. Contract payments will be based on the actual Direct Labor Rates paid to employees in any direct labor job classification who work on the contract, except that no Direct Hourly Rate shall exceed \$ **PER HOUR** except for the following individuals whose rates are capped (fixed) as listed below for the duration of this Agreement:

<u>FIRM</u>	<u>JOB CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>PERSON'S NAME</u>	<u>DIRECT RATE (\$/HR)</u>
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4.2 Payments for **INDIRECT COSTS** shall be equivalent to the amounts for Direct Cost of Direct Labor multiplied by the following applicable **INDIRECT COST RATES (IDCR)**:

<u>CONTRACTOR/ SUBCONTRACTOR</u>	<u>IDCR (%)</u>	<u>IDCR TYPE (F, F/P, P)</u>
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4.2.1 IDCR with "F" is Fixed for the duration of this Agreement.

4.2.2 IDCR with "F/P" is Fixed for the last half of the firm's current fiscal year plus not to exceed six months of its next fiscal year, after which the IDCR becomes a Provisional Rate until an audit is completed and a Fixed IDCR is established for each successive twelve month interval.

4.2.3 IDCR with "P" is Provisional until completion of post performance audit to establish actual incurred rate which is used to establish a final IDCR for the period covered by the audit. Post performance audits may be done after each fiscal year of a multi-year contract or once after completion of the contract. Audit findings and other rationale will be used to establish a final IDCR that appropriately allocates Indirect Costs to this Agreement for each fiscal year.

4.2.4 Revisions to any IDCR may be implemented only by a contract Amendment. Further, adjustment of any payments made based on Provisional IDCRs will not be done without a contract Amendment that fully explains the amount of the adjustments.

4.3 Payments for **OTHER DIRECT COSTS** (Expenses) will be made for actual substantiated costs which are directly chargeable to and necessary for performance of services assuming they are not recovered through the Indirect Cost Rate. "Markup" of Other Direct Costs is prohibited (reference paragraph C8).

4.4 If not defined elsewhere in this Appendix C, progress payments for a firm's (Contractor or any Subcontractor) **FIXED FEE** will be equivalent to the ratio of the firm's Direct Cost of Direct Labor to date, divided by the firm's total estimated Direct Cost of Direct Labor, multiplied by the total amount of the firm's Fixed Fee. The Fee amount for each firm participating in this Agreement was determined as follows:

5. **TIME AND EXPENSES** payments will be made according to the following:

5.1 Payments for **TIME** will be equivalent to the number of hours expended by each job classification multiplied by the applicable Billing Rate. Work will be performed by personnel with the lowest reasonable skill levels and hourly rates. Further, when performing work for which they are over qualified, individuals will charge time at rates equivalent to skill levels commensurate with the work they perform.

5.1.1 **BILLING RATES** for persons who work on this contract shall be the sum of the person's actual Direct Labor Rate plus an allowance for Indirect Cost at the then current Agency approved Indirect Cost Rate for the person's employer (firm) plus a fee (profit) of ten percent; e.g.: $\$25 + (1.50 \times \$25) + (.10 \times [\$25 + (1.50 \times \$25)]) = \$68.75$, however, not to exceed \$ **PER HOUR** except for the following individuals whose rates are capped (fixed) as listed below for the duration of this Agreement.

<u>FIRM</u>	<u>JOB CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>PERSON'S NAME</u>	<u>BILLING RATE (\$/HR)</u>
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5.1.2 **BILLING RATES** are negotiated hourly labor rates which include compensation for all Costs (Direct Cost of Direct Labor and all Indirect Costs) plus Fee, except for allowable direct Expenses.

5.1.3 **Time & Expenses Overtime** shall be calculated at 1.5 times the base labor rate (DL & IDCR) and then the profit factor added.

5.2 Payments for Other Direct Costs (**EXPENSES**) will be made for actual substantiated costs that are directly chargeable to and necessary for performance of services assuming they are not recovered through the Indirect Cost Rate. "Markup" of Expenses is prohibited (reference paragraph C8).

6. **SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**


Items 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 are optional contingent upon travel being part of the contract. Edit as required.

6.1 Travelers are permitted actual costs, or an allowance, for lodging (as negotiated and detailed below) and an allowance for meal and incidental expenses (M&IE). Refer to AAM 60.250 for policies regarding travel.

6.2 Employees shall be considered in travel status from the time an authorized trip begins until it ends. An authorized trip is a trip approved in accordance with a NTP issued under the contract. The duty station of the employee is the city, town, or village, or within a 50-mile radius thereof, where the employee spends the majority of their working time.

6.3 M& IE allowances shall be limited to the State rate of \$60.00 per day. The duration of the trip must be more than 12 hours in order for the traveler to be eligible for M & IE allowances. Additionally the traveler must be in travel status at least three consecutive hours during a meal period to be entitled to the M&IE for that meal.

6.4 If paying actuals for Lodging, Lodging shall be at the hotel's "government" rate (when applicable) and for single occupancy, not to exceed \$300.00 per day. Lodging receipts are required.

 ALASKA ENERGY AUTHORITY		NOTICE TO PROCEED & BILLING SUMMARY			NTP No: #REF!	
For: #REF!		#REF! #REF!			Agreement No: #REF!	
Contractor: #REF!		Project Title: #REF!			Accounting Ref No.: #REF!	
Category of Services: #REF!		Contract Expiration Date: #REF!			NTP Completion Date: #REF!	
		Amount of this NTP/Amend.: #REF!			Method of Payment: #REF!	
NOTICE TO PROCEED						
BILLING SUMMARY						
This Invoice is for [] Progress [OR] Final Payment OR				Sequential Invoice # for this [
GL Account Code	Funding Exp. Date	Authorized Task Groups	Authorized To - Date	Prior Approved Payme	This Billing	Total To - Date
Total Amount Authorized for All			\$0.00			
Sum of Prior APPROVED				0.00		
Sum for THIS INVOICE					0.00	
Sum of Prior Payments and this						0.00
Balance of Authorized						\$0.00
Department of Labor Close-Out Required?				Payment Request & Certification: (Contractor)		
				Signature		Date
Name: #REF!				Name: #REF!		
Approval for Payment						
PAYMENT RECOMMENDED (Agency Project Manager): I certify this invoice to be valid and accurate and that services were performed substantially in conformance with the contract				PAYMENT APPROVED (Authorized Agency Official): Based upon the Project Manager's recommendation and certification, I hereby approve payment.		
Signature				Signature		Date
Name: #REF!				Name:		

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRACTOR for
COST REIMBURSEMENT NOTICE TO
PROCEED (NTP)
& BILLING SUMMARY**

- 1 Retain an unmarked, as issued, copy of this form to be used for reproduction and billing.
- 2 If this NTP is unacceptable, notify the Contracting Agency immediately. If acceptable, acknowledge by signature where indicated on a copy of this NTP and return it within ten days after your receipt.
- 3 Submit monthly Invoices to the Agency Contract Manager named in this NTP. Provide a copy of page one of this form as the FACE PAGE of each invoice submitted and with the following entries accurately completed:
 - a) Indicate if the Invoice is for Progress or Final Payment and show the Sequential Invoice Number for this NTP.
Entries in the following columns: Prior Approved Payments, This Billing, and Total to Date for each Task Group;
 - b) plus the SUM TOTALS for: Authorized To - Date, Prior APPROVED Payments, THIS INVOICE, Prior Payments plus this Invoice, and Balance of Authorized Amount.

Note "Prior APPROVED Payments" amounts may NOT be the same as the total of all your prior invoices if some items were disallowed or adjustments were made. If a prior billing has not been acknowledged with any payment, or a different amount from your billing was paid without notification to you of the reason(s), attach a request for an explanation and remedial action.

4 Sign, date and enter printed or typed name under "PAYMENT REQUEST (Contractor)" thereby attesting to the following:

"By signature on this form, the Contractor certifies entries to be true and correct for the services performed to date under or by virtue of said Agreement and in accordance with AS 36.30.400. The Contractor further certifies that all applicable Federal, State and Local taxes incurred by the Contractor in the performance of the services have been paid and that all Subcontractors engaged by the Contractor for the services included in any invoice shall be fully compensated by the Contractor for such services."

5 When Applicable, ATTACH A CURRENT COPY OF EXHIBIT C-4, COST REIMBURSEMENT BILLING DETAIL FORM (from Appendix C of the Agreement) to each invoice. Internally check the form and correct mathematical extensions. The Contracting Agency may return erroneous invoices for correction before processing for payment.

6 Substantiate all charges in each billing, other than for Fixed Prices or Fixed Fees, by attaching a summary of hours expended and hourly labor rate per employee; summary of units completed; subcontractor invoices; expense receipts, etc.; or other proof of expenditures.

7 Prime Contractor's Labor and Indirect Cost shall be billed to the Contracting Agency within 45 days of performance. Subcontractors' Labor and Indirect Cost shall be billed to the Contracting Agency within 60 days of performance. All of the Contractor's and Subcontractors' Other Direct Costs (Expenses) shall be billed to the Contracting Agency within 90 days of being incurred. Charges submitted after the above stated times will, at the Contracting Agency's discretion, not be paid.

8 When each NTP is approximately 75% complete, the Contractor shall determine if the Authorized Amount(s) might be exceeded; and, if so, shall provide an estimate of cost to complete. The Contracting Agency will determine after discussion with the Contractor if additional cost is reasonable and does not include costs that should be absorbed by the Contractor. If additional cost is validated, a negotiated Amendment will be executed which either (1) reduces the scope of services/work products required commensurate with the Authorized Amount(s), or (2) increases the Authorized Amount(s) to that required for completion of the original contract scope.