



24-11 Addendum 2

Consolidated Communications of Texas Company

Supplier Response

Event Information

Number: 24-11 Addendum 2
Title: Telecommunication-Wireline, Wireless, IoT, Unified Communications & Data Communications
Type: Request for Proposal - Region 4 ESC
Issue Date: 11/22/2024
Deadline: 1/16/2025 02:00 PM (CT)
Notes: Oral communications concerning this RFP shall not be binding and shall in no way excuse an Offeror of the obligations set forth in this proposal.

Only online proposals will be accepted. Proposals must be submitted via Region 4 ESC's online procurement system:
region4esc.ionwave.net.

No manual, emailed, or faxed proposals will be accepted.

NON-MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE

Meeting to be held on
Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 10:00 am
via ZOOM at <https://esc4.zoom.us/j/95832181406>

Offerors are strongly encouraged, but not required to participate in a pre-proposal conference with the Procurement Contract Specialist.

Contact Information

Address: Finance and Operations
7145 West Tidwell Road
TX 77092

Email: questions@esc4.net

Consolidated Communications of Texas Company Information

Address: 121 South 17th Street
Mattoon, IL 61938
Phone: (217) 235-3311
Toll Free: (844) 968-7224
Web Address: <https://www.consolidated.com/Business>

By submitting your response, you certify that you are authorized to represent and bind your company.

Mark Evans

Signature

Submitted at 1/10/2025 05:10:01 PM (CT)

Mark.Evans@consolidated.com

Email

Requested Attachments

Offer and Contract Signature Form

REGION-IV ESC Offer and Contract Signature Form.pdf

Please complete, sign and upload the Offer and Contract Signature Form, located on the Attachments tab. (REQUIRED)

Deviation Form

REGION-IV ESC Deviation Form.pdf

Please complete and upload the Deviation Form, located on the Attachments tab. *NOTE: Any and add Deviations to any term or condition found in this RFP must be noted on this form. (REQUIRED)

W-9 Upload

TEXAS W9.docx

Interested offerors must upload an updated Form W-9 prior to submitting a proposal.

Products and Pricing

Copy of Region IV Pricing.xlsx

Each offeror awarded an item under this solicitation may offer their complete product and service offering/a balance of line. Describe the full line of products and services offered by supplier.

Disclosure of Interested Parties form or Evidence of Exemption

Form 1295 Region IV ESC.pdf

If you are required under statute to submit a Disclosure of Interested Parties form (1295 form), you must do so here. Section 6 must be completed in its entirety. Alternatively, if you are exempt under the statute, you must provide documentation affirming your exemption. (REQUIRED, see Attribute titled "DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTED PARTIES")

Exhibit A - Response for National Cooperative Contract

REGION-IV ESC OMNIA Partners - Exhibit A Response for National Cooperative Contract.pdf

Complete and upload your response to Exhibit A - Response for National Cooperative Contract. This upload shall consist of a single document of the Proposer's own design that addresses the information in Exhibit A.

OMNIA Partners - Exhibit F Federal Funds Certifications

REGION-IV ESC OMNIA Partners - Exhibit F Federal Funds Certifications Form.pdf

Complete and upload your response to Exhibit F - Federal Funds Certification. This upload should consist of a single document completed with all checkboxes, initials, signatures, and information fields filled in as appropriate.

OMNIA Partners - Exhibit G New Jersey Business Compliance

REGION-IV ESC OMNIA Partners - Exhibit G New Jersey Compliance Form for REGION IV ESC.pdf

Complete and upload your response to Exhibit G - New Jersey Business Compliance. This upload should consist of a single document that is comprised of DOC #1 through DOC #10, with all checkboxes, initials, signature, and information fields completed as appropriate.

Additional Agreements Offeror will require Participating Agencies to sign.

No response

If the Offeror will require individual agencies to complete any additional requirements or agreements outside of what is proposed and agreed to during this proposal solicitation, Offeror must submit such requirements or agreements as an uploaded file here. If uploading more than one file, select "New" under the "Other Response Attachments" section found lower on this webpage, and upload as many documents as is necessary to submit all additional requirements for participating agencies.

Value Added Services

No response

Provide any additional information related to products and services the Offeror proposes to enhance and add value to the Contract. For example, a proposal for furniture may include additional value-added selections such as installation, white glove delivery options, setup/cleaning, classroom design/layout, special orders, etc. (OPTIONAL)

Conflict of Interest Questionnaire

No response

If a conflict exists that requires the submission of a Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (CIQ), complete and upload the document here. (REQUIRED ONLY IF A CONFLICT EXISTS, see Attribute titled "CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE" for additional information.)

Diversity, HUB Certifications

No response

If your firm holds a certification from certifying agencies related to M/WBE, DBE, HUB, or other diverse business designations, you may upload the certificate here. (OPTIONAL)

Bid Attributes

1	<p>CONTRACT DURATION</p> <p>The initial term of the Contract is for a period of three (3) years unless terminated, canceled, or extended as otherwise provided herein. Region 4 ESC shall have the right in its sole discretion to renew the Contract for additional terms up to two (2) years after the end of the initial term or for a lesser period of time as determined by Region 4 ESC by providing written notice to the Contractor of Region 4 ESC's intent to renew thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the original term. Contractor acknowledges and understands Region 4 ESC is under no obligation whatsoever to extend the term of this Contract. In the event the proposal term, including renewals, ends before another proposal is executed, proposal prices and discounts may be extended on a month-to-month basis by mutual consent. Extensions are limited to the lesser of: a) six (6) additional monthly terms, or b) the time which is required to complete a new solicitation for the goods and services provided for in this solicitation. Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph, the term of the Contract, including any extension of the original term, shall be further extended until the expiration of any Purchase Order issued within the Contract term for a period of up to one year beyond the Contract term.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I certify compliance with this attribute.</p>
2	<p>NAME OF INDIVIDUAL COMPLETING THIS PROPOSAL</p> <p>Mark Evans</p>
3	<p>HOW MANY YEARS HAS YOUR BUSINESS OPERATED UNDER ITS PRESENT NAME</p> <p>25</p>
4	<p>WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT NUMBER OF CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS?</p> <p>24517</p>
5	<p>WHAT ARE YOUR BUSINESS HOURS?</p> <p>Typical Business hours are M-F 8am-5pm CST, however we have support 24x7x365.</p>

6	<p>IS 30 DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF INVOICE AN ACCEPTABLE PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR YOUR BUSINESS?</p> <p>If Yes, type "YES".</p> <p>If No, describe your payment schedule in the field provided.</p> <p>YES</p>
7	<p>WHAT IS THE STANDARD LEAD TIME FOR RECEIPT OF PRODUCTS AFTER ORDER IS RECIEVED (ARO), IN DAYS?</p> <p>Provide your answer in number of DAYS after receipt of order (ARO).</p> <p>98-day average</p>
8	<p>ACCOUNT MANAGER NAME</p> <p>Please indicate the name of the account manager we should speak to with concerns about the products and/or services in this proposal.</p> <p>Kati Rodriguez-Perez</p>
9	<p>ACCOUNT MANAGER EMAIL</p> <p>Kati.Rodriguez@consolidated.com</p>
10	<p>ACCOUNT MANAGER PHONE</p> <p>(832) 557-0106</p>
11	<p>PAYMENT REMITTANCE ADDRESS</p> <p>Consolidated Communications P.O. Box 66523, Saint Louis, MO 63166-6523</p>
12	<p>PAYMENT REMITTANCE PHONE</p> <p>(866) 240-8889</p>
13	<p>CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER/QUOTE EMAIL</p> <p>Vendors may choose to have purchase orders emailed to them in PDF format in lieu of having them faxed or mailed. To elect this option, please offer the preferred email address in the accompanying field. This email address will apply to any purchases from your company, so the use of a generic email address is suggested, such as bids@companyname.com or purchaseorders@businessname.com.</p> <p>Kirk.Barajas@consolidated.com</p>
14	<p>CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER/QUOTE FAX NUMBER, IF APPLICABLE</p> <p>If applicable, please provide a fax number to send orders and quote requests.</p> <p>_____</p>
15	<p>REQUIRED REFERENCE QUOTE OR CONTRACT NUMBER, IF APPLICABLE</p> <p>Enter your quote or contract number and/or any other information our staff would need provide on the face of purchase orders in order to receive discount percentages and contract pricing.</p> <p>N/A</p>
16	<p>COMPANY WEBSITE ADDRESS, IF APPLICABLE</p> <p>consolidated.com</p>

1 7	HOW WERE YOU NOTIFIED OF THIS BID OPPORTUNITY? In order to verify the efficiency of communication tools used to notify vendors of bidding opportunities, we ask that you provide us with the manner in which you received notification of this request for bid/proposal. <input type="text" value="Through the posting of the Form 470 to USAC."/>
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1 8	REFERENCE 1 Please provide the reference of a school and/or business who have utilized the same equipment/products within the last two years. Include Company/Government name, address, contact name, and contact phone number. <input type="text" value="Katy ISD Joe Christoffersen, Director of Technology Operations - 281.396.2388 6301 S. Stadium Ln., Katy, TX 77494"/>
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1 9	REFERENCE 1 EMAIL <input type="text" value="josephnchristoffersen@katyisd.org"/>
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2 0	REFERENCE 2 Please provide the reference of a school and/or business who have utilized the same equipment/products within the last two years. Include Company/Government name, address, contact name, and contact phone number. <input type="text" value="Montgomery Independent School District Amanda Davis-Summerville, M/d - Executive Director of Technology - 936.276.2510 20774 Eva Street, Montgomery, TX 77356"/>
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2 1	REFERENCE 2 EMAIL <input type="text" value="amanda.davis@misd.org"/>
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2 2	REFERENCE 3 Please provide the reference of a school and/or business who have utilized the same equipment/products within the last two years. Include Company/Government name, address, contact name, and contact phone number. <input type="text" value="Education Service Center 7 Tim O'Sullivan, Network Specialist II - 903.988.6958 1909 N. Longview St., Kilgore, TX 75662"/>
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2 3	REFERENCE 3 EMAIL <input type="text" value="tosullivan@esc7.net"/>
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2 4	THE U.S. STATE YOUR PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IS LOCATED. <input type="text" value="Texas"/>
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2 5	RECIPROCITY For Businesses not located in Texas: Does your state of residence or incorporation require out-of-state bidders to underbid vendors residing in your state by a prescribed amount or percentage to receive a comparable contract? If Yes, please input that percentage; If No, please leave the adjacent field blank. <input type="text" value="No response"/>
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2 6	PARTIAL AWARD ACCEPTANCE REGION 4 ESC retains the right to award this contract in such a manner that it receives the best overall value for the goods and/or services requested in this request for proposal or bid, which may include awarding to multiple vendors. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I understand.
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2 7	<p>PURCHASE ORDER POLICY</p> <p>REGION 4 ESC purchases tangible goods and services through the use of approved Purchase Orders. Vendors are highly discouraged from sending products, and/or performing services without prior receipt of an approved District Purchase Order. While campuses and departments may call for quotes and information, please be advised the District is not obligated to pay for any services and/or products ordered via telephone or email in without the presence of a properly executed Purchase Order.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I understand.</p>
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2 8	<p>ADDENDA NOTIFICATIONS</p> <p>Any addenda to this proposal will be issued electronically through this system. It is vendor's responsibility to review addenda upon e-mailed notice and retract/amend their submission as deemed necessary. REGION 4 ESC may choose to mark a proposal received prior to the issuance of an addendum as non-responsive should REGION 4 ESC, in its sole determination, finds the addendum to be of such material change that it warrants such determination. If such proposal is found non-responsive, REGION 4 ESC will not consider the proposal for evaluation or further consideration.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I understand.</p>
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2 9	<p>Provide equipment manufacturer, equipment types and discounts off published list price.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
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3 0	<p>Define any freight charges.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
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3 1	<p>Describe how Offeror responds to emergency orders.</p> <p>CCI has emergency processes in place, and would follow them in the nature of emergency. Additional information regarding escalations would be provided if contract awarded. Some information is confidential/proprietary.</p>
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3 2	<p>What is Offeror's average Fill Rate?</p> <p>Average 98-day</p>
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3 3	<p>What is Offeror's average on time delivery rate? Describe Offeror's history of meeting the shipping and delivery timelines.</p> <p>We have other cooperative agreements in place currently in which, delivery has not been an issue with providing products. Some deliverables/items are not applicable to our solution.</p>
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3 4	<p>Describe Offeror's return and restocking policy.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
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3 5	<p>Describe Offeror's ability to meet service and warranty needs.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
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3 6	<p>Describe Offeror's customer service/problem resolution process. Include hours of operation, number of services, etc.</p> <p>Customer service is available 24x7x365. An escalation list for outages/issues/billing etc., would be provided during implementation. Standard hours of operation are 8a-5p M-F CST, however support centers are staffed 24x7x365.</p>
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3 7	<p>Describe Offeror's invoicing process. Include payment terms and acceptable methods of payments. Offerors shall describe any associated fees pertaining to credit cards/p-cards.</p> <p>Invoices are mailed to customer. CCI offers an online portal center which shows billing information, and allows payments to be made. Standard 30 Day term applies. EFT, Debit/Credit accepted. P-Cards are not an accepted form of payment at this time.</p>
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38	<p>Describe Offeror's contract implementation/customer transition plan.</p> <p>CCI would conduct a kick-off meeting upon award with customer, to strategize the process of implementation, as well as any training needed, timelines for deliverables, and contact information/main point of contact.</p>
39	<p>Describe the financial condition of Offeror.</p> <p>CCI is a privately owned company, and has been in business for over 125 years. Our financial information is available on our website.</p>
40	<p>Provide a website link in order to review website ease of use, availability, and capabilities related to ordering, returns and reporting. Describe the website's capabilities and functionality.</p> <p>consolidated.com is our general website. Ordering/returns/reporting are not applicable to our proposed solution.</p>
41	<p>Describe the Offeror's safety record.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
42	<p>Provide a brief history of the Offeror, including year it was established and corporate office location.</p> <p>CCI was founded in 1894, in Mattoon, Illinois. Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. is still headquartered at 2116 S. 17th Street, Mattoon, IL 61938.</p>
43	<p>Describe Offeror's reputation in the marketplace.</p> <p>CCI is well known throughout the nation as a top 10 fiber provider with over 65,500 fiber route miles and counting. CCI's reputation for delivering products and services has kept us continuously growing our footprint for 125 years.</p>
44	<p>Describe Offeror's reputation of products and services in the marketplace.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
45	<p>Describe if distributors/dealers/resellers/subsidiaries/partners ("affiliates") will be used to fulfill the contract. Submit a list of those affiliates authorized to sell under the proposed contract.</p> <p>Where and how does Offeror propose to maintain an authorized affiliate list so it may be accessed by Participating Agencies? How often does the supplier propose to update the affiliate list? Confirm the Offeror reviews the financial health, debarment status and overall general capacity of authorized affiliates. Offerors who use authorized affiliates are responsible for ensuring authorized affiliates are performing in accordance with the contract.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
46	<p>Describe the experience and qualifications of key employees.</p> <p>Our staff is trained to provide services to each of our customers. CCI continuously reviews processes related to technology and implements continuous education keeping our professionals top notch.</p>
47	<p>Describe Offeror's experience working with the government sector.</p> <p>CCI has been supporting the Government sector for over 125 years. Our clients include Federal, State, and Local governments across our 23 state footprint.</p>
48	<p>Describe past litigation, bankruptcy, reorganization, state investigations of entity or current officers and directors.</p> <p>CCI does not have any current legal matters.</p>
49	<p>Provide Offeror's expertise in working with public sector and understanding of the unique technical regulatory requirements.</p> <p>CCI has worked with public sector over 125 years, and adheres to the highest regulatory standards constantly using feedback and technology for innovation to allow our clients to meet and exceed their business goals.</p>

50	<p>Indicate if Offeror is licensed to do business in all 50 states.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
51	<p>Value Add - Provide any additional information related to products and services Offeror proposes to enhance and add value to the Contract.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
52	<p>Include a per diem rate.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
53	<p>For Non-Normal Working Hours, indicate if there is a minimum charge of hours and what the number of hours is.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
54	<p>Is pricing available for all products and services?</p> <p>Yes</p>
55	<p>Describe any shipping charges (where applicable).</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
56	<p>Provide pricing for warranties on all products and services.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
57	<p>Describe any return or restocking fees.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
58	<p>Describe any additional discounts or rebates available. Additional discounts or rebates may be offered for large quantity orders, single ship to location, growth, annual spend, guaranteed quantity, etc.</p> <p>We provide a monthly statement that can be audited against the agreement entered into between our two organizations. Additionally, we dedicate a Senior Account Manager to the account who conducts annual audits to ensure that the contract pricing matches the billing statement pricing.</p>
59	<p>Describe how customers verify they are receiving Contract pricing.</p> <p>Our pricing is our Lowest Cost Price (LCP). No additional discounts or other factors would lower our price.</p>
60	<p>Propose the frequency of updates to the Offeror's pricing structure. Describe any proposed indices to guide price adjustments. If offering a catalog contract with discounts by category, while changes in individual pricing may change, the category discounts should not change over the term of the Contract.</p> <p>Our pricing is fixed, ensuring transparency and consistency for our customers. However, it may be adjusted downward if regulatory requirements necessitate a lower price.</p>
61	<p>Describe how future product introductions will be priced and align with Contract pricing proposed.</p> <p>Through constant innovation and technology, our services and products are designed to align with and support the specific needs of your organization. We ensure that with customization, reliability, efficiency, support, compliance and scalability. By focusing on these key areas, we ensure that our services not only meet, but exceed the needs of your organization, helping you achieve your business goals and drive success.</p>

6 2	<p>Describe any diversity programs or partners supplier does business with and how Participating Agencies may use diverse partners through the Master Agreement.</p> <p>Indicate how, if at all, pricing changes when using the diversity program. If there are any diversity programs, provide a list of diversity alliances and a copy of their certifications.</p> <p>Not applicable to our solution.</p>
6 3	<p>Minority Women Business Enterprise Certification</p> <p>If yes, list certifying agency.</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
6 4	<p>Small Business Enterprise (SBE) or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Certification</p> <p>If yes, list certifying agency.</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
6 5	<p>Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Certification</p> <p>If yes, list certifying agency.</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
6 6	<p>Historically Underutilized Business Zone Enterprise (HUBZone) Certification</p> <p>If yes, list certifying agency.</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
6 7	<p>Other recognized diversity certificate holder</p> <p>If yes, list certifying agency</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
6 8	<p>Describe how Supplier will transition any existing Public Agency customers' accounts to the Master Agreement available nationally through OMNIA Partners.</p> <p>Include a list of current cooperative contracts (regional and national) Offeror holds and describe how the Master Agreement will be positioned among the other cooperative agreements.</p> <p>We currently hold other cooperative agreements with many states, and governments such as the State of Illinois, State of Maine, BuyBoard-Texas and so on. This agreement, if awarded, would follow the same Lowest Corresponding Price available and offer the same products, solutions, and top notch services.</p>
6 9	<p>Acknowledge Supplier agrees to provide its logo(s) to OMNIA Partners and agrees to provide permission for reproduction of such logo in marketing communications and promotions.</p> <p>Acknowledge that use of OMNIA Partners logo will require permission for reproduction, as well.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

70 Confirm Supplier will be proactive in direct sales of Supplier's goods and services to Public Agencies nationwide and the timely follow up to leads established by OMNIA Partners.

All sales materials are to use the OMNIA Partners logo. At a minimum, the Offeror's sales initiatives should communicate:

- Master Agreement was competitively solicited and publicly awarded by a Principal Procurement Agency
- Best government pricing
- No cost to participate
- Non-exclusive

Yes

No

71 Confirm Offeror will train its national sales force on the Master Agreement. At a minimum, sales training should include:

- Key features of Master Agreement
- Working knowledge of the solicitation process
- Awareness of the range of Public Agencies that can utilize the Master Agreement through OMNIA Partners
- Knowledge of benefits of the use of cooperative contracts

Yes

No

72 Provide the name, title, email and phone number for the person(s), who will be responsible for:

- Executive Support
- Marketing
- Sales
- Sales Support
- Financial Reporting
- Accounts Payable
- Contracts

Direct Contact-Kati Rodriguez-Perez, Sr. Acct. Manager, Kirk Barajas, Sales Manager, Directors- Mark Evans and Casey Steele. Additional escalation, marketing, support and other contacts to be determined post award during implementation kick-off.

73 Describe in detail how Supplier's national sales force is structured, including contact information for the highest-level executive in charge of the sales team.

Our national sales force is structured to ensure comprehensive coverage and efficient service across all regions. We operate through a combination of regional offices and remote work setups, allowing us to maintain flexibility and responsiveness. The sales team is organized in a regional hierarchy, which includes Regional Directors who oversee the overall sales strategy and performance within their designated regions, Sales Managers who manage day-to-day sales operations and support their teams, Sales Engineers who provide technical expertise and support to both the sales team and customers, and Sales Executives who focus on direct sales activities, building relationships with clients, and driving revenue growth. The highest-level executive in charge of our national sales team is [Executive's Name], who serves as the Chief Sales Officer (CSO). You can reach [Executive's Name] at [Executive's Email] or [Executive's Phone Number]. This structure allows us to leverage the strengths of our regional teams while maintaining a cohesive national strategy. If you have any further questions or need additional information, please feel free to reach out.

**7
4 Explain in detail how the sales teams will work with the OMNIA Partners team to implement, grow and service the national program.**

To effectively implement, grow, and service the national program, the sales teams will work closely with the Region IV / OMNIA Partners team through a structured approach. During the implementation phase, both teams will engage in collaborative planning sessions to align on goals, strategies, and timelines. Comprehensive training sessions will be conducted to ensure all team members are familiar with the program's objectives, processes, and tools. Dedicated resources from both teams will be assigned to oversee the implementation phase, ensuring smooth coordination and communication. For growth, the teams will utilize combined market insights to identify opportunities and tailor strategies to target key segments. Joint marketing initiatives will be developed and executed to increase program visibility and attract new customers. Performance metrics will be established and monitored to track progress and make data-driven adjustments to strategies. In terms of service, a unified customer support framework will be created to address client needs efficiently, leveraging both teams' expertise. A continuous feedback mechanism will be implemented to gather insights from customers and make necessary improvements to the program. Regular review meetings will be scheduled to assess the program's performance, address challenges, and celebrate successes. By following this structured approach, the sales teams and the Region IV / OMNIA Partners team can work together seamlessly to implement, grow, and service the national program effectively. Does this help clarify how to approach your response?

**7
5 Explain in detail how Offeror will manage the overall national program throughout the term of the Master Agreement, including ongoing coordination of marketing and sales efforts, timely new Participating Public Agency account set-up, timely contract**

administration, etc.

1. Dedicated Sales Team o Establish a specialized sales team focused solely on managing and growing the Region IV Coop / OMNIA account. This team will be responsible for building relationships, understanding the unique needs of the Cooperative members, and providing tailored solutions. 2. Press Release Announcement o Issue a press releases announcing our partnership with the Region IV / OMNIA Cooperative. CCI will submit any press release to Region IV / OMNIA for prior written approval. This announcement will highlight the benefits and opportunities this collaboration brings to both parties and will be distributed to relevant media outlets and industry publications. 3. Member Announcement o Send a personalized announcement to all members within our service footprint. This communication will introduce our company, outline the advantages of our products and services, and provide details on how members can engage with us. 4. Drip Campaign o Implement a quarterly drip campaign to consistently engage with Cooperative members. This campaign will utilize a combination of email, direct mail, and telemarketing calls to: ? Raise awareness about our brand and offerings. ? Provide valuable content and updates relevant to members' interests and needs. ? Drive appointments and meetings to discuss how we can support their projects and goals. 5. Appointment Setting o The primary goal of the drip campaign will be to secure appointments with Cooperative members. Our sales team will use these opportunities to promote our brand, demonstrate our solutions, and build strong, lasting relationships. By combining these strategies, we aim to maximize our visibility, demonstrate our commitment to the Region IV / OMNIA Cooperative, and provide exceptional value to its members.

**7
6 State the amount of Supplier's Public Agency sales for the previous fiscal year. Provide a list of Supplier's top 10 Public Agency customers, the total purchases for each for the previous fiscal year along with a key contact for each.**

39.1 Million. We are more than happy to provide this information, but need a NDA in place before we can provide. United State Postal Service, Social Security Administration and the State of ME are examples.

**7
7 Year 1 - Provide the Contract Sales (as defined in Section 12 of OMNIA Partners Administration Agreement) that Supplier will guarantee each year under the Master Agreement for the initial three years of the Master Agreement ("Guaranteed Contract Sales").**

To the extent Supplier guarantees minimum Contract Sales, the Administrative Fee shall be calculated based on the greater of the actual Contract Sales and the Guaranteed Contract Sales.

\$36000

7 8	<p>Year 2 - Provide the Contract Sales (as defined in Section 12 of OMNIA Partners Administration Agreement) that Supplier will guarantee each year under the Master Agreement for the initial three years of the Master Agreement</p> <p>To the extent Supplier guarantees minimum Contract Sales, the Administrative Fee shall be calculated based on the greater of the actual Contract Sales and the Guaranteed Contract Sales.</p> <p><input type="text" value="\$72000"/></p>
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7 9	<p>Year 3 - Provide the Contract Sales (as defined in Section 12 of OMNIA Partners Administration Agreement) that Supplier will guarantee each year under the Master Agreement for the initial three years of the Master Agreement</p> <p>To the extent Supplier guarantees minimum Contract Sales, the Administrative Fee shall be calculated based on the greater of the actual Contract Sales and the Guaranteed Contract Sales.</p> <p><input type="text" value="\$108000"/></p>
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8 0	<p>Please download and thoroughly review the Scope of Work, located on the Attachments Tab. Indicate your review and acceptance.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>
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8 1	<p>Oral Communications concerning this RFP shall not be binding and shall in no way excuse an Offeror of the obligations set forth in this proposal.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>
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8 2	<p>Please download and thoroughly review the Terms and Conditions, located on the Attachments Tab. Indicate your review and acceptance.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>
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**8
3** **Products/Pricing - Upload on Response Attachments Tab**

i. Offerors shall provide pricing based on coefficient pricing completing Appendix D; or on a discount from a manufacturer's or other price list or catalog, or fixed price, or a combination of both with indefinite quantities. Prices listed will be used to establish the extent of a manufacturer's product lines, services, warranties, etc. that are available from Offeror and the pricing per item. Multiple percentage discounts are acceptable if, where different percentage discounts apply, the different percentages are specified. Additional pricing and/or discounts may be included. Products and services proposed are to be priced separately with all ineligible items identified. Discounts proposed shall remain the same throughout the term of the contract and at all renewal options. At a minimum the Awarded Offeror must hold the proposed price list firm for the first 12 months after the contract award. Offerors may elect to limit their proposals to any category or categories.

· Complete the applicable Pricing information

o Provide equipment manufacturer, equipment types and discount off published list price.

o Define any freight charges.

o Provide classifications of labor with billable rates for each respondent's office(s), territories or district(s) along with any sub-office pricing as required. Each of these labor classification rates shall be fully burdened, defined and will be set for Normal Working Hours and Non-Normal Working Hours. Sub-contractor labor shall not be recognized. Each respondent shall determine their sub-contractor's labor rate as a prime labor classification. For example, an electrician's labor rate shall be calculated based on the respondent's sub-contractor's labor billable rate plus respondent's normal margins on sub-contractor labor. Labor classification shall be provided in the response.

o If using coefficient pricing, the Normal Working Hours and Non-Normal Working Hours for tasks identified in the Scope of Work shall use a benchmark against an established data set (e.g.; RSMMeans or others) to ensure that the hours provided can be verified. Each of these hourly tasks shall have a coefficient of labor against an established data set (e.g.; RSMMeans or others) city cost index by each respondent's office(s), territories or district(s) to determine effectiveness of providing these tasks. Offerors using coefficient pricing will complete Appendix D.

Federal Funding Pricing: Due to products and services potentially being used in response to an emergency or disaster recovery situation in which federal funding may be applied, provide alternative pricing that does not include cost plus a percentage of cost or pricing based on time and materials; if time and materials is necessary, a ceiling price that the contract exceeds at its own risk will be needed. Products and services provided in a situation where an agency is eligible for federal funding, Offeror is subject to and must comply with all federal requirements applicable to the funding including, but not limited to the FEMA Special Conditions section located in the Federal Funds Certifications Exhibit F.

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4** **Not to Exceed Pricing**

Region 4 ESC requests pricing be submitted as not to exceed pricing. Unlike fixed pricing, the Contractor can adjust submitted pricing lower if needed but, cannot exceed original pricing submitted. Contractor must allow for lower pricing to be available for similar product and service purchases. Cost plus pricing as a primary pricing structure is not acceptable.

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5** **Provide the number, size and location of Supplier's distribution facilities, warehouses and retail network as applicable.**

Not applicable - More than happy to provide any specifics, with yours or our NDA in place

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Provide a detailed ninety-day plan beginning from award date of the Master Agreement describing the strategy to immediately implement the Master Agreement as supplier's primary go to market strategy for Public Agencies to supplier's teams nationwide,

to include, but not limited to:

- i. Executive leadership endorsement and sponsorship of the award as the public sector go-to-market strategy within first 10 days
- ii. Training and education of Supplier's national sales force with participation from the Supplier's executive leadership, along with the OMNIA Partners team within first 90 days

Upon the award date of the Master Agreement, our ninety-day plan to implement it as our primary go-to-market strategy for Public Agencies will commence with a comprehensive kickoff meeting involving key stakeholders from both our team and the OMNIA Partners team. In the first thirty days, we will focus on aligning our sales teams with the new strategy through intensive training sessions, ensuring they are well-versed in the objectives, benefits, and processes associated with the Master Agreement. Concurrently, we will develop and distribute detailed marketing materials and communication plans to create awareness and excitement about the new program among our target public agencies. During the next thirty days, we will launch targeted marketing campaigns and outreach initiatives to engage potential public agency clients. Our regional directors, sales managers, sales engineers, and sales executives will work collaboratively to identify and prioritize key opportunities, leveraging their local knowledge and relationships. We will also establish a robust support system to address any questions or concerns from our teams and clients, ensuring a smooth transition to the new strategy. In the final thirty days, we will focus on monitoring and optimizing our efforts. This will involve regular check-ins with our sales teams to gather feedback, assess progress, and make necessary adjustments. We will also track key performance indicators to measure the success of our implementation and identify areas for improvement. By the end of the ninety days, we aim to have fully integrated the Master Agreement into our go-to-market strategy, with our teams nationwide actively promoting and servicing the program for public agencies. This structured approach will ensure a seamless and effective rollout, positioning us for long-term success.

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Provide a detailed ninety-day plan beginning from award date of the Master Agreement describing the strategy to market the Master Agreement to current Participating Public Agencies, existing Public Agency customers of Supplier, as well as to prospective

Public Agencies nationwide immediately upon award, to include, but not limited to:

- i. Creation and distribution of a co-branded press release to trade publications
- ii. Announcement, Master Agreement details and contact information published on the Supplier's website within first 90 days
- iii. Design, publication and distribution of co-branded marketing materials within first 90 days
- iv. Commitment to attendance and participation with OMNIA Partners at national (i.e. NIGP Annual Forum, NPI Conference, etc.), regional (i.e. Regional NIGP Chapter Meetings, Regional Cooperative Summits, etc.) and supplier-specific trade shows, conferences and meetings throughout the term of the Master Agreement
- v. Commitment to attend, exhibit and participate at the NIGP Annual Forum in an area reserved by OMNIA Partners for partner suppliers. Booth space will be purchased and staffed by Supplier. In addition, Supplier commits to provide reasonable assistance to the overall promotion and marketing efforts for the NIGP Annual Forum, as directed by OMNIA Partners.
- vi. Design and publication of national and regional advertising in trade publications throughout the term of the Master Agreement
- vii. Ongoing marketing and promotion of the Master Agreement throughout its term (case studies, collateral pieces, presentations, promotions, etc.)
- viii. Dedicated OMNIA Partners internet web-based homepage on Supplier's website with:
 - OMNIA Partners standard logo;
 - Copy of original Request for Proposal;
 - Copy of Master Agreement and amendments between Principal Procurement Agency and Supplier;
 - Summary of Products and pricing;
 - Marketing Materials
 - Electronic link to OMNIA Partners' website including the online registration page;
 - A dedicated toll-free number and email address for OMNIA Partners

Upon the award date of the Master Agreement, our ninety-day plan to implement it as our primary go-to-market strategy for Participating Public Agencies will commence with a comprehensive kickoff meeting involving key stakeholders from both our team and the OMNIA Partners team. In the first thirty days, we will focus on aligning our sales teams with the new strategy through intensive training sessions, ensuring they are well-versed in the objectives, benefits, and processes associated with the Master Agreement. Concurrently, we will develop and distribute detailed marketing materials and communication plans to create awareness and excitement about the new program among our target public agencies. During the next thirty days, we will launch targeted marketing campaigns and outreach initiatives to engage potential public agency clients. Our regional directors, sales managers, sales engineers, and sales executives will work collaboratively to identify and prioritize key opportunities, leveraging their local knowledge and relationships. We will also establish a robust support system to address any questions or concerns from our teams and clients, ensuring a smooth transition to the new strategy. In the final thirty days, we will focus on monitoring and optimizing our efforts. This will involve regular check-ins with our sales teams to gather feedback, assess progress, and make necessary adjustments. We will also track key performance indicators to measure the success of our implementation and identify areas for improvement. By the end of the ninety days, we aim to have fully integrated the Master Agreement into our go-to-market strategy, with our teams nationwide actively promoting and servicing the program for public agencies. This structured approach will ensure a seamless and effective rollout, positioning us for long-term success.

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GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Respondent agrees to comply with the Contract and General Terms and Conditions provided as an attachment to this online bid event. Any deviations to the Contract and General Terms and Conditions may be provided using the procedures set forth in the attribute pertaining to deviations.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

89 DEVIATIONS TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS
Any Deviation from the RFP documents, including the General Terms and Conditions, Notice to Offeror, or any other document presented with terms for consideration by the proposer **MUST** be documented and presented on the Deviation Form and attached to this electronic bid event via an electronic upload to the "Response Attachments" tab. In addition to indicating the requested deviations on the form, additional pages may be provided to more thoroughly explain each deviation listed on the Deviation Form.
 I certify compliance with this attribute.

90 FELONY CONVICTION NOTIFICATION
State of Texas Legislative Senate Bill No. 1 Section 44.034, Notification of Criminal History, Subsection (a), states "a person or business entity that enters into an agreement with a school district must give advance notice to the district if the person or an owner or operator of the business entity has been convicted of a felony. The notice must include a general description of the conduct resulting in the conviction of a felony".
Subsection (b) states "a school district may terminate the agreement with a person or business entity if the district determines that the person or business entity failed to give notice as required by Subsection (a), or misrepresented the conduct resulting in the conviction. The district must compensate the person or business entity for services performed before the termination of the contract".
Subsection (c) states "this section does not apply to a publicly held corporation".
Use the list of values associated with this item to identify your status as it relates to this legal requirement.

91 NAME OF FELON AND NATURE OF FELONY, IF APPLICABLE
If response to previous attribute was "Felon - person/owner IS a convicted felon", vendor shall give the name of the felon and details of conviction.
If you did not answer "Felon - person/owner IS a convicted felon" in the previous question, type "N/A" in the respective field.

92 CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS REVIEW OF CERTAIN CONTRACT EMPLOYEES
Texas Education Code Chapter §22.0834 requires that criminal history records be obtained regarding covered employees of entities that contract with a school entity in Texas to provide services for that school entity ("Contractors") and entities that contract with school entity contractors ("Subcontractors"). Covered employees with disqualifying criminal histories are prohibited from serving at a school entity. Contractors/Subcontractors contracting with a school entity shall (1) maintain compliance with the requirements of Texas Education Code Chapter 22 to the school entity; and (2) require that each of their subcontractors complies with the requirements of Texas Education Code Chapter 22. Contractors performing work at a school entity in Texas must comply with these statutes.
Compliance includes providing or causing employees and sub-contractor employees to provide requested information and fingerprinting upon request.
Covered employees: Employees of a Contractor/Subcontractor who have or will have continuing duties related to the service to be performed at a school entity and have or will have direct contact with students. The school entity will be the final arbiter of what constitutes *continuing duties* and *direct contact* with students at their school.
 I certify compliance with this attribute.

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HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS (HUB) CERTIFICATION

Businesses that have been certified by the Texas Building and Procurement Commission (TBPC) or other qualified agency as Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) entities are encouraged to indicate their HUB status when responding to this proposal invitation. The electronic catalogs will indicate HUB certifications for vendors that properly indicate and document their HUB certification on this form.

Select one of the available options:

OPTION A: My business has NOT been certified as HUB.

OPTION B: I certify that my business has been certified as a Historically Underutilized Business (HUB), and I have/will upload the certification information into the "Response Attachments" Tab located in this online bidding event.

OPTION A - Not HUB

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DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTED PARTIES

Texas state law requires the Disclosure of Interested Parties be filed with a public entity, including regional service centers and school districts, for any contract which:

- (1) requires an action or vote by the governing body; or
- (2) has a value of \$1 million or more; or
- (3) for any services provided that would require an individual to register as a lobbyist under TX Gov't Code Chapter 305.

NOTE: This form is not required if the vendor is a publicly-traded business entity, including a wholly-owned subsidiary of the business entity (a company in which ownership is dispersed among the general public via shares of stock which are traded via at least one stock exchange or over-the-counter market).

If you are required by law to submit this form, it must be completed online at the Texas Ethics Commission website. Obtain a numbered certificate and click the link below to access the instructions and to complete this required form. Upon completion, vendors required to submit the form must attach it to the proposal via the "Response Attachments" Tab.

[Click here to complete the form on the Texas Ethic Commission's 1295 Form webpage.](#)

Please note: The District must verify receipt of all required 1295 forms received within 30 days on the Texas Ethics Commission website. This verification does not indicate a contract award. Contract awards will be issued via direct communication from the AISD Purchasing Department. A contract requiring a Disclosure of Interested Parties form is voidable at any time if:

- (1) the governmental entity or state agency submits to the business entity written notice of the business entity's failure to provide the required disclosure; and
- (2) the business entity fails to submit to the governmental entity or state agency the required disclosure on or before the 10th business day after the date the business entity receives the written notice.

IF UNDER LAW YOU ARE EXEMPT FROM SUBMITTING THIS 1295 FORM, PROPOSERS MUST SUBMIT A DOCUMENT THAT SHOWS PROOF OR PROVIDES EXPLANATION OF THIS EXEMPTION.

THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS ARE EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF TEXAS DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTED PARTIES LAWS:

- a sponsored research contract of an institution of higher education;
- an interagency contract of a state agency or an institution of higher education;
- a contract related to health and human services if:
 - the value of the contract cannot be determined at the time the contract is executed; and
 - any qualified vendor is eligible for the contract;
- a contract with a publicly traded business entity, including a wholly owned subsidiary of the business entity;
- a contract with an electric utility, as that term is defined by Section 31.002, Utilities Code; or
- a contract with a gas utility, as that term is defined by Section 121.001, Utilities Code.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

Region 4 Education Service Center (Region 4) is required to comply with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176, Disclosure of Certain Relationships with Local Government Officers. House Bill 23 significantly changed Chapter 176 as well as the required disclosures and the corresponding forms. As of September 1, 2015, any vendor who does business with Region 4 or who seeks to do business with Region 4 must fill out the new Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (CIQ) if a conflict of interest exists. A conflict of interest exists in the following situations:

- 1) If the vendor has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of Region 4 or a family member of the officer, as described by section 176.003(a)(2)(A) of the Texas Local Government Code; or
- 2) If the vendor has given a local government officer of Region 4, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value of \$100, excluding any gift accepted by the officer or a family member of the officer if the gift is: (a) a political contribution as defined by Title 15 of the Election Code; or (b) a gift of food accepted as a guest; or
- 3) If the vendor has a family relationship with a local government officer of Region 4.

"Vendor" means a person who enters or seeks to enter into a contract with a local governmental entity. The term includes an agent of a vendor. The term includes an officer or employee of a state agency when that individual is acting in a private capacity to enter into a contract. The term does not include a state agency except for Texas Correctional Industries. Texas Local Government Code 176.001(7).

"Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on: (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity; (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency. Texas Local Government Code 176.001(3).

"Family relationship" means a relationship between a person and another person within the third degree by consanguinity or the second degree by affinity, as those terms are defined by Subchapter B, Chapter 573, Government Code. Texas Local Government Code 176.001(2-a).

"Local government officer" means: (A) a member of the governing body of a local governmental entity; (B) a director, superintendent, administrator, president, or other person designated as the executive officer of a local governmental entity; or (C) an agent of a local governmental entity who exercises discretion in the planning, recommending, selecting, or contracting of a vendor. Texas Local Government Code 176.001(4).

Individuals serving as a Member of the Board of Directors, the Executive Director, Cabinet Members, and other local government officers may be found at: <https://www.esc4.net/about/about-region-4>.

For additional information on Conflict of Interest Questionnaire, and the statutes that mandate it, please visit the following links:

[Texas Local Government Code, Section 176](#)

[Texas House Bill 23](#)

A blank Conflict of Interest Questionnaire is available by clicking:

<https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/data/forms/conflict/CIQ.pdf>.

If your firm is required to return a completed Conflict of Interest Questionnaire with your proposal submission, use the "Response Attachments" Tab to upload the completed document.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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ENTITIES THAT BOYCOTT ISRAEL

Pursuant to Chapter 2271 of the Texas Government Code, the Respondent hereby certifies and verifies that neither the Respondent, nor any affiliate, subsidiary, or parent company of the Respondent, if any (the "Respondent Companies"), boycotts Israel, and the Respondent agrees that the Respondent and Respondent Companies will not boycott Israel during the term of this Agreement. For purposes of this Agreement, the term "boycott" shall mean and include refusing to deal with, terminating business activities with, or otherwise taking any action that is intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations with Israel, or with a person or entity doing business in Israel or in an Israeli-controlled territory, but does not include an action made for ordinary business purposes.

EXCEPTIONS: Clause only applies to contracts and contractors that meet the following criteria: (i) Respondent is not a sole proprietorship; (ii) with 10 or more full-time employees; and (iii) with a contract to be paid a value of \$100,000 or more wholly or partially from public funds of the governmental entity.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

Section 2252.152 of the Texas Government Code prohibits Region 4 ESC from awarding a contract to any person who does business with Iran, Sudan, or a foreign terrorist organization as defined in Section 2252.151 of the Texas Government Code. Respondent certifies that it not ineligible to receive the contract.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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FIREARMS ENTITIES AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS DISCRIMINATION

Respondent verifies that: (1) it does not, and will not for the duration of the contract, have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association or (2) the verification required by Section 2274.002 of the Texas Government Code does not apply to the contract. If circumstances relevant to this provision change during the course of the contract, Respondent shall promptly notify Region 4 ESC.

APPLICABILITY: This clause applies only to a contract that: (1) is between a governmental entity and a company with at least 10 full-time employees; and (2) has a value of at least \$100,000 that is paid wholly or partly from public funds of the governmental entity.

EXCEPTIONS: This clause is not required when a state Agency: (1) contracts with a sole-source provider; or (2) does not receive any bids from a company that is able to provide the written verification required by Section 2274.002(b) of the Texas Government Code.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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ENERGY COMPANY BOYCOTT PROHIBITED

Respondent represents and warrants that: (1) it does not, and will not for the duration of the contract, boycott energy companies or (2) the verification required by Section 2274.002 of the Texas Government Code does not apply to the contract. If circumstances relevant to this provision change during the course of the contract, Respondent shall promptly notify Region 4 ESC.

EXCEPTIONS: Clause only applies to contracts and contractors that meet the following criteria: (i) a "company" within the definitions of Section 2274.001(2) of the Tex. Gov't Code; (ii) with 10 or more full-time employees; and (iii) with a contract to be paid a value of \$100,000 or more wholly or partially from public funds of the governmental entity.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AFFIRMATION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 2274.0102, Respondent certifies that neither it nor its parent company, nor any affiliate of Respondent or its parent company, is: (1) majority owned or controlled by citizens or governmental entities of China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, or any other country designated by the Governor under Government Code Section 2274.0103, or (2) headquartered in any of those countries.

EXCEPTION: Clause only applies to solicitations and contracts in which the contractor would be granted direct or remote access to or control of critical infrastructure, as defined by Section 2274.0101 of the Texas Government Code, in this state, other than access specifically allowed for product warranty and support purposes.

The Governor of the State of Texas may designate countries as a threat to critical infrastructure under Section 2274.0103 of the Texas Government Code. Agencies should promptly add any country that is designated by the Governor to this clause."

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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OPEN RECORDS POLICY

All proposals, information and documents submitted are subject to the Public Information Act requirements governed by the State of Texas once a Contract(s) is executed. If an Offeror believes its response, or parts of its response, may be exempted from disclosure, the Offeror must specify page-by-page and line-by-line the parts of the response, which it believes, are exempt and include detailed reasons to substantiate the exemption. Price is not confidential and will not be withheld. Any unmarked information will be considered public information and released, if requested under the Public Information Act.

The determination of whether information is confidential and not subject to disclosure is the duty of the Office of Attorney General (OAG). Region 4 ESC must provide the OAG sufficient information to render an opinion and therefore, vague and general claims to confidentiality by the Offeror are not acceptable. Region 4 ESC must comply with the opinions of the OAG. Region 4 ESC assumes no responsibility for asserting legal arguments on behalf of any Offeror. Offeror is advised to consult with their legal counsel concerning disclosure issues resulting from this procurement process and to take precautions to safeguard trade secrets and other proprietary information.

Check one of the following responses to the Acknowledgment and Acceptance of Region 4 ESC's Open Records Policy below:

OPTION A: We acknowledge Region 4 ESC's Open Records Policy and declare that no information submitted with this proposal, or any part of our proposal, is exempt from disclosure under the Public Information Act.

OPTION B: We declare the following information to be a trade secret or proprietary and exempt from disclosure under the Public Information Act and these requested exemptions are uploaded into the "Response Attachments" Tab located in this online bidding event.

(Note: Offeror must specify page-by-page and line-by-line the parts of the response, which it believes, are exempt. In addition, Offeror must include detailed reasons to substantiate the exemption(s). Price is not confidential and will not be withheld. All information believed to be a trade secret or proprietary must be listed. It is further understood that failure to identify such information, in strict accordance with the instructions, will result in that information being considered public information and released, if requested under the Public Information Act.)

OPTION A - No proprietary information

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CONSENT TO RELEASE PROPOSAL TABULATION

Notwithstanding anything explicitly and properly declared as Confidential or Proprietary Information to the contrary, by submitting a Proposal, Vendor consents and agrees that, upon Contract award, the District may publicly release, including posting on the public Region 4 ESC and/or OMNIA Partners website(s), a copy of the proposal tabulation for the Contract including Vendor name; proposed catalog/pricelist name(s); proposed percentage discount(s), unit price(s), hourly labor rate(s), or other specified pricing; and Vendor award notice information.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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CONTRACTING INFORMATION

If Vendor is not a governmental body and

- (a) this Agreement has a stated expenditure of at least \$1 million in public funds for the purchase of goods or services by REGION 4 ESC; or
- (b) this Agreement results in the expenditure of at least \$1 million in public funds for the purchase of goods or services by REGION 4 ESC in a fiscal year of REGION 4 ESC, the following certification shall apply; otherwise, this certification is not required.

As required by Tex. Gov't Code § 552.374(b), the following statement is included in the RFP and the Agreement (unless the Agreement is

- (1) related to the purchase or underwriting of a public security;
- (2) is or may be used as collateral on a loan; or
- (3) proceeds from which are used to pay debt service of a public security of loan):

"The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this RFP and Agreement and the contractor or vendor agrees that the contract can be terminated if the contractor or vendor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter."

Pursuant to Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Texas Government Code, the Vendor hereby certifies and agrees to

- (1) preserve all contracting information related to this Agreement as provided by the records retention requirements applicable to REGION 4 ESC for the duration of the Agreement;
- (2) promptly provide to REGION 4 ESC any contracting information related to the Agreement that is in the custody or possession of the Vendor on request of REGION 4 ESC; and
- (3) on completion of the Agreement, either
 - (a) provide at no cost to AISD all contracting information related to the Agreement that is in the custody or possession of Vendor, or
 - (b) preserve the contracting information related to the Agreement as provided by the records retention requirements applicable to REGION 4 ESC.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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ANTI-TRUST CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Vendor affirms under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Texas that:

- (1) I am duly authorized to execute this contract on my own behalf or on behalf of the company, corporation, firm, partnership or individual (Company) listed below;
- (2) In connection with this bid, neither I nor any representative of the Company have violated any provision of the Texas Free Enterprise and Antitrust Act, Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code Chapter 15;
- (3) In connection with this bid, neither I nor any representative of the Company have violated any federal antitrust law; and
- (4) Neither I nor any representative of the Company have directly or indirectly communicated any of the contents of this bid to a competitor of the Company or any other company, corporation, firm, partnership or individual engaged in the same line of business as the Company.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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FEDERAL RULE (A) - CONTRACT TERM VIOLATIONS

(A) Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$250,000 (2 CFR §200.320), which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. 1908, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (A) above, when federal funds are expended by Region 4 ESC, Region 4 ESC reserves all rights and privileges under the applicable laws and regulations with respect to this procurement in the event of breach of contract by either party.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

106 FEDERAL RULE (B) - TERMINATION CONDITIONS

(B) Termination for cause and for convenience by the grantee or subgrantee including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement. (All contracts in excess of \$10,000)

Pursuant to Federal Rule (B) above, when federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC, REGION 4 ESC reserves the right to immediately terminate any agreement in excess of \$10,000 resulting from this procurement process in the event of a breach or default of the agreement by Vendor, in the event vendor fails to: (1) meet schedules, deadlines, and/or delivery dates within the time specified in the procurement solicitation, contract, and/or a purchase order; (2) make any payments owed; or (3) otherwise perform in accordance with the contract and/or the procurement solicitation; (4) to the greatest extent authorized by law, if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or priorities of the Federal awarding agency or REGION 4 ESC. REGION 4 ESC also reserves the right to terminate the contract immediately, with written notice to vendor, for convenience, if REGION 4 ESC believes, in its sole discretion that it is in the best interest of REGION 4 ESC to do so. The vendor will be compensated for work performed and accepted and goods accepted by REGION 4 ESC as of the termination date if the contract is terminated for convenience of REGION 4 ESC. Any award under this procurement process is not exclusive and REGION 4 ESC reserves the right to purchase goods and services from other vendors when it is in the best interest of REGION 4 ESC.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

107 FEDERAL RULE (C) - EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

(C) Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, all contracts that meet the definition of “federally assisted construction contract” in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, “Equal Employment Opportunity” (30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, “Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity,” and implementing regulations at 41 CFR part 60, “Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.”

It is the policy of REGION 4 ESC not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, limited English proficiency or disabling conditions in its programs. Vendor agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment to be employed in the performance of this Contract, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions and privileges of employment, or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of age (except where based on a bona fide occupational qualification), sex (except where based on a bona fide occupational qualification) or race, color, religion, national origin, or ancestry. Vendor further agrees that every subcontract entered into for the performance of this Contract shall contain a provision requiring non-discrimination in employment herein specified binding upon each subcontractor. Breach of this covenant may be regarded as a material breach of the Contract.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (C) and the requirements stated above, when federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC on any federally assisted construction contract, the equal opportunity clause is incorporated by reference herein.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

108 **FEDERAL RULE (D) - DAVIS BACON ACT/COPELAND ACT**

(D) Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 3141-3148). When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146- 3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction"). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week. The non-Federal entity must place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract must be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency. The contracts must also include a provision for compliance with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (40 U.S.C. 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 3, "Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States"). The Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (D) above, when federal funds are expended by REGION4 ESC, during the term of an award for all contracts and subgrants for construction or repair, the vendor will be in compliance with all applicable Davis-Bacon Act provisions.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

109 **FEDERAL RULE (E) - CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND SAFETY STANDARDS ACT**

(E) (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708). Where applicable, all contracts awarded by the non-Federal entity in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (E) above, when federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC, the vendor certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by REGION 4 ESC resulting from this procurement process, the vendor will be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

110 **FEDERAL RULE (F) - RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS MADE UNDER A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT**

(F) If the Federal award meets the definition of "funding agreement" under 37 CFR §401.2 (a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that "funding agreement," the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (F) above, when federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC, the vendor certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by REGION 4 ESC resulting from this procurement process, the vendor agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in Federal Rule (F) above.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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FEDERAL RULE (G) - CLEAN AIR ACT/FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

(G) The Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387), as amended—Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251- 1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

When federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC for any contract resulting from this procurement process, the vendor certifies that the vendor will be in compliance with mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Pub. L. 94-163, 89 Stat. 871).

When federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC for any contract resulting from this procurement process in excess of \$100,000, the vendor certifies that the vendor is in compliance with all applicable standards, orders, regulations, and/or requirements issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1857(h)), Section 508 of the Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 117389 and Environmental Protection Agency Regulation, 40 CFR Part 15.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (G) above, when federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC, the vendor certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by REGION 4 ESC resulting from this procurement process, the vendor agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in Federal Rule (G) above.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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FEDERAL RULE (H) - DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

(H) (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)—A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the governmentwide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (H) above, when federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC, the vendor certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by REGION 4 ESC resulting from this procurement process, the vendor certifies that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation by any federal department or agency or by the State of Texas. Vendor shall immediately provide written notice to REGION 4 ESC if at any time the vendor learns that this certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances. REGION 4 ESC may rely upon a certification of a vendor that the vendor is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered contract, unless REGION 4 ESC knows the certification is erroneous.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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3 **FEDERAL RULE (I) - BYRD ANTI-LOBBYING AMENDMENT**

(I) (31 U.S.C. 1352)—Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (I) above, when federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC, the vendor certifies that during the term and after the awarded term of an award for all contracts by REGION 4 ESC resulting from this procurement process, the vendor certifies that it is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352). The undersigned further certifies that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any 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 a Federal contract, the making of a Federal grant, the making of a Federal loan, the entering into a cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(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 agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of 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 Form to Report Lobbying", in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certificate is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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4 **FEDERAL RULE (J) - PROCUREMENT OF RECOVERED MATERIALS**

(J) When federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC, REGION 4 ESC and its contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include: (1) procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; (2) procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and (3) establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (J) above, when federal funds are expended REGION 4 ESC, as required by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. § 6962(c)(3)(A)(i)), the vendor certifies, by signing this document, that the percentage of recovered materials content for EPA-designated items to be delivered or used in the performance of the contract will be at least the amount required by the applicable contract specifications or other contractual requirements.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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FEDERAL RULE (K) - PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TELECOM AND SURVEILLANCE SERVICE AND EQUIPMENT

(K) Region 4 ESC, as a non-federal entity, is prohibited from obligating or expending Federal financial assistance, to include loan or grant funds, to: (1) procure or obtain, (2) extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain, or (3) enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain, equipment, services, or systems that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as a critical technology as part of any system. Covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities) and physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure and other national security purposes, and video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities) for the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes detailed in 2 CFR § 200.216.

The Respondent certifies that it will not purchase equipment, services, or systems that use covered telecommunications, as defined herein, as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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FEDERAL RULE (L) - BUY AMERICAN PROVISIONS

(L) As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, REGION 4 ESC has a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States, including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products, when spending federal funds. Vendor agrees that the requirements of this section will be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this award, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award. Purchases that are made with non-federal funds or grants are excluded from the Buy American Act.

Vendor certifies that it is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Buy American Act. Purchases made in accordance with the Buy American Act must still follow the applicable procurement rules calling for free and open competition.

"Produced in the United States" means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States. "Manufactured products" means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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FEDERAL RULE - REQUIRED AFFIRMATIVE STEPS FOR SMALL, MINORITY, AND WOMEN-OWNED FIRMS FOR CONTRACTS PAID FOR WITH FEDERAL FUNDS

When federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC, Vendor is required to take all affirmative steps set forth in 2 CFR 200.321 to solicit and reach out to small, minority and women owned firms for any subcontracting opportunities on the project, including:

- 1) Placing qualified small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises on solicitation lists;
- 2) Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
- 3) Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
- 4) Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises; and
- 5) Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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8** **FEDERAL RULE - FEDERAL RECORD RETENTION**

When federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC for any contract resulting from this procurement process, the vendor certifies that it will comply with the record retention requirements detailed in 2 CFR §200.334. The vendor further certifies that vendor will retain all records as required by 2 CFR §200.334 for a period of five (5) years after grantees or subgrantees submit final expenditure reports or quarterly or annual financial reports, as applicable, and all other pending matters are closed.

Vendor agrees that REGION 4 ESC, Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives shall have access to any books, documents, papers and records of Vendor, and its successors, transferees, assignees, and subcontractors that are directly pertinent to the Contract for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions. The right also includes timely and reasonable access to Vendor's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion relating to such documents. Vendor agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed. Vendor agrees to provide the FEMA Administrator or his authorized representative access to construction or other work sites pertaining to the work being completed under the Contract.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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9** **FEDERAL RULE - PROFIT NEGOTIATION**

For purchases using Federal funds in excess of \$250,000, REGION 4 ESC may be required to negotiate profit as a separate element of the price. (See 2 CFR 200.324(b)).

When required by REGION 4 ESC, Vendor agrees to provide information relating to profitability of the given transaction and itemize the profit margin as a separate element of the price.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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0** **FEDERAL RULE - SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL ACT**

A non-Federal entity that is a state agency or agency of a political subdivision of a state and its contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceed \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines. (78 FR 78608, Dec. 26, 2013, as amended at 79 FR 75885, Dec. 19, 2014.)

Pursuant to this federal rule, when federal funds are expended by REGION 4 ESC, the vendor certifies that during the term of all contracts resulting from this procurement process, the vendor agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in this paragraph.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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1** **APPLICABILITY TO SUBCONTRACTORS**

Vendor agrees that all contracts it awards pursuant to this procurement action shall be bound by the terms and conditions of this procurement action.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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2** **COMPLIANCE WITH THE ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT**

When REGION 4 ESC expends federal funds for any contract resulting from this procurement process, Vendor certifies that it will comply with the mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6321 et seq.; 49 C.F.R. Part 18).

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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INDEMNIFICATION

Acts or Omissions

Vendor shall indemnify and hold harmless Region 4, AND/OR THEIR OFFICERS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEY FEES, AND EXPENSES arising out of, or resulting from any acts or omissions of the Vendor or its agents, employees, subcontractors, Order Fulfillers, or suppliers of subcontractors in the execution or performance of the Contract and any Purchase Orders issued under the Contract.

Infringements

a) Vendor shall indemnify and hold harmless Region 4 and Customers, AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, ASSIGNEES, AND/OR DESIGNEES from any and all third party claims involving infringement of United States patents, copyrights, trade and service marks, and any other intellectual or intangible property rights in connection with the PERFORMANCES OR ACTIONS OF VENDOR PURSUANT TO THIS CONTRACT. VENDOR AND THE CUSTOMER AGREE TO FURNISH TIMELY WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OTHER OF ANY SUCH CLAIM. VENDOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES.

b) Vendor shall have no liability under this section if the alleged infringement is caused in whole or in part by: (i) use of the product or service for a purpose or in a manner for which the product or service was not designed, (ii) any modification made to the product without Vendor's written approval, (iii) any modifications made to the product by the Vendor pursuant to Customer's specific instructions, (iv) any intellectual property right owned by or licensed to Customer, or (v) any use of the product or service by Customer that is not in conformity with the terms of any applicable license agreement.

c) If Vendor becomes aware of an actual or potential claim, or Customer provides Vendor with notice of an actual or potential claim, Vendor may (or in the case of an injunction against Customer, shall), at Vendor's sole option and expense; (i) procure for the Customer the right to continue to use the affected portion of the product or service, or (ii) modify or replace the affected portion of the product or service with functionally equivalent or superior product or service so that Customer's use is non-infringing.

Taxes/Workers' Compensation/Unemployment Insurance – Including Indemnity

a) VENDOR AGREES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS CONTRACT, VENDOR SHALL BE ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LIABILITY AND PAYMENT OF VENDOR'S AND VENDOR'S EMPLOYEES' TAXES OF WHATEVER KIND, ARISING OUT OF THE PERFORMANCES IN THIS CONTRACT. VENDOR AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS APPLICABLE TO ANY SUCH PERSONS, INCLUDING LAWS REGARDING WAGES, TAXES, INSURANCE, AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION. THE CUSTOMER AND/OR REGION 4 SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO THE VENDOR, ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, OR OTHERS FOR THE PAYMENT OF TAXES OR THE PROVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION OR ANY BENEFIT AVAILABLE TO A STATE EMPLOYEE OR EMPLOYEE OF ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY CUSTOMER.

b) VENDOR AGREES TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS CUSTOMERS, REGION 4 AND/OR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, CONTRACTORS, AND/OR ASSIGNEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, OR SUITS, AND ALL RELATED COSTS, ATTORNEYS' FEES, AND EXPENSES, RELATING TO TAX LIABILITY, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND/OR WORKERS' COMPENSATION IN ITS PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS CONTRACT, VENDOR SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY ALL COSTS OF DEFENSE INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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EXCESS OBLIGATIONS PROHIBITED

Proposer understands that all obligations of Region 4 ESC under the contract are subject to the availability of state funds. If such funds are not appropriated or become unavailable, the contract may be terminated by Region 4 ESC.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT

Respondent certifies that neither it nor its principals are debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or otherwise excluded from participation in the contract by any state or federal agency.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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CHANGE IN LAW AND COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

Proposer shall comply with all laws, regulations, requirements and guidelines applicable to a vendor providing services and products required by the contract to the Region 4 ESC, as these laws, regulations, requirements and guidelines currently exist and as amended throughout the term of the contract. Region 4 ESC reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to unilaterally amend the contract prior to award and throughout the term of the contract to incorporate any modifications necessary for compliance with all applicable state and federal laws, regulations, requirements and guidelines.

I certify compliance with this attribute.

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For the following categories, the Offeror shall provide the following information to include;

o HVAC Refrigeration

- Type (e.g., Rotary, Centrifugal, Scroll, Reciprocating., Absorption)
- Cooling medium (e.g., air, water)
- Brand Name(s)
- Capacity Range (tons)
- Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
- Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
- Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
- Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
- Range of Efficiencies (KW/Ton)
- Estimated Market Share (North America)
- Provide example data on each type of product provided
- Detail Features & Benefits

o Indoor Air Quality Products and Devices

- Type (Active polarization, non-ionizing, electronic air cleaning systems intended to replace passive filtration, any other.)
- Brand Name(s)
- Capacity Range
- Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
- Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
- Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
- Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
- Range of Efficiencies
- Estimated Market Share (North America)
- Provide example data on each type of product provided
- Detail Features & Benefits

o Unitary

- Type (e.g., rooftops, split systems, VRFs, Heat Pumps, PTACs, water source, mini-splits)
- Brand Name(s)
- Capacity Range
- Heating Medium (Electric, Gas, Steam, Hot Water)
- Cooling Medium (DX, Chilled Water)
- Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
- Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
- Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
- Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
- Range of Efficiencies (EER, SEER, COP)
- Estimated Market Share (North America)
- Provide example data on each type of product provided
- Detail Features & Benefits

o Air handling

- Type (e.g. central station-manufactured or custom makeup air, fan, filter, coil sections)
- Brand Name(s)
- Fan Types (e.g. Backward incline, Forward curve, airfoil)
- Capacity Range (CFM)
- Heating Medium (Electric, Gas, Steam, Hot Water)
- Cooling Medium (DX, Chilled Water)
- Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)

- Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
- Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
- Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
- Estimated Market Share (North America)
- Provide example data on each type of product provided
- Detail Features & Benefits
- o **Air Terminal Devices and Heating Products**
 - Type (e.g. VAV, Fan Coils, Unit Ventilators, Unit Heaters, Fin Tube Radiation/Convectors)
 - Brand Name(s)
 - Capacity Range (CFM)
 - Heating Medium (Electric, Gas, Steam, Hot Water)
 - Cooling Medium (DX, Chilled Water)
 - Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
 - Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
 - Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
 - Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
 - Estimated Market Share (North America)
 - Provide example data on each type of product provided
 - Detail Features & Benefits
- o **DDC Controls**
 - Type (core components, end devices, lighting, panels) Brand Name(s)
 - System Protocol (BACnet, LonWorks, Proprietary or Combo)
 - LAN Communication Structure (Peer-to-peer, Polling)
 - Human Machine Interface (HMI) types (PC, Notebooks, Handheld terminals)
 - Third party interface (Drivers and Gateways)
 - Remote alarm and message capabilities
 - Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
 - Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
 - Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
 - Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
 - Estimated Market Share (North America)
 - Detail Features & Benefits
- o **Cooling Towers**
 - Type (e.g., open, closed, evaporative, other)
 - Brand Name(s)
 - Capacity Range (tons)
 - Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
 - Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
 - Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
 - Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
 - Range of Efficiencies
 - Estimated Market Share (North America)
 - Provide example data on each type of product provided
 - Detail Features & Benefits
- o **Pumps**
 - Type (e.g., single stage, split case, end suction, inline, circulator, turbines)
 - Brand Name(s)
 - Capacity Range (GPM)
 - Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
 - Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
 - Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
 - Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
 - Range of Efficiencies
 - Estimated Market Share (North America)
 - Provide example data on each type of product provided
 - Detail Features & Benefits
- o **Invertors**
 - Brand Name(s)
 - Capacity Range (HP)
 - Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
 - Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)

- Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
- Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
- Estimated Market Share (North America)
- Provide example data on each type of product provided
- Detail Features & Benefits
- o **Boilers & Water Heaters**
 - Type (e.g., modulating, condensing, cast iron, water tube, packaged, other)
 - Brand Name(s)
 - Heating Medium (Electric, Gas, Steam, Hot Water)
 - Capacity Range (MBH)
 - Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
 - Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
 - Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
 - Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
 - Range of Efficiencies
 - Estimated Market Share (North America)
 - Provide example data on each type of product provided
 - Detail Features & Benefits
- o **HVAC Specialty Products**
 - Type (e.g., modular, outside/inside, S&T Heat Recovery, Humidity Control, Heat Wheel, Heat Pipe, Heat Exchangers)
 - Brand Name(s)
 - Heating Medium (Electric, Gas, Steam, Hot Water)
 - Cooling Medium (DX, Chilled Water)
 - Capacity Range (CFM and/or MBH)
 - Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
 - Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
 - Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
 - Location of Manufacturing (City, State or Country)
 - Range of Efficiencies
 - Estimated Market Share (North America)
 - Provide example data on each type of product provided
 - Detail Features & Benefits
- **Refrigeration Products**
 - Display Cases
 - Refrigeration Systems
 - Glass Doors & Lids
 - Walk-in Products
 - Others
- o **LED Lighting Products**
 - LED Area Lights
 - Flexible LED Strips
 - Ceiling Lighting
 - Bulbs, Fixture Products
 - Others
- o **Equipment Parts and Supplies**
 - Type (e.g., manufactured parts, emergency parts service, miscellaneous material and supplies and other)
 - Brand Name(s) stocked
 - Location of stocking parts
 - Standard Warranty (Parts & Labor)
 - Optional Warranty (components covered & Labor)
 - Estimated Lead/Delivery Time
 - Percentage of locally stocked parts to delivered parts
 - Detail Features & Benefits

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Offerors are requested to provide service forms with detailed description of your service offerings. Provide service forms with detailed descriptions; at a minimum, Offerors are to include the following information as it is applicable to their product,

service, and solutions offering:

o **Startup & Commissioning Services**

- Define process for validation of system or equipment operation to design
- Type (e.g., equipment startups, system checkouts, control verification, retro commissioning, M & V verifications, rebate auditing, other)
- List key personnel (factory, sub-contract, other)
- References (public sector only)
- Case studies describing benefits of services
- o **Service & Maintenance**
 - Type (e.g., preventative and full maintenance contracts, man-at attendance, remote monitoring, annuals, emergency services, regulatory compliance, cleaning (e.g., duct, coils and filters), scheduled maintenance (e.g., oil, chemical and vibration analysis) and other)
 - Define processes for each type of service and/or maintenance of the system or the equipment
 - List key personnel (factory, sub-contract, other)
 - References (public sector only)
 - Case studies describing benefits of services
- o **Installation and Turnkey Contracting**
 - Type (e.g., retrofit, new construction, energy retrofit, controls new- and upgrade and other)
 - Define processes for each type install of the system or the equipment
 - Bonding and licensing capabilities
 - List key personnel (factory, sub-contract, other)
 - References (public sector only)
 - Case studies describing benefits of services
- o **Warranty Services**
 - Type (e.g., Extended parts & labor (define maximum number of years available), delayed start-up and other)
 - Define processes for each type of warranty
 - List key personnel (factory, sub-contract, other)
 - References (public sector only)
 - Case studies describing benefits of services
- o **Energy Services**
 - Type (e.g., (Energy Tracking, Energy Analysis, Evaluation of potential upgrades, demand response, rebates and others)
 - Define processes for each type of energy services
 - Certifications of personnel
 - List key personnel (factory, sub-contract, other)
 - References (public sector only)
 - Case studies describing benefits of services
- o **Equipment Rentals**
 - Type (e.g., chillers, pumps, transformers, terminal units, generators, cooling towers, packaged unitary and other)
 - Brands available
 - Locations of rental fleet
 - Process of accessing rental fleet during disaster event
 - List key personnel (factory, sub-contract, other)
 - References (public sector only)
 - Case studies describing benefits of services
- o **Financial Services**
 - Type (e.g., leasing, prompt and pre-payment discounts, guaranteed savings and other)
 - Describe type of each funding and availability
 - Funding Sources (internal and/or external)
 - List key personnel (internal and/or external)
 - References (public sector only)
 - Case studies describing benefits of services
- o **Professional Services**
 - Describe type of each professional service and availability
 - Licensing and certification capabilities
 - List key personnel (internal and/or external)
 - References (public sector only)
 - Case studies describing benefits of services
- o **Site Surveys**
 - Type (e.g., Equipment, system analysis, operational, architectural and other)
 - Describe type of survey
 - Licensing and certification capabilities

- Advanced technology uses for each type of survey
- List key personnel (internal and/or external)
- References (public sector only)
- Case studies describing benefits of services

Exhibit A Response for National Cooperative Contract

1.0 Scope of National Cooperative Contract

Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings given to them in the Master Agreement or in the Administration Agreement between Supplier and OMNIA Partners.

1.1 Requirement

The REGION 4 EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER (hereinafter defined and referred to as “**Principal Procurement Agency**”), on behalf of itself and OMNIA Partners, Public Sector, Inc., a Delaware corporation (“**OMNIA Partners**”), is requesting proposals for TELECOMMUNICATIONS – WIRELINE, WIRELESS, IOT, UNIFIED COMMUNICATIONS & DATA COMMUNICATIONS. The intent of this Request for Proposal is any contract between Principal Procurement Agency and Supplier resulting from this Request for Proposal (“**Master Agreement**”) be made available to other public agencies nationally, including state and local governmental entities, public and private primary, secondary and higher education entities, non-profit entities, and agencies for the public benefit (“**Public Agencies**”), through OMNIA Partners’ cooperative purchasing program. The Principal Procurement Agency has executed a Principal Procurement Agency Certificate with OMNIA Partners, an example of which is included as Exhibit D, and has agreed to pursue the Master Agreement. Use of the Master Agreement by any Public Agency is preceded by their registration with OMNIA Partners as a Participating Public Agency in OMNIA Partners’ cooperative purchasing program. Registration with OMNIA Partners as a Participating Public Agency is accomplished by Public Agencies entering into a Master Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement, an example of which is attached as Exhibit C, and by using the Master Agreement, any such Participating Public Agency agrees that it is registered with OMNIA Partners, whether pursuant to the terms of the Master Intergovernmental Purchasing Cooperative Agreement or as otherwise agreed to. The terms and pricing established in the resulting Master Agreement between the Supplier and the Principal Procurement Agency will be the same as that available to Participating Public Agencies through OMNIA Partners.

Consolidated Communications’ Response: Read and understood.

All transactions, purchase orders, invoices, payments etc., will occur directly between the Supplier and each Participating Public Agency individually, and neither OMNIA Partners, any Principal Procurement Agency nor any Participating Public Agency, including their respective agents, directors, employees or representatives, shall be liable to Supplier for any acts, liabilities, damages, etc., incurred by any other Participating Public Agency. Supplier is responsible for knowing the tax laws in each state.

Consolidated Communications’ Response: Read and understood.

This Exhibit A defines the expectations for qualifying Suppliers based on OMNIA Partners' requirements to market the resulting Master Agreement nationally to Public Agencies. Each section in this Exhibit A refers to the capabilities, requirements, obligations, and prohibitions of competing Suppliers on a national level in order to serve Participating Public Agencies through OMNIA Partners.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

These requirements are incorporated into and are considered an integral part of this RFP. OMNIA Partners reserves the right to determine whether to make the Master Agreement awarded by the Principal Procurement Agency available to Participating Public Agencies, in its sole and absolute discretion, and any party submitting a response to this RFP acknowledges that any award by the Principal Procurement Agency does not obligate OMNIA Partners to make the Master Agreement available to Participating Procurement Agencies.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

1.2 Marketing, Sales and Administrative Support

During the term of the Master Agreement OMNIA Partners intends to provide marketing, sales, partnership development and administrative support for Supplier pursuant to this section that directly promotes the Supplier's products and services to Participating Public Agencies through multiple channels, each designed to promote specific products and services to Public Agencies on a national basis.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

OMNIA Partners will assign the Supplier a Director of Partner Development who will serve as the main point of contact for the Supplier and will be responsible for managing the overall relationship between the Supplier and OMNIA Partners. The Director of Partner Development will work with the Supplier to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote the Master Agreement and will connect the Supplier with appropriate stakeholders within OMNIA Partners including, Sales, Marketing, Contracting, Training, and Operations & Support.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

The OMNIA Partners marketing team will work in conjunction with Supplier to promote the Master Agreement to both existing Participating Public Agencies and prospective Public Agencies through channels that may include:

- A. Marketing collateral (print, electronic, email, presentations)
- B. Website
- C. Trade shows/conferences/meetings
- D. Advertising
- E. Social Media

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

The OMNIA Partners sales teams will work in conjunction with Supplier to promote the Master Agreement to both existing Participating Public Agencies and prospective Public Agencies through initiatives that may include:

- A. Individual sales calls
- B. Joint sales calls
- C. Communications/customer service
- D. Training sessions for Public Agency teams
- E. Training sessions for Supplier teams

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

The OMNIA Partners contracting teams will work in conjunction with Supplier to promote the Master Agreement to both existing Participating Public Agencies and prospective Public Agencies through:

- A. Serving as the subject matter expert for questions regarding joint powers authority and state statutes and regulations for cooperative purchasing
- B. Training sessions for Public Agency teams
- C. Training sessions for Supplier teams
- D. Regular business reviews to monitor program success
- E. General contract administration

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

Suppliers are required to pay an Administrative Fee of 3% of the greater of the Contract Sales under the Master Agreement and Guaranteed Contract Sales under this Request for Proposal. Supplier will be required to execute the OMNIA Partners Administration Agreement (Exhibit B). At Supplier's option, Suppliers may pay additional fees beyond administrative fees, such as technology fees, to OMNIA Partners and/or a third party for additional support and/or access to OMNIA Partners' technology platform.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

1.3 Estimated Volume

The dollar volume purchased under the Master Agreement is estimated to be approximately \$50 million annually. While no minimum volume is guaranteed to Supplier, the estimated annual volume is projected based on the current annual volumes among the Principal Procurement Agency, other Participating Public Agencies that are anticipated to utilize the resulting Master Agreement to be made available to them through OMNIA Partners, and volume growth into other Public Agencies through a coordinated marketing approach between Supplier and OMNIA Partners.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

1.4 Award Basis

The basis of any contract award resulting from this RFP made by Principal Procurement Agency will, at OMNIA Partners' option, be the basis of award on a national level through OMNIA Partners. If multiple Suppliers are awarded by Principal Procurement Agency under the Master Agreement, those same Suppliers will be required to extend the Master Agreement to Participating Public Agencies through OMNIA Partners. Utilization of the Master Agreement by Participating Public Agencies will be at the discretion of the individual Participating Public Agency. Certain terms of the Master Agreement specifically applicable to the Principal Procurement Agency (e.g., governing law) are subject to modification for each Participating Public Agency as Supplier and such Participating Public Agency may agree without being in conflict with the Master Agreement as a condition of the Participating Agency's purchase and not a modification of the Master Agreement applicable to all Participating Agencies. Participating Agencies may request to enter into a separate supplemental agreement to further define the level of service requirements over and above the minimum defined in the Master Agreement (e.g., governing law, invoice requirements, order requirements, specialized delivery, diversity requirements such as minority and woman owned businesses, historically underutilized business, etc.) ("Supplemental Agreement"). It shall be the responsibility of the Supplier to comply, when applicable, with the prevailing wage legislation in effect in the jurisdiction of the Participating Agency. It shall further be the responsibility of the Supplier to monitor the prevailing wage rates as established by the appropriate department of labor for any increase in rates during the term of the Master Agreement and adjust wage rates accordingly. In instances where supplemental terms and conditions create additional risk and cost for Supplier, Supplier and Participating Public Agency may negotiate additional pricing above and beyond the stated contract not-to-exceed pricing so long as the added price is commensurate with the additional cost incurred by the Supplier. Any supplemental agreement developed as a result of the Master Agreement is exclusively between the Participating Agency and the Supplier (Contract Sales are reported to OMNIA Partners).

All signed Supplemental Agreements and purchase orders issued and accepted by the Supplier may survive expiration or termination of the Master Agreement. Participating Agencies' purchase orders may exceed the term of the Master Agreement if the purchase order is issued prior to the expiration of the Master Agreement. Supplier is responsible for reporting all sales and paying the applicable Administrative Fee for sales that use the Master Agreement as the basis for the purchase order, even though Master Agreement may have expired.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

1.5 Objectives of Cooperative Program

This RFP is intended to achieve the following objectives regarding availability through OMNIA Partners' cooperative program:

- A. Provide a comprehensive competitively solicited and awarded national agreement offering the Products covered by this solicitation to Participating Public Agencies;
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**
- B. Establish the Master Agreement as the Supplier's primary go to market strategy to Public Agencies nationwide;
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**
- C. Achieve cost savings for Supplier and Public Agencies through a single solicitation process that will reduce the Supplier's need to respond to multiple solicitations and Public Agencies need to conduct their own solicitation process;
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**
- D. Combine the aggregate purchasing volumes of Participating Public Agencies to achieve cost effective pricing.
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

2.0 REPRESENTATIONS AND COVENANTS

As a condition to Supplier entering into the Master Agreement, which would be available to all Public Agencies, Supplier must make certain representations, warranties and covenants to both the Principal Procurement Agency and OMNIA Partners designed to ensure the success of the Master Agreement for all Participating Public Agencies as well as the Supplier.

2.1 Corporate Commitment

Supplier commits that (1) the Master Agreement has received all necessary corporate authorizations and support of the Supplier's executive management, (2) the Master Agreement is Supplier's primary "go to market" strategy for Public Agencies, (3) the Master Agreement will be promoted to all Public Agencies, including any existing customers, and Supplier will transition existing customers, upon their request, to the Master Agreement, and (4) that the Supplier has read and agrees to the terms and conditions of the Administration Agreement with OMNIA Partners and will execute such agreement concurrent with and as a condition of its execution of the Master Agreement with the Principal Procurement Agency. Supplier will identify an executive corporate sponsor and a separate national account manager within the RFP response that will be responsible for the overall management of the Master Agreement.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

2.2 Pricing Commitment

Supplier commits the not-to-exceed pricing provided under the Master Agreement pricing is its lowest available (net to buyer) to Public Agencies nationwide and further commits that if a Participating Public Agency is eligible for lower pricing through a national, state, regional or local or cooperative contract, the Supplier will match such lower pricing to that Participating Public Agency under the Master Agreement.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

2.3 Sales Commitment

Supplier commits to aggressively market the Master Agreement as its go to market strategy in this defined sector and that its sales force will be trained, engaged and committed to offering the Master Agreement to Public Agencies through OMNIA Partners nationwide. Supplier commits that all Master Agreement sales will be accurately and timely reported to OMNIA Partners in accordance with the OMNIA Partners Administration Agreement. Supplier also commits its sales force will be compensated, including sales incentives, for sales to Public Agencies under the Master Agreement in a consistent or better manner compared to sales to Public Agencies if the Supplier were not awarded the Master Agreement.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

3.0 SUPPLIER RESPONSE

As part of the attributes in Ion Wave, Offeror's are to supply the following information, in order for the Principal Procurement Agency to determine the Offeror's ability to extend the resulting Master Agreement to Participating Public Agencies through OMNIA Partners.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

3.1 Company

- A. Brief history and description of Supplier to include experience providing similar products and services.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Consolidated Communications, Inc. ("CCI") is an American broadband and business communications provider headquartered in Mattoon, Illinois. With 65,500 fiber route miles, it is a top ten fiber provider in the U.S., serving customers in 21 states.

CCI provides data, internet, voice, managed and hosted, cloud and IT services to business customers, and internet, and phone services to residential customers.

Consolidated Communications was founded as the Mattoon Telephone Company in 1894 by Dr. Iverson A. Lumpkin in Mattoon, Illinois. In 1924, the company became the Illinois Consolidated Telephone Company (ICTC) and began acquiring telephone companies in the region over the next several decades.

In 1984, Consolidated Communications, Inc. (CCI) was formed as the parent company of ICTC. In 1997, CCI merged with McLeodUSA. A group of investors led by ICTC Chairman and President Richard A. Lumpkin acquired the company in 2002.

Subsequent further acquisitions included Texas-based TXU Communications in 2004, North Pittsburgh Systems in 2007, SureWest Communications (Roseville and Sacramento, California and Kansas City) in 2012, Enventis Corporation (Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, South Dakota and North Dakota) in 2014, Champaign Telephone Company (Champaign-Urbana, IL) in 2016, and FairPoint Communications (Northern New England) in 2017.

In December 2024, Consolidated Communications completed its merger with a subsidiary of Condor Holdings LLC, with investment funds managed by Searchlight Capital Partners and British Columbia Investment Management Corporation.

Today, CCI has been in business for 130 years, with over \$1 billion in annual revenue, and its 2,700 employees average 17 years of tenure.

- B. Total number and location of salespersons employed by Supplier.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI has over six primary sales offices and several remote offices across our 21-state footprint with over 214 sales professionals.**

- C. Number and location of support centers (if applicable) and location of corporate office.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI has over 100 locations across our footprint with 3 primary support centers. We are Headquartered in Mattoon, Illinois.**

D. Annual sales for the three previous fiscal years.

Consolidated Communications' Response: CCI's financial information can be located using the link/information below:

<https://ir.consolidated.com/financials-and-filings/quarterly-earnings/default.aspx>

a. Submit FEIN and Dunn & Bradstreet report.

Consolidated Communications' Response: CCI's EIN number for Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services is 37-0343340. Duns Number: 00-693-4590

E. Describe any green or environmental initiatives or policies.

F. Describe any diversity programs or partners supplier does business with and how Participating Agencies may use diverse partners through the Master Agreement. Indicate how, if at all, pricing changes when using the diversity program. If there are any diversity programs, provide a list of diversity alliances and a copy of their certifications.

Consolidated Communications' Response: CCI has shared the following information:

Vendor Code of Conduct: Consolidated Communications has established a Vendor Code of Conduct to ensure their vendors are aware of and meet their business expectations related to legal requirements, ethical practices, human rights, and environmental management.

Commitment to Diverse Suppliers: The company is committed to doing business with suppliers and vendors that positively influence their strategic and operational goals. This includes ensuring high-quality goods and services, exceptional customer service, and competitive pricing.

These initiatives reflect Consolidated Communications' dedication to creating an inclusive and supportive environment both internally and in their external partnerships.

G. Indicate if supplier holds any of the below certifications in any classified areas and include proof of such certification in the response:

a. Minority Women Business Enterprise

Yes No

If yes, list certifying agency: _____

b. Small Business Enterprise (SBE) or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

Yes No

If yes, list certifying agency: _____

c. Historically Underutilized Business (HUB)

Yes No

If yes, list certifying agency: _____

d. Historically Underutilized Business Zone Enterprise (HUBZone)

Yes No

If yes, list certifying agency: _____

e. Other recognized diversity certificate holder

Yes No

If yes, list certifying agency: _____

H. List any relationships with subcontractors or affiliates intended to be used when providing services and identify if subcontractors meet minority-owned standards. If any, list which certifications subcontractors hold and certifying agency.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Not applicable.

I. Describe how supplier differentiates itself from its competitors.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Consolidated Communications differentiates itself from competitors in several key ways:

Customer-Centric Approach: Consolidated Communications places a strong emphasis on customer service and satisfaction. They offer personalized support and maintain a local presence in many of the communities they serve, which helps build strong customer relationships.

Extensive Fiber Network: The company has invested heavily in expanding its fiber network, providing high-speed internet and reliable connectivity to both residential and business customers. This extensive fiber infrastructure sets them apart from many competitors.

Diverse Service Offerings: Consolidated Communications offers a wide range of services, including internet, phone, and TV services, as well as business solutions like cloud services, data centers, and managed IT services. This diverse portfolio allows them to meet various customer needs.

Commitment to Innovation: The company continuously invests in new technologies and infrastructure improvements to stay ahead of industry trends and provide cutting-edge solutions to their customers.

Community Involvement: Consolidated Communications is actively involved in the communities they serve, supporting local initiatives and contributing to community development. This commitment to community engagement helps build a positive brand image and fosters customer loyalty.

These differentiators help Consolidated Communications stand out in a competitive market and provide added value to their customers.

J. Describe any present or past litigation, bankruptcy or reorganization involving supplier.

Consolidated Communications' Response: CCI is not part of any present/past litigation, bankruptcy or reorganization.

K. Felony Conviction Notice: Indicate if the supplier

- a. is a publicly held corporation and this reporting requirement is not applicable;
- b. is not owned or operated by anyone who has been convicted of a felony; or
- c. is owned or operated by and individual(s) who has been convicted of a felony and provide the names and convictions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Not Applicable.

L. Describe any debarment or suspension actions taken against supplier

Consolidated Communications' Response: No action(s) to report/provide.

3.2 Distribution, Logistics

A. Each offeror awarded an item under this solicitation may offer their complete product and service offering/a balance of line. Describe the full line of products and services offered by supplier.

Consolidated Communications' Response: CCI offers a wide range of products and services tailored to meet the needs of both residential and business customers. Here's an overview: **Residential Services**

High-Speed Internet: Offering fiber and DSL internet services with speeds up to 1 Gig, ensuring fast and reliable connectivity.

Phone Services: Providing VoIP and traditional landline phone services with crystal-clear voice quality.

Streaming TV: Access to popular streaming channels like ESPN, HGTV, and HBO, integrated with their internet service.

Digital Home Services: Including home security and automation solutions.

Business Services

Data & Internet: High-speed internet and data networking solutions for businesses of all sizes.

Voice Services: VoIP and traditional phone services tailored for business needs.

Managed Services: Comprehensive IT management, including network monitoring, security, and support.

Cloud Services: Cloud computing solutions for data storage, backup, and disaster recovery.

Data Center Services: Secure and reliable data center services for hosting and colocation.

Wholesale Services

Switched Ethernet: High-capacity Ethernet services for data transport.

Internet Access: Wholesale internet access for other service providers.

Backhaul Transport: Reliable backhaul solutions for wireless carriers and other telecom companies.

These diverse offerings help Consolidated Communications cater to a wide range of customer needs, from individual households to large enterprises.

- B. Describe how supplier proposes to distribute the products/service nationwide. Include any states where products and services will not be offered under the Master Agreement, including U.S. Territories and Outlying Areas.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI provides service nationwide today.**

- C. Describe how Participating Agencies are ensured they will receive the Master Agreement pricing; include all distribution channels such as direct ordering, retail or in-store locations, through distributors, etc. Describe how Participating Agencies verify and audit pricing to ensure its compliance with the Master Agreement.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI has an audit process tracking contract price and billing amounts to ensure accuracy.**

- D. Identify all other companies that will be involved in processing, handling or shipping the products/service to the end user.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Not Applicable.**

- E. Provide the number, size and location of Supplier's distribution facilities, warehouses and retail network as applicable.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Not Applicable.**

3.3 Marketing and Sales

- A. Given the public nature of the solicitation and contract, OMNIA Partners makes solicitation and contract documentation, including pricing documents, available on its website so Participating Public Agencies may easily conduct their due diligence. Describe any portions of the response that should not be available on the website and why those portions should not be available.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI is familiar with Omnia partners. Our goal in this response is to Region IV. These items can be addressed upon any award. WE have other existing cooperative agreements in place and are able to comply.**

- B. Provide a detailed ninety-day plan beginning from award date of the Master Agreement describing the strategy to immediately implement the Master Agreement as supplier's primary go to market strategy for Public Agencies to supplier's teams nationwide, to include, but not limited to:

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* These items can be addressed upon any award. CCI has other existing cooperative agreements in place and are able to comply.**

- i. Executive leadership endorsement and sponsorship of the award as the public sector go-to-market strategy within first 10 days

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

- ii. Training and education of Supplier's national sales force with participation from the Supplier's executive leadership, along with the OMNIA Partners team within first 90 days

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

- C. Provide a detailed ninety-day plan beginning from award date of the Master Agreement describing the strategy to market the Master Agreement to current Participating Public Agencies, existing Public Agency customers of Supplier, as well as to prospective Public Agencies nationwide immediately upon award, to include, but not limited to:
- Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**
- i. Creation and distribution of a co-branded press release to trade publications
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**
 - ii. Announcement, Master Agreement details and contact information published on the Supplier's website within first 90 days
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**
 - iii. Design, publication and distribution of co-branded marketing materials within first 90 days
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**
 - iv. Commitment to attendance and participation with OMNIA Partners at national (i.e. NIGP Annual Forum, NPI Conference, etc.), regional (i.e. Regional NIGP Chapter Meetings, Regional Cooperative Summits, etc.) and supplier-specific trade shows, conferences and meetings throughout the term of the Master Agreement
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**
 - v. Commitment to attend, exhibit and participate at the NIGP Annual Forum in an area reserved by OMNIA Partners for partner suppliers. Booth space will be purchased and staffed by Supplier. In addition, Supplier commits to provide reasonable assistance to the overall promotion and marketing efforts for the NIGP Annual Forum, as directed by OMNIA Partners.
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**
 - vi. Design and publication of national and regional advertising in trade publications throughout the term of the Master Agreement
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**
 - vii. Ongoing marketing and promotion of the Master Agreement throughout its term (case studies, collateral pieces, presentations, promotions, etc.)

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

- viii. Dedicated OMNIA Partners internet web-based homepage on Supplier's website with:
- OMNIA Partners standard logo;
 - Copy of original Request for Proposal;
 - Copy of Master Agreement and amendments between Principal Procurement Agency and Supplier;
 - Summary of Products and pricing;
 - Marketing Materials
 - Electronic link to OMNIA Partners' website including the online registration page;
 - A dedicated toll-free number and email address for OMNIA Partners

- D. Describe how Supplier will transition any existing Public Agency customers' accounts to the Master Agreement available nationally through OMNIA Partners. Include a list of current cooperative contracts (regional and national) Supplier holds and describe how the Master Agreement will be positioned among the other cooperative agreements.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

- E. Acknowledge Supplier agrees to provide its logo(s) to OMNIA Partners and agrees to provide permission for reproduction of such logo in marketing communications and promotions. Acknowledge that use of OMNIA Partners logo will require permission for reproduction, as well.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

- F. Confirm Supplier will be proactive in direct sales of Supplier's goods and services to Public Agencies nationwide and the timely follow up to leads established by OMNIA Partners. All sales materials are to use the OMNIA Partners logo. At a minimum, the Supplier's sales initiatives should communicate:

- i. Master Agreement was competitively solicited and publicly awarded by a Principal Procurement Agency
- ii. Best government pricing
- iii. No cost to participate
- iv. Non-exclusive

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

- G. Confirm Supplier will train its national sales force on the Master Agreement. At a minimum, sales training should include:

- i. Key features of Master Agreement
- ii. Working knowledge of the solicitation process
- iii. Awareness of the range of Public Agencies that can utilize the Master Agreement through OMNIA Partners
- iv. Knowledge of benefits of the use of cooperative contracts

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

- H. Provide the name, title, email and phone number for the person(s), who will be responsible for:

- i. Executive Support
- ii. Marketing
- iii. Sales
- iv. Sales Support
- v. Financial Reporting
- vi. Accounts Payable
- vii. Contracts

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

- I. Describe in detail how Supplier's national sales force is structured, including contact information for the highest-level executive in charge of the sales team.
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**
- I. Explain in detail how the sales teams will work with the OMNIA Partners team to implement, grow and service the national program.
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**
- J. Explain in detail how Supplier will manage the overall national program throughout the term of the Master Agreement, including ongoing coordination of marketing and sales efforts, timely new Participating Public Agency account set-up, timely contract administration, etc.
***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

K. State the amount of Supplier’s Public Agency sales for the previous fiscal year. Provide a list of Supplier’s top 10 Public Agency customers, the total purchases for each for the previous fiscal year along with a key contact for each.
Consolidated Communications’ Response: CCI’s goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.

L. Describe Supplier’s information systems capabilities and limitations regarding order management through receipt of payment, including description of multiple platforms that may be used for any of these functions.
Consolidated Communications’ Response: CCI’s goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.

M. Provide the Contract Sales (as defined in Section 12 of the OMNIA Partners Administration Agreement) that Supplier will guarantee each year under the Master Agreement for the initial three years of the Master Agreement (“Guaranteed Contract Sales”).

\$_____.00 in year one
\$_____.00 in year two
\$_____.00 in year three

To the extent Supplier guarantees minimum Contract Sales, the Administrative Fee shall be calculated based on the greater of the actual Contract Sales and the Guaranteed Contract Sales.

Consolidated Communications’ Response: CCI’s goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.

N. Even though it is anticipated many Public Agencies will be able to utilize the Master Agreement without further formal solicitation, there may be circumstances where Public Agencies will issue their own solicitations. The following options are available when responding to a solicitation for Products covered under the Master Agreement.

Consolidated Communications’ Response: CCI’s goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.

- i. Respond with Master Agreement pricing (Contract Sales reported to OMNIA Partners).
- ii. If competitive conditions require pricing lower than the standard Master Agreement not-to-exceed pricing, Supplier may respond with lower pricing through the Master Agreement. If Supplier is awarded the contract, the sales are reported as Contract Sales to OMNIA Partners under the Master Agreement.
- iii. Respond with pricing higher than Master Agreement only in the unlikely event that the Public Agency refuses to utilize Master Agreement (Contract Sales are not reported to OMNIA Partners).

- iv. If alternative or multiple proposals are permitted, respond with pricing higher than Master Agreement, and include Master Agreement as the alternate or additional proposal.

Detail Supplier's strategies under these options when responding to a solicitation.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* CCI's goal is to respond to the Region IV RFP. These items can be addressed post award. CCI has other cooperative agreements and are able to comply.**

CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES

FORM 1295

1 of 1

Complete Nos. 1 - 4 and 6 if there are interested parties.
Complete Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 if there are no interested parties.

**OFFICE USE ONLY
CERTIFICATION OF FILING**

1 Name of business entity filing form, and the city, state and country of the business entity's place of business.
Region IV Education Service Center
Houston, IL United States

Certificate Number:
2025-1255569

Date Filed:
01/09/2025

2 Name of governmental entity or state agency that is a party to the contract for which the form is being filed.
Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc

Date Acknowledged:

3 Provide the identification number used by the governmental entity or state agency to track or identify the contract, and provide a description of the services, goods, or other property to be provided under the contract.
24-11 Addendum 2
(Telecommunication-Wireline, Wireless, IoT, Unified Communications & Data Communications)

4	Name of Interested Party	City, State, Country (place of business)	Nature of interest (check applicable)	
			Controlling	Intermediary
	Evans, Mark	Conroe, TX United States		X

5 Check only if there is NO Interested Party.

6 UNSWORN DECLARATION

My name is Mark Evans, and my date of birth is 02/12/1967

My address is 2116 S. 17th St. Mattoon Illinois 61938 USA
(street) (city) (state) (zip code) (country)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed in Coles County, State of Illinois, on the 9 day of January, 20 25
(month) (year)



Signature of authorized agent of contracting business entity
(Declarant)

FEDERAL CERTIFICATIONS
ADDENDUM FOR AGREEMENT FUNDED BY U.S. FEDERAL GRANT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Participating Agencies may elect to use federal funds to purchase under the Master Agreement. This form should be completed and returned.

DEFINITIONS

Contract means a legal instrument by which a non-Federal entity purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a Federal award. The term as used in this part does not include a legal instrument, even if the non-Federal entity considers it a contract, when the substance of the transaction meets the definition of a Federal award or subaward

Contractor means an entity that receives a contract as defined in Contract.

Cooperative agreement means a legal instrument of financial assistance between a Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity and a non-Federal entity that, consistent with 31 U.S.C. 6302–6305:

- (a) Is used to enter into a relationship the principal purpose of which is to transfer anything of value from the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity to the non-Federal entity to carry out a public purpose authorized by a law of the United States (see 31 U.S.C. 6101(3)); and not to acquire property or services for the Federal government or pass-through entity's direct benefit or use;
- (b) Is distinguished from a grant in that it provides for substantial involvement between the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity and the non-Federal entity in carrying out the activity contemplated by the Federal award.
- (c) The term does not include:
 - (1) A cooperative research and development agreement as defined in 15 U.S.C. 3710a; or
 - (2) An agreement that provides only:
 - (i) Direct United States Government cash assistance to an individual;
 - (ii) A subsidy;
 - (iii) A loan;
 - (iv) A loan guarantee; or
 - (v) Insurance.

Federal awarding agency means the Federal agency that provides a Federal award directly to a non-Federal entity

Federal award has the meaning, depending on the context, in either paragraph (a) or (b) of this section:

- (a)(1) The Federal financial assistance that a non-Federal entity receives directly from a Federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in § 200.101 Applicability; or
- (2) The cost-reimbursement contract under the Federal Acquisition Regulations that a non-Federal entity receives directly from a Federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in § 200.101 Applicability.
- (b) The instrument setting forth the terms and conditions. The instrument is the grant agreement, cooperative agreement, other agreement for assistance covered in paragraph (b) of § 200.40 Federal financial assistance, or the cost-reimbursement contract awarded under the Federal Acquisition Regulations.
- (c) Federal award does not include other contracts that a Federal agency uses to buy goods or services from a contractor or a contract to operate Federal government owned, contractor operated facilities (GOCOs).
- (d) See also definitions of Federal financial assistance, grant agreement, and cooperative agreement.

Non-Federal entity means a state, local government, Indian tribe, institution of higher education (IHE), or nonprofit organization that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.

Nonprofit organization means any corporation, trust, association, cooperative, or other organization, not including IHEs, that:

- (a) Is operated primarily for scientific, educational, service, charitable, or similar purposes in the public interest;
- (b) Is not organized primarily for profit; and

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(c) Uses net proceeds to maintain, improve, or expand the operations of the organization.

Obligations means, when used in connection with a non-Federal entity's utilization of funds under a Federal award, orders placed for property and services, contracts and subawards made, and similar transactions during a given period that require payment by the non-Federal entity during the same or a future period.

Pass-through entity means a non-Federal entity that provides a subaward to a subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal program.

Recipient means a non-Federal entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients.

Simplified acquisition threshold means the dollar amount below which a non-Federal entity may purchase property or services using small purchase methods. Non-Federal entities adopt small purchase procedures in order to expedite the purchase of items costing less than the simplified acquisition threshold. The simplified acquisition threshold is set by the Federal Acquisition Regulation at 48 CFR Subpart 2.1 (Definitions) and in accordance with 41 U.S.C. 1908. As of the publication of this part, the simplified acquisition threshold is \$250,000, but this threshold is periodically adjusted for inflation. (Also see definition of § 200.67 Micro-purchase.)

Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a Federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract.

Subrecipient means a non-Federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.

Termination means the ending of a Federal award, in whole or in part at any time prior to the planned end of period of performance.

The following provisions may be required and apply when Participating Agency expends federal funds for any purchase resulting from this procurement process. Per FAR 52.204-24 and FAR 52.204-25, solicitations and resultant contracts shall contain the following provisions.

52.204-24 Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment (Oct 2020)

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

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

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

(b) *Prohibition.*

(1) Section 889(a)(1)(A) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115-232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2019, from procuring or obtaining, or extending or renewing a

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contract to procure or obtain, any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. Nothing in the prohibition shall be construed to—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(e) *Disclosures.*

(1) Disclosure for the representation in paragraph (d)(1) of this provision. If the Offeror has responded "will" in the representation in paragraph (d)(1) of this provision, the Offeror shall provide the following information as part of the offer.

(i) For covered equipment—

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

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

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

(ii) For covered services—

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

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

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

(i) For covered equipment—

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

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

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

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(ii) For covered services—

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

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

52.204-25 Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment (Aug 2020).

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

Backhaul means intermediate links between the core network, or backbone network, and the small subnetworks at the edge of the network (e.g., connecting cell phones/towers to the core telephone network). Backhaul can be wireless (e.g., microwave) or wired (e.g., fiber optic, coaxial cable, Ethernet).

Covered foreign country means The People's Republic of China.

Covered telecommunications equipment or services means—

(1) Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities);

(2) For the purpose of public safety, security of Government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities);

(3) Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment; or

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

Critical technology means—

(1) Defense articles or defense services included on the United States Munitions List set forth in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations under subchapter M of chapter I of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations;

(2) Items included on the Commerce Control List set forth in Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of the Export Administration Regulations under subchapter C of chapter VII of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, and controlled-

(i) Pursuant to multilateral regimes, including for reasons relating to national security, chemical and biological weapons proliferation, nuclear nonproliferation, or missile technology; or

(ii) For reasons relating to regional stability or surreptitious listening;

(3) Specially designed and prepared nuclear equipment, parts and components, materials, software, and technology covered by part 810 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to assistance to foreign atomic energy activities);

(4) Nuclear facilities, equipment, and material covered by part 110 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to export and import of nuclear equipment and material);

(5) Select agents and toxins covered by part 331 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, part 121 of title 9 of such Code, or part 73 of title 42 of such Code; or

(6) Emerging and foundational technologies controlled pursuant to section 1758 of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4817).

Interconnection arrangements means arrangements governing the physical connection of two or more networks to allow the use of another's network to hand off traffic where it is ultimately delivered (e.g., connection of a customer of telephone provider A to a customer of telephone company B) or sharing data and other information resources.

Reasonable inquiry means an inquiry designed to uncover any information in the entity's possession about the identity of the producer or provider of covered telecommunications equipment or services used by the entity that excludes the need to include an internal or third-party audit.

Roaming means cellular communications services (e.g., voice, video, data) received from a visited network when unable to connect to the facilities of the home network either because signal coverage is too weak or because traffic is too high.

Substantial or essential component means any component necessary for the proper function or performance of a piece of equipment, system, or service.

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(b) Prohibition.

(1) Section 889(a)(1)(A) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115-232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2019, from procuring or obtaining, or extending or renewing a contract to procure or obtain, any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. The Contractor is prohibited from providing to the Government any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, unless an exception at paragraph (c) of this clause applies or the covered telecommunication equipment or services are covered by a waiver described in FAR [4.2104](#).

(2) Section 889(a)(1)(B) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115-232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2020, from entering into a contract, or extending or renewing a contract, with an entity that uses any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, unless an exception at paragraph (c) of this clause applies or the covered telecommunication equipment or services are covered by a waiver described in FAR [4.2104](#). This prohibition applies to the use of covered telecommunications equipment or services, regardless of whether that use is in performance of work under a Federal contract.

(c) Exceptions. This clause does not prohibit contractors from providing—

- (1) A service that connects to the facilities of a third-party, such as backhaul, roaming, or interconnection arrangements;
- or
- (2) Telecommunications equipment that cannot route or redirect user data traffic or permit visibility into any user data or packets that such equipment transmits or otherwise handles.

(d) Reporting requirement.

(1) In the event the Contractor identifies covered telecommunications equipment or services used as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, during contract performance, or the Contractor is notified of such by a subcontractor at any tier or by any other source, the Contractor shall report the information in paragraph (d)(2) of this clause to the Contracting Officer, unless elsewhere in this contract are established procedures for reporting the information; in the case of the Department of Defense, the Contractor shall report to the website at <https://dibnet.dod.mil>. For indefinite delivery contracts, the Contractor shall report to the Contracting Officer for the indefinite delivery contract and the Contracting Officer(s) for any affected order or, in the case of the Department of Defense, identify both the indefinite delivery contract and any affected orders in the report provided at <https://dibnet.dod.mil>.

(2) The Contractor shall report the following information pursuant to paragraph (d)(1) of this clause

(i) Within one business day from the date of such identification or notification: the contract number; the order number(s), if applicable; supplier name; supplier unique entity identifier (if known); supplier Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code (if known); brand; model number (original equipment manufacturer number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number); item description; and any readily available information about mitigation actions undertaken or recommended.

(ii) Within 10 business days of submitting the information in paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this clause: any further available information about mitigation actions undertaken or recommended. In addition, the Contractor shall describe the efforts it undertook to prevent use or submission of covered telecommunications equipment or services, and any additional efforts that will be incorporated to prevent future use or submission of covered telecommunications equipment or services.

(e) Subcontracts. The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (e) and excluding paragraph (b)(2), in all subcontracts and other contractual instruments, including subcontracts for the acquisition of commercial items.

The following certifications and provisions may be required and apply when Participating Agency expends federal funds for any purchase resulting from this procurement process. Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.326, all contracts, including small purchases, awarded by the Participating Agency and the Participating Agency's subcontractors shall contain the procurement provisions of Appendix II to Part 200, as applicable.

APPENDIX II TO 2 CFR PART 200

(A) Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$250,000, which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council

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(Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. 1908, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (A) above, when a Participating Agency expends federal funds, the Participating Agency reserves all rights and privileges under the applicable laws and regulations with respect to this procurement in the event of breach of contract by either party.

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

(B) Termination for cause and for convenience by the grantee or subgrantee including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement. (All contracts in excess of \$10,000)

Pursuant to Federal Rule (B) above, when a Participating Agency expends federal funds, the Participating Agency reserves the right to immediately terminate any agreement in excess of \$10,000 resulting from this procurement process in the event of a breach or default of the agreement by Offeror as detailed in the terms of the contract.

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

(C) Equal Employment Opportunity. Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, all contracts that meet the definition of "federally assisted construction contract" in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity" (30 CFR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and implementing regulations at 41 CFR part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor."

Pursuant to Federal Rule (C) above, when a Participating Agency expends federal funds on any federally assisted construction contract, the equal opportunity clause is incorporated by reference herein.

Does offeror agree to abide by the above? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

(D) Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 3141-3148). When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction"). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week. The non-Federal entity must place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract must be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency. The contracts must also include a provision for compliance with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (40 U.S.C. 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 3, "Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States"). The Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (D) above, when a Participating Agency expends federal funds during the term of an award for all contracts and subgrants for construction or repair, offeror will be in compliance with all applicable Davis-Bacon Act provisions.

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

(E) Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708). Where applicable, all contracts awarded by the non-Federal entity in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible

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provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (E) above, when a Participating Agency expends federal funds, offeror certifies that offeror will be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act during the term of an award for all contracts by Participating Agency resulting from this procurement process.

Does offeror agree? YES ME Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

(F) Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement. If the Federal award meets the definition of “funding agreement” under 37 CFR §401.2 (a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that “funding agreement,” the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements,” and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (F) above, when federal funds are expended by Participating Agency, the offeror certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by Participating Agency resulting from this procurement process, the offeror agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in Federal Rule (F) above.

Does offeror agree? YES ME Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

(G) Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387), as amended—Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251- 1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

In the event Federal Transit Administration (FTA) or Department of Transportation (DOT) funding is used by Participating Public Agency, Offeror also agrees to include Clean Air and Clean Water requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$100,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (G) above, when federal funds are expended by Participating Agency, the offeror certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by Participating Agency member resulting from this procurement process, the offeror agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in Federal Rule (G) above.

Does offeror agree? YES ME Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

(H) Debarment and Suspension (Executive Orders 12549 and 12689)—A contract award (see 2 CFR 180.220) must not be made to parties listed on the government wide exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM), in accordance with the Executive Office of the President Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR part 1989 Comp., p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.” SAM Exclusions contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (H) above, when federal funds are expended by Participating Agency, the offeror certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts by Participating Agency resulting from this procurement process, the offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation by any federal department or agency. If at any time during the term of an award the offeror or its principals becomes debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation by any federal department or agency, the offeror will notify the Participating Agency.

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Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

(I) Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352)—Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

Pursuant to Federal Rule (I) above, when federal funds are expended by Participating Agency, the offeror certifies that during the term and after the awarded term of an award for all contracts by Participating Agency resulting from this procurement process, the offeror certifies that it is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352). The undersigned further certifies that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee 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 the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (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, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of 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.

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. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

- (3) The prospective participant also agrees by submitting his or her bid or proposal that he or she 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.

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

RECORD RETENTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTS INVOLVING FEDERAL FUNDS

When federal funds are expended by Participating Agency for any contract resulting from this procurement process, offeror certifies that it will comply with the record retention requirements detailed in 2 CFR § 200.333. The offeror further certifies that offeror will retain all records as required by 2 CFR § 200.333 for a period of three years after grantees or subgrantees submit final expenditure reports or quarterly or annual financial reports, as applicable, and all other pending matters are closed.

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT

When Participating Agency expends federal funds for any contract resulting from this procurement process, offeror certifies that it will comply with the mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6321 et seq.; 49 C.F.R. Part 18).

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

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CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH BUY AMERICA PROVISIONS

To the extent purchases are made with Federal Highway Administration, Federal Railroad Administration, or Federal Transit Administration funds, offeror certifies that its products comply with all applicable provisions of the Buy America Act and agrees to provide such certification or applicable waiver with respect to specific products to any Participating Agency upon request. Purchases made in accordance with the Buy America Act must still follow the applicable procurement rules calling for free and open competition. Additionally:

- (1) The Contractor agrees to comply with 49 USC 5323(j) and 49 CFR Part 661, which provide that federal funds may not be obligated unless steel, iron and manufactured products used in FTA-funded projects are produced in the United States, unless a waiver has been granted by FTA or the product is subject to a general waiver. General waivers are listed in 49 CFR 661.7. A general public interest waiver from the Buy America requirements applies to microprocessors, computers, microcomputers, software or other such devices, which are used solely for the purpose of processing or storing data. This general waiver does not extend to a product or device that merely contains a microprocessor or microcomputer and is not used solely for the purpose of processing or storing data. Separate requirements for rolling stock are set out at 5323(j)(2)(C) and 49 CFR 661.11.
- (2) A bidder or offeror must submit to the FTA recipient the appropriate Buy America certification with all bids on FTA- funded contracts, except those subject to a general waiver. Bids or offers that are not accompanied by a completed Buy America certification must be rejected as nonresponsive. This requirement does not apply to lower tier subcontractors.

The following certificates titled FTA and DOT Buy America Certification should be completed and returned with the response as part of FTA and DOT requirements.

**FEDERAL TRASIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT) -
BUY AMERICA: CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR PROCUREMENT OF ROLLING STOCK**

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

(select one of the two options, NOT BOTH)

Certificate of Compliance with 49 USC §5323(j)

The proposer hereby certifies that it will comply with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5323(j), and the applicable regulations of 49 CFR 661.11.

Check for YES:

OR

Certificate of Non-Compliance with 49 USC §5323(j)

The proposer hereby certifies that it cannot comply with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5323(j), but may qualify for an exception to the requirement consistent with 49 U.S.C. 5323(j)(2)(C), and the applicable regulations in 49 CFR 661.7.

Check for YES:

**FEDERAL TRASIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT) -
BUY AMERICA: CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR PROCUREMENT OF STEEL OR MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS**

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE (select one of the two options, NOT BOTH)

Certificate of Compliance with 49 USC §5323(j)(1)

The proposer hereby certifies that it will comply with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5323(j)(1), and the applicable regulations in 49 CFR part 661.

Check for YES:

OR

Certificate of Non-Compliance with 49 USC §5323(j)(1)

The proposer hereby certifies that it cannot comply with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5323(j), but it may qualify for an exception

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to the requirement pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 5323(j)(2), as amended, and the applicable regulations in 49 CFR 661.7.

Check for YES:

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

Offeror's Name: Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc.

Address, City, State, and Zip Code: 2116 S. 17th St., Mattoon, IL 61938

Phone Number: 816.308.7495

Fax Number: 936.788.1229

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative: Mark Evans, Director of Sales – Vertical Markets

Email Address: Mark.Evans@consolidated.com

Signature of Authorized Representative:  _____

Date: 01/09/2025

Unless Supplier is exempt (See FAR 25.103), when authorized by statute or explicitly indicated by Participating Public Agency, Buy American requirements will apply where only unmanufactured construction material mined or produced in the United States shall be used (see Subpart 25.6 – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act-Buy American statute for additional details).

CERTIFICATION OF ACCESS TO RECORDS – 2 C.F.R. § 200.336

Offeror agrees that the Inspector General of the Agency or any of their duly authorized representatives shall have access to any documents, papers, or other records of offeror that are pertinent to offeror's discharge of its obligations under the Contract for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions. The right also includes timely and reasonable access to offeror's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion relating to such documents.

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

CERTIFICATION OF APPLICABILITY TO SUBCONTRACTORS

Offeror agrees that all contracts it awards pursuant to the Contract shall be bound by the foregoing terms and conditions.

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

Purchases made under this contract may be partially or fully funded with federal grant funds. Funding for this work may include Federal Funding sources, including Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. When such funding is provided, Offeror shall comply with all terms, conditions and requirements enumerated by the grant funding source, as well as requirements of the State statutes for which the contract is utilized, whichever is the more restrictive requirement. When using Federal Funding, Offeror shall comply with all wage and latest reporting provisions of the Federal Davis-Bacon Act. HUD-4010 Labor Provisions also applies to this contract.

Does offeror agree? YES ME _____ Initials of Authorized Representative of offeror

Offeror agrees to comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations and ordinances, as applicable. It is further acknowledged that offeror certifies compliance with all provisions, laws, acts, regulations, etc. as specifically noted above.

Offeror's Name:

Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc.

Address, City, State, and Zip Code:

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2116 S. 17th St., Mattoon, IL 61938

Phone Number: 8 1 6 . 3 0 8 . 7 4 9 5


Fax Number: 936.788.1229

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative:

Mark Evans, Director of Sales – Vertical Markets

Email Address:

Mark.Evans@consolidated.com

Signature of Authorized Representative: 

Date: 01/09/2025

FEMA AND ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDING SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Awarded Supplier(s) (also referred to as Contractors) may need to respond to events and losses where products and services are needed for the immediate and initial response to emergency situations such as, but not limited to, water damage, fire damage, vandalism cleanup, biohazard cleanup, sewage decontamination, deodorization, and/or wind damage during a disaster or emergency situation. By submitting a proposal, the Supplier is accepted these FEMA and Additional Federal Funding Special Conditions required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal entities.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

“Contract” in the below pages under FEMA AND ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDING SPECIAL CONDITIONS is also referred to and defined as the “Master Agreement”.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

“Contractor” in the below pages under FEMA AND ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDING SPECIAL CONDITIONS is also referred to and defined as “Supplier” or “Awarded Supplier”.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Conflicts of Interest

No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a FEMA award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of these parties, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for award. 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c)(1); See also Standard Form 424D, ¶ 7; Standard Form 424B, ¶ 3. i. FEMA considers a “financial interest” to be the potential for gain or loss to the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of these parties as a result of the particular procurement. The prohibited financial interest may arise from ownership of certain financial instruments or investments such as stock, bonds, or real estate, or from a salary, indebtedness, job offer, or similar interest that might be affected by the particular procurement. ii. FEMA considers an “apparent” conflict of interest to exist where an actual conflict does not exist, but where a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would question the impartiality of the employee, officer, or agent participating in the procurement. c. Gifts. The officers, employees, and agents of the Participating Public Agency nor the Participating Public Agency (“NFE”) must neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, NFE’s may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is de minimus, not substantial, or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c)(1). d. Violations. The NFE’s written standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the NFE. 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c)(1). For example, the penalty for a NFE’s employee may be dismissal, and the penalty for a contractor might be the termination of the contract.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Contractor Integrity

A contractor must have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics. Contractors that are debarred or suspended, as described in and subject to the debarment and suspension regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, *Debarment and Suspension* (1986) and Executive Order 12689, *Debarment and Suspension* (1989) at 2 C.F.R. Part 180 and the Department of Homeland Security’s regulations at 2 C.F.R. Part 3000 (Non-procurement Debarment and Suspension), must be rejected and cannot receive contract awards at any level.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Notice of Legal Matters Affecting the Federal Government

In the event FTA or DOT funding is used by Participating Public Agency, Contractor agrees to:

- 1) The Contractor agrees that if a current or prospective legal matter that may affect the Federal

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Government emerges, the Contractor shall promptly notify the Participating Public Agency of the legal matter in accordance with 2 C.F.R. §§ 180.220 and 1200.220.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 2) The types of legal matters that require notification include, but are not limited to, a major dispute, breach, default, litigation, or naming the Federal Government as a party to litigation or a legal disagreement in any forum for any reason.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 3) The Contractor further agrees to include the above clause in each subcontract, at every tier, financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by the FTA.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Public Policy

A contractor must comply with the public policies of the Federal Government and state, local government, or tribal government. This includes, among other things, past and current compliance with the:

- a. Equal opportunity and nondiscrimination laws
- b. Five affirmative steps described at 2 C.F.R. § 200.321(b) for all subcontracting under contracts supported by FEMA financial assistance; and FEMA Procurement Guidance June 21, 2016 Page IV- 7
- c. Applicable prevailing wage laws, regulations, and executive orders

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood a-c/Public Policy.

Affirmative Steps

For any subcontracting opportunities, Contractor must take the following Affirmative steps:

1. Placing qualified small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises on solicitation lists;
2. Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
3. Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
4. Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises; and
5. Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood Affirmative Steps 1-5.

Bid Guarantee

For proposals that are to include construction/reconstruction/renovation and related services, bids must be accompanied by Certified or Cashier's Check or an approved Bid Bond in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the total bid. Surety shall provide a copy of the Power of Attorney authorizing the Executing Agent the authority to execute the bid bond documents and bind the surety to the bid bond conditions. The bid bond shall have a corporate Surety that is licensed to conduct business in the state of the lead agency and authorized to underwrite bonds in the amount of the bid bond.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Prevailing Wage Requirements

When applicable, the awarded Contractor (s) and any and all subcontractor(s) agree to comply with all laws regarding prevailing wage rates including the Davis-Bacon Act, applicable to this solicitation and/or Participating Public Agencies. The Participating Public Agency shall notify the Contractor of the applicable pricing/prevaling wage rates and must apply any local wage rates requested. The Contractor and any subcontractor(s) shall comply with the prevailing wage rates set by the Participating Public Agency.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Federal Requirements

If products and services are issued in response to an emergency or disaster recovery the items below, located in this FEMA Special Conditions section of the Federal Funds Certifications, are activated and required when federal funding may be utilized.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

2 C.F.R. § 200.326 and 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II, Required Contract Clauses

1. CONTRACT REMEDIES

Contracts for more than the federal simplified acquisition threshold (SAT), the dollar amount below which an NFE may purchase property or services using small purchase methods, currently set at \$250,000 for procurements made on or after June 20, 2018,⁴ must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms and must provide for sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

1.1 Applicability

This contract provision is required for contracts over the SAT, currently set at \$250,000 for procurements made on or after June 20, 2018. Although not required for contracts at or below the SAT, FEMA suggests including a remedies provision.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

1.2 Additional Considerations

For FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program, recipients must include a penalty clause in all contracts for any AFG-funded vehicle, regardless of dollar amount. In that situation, the contract must include a clause addressing that non-delivery by the contract's specified date or other vendor nonperformance will require a penalty of no less than \$100 per day until such time that the vehicle, compliant with the terms of the contract, has been accepted by the recipient. This penalty clause should, however, account for force majeure or acts of God. AFG recipients should refer to the applicable year's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for additional information, which can be accessed at FEMA.gov.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

2. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE AND CONVENIENCE

- a. Standard. All contracts in excess of \$10,000 must address termination for cause and for convenience by the non-Federal entity, including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement. See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(B).
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b. Applicability. This requirement applies to all FEMA grant and cooperative agreement programs.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

3. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

When applicable:

- a. Standard. Except as otherwise provided under 41 C.F.R. Part 60, all contracts that meet the definition of “federally assisted construction contract” in 41 C.F.R. § 60-1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 C.F.R. § 60- 1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, *Equal Employment Opportunity* (30 Fed. Reg. 12319, 12935, 3 C.F.R. Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, *Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity*, and implementing regulations at 41 C.F.R. Part 60 (Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor). See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(C).
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b. Key Definitions.
 - i. Federally Assisted Construction Contract. The regulation at 41 C.F.R. § 60-1.3 defines a “federally assisted construction contract” as any agreement or modification thereof between any applicant and a person for construction work which is paid for in whole or in part with funds obtained from the Government or borrowed on the credit of the Government pursuant to any Federal program involving a grant, contract, loan, insurance, or guarantee, or undertaken pursuant to any Federal program involving such grant, contract, loan, insurance, or guarantee, or any application or modification thereof approved by the Government for a grant, contract, loan, insurance, or guarantee under which the applicant itself participates in the construction work.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

 - ii. Construction Work. The regulation at 41 C.F.R. § 60-1.3 defines “construction work” as the construction, rehabilitation, alteration, conversion, extension, demolition or repair of buildings, highways, or other changes or improvements to real property, including facilities providing utility services. The term also includes the supervision, inspection, and other onsite functions incidental to the actual construction.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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- b. Applicability. This requirement applies to all FEMA grant and cooperative agreement programs.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- c. Required Language. The regulation at 41 C.F.R. Part 60-1.4(b) requires the insertion of the following contract clause.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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

(1) The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following:

Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(2) The contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(3) The contractor will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant has inquired about, discussed, or disclosed the compensation of the employee or applicant or another employee or applicant. This provision shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the compensation of such other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a formal complaint or charge, in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or is consistent with the contractor's legal duty to furnish information.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(4) The contractor will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which he has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided advising the said labor union or workers' representatives of the contractor's commitments under this section and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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(5) The contractor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(6) The contractor will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the administering agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(7) In the event of the contractor's noncompliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of the said rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part and the contractor may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts or federally assisted construction contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(8) The contractor will include the portion of the sentence immediately preceding paragraph (1) and the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (8) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the administering agency may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions, including sanctions for noncompliance:

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

4. DAVIS-BACON ACT

- a. Standard. All prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 3141-3144 and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations at 29 C.F.R. Part 5 (Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction). See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(D). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b. Applicability. The Davis-Bacon Act applies to the Emergency Management Preparedness Grant Program, Homeland Security Grant Program, Nonprofit Security Grant Program, Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program, Port Security Grant Program, and Transit Security Grant Program.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- c. Requirements. If applicable, the non-federal entity must do the following:

- i. The non-Federal entity must place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract must be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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- i. Additionally, pursuant 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(D), contracts subject to the Davis-Bacon Act, must also include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (40 U.S.C. § 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations at 29 C.F.R. Part 3 (Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States). The Copeland Anti- Kickback Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to FEMA.
- ii. Include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146-3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, “Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction”).

***Consolidated Communications’ Response:* Read and understood.**

Suggested Language. The following provides a sample contract clause:

Compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act.

All transactions regarding this contract shall be done in compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141- 3144, and 3146-3148) and the requirements of 29 C.F.R. pt. 5 as may be applicable. The contractor shall comply with 40 U.S.C. 3141- 3144, and 3146-3148 and the requirements of 29 C.F.R. pt. 5 as applicable.

***Consolidated Communications’ Response:* Read and understood.**

- a. Contractors are required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor.

***Consolidated Communications’ Response:* Read and understood.**

- b. Additionally, contractors are required to pay wages not less than once a week.

***Consolidated Communications’ Response:* Read and understood.**

5. COPELAND ANTI-KICKBACK ACT

- a. Standard. Recipient and subrecipient contracts must include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (40 U.S.C. 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 3, “Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States”).
Consolidated Communications’ Response: Read and understood.
- b. Applicability. This requirement applies to all contracts for construction or repair work above \$2,000 in situations where the Davis-Bacon Act also applies. It DOES NOT apply to the FEMA Public Assistance Program.
Consolidated Communications’ Response: Read and understood.
- c. Requirements. If applicable, the non-federal entity must include a provision for compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (40 U.S.C. § 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations at 29 C.F.R. Part 3 (Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States). Each contractor or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to FEMA. Additionally, in accordance with the regulation, each contractor and subcontractor must furnish each week a statement with respect to the wages paid each of its employees engaged in work covered by the Copeland Anti-Kickback Act and the Davis Bacon Act during the preceding weekly payroll period. The report shall be delivered by the contractor or subcontractor, within seven days after the regular payment date of the payroll period, to a representative of a Federal or State agency in charge at the site of the building or work.
Consolidated Communications’ Response: Read and understood.

Sample Language. The following provides a sample contract clause:

Compliance with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act.

- a. Contractor. The contractor shall comply with 18 U.S.C. §874, 40 U.S.C. § 3145, and the requirements of 29 C.F.R. pt. 3 as may be applicable, which are incorporated by reference into this contract.
Consolidated Communications’ Response: Read and understood.
- b. Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clause above and such other clauses as FEMA may by appropriate instructions require, and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for the compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with all of these contract clauses.
Consolidated Communications’ Response: Read and understood.
- c. Breach. A breach of the contract clauses above may be grounds for termination of the contract, and for debarment as a contractor and subcontractor as provided in 29 C.F.R. §5.12.”
Consolidated Communications’ Response: Read and understood.

6. CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND SAFETY STANDARDS ACT

- a. Standard. Where applicable (see 40 U.S.C. §§ 3701-3708), all contracts awarded by the non-Federal entity in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. §§ 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations at 29 C.F.R. Part 5. See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(E). Under 40 U.S.C. § 3702, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. Further, no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b. Applicability. This requirement applies to all FEMA contracts awarded by the non-federal entity in excess of \$100,000 under grant and cooperative agreement programs that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers. It is applicable to construction work. These requirements do not apply to the purchase of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- c. Suggested Language. The regulation at 29 C.F.R. § 5.5(b) provides contract clause language concerning compliance with the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. FEMA suggests including the following contract clause:

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Compliance with the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.

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

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(2) *Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages.* In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section the contractor and any subcontractor responsible therefor shall be liable for the unpaid wages. In addition, such contractor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States (in the case of work done under contract for the District of Columbia or a territory, to such District or to such territory), for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or mechanic, including watchmen and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, in the sum of

\$27 for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

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

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

7. RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS MADE UNDER A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT

a. Standard. If the FEMA award meets the definition of “funding agreement” under 37 C.F.R. § 401.2(a) and the non-Federal entity wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that “funding agreement,” the non-Federal entity must comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. Part 401 (Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements), and any implementing regulations issued by FEMA. See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(F).

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

b. Applicability. This requirement applies to “funding agreements,” but it DOES NOT apply to the Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Fire Management Assistance Grant Program, Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Grant Program, Disaster Case Management Grant Program, and Federal Assistance to Individuals and Households – Other Needs Assistance Grant Program, as FEMA awards under these programs do not meet the definition of “funding agreement.”

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

c. Funding Agreements Definition. The regulation at 37 C.F.R. § 401.2(a) defines “funding agreement” as any contract, grant, or cooperative agreement entered into between any Federal agency, other than the Tennessee Valley Authority, and any contractor for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work funded in whole or in part by the Federal government. This term also includes any assignment, substitution of parties, or subcontract of any type entered into for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under a funding agreement as defined in the first sentence of this paragraph.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

8. CLEAN AIR ACT AND THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

- a.** Standard. If applicable, contracts must contain a provision that requires the contractor to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251-1387). Violations must be reported to FEMA and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency. See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(G).

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Applicability. This requirement applies to contracts awarded by a non-federal entity of amounts in excess of \$150,000 under a federal grant.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b.** Suggested Language. The following provides a sample contract clause.

Clean Air Act

1. The contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

2. The contractor agrees to report each violation to the Participating Public Agency and understands and agrees that the Participating Public Agency will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

3. The contractor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FEMA.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Federal Water Pollution Control Act

1. The contractor agrees to comply with all applicable standards, orders, or regulations issued pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

2. The contractor agrees to report each violation to the Participating Public Agency and understands and agrees that the Participating Public Agency will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

3. The contractor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FEMA.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

9. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

- a. Standard. Non-Federal entities and contractors are subject to the debarment and suspension regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, *Debarment and Suspension* (1986) and Executive Order 12689, *Debarment and Suspension* (1989) at 2 C.F.R. Part 180 and the Department of Homeland Security's regulations at 2 C.F.R. Part 3000 (Non-procurement Debarment and Suspension).

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b. Applicability. This requirement applies to all FEMA grant and cooperative agreement programs.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- c. Requirements.

These regulations restrict awards, subawards, and contracts with certain parties that are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs and activities. See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(H); and 2 C.F.R. § 200.213. A contract award must not be made to parties listed in the SAM Exclusions. SAM Exclusions is the list maintained by the General Services Administration that contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, as well as parties declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than Executive Order 12549. SAM exclusions can be accessed at www.sam.gov. See 2 C.F.R. § 180.530.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- i. In general, an "excluded" party cannot receive a Federal grant award or a contract within the meaning of a "covered transaction," to include subawards and subcontracts. This includes parties that receive Federal funding indirectly, such as contractors to recipients and subrecipients. The key to the exclusion is whether there is a "covered transaction," which is any non-procurement transaction (unless excepted) at either a "primary" or "secondary" tier. Although "covered transactions" do not include contracts awarded by the Federal Government for purposes of the non-procurement common rule and DHS's implementing regulations, it does include some contracts awarded by recipients and subrecipients.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
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ii. Specifically, a covered transaction includes the following contracts for goods or services:

1. The contract is awarded by a recipient or subrecipient in the amount of at least \$25,000.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

2. The contract requires the approval of FEMA, regardless of amount.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

3. The contract is for federally-required audit services.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

4. A subcontract is also a covered transaction if it is awarded by the contractor of a recipient or subrecipient and requires either the approval of FEMA or is in excess of \$25,000.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

d. Suggested Language. The following provides a debarment and suspension clause. It incorporates an optional method of verifying that contractors are not excluded or disqualified.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Suspension and Debarment

(1) This contract is a covered transaction for purposes of 2 C.F.R. pt. 180 and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000. As such, the contractor is required to verify that none of the contractor's principals (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.995) or its affiliates (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.905) are excluded (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.940) or disqualified (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.935).

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(2) The contractor must comply with 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C, and must include a requirement to comply with these regulations in any lower tier covered transaction it enters into.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(3) This certification is a material representation of fact relied upon by the Participating Public Agency. If it is later determined that the contractor did not comply with 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C, in addition to remedies available to the Participating Public Agency, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- (4) The bidder or proposer agrees to comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C while this offer is valid and throughout the period of any contract that may arise from this offer. The bidder or proposer further agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

10. BYRD ANTI-LOBBYING AMENDMENT

- a.** Standard. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. § 1352. FEMA's regulation at 44 C.F.R. Part 18 implements the requirements of 31 U.S.C. § 1352 and provides, in Appendix A to Part 18, a copy of the certification that is required to be completed by each entity as described in 31 U.S.C. § 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the Federal awarding agency.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b.** Applicability. This requirement applies to all FEMA grant and cooperative agreement programs. Contractors that apply or bid for a contract of \$100,000 or more under a federal grant must file the required certification. See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(I); 31 U.S.C. § 1352; and 44 C.F.R. Part 18.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- c.** Suggested Language.

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment, 31 U.S.C. § 1352 (as amended)

Contractors who apply or bid for an award of \$100,000 or more shall file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant, or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. § 1352. Each tier shall also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the recipient who in turn will forward the certification(s) to the awarding agency.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
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- d. Required Certification. If applicable, contractors must sign and submit to the non-federal entity the following certification.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

APPENDIX A, 44 C.F.R. PART 18 – CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an 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 the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

1. 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 agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of 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 Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

2. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
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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. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

The Contractor, Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc., certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of each statement of its certification and disclosure, if any. In addition, the Contractor understands and agrees that the provisions of 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38, Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements, apply to this certification and disclosure, if any.



Signature of Contractor's Authorized Official

Mark Evans, Director of Sales

Name and Title of Contractor's Authorized Official

01/09/2025

Date

11. PROCUREMENT OF RECOVERED MATERIALS

- a.** Standard. A non-Federal entity that is a state agency or agency of a political subdivision of a state and its contractors must comply with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(J); and 2 C.F.R. § 200.322.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b.** Applicability. This requirement applies to all contracts awarded by a non- federal entity under FEMA grant and cooperative agreement programs.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- c.** Requirements. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the EPA at 40 C.F.R. Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired by the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- d.** Suggested Language.

- i. In the performance of this contract, the Contractor shall make maximum use of products containing recovered materials that are EPA-designated items unless the product cannot be acquired—

1. Competitively within a timeframe providing for compliance with the contract performance schedule;

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

2. Meeting contract performance requirements; or

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

3. At a reasonable price.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- ii. Information about this requirement, along with the list of EPA- designated items, is available at EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines web site, <https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive-procurement-guideline-cpg-program>.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- iii. The Contractor also agrees to comply with all other applicable requirements of Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.”

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

12. DOMESTIC PREFERENCES FOR PROCUREMENTS

As appropriate, and to the extent consistent with law, CONTRACTOR should, to the greatest extent practicable under a federal award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products or materials produced in the United States. This includes, but is not limited to, iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Applicability For purchases in support of FEMA declarations and awards issued on or after November 12, 2020, all FEMA recipients and subrecipients are required to include in all contracts and purchase orders for work or products a contract provision encouraging domestic preference for procurements.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Domestic Preference for Procurements As appropriate, and to the extent consistent with law, the contractor should, to the greatest extent practicable, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States. This includes, but is not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products. For purposes of this clause: Produced in the United States means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States. Manufactured products mean items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.”

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

13. ACCESS TO RECORDS

- a. Standard. All recipients, subrecipients, successors, transferees, and assignees must acknowledge and agree to comply with applicable provisions governing DHS access to records, accounts, documents, information, facilities, and staff. Recipients must give DHS/FEMA access to, and the right to examine and copy, records, accounts, and other documents and sources of information related to the federal financial assistance award and permit access to facilities, personnel, and other individuals and information as may be necessary, as required by DHS regulations *and* other applicable laws or program guidance. See DHS Standard Terms and Conditions: Version 8.1 (2018). Additionally, Section 1225 of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 prohibits FEMA from providing reimbursement to any state, local, tribal, or territorial government, or private non-profit for activities made pursuant to a contract that purports to prohibit audits or internal reviews by the FEMA administrator or Comptroller General.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Access to Records. The following access to records requirements apply to this contract:

- i. The Contractor agrees to provide Participating Public Agency, the FEMA Administrator, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to this contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- ii. The Contractor agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- iii. The Contractor agrees to provide the FEMA Administrator or his authorized representatives access to construction or other work sites pertaining to the work being completed under the contract.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- iv. In compliance with the Disaster Recovery Act of 2018, the Participating Public Agency and the Contractor acknowledge and agree that no language in this contract is intended to prohibit audits or internal reviews by the FEMA Administrator or the Comptroller General of the United States.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

14. CHANGES

- a. Standard. To be eligible for FEMA assistance under the non-Federal entity's FEMA grant or cooperative agreement, the cost of the change, modification, change order, or constructive change must be allowable, allocable, within the scope of its grant or cooperative agreement, and reasonable for the completion of project scope.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b. Applicability. FEMA recommends, therefore, that a non-Federal entity include a changes clause in its contract that describes how, if at all, changes can be made by either party to alter the method, price, or schedule of the work without breaching the contract. The language of the clause may differ depending on the nature of the contract and the end-item procured.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

15. DHS SEAL, LOGO, AND FLAGS

- a. Standard. Recipients must obtain permission prior to using the DHS seal(s), logos, crests, or reproductions of flags or likenesses of DHS agency officials. See DHS Standard Terms and Conditions: Version 8.1 (2018).

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b. Applicability. FEMA recommends that all non-Federal entities place in their contracts a provision that a contractor shall not use the DHS seal(s), logos, crests, or reproductions of flags or likenesses of DHS agency officials without specific FEMA pre-approval.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- c. "The contractor shall not use the DHS seal(s), logos, crests, or reproductions of flags or likenesses of DHS agency officials without specific FEMA pre-approval.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
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16. COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW, REGULATIONS, AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS

- a. Standard. The recipient and its contractors are required to comply with all Federal laws, regulations, and executive orders.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b. Applicability. FEMA recommends that all non-Federal entities place into their contracts an acknowledgement that FEMA financial assistance will be used to fund the contract along with the requirement that the contractor will comply with all applicable Federal law, regulations, executive orders, and FEMA policies, procedures, and directives.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- c. "This is an acknowledgement that FEMA financial assistance will be used to fund all or a portion of the contract. The contractor will comply with all applicable Federal law, regulations, executive orders, FEMA policies, procedures, and directives."

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

17. NO OBLIGATION BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- a. Standard. FEMA is not a party to any transaction between the recipient and its contractor. FEMA is not subject to any obligations or liable to any party for any matter relating to the contract.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b. Applicability. FEMA recommends that the non-Federal entity include a provision in its contract that states that the Federal Government is not a party to the contract and is not subject to any obligations or liabilities to the non-Federal entity, contractor, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- c. "The Federal Government is not a party to this contract and is not subject to any obligations or liabilities to the non-Federal entity, contractor, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract."

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

18. PROGRAM FRAUD AND FALSE OR FRAUDULENT STATEMENTS OR RELATED ACTS

- a. Standard. Recipients must comply with the requirements of The False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733) which prohibits the submission of false or fraudulent claims for payment to the federal government. See DHS Standard Terms and Conditions: Version 8.1 (2018); and 31 U.S.C. §§ 3801-3812, which details the administrative remedies for false claims and statements made. The non-Federal entity must include a provision in its contract that the contractor acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to its actions pertaining to the contract.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
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- b. Applicability. FEMA recommends that the non-Federal entity include a provision in its contract that the contractor acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to its actions pertaining to the contract.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.
- c. "The Contractor acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to the Contractor's actions pertaining to this contract."
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.
- d. In the event FTA or DOT funding is used by a Participating Public Agency, Contractor further acknowledges U.S. DOT regulations, "Program Fraud Civil Remedies," 49 CFR Part 31, and apply to its actions pertaining to this Contract. Upon execution of the underlying Contract, Contractor certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of any statement it has made, it makes, it may make, or causes to be made, pertaining to the underlying Contract or the FTA assisted project for which this Contract Work is being performed.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

In addition to other penalties that may be applicable, Contractor further acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification, the Federal Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 on Contractor to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Contractor also acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification to the Federal Government under a contract connected with a project that is financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance originally awarded by FTA under the authority of 49 U.S.C. § 5307, the Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 49 U.S.C. § 5307 (n)(1) on the Contractor, to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Contractor agrees to include the above clauses in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA. It is further agreed that the clauses shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to the provisions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
EXHIBIT F - FEDERAL FUNDS CERTIFICATIONS

**FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT)
SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

Awarded Supplier(s) (also referred to as Contractors) may be asked to provide products and services to agencies following Federal Transit Administration and/or Department of Transportation requirements. By submitting a response, the Supplier is accepting these FTA and DOT Special Conditions.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

NO GOVERNMENT OBLIGATION TO THIRD PARTIES

These requirements do not apply to micro-purchases (\$10,000 or less, except for construction contracts over \$2,000).

(1) The Participating Public Agency and contractor/vendor acknowledge and agree that, notwithstanding any concurrence by the Federal Government in or approval of the solicitation or award of the underlying contract, absent the express written consent by the Federal Government, the Federal Government is not a party to this contract and shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities to the purchaser, contractor, or any other party (whether or not a party to that contract) pertaining to any matter resulting from the underlying contract.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

(2) The contractor agrees to include the above clause in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA. It is further agreed that the clause shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to its provisions.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

PROGRAM FRAUD AND FALSE OR FRAUDULENT STATEMENTS OR RELATED ACTS

These requirements do not apply to micro-purchases (\$10,000 or less, except for construction contracts over \$2,000)

(1) The contractor acknowledges that the provisions of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 3801 et seq. and U.S. DOT regulations, "Program Fraud Civil Remedies, "49 CFR Part 31, apply to its actions pertaining to this Project. Upon execution of the underlying contract, the contractor certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of any statement it has made, it makes, it may make, or causes to be made, pertaining to the underlying contract or the FTA assisted project for which this contract work is being performed. In addition to other penalties that may be applicable, the contractor further acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification, the Federal Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 on the contractor to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

(2) The contractor also acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification to the Federal Government under a contract connected with a project that is financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance originally awarded by FTA under the authority of 49 U.S.C. 5307, the Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 49 U.S.C. § 5323(l) on the contractor, to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.

***Consolidated Communications' Response:* Read and understood.**

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
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(3) The contractor agrees to include the above two clauses in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA. It is further agreed that the clauses shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to the provisions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

ACCESS TO RECORDS AND REPORTS

(1) Record Retention. The Contractor will retain, and will require its subcontractors of all tiers to retain, complete and readily accessible records related in whole or in part to the contract, including, but not limited to, data, documents, reports, statistics, sub-agreements, leases, subcontracts, arrangements, other third-party agreements of any type, and supporting materials related to those records.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(2) Retention Period. The Contractor agrees to comply with the record retention requirements in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.333. The Contractor shall maintain all books, records, accounts and reports required under this Contract for a period of at not less than three (3) years after the date of termination or expiration of this Contract, except in the event of litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this Contract, in which case records shall be maintained until the disposition of all such litigation, appeals, claims or exceptions related thereto.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(3) Access to Records. The Contractor agrees to provide sufficient access to FTA and its contractors to inspect and audit records and information related to performance of this contract as reasonably may be required.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(4) Access to the Sites of Performance. The Contractor agrees to permit FTA and its contractors access to the sites of performance under this contract as reasonably may be required.

FEDERAL CHANGES

(1) Contractor shall at all times comply with all applicable FTA regulations, policies, procedures and directives, including without limitation those listed directly or by reference in the Master Agreement between Purchaser and FTA, as they may be amended or promulgated from time to time during the term of this contract. Contractor's failure to so comply shall constitute a material breach of this Contract.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Contractor agrees to:

- a) Maintain all books, records, accounts and reports required under this Contract for a period of not less than three (3) years after the date of termination or expiration of this Contract or any extensions thereof except in the event of litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this Contract, in which case Contractor agrees to maintain same until Public Agency, the FTA Administrator, the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, have disposed of all such litigation, appeals, claims or exceptions related thereto.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- b) Permit any of the foregoing parties to inspect all work, materials, payrolls, and other data and records with regard to the Project, and to audit the books, records, and accounts with regard to the Project and to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed for the purpose of audit and examination.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

FTA does not require the inclusion of these requirements of Article 1.01 in subcontracts. Reference 49 CFR 18.39 (a)(11).

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
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CIVIL RIGHTS / TITLE VI REQUIREMENTS

The Participating Public Agency is an Equal Opportunity Employer. As such, the Participating Public Agency agrees to comply with all applicable Federal civil rights laws and implementing regulations. Apart from inconsistent requirements imposed by Federal laws or regulations, the Participating Public Agency agrees to comply with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 5323(h) (3) by not using any Federal assistance awarded by FTA to support procurements using exclusionary or discriminatory specifications.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Under this Agreement, the Contractor shall at all times comply with the following requirements and shall include these requirements in each subcontract entered into as part thereof.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(1) Nondiscrimination – In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 20000d, section 303 of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6102, section 202 of the Americans with disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12132, and Federal transit law at 49 U.S.C. 5332, the contractor agrees that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, or disability. In addition, the contractor agrees to comply with applicable Federal implementing regulations and other implementing requirements FTA may issue.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

(2) Equal Employment Opportunity – The following equal employment opportunity requirements apply to the underlying contract:

- (a) **Race, Color, Creed, National Origin, Sex.** In accordance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq., and Federal transit laws at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable equal employment opportunity requirements of U.S. Department of Labor (U.S. DOL) regulations, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor," 41 C.F.R. chapter 60, and Executive Order No. 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity in Federal Employment," September 24, 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e note, as amended by any later Executive Order that amends or supersedes it, referenced in 42 U.S.C. § 2000e note. The Contractor agrees to take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, national origin, or sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity). Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, promotion, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
EXHIBIT F - FEDERAL FUNDS CERTIFICATIONS

- (a) **Age** - In accordance with the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (U.S. EEOC) regulations, "Age Discrimination in Employment Act," 29 C.F.R. part 1625, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq., U.S. Health and Human Services regulations, "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Age in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance," 45 C.F.R. part 90, and Federal transit law at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees to refrain from discrimination against present and prospective employees for reason of age. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- (c) **Disabilities** - In accordance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 794, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq., the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §4151 et seq., and Federal transit law at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees that it will not discriminate against individuals on the basis of disability. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- (3) The contractor also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract financed whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA, modified only if necessary to identify the affected parties.

INCORPORATION OF FTA 4220.1F TERMS

(1) The preceding provisions include, in part, certain Standard Terms and Conditions required by DOT, whether or not expressly set forth in the preceding contract provisions. All contractual provisions required by DOT, as set forth in FTA Circular 4220.1F, dated November 1, 2008, are hereby incorporated by reference. Anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, all FTA-mandated terms shall be deemed to control in the event of a conflict with other provisions contained in this Agreement. The contractor shall not perform any act, fail to perform any act, or refuse to comply with any Participating Public Agency request, which would cause the Participating Public Agency to be in violation of the FTA terms and conditions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- (2) Flow Down – The incorporation of FTA terms has unlimited flow down.

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE)

The contractor, subrecipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 C.F.R. part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as the recipient deems appropriate, which may include, but is not limited to:

- 1) Withholding monthly progress payments;

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 2) Assessing sanctions;

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 3) Liquidated damages; and/or

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
EXHIBIT F - FEDERAL FUNDS CERTIFICATIONS

4) Disqualifying the contractor from future bidding as non-responsible. 49 C.F.R. § 26.13(b).

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

5) Non-Discrimination Assurances. Contractor or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this Contract. Contractor shall carry out all applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by Contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this Contract, which may result in the termination of this Contract or other such remedy as public agency deems appropriate. Each subcontract Contractor signs with a subcontractor must include the assurance in this paragraph. (See 49 CFR 26.13(b)).

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

6) Prompt Payment. Contractor is required to pay each subcontractor performing Work under this prime Contract for satisfactory performance of that work no later than thirty (30) days after Contractor's receipt of payment for that Work from public agency. In addition, Contractor is required to return any retainage payments to those subcontractors within thirty (30) days after the subcontractor's work related to this Contract is satisfactorily completed and any liens have been secured. Any delay or postponement of payment from the above time frames may occur only for good cause following written approval of public agency. This clause applies to both DBE and non-DBE subcontractors. Contractor must promptly notify public agency whenever a DBE subcontractor performing Work related to this Contract is terminated or fails to complete its Work, and must make good faith efforts to engage another DBE subcontractor to perform at least the same amount of work. Contractor may not terminate any DBE subcontractor and perform that Work through its own forces, or those of an affiliate, without prior written consent of Participating Public Agency.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

1) DBE Program. In connection with the performance of this Contract, Contractor will cooperate with public agency in meeting its commitments and goals to ensure that DBEs shall have the maximum practicable opportunity to compete for subcontract work, regardless of whether a contract goal is set for this Contract. Contractor agrees to use good faith efforts to carry out a policy in the award of its subcontracts, agent agreements, and procurement contracts which will, to the fullest extent, utilize DBEs consistent with the efficient performance of the Contract.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

ENERGY CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS

Contractor agrees to comply with mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the State energy conservation plans issued under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Sections 6321 et seq. and 41 CFR Part 301-10.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
EXHIBIT F - FEDERAL FUNDS CERTIFICATIONS

INCORPORATION OF FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) TERMS

- 1) The preceding provisions include, in part, certain Standard Terms and Conditions required by DOT, whether or not expressly set forth in the preceding contract provisions. All contractual provisions required by DOT, as set forth in FTA Circular 4220.1F, dated November 1, 2008, are hereby incorporated by reference. Anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, all FTA-mandated terms shall be deemed to control in the event of a conflict with other provisions contained in this Agreement. The contractor shall not perform any act, fail to perform any act, or refuse to comply with any Participating Public Agency request, which would cause the Participating Public Agency to be in violation of the FTA terms and conditions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 2) Flow Down – The incorporation of FTA terms has unlimited flow down.

SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT

The Contractor shall comply and facilitate compliance with U.S. DOT regulations,

“Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment,” 2 C.F.R. part 1200, which adopts and supplements the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (U.S. OMB) “Guidelines to Agencies on Government Wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” 2 C.F.R. part 180. These provisions apply to each contract at any tier of \$25,000 or more, and to each contract at any tier for a federally required audit (irrespective of the contract amount), and to each contract at any tier that must be approved by an FTA official irrespective of the contract amount. As such, the Contractor shall verify that its principals, affiliates, and subcontractors are eligible to participate in this federally funded contract and are not presently declared by any Federal department or agency to be:

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- a) Debarred from participation in any federally assisted Award;
- b) Suspended from participation in any federally assisted Award;
- c) Proposed for debarment from participation in any federally assisted Award;
- d) Declared ineligible to participate in any federally assisted Award;
- e) Voluntarily excluded from participation in any federally assisted Award; or
- f) Disqualified from participation in any federally assisted Award.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood a-f.

By signing and submitting its bid or proposal, the bidder or proposer certifies as follows:

The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact relied upon by the AGENCY. If it is later determined by the AGENCY that the bidder or proposer knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to remedies available to the AGENCY, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment. The bidder or proposer agrees to comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. part 180, subpart C, as supplemented by 2 C.F.R. part 1200, while this offer is valid and throughout the period of any contract that may arise from this offer. The bidder or proposer further agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
EXHIBIT F - FEDERAL FUNDS CERTIFICATIONS

NO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OBLIGATIONS TO THIRD PARTIES

Agency and Contractor acknowledge and agree that, absent the Federal Government's express written consent and notwithstanding any concurrence by the Federal Government in or approval of the solicitation or award of the underlying Contract, the Federal Government is not a party to this Contract and shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities to agency, Contractor, or any other party (whether or not a party to that contract) pertaining to any matter resulting from the underlying Contract.

Contractor agrees to include the above clause in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with federal assistance provided by the FTA. It is further agreed that the clause shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to its provisions.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

CARGO PREFERENCE REQUIREMENTS

Use of United States-Flag Vessels. The contractor agrees:

- 1) To use privately owned United States-Flag commercial vessels to ship at least 50 percent of the gross tonnage (computed separately for dry bulk carriers, dry cargo liners, and tankers) involved, whenever shipping any equipment, material, or commodities pursuant to the underlying contract to the extent such vessels are available at fair and reasonable rates for United States-Flag commercial vessels.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 2) To furnish within 20 working days following the date of loading for shipments originating within the United States or within 30 days following the date of loading for shipments originating outside the United States, a legible copy of a rated, "on-board" commercial ocean bill-of-lading in English for each shipment of cargo described in the preceding paragraph to the Division of National Cargo, Office of Market Development, Maritime Administration, Washington D.C. 20590 and the FTA recipient (through the contractor in the case of a subcontractor's bill-of lading).

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 3) To include these requirements in all subcontracts issued pursuant to the contract when the subcontract may involve the transport of equipment, materials, or commodities by ocean vessel.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
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FLY AMERICA

Fly America Requirements:

- 1) Definitions. As used in this clause- "International air transportation" means transportation by air between a place in the United States and a place outside the United States or between two places both of which are outside the United States. "United States" means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and outlying areas. "U.S.-flag air carrier" means an air carrier holding a certificate under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 411.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 2) When Federal funds are used to fund travel, Section 5 of the International Air Transportation Fair Competitive Practices Act of 1974 (49 U.S.C. 40118) (Fly America Act) requires contractors, recipients, and others use U.S.-flag air carriers for U.S. Government-financed international air transportation of personnel (and their personal effects) or property, to the extent that service by those carriers is available. It requires the Comptroller General of the United States, in the absence of satisfactory proof of the necessity for foreign-flag air transportation, to disallow expenditures from funds, appropriated or otherwise established for the account of the United States, for international air transportation secured aboard a foreign-flag air carrier if a U.S.-flag air carrier is available to provide such services.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 3) If available, the contractor, in performing work under this contract, shall use U.S.-flag carriers for international air transportation of personnel (and their personal effects) or property.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 4) In the event that the contractor selects a carrier other than a U.S.-flag air carrier for international air transportation, the contractor shall include a statement on vouchers involving such transportation essentially as follows:

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

Statement of Unavailability of U.S.-Flag Air Carriers

International air transportation of persons (and their personal effects) or property by U.S.-flag air carrier was not available or it was necessary to use foreign-flag air carrier service for the following reasons. See FAR § 47.403.

Stated Reason(s): _____

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
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- 1) The contractor shall include the substance of this clause, including this paragraph, in each subcontract or purchase under this contract that may involve international air transportation.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

RECYCLED PRODUCTS

- 1) The Contractor agrees to provide a preference for those products and services that conserve natural resources, protect the environment, and are energy efficient by complying with and facilitating compliance with Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6962, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), "Comprehensive Procurement Guideline for Products Containing Recovered Materials," 40 C.F.R. part 247.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

CONFORMANCE WITH ITS NATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

When applicable:

- 1) Contractor shall conform, to the extent applicable, to the National Intelligent Transportation Standards architecture as required by SAFETEA-LU Section 5307(c), 23 U.S.C. Section 512 and as amended by MAP-21 23 U.S.C. § 517(d), note and follow the provisions of FTA Notice, "FTA National Architecture Policy on Transit Projects," 66 Fed. Reg.1455 et seq., January 8, 2001, and any other implementing directives FTA may issue at a later date, except to the extent FTA determines otherwise in writing.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

ADA ACCESS

- 1) In accordance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 794, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq., the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 4151 et seq., and Federal transit law at 49 U.S.C. § 5332, the Contractor agrees that it will not discriminate against individuals on the basis of disability. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

SAFE OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

- 1) *Seat Belt Use* - The Contractor is encouraged to adopt and promote on-the-job seat belt use policies and programs for its employees and other personnel that operate company-owned vehicles, company-rented vehicles, or personally operated vehicles. The terms "company-owned" and "company-leased" refer to vehicles owned or leased either by the Contractor or Participating Public Agency.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.
- 2) *Distracted Driver* - The Contractor agrees to adopt and enforce workplace safety policies to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers, including policies to ban text messaging while using an electronic device supplied by an employer, and driving a vehicle the driver owns or rents, a vehicle Contractor owns, leases, or rents, or a privately-owned vehicle when on official business in connection with the work performed under this agreement.
Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
EXHIBIT F - FEDERAL FUNDS CERTIFICATIONS

PROMPT PAYMENT

- 1) The Prime Contractor shall pay any Subcontractor for work that has been satisfactorily performed no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the Prime Contractor's receipt of each payment made by the Participating Public Agency. Additionally, within thirty (30) days of satisfactory completion of all work required of the Subcontractor, the Prime Contractor shall release any retainage payments withheld to the Subcontractor.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

FTA PROTEST NOTIFICATION

A protestant must exhaust all Participating Public Agency Procurement administrative procedures and remedies before pursuing a protest with the FTA.

- 1) Any and all protests shall be in writing and shall be filed with the Purchasing Manager with the Participating Public Agency. A protest relating to the process for determining the most responsive and responsible contractor shall be filed within five (5) business days after the protestor knows or should have known the basis of the determination. The Contract Officer shall respond to a protest within fourteen (14) calendar days after the receipt of the protest. The Purchasing Manager may grant the Contract Officer an extension for the response if warranted. A request for reconsideration of any and all determinations by the Contract Officer shall be filed with the Purchasing Manager within seven (7) calendar days after the receipt of the determination.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 2) A protest shall include:

- a. The name, address, and telephone number, including FAX number if available, of the protestor;
- b. The signature of the protestor or authorized representative;
- c. Identification of the contract/solicitation;
- d. A detailed statement of the legal and/or factual grounds of protest including copies and/or citations of relevant documents, and;
- e. The form of relief requested.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood a-e.

- 3) If any of the above information is omitted or incomplete, then the Protestor shall be notified, in writing, within two (2) calendar days after that determination, and the Protestor shall have two (2) calendar days in which to remedy the specified problem.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 4) The Participating Public Agency will not make award prior to the resolution of a protest, or open bids prior to resolution of a protest filed before bid opening unless the Purchasing Manager determines in writing that it is in the best interests of the Participating Public Agency or in keeping with Item 7 of this procedure to do otherwise. Potential contractors will be advised of a pending protest if the protest is filed before award.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
EXHIBIT F - FEDERAL FUNDS CERTIFICATIONS

- 5) The Purchasing Manager may allow for an informal conference on the merits of a protest with all interested parties allowed to attend. Interested parties include all bidding contractors, and may also include a subcontractor or supplier provided they have a substantial economic interest in a portion of the IFB or RFP.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 6) The Purchasing Manager shall respond "in writing", in detail, to each substantial issue raised in the protest. The Purchasing Manager has the sole authority to make determinations for the Participating Public Agency, and a determination shall be considered final when it is labeled as such. A request for reconsideration will be allowed by the Purchasing Manager if he determines that data has become available that was not previously known, or that there has been an error of law or regulation.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 7) The Participating Public Agency may proceed with procurement when a protest is pending if the Participating Public Agency determines that:

- a. The items to be procured are urgently required;
- b. Delivery or performance will be unduly delayed by failure to make the award promptly;
or
- c. Failure to make award will otherwise cause undue harm to the grantee for the Federal Government.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood a-c.

- 8) FTA will only entertain a protest that alleges:
- a. The Participating Public Agency failed to have or to adhere to its protest procedures, or failed to review a complaint or protest; or
 - b. Violations of Federal law or regulation.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

- 9) A protest to FTA must be filed in accordance with FTA Circular 4220.1F, available from the Contract Officer. Specifically, protestors shall file a protest with FTA Region 9 or FTA Headquarters Office no later than five (5) days after a final decision is rendered under the Participating Public Agency's protest procedure. In instances where the protestor alleges that the Participating Public Agency failed to make a final determination on the protest, protestors shall file a protest with FTA not later than five (5) calendar days after the protestor knew or should have known of the grantee's failure to render a final determination on the protest.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood.

A protest filed with FTA shall:

- a. Include the name and address of the protestor.
- b. Identify the grantee, project number, and the number of the contract solicitation.
- c. Contain a statement of the grounds for protest and any supporting documentation. This should detail the alleged failure to have or adhere to protest procedures, failure to review a complaint or protest; or Violation of Federal law or regulation.

Consolidated Communications' Response: Read and understood a-c.

OMNIA PARTNERS EXHIBITS
EXHIBIT F - FEDERAL FUNDS CERTIFICATIONS

Include a copy of the local protest filed with the grantee and a copy of the grantee's decision, if any.

Offeror agrees to comply with all terms and conditions outlined in the FEMA and Additional Federal Funding Special Conditions section of this solicitation.

Offeror's Name: Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc.

Address, City, State, and Zip Code:

2116 S. 17th St., Mattoon, IL 61938

Phone Number: 816.308.7495

Fax Number: 936.788.1229

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative:

Mark Evans, Director of Sales – Vertical Markets

Email Address: Mark.Evans@consolidated.com

Signature of Authorized Representative



Date: 01/08/2025

NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT

State of New Jersey
County of Coles

ss:

I, Mark Evans residing in Mattoon
(name of affiant) (name of municipality)
in the County of Coles and State of Illinois of
full age, being duly sworn according to law on my oath depose and say that:

I am Director of Sales of the firm of Consolidated Communications
(title or position) (name of firm)

Enterprise Services, Inc. the bidder making this Proposal for the bid
entitled Region-IV ESC, and that I executed the said proposal with
(title of bid proposal)

full authority to do so that said bidder has not, directly or indirectly entered into any agreement,
participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free, competitive bidding in
connection with the above-named project; and that all statements contained in said proposal and in this
affidavit are true and correct, and made with full knowledge that the Region IV
Education Service Center relies upon the truth of the statements contained in said Proposal
(name of contracting unit)
and in the statements contained in this affidavit in awarding the contract for the said project.

I further warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure such
contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent
fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by
Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc.

Subscribed and sworn to

before me this day

[Signature]
Signature

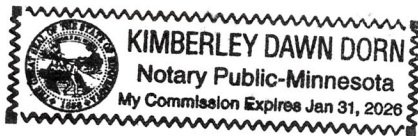
January 9, 2025

Mark Evans
(Type or print name of affiant under signature)

Kimberly Dawn Dorn
Notary public of

My Commission expires Jan. 31, 2026

(Seal)



**Request for Taxpayer
 Identification Number and Certification**

Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

Give form to the
 requester. Do not
 send to the IRS.

Before you begin. For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see *Purpose of Form*, below.

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	1	Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, enter the owner's name on line 1, and enter the business/disregarded entity's name on line 2.) Consolidated Communications of Texas Company	
	2	Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above. dba Consolidated Communications	
	3a	Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes. <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate <input type="checkbox"/> LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership) Note: Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) _____	4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): Exempt payee code (if any) <u>5</u> Exemption from Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting code (if any) <u>N/A</u> (Applies to accounts maintained outside the United States.)
	3b	If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" as its tax classification, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an ownership interest, check this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions <input type="checkbox"/>	
	5	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions. c/o Consolidated Communications; 2116 South 17th St	Requester's name and address (optional)
	6	City, state, and ZIP code Mattoon, IL 61938	
	7	List account number(s) here (optional)	

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. See also *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number									
OR									
Employer identification number									
7	5	-	2	0	7	3	9	3	1

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and, generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person 	Date 03/01/2024
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General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

What's New

Line 3a has been modified to clarify how a disregarded entity completes this line. An LLC that is a disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Otherwise, it should check the "LLC" box and enter its appropriate tax classification.

New line 3b has been added to this form. A flow-through entity is required to complete this line to indicate that it has direct or indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries when it provides the Form W-9 to another flow-through entity in which it has an ownership interest. This change is intended to provide a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, so that it can satisfy any applicable reporting requirements. For example, a partnership that has any indirect foreign partners may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3. See the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they