

COVER SHEET

Proposer Information

Company Name

Bluemark Energy

Address

401 S Boston Ave Suite 300

City, State, Zip

Tulsa, OK 74103

Main Phone

7855652438

Contact Person Information

Name

Brady SAUDER

Job Title

Business Development, KS

Phone

7855652438

Alt. Phone

785-477-9839

Email

brady@bluemarkenergy.com

Signature

Brady Sauder

Date:

8/6/26

PRICE QUOTE

Please show how much your company will charge above the SSCGP First of the Month Index. This is the only acceptable type of price quote.

Year 1 \$.14¢

Year 2 \$.14¢

Year 3 \$.14¢

If your company does not offer three-year contracts, how long would your contract run? 1,200 years

Complete your price quote in one of two ways:

- 1) Complete a price quote for each year of the contract.
- 2) Complete a price quote for the first year of the contract and show the maximum percentage increase for years 2-3.

Topeka Metro is tax exempt. Do not include sales tax in your proposed price.

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (DBE) CERTIFICATION

This contract is subject to the requirements of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 26, *Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs*.

The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of this DOT-assisted contract. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as Metro deems appropriate. Each subcontract the contractor signs with a subcontractor must include the assurance in this paragraph (see 49 CFR 26.13(b)).

The contractor is required to pay its subcontractors performing work related to this contract for satisfactory performance of that work no later than 30 days after the contractor's receipt of payment for that work from Metro.

The contractor may not hold retainage from its subcontractors.

Signature: _____

Brady Sauder

Name and Title: _____

Brady SAUDER Business Development

Company Name: _____

Bluemark Energy

Date: _____

8/6/26

LOBBYING CERTIFICATION

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

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

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for making lobbying contacts to an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. See 49 CFR 20.100.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by 31 USC. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure. [Note: Pursuant to 31 USC 1352(c)(1)-(2)(A), any person who makes a prohibited expenditure or fails to file or amend a required certification or disclosure form shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such expenditure or failure. See 49 CFR 20.400.]

The undersigned contractor certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of each statement of its certification and disclosure, if any. In addition, the Contractor understands and agrees that the provisions of 31 USC 3801, et seq, apply to this certification and disclosure, if any.

Signature: _____

Brady Sausage

Name and Title: _____

Brady Sausage Business Dev.

Company Name: _____

Bluemark Energy

Date: _____

8/6/26

NON-COLLUSION CERTIFICATION

This is my sworn statement to certify that this proposal was not made in the interest of or on behalf of any undisclosed entity. This proposal is not collusive.

This proposer has not been a party to any agreement or collusion in restraint of freedom of competition by agreement to bid a fixed price, to refrain from bidding, or otherwise. This proposer has not, directly or indirectly, by agreement, communication or conference with anyone, attempted to induce action prejudicial to the interest of Topeka Metropolitan Transit Authority, or of any proposer, or anyone else interested in the proposed contract.

Signature: _____

Brady Sander

Name and Title: _____

Brady Sander Business Dev.

Company Name: _____

Bluemark Energy

Date: _____

8/6/26

SUSPENSION / DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION

In regard to 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200

In accordance with 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200, the contractor is required to verify that none of its principals or affiliates:

- 1) is included on the federal government's suspended and debarred list;
- 2) is proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, voluntarily excluded or disqualified;
- 3) within three years preceding this proposal, has been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for (a) commission of fraud or criminal offense pertaining to performing a public transaction, (b) violation of any federal or state antitrust statute, or (c) embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements or receiving stolen property;
- 4) is indicted or charged by a governmental entity for any of the charges in 3) above; and
- 5) has had any public transaction terminated for cause or default within three years preceding this proposal.

The contractor is required to include this requirement in any subcontracts related to this contract.

By signing and submitting its proposal, the proposer certifies that the certification in this clause is a material representation of fact relied upon by Metro. If it is later determined that the proposer knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to remedies available to Metro, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment. The proposer agrees to verify that none of its principals or affiliates is included on the federal government's suspended and debarred list at any time throughout the period of this contract. The proposer further agrees to include a provision requiring the same compliance in its subcontracts related to this contract.

Signature: _____

Brady Sauer

Name and Title: _____

Brady Sauer Business Dev

Company Name: _____

Bluemark Energy

Date: _____

8/6/26

Understanding of Requirements and Ability to Fulfill Specifications

BlueMark Energy understands that the objective of this Request for Bid is to secure a reliable, experienced natural gas supplier capable of providing competitive pricing, responsive customer service, accurate billing, and ongoing account management.

BlueMark Energy currently provides natural gas supply services to the Topeka Metro and has an established understanding of the facility's historical usage patterns, operational requirements, and budgeting considerations. This existing relationship allows for a seamless continuation of service with no disruption to operations.

BlueMark Energy offers both index-based and fixed-price purchasing options designed to help customers manage market volatility while maintaining flexibility. Our team actively monitors natural gas market conditions and works closely with customers to evaluate purchasing strategies that align with their operational and financial objectives.

In addition to commodity supply, BlueMark Energy provides:

- Historical usage analysis and reporting
- Budget planning assistance
- Fixed-price and market-based purchasing options
- Transportation and nomination management
- Ongoing account monitoring and support
- Timely and accurate billing
- Dedicated account management with a single point of contact

Unlike many suppliers, BlueMark Energy assigns a dedicated account representative who remains the customer's primary point of contact for all aspects of the account. Customers are not transferred between sales, customer service, and billing departments. This approach ensures accountability, responsiveness, and a high level of customer service throughout the contract term.

BlueMark Energy is fully capable of meeting and exceeding the requirements outlined in this Request for Bid and is committed to providing reliable service, transparent pricing, and proactive account management.

Firm Experience and Qualifications

BlueMark Energy is an experienced natural gas supplier serving commercial, industrial, healthcare, educational, governmental, and institutional customers throughout Kansas and the Midwest for over 12 years.

Our team has extensive experience managing natural gas procurement programs for organizations with complex operational requirements, including government agencies, healthcare systems, universities, hospitality groups, manufacturers, and multi-site commercial operations.

BlueMark Energy's services include:

- Natural gas supply procurement
- Fixed-price risk management programs

- Index-based purchasing programs
- Transportation gas management
- Usage forecasting and nomination services
- Utility coordination and account administration
- Budget forecasting and market analysis

Our team works closely with customers to develop procurement strategies that balance budget certainty and market opportunity. We provide ongoing market intelligence and regular account reviews to ensure customers remain informed of market conditions and purchasing opportunities.

References

- PTMW – Don Smith - 785-232-7792- dsmith@ptmw.com
- K1 Reality/Tallgrass Prairie Holdings – Randy Goldsmith - 785- 221-1122 - Randy.Goldsmith@K1Realtyllc.com
- Astra Mental Health & Recovery – Angie Haggard – 785-762-2162 x 223 - haggard.angie@astraks.org
- Congregational Home dba Brewster Place – Dayna Luksa – 785-274-3384 – dayna.luksa@brewsterliving.org

Additional references can be provided upon request.

Thank you for the opportunity.



Brady Sauder

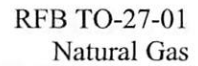
Business Development – Kansas

785.477.9839

785.565.2438 Cell



www.BlueMarkEnergy.com



Natural Gas Fixed Price Contract

Page 1

In order to be considered for contract award, your bid must be received in the Metro office by **1:00p on Thursday, August 20, 2026.** Bids received after the deadline will not be considered.

Following are the evaluation criteria, listed by degree of importance. A criterion may have multiple elements with varying degrees of importance.

Customer Service – 40%

Price – 40%

Required Items in General Instructions – 20%

The cover sheet, price quote form and the certifications on pages 7-12 are part of your bid and must be completed by all bidders. Bids that do not include the completed price quote and fully executed certifications may not be considered. The successful bidder will be required to follow the contract clauses on pages 3-6.

No advantage shall be taken by the contractor or any subcontractor in fulfilling the terms of this project due to omission of specifications by Metro.

Topeka Metro's current DBE goal is 1.68%. There is no DBE goal for this contract. If your firm is a DBE, or if you will be sub-contracting with a DBE, please attach a copy of the current DBE certificate.

Upon contract award, all proposals will be public record and posted to Metro's website. Metro recommends that proposers exclude any trade secret, proprietary or confidential information from their proposals.

Topeka Metro is a direct deposit payor. The successful bidder will be required to fill out a W-9 Form and the Topeka Metro Electronic Payment/ACH Authorization Form.

If you have any questions concerning this RFB, or if you need clarification or additional information, please contact Richard Appelhanz. Electronic submission of bids is preferred. If submitting bids on paper, please provide an original and three full copies. Bids are to be sent to:

Topeka Metropolitan Transit Authority
Attn: Richard Appelhanz
201 North Kansas Avenue
Topeka, KS 66603
785-730-8621
rappelhanz@topekametro.org

Questions must be received by Metro by **Thursday, August 13, 2026.**

The preceding specifications and the following clauses and certifications will be part of the contract.

1.0 ACCESS TO RECORDS

The Contractor agrees to provide Metro, the FTA Administrator, the Comptroller General of the United States or any of their authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers and records of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to this contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts and transcriptions. Contractor also agrees, pursuant to 49 CFR 633.15 to provide the FTA Administrator or his authorized representatives including any PMO Contractor access to Contractor's records and construction sites pertaining to a major capital project, defined at 49 USC 5302 and 49 CFR 633.5, which is receiving federal financial assistance through the programs described at 49 USC 5307, 5309 or 5311. The Contractor agrees to permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed. The Contractor agrees to maintain all books, records, accounts and reports required under this contract for a period of not less than three years after the date of termination or expiration of this contract, except in the event of litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this contract, in which case Contractor agrees to maintain same until Metro, the FTA Administrator, the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, have disposed of all such litigation, appeals, claims or exceptions related thereto. Reference 2 CFR 200.333 and 2 CFR 200.336. FTA does not require the inclusion of these requirements in subcontracts.

2.0 ASSIGNMENT AND DELEGATION

Contractor shall neither delegate any duties or obligations under this contract, nor assign, transfer, convey, sublet, subcontract or otherwise dispose of the contract or its right, duty, title or interest in or to the same, or any part thereof, without previous written consent of Metro.

3.0 CIVIL RIGHTS

- 3.1 Nondiscrimination – In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, 42 USC 2000d, Section 303 of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, 42 USC 6102, Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC 12132, and Federal transit law at 49 USC 5332, the contractor agrees that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, or disability. In addition, the contractor agrees to comply with applicable Federal implementing regulations and other implementing requirements FTA may issue.
- 3.2 Equal Employment Opportunity – The following equal employment opportunity requirements apply to the underlying contract:
 - 3.2.1 Race, Color, Creed, National Origin, Sex – In accordance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, 42 USC 2000e, and Federal transit law at 49 USC 5332, the contractor agrees to comply with all applicable equal employment opportunity requirements of US Department of Labor (USDOL) regulations, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor," 41 CFR Parts 60 et seq., and with any applicable Federal statutes, executive orders, regulations, and Federal policies that may in the future affect activities undertaken in the course of the project. The contractor agrees to take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. In addition, the contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.
 - 3.2.2 Age – In accordance with Section 4 of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, 29 USC 623 and Federal transit law at 49 USC 5332, the Contractor agrees to refrain from discrimination against present and prospective employees for reason of age. In addition, the Contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.
 - 3.2.3 Disabilities – In accordance with Section 102 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, 42 USC 12112, the Contractor agrees that it will comply with the requirements of the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, "Regulations to Implement the Equal Employment Provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act," 29 CFR Part 1630, pertaining to employment of persons with disabilities. In addition, the contractor agrees to comply with any implementing requirements FTA may issue.
- 3.3 The contractor also agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA, modified only if necessary to identify the affected parties.
- 3.4 If the contract involves federal funds, the provisions of this subsection do not apply. If the contract does not involve federal funds, and if contractor's contracts with Topeka Metro for the current fiscal year cumulatively total more than \$5,000 and the contractor has four or more employees during the term of this contract, the contractor also agrees to observe the provisions of the Kansas Act Against Discrimination and the Kansas Age Discrimination in Employment Act and shall not discriminate against any person in the performance of work under this contract because of race, religion, color, sex, disability, national origin or ancestry. In all solicitations or advertisements for employees, the contractor shall include the phrase, "equal opportunity employer," or a similar phrase to be approved by Topeka Metro. If the contractor fails to comply with the reporting or other requirements of the Kansas Human Rights Commission under K.S.A. 44-1031 or K.S.A. 44-1116, and amendments thereto, the contractor shall be deemed to have breached this contract and it may be

canceled, terminated or suspended, in whole or in part, by Topeka Metro. If contractor is found guilty of a violation of the Kansas Act Against Discrimination or the Kansas Age Discrimination in Employment Act under a decision or order of the Kansas Human Rights Commission which has become final, the contractor shall be deemed to have breached the present contract and it may be canceled, terminated or suspended, in whole or in part, by Topeka Metro. Contractor agrees to include the binding provisions of this subsection in every subcontract or purchase order so that such provisions will be binding upon such subcontractor or vendor.

4.0 COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS

Contractor shall at all times be solely responsible for complying with all applicable local, state and federal laws, ordinances and regulations in connection with the performance of this contract.

5.0 CONFIDENTIALITY

Between the date and time that proposals are due, until award of the contract by Metro, no information will be released which may have an adverse impact upon the negotiations or selection process. No information will be shared about the distinguishing characteristics or deficient characteristics of any proposal. All documents received by Metro are subject to the Kansas Open Records Act, KSA 45-215, et seq., and the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC 552.

6.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No director or employee of Topeka Metropolitan Transit Authority, during his/her tenure or within one year thereafter, shall have any interest, direct or indirect, in this contract or the proceeds thereof.

7.0 CONTRACT CHANGES

Any proposed change to this contract shall be submitted to Metro in writing for approval. No change in this contract shall be made unless Metro gives prior written approval. Contractor shall be liable for all costs, damages and/or liabilities, and for proper corrections, resulting from any specification change not properly approved in writing by Metro. Changes that have not been approved by Metro shall place Contractor in default of the contract.

8.0 DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE)

- 8.1 This contract is subject to the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26, *Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs*.
- 8.2 The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of this DOT-assisted contract. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy as Metro deems appropriate. Each subcontract the contractor signs with a subcontractor must include the assurance in this paragraph (see 49 CFR 26.13(b)).
- 8.3 The contractor is required to pay its subcontractors performing work related to this contract for satisfactory performance of that work no later than 30 days after the contractor's receipt of payment for that work from Metro.
- 8.4 The contractor may not hold retainage from its subcontractors.

9.0 DISTRACTED DRIVING, INCLUDING TEXT MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING

The CONTRACTOR agrees to implement Executive Order No. 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," October 1, 2009, 23 U.S.C. § 402 note, (74 Fed. Reg. 51225); U.S. DOT Order 3902.10, "Text Messaging While Driving," December 30, 2009; and U.S. DOT Special Provision pertaining to Distracted Driving by:

- (1) The CONTRACTOR agrees to adopt and enforce workplace safety policies to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers, including policies to ban text messaging while using an electronic device supplied by an employer, and driving a vehicle the driver owns or rents, a vehicle CONTRACTOR owns, leases, or rents, or a privately-owned vehicle when on official business in connection with this Contract or when performing any work for or on behalf of this Contract.
- (2) The CONTRACTOR agrees to conduct workplace safety initiatives in a manner commensurate with its size, such as establishing new rules and programs to prohibit text messaging while driving, re-evaluating the existing programs to prohibit text messaging while driving, and providing education, awareness, and other outreach to employees about the safety risks associated with texting while driving.
- (3) The CONTRACTOR agrees to include the preceding "Distracted Driving, Including Text Messaging While Driving" provisions in each third party agreement related to this Contract.

10.0 ENERGY CONSERVATION

The contractor agrees to comply with mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act.

11.0 EXCLUSIONARY OR DISCRIMINATORY SPECIFICATIONS

Metro will comply with the requirements of 49 USC 5323(h)(2) by refraining from using any Federal assistance awarded by FTA to support procurements using exclusionary or discriminatory specifications.

12.0 FEDERAL CHANGES

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

13.0 FEDERAL TAX LIABILITY & RECENT FELONY CONVICTIONS

The contractor certifies that it:

- a. 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; and
- b. Was not convicted of the felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months. If the contractor cannot so certify, the Recipient will refer the matter to FTA and not enter into any Third Party Agreement with the Third Party Participant without FTA's written approval.

Flow-Down. The contractor agrees to flow this requirement down to participants at all lower tiers, without regard to the value of any subagreement.

14.0 INCORPORATION OF FTA TERMS

These contract provisions include, in part, certain Standard Terms and Conditions required by USDOT, whether or not expressly set forth in the included contract provisions. All contractual provisions required by USDOT, as set forth in the current version of FTA Circular C 4220.1, are hereby incorporated by reference. Anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, all FTA mandated terms shall be deemed to control in the event of a conflict with other provisions contained in this Agreement. The contractor shall not perform any act, fail to perform any act, or refuse to comply with any Metro requests which would cause Metro to be in violation of the FTA terms and conditions.

15.0 INDEMNIFICATION

Contractor shall be responsible for and indemnify, defend and hold harmless Metro, its directors and employees from all demands, claims, suits and settlements for loss of or damages to property, or personal injuries, including death to persons, and from all judgments recovered, and from all expenses incurred in defending or settling said claims or suits, or enforcing this provision, including court costs and attorney fees and other expenses arising out of the errors, omissions or negligent acts of the Contractor, its employees, or agents in connection with the goods and/or services provided under this contract.

16.0 INSURANCE

Contractor shall maintain for the duration of the contract such insurance as will protect it and Metro from all claims, including Workers' Compensation, and will hold Metro harmless from, and indemnify Metro for, all claims and damages which may arise out of or result from the Contractor's operations under this contract, whether such operations are by Contractor, by a subcontractor, by anyone directly or indirectly employed by them, or by anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable. Contractor will submit certificates or other proof of insurance to Metro, naming Metro as an additional insured, upon notification of contract award.

17.0 INTEREST OF CONGRESS

No member of or delegate to the Congress of the United States of America shall be admitted to any share or part of this contract or to any benefit arising therefrom.

18.0 LEGAL MATTER NOTIFICATION

Contractor agrees to notify Metro if a current or prospective legal matter emerges while this contract is in effect that may affect the Federal Government. Contractor also agrees to include this requirement in all subcontracts issued pursuant to this contract.

19.0 LOBBYING

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment, 31 U.S.C. 1352, as amended by the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, P.L. 104-65 [to be codified at 2 U.S.C. § 1601, et seq.] - Contractors who apply or bid for an award of \$100,000 or more shall file the certification required by 49 CFR part 20, "New Restrictions on Lobbying." Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier shall also disclose the name of any registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 who has made lobbying contacts

on its behalf with non-Federal funds with respect to that Federal contract, grant or award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the AGENCY.

20.0 NO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OBLIGATION TO THIRD PARTIES

Metro and the contractor acknowledge and agree that, notwithstanding any concurrence by the Federal Government in or approval of the solicitation or award of this contract, absent the express written consent by the Federal Government, the Federal Government is not a party to this contract and shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities to Metro, the contractor, or any other party (whether or not a party to this contract) pertaining to any matter resulting from this contract. The contractor agrees to include the above clause in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA. It is further agreed that this clause shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to its provision.

21.0 NOTIFICATION TO FTA

If a current or prospective legal matter that may affect the Federal Government emerges, Contractor must promptly notify Metro, who will notify the FTA Chief Counsel and FTA Regional Counsel for Region 7. Contractor must include an equivalent provision in its subagreements at every tier for any agreement that is a "covered transaction" according to 2 C.F.R. §§ 180.220 and 1200.220.

A. Types of Legal Matters Requiring Notification. The types of legal matters that require notification include, but are not limited to, a major dispute, breach, default, litigation, or instances where the Federal Government was named as a party to litigation or a legal disagreement in any forum for any reason.

B. Matters Affecting the Federal Government. Matters that may affect the Federal Government include, but are not limited to, the Federal Government's interests in the Award, the Contract, and any Amendments thereto, or the Federal Government's administration or enforcement of federal laws, regulations, and requirements.

Additional Notice to U.S. DOT Inspector General. If Contractor has knowledge of potential fraud, waste, or abuse occurring on a Project receiving assistance from FTA, then Contractor must promptly notify Metro, who will notify the U.S. DOT Inspector General, in addition to the FTA Chief Counsel or Regional Counsel for Region 7. The notification provision applies if a principal, officer, employee, agent, third-party participant (including subcontractors at any tier), or any other person has or may have submitted a false claim under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, et seq., or has or may have committed a criminal or civil violation of law pertaining to such matters as fraud, conflict of interest, bid rigging, misappropriation or embezzlement, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct involving federal assistance. This responsibility occurs whether the Project is subject to this Contract or another agreement between Metro and FTA, or an agreement involving a principal, officer, employee, agent, or Third-Party Participant of Metro. It also applies to subcontractors at any tier. Knowledge, as used in this paragraph, includes, but is not limited to, knowledge of a criminal or civil investigation by a Federal, state, or local law enforcement or other investigative agency, a criminal indictment or civil complaint, or probable cause that could support a criminal indictment, or any other credible information in the possession of Contractor. In this paragraph, "promptly" means to refer information without delay and without change. This notification provision also applies to all divisions of Metro, including divisions tasked with law enforcement or investigatory functions.

22.0 PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Contractor agrees that it will, at its own expense, defend all suits and all proceedings instituted against Metro, if such suits and proceedings are based on any claim that the materials or equipment provided by Contractor, or any part thereof, or any tool, article or process used in the manufacture thereof, constitutes an infringement of any patent. Metro will give Contractor prompt notice in writing of any suit or proceeding, and will give Contractor all needed information, assistance and authority to enable Contractor, through its legal counsel, to defend the same.

23.0 PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTING FOR CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES EQUIPMENT (NOV 2021)

- (a) Definitions. As used in this clause - Backhaul means intermediate links between the core network, or backbone network, and the small subnetworks at the edge of the network (e.g., connecting cell phones/towers to the core telephone network). Backhaul can be wireless (e.g., microwave) or wired (e.g., fiber optic, coaxial cable, Ethernet). Covered foreign country means The People's Republic of China. Covered telecommunications equipment or services means - (1) Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities); (2) For the purpose of public safety, security of Government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities); (3) Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment; or (4) Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country. Critical technology means - (1) Defense articles or defense services included on the United States Munitions List set forth in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations under subchapter M of chapter I of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations; (2) Items included on the Commerce Control List set forth in Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of the Export Administration Regulations under subchapter C of chapter VII of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, and controlled - (i) Pursuant to multilateral regimes, including for reasons relating to national security, chemical and biological weapons proliferation, nuclear nonproliferation, or missile technology; or (ii) For reasons relating to regional stability or surreptitious listening; (3) Specially

designed and prepared nuclear equipment, parts and components, materials, software, and technology covered by part 810 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to assistance to foreign atomic energy activities); (4) Nuclear facilities, equipment, and material covered by part 110 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to export and import of nuclear equipment and material); (5) Select agents and toxins covered by part 331 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, part 121 of title 9 of such Code, or part 73 of title 42 of such Code; or (6) Emerging and foundational technologies controlled pursuant to section 1758 of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4817). Interconnection arrangements means arrangements governing the physical connection of two or more networks to allow the use of another's network to hand off traffic where it is ultimately delivered (e.g., connection of a customer of telephone provider A to a customer of telephone company B) or sharing data and other information resources. Reasonable inquiry means an inquiry designed to uncover any information in the entity's possession about the identity of the producer or provider of covered telecommunications equipment or services used by the entity that excludes the need to include an internal or third-party audit. Roaming means cellular communications services (e.g., voice, video, data) received from a visited network when unable to connect to the facilities of the home network either because signal coverage is too weak or because traffic is too high. Substantial or essential component means any component necessary for the proper function or performance of a piece of equipment, system, or service. (b) Prohibition. (1) Section 889(a)(1)(A) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115-232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2019, from procuring or obtaining, or extending or renewing a contract to procure or obtain, any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. The Contractor is prohibited from providing to the Government any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, unless an exception at paragraph (c) of this clause applies or the covered telecommunication equipment or services are covered by a waiver described in FAR 4.2104. (2) Section 889(a)(1)(B) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115-232) prohibits the head of an executive agency on or after August 13, 2020, from entering into a contract, or extending or renewing a contract, with an entity that uses any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, unless an exception at paragraph (c) of this clause applies or the covered telecommunication equipment or services are covered by a waiver described in FAR 4.2104. This prohibition applies to the use of covered telecommunications equipment or services, regardless of whether that use is in performance of work under a Federal contract. (c) Exceptions. This clause does not prohibit contractors from providing - (1) A service that connects to the facilities of a third-party, such as backhaul, roaming, or interconnection arrangements; or (2) Telecommunications equipment that cannot route or redirect user data traffic or permit visibility into any user data or packets that such equipment transmits or otherwise handles. (d) Reporting requirement. (1) In the event the Contractor identifies covered telecommunications equipment or services used as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, during contract performance, or the Contractor is notified of such by a subcontractor at any tier or by any other source, the Contractor shall report the information in paragraph (d)(2) of this clause to the Contracting Officer, unless elsewhere in this contract are established procedures for reporting the information; in the case of the Department of Defense, the Contractor shall report to the website at <https://dibnet.dod.mil>. For indefinite delivery contracts, the Contractor shall report to the Contracting Officer for the indefinite delivery contract and the Contracting Officer(s) for any affected order or, in the case of the Department of Defense, identify both the indefinite delivery contract and any affected orders in the report provided at <https://dibnet.dod.mil>. (2) The Contractor shall report the following information pursuant to paragraph (d)(1) of this clause: (i) Within one business day from the date of such identification or notification: The contract number; the order number(s), if applicable; supplier name; supplier unique entity identifier (if known); supplier Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code (if known); brand; model number (original equipment manufacturer number, manufacturer part number, or wholesaler number); item description; and any readily available information about mitigation actions undertaken or recommended. (ii) Within 10 business days of submitting the information in paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this clause: Any further available information about mitigation actions undertaken or recommended. In addition, the Contractor shall describe the efforts it undertook to prevent use or submission of covered telecommunications equipment or services, and any additional efforts that will be incorporated to prevent future use or submission of covered telecommunications equipment or services. (e) Subcontracts. The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (e) and excluding paragraph (b)(2), in all subcontracts and other contractual instruments, including subcontracts for the acquisition of commercial products or commercial services.

24.0 PROGRAM FRAUD AND FALSE OR FRAUDULENT STATEMENTS

- 24.1 The contractor acknowledges that the provisions of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, as amended, 31 USC 3801, et seq. and US DOT regulations, "Program Fraud Civil Remedies," 49 CFR Part 31, apply to its actions pertaining to this project. Upon execution of this contract, the contractor certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of any statement it has made, it makes, it may make, or causes to be made, pertaining to this contract or the FTA assisted project for which this contract work is being performed. In addition to other penalties that may be applicable, the contractor further acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification, the Federal Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 on the contractor to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.
- 24.2 The contractor also acknowledges that if it makes, or causes to be made, a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim, statement, submission, or certification to the Federal Government under a contract connected with a project that is financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance originally awarded by FTA under the authority of 49 USC 5307, the Government reserves the right to impose the penalties of 18 USC 1001 and 49 USC 5307 on the contractor, to the extent the Federal Government deems appropriate.
- 24.3 The contractor agrees to include the above two clauses in each subcontract financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FTA. It is further agreed that the clauses shall not be modified, except to identify the subcontractor who will be subject to the provisions.

25.0 RECYCLED PRODUCTS (SOLID WASTES)

Contractor shall provide a preference for those products and services that conserve natural resources, protect the environment, and are energy efficient by complying with and facilitating compliance with Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6962, and U.S. Environmental Protection RFA (U.S. EPA), "Comprehensive Procurement Guideline for Products Containing Recovered Materials," 40 CFR part 247. The requirements of Section 6002 include: (A) procuring only items designated in guidelines of the U.S. EPA at 40 C.F.R. part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; (B) procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and (C) establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

26.0 SEAT BELT USE

In accordance with the provisions of Executive Order No. 13043, "Increasing Seat Belt Use in the United States," April 16, 1997, 23 USC 402 note, by adopting and promoting on-the-job seat belt use policies and programs for its employees and other personnel that operate company owned or rented vehicles or personally owned vehicles, and by including a "Seat Belt Use" provision in each third-party agreement related to the project.

27.0 SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT

In accordance with 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200, the contractor is required to verify that none of its principals or affiliates: 1) is included on the federal government's suspended and debarred list; 2) is proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, voluntarily excluded or disqualified; 3) within three years preceding this proposal, has not been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for (a) commission of fraud or criminal offense pertaining to performing a public transaction, (b) violation of any federal or state antitrust statute, or (c) embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements or receiving stolen property; 4) is indicted or charged by a governmental entity for any of the charges in 3) above; and 5) has had any public transaction terminated for cause or default within three years preceding this proposal. The contractor is required to include this requirement in any subcontracts related to this contract. By signing and submitting its proposal, the proposer certifies that the certification in this clause is a material representation of fact relied upon by Metro. If it is later determined that the proposer knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to remedies available to Metro, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment. The proposer agrees to verify that none of its principals or affiliates is included on the federal government's suspended and debarred list at any time throughout the period of this contract. The proposer further agrees to include a provision requiring the same compliance in its subcontracts related to this contract.

28.0 TERMINATION

Termination for Convenience – Metro may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, at any time by written notice to the contractor when it is in the Metro's best interest. The contractor shall be paid its costs, including contract close-out costs, and profit on work performed up to the time of termination. The contractor shall promptly submit its termination claim to Metro to be paid to the contractor. If the contractor has any property in its possession belonging to Metro, the contractor will account for the same, and dispose of it in the manner Metro directs.

Termination for Default – If the contractor does not deliver supplies in accordance with the contract delivery schedule, or, if the contract is for services, the contractor fails to perform in the manner called for in the contract, or if the contractor fails to comply with any other provisions of the contract, Metro may terminate this contract for default. Termination shall be effected by serving a Notice of Termination on the contractor setting forth the manner in which the contractor is in default. The contractor will only be paid the contract price for supplies delivered and accepted, or services performed in accordance with the manner of performance set forth in the contract. If it is later determined by Metro that the contractor had an excusable reason for not performing, such as a strike, fire, or flood, events which are not the fault of or are beyond the control of the contractor, Metro, after setting up a new delivery of performance schedule, may allow the contractor to continue work, or treat the termination as a termination for convenience.

Opportunity to Cure – Metro in its sole discretion may, in the case of a termination for breach or default, allow the contractor ten (10) days in which to cure the defect. In such case, the notice of termination will state the time period in which cure is permitted and other appropriate conditions. If contractor fails to remedy to Metro's satisfaction the breach or default of any of the terms, covenants, or conditions of this contract within ten (10) days after receipt by contractor of written notice from Metro setting forth the nature of said breach or default, Metro shall have the right to terminate the contract without any further obligation to the contractor. Any such termination for default shall not in any way operate to preclude Metro from also pursuing all available remedies against contractor and its sureties for said breach or default.

Waiver of Remedies for Any Breach – In the event that Metro elects to waive its remedies for any breach by contractor of any covenant, term or condition of this contract, such waiver by Metro shall not limit Metro's remedies for any succeeding breach of that or of any other term, covenant, or condition of this contract.

Termination for Default (supplies and service contracts only) – If the contractor fails to deliver supplies or to perform the services within the time specified in this contract or any extension or if the contractor fails to comply with any other provisions of this contract, Metro may terminate this contract for default. Metro shall terminate by delivering to the contractor a Notice of Termination specifying the nature of the default. The contractor will only be paid the contract price for supplies delivered and accepted, or services performed in accordance with the manner of performance set forth in this contract. If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations, it is determined that the contractor was not in default, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of Metro.