

ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT

1. Award No. DE-GD0000892		2. Modification No.		3. Effective Date 10/01/2024		4. CFDA No. 81.254	
5. Awarded To MIDWEST ENERGY INC Attn: NIKKI LEGLEITER PO Box 898 Hays KS 676012708			6. Sponsoring Office Grid Deployment Office (GD) U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue, SW Forrestal Building , GD-1 Washington DC 20585			7. Period of Performance 10/01/2024 through 09/30/2029	
8. Type of Agreement ☒ Grant ☐ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Other		9. Authority See Page 2			10. Purchase Request or Funding Document No. 24GD000229		
11. Remittance Address MIDWEST ENERGY INC Attn: NIKKI LEGLEITER 1330 CANTERBURY RD HAYS KS 676010898			12. Total Amount Govt. Share: \$96,922,280.00 Cost Share : \$47,737,839.00 Total : \$144,660,119.00		13. Funds Obligated This action: \$96,922,280.00 Total : \$96,922,280.00		
14. Principal Investigator		15. Program Manager Brian L. Mollohan Phone: 304-285-1367			16. Administrator U.S. DOE/NETL NATIONAL ENERGY TECH LAB 3610 Collins Ferry Road Morgantown WV 26505-2353		
17. Submit Payment Requests To VIPERS https://vipers.doe.gov Any questions, please contact by call/email 855-384-7377 or VipersSupport@hq.doe.gov			18. Paying Office VIPERS https://vipers.doe.gov Any questions, please contact by call/email 855-384-7377 or VipersSupport@hq.doe.gov			19. Submit Reports To See Attachment 3	
20. Accounting and Appropriation Data 05309-2023-31-232453-41999-3123891-0000000-0000000-0000000							
21. Research Title and/or Description of Project Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) - Transmission Line Rebuild/Replacement for Wildfire Mitigation & Renewable Resource Access							
For the Recipient				For the United States of America			
22. Signature of Person Authorized to Sign				25. Signature of Grants/Agreements Officer Signature on File			
23. Name and Title		24. Date Signed		26. Name of Officer David J. Staudt		27. Date Signed 09/23/2024	

NAME OF OFFEROR OR CONTRACTOR
MIDWEST ENERGY INC

ITEM NO. (A)	SUPPLIES/SERVICES (B)	QUANTITY (C)	UNIT (D)	UNIT PRICE (E)	AMOUNT (F)
	UEI: LP6URZQUTW48 Project/Budget Period: 10/01/2024 - 09/30/2029 Block 9. Authority: • Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) • Section 40101(c) - 42 USC §18711(c) • Public Law (PL) 95-91, DOE Organization Act • PL 109-58, Energy Policy Act 2005 • PL 110-140 Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 Block 14. Principal Investigator: Nathan McNeil 785-650-2576 nmcneil@mwenergy.com Recipient Business Point of Contact: Todd Gabel 785-625-1412 tgabel@mwenergy.com Block 15. DOE Program Manager: Brian Mollohan 304-285-1367 Brian.mollohan@netl.doe.gov DOE Award Administrator: Rueben Kerns 304-285-4517 Rueben.kerns@netl.doe.gov ASAP: NO: STD IMMEDIATE Extent Competed: COMPETED Davis-Bacon Act: YES PI: Nathan McNeil Fund: 05309 Appr Year: 2023 Allottee: 31 Report Entity: 232453 Object Class: 41999 Program: 3123891 Project: 0000000 WFO: 0000000 Local Use: 0000000				

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SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR USE IN MOST GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

LEGAL AUTHORITY AND EFFECT (JUNE 2015)

(a) A DOE financial assistance award is valid only if it is in writing and is signed, either in writing or electronically, by a DOE Contracting Officer.

(b) Recipients are free to accept or reject the award. A request to draw down DOE funds constitutes the Recipient's acceptance of the terms and conditions of this Award.

RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTING CONDITIONS

Any apparent inconsistency between Federal statutes and regulations and the terms and conditions contained in this award must be referred to the DOE Award Administrator for guidance.

AWARD AGREEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS – BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (DECEMBER 2014) (NETL – APRIL 2024)

This agreement consists of the Assistance Agreement Cover Page and Award Terms and Conditions of this Assistance Agreement, plus the following:

Attachment 1	Intellectual Property Provisions
Attachment 2	Statement of Project Objectives
Attachment 3	Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist and Instructions
Attachment 4	Budget Information
Attachment 5	Community Benefits Outcomes and Objectives

The following are incorporated into this Award by reference:

- DOE Assistance Regulations, 2 CFR part 200 as supplemented by 2 CFR part 910 at <https://www.eCFR.gov>.
- Research Terms & Conditions (November 12, 2020) and the DOE Agency Specific Requirements (November 2020) at <https://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/rtc.jsp>.
- National Policy Requirements (November 12, 2020) at <https://www.nsf.gov/awards/managing/rtc.jsp>.
- As applicable, Public Law 117-58, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).
- The Recipient's application/proposal as approved by DOE.

CONFERENCE SPENDING (FEBRUARY 2015)

The recipient shall not expend any funds on a conference not directly and programmatically related to the purpose for which the grant or cooperative agreement was awarded that would defray the cost to the United States Government of a conference held by any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office for which the cost to the United States Government would otherwise exceed \$20,000, thereby circumventing the required notification by the head of any such Executive Branch department, agency, board, commission, or office to the Inspector General (or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General), of the date, location, and number of employees attending such conference.

PAYMENT PROCEDURES - REIMBURSEMENT THROUGH THE AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH) VENDOR INQUIRY PAYMENT ELECTRONIC REPORTING SYSTEM (VIPERS)

a. Method of Payment. Payment will be made by reimbursement through ACH.

b. Requesting Reimbursement. Requests for reimbursements must be made electronically through Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Financial Service Center (ORFSC) VIPERS. To access and use VIPERS, you must enroll at <https://vipers.doe.gov>. Detailed instructions on how to enroll are provided on the web site.

For non-construction awards, you must submit a Standard Form (SF) 270, "Request for Advance or Reimbursement" at <https://vipers.doe.gov> and attach a file containing appropriate supporting documentation. The file attachment must show the total federal share claimed on the SF 270, the non-federal share claimed for the billing period if cost matching is required, and cumulative expenditures to date (both Federal and non-Federal) for each of the following categories: salaries/wages and fringe benefits; equipment; travel; participant/training support costs, if any; other direct costs, including subawards/contracts; and indirect costs. For construction awards, you must submit a SF 271, "Outlay Report and Request for Reimbursement for Construction Programs," through VIPERS.

c. Timing of submittals. Submittal of the SF 270 or SF 271 should coincide with your normal billing pattern, but not more frequently than every two weeks. Requests for reimbursement must be limited to the amount of disbursements made during the billing period for the federal share of direct project costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs incurred during that billing period. **At a minimum, Recipient's should meet the required cost match percentage (specified in the Cost Match Term) by each go/no go decision point specified in the Project Management Plan.**

d. Adjusting payment requests for available cash. You must disburse any funds that are available from repayments to and interest earned on a revolving fund, program income, rebates, refunds, contract settlements, audit recoveries, credits, discounts, and interest earned on any of those funds before requesting additional cash payments from DOE/NNSA.

e. Payments. The DOE approving official will approve the invoice as soon as practicable but not later than 30 days after your request is received, unless the billing is improper. Upon receipt of an invoice payment authorization from the DOE approving official, the ORFSC will disburse payment to you. You may check the status of your payments at the VIPER web site. All payments are made by electronic funds transfer to the bank account identified on the ACH Vendor/Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form (SF 3881) that you filed.

f. Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) Filings. In accordance with 2 CFR 910.360, absent DOE approval for reimbursement of progress payments, the DOE will reimburse for equipment only if provided a fully executed UCC financing statement that represent DOE's secured interest in the equipment and complies with the UCC filing instructions contained in the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist and all applicable laws and regulations.

g. Reimbursement of Equipment Progress Payments Prior to Uniform Commercial Code Filings. In accordance with 2 CFR 910.360(b)(4), the Recipient may request reimbursement for progress payments incurred for equipment prior to submission of the UCC financing statement as required below:

- i. All progress payment reimbursement requests must include the vendor name, vendor location, project risks being mitigated by the progress payments, the progress payment schedule inclusive of any final

hold-back amounts required prior to final payment, a copy of the vendor agreement outlining equipment purchase terms, and the source(s) and availability of cash for the purchase.

- ii. Late or missed progress payments to the vendor that do not adhere to the payment schedule must be justified prior to DOE reimbursement and may result in a DOE determination that all Federal funds previously reimbursed toward the purchase of the equipment shall be promptly returned to DOE or credited back to the award.
- iii. If progress payments are made toward an equipment purchase that is terminated or not fully executed, all prior reimbursements for previously incurred progress payments shall be promptly returned to DOE or credited back to the award.
- iv. Final progress payments may only be reimbursed after the Recipient secures title and complies with the UCC filing instructions contained 2 CFR 910.360, the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist, and all applicable laws and regulations.

COST MATCH

a. "Cost Matching" for the non-federal share is calculated as a percentage of the Federal funds only, rather than the Total Project Cost. The Total Project Cost is the sum of the Government share and Recipient match. The Recipient's cost match must come from non-Federal sources unless otherwise allowed by law.

Each Recipient is required to match 100 percent of the amount of the grant (100 percent of the Federal funds). Exception: eligible small utilities that sells not more than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year, is required to match one-third cost of the grant.

The cost is:

Budget Period	Government Share		Recipient Share		Total
No.	\$	%	\$	%	
1	\$96,922,280	67%	\$47,737,839	33%	\$144,660,119
Total Project	\$96,922,280	67%	\$47,737,839	33%	\$144,660,119

By accepting federal funds under this award, the Recipient is liable for the cost match percentage of total expenditures incurred, even if the project is terminated early or is not funded to its completion.

b. If the Recipient discovers that you may be unable to provide the required cost matching under this award, the Recipient should immediately provide written notification to the DOE Award Administrator indicating whether the Recipient will continue or phase out the project. If you plan to continue the project, the notification must describe how replacement cost matching will be secured.

c. The Recipient must maintain records of all project costs that you claim as cost match, including in-kind costs, as well as records of costs to be paid by DOE/NNSA. Such records are subject to audit.

d. Failure to provide the cost matching required by this term may result in the subsequent recovery by DOE of some or all the funds provided under the award.

REBUDGETING AND RECOVERY OF INDIRECT COSTS - REIMBURSABLE FRINGE BENEFITS

The budget for this award includes fringe benefits but does not include indirect costs. Therefore, indirect costs shall not be charged to nor shall reimbursement be requested for this project nor shall the indirect costs for this project be allocated to any other federally sponsored project. In addition, indirect costs shall not be counted as cost match unless approved by the Contracting Officer.

PRE-AWARD COSTS (DECEMBER 2014)

You are entitled to reimbursement for costs incurred on or after 10/17/2023, as authorized by the pre-award costs letter dated 06/11/2024, if such costs are allowable in accordance with the applicable Federal cost principles referenced in 2 CFR part 200 as amended by 2 CFR part 910.

USE OF PROGRAM INCOME - DEDUCTION

If you earn program income during the project period as a result of this award, you must deduct the program income from the total allowable project costs to determine the net allowable costs on which the Federal share is based.

STATEMENT OF FEDERAL STEWARDSHIP

DOE/NNSA will exercise normal Federal stewardship in overseeing the project activities performed under this award. Stewardship activities include, but are not limited to, conducting site visits; reviewing performance and financial reports; providing technical assistance and/or temporary intervention in unusual circumstances to correct deficiencies which develop during the project; assuring compliance with terms and conditions; and reviewing technical performance after project completion to ensure that the award objectives have been accomplished.

SITE VISITS

DOE/NNSA's authorized representatives have the right to make site visits at reasonable times to review project accomplishments and management control systems and to provide technical assistance, if required. You must provide, and must require your subrecipients to provide, reasonable access to facilities, office space, resources, and assistance for the safety and convenience of the government representatives in the performance of their duties. All site visits and evaluations must be performed in a manner that does not unduly interfere with or delay the work.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS (APRIL 2023)

a. Requirements. The reporting requirements for this award are identified on the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist, DOE F 4600.2, attached to this award. Failure to comply with these reporting requirements is considered a material noncompliance with the terms of the award. Noncompliance may result in withholding of future payments, suspension, or termination of the current award, and withholding of future awards. A willful failure to perform, a history of failure to perform, or unsatisfactory performance of this and/or other financial assistance awards, may also result in a debarment action to preclude future awards by Federal agencies.

b. Dissemination of scientific/technical reporting products. Reporting project results in scientific and technical information (STI) publications/products to the DOE Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) ensures dissemination of research results to the public as well as preservation of the results. The DOE form F 4600.2, B. Scientific/Technical Reporting, has instructions for the DOE Energy Link (E-Link) system managed

by OSTI. Scientific/technical reports and other STI products submitted under this award will be disseminated publicly on the Web via OSTI.GOV (<https://www.osti.gov>), unless the STI contains patentable material, protected data, or SBIR/STTR data, which must be indicated per instructions in DOE 4600.2.

c. Restrictions. STI products submitted to the DOE via E-link must not contain any Protected Personally Identifiable Information (PII), limited rights data, classified information, information subject to export control classification, or other information not subject to public release. The Contracting Officer or Technical Project Officer should be contacted with any questions. Limited rights data means data (other than computer software) developed at private expense that embody trade secrets or are commercial or financial and confidential or privileged. SBIR/STTR Protected Data, and other data subject to statutory data protection authorized by the award may be submitted, provided such data is properly marked and identified during submission. Submissions must not contain any "Proprietary", "Confidential" or "Business Sensitive" markings or similar restrictive markings not authorized by the applicable government agreement.; it is acknowledged that DOE has the right to cancel or ignore such markings.

PUBLICATIONS

a. You are encouraged to publish or otherwise make publicly available the results of the work conducted under the award.

b. An acknowledgment of Federal support and a disclaimer must appear in the publication of any material, whether copyrighted or not, based on or developed under this project, as follows:

Acknowledgment: "This material is based upon work supported by the Department of Energy, Grid Deployment Office, under Award Number DE-GD0000892."

Disclaimer: "This report was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof."

FEDERAL, STATE, AND MUNICIPAL REQUIREMENTS

You must obtain any required permits and comply with applicable federal, state, and municipal laws, codes, and regulations for work performed under this award.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROVISIONS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

a. The intellectual property provisions applicable to this award are provided as an attachment to this award or are referenced on the Assistance Agreement Face Page. A list of all intellectual property provisions may be found at <http://energy.gov/gc/standard-intellectual-property-ip-provisions-financial-assistance-awards>

b. Questions regarding intellectual property matters should be referred to the DOE Award Administrator and the Patent Counsel designated as the service provider for the DOE office that issued the award. The IP Service Providers List is found at <http://energy.gov/gc/downloads/intellectual-property-ip-service-providers-acquisition-and-assistance-transactions>

NOTICE REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF AMERICAN-MADE EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTS -- SENSE OF CONGRESS

It is the sense of the Congress that, to the greatest extent practicable, all equipment and products purchased with funds made available under this award should be American-made.

INSURANCE COVERAGE (DECEMBER 2014)

See 2 CFR 200.310 for insurance requirements for real property and equipment acquired or improved with Federal funds.

REAL PROPERTY (DECEMBER 2014)

Subject to the conditions set forth in 2 CFR Part 200.311, title to real property acquired or improved under a Federal award will vest upon acquisition in the non-Federal entity.

The non-Federal entity cannot encumber this property and must follow the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200.311 before disposing of the property.

Except as otherwise provided by Federal statutes or by the Federal awarding agency, real property will be used for the originally authorized purpose as long as needed for that purpose. When real property is no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose, the non-Federal entity must obtain disposition instructions from the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. The instructions must provide for one of the following alternatives: (a) retain title after compensating the Federal awarding agency as described in 2 CFR Part 200.311(c)(1); (b) Sell the property and compensate the federal awarding agency as specified in CFR Part 200.311(c)(2); or (c) transfer title to the Federal awarding agency or to a third Party designated/approved by the Federal awarding agency as specified in CFR Part 200.311(c)(3).

See 2 CFR Part 200.311 for additional requirements pertaining to real property acquired or improved under a Federal award.

Also see 2 CFR Part 910.360 for amended requirements for Real Property for For-Profit recipients.

EQUIPMENT (DECEMBER 2014) (NETL – MAY 2024)

Subject to the conditions provided in 2 CFR 200.313 and 2 CFR 910.360 (as applicable), title to equipment (property) acquired under a Federal award will vest conditionally with the non-Federal entity.

The non-Federal entity cannot encumber this property or permit encumbrance without prior written approval by the DOE Contracting Officer and must follow the requirements of 2 CFR 200.313 before disposing of the property.

States must use equipment acquired under a Federal award by the state in accordance with state laws and procedures.

Equipment must be used by the non-Federal entity in the program or project for which it was acquired as long as it is needed, whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by the Federal award. When no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose, the equipment may be used by programs supported by the Federal awarding agency in the priority order specified in 2 CFR 200.313(c)(1)(i) and (ii).

Management requirements, including inventory and control systems, for equipment are provided in 2 CFR 200.313(d).

When equipment acquired under a Federal award is no longer needed, the non-Federal entity must obtain disposition instructions from the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity. However, pursuant to the FY23 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 117-328), Division D, Title III, Section 309, the Secretary, or a designee of the Secretary may, at their discretion, vest unconditional title or other property interests acquired under this project regardless of the fair market value of the property at the end of the award period.

Subject to the vesting of any property pursuant to Section 309 of the FY23 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 117-328), Division D, Title III, disposition will be made as follows: (a) items of equipment with a current fair market value of \$5,000 or less may be retained, sold, or otherwise disposed of with no further obligation to the Federal awarding agency; (b) non-Federal entity may retain title or sell the equipment after compensating the Federal awarding agency as described in 2 CFR 200.313(e)(2); or (c) transfer title to the Federal awarding agency or to an eligible third Party as specified in 2 CFR 200.313(e)(3).

See 2 CFR 200.313 for additional requirements pertaining to equipment acquired under a Federal award. Also see 2 CFR 200.439 Equipment and other capital expenditures.

See 2 CFR 910.360 for supplemental requirements for Equipment for for-profit Recipients.

FY23 SECTION 309 AUTHORITY – UNCONDITIONAL TITLE VESTING

Pursuant to the FY23 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 117-328), Division D, Title III, Section 309 (“Section 309 authority”), the Secretary of Energy, or the Secretary’s designee may, at their discretion, vest unconditional title or other property interests acquired under this project in the award recipient, subrecipient, or successor in interest, regardless of the fair market value of the property, at the conclusion of the award period.

Under this award, if requested by the Recipient, DOE will not unreasonably withhold exercising Section 309 authority to vest unconditional title or other property interests acquired under this project in equipment and real property in the Recipient at the conclusion of the award period, provided that the Recipient satisfies the following conditions. Recipient agrees to:

1. Comply with award terms and conditions, including all applicable DOE program requirements, including any amendments;
2. Use the equipment or real property during the award period for its originally authorized project purpose;
3. Complete all tasks, objectives, and milestones included in Attachment 2, Statement of Project Objectives;

4. Certify that it will not sell or transfer the equipment or real property to a Foreign Country of Risk or State Sponsor of Terrorism, or to an entity owned, controlled by, incorporated in, or located in those countries, after the conclusion of the award period; and
5. Ensure installed grid assets were installed appropriately, contributing to safe and reliable delivery of electric service as appropriate, and are maintained appropriately to ensure their anticipated service lives.

Recipient is required to advise DOE on its progress on the above conditions at various points throughout the life of the award, including but not limited to, continuations, go/no-go decision points, and budget periods. DOE will require a final presentation and/or written narrative by Recipient immediately prior to the conclusion of the award period for the Recipient to demonstrate to DOE's satisfaction that it has satisfied the above conditions, prior to DOE effecting any final transfer of title under Section 309. After any disposition of DOE's reversionary interest, a continuing agreement between Recipient and DOE may nonetheless remain in place to fulfill other award requirements or to properly effectuate the exercise of Section 309 authority (if not otherwise incorporated into the award), regardless of the success of the project or ongoing performance under this award.

SUPPLIES (DECEMBER 2014)

See 2 CFR Part 200.314 for requirements pertaining to supplies acquired under a Federal award.

See also § 200.453 Materials and supplies costs, including costs of computing devices.

INTANGIBLE PROPERTY (DECEMBER 2014)

Title to intangible property (as defined in 2 CFR Part 200.59) acquired under a Federal award vests upon acquisition in the non-Federal entity. Intangible property includes trademarks, copyrights, patents and patent applications.

See 2 CFR Part 200.315 for additional requirements pertaining to intangible property acquired under a Federal award.

Also see 2 CFR Part 910.362 for amended requirements for Intellectual Property for For-Profit recipients.

PROPERTY TRUST RELATIONSHIP (DECEMBER 2014)

Real property, equipment, and intangible property, that are acquired or improved with a Federal award must be held in trust by the non-Federal entity as trustee for the beneficiaries of the project or program under which the property was acquired or improved.

See 2 CFR Part 200.316 for additional requirements pertaining to real property, equipment, and intangible property acquired or improved under a Federal award.

INSOLVENCY, BANKRUPTCY OR RECEIVERSHIP

a. You shall immediately notify the DOE of the occurrence of any of the following events: (i) you or your parent's filing of a voluntary case seeking liquidation or reorganization under the Bankruptcy Act; (ii) your consent to the institution of an involuntary case under the Bankruptcy Act against you or your parent; (iii) the filing of any similar proceeding for or against you or your parent, or its consent to, the dissolution, winding-up or readjustment of your debts, appointment of a receiver, conservator, trustee, or other officer with similar

powers over you, under any other applicable state or federal law; or (iv) your insolvency due to your inability to pay your debts generally as they become due.

b. Such notification shall be in writing and shall: (i) specifically set out the details of the occurrence of an event referenced in paragraph a; (ii) provide the facts surrounding that event; and (iii) provide the impact such event will have on the project being funded by this award.

c. Upon the occurrence of any of the four events described in the first paragraph, DOE reserves the right to conduct a review of your award to determine your compliance with the required elements of the award (including such items as cost share, progress towards technical project objectives, and submission of required reports). If the DOE review determines that there are significant deficiencies or concerns with your performance under the award, DOE reserves the right to impose additional requirements, as needed, including (i) change your payment method; or (ii) institute payment controls.

d. Failure of the Recipient to comply with this term may be considered a material noncompliance of this financial assistance award by the Contracting Officer.

PERFORMANCE OF WORK IN UNITED STATES

The Recipient agrees that all work under this award shall be performed in the United States, unless the Recipient can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department of Energy that the United States economic interest will be better served through a greater percentage of the work being performed outside the United States.

NEPA REQUIREMENTS

DOE must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) prior to authorizing the use of federal funds.

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this Award, and federal funding for certain tasks under this Award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

The Recipient is authorized to proceed with the following phases and/or tasks as referenced in the SOPO approved by the Grants Officer, except where such activity is subject to a restriction set forth elsewhere in this Award:

- Tasks 1.0 through 5.0 and Tasks 7.0 through 10.0

This authorization is specific to the project activities and locations as described in the SOPO approved by the Grants Officer and the DOE NEPA Determination.

DOE has not authorized the following phases and/or tasks as referenced in the SOPO:

- Tasks 6.0 and 11.0

Should the Recipient elect to undertake activities or change locations prior to written authorization from the Grants Officer, the Recipient does so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Questions about the permissibility of federal cost sharing on activities prior to DOE's issuance of a final NEPA determination shall be directed to the Grants Officer. The Recipient must receive written approval from the Grants Officer before incurring costs for federal cost sharing. After receiving approval from the Grants Officer, if the Recipient chooses to incur costs eligible for federal cost sharing for the approved activities, the Recipient agrees to abide by the conditions, limitations, mitigation measures, monitoring requirements, and reporting responsibilities specified in writing from the Grants Officer and to undertake these activities in accordance with necessary landowner approvals, required permits, and any additional approvals and mitigation requirements of other federal, state and local governmental agencies with jurisdiction by law.

If the Recipient later intends to add to or modify the activities or locations as described in the approved SOPO and the DOE NEPA Determination, those new activities/locations or modified activities/locations are subject to additional NEPA review and are not authorized for federal funding until the Grants Officer provides written authorization on those additions or modifications. Should the Recipient elect to undertake activities or change locations prior to authorization from the Grants Officer, the Recipient does so at risk of not receiving federal funding for those activities, and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

DECONTAMINATION AND/OR DECOMMISSIONING (D&D) COSTS

Notwithstanding any other terms of this Agreement, the Government shall not be responsible for or have any obligation to the recipient for (i) Decontamination and/or Decommissioning (D&D) of any of the recipient's facilities, or (ii) any costs which may be incurred by the recipient in connection with the D&D of any of its facilities due to the performance of the work under this Agreement, whether said work was performed prior to or subsequent to the effective date of this Agreement.

SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT AND UNIVERSAL IDENTIFIER REQUIREMENTS

A. Requirement for System for Award Management (SAM) Unless exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR 25.110, the prime recipient must remain registered and maintain current information in SAM for the entire period of performance of the award. This includes providing information on the prime recipient's immediate and highest level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all of its predecessors that have been awarded a Federal contract or Federal financial assistance agreements within the last three years, if applicable, until the prime recipient submits the final financial report required under this award or receives the final payment, whichever is later. This requires the prime recipient to review its information in SAM at least annually after the initial registration, and to update its information as soon as there are changes. Reviews and updates may be required more frequently due to changes in recipient information or as required by another award term.

B. Requirement for Unique Entity Identifier

If authorized to make subawards under this award, the prime recipient:

1. Must notify potential subrecipients that no entity (see definition in paragraph C of this award term) may receive a subaward until the entity has provided its unique entity identifier to the prime recipient.

2. Must not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its unique entity identifier to the prime recipient. Subrecipients are not required to obtain an active SAM registration, but must obtain a unique entity identifier.

C. Definitions

For purposes of this term:

1. System for Award Management (SAM) means the Federal repository into which a recipient must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the SAM internet site (currently at <https://www.sam.gov>).

2. Unique Entity Identifier means the identifier assigned by SAM to uniquely identify business entities.

3. Entity includes non-Federal entities as defined at 2 CFR 200.1 and also includes all of the following for purposes of this part:

- a. A foreign organization;
- b. A foreign public entity;
- c. A domestic for-profit organization; and
- d. A Federal agency.

4. Subaward has the meaning given in 2 CFR 200.1.

5. Subrecipient has the meaning given in 2 CFR 200.1.

FINAL INCURRED COST AUDIT (DECEMBER 2014)

In accordance with 2 CFR Part 200 as amended by 2 CFR Part 910, DOE reserves the right to initiate a final incurred cost audit on this award. If the audit has not been performed or completed prior to the closeout of the award, DOE retains the right to recover an appropriate amount after fully considering the recommendations on disallowed costs resulting from the final audit.

LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS (MARCH 2012)

By accepting funds under this award, you agree that none of the funds obligated on the award shall be expended, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before Congress, other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913. This restriction is in addition to those prescribed elsewhere in statute and regulation.

CORPORATE FELONY CONVICTION AND FEDERAL TAX LIABILITY ASSURANCES (MARCH 2014)

By entering into this agreement, the undersigned attests that Midwest Energy, Inc. has not been convicted of a felony criminal violation under Federal law in the 24 months preceding the date of signature.

The undersigned further attests that Midwest Energy, Inc. does not have any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability.

For purposes of these assurances, the following definitions apply:

A Corporation includes any entity that has filed articles of incorporation in any of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, or the various territories of the United States [but not foreign corporations]. It includes both for-profit and non-profit organizations.

NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS ASSURANCES (JUNE 2015)

(1) By entering into this agreement, the undersigned attests that Midwest Energy, Inc. does not and will not require its employees or contractors to sign internal nondisclosure or confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting its employees or contractors from lawfully reporting waste, fraud, or abuse to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

(2) The undersigned further attests that Midwest Energy, Inc. does not and will not use any Federal funds to implement or enforce any nondisclosure and/or confidentiality policy, form, or agreement it uses unless it contains the following provisions:

a. “These provisions are consistent with and do not supersede, conflict with, or otherwise alter the employee obligations, rights, or liabilities created by existing statute or Executive order relating to (1) classified information, (2) communications to Congress, (3) the reporting to an Inspector General of a violation of any law, rule, or regulation, or mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or (4) any other whistleblower protection. The definitions, requirements, obligations, rights, sanctions, and liabilities created by controlling Executive orders and statutory provisions are incorporated into this agreement and are controlling.”

b. The limitation above shall not contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312, Form 4414, or any other form issued by a Federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

c. Notwithstanding provision listed in paragraph (a), a nondisclosure or confidentiality policy form or agreement that is to be executed by a person connected with the conduct of an intelligence or intelligence-related activity, other than an employee or officer of the United States Government, may contain provisions appropriate to the particular activity for which such document is to be used. Such form or agreement shall, at a minimum, require that the person will not disclose any classified information received in the course of such activity unless specifically authorized to do so by the United States Government. Such nondisclosure or confidentiality forms shall also make it clear that they do not bar disclosures to Congress, or to an authorized official of an executive agency or the Department of Justice, that are essential to reporting a substantial violation of law.

REPORTING OF MATTERS RELATED TO RECIPIENT INTEGRITY AND PERFORMANCE (DECEMBER 2015)

a. General Reporting Requirement

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management (SAM) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings described in paragraph 2 of this award term and condition. This is a statutory requirement under section 872 of Public Law 110-417, as amended (41 U.S.C. 2313). As required by section 3010 of Public Law 111-212, all information posted in the designated integrity and performance system on or after April 15, 2011, except past performance reviews required for Federal procurement contracts, will be publicly available.

b. Proceedings About Which You Must Report

Submit the information required about each proceeding that:

1. Is in connection with the award or performance of a grant, cooperative agreement, or procurement contract from the Federal Government;
2. Reached its final disposition during the most recent five year period; and
3. Is one of the following:

(A) A criminal proceeding that resulted in a conviction, as defined in paragraph 5 of this award term and condition;

(B) A civil proceeding that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and payment of a monetary fine, penalty, reimbursement, restitution, or damages of \$5,000 or more;

(C) An administrative proceeding, as defined in paragraph 5. of this award term and condition, that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and your payment of either a monetary fine or penalty of \$5,000 or more or reimbursement, restitution, or damages in excess of \$100,000; or

(D) Any other criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding if:

(i) It could have led to an outcome described in paragraph 2.c.(1), (2), or (3) of this award term and condition;

(ii) It had a different disposition arrived at by consent or compromise with an acknowledgment of fault on your part; and

(iii) The requirement in this award term and condition to disclose information about the proceeding does not conflict with applicable laws and regulations.

c. Reporting Procedures

Enter in the SAM Entity Management area the information that SAM requires about each proceeding described in paragraph 2 of this award term and condition. You do not need to submit the information a second time under

assistance awards that you received if you already provided the information through SAM because you were required to do so under Federal procurement contracts that you were awarded.

d. Reporting Frequency

During any period of time when you are subject to the requirement in paragraph 1 of this award term and condition, you must report proceedings information through SAM for the most recent five year period, either to report new information about any proceeding(s) that you have not reported previously or affirm that there is no new information to report. Recipients that have Federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10,000,000 must disclose semiannually any information about the criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings.

e. Definitions

For purposes of this award term and condition:

1. Administrative proceeding means a non-judicial process that is adjudicatory in nature in order to make a determination of fault or liability (e.g., Securities and Exchange Commission Administrative proceedings, Civilian Board of Contract Appeals proceedings, and Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals proceedings). This includes proceedings at the Federal and State level but only in connection with performance of a Federal contract or grant. It does not include audits, site visits, corrective plans, or A. Reporting of Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance.

2. Conviction, for purposes of this award term and condition, means a judgment or conviction of a criminal offense by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether entered upon a verdict or a plea, and includes a conviction entered upon a plea of nolo contendere.

3. Total value of currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts includes—

(A) Only the Federal share of the funding under any Federal award with a recipient cost share or match; and

(B) The value of all expected funding increments under a Federal award and options, even if not yet exercised.

SUBAWARD/SUBCONTRACT CHANGE NOTIFICATION

Except for subawards and/or subcontracts specifically proposed as part of the Recipient's Application for award, the Recipient must notify the DOE Contracting Officer and Project Officer in writing 30 days prior to the execution of new or modified subawards/subcontracts. This notification does not constitute a waiver of the prior approval requirements outlined in 2 CFR 200, nor does it relieve the Recipient from its obligation to comply with applicable Federal statutes, regulations, and executive orders.

In order to satisfy this notification requirement, Recipient documentation must, as a minimum, include the following:

1. A description of the research to be performed, the service to be provided, or the equipment to be purchased;

2. Cost share commitment letter if the subawardee is providing cost share to the award;
3. Updated budget justification, budget pages;
4. An assurance that the process undertaken by the Recipient to solicit the subaward/subcontract complies with their written procurement procedures as outlined in 2 CFR 200.317 through 200.327.
5. An assurance that no planned, actual or apparent conflict of interest exists between the Recipient and the selected subawardee/subcontractor and that the Recipient's written standards of conduct were followed;¹
6. A completed Environmental Questionnaire, if applicable;
7. An assurance that the subawardee/subcontractor is not a debarred or suspended entity; and
8. An assurance that all required award provisions will be flowed down in the resulting subaward/subcontract.

The Recipient is responsible for making a final determination to award or modify subawards/subcontracts under this agreement, but the Recipient may not proceed with the subaward/subcontract until the Contracting Officer determines, and provides the Recipient written notification, that the information provided is adequate.

Should the Recipient not receive a written notification of adequacy from the Contracting Officer within 30 days of the submission of the subaward/subcontract documentation stipulated above, Recipient may proceed to award or modify the proposed subaward/subcontract.

GO/NO-GO DECISION - NETL

The Government has elected to include go/no-go decision(s) in the Project Management Plan (PMP). If it is advantageous for the Government to proceed beyond the go/no go decision point(s), the Contracting Officer will notify the recipient in writing authorizing the recipient to proceed beyond the go/no go decision point in the PMP.

If it is determined that it would not be advantageous for the Government to proceed beyond the technical milestone(s), the Contracting Officer will notify the recipient in writing of such decision and the award is considered completed. The maximum liability to the Government is limited to the allowable, allocable, and reasonableness of the cost incurred by the recipient within the funds made available. The Government reserves the right to deobligate any remaining funds from the award. The recipient shall submit all final deliverables, including final project accomplishments, for the completed work in accordance with the reporting requirements of the award.

¹ It is DOE's position that the existence of a "covered relationship" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(a)&(b) between a member of the Recipient's owners or senior management and a member of a subawardee's/subcontractor's owners or senior management creates at a minimum an apparent conflict of interest that would require the Recipient to notify the Contracting Officer and provide detailed information and justification (including, for example, mitigation measures) as to why the subaward or subcontract does not create an actual conflict of interest. Recipients must also notify the Contracting Officer of any new subcontract or subaward to: (1) an entity that is owned or otherwise controlled by the Recipient; or (2) an entity that is owned or otherwise controlled by another entity that also owns or otherwise controls the Recipient, as it is DOE's position that these situations also create at a minimum an apparent conflict of interest.

IMPLEMENTATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 13798, PROMOTING FREE SPEECH AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY (NOVEMBER 2020)

States, local governments, or other public entities may not condition sub-awards in a manner that would discriminate, or disadvantage sub-recipients based on their religious character.

CONTINUED USE OF REAL PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (OCTOBER 2022)

Real property and equipment purchased with project funds (federal share and recipient cost share) under this Award are subject to the requirements at 2 CFR 200.311, 200.313, and 200.316 (non-Federal entities, except for-profit entities) and 2 CFR 910.360 (for-profit entities). The Recipient may continue to use the real property and equipment after the conclusion of the award period of performance so long as the Recipient:

- a. Continues to use the property for the authorized project purposes;
- b. Complies with the applicable reporting requirements and regulatory property standards;
- c. As applicable to for-profit entities, UCC filing statements are maintained; and
- d. Submits a written Request for Continued Use for DOE authorization, which is approved by the DOE Contracting Officer.

The Recipient must request authorization from the Contracting Officer to continue to use the property for the authorized project purposes beyond the award period of performance (“Request for Continued Use”). The Recipient’s written Request for Continued Use must identify the property and include: a summary of how the property will be used (must align with the authorized project purposes); a proposed use period (e.g., perpetuity, until fully depreciated, or a calendar date where the Recipient expects to submit disposition instructions); acknowledgement that the recipient shall not sell or encumber the property or permit any encumbrance without prior written DOE approval; current fair market value of the property; and an Estimated Useful Life or depreciation schedule for equipment.

When the property is no longer needed for authorized project purposes, the Recipient must request disposition instructions from DOE. For-profit entity disposition requirements are set forth at 2 CFR 910.360. Property disposition requirements for other non-federal entities are set forth in 2 CFR 200.310 through 200.316.

FOREIGN NATIONAL PARTICIPATION – APPROVAL REQUIRED (APRIL 2024)

If the Recipient (including any of its subrecipients and contractors) anticipates involving foreign nationals in the performance of this award, the Recipient must provide DOE with specific information about each foreign national to ensure compliance with the requirements for foreign national participation and access approvals. The volume and type of information required may depend on various factors associated with the award.

Approval for foreign nationals in Principal Investigator/Co-Principal Investigator roles, from countries of risk (i.e., China, Iran, North Korea, and Russia), and from countries identified on the U.S. Department of State’s list of State Sponsors of Terrorism (<https://www.state.gov/state-sponsors-of-terrorism/>) must be obtained from DOE before they can participate in the performance of any work under this award.

A “foreign national” is defined as a person without United States citizenship or nationality (may include a stateless person). DOE may elect to deny a foreign national’s participation in the award. Likewise, DOE may elect to deny a foreign national’s access to a DOE sites, information, technologies, equipment, programs, or personnel. DOE’s determination to deny participation or access is not appealable.

The Recipient must include this term in any subaward and in any applicable contractual agreement(s) associated with this award.

POST AWARD DUE DILIGENCE REVIEWS (APRIL 2024)

During the period of performance of the Award, DOE may conduct ongoing due diligence reviews, through Government resources, to identify potential risks of undue foreign influence. In the event a risk is identified, DOE may require risk mitigation measures, including but not limited to, requiring an individual or entity not participate in the Award. As part of the research, technology, and economic security risk review, DOE may contact the Recipient project team members for additional information to inform the review.

EXPORT CONTROL (JUNE 2024)

The United States government regulates the transfer of information, commodities, technology, and software considered to be strategically important to the U.S. to protect national security, foreign policy, and economic interests without imposing undue regulatory burdens on legitimate international trade. There is a network of Federal agencies and regulations that govern exports that are collectively referred to as “Export Controls.” The Recipient is responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable United States Export Control laws and regulations relating to any work performed under the award.

The Recipient must immediately report to DOE any export control investigations, charges, indictments, convictions, and violations upon occurrence, at the recipient or subrecipient level, and for convictions/violations, provide the corrective action(s) to prevent future convictions/violations.

INTERIM CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (MARCH 2023)

The DOE interim Conflict of Interest Policy for Financial Assistance (COI Policy) can be found at <https://www.energy.gov/management/departments-energy-interim-conflict-interest-policy-requirements-financial-assistance>. This policy is applicable to all non-Federal entities applying for, or that receive, DOE funding by means of a financial assistance award (e.g., a grant, cooperative agreement, or technology investment agreement) and, through the implementation of this policy by the entity, to each Investigator who is planning to participate in, or is participating in, the project funded wholly or in part under this Award. The term “Investigator” means the PI and any other person, regardless of title or position, who is responsible for the purpose, design, conduct, or reporting of a project funded by DOE or proposed for funding by DOE. The Recipient must flow down the requirements of the interim COI Policy to any subrecipient non-Federal entities, with the exception of DOE National Laboratories. Further, the Recipient must identify all financial conflicts of interests (FCOI), i.e., managed and unmanaged/ unmanageable, in its initial and ongoing FCOI reports.

Prior to award, the Recipient was required to: 1) ensure all Investigators on this Award completed their significant financial disclosures; 2) review the disclosures; 3) determine whether a FCOI exists; 4) develop and

implement a management plan for FCOIs; and 5) provide DOE with an initial FCOI report that includes all FCOIs (i.e., managed and unmanaged/unmanageable). Within 180 days of the date of the Award, the Recipient must be in full compliance with the other requirements set forth in DOE's interim COI Policy.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST (APRIL 2024)

Organizational conflicts of interest are those where, because of relationships with a parent company, affiliate, or subsidiary organization, the Recipient is unable or appears to be unable to be impartial in conducting procurement action involving a related organization (2 CFR 200.318(c)(2)).

The Recipient must disclose in writing any potential or actual organizational conflict of interest to the DOE Contracting Officer. The Recipient must provide the disclosure prior to engaging in a procurement or transaction using project funds with a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization that is not a state, local government, or Indian Tribe. For a list of the information that must be included the disclosure, see Section VI. of the DOE interim Conflict of Interest Policy for Financial Assistance at <https://www.energy.gov/management/departments-energy-interim-conflict-interest-policy-requirements-financial-assistance>.

If the effects of the potential or actual organizational conflict of interest cannot be avoided, neutralized, or mitigated, the Recipient must procure goods and services from other sources when using project funds.

The Recipient must flow down the requirements of the interim COI Policy to any subrecipient non-Federal entities, with the exception of DOE National Laboratories. The Recipient is responsible for ensuring subrecipient compliance with this term.

If the Recipient has a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization that is not a state, local government, or Indian Tribe, the Recipient must maintain written standards of conduct covering organizational conflicts of interest.

BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS (MAY 2024)

A. Definitions

Components See 2 CFR 184.3 "Definitions."

Construction Materials See 2 CFR 184.3 "Definitions."

Buy America Preference, Buy America Requirement, or domestic content procurement preference means a requirement that no amount of funds made available through a program for federal financial assistance may be obligated for an infrastructure project unless—

- (A) all iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States;
- (B) the manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States; or
- (C) the construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States.

Infrastructure See 2 CFR 184.4 (c) and (d).

Manufactured Products See 2 CFR 184.3 "Definitions."

Predominantly of iron or steel See 2 CFR 184.3 “Definitions.”

Infrastructure Project- See 2 CFR 184.3 “Definitions.”

Public- The Buy America Requirement does not apply to non-public infrastructure. For purposes of this guidance, infrastructure should be considered “public” if it is: (1) publicly owned or (2) privately owned but utilized primarily for a public purpose. Infrastructure should be considered to be “utilized primarily for a public purpose” if it is privately operated on behalf of the public or is a place of public accommodation.

B. Buy America Requirement for Infrastructure Projects (Buy America Requirement)

None of the funds provided under this award (federal share or recipient cost-share) may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

1. All iron and steel used in the project is produced in the United States—this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States;
2. All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States—this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation. See 2 CFR 184.5 for determining the cost of components for manufactured products; and
3. All construction materials are manufactured in the United States—this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States. See 2 CFR 184.6 for construction material standards.

The Buy America Requirement only applies to those articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or permanently affixed to the infrastructure in the project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought into the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America Requirement apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

The Buy America Requirement only applies to an article, material, or supply classified into one of the following categories* based on its status at the time it is brought to the work site for incorporation into an infrastructure project:

- (i) Iron or steel products;
- (ii) Manufactured products; or
- (iii) Construction materials;

The Buy America Requirement only applies to the iron or steel products, manufactured products, and construction materials used for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of public infrastructure in the United States when those items are consumed in, incorporated into, or permanently affixed to the infrastructure. An article, material, or supply incorporated into an infrastructure project should not be considered to fall into multiple categories, but rather must meet the Buy America Preference Requirement for only the single category in which it is classified.

All iron and steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the infrastructure project must be produced in the United States.

* Section 70917(c) of the BABA states that “construction materials” do not include cement and cementitious materials; aggregates such as stone, sand, or gravel; or aggregate binding agents or additives. Section 70917(c) materials are excluded from Construction materials. Asphalt concrete pavement mixes are typically composed of asphalt cement (a binding agent) and aggregates such as stone, sand, and gravel. Accordingly, asphalt is also excluded from the definition of Construction materials.

Section 70917(c) materials, on their own, are not manufactured products. Further, Section 70917(c) materials should not be considered manufactured products when they are used at or combined proximate to the work site—such as is the case with wet concrete or hot mix asphalt brought to the work site for incorporation.

However, when certain Section 70917(c) materials (such as stone, sand, and gravel) are used to produce a manufactured product, such as is precast concrete processed into a specific shape or form, and is in such state when brought to the work site, then that product is subject to the BABA requirements.

Further clarification is provided in 2 CFR 184 on the circumstances under which a determination is made that Section 70917(c) materials should be treated as components of a manufactured product. That determination is based on consideration of: (i) the revised definition of the “manufactured products” at 2 CFR 184.3; (ii) a new definition of “section 70917(c) materials” at 2 CFR 184.3; (iii) new instructions at 2 CFR 184.4(e) on how and when to categorize articles, materials, and supplies; and (iv) new instructions at 2 CFR 184.4(f) on how to apply the Buy America preference by category.

Recipients are responsible for administering their award in accordance with the terms and conditions, including the Buy America Requirement. The recipient must ensure that the Buy America Requirement flows down to all subawards and that the subawardees and subrecipients comply with the Buy America Requirement. The Buy America Requirement term and condition must be included all sub-awards, contracts, subcontracts, and purchase orders for work performed under the infrastructure project.

C. Certification of Compliance

Recipients must certify or provide equivalent documentation for proof of compliance that a good faith effort was made to solicit bids for domestic products used in the infrastructure project under this award.

Recipients must also maintain certifications or equivalent documentation for proof of compliance that those articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, affixed to, or otherwise used in the infrastructure project, not covered by a waiver or exemption provided in 2 CFR 184.8, are produced in the United States. The certification or proof of compliance must be provided by the suppliers or manufacturers of the iron, steel, manufactured products and construction materials and flow up from all subawardees, contractors and vendors to the recipient. Recipients must keep these certifications with the award/project files and be able to produce them upon request from DOE, auditors or Office of Inspector General.

D. Waivers

When necessary, recipients may apply for, and DOE may grant, a waiver from the Buy America Requirement. Waiver requests are subject to review by DOE and the Office of Management and Budget, as well as a public comment period of no less than 15 calendar days.

1. Waivers must be based on one of the following justifications:
 - a) Public Interest- Applying the Buy America Requirement would be inconsistent with the public interest;
 - b) Non-Availability- The types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or
 - c) Unreasonable Cost- The inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.
2. Requests to waive the Buy America Requirement must include the following:
 - Waiver type (Public Interest, Non-Availability, or Unreasonable Cost);
 - Recipient name and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI);
 - Award information (Federal Award Identification Number, Assistance Listing number);
 - A brief description of the project, its location, and the specific infrastructure involved;
 - Total estimated project cost, with estimated federal share and recipient cost share breakdowns;
 - Total estimated infrastructure costs, with estimated federal share and recipient cost share breakdowns;
 - List and description of iron or steel item(s), manufactured goods, and/or construction material(s) the recipient seeks to waive from the Buy America Preference, including name, cost, quantity(ies), country(ies) of origin, and relevant Product Service Codes (PSC) and North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes for each;
 - A detailed justification as to how the non-domestic item(s) is/are essential the project;
 - A certification that the recipient made a good faith effort to solicit bids for domestic products supported by terms included in requests for proposals, contracts, and non-proprietary communications with potential suppliers;
 - A justification statement—based on one of the applicable justifications outlined above—as to why the listed items cannot be procured domestically, including the due diligence performed (e.g., market research, industry outreach, cost analysis, cost-benefit analysis) by the recipient to attempt to avoid the need for a waiver. This justification may cite, if applicable, the absence of any Buy America-compliant bids received for domestic products in response to a solicitation;
 - A description of the market research conducted that includes who conducted the market research, when it was conducted, sources that were used, and the methods used to conduct the research; and
 - Anticipated impact to the project if no waiver is issued.
3. How to submit a waiver
Requests to waive the application of the Buy America Requirement must be submitted in writing to your cognizant Contracting Officer or Grants Officer.

DOE may request, and the recipient must provide, additional information for consideration of this waiver. DOE may reject or grant waivers in whole or in part depending on its review, analysis, and/or feedback from OMB or

the public. DOE's final determination regarding approval or rejection of the waiver request may not be appealed. Waiver requests may take up to 90 calendar days to process.

PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT (APRIL 2024)

As set forth in 2 CFR 200.216, recipients and subrecipients are prohibited from obligating or expending project funds (Federal and non-Federal funds) to:

- (1) Procure or obtain;
- (2) Extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain;
- (3) Exercise an option to procure; or
- (4) 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 critical technology as part of any system. As described in Public Law 115-232, section 889, covered telecommunications equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
 - (i) 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).
 - (ii) Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.
 - (iii) Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the 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.

See Public Law 115-232, section 889 for additional information.

PROHIBITION RELATED TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED TALENT RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS (MARCH 2023)

A. Prohibition

Persons participating in a *Foreign Government-Sponsored Talent Recruitment Program of a Foreign Country of Risk* are prohibited from participating in this Award. The Recipient must exercise ongoing due diligence to reasonably ensure that no individuals participating on the DOE-funded project are

participating in a *Foreign Government-Sponsored Talent Recruitment Program of a Foreign Country of Risk*. Consequences for violations of this prohibition will be determined according to applicable law, regulations, and policy. Further, the Recipient must notify DOE within five (5) business days upon learning that an owner of the Recipient or subrecipient or individual on the project team is or is believed to be participating in a *Foreign Government-Sponsored Talent Recruitment Program of a Foreign Country of Risk*. DOE may modify and add requirements related to this prohibition to the extent required by law.

B. Definitions

1. **Foreign Government-Sponsored Talent Recruitment Program.** An effort directly or indirectly organized, managed, or funded by a foreign government, or a foreign government instrumentality or entity, to recruit science and technology professionals or students (regardless of citizenship or national origin, or whether having a full-time or part-time position). Some foreign government-sponsored talent recruitment programs operate with the intent to import or otherwise acquire from abroad, sometimes through illicit means, proprietary technology or software, unpublished data and methods, and intellectual property to further the military modernization goals and/or economic goals of a foreign government. Many, but not all, programs aim to incentivize the targeted individual to relocate physically to the foreign state for the above purpose. Some programs allow for or encourage continued employment at United States research facilities or receipt of federal research funds while concurrently working at and/or receiving compensation from a foreign institution, and some direct participants not to disclose their participation to U.S. entities. Compensation could take many forms including cash, research funding, complimentary foreign travel, honorific titles, career advancement opportunities, promised future compensation, or other types of remuneration or consideration, including in-kind compensation.
2. **Foreign Country of Risk.** DOE has designated the following countries as foreign countries of risk: Iran, North Korea, Russia, and China. This list is subject to change.

PARTICIPANTS AND OTHER COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS (APRIL 2024)

Prior to award, the Recipient was required to provide the following information on participants and other collaborating organizations. If there are any changes to Participants and Collaborating Organizations information previously submitted to DOE, the Recipient must submit updated information within thirty (30) calendar days after the end of the quarterly reporting period in which the change occurred:

A. What individuals have worked on the project

Provide the following information for individuals at the prime recipient and subrecipient level: (1) all senior and key personnel; (2) authorized representative of applicant with primary responsibility for business support (e.g., financial management, fiscal oversight, providing resources, award administration, etc.), if other than listed senior/key personnel, e.g., the Administrative Officer listed on the SF-424 Application; and (3) each person who has worked or is expected to work at least one person month per year on the project regardless of the source of compensation (a person month equals approximately 160 hours of effort).

- i. Name
- ii. Organization
- iii. Job Title
- iv. Role in the project
- v. Start and end date (month and year) working on the project
- vi. State, U.S. territory, and/or country of residence
- vii. Whether this person collaborated with an individual or entity located in a foreign country in connection with the scope of this Award, and
- viii. If yes to vii, whether the person traveled to the foreign country as part of that collaboration, and, if so, where and what the duration of stay was.

B. Organizations

Identify all subrecipients, contractors, U.S. National Laboratories, partners, and collaborating organizations. Recipients must also include all foreign collaborators as outlined in the Foreign Collaboration Considerations term of the award Terms and Conditions. For each, provide name, UEI, zip code or latitude/longitude, role in the project, contribution to the project and start and end date.

HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH (MARCH 2023)

Research involving human subjects, biospecimens, or identifiable private information conducted with Department of Energy (DOE) funding is subject to the requirements of DOE Order 443.1C, *Protection of Human Research Subjects*, 45 CFR Part 46, *Protection of Human Subjects (subpart A which is referred to as the "Common Rule")*, and 10 CFR Part 745, *Protection of Human Subjects*.

Federal regulation and the DOE Order require review by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) of all proposed human subjects research projects. The IRB is an interdisciplinary ethics board responsible for ensuring that the proposed research is sound and justifies the use of human subjects or their data; the potential risks to human subjects have been minimized; participation is voluntary; and clear and accurate information about the study, the benefits and risks of participating, and how individuals' data/specimens will be protected/used, is provided to potential participants for their use in determining whether or not to participate.

The Recipient shall provide the Federal Wide Assurance number identified in item 1 below and the certification identified in item 2 below to DOE prior to initiation of any project that will involve interactions with humans in some way (e.g., through surveys); analysis of their identifiable data (e.g., demographic data and energy use over time); asking individuals to test devices, products, or materials developed through research; and/or testing of commercially available devices in buildings/homes in which humans will be present. *Note:* This list of examples is illustrative and not all inclusive.

No DOE funded research activity involving human subjects, biospecimens, or identifiable private information shall be conducted without:

- 1) A registration and a Federal Wide Assurance of compliance accepted by the Office of Human Research Protection (OHRP) in the Department of Health and Human Services; and
- 2) Certification that the research has been reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) provided for in the assurance. IRB review may be accomplished by the awardee's institutional IRB; by

the Central DOE IRB; or if collaborating with one of the DOE national laboratories, by the DOE national laboratory IRB.

The Recipient is responsible for ensuring all subrecipients comply and for reporting information on the project annually to the DOE Human Subjects Research Database (HSRD) at <https://science.osti.gov/HumanSubjects/Human-Subjects-Database/home>. *Note:* If a DOE IRB is used, no end of year reporting will be needed.

Additional information on the DOE Human Subjects Research Program can be found at: <https://science.osti.gov/ber/human-subjects>.

FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE (MARCH 2023)

The mission of the DOE Office of Inspector General (OIG) is to strengthen the integrity, economy and efficiency of DOE's programs and operations including deterring and detecting fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement. The OIG accomplishes this mission primarily through investigations, audits, and inspections of Department of Energy activities to include grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and contracts. The OIG maintains a Hotline for reporting allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement. To report such allegations, please visit <https://www.energy.gov/ig/ig-hotline>.

Additionally, the Recipient must be cognizant of the requirements of 2 CFR 200.113 Mandatory disclosures, which states:

The non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that have received a Federal award including the term and condition outlined in appendix XII of 2 CFR Part 200 are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM (currently FAPIIS). Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in § 200.339. (See also 2 CFR part 180, 31 U.S.C. 3321, and 41 U.S.C. 2313.)

TRANSPARENCY OF FOREIGN CONNECTIONS (APRIL 2024)

The Recipient must notify the DOE Contracting Officer within fifteen (15) business days of learning of the following circumstances in relation to the Recipient and subrecipients:

1. Any current or pending subsidiary, foreign business entity, or offshore entity that is based in or funded by any foreign country of risk or foreign entity based in a country of risk;
2. Any current or pending contractual or financial obligation or other agreement specific to a business arrangement, or joint venture-like arrangement with an entity owned by a country of risk or foreign entity based in a country of risk;
3. Any current or pending change in ownership structure of the Recipient or subrecipients that increases foreign ownership related to a country of risk. Each notification shall be accompanied by a complete and up-to-date capitalization table showing all equity interests held including

limited liability company (LLC) and partnership interests, as well as derivative securities. Include both the number of shares issued to each equity holder, as well as the percentage of that series and of all equity on fully diluted basis. For each equity holder, provide the place of incorporation and the principal place of business, as applicable. If the equity holder is a natural person, identify the citizenship(s);

4. Any current or pending venture capital or institutional investment by an entity that has a general partner or individual holding a leadership role in such entity who has a foreign affiliation with any foreign country of risk;
5. Any current or pending technology licensing or intellectual property sales to a foreign country of risk; and
6. Any changes to the Recipient or the subrecipients' board of directors, including additions to the number of directors, the identity of new directors, as well as each new director's citizenship, shareholder affiliation (if applicable); each notification shall include a complete up-to-date list of all directors (and board observers), including their full name, citizenship and shareholder affiliation, date of appointment, duration of term, as well as a description of observer rights as applicable.
7. Any proposed changes to the equipment used on the project that would result in:
 - a. Equipment originally made or manufactured in a foreign country of risk (including relabeled or rebranded equipment).
 - b. Coded equipment where the source code is written in a foreign country of risk.
 - c. Equipment from a foreign country of risk that will be connected to the internet or other remote communication system.
 - d. Any companies from a foreign country of risk that will have physical or remote access to any part of the equipment used on the project after delivery.

Should DOE determine the connection poses a risk to economic or national security, DOE will require measures to mitigate or eliminate the risk.

DOE has designated the following countries as foreign countries of risk: Iran, North Korea, Russia, and China. This list is subject to change.

Recognizing the disclosures may contain business confidential information, subrecipients may submit their disclosures directly to DOE.

FOREIGN COLLABORATION CONSIDERATIONS (MARCH 2023)

- A. Consideration of new collaborations with foreign entities, organizations, and governments. The Recipient must provide DOE with advanced written notification of any potential collaboration with foreign entities, organizations or governments in connection with its DOE-funded award scope. The Recipient must await further guidance from DOE prior to contacting the proposed foreign entity, organization or government regarding the potential collaboration or negotiating the terms of any potential agreement.
- B. Existing collaborations with foreign entities, organizations and governments. The Recipient must provide DOE with a written list of all existing foreign collaborations, organizations, and governments in which has entered in connection with its DOE-funded award scope.

- C. In general, a collaboration will involve some provision of a thing of value to, or from, the Recipient. A thing of value includes but may not be limited to all resources made available to, or from, the recipient in support of and/or related to the Award, regardless of whether or not they have monetary value. Things of value also may include in-kind contributions (such as office/laboratory space, data, equipment, supplies, employees, students). In-kind contributions not intended for direct use on the Award but resulting in provision of a thing of value from or to the Award must also be reported. Collaborations do not include routine workshops, conferences, use of the Recipient's services and facilities by foreign investigators resulting from its standard published process for evaluating requests for access, or the routine use of foreign facilities by awardee staff in accordance with the Recipient's standard policies and procedures.

REPORTING SUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION (SEPTEMBER 2023)

a. Reporting of first-tier subawards.

1. **Applicability.** Unless the Recipient is exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, the Recipient must report each action that equals or exceeds \$30,000 in Federal funds for a subaward to a non-Federal entity or Federal agency (see definitions in paragraph e. of this award term).
2. **Where and when to report.**
 - i. The non-Federal entity or Federal agency must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.1. of this award term to <http://www.fsrs.gov>.
 - ii. For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the obligation was made. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2010, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2010.)
3. **What to report.** The Recipient must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at <http://www.fsrs.gov> specify.

b. Reporting total compensation of recipient executives for non-Federal entities.

1. **Applicability and what to report.** The Recipient must report total compensation for each of its five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if
 - i. The total Federal funding authorized to date under this Federal award is \$30,000 or more as defined in 2 CFR 170.320;
 - ii. In the preceding fiscal year, the Recipient received:
 - a) 80 percent or more of the Recipient's annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - b) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and

- iii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <https://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>.)
 - 2. Where and when to report. The Recipient must report executive total compensation described in paragraph b.1. of this award term:
 - i. As part of the Recipients registration profile at <https://www.sam.gov>.
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.
- c. Reporting of total compensation of subrecipient executives.
 - 1. Applicability and what to report. Unless the Recipient is exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier non-Federal entity subrecipient under this award, the Recipient shall report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if:
 - i. In the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received;
 - a) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - b) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act (and subawards); and
 - ii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <https://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>.)
 - 2. Where and when to report. The Recipient must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph c.1. of this award term:
 - i. To the recipient
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month during which the Recipient makes the subaward. For example, if a subaward is obligated on any date during the month of October of a given year (i.e., between October 1 and 31), the Recipient must report any required compensation information of the subrecipient by November 30 of that year.
- d. Exemptions

If, in the previous tax year, the Recipient had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, it is exempt from the requirements to report:

- i. Subawards, and
- ii. The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.

e. Definitions. For purposes of this award term:

1. *Federal Agency* means a Federal agency as defined at 5 U.S.C. 551(1) and further clarified by 5 U.S.C. 552(f).
2. *Non-Federal entity* means all of the following, as defined in 2 CFR part 25:
 - i. A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;
 - ii. A foreign public entity;
 - iii. A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization; and
 - iv. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization.
3. *Executive* means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.
4. *Subaward*:
 - i. This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which the Recipient received this award and that the recipient awards to an eligible subrecipient.
 - ii. The term does not include the Recipient's procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see 2 CFR 200.331).
 - iii. A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that the Recipient or a subrecipient considers a contract.
5. *Subrecipient* means a non-Federal entity or Federal agency that:
 - i. Receives a subaward from the Recipient under this award; and
 - ii. Is accountable to the Recipient for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.
6. *Total compensation* means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year. For more information on disclosure and reporting requirements, see 17 CFR 229.402(c)(2).

POTENTIALLY DUPLICATIVE FUNDING NOTICE (MARCH 2023)

If the Recipient or subrecipients have or receive any other award of federal funds for activities that potentially overlap with the activities funded under this Award, the Recipient must promptly notify DOE in writing of the potential overlap and state whether project funds (i.e., recipient cost share and federal funds) from any of those other federal awards have been, are being, or are to be used (in whole or in part) for one or more of the identical cost items under this Award. If there are identical cost items, the Recipient must promptly notify the DOE Contracting Officer in writing of the potential duplication and eliminate any inappropriate duplication of funding.

IMPACTED INDIAN TRIBES (MAY 2024)

If any activities anticipated to take place under this agreement could potentially impact the resources or reserved rights of Indian Tribe(s), as defined in 25 U.S.C. § 5304 (e), then the recipient/awardee agrees to develop and maintain active and open communications with the potentially impacted Indian Tribe(s), during the period of performance of the agreement, and, if necessary, after the end of the agreement. Approval by DOE must be obtained before any activities take place that could impact Tribal resources or reserved rights, including but not limited to lands, cultural sites, sacred sites, water rights, mineral rights, fishing rights, and hunting rights. The recipient/awardee must coordinate with DOE on all Tribal interactions. DOE will determine if formal government-to-government consultation is needed, and DOE will conduct that consultation accordingly.

- Tribal lands is as defined in 25 U.S.C. §§ 3501(2), (3), (4)(A) and (13).
- Indian Tribe is as defined in 25 U.S.C. § 5304 (e).

REPORTING, TRACKING AND SEGREGATION OF INCURRED COSTS (MARCH 2023)

BIL funds can be used in conjunction with other funding, as necessary to complete projects, but tracking and reporting must be separate to meet the reporting requirements of the BIL and related Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance. The Recipient must keep separate records for BIL funds and must ensure those records comply with the requirements of the BIL.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES (APRIL 2024)

The Recipient must meet the stated objectives and milestones set forth in its Community Benefits Outcomes and Objectives, which is incorporated into the Award as an attachment. Reporting on the Recipient's progress towards meeting the objectives and milestones set forth in the Community Benefits Outcomes and Objectives must be submitted in accordance with the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist, attached to this award.

DAVIS-BACON ACT REQUIREMENTS (NETL – JUNE 2024)

This Award is funded under Division D of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). All laborers and mechanics employed by the recipient, subrecipients, contractors or subcontractors in the performance of construction, alteration, or repair work in excess of \$2,000 on a project assisted in whole or in part by funds made available under this Award shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on similar projects in the locality, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with Subchapter IV of Chapter 31 of Title 40, United States Code commonly referred to as the "Davis-Bacon Act" (DBA) and its implementing regulations in 29 CFR parts 1, 3, and 5 (collectively the "Davis-Bacon Act Requirements").

Award recipients shall provide written acknowledgement and confirmation of compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act Requirements which include but are not limited to:

1. Ensuring that laborers and mechanics on BIL funded/assisted projects are paid at least the prevailing wage for their work classification on applicable projects.
2. Ensuring that laborers and mechanics on BIL funded/assisted projects are paid on a weekly basis.

3. Ensuring that the applicable wage determination(s) for construction work performed by laborers and mechanics employed by the recipient, subrecipients, contractors, or subcontractors are identified and obtained from the database at www.sam.gov, by 1) selecting “Wage Determinations,” then, 2) selecting “Public Buildings and Public Works,” then, 3) filtering search results by State (selecting the appropriate state from the drop-down menus), and by County or Independent City (selecting the appropriate County/Independent City from the drop-down menu) in which the work will take place, then, 4) selecting the appropriate construction type (e.g., Building, Residential, Heavy, or Highway). The appropriate wage determination number hyperlink should be selected from the result. If the wage determination which opens lists a “Last Revised Date” after the date of the contract award/start of construction, then scroll to the bottom of the document, and under History, click on the wage determination with the date closest to, but still before the date of contract award/start of construction.
4. Ensuring that applicable wage determination(s) are uploaded to LCPtracker (see below section on LCPtracker).
5. Ensuring that the applicable wage determination(s) and the required contract provisions per 29 CFR 5.5 are flowed down to and incorporated into any applicable contracts/subcontracts or subrecipient awards.
6. Preserving a copy of the applicable wage determination(s) identified and obtained from www.sam.gov, for a period of 3 years after the construction, alteration or repair work herein is completed.
7. Maintaining responsibility for compliance by any lower-tier subcontractors or subrecipients subject to the Davis-Bacon Act Requirements.
8. Receiving and reviewing certified weekly payrolls submitted by all subcontractors and subrecipients for accuracy as needed and identifying potential compliance issues.
9. Maintaining original certified weekly payrolls for 3 years after the completion of the project and making those payrolls available to the Department of Energy or the Department of Labor upon request.
10. Conducting site-visit interviews with employees as needed to provide reasonable assurance of compliance with subcontractors and subrecipients.
11. Cooperating with authorized representatives of the Department of Energy or Department of Labor in the inspection of DBA-related records, on-site interviews of laborers and mechanics, and other reasonable requests related to a DBA investigation.
12. Posting in a prominent and accessible place the applicable wage determination(s) and Department of Labor Publication: WH-1321, Notice to Employees Working on Federal or Federally Assisted Construction Projects.
13. Notifying the Contracting Officer of Davis-Bacon Act Requirement issues, including complaints, violations (as defined in 29 CFR 5.7), disputes (pursuant to 29 CFR parts 4, 6, and 8 and as defined in FAR 52.222-14), disputed DBA-related determinations, Department of Labor investigations, or legal/judicial proceedings related to the Davis-Bacon Act Requirements under this contract, subcontract, or subrecipient award.
14. Preparing and submitting the Semi-Annual Labor Enforcement Report, by April 21 and October 21 of each year, in accordance with the reporting instructions in Attachment 2, Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist.
15. Maintain competency in complying with Davis-Bacon Act Requirements. The Contracting Officer will notify the recipient of any DOE-sponsored Davis-Bacon Act compliance trainings. The Department of

Labor offers free Prevailing Wage Seminars several times a year that meet this requirement, at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/construction/seminars/events>.

To avoid voluminous attachments under this award, all applicable wage determination(s) included in the www.sam.gov database and uploaded to LCPtracker are incorporated by reference herein as if set forth and attached in full. The applicable wage determination(s) are effective herein even if they have not been attached to the contract/subcontract(s) or subrecipient awards thereunder or have not been correctly identified and obtained from www.sam.gov and/or uploaded to LCPtracker.

The Department of Energy has contracted with LCPtracker, a third-party DBA electronic payroll compliance software application. A waiver for the use of LCPtracker may be granted to a particular contractor or subcontractor if they are unable or limited in their ability to use or access the software.

Davis-Bacon Act Electronic Certified Payroll Submission Waiver

A waiver must be granted before the start of work subject to Davis-Bacon Act requirements (e.g., construction, alteration, or repair work). The recipient does not have the right to appeal DOE's decision concerning a waiver request.

For additional guidance on how to comply with the Davis-Bacon provisions and clauses, see <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/construction> and <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/protections-for-workers-in-construction>.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND PAY TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS (SEPTEMBER 2023)

All federally assisted construction contracts exceeding \$10,000 annually will be subject to the requirements of Executive Order 11246:

- (1) Recipients, subrecipients, and contractors are prohibited from discriminating in employment decisions on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or national origin.
- (2) Recipients and Contractors are required to take affirmative action to ensure that equal opportunity is provided in all aspects of their employment. This includes flowing down the appropriate language to all subrecipients, contractors and subcontractors.
- (3) Recipients, subrecipients, contractors and subcontractors are prohibited from taking adverse employment actions against applicants and employees for asking about, discussing, or sharing information about their pay or, under certain circumstances, the pay of their co-workers.

The Department of Labor's (DOL) Office of Federal Contractor Compliance Programs (OFCCP) uses a neutral process to schedule contractors for compliance evaluations. OFCCP's Technical Assistance Guide should be consulted to gain an understanding of the requirements and possible actions the recipients, subrecipients, contractors and subcontractors must take. See OFCCP's Technical Assistance Guide at: <https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ofccp/Construction/files/ConstructionTAG.pdf?msclkid=9e397d68c4b111ec9d8e6fecb6c710ec>.

Additionally, for construction projects valued at \$35 million or more and lasting more than one year, Recipients, subrecipients, contractors, or subcontractors may be selected by OFCCP to participate in the Mega Construction Project Program. DOE, under relevant legal authorities including Sections 205 and 303(a) of Executive Order 11246, will require participation as a condition of the award. This program offers extensive compliance assistance with EO 11246. For more information regarding this program, see <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ofccp/construction/mega-program>.

PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT – (CONSTRUCTION COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT) (MAY 2024)

The Recipient must meet the stated objectives and milestones set forth in its Community Benefits Outcomes and Objectives, including any Project Labor Agreement described in your application submission or a subsequent award modification. The Community Benefits Outcomes and Objectives is incorporated into the Award as Attachment 5.

The Recipient must submit a Project Labor Agreement or existing Construction Collective Bargaining Agreement within 30 days of award notice. The Project Labor Agreement must allow for the following:

- (a) bind all contractors and subcontractors on the construction project through the inclusion of appropriate specifications in all relevant solicitation provisions and contract documents;
- (b) allow all contractors and subcontractors on the construction project to compete for contracts and subcontracts without regard to whether they are otherwise parties to collective bargaining agreements;
- (c) contain guarantees against strikes, lockouts, and similar disruptions;
- (d) set forth effective, prompt, and mutually binding procedures for resolving labor disputes arising during the term of the PLA;
- (e) provide other mechanisms for labor-management cooperation on matters of mutual interest and concern, including productivity, quality of work, safety, and health; and
- (f) fully conform to all statutes, regulations, Executive Orders, and any other DOE requirements contained in this agreement.

Termination of the PLA or removal of any of the above referenced provisions ((a)-(f)) may result in additional reporting and will be reassessed over the period of performance.

OPERATIONS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT (MAY 2024)

The Recipient must meet the stated objectives and milestones set forth in its Community Benefits Outcomes and Objectives, including any Operations Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) described in your application submission. The Community Benefits Outcomes and Objectives is incorporated into the Award as Attachment 5.

The Recipient must demonstrate that they have a CBA that will cover operations activities under this award within 30 days of award notice. The CBA must include the terms and conditions of employment, such as:

- Wages and benefits
- Grievance and arbitration procedures
- No strike/lockout
- Health and safety committee, as allowed per OSHA.

If at any time it becomes apparent that the CBA will no longer be applied to the project, additional reporting may be required.

CONSTRUCTION SIGNAGE (MAY 2024)

The recipient is encouraged to display DOE Investing in America signage during and after construction. Guidance can be found at: (<https://www.energy.gov/design>). Proposed signage costs that meet these specifications are an allowable cost and may be included in the proposed project budget.