

SEALED BID

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

**CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FIBER OPTIC
CABLE SPLICE ENCLOSURES**

ISSUE DATE: 08/23/2018

QUESTIONS DUE BY: 08/31/2018

DUE DATE and TIME: 09/21/2018 4:00 p.m.

BID OPENING: 09/23/2018 10:00 a.m.

BID AWARD: on or before 09/28/2018

LOCATION OF BID OPENING: 112 State Street, 3rd Floor Montpelier,
Vermont

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ALL NOTIFICATIONS, RELEASES, AND AMENDMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS RFP WILL BE POSTED AT:

<http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing/bids>

THE STATE WILL MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO CONTACT VENDORS WITH UPDATED INFORMATION. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH VENDOR TO PERIODICALLY CHECK <http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing/bids> FOR ANY AND ALL NOTIFICATIONS, RELEASES AND AMENDMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE RFP.

PURCHASING AGENT: Clay Purvis, Department of Public Service
TELEPHONE: (802) 371-9655
E-MAIL: clay.purvis@vermont.gov

1. **OVERVIEW:**

- 1.1. **SCOPE AND BACKGROUND:** The Department of Public Service is seeking a qualified cable construction vendor to install new fiber optic cable splice enclosures along its open access fiber link between Hardwick and Newport, Vermont. The Department is also requesting that the vendor repair and maintain existing fiber line as necessary to install fiber splice enclosures.
- 1.2. **CONTRACT PERIOD:** Contracts arising from this request for proposal will be for a period of **12 months**.
- 1.3. **CONTRACT VALUE/QUANTITY:** The estimated annual value of this contract is **\$394,000**. The annual value and quantities are estimated only based on available capital appropriations and actual amounts will depend on the needs of the state.
- 1.4. communications concerning this Request for Proposal (RFP) are to be addressed in writing to the attention of: **Clay Purvis** with the Department of Public Service, 112 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-7501. **Clay Purvis** is the sole contact for this proposal. Actual contact with any other party or attempts by bidders to contact any other party could result in the rejection of their proposal.
- 1.5. **QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD:** Any vendor requiring clarification of any section of this proposal or wishing to comment or take exception to any requirements or other portion of the RFP must submit specific questions in writing no later than **August 22, 2018**. Questions may be e-mailed to clay.purvis@vermont.gov. Any objection to the RFP, or to any provision of the RFP, that is not raised in writing on or before the last day of the question period is waived. At the close of the question period a copy of all questions or comments and the State's responses will be posted on the State's web site <http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing/bids> . Every effort will be made to have these available as soon after the question period ends, contingent on the number and complexity of the questions.
- 1.6. **INSTRUCTIONS FOR BIDDERS:** see sections 5 and 6.

2. **DETAILED REQUIREMENTS:**

2.1 **OVERVIEW:** The Department owns approximately 100 route miles of fiber optic cable for which it is responsible for maintaining. The fiber runs in four segments. The first route begins in Hardwick and ends in Newport and runs approximately 41 route miles. The second section runs between Brighton and Norton in the right-of-way along Route 114. The third route runs between Derby and Derby line and terminates within a building on the border. The fourth route runs through Chelsea, Vershire, West Fairlee, Thetford, Strafford, and Sharon. Interested bidders may request as-built drawing of the Newport to Hardwick build by contacting the Department of Public Service. A general map of the Department's fiber can be found at the Department's website by visiting:

<http://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/map-fiber-owned-department-public-service>

2.2 **INSTALLATION:** Contractor will be expected to perform the following:

- a. Propose a model of fiber splice enclosure (the Department has used Corning SCF-9T34-LRB)
- b. properly install all new fiber splice enclosures at the locations as prescribed by the Department.
- c. Make any repair that requires immediate action to install the fiber splice enclosures. Work will include fiber splicing and testing as necessary;
- d. Provide "as built" drawings of fiber splicing, splice enclosure installation, and fiber access point installation as requested.
- e. The Department does not have a specified number of enclosures, but seeks to install as many as it can for the maximum amount of the capital appropriation.

2.3 **TESTING:** Contractor will be required to test cabling upon completion of construction. The Department may direct the Contractor to visually inspect fiber enclosures and map the fiber within. Contractor will be required to create and produce documentation of all findings and test results. Perform OTDR testing after splicing is complete.

2.5 WORK PRODUCT AND MATERIALS: Contractor will be expected to install all new fiber optic splice enclosures and make all repairs using materials comparable to those that make up the existing system. Currently, all state-owned fiber is 144 strand count ADSS cabling by Corning. Contractor's work will be expected to be consistent with industry standards. Testing shall be made using an OTDR device. Testing will be considered complete when test results show signal losses within the fiber manufacture's specifications.

3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 3.1. **PRICING:** See section 4.5. Bidders are encouraged to submit proposals that include either a fixed retainer or hourly rates for services. Pricing on a per-enclosure basis is required. However, bidders should include necessary information such as hourly rates, itemized costs for materials, and any fixed fees that apply.
- 3.2. Any and all costs that you wish the state to consider must be submitted for consideration. If applicable, all equipment pricing is to include F.O.B. delivery to the ordering facility. No request for extra delivery cost will be honored. All equipment shall be delivered assembled, serviced, oiled, and ready for immediate use, unless otherwise requested by the purchasing agency.
- 3.3. **WORKER'S COMPENSATION; STATE CONTRACTS COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT:** The Department of Buildings and General Services in accordance with Act 54, Section 32 of the Acts of 2009 and for total projects costs exceeding \$250,000.00, requires bidders comply with the following provisions and requirements.

- (a) (1) Bidder is required to self report detailed information including information relating to past violations, convictions, suspensions, and any other information related to past performance and likely compliance with proper coding and classification of employees requested by the applicable agency.

The bidder is required to report information on any violations that occurred in the previous 12 months.

- (a) (2) Bidder is required to provide a list of subcontractors on the job along with lists of subcontractor's subcontractors and by whom those subcontractors are insured for workers' compensation purposes. Include additional pages if necessary. This is not a requirement for subcontractor's providing supplies only and no labor to the overall contract or project.

In order for a bidder's response to be considered valid bidders must complete and submit the following two (2) forms at time of bid:

- Self Reporting
- Subcontractor Reporting

- 3.4. **ECONOMETRIC MODELING:** The Department of Buildings and General Services in accordance with Act 112 of the Acts of 2012, "An act relating to evaluating net costs of government purchasing," requires the Secretary of Administration and the legislative economist to design and implement a pilot project to help measure the net fiscal impact to the state of certain identified purchases. In order to accomplish this goal, we are seeking data on contracts for goods and services to support the econometric evaluation. Questions have been identified that may assist the state in the data collection process which will ultimately be used for Econometric Modeling.

For bid amounts exceeding \$100,000.00 bidders are required to complete and submit the Econometric Modeling Questionnaire included as part of this RFP at time of bid.

- 3.5. **INVOICING:** All invoices are to be rendered by the Contractor on the vendor's standard billhead and forwarded directly to the institution or agency ordering materials or services and shall specify the address to which payments will be sent.
- 3.6. **CANCELLATION:** The State specifically reserves the right to cancel the contract, or any portion thereof, if, in the opinion of its Commissioner of Public Service, the services or materials supplied by the contractor are not satisfactory or are not consistent with the terms of the contract

- 3.7. **METHOD OF AWARD:** Awards will be made in the best interest of the State. The State may award one or more contracts and reserves the right to make additional awards to other compliant bidders at any time during the first year of the contract if such award is deemed to be in the best interest of the State. All other considerations being equal, preference will be given to resident bidders of the state and/or to products raised or manufactured in the state.

To secure a project that is deemed to be in the best interest of the State, the State of Vermont reserves the right to:

- (i) Obtain clarification or additional information necessary to properly evaluate a proposal. Vendors may be asked to give a verbal presentation of their proposal after submission. Failure of vendor to respond to a request for additional information or clarification could result in rejection of that vendor's proposal.
 - (ii) Extend any of the dates in the RFP Schedule Summary.
 - (iii) Select the most qualified firm based solely on the written proposal, without interviewing the vendor or other clients, or without product demonstrations.
 - (iv) Accept or reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, with or without cause, and to waive technicalities in submissions.
 - (v) Make purchases outside of the awarded contracts where it is deemed in the best interest of the State.
- 3.8. **CONFIDENTIALITY:** The successful response will become part of the contract file and will become a matter of public record, as will all other responses received. If the response includes material that is considered by the bidder to be proprietary and confidential under 1 VSA, Chapter 5, the bidder shall clearly designate the material as such, explaining why such material should be considered confidential. The bidder must identify each page or section of the response that it believes is proprietary and confidential with sufficient grounds to justify each exemption from release, including the prospective harm to the competitive position of the bidder if the identified material were to be released. Under no circumstances can the entire response or price information be marked confidential. Responses so marked may not be considered.
- 3.9. **CONTRACT TERMS:** The selected vendors will sign a contract with the State to provide the goods and services named in their responses, at the prices listed. Minimum support levels, terms, and conditions from this RFP, and the vendor's response will become part of the contract. This contract will be subject to review throughout its term. The State will consider cancellation upon discovery that a vendor is in violation of any portion of the agreement, including an inability by the vendor to provide the products, support, and/or service offered in their response.
- 3.10. **DEFAULT:** In case of default of the contractor, the State may procure the materials or supplies from other sources and hold the contractor responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby, provided, that if public necessity requires the use of materials or supplies not conforming to the specifications they may be accepted and payment therefore shall be made at a proper reduction in price.
- 3.11. **STATEMENT OF RIGHTS:** The State of Vermont reserves the right to obtain clarification or additional information necessary to properly evaluate a proposal. Vendors may be asked to give a verbal presentation of their proposal after submission. Failure of vendor to respond to a request for additional information or clarification could result in rejection of that vendor's proposal. To secure a project that is deemed to be in the best interest of the State, the State reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, with or without cause, and to waive technicalities in submissions. The State also reserves the right to make purchases outside of the awarded contracts where it is deemed in the best interest of the State.
- 3.12. **TAXES:** Most state purchases are not subject to federal or state sales or excise taxes and must be invoiced tax free. An exemption certificate will be furnished upon request covering taxable items. The contractor agrees to pay all Vermont taxes which may be due as a result of this order. If taxes are to be applied to the purchase it will be so noted in the response.

- 3.13. **ORDER OF PRECEDENCE:** The order of precedence for documentation will be the State of Vermont Standard Contract Form and attachments, the bid document and any amendments, and the vendor's response and any amendments.
 - 3.14. **SPECIFICATION CHANGE:** Any changes or variations in the specifications must be received in writing from the Department. Verbal instructions or written instructions from any other source are not to be considered.
 - 3.15. **AMENDMENTS:** No changes, modifications, or amendments in the terms and conditions of this contract shall be effective unless reduced to writing, numbered, and signed by the duly authorized representative of the State and Contractor.
 - 3.16. **NON COLLUSION:** The State of Vermont is conscious of and concerned about collusion. It should therefore be understood by all that in signing bid and contract documents they agree that the prices quoted have been arrived at without collusion and that no prior information concerning these prices has been received from or given to a competitive company. If there is sufficient evidence to warrant investigation of the bid/contract process by the Office of the Attorney General, all bidders should understand that this paragraph might be used as a basis for litigation.
4. **VENDOR RESPONSE CONTENT AND FORMAT:** The content and format requirements listed below are the minimum required for our evaluation. They are not intended to limit the content of the proposals; vendors may include additional information or offer alternative solutions which may be considered.
- 4.1. **NUMBER OF COPIES:** Submit one original bid and one copy.
 - 4.2. **BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE.** Provide a full description of the experience you have had in the installation of splice enclosures along with providing maintenance and emergency restoration services on fiber optic cable networks. Please include a description of the crews you would make available on this contract and as well as standard procedures your organization would follow to fulfill the contract.
 - 4.3. **REFERENCES.** Provide the names, addresses, and phone numbers of at least three companies with whom you have transacted similar business in the last 12 months. You must include contact names who can talk knowledgeably about performance.
 - 4.4. **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** Provide a sample of your current reporting document.
 - 4.5. **PRICING:** Bidders are encouraged to submit proposals that include either a fixed retainer or hourly rates for services. Pricing on a per-enclosure basis is required. However, bidders should include necessary information such as hourly rates, itemized costs for materials, and any fixed fees that apply.
 - 4.6. **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE:** This form must be completed and submitted as part of the response for the proposal to be considered valid.
 - 4.7. **WORKERS' COMPENSATION; STATE CONTRACTS COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT; SELF REPORTING:** This form must be completed and submitted as part of the response for the proposal to be considered valid.
 - 4.8. **WORKERS' COMPENSATION; STATE CONTRACTS COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT; SUBCONTRACTOR REPORTING:** This form must be completed and submitted as part of the response for the proposal to be considered valid.
 - 4.9. **OFFSHORE OUTSOURCING QUESTIONNAIRE:** This form must be completed and submitted as part of the response for the proposal to be considered valid.
 - 4.10. **ECONOMETRIC MODELING QUESTIONNAIRE:** This form must be completed and submitted as part of the response for the proposal to be considered valid.
5. **SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 5.1. **CLOSING DATE:** The closing date for the receipt of proposals is **September 21, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.**
 - 5.2. The bid opening will be held at 112 State Street, Floor 3, Montpelier VT and is open to the public. Bids will be opened on September 23, 2018.
 - 5.3. **SEALED BID INSTRUCTIONS:** All bids must be sealed and must be addressed to the State of Vermont, Department of Public Service, 112 State Street, Floor 3 - Montpelier, VT 05620. **BID ENVELOPES MUST**

BE CLEARLY MARKED 'SEALED BID' AND SHOW THE REQUISITION NUMBER AND/OR PROPOSAL TITLE, OPENING DATE AND NAME OF BIDDER.

- 5.3.1. All bidders are hereby notified that sealed bids must be received, and time stamped by the Department of Public Service at 112 State Street, Montpelier VT 05620 by 4:00 p.m. on September 21, 2018. Bids not in possession of the Department at 4:00 p.m. September 21, 2018 will be returned to the vendor and will not be considered.
- 5.3.2. The Department of Public Service may, for cause, change the date and/or time of bid openings or issue an addendum. If a change is made, the State will make a reasonable effort to inform all bidders by posting at: <http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing/bids>.
- 5.3.3. All bids will be publically opened. The Department of Public Service will open the bid, read the name and address of the bidder, and read the bid amount. However, the Department reserves the right to limit the information disclosed at the bid opening to the name and address of the bidder when, in its sole discretion, the Department determines that the nature, type, or size of the bid is such that the Department cannot immediately (at the opening) determine that the bids are in compliance with the RFP. As such, there will be cases in which the bid amount will not be read at the bid opening. Bid openings are open to members of the public. Bid results are a public record however, the bid results are exempt from disclosure to the public until the award has been made and the contract is executed. Bids will be opened on March 15, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

5.4. DELIVERY METHODS:

- 5.4.1. U.S. MAIL: Bidders are cautioned that it is their responsibility to originate the mailing of bids in sufficient time to ensure bids are received and time stamped by the Department prior to the time of the bid opening.
- 5.4.2. EXPRESS DELIVERY: If bids are being sent via an express delivery service, be certain that the RFP designation is clearly shown on the outside of the delivery envelope or box. Express delivery packages will not be considered received by the State until the express delivery package has been received and time stamped by the Department.
- 5.4.3. HAND DELIVERY: Hand carried bids shall be delivered to Clay Purvis at 112 state street, Floor 2, Montpelier VT 05620.
- 5.4.4. ELECTRONIC: Electronic bids will not be accepted. However, respondents may submit an electronic copy in addition to a hardcopy to clay.purvis@vermont.gov.

6. ATTACHMENTS:

- 6.1. Attachment C: Standard State Contract Provisions (July 1, 2016)
- 6.2. Certificate of Compliance
- 6.3. Price Schedule
- 6.4. Offshore Outsourcing Questionnaire
- 6.5. Workers' Compensation; State Contracts Compliance Requirement; Self Reporting
- 6.6. Workers' Compensation; State Contracts Compliance Requirement; Subcontractor Reporting
- 6.7. Econometric Modeling Questionnaire

**ATTACHMENT C: STANDARD STATE PROVISIONS
FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS
REVISED DECEMBER 15, 2017**

1. Definitions: For purposes of this Attachment, “Party” shall mean the Contractor, Grantee or Subrecipient, with whom the State of Vermont is executing this Agreement and consistent with the form of the Agreement. “Agreement” shall mean the specific contract or grant to which this form is attached.

2. Entire Agreement: This Agreement, whether in the form of a contract, State-funded grant, or Federally-funded grant, represents the entire agreement between the parties on the subject matter. All prior agreements, representations, statements, negotiations, and understandings shall have no effect.

3. Governing Law, Jurisdiction and Venue; No Waiver of Jury Trial: This Agreement will be governed by the laws of the State of Vermont. Any action or proceeding brought by either the State or the Party in connection with this Agreement shall be brought and enforced in the Superior Court of the State of Vermont, Civil Division, Washington Unit. The Party irrevocably submits to the jurisdiction of this court for any action or proceeding regarding this Agreement. The Party agrees that it must first exhaust any applicable administrative remedies with respect to any cause of action that it may have against the State with regard to its performance under this Agreement. Party agrees that the State shall not be required to submit to binding arbitration or waive its right to a jury trial.

4. Sovereign Immunity: The State reserves all immunities, defenses, rights or actions arising out of the State’s sovereign status or under the Eleventh Amendment to the United States Constitution. No waiver of the State’s immunities, defenses, rights or actions shall be implied or otherwise deemed to exist by reason of the State’s entry into this Agreement.

5. No Employee Benefits For Party: The Party understands that the State will not provide any individual retirement benefits, group life insurance, group health and dental insurance, vacation or sick leave, workers compensation or other benefits or services available to State employees, nor will the State withhold any state or Federal taxes except as required under applicable tax laws, which shall be determined in advance of execution of the Agreement. The Party understands that all tax returns required by the Internal Revenue Code and the State of Vermont, including but not limited to income, withholding, sales and use, and rooms and meals, must be filed by the Party, and information as to Agreement income will be provided by the State of Vermont to the Internal Revenue Service and the Vermont Department of Taxes.

6. Independence: The Party will act in an independent capacity and not as officers or employees of the State.

7. Defense and Indemnity: The Party shall defend the State and its officers and employees against all third party claims or suits arising in whole or in part from any act or omission of the Party or of any agent of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement. The State shall notify the Party in the event of any such claim or suit, and the Party shall immediately retain counsel and otherwise provide a complete defense against the entire claim or suit. The State retains the right to participate at its own expense in the defense of any claim. The State shall have the right to approve all proposed settlements of such claims or suits.

After a final judgment or settlement, the Party may request recoupment of specific defense costs and may file suit in Washington Superior Court requesting recoupment. The Party shall be entitled to recoup costs only upon a showing that such costs were entirely unrelated to the defense of any claim arising from an act or omission of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

The Party shall indemnify the State and its officers and employees if the State, its officers or employees become legally obligated to pay any damages or losses arising from any act or omission of the Party or an agent of the Party in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

Notwithstanding any contrary language anywhere, in no event shall the terms of this Agreement or any document furnished by the Party in connection with its performance under this Agreement obligate the State to (1) defend or

indemnify the Party or any third party, or (2) otherwise be liable for the expenses or reimbursement, including attorneys' fees, collection costs or other costs of the Party or any third party.

8. Insurance: Before commencing work on this Agreement the Party must provide certificates of insurance to show that the following minimum coverages are in effect. It is the responsibility of the Party to maintain current certificates of insurance on file with the State through the term of this Agreement. No warranty is made that the coverages and limits listed herein are adequate to cover and protect the interests of the Party for the Party's operations. These are solely minimums that have been established to protect the interests of the State.

Workers Compensation: With respect to all operations performed, the Party shall carry workers' compensation insurance in accordance with the laws of the State of Vermont. Vermont will accept an out-of-state employer's workers' compensation coverage while operating in Vermont provided that the insurance carrier is licensed to write insurance in Vermont and an amendatory endorsement is added to the policy adding Vermont for coverage purposes. Otherwise, the party shall secure a Vermont workers' compensation policy, if necessary to comply with Vermont law.

General Liability and Property Damage: With respect to all operations performed under this Agreement, the Party shall carry general liability insurance having all major divisions of coverage including, but not limited to:

Premises - Operations

Products and Completed Operations

Personal Injury Liability

Contractual Liability

The policy shall be on an occurrence form and limits shall not be less than:

\$1,000,000 Each Occurrence

\$2,000,000 General Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Products/Completed Operations Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Personal & Advertising Injury

Automotive Liability: The Party shall carry automotive liability insurance covering all motor vehicles, including hired and non-owned coverage, used in connection with the Agreement. Limits of coverage shall not be less than \$500,000 combined single limit. If performance of this Agreement involves construction, or the transport of persons or hazardous materials, limits of coverage shall not be less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit.

Additional Insured. The General Liability and Property Damage coverages required for performance of this Agreement shall include the State of Vermont and its agencies, departments, officers and employees as Additional Insureds. If performance of this Agreement involves construction, or the transport of persons or hazardous materials, then the required Automotive Liability coverage shall include the State of Vermont and its agencies, departments, officers and employees as Additional Insureds. Coverage shall be primary and non-contributory with any other insurance and self-insurance.

Notice of Cancellation or Change. There shall be no cancellation, change, potential exhaustion of aggregate limits or non-renewal of insurance coverage(s) without thirty (30) days written prior written notice to the State.

9. Reliance by the State on Representations: All payments by the State under this Agreement will be made in reliance upon the accuracy of all representations made by the Party in accordance with this Agreement, including but not limited to bills, invoices, progress reports and other proofs of work.

10. False Claims Act: The Party acknowledges that it is subject to the Vermont False Claims Act as set forth in 32 V.S.A. § 630 *et seq.* If the Party violates the Vermont False Claims Act it shall be liable to the State for civil penalties, treble damages and the costs of the investigation and prosecution of such violation, including attorney's fees, except as the same may be reduced by a court of competent jurisdiction. The Party's liability to the State under the False Claims Act shall not be limited notwithstanding any agreement of the State to otherwise limit Party's liability.

11. Whistleblower Protections: The Party shall not discriminate or retaliate against one of its employees or agents for disclosing information concerning a violation of law, fraud, waste, abuse of authority or acts

threatening health or safety, including but not limited to allegations concerning the False Claims Act. Further, the Party shall not require such employees or agents to forego monetary awards as a result of such disclosures, nor should they be required to report misconduct to the Party or its agents prior to reporting to any governmental entity and/or the public.

12. Location of State Data: No State data received, obtained, or generated by the Party in connection with performance under this Agreement shall be processed, transmitted, stored, or transferred by any means outside the continental United States, except with the express written permission of the State.

13. Records Available for Audit: The Party shall maintain all records pertaining to performance under this agreement. "Records" means any written or recorded information, regardless of physical form or characteristics, which is produced or acquired by the Party in the performance of this agreement. Records produced or acquired in a machine readable electronic format shall be maintained in that format. The records described shall be made available at reasonable times during the period of the Agreement and for three years thereafter or for any period required by law for inspection by any authorized representatives of the State or Federal Government. If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the three-year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims or audit findings involving the records have been resolved.

14. Fair Employment Practices and Americans with Disabilities Act: Party agrees to comply with the requirement of 21 V.S.A. Chapter 5, Subchapter 6, relating to fair employment practices, to the full extent applicable. Party shall also ensure, to the full extent required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, that qualified individuals with disabilities receive equitable access to the services, programs, and activities provided by the Party under this Agreement.

15. Set Off: The State may set off any sums which the Party owes the State against any sums due the Party under this Agreement; provided, however, that any set off of amounts due the State of Vermont as taxes shall be in accordance with the procedures more specifically provided hereinafter.

16. Taxes Due to the State:

- A. Party understands and acknowledges responsibility, if applicable, for compliance with State tax laws, including income tax withholding for employees performing services within the State, payment of use tax on property used within the State, corporate and/or personal income tax on income earned within the State.
- B. Party certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date this Agreement is signed, the Party is in good standing with respect to, or in full compliance with, a plan to pay any and all taxes due the State of Vermont.
- C. Party understands that final payment under this Agreement may be withheld if the Commissioner of Taxes determines that the Party is not in good standing with respect to or in full compliance with a plan to pay any and all taxes due to the State of Vermont.
- D. Party also understands the State may set off taxes (and related penalties, interest and fees) due to the State of Vermont, but only if the Party has failed to make an appeal within the time allowed by law, or an appeal has been taken and finally determined and the Party has no further legal recourse to contest the amounts due.

17. Taxation of Purchases: All State purchases must be invoiced tax free. An exemption certificate will be furnished upon request with respect to otherwise taxable items.

18. Child Support: (Only applicable if the Party is a natural person, not a corporation or partnership.) Party states that, as of the date this Agreement is signed, he/she:

- A. is not under any obligation to pay child support; or
- B. is under such an obligation and is in good standing with respect to that obligation; or
- C. has agreed to a payment plan with the Vermont Office of Child Support Services and is in full compliance with that plan.

Party makes this statement with regard to support owed to any and all children residing in Vermont. In addition, if the Party is a resident of Vermont, Party makes this statement with regard to support owed to any and all children residing in any other state or territory of the United States.

19. Sub-Agreements: Party shall not assign, subcontract or subgrant the performance of this Agreement or any portion thereof to any other Party without the prior written approval of the State. Party shall be responsible and liable to the State for all acts or omissions of subcontractors and any other person performing work under this Agreement pursuant to an agreement with Party or any subcontractor.

In the case this Agreement is a contract with a total cost in excess of \$250,000, the Party shall provide to the State a list of all proposed subcontractors and subcontractors' subcontractors, together with the identity of those subcontractors' workers compensation insurance providers, and additional required or requested information, as applicable, in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54).

Party shall include the following provisions of this Attachment C in all subcontracts for work performed solely for the State of Vermont and subcontracts for work performed in the State of Vermont: Section 10 ("False Claims Act"); Section 11 ("Whistleblower Protections"); Section 12 ("Location of State Data"); Section 14 ("Fair Employment Practices and Americans with Disabilities Act"); Section 16 ("Taxes Due the State"); Section 18 ("Child Support"); Section 20 ("No Gifts or Gratuities"); Section 22 ("Certification Regarding Debarment"); Section 30 ("State Facilities"); and Section 32.A ("Certification Regarding Use of State Funds").

20. No Gifts or Gratuities: Party shall not give title or possession of anything of substantial value (including property, currency, travel and/or education programs) to any officer or employee of the State during the term of this Agreement.

21. Copies: Party shall use reasonable best efforts to ensure that all written reports prepared under this Agreement are printed using both sides of the paper.

22. Certification Regarding Debarment: Party certifies under pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date that this Agreement is signed, neither Party nor Party's principals (officers, directors, owners, or partners) are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or excluded from participation in Federal programs, or programs supported in whole or in part by Federal funds.

Party further certifies under pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date that this Agreement is signed, Party is not presently debarred, suspended, nor named on the State's debarment list at: <http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing/debarment>

23. Conflict of Interest: Party shall fully disclose, in writing, any conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest.

24. Confidentiality: Party acknowledges and agrees that this Agreement and any and all information obtained by the State from the Party in connection with this Agreement are subject to the State of Vermont Access to Public Records Act, 1 V.S.A. § 315 et seq.

25. Force Majeure: Neither the State nor the Party shall be liable to the other for any failure or delay of performance of any obligations under this Agreement to the extent such failure or delay shall have been wholly or principally caused by acts or events beyond its reasonable control rendering performance illegal or impossible (excluding strikes or lock-outs) ("Force Majeure"). Where Force Majeure is asserted, the nonperforming party must prove that it made all reasonable efforts to remove, eliminate or minimize such cause of delay or damages, diligently pursued performance of its obligations under this Agreement, substantially fulfilled all non-excused obligations, and timely notified the other party of the likelihood or actual occurrence of an event described in this paragraph.

26. Marketing: Party shall not refer to the State in any publicity materials, information pamphlets, press releases, research reports, advertising, sales promotions, trade shows, or marketing materials or similar communications to third parties except with the prior written consent of the State.

27. Termination:

- A. **Non-Appropriation:** If this Agreement extends into more than one fiscal year of the State (July 1 to June 30), and if appropriations are insufficient to support this Agreement, the State may cancel at the end of the fiscal year, or otherwise upon the expiration of existing appropriation authority. In the case that this Agreement is a Grant that is funded in whole or in part by Federal funds, and in the event Federal funds become unavailable or reduced, the State may suspend or cancel this Grant immediately, and the State shall have no obligation to pay Subrecipient from State revenues.
- B. **Termination for Cause:** Either party may terminate this Agreement if a party materially breaches its obligations under this Agreement, and such breach is not cured within thirty (30) days after delivery of the non-breaching party's notice or such longer time as the non-breaching party may specify in the notice.
- C. **Termination Assistance:** Upon nearing the end of the final term or termination of this Agreement, without respect to cause, the Party shall take all reasonable and prudent measures to facilitate any transition required by the State. All State property, tangible and intangible, shall be returned to the State upon demand at no additional cost to the State in a format acceptable to the State.

28. Continuity of Performance: In the event of a dispute between the Party and the State, each party will continue to perform its obligations under this Agreement during the resolution of the dispute until this Agreement is terminated in accordance with its terms.

29. No Implied Waiver of Remedies: Either party's delay or failure to exercise any right, power or remedy under this Agreement shall not impair any such right, power or remedy, or be construed as a waiver of any such right, power or remedy. All waivers must be in writing.

30. State Facilities: If the State makes space available to the Party in any State facility during the term of this Agreement for purposes of the Party's performance under this Agreement, the Party shall only use the space in accordance with all policies and procedures governing access to and use of State facilities which shall be made available upon request. State facilities will be made available to Party on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis, with no warranties whatsoever.

31. Requirements Pertaining Only to Federal Grants and Subrecipient Agreements: If this Agreement is a grant that is funded in whole or in part by Federal funds:

- A. **Requirement to Have a Single Audit:** The Subrecipient will complete the Subrecipient Annual Report annually within 45 days after its fiscal year end, informing the State of Vermont whether or not a Single Audit is required for the prior fiscal year. If a Single Audit is required, the Subrecipient will submit a copy of the audit report to the granting Party within 9 months. If a single audit is not required, only the Subrecipient Annual Report is required.

For fiscal years ending before December 25, 2015, a Single Audit is required if the subrecipient expends \$500,000 or more in Federal assistance during its fiscal year and must be conducted in accordance with OMB Circular A-133. For fiscal years ending on or after December 25, 2015, a Single Audit is required if the subrecipient expends \$750,000 or more in Federal assistance during its fiscal year and must be conducted in accordance with 2 CFR Chapter I, Chapter II, Part 200, Subpart F. The Subrecipient Annual Report is required to be submitted within 45 days, whether or not a Single Audit is required.

- B. **Internal Controls:** In accordance with 2 CFR Part II, §200.303, the Party must establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award to provide reasonable assurance that the Party is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in "Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the "Internal Control Integrated Framework", issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).
- C. **Mandatory Disclosures:** In accordance with 2 CFR Part II, §200.113, Party must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the State, all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in the

imposition of sanctions which may include disallowance of costs incurred, withholding of payments, termination of the Agreement, suspension/debarment, etc.

32. Requirements Pertaining Only to State-Funded Grants:

- A. Certification Regarding Use of State Funds:** If Party is an employer and this Agreement is a State-funded grant in excess of \$1,001, Party certifies that none of these State funds will be used to interfere with or restrain the exercise of Party's employee's rights with respect to unionization.
- B. Good Standing Certification (Act 154 of 2016):** If this Agreement is a State-funded grant, Party hereby represents: (i) that it has signed and provided to the State the form prescribed by the Secretary of Administration for purposes of certifying that it is in good standing (as provided in Section 13(a)(2) of Act 154) with the Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, or otherwise explaining the circumstances surrounding the inability to so certify, and (ii) that it will comply with the requirements stated therein.

(End of Standard Provisions)

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

For a bid to be considered valid, this form must be completed in its entirety, executed by a duly authorized representative of the bidder, and submitted as part of the response to the proposal.

- A. **NON COLLUSION:** Bidder hereby certifies that the prices quoted have been arrived at without collusion and that no prior information concerning these prices has been received from or given to a competitive company. If there is sufficient evidence to warrant investigation of the bid/contract process by the Office of the Attorney General, bidder understands that this paragraph might be used as a basis for litigation.
- B. **CONTRACT TERMS:** Bidder hereby acknowledges that is has read, understands and agrees to the terms of this RFP, including Attachment C: Standard State Contract Provisions, and any other contract attachments included with this RFP.

C. **FORM OF PAYMENT:** Does Bidder accept the Visa Purchasing Card as a form of payment?

___ Yes ___ No

D. **WORKER CLASSIFICATION COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT:** In accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54), the following provisions and requirements apply to Bidder when the amount of its bid exceeds \$250,000.00.

Self-Reporting. Bidder hereby self-reports the following information relating to past violations, convictions, suspensions, and any other information related to past performance relative to coding and classification of workers, that occurred in the previous 12 months.

Summary of Detailed Information	Date of Notification	Outcome

Subcontractor Reporting. Bidder hereby acknowledges and agrees that if it is a successful bidder, prior to execution of any contract resulting from this RFP, Bidder will provide to the State a list of all proposed subcontractors and subcontractors' subcontractors, together with the identity of those subcontractors' workers compensation insurance providers, and additional required or requested information, as applicable, in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54), and Bidder will provide any update of such list to the State as additional subcontractors are hired. Bidder further acknowledges and agrees that the failure to submit subcontractor reporting in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54) will constitute non-compliance and may result in cancellation of contract and/or restriction from bidding on future state contracts.

E. Executive Order 05 – 16: Climate Change Considerations in State Procurements Certification

Bidder certifies to the following (Bidder may attach any desired explanation or substantiation. Please also note that Bidder may be asked to provide documentation for any applicable claims):

1. Bidder owns, leases or utilizes, for business purposes, space that has received:
- Energy Star® Certification
 - LEED®, Green Globes®, or Living Buildings ChallengeSM Certification
 - Other internationally recognized building certification:
-

2. Bidder has received incentives or rebates from an Energy Efficiency Utility or Energy Efficiency Program in the last five years for energy efficient improvements made at bidder's place of business. Please explain:
-

3. Please Check all that apply:
- Bidder can claim on-site renewable power or anaerobic-digester power ("cow-power"). Or bidder consumes renewable electricity through voluntary purchase or offset, provided no such claimed power can be double-claimed by another party.
 - Bidder uses renewable biomass or bio-fuel for the purposes of thermal (heat) energy at its place of business.
 - Bidder's heating system has modern, high-efficiency units (boilers, furnaces, stoves, etc.), having reduced emissions of particulate matter and other air pollutants.
 - Bidder tracks its energy consumption and harmful greenhouse gas emissions. What tool is used to do this? _____
 - Bidder promotes the use of plug-in electric vehicles by providing electric vehicle charging, electric fleet vehicles, preferred parking, designated parking, purchase or lease incentives, etc..
 - Bidder offers employees an option for a fossil fuel divestment retirement account.
 - Bidder offers products or services that reduce waste, conserve water, or promote energy efficiency and conservation. Please explain:
-
-

4. Please list any additional practices that promote clean energy and take action to address climate change:
-
-
-

F. Acknowledge receipt of the following Addenda:

Addendum No.: _____ Dated: _____

Addendum No.: _____ Dated: _____

Addendum No.: _____ Dated: _____

Bidder Name: _____ Contact Name: _____

Address: _____ Fax Number: _____

_____ Telephone: _____

_____ E-Mail: _____

By: _____ Name: _____
Signature of Bidder (or Representative) (Type or Print)

END OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

