

EXHIBIT A  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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**I. TAXES, INSURANCE, AND PERMITS**

The Contractor is responsible for all applicable Commonwealth or federal taxes and fees which may become due and owing by the Contractor by reason of this contract. The Contractor is also responsible for obtaining all insurance, licenses, permits, and certificates that may be required in order to perform this contract.

**II. LITIGATION**

If the Commonwealth, without any fault on its own part, becomes a party to any litigation by or against the Contractor in connection with this contract, the Contractor shall pay all costs and expenses incurred by the Commonwealth, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

**III. CONTRACT SUBJECT TO FUNDING**

Continued funding of this Contract beyond the present fiscal year is contingent on availability of funding in future years. In the event that such funding does not become available, the Commonwealth may terminate the contract without any further liability.

**IV. SATISFACTION OF EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY REQUIRED**

The Contractor agrees to complete the contract according to the terms of the contract and to the full satisfaction of the Expenditure Authority.

**V. REGULATIONS CONTROLLING**

This contract is void if either the procurement processes or contract execution fails to comply with the Commonwealth Procurement Regulations codified by NMIAC §§ 70-30.3-001, et seq. Any procurement action of a government official or employee in violation of said regulations is not authorized by the government and is an act for which the government will not take responsibility or be liable in any manner. The Contractor and the government Contracting Officer hereby certify that they have both read and understand said procurement regulations and have complied with all such regulations.

**VI. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR VIOLATION OF PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS**

If the contract is in violation of the procurement regulations codified by NMIAC §§ 70-30.3-001, et seq., then the Contractor may be subject to debarment or suspension from government contracting. Any person found to be violating the procurement regulations may be personally liable for any damages incurred, in addition to other penalties provided for by law or regulation.

## **VII. CONTRACT DISPUTES**

1. Any dispute arising under this contract between the Commonwealth and the Contractor shall be submitted to administrative review and appeal as provided for by the procurement regulations codified by NMIAC §§ 70-30.3-001, et seq.
2. Commonwealth law governs this contract.
3. The Commonwealth will not be held liable for interest on any judgment taken as a result of any legal action in connection with this contract.
4. The Commonwealth will not be held liable for any punitive damages as a result of any legal action in connection with this contract.
5. The Commonwealth will not be held liable for any attorneys' fees incurred by the Contractor as a result of any legal action in connection with this contract.

## **VIII. GRATUITIES**

It shall be a breach of contract for the Contractor to offer, give, or agree to give a gratuity or an offer of employment to any employee or former employee in connection with the execution of this contract.

It shall be a breach of contract for any government employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from the contractor, a gratuity, or an offer of employment in connection with the execution of this contract.

## **IX. RIGHT TO AUDIT**

The Contractor and subcontractor or grantee and sub-grantee at all levels shall provide the Public Auditor of the commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands with access to and the right to examine and copy any records, data or papers relevant to this contract or grant until three (3) years have passed since the final payment pursuant to this contract or grant.

## **X. KICKBACKS PROHIBITED**

It shall be a breach of contract for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order.

## **XI. CONTINGENT FEES**

The Contractor hereby represents that it has not retained any person to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission percentage, brokerage or contingent fee except for the retention of a bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business.

## **XII. TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT**

1. If the Contractor refuses or fails to deliver the goods or services as required or fails to deliver the goods or services within the time period specified by this contract, then the Commonwealth may terminate this contract by providing written notice of termination to the Contractor. If the Commonwealth terminates this contract for default, then the Contractor will be liable for damages. In the alternative, the Commonwealth may insist upon the performance of this contract and the payment of damages for its delay. Failure to deliver the goods or services as required and within the time limits provided by this contract may subject the Contractor to suspension, disbarment, or any other remedy provided by law.
2. The Commonwealth will not terminate the contract for failure to deliver the goods or services within the specified time if the failure is caused by an act of god, acts of the public enemy, acts of the Commonwealth, fires, floods, epidemics, or unusually severe weather.
3. The rights and remedies provided in this clause are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.

## **XIII. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE**

1. The Commonwealth may, when its interests so require, terminate this contract in whole or in part for the convenience of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth will give written notice of the termination to the Contractor if the contract is terminated for the convenience of the Commonwealth.
2. If the contract is terminated, then the Contractor will not incur any further obligation in connection with the terminated contract. The Contractor will work to terminate outstanding orders and subcontracts as they relate to the terminated contract and will settle the liabilities and claims arising out of the termination. The Contractor will limit and mitigate its damages as much as possible.
3. If the contract is terminated for convenience, then the parties may enter into a settlement regarding the payment due under this contract. Otherwise, the amounts due under the contract will be as follows, provided that the Commonwealth may not be held liable for more than the amount to be paid under this contract:
  - a) Costs incurred in preparing to perform and performing the terminated contract.
  - b) Costs of settling and paying claims arising out of termination of subcontracts.
  - c) The reasonable settlement costs of the Contractor.

## **XIV. ASSURANCES**

The Contractor, by signing the contract, affirms that this contract is in compliance with the following federal laws and regulations:

1. Equal Employment Opportunity. For all Contracts that qualify as “federally assisted construction contracts” as defined in 41 CFR Part 60–1.3, Contractor agrees to comply with E.O. 11246, “Equal Employment Opportunity,” as amended by E.O. 11375, “Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity,” and as supplemented by regulations at 41 CFR part 60, “Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor.”
2. Additional Equal Employment Opportunity Clause. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the contracting officer setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.
3. Davis Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 3141—3148). If the Contract is in excess of \$2000 and pertains to construction or repair, and further, if required by Federal program legislation, Contractor shall comply with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141—3148) and as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 5, “Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Governing Federally Financed and Assisted Construction”). Under this Act, the Contractor is required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the minimum wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, the Contractor shall be required to pay wages not less than once a week.
4. Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (40 U.S.C. 3145) – If the Order is in excess of \$2000 and pertains to construction or repair, Contractor shall comply with the Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (40 U.S.C. 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 3, “Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States”). The Act provides in part that Contractor shall be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which it is otherwise entitled.

5. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708) – If the Contract is in excess of \$100,000 and involves the employment of mechanics or laborers, Contractor shall comply with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, Contractor shall be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than 1½ times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic shall be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.
6. Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement – If the Contract is for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work, Contractor shall provide for the rights of the Federal Government and the Commonwealth in any resulting invention in accordance with 37 CFR part 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements,” and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.
7. Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401—7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251—1387), as amended – If the Contract is in excess of \$150,000 Contractor shall comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401—7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251—1387). Violations shall be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
8. Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201) – Contractor agrees to comply with all mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the state energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201).
9. Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352) – If the Contract is for \$100,000 or more, Contractor and its subcontractors shall file the certification required by this statute and associated regulations. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier shall also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the Commonwealth.

10. Debarment and Suspension (E.O.s 12549 and 12689) – Contractor represents and warrants that it is not listed on the governmentwide Excluded Parties List System in the System for Award Management (SAM) in accordance with OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement E.O.s 12549 and 12689, “Debarment and Suspension.” This list contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, and contractors declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than E.O. 12549.
11. The Contractor certifies compliance with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. In particular, the requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000.
12. If applicable, the Contractor certifies compliance with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act by procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery.
13. If the contracting agency is an EPA financial assistance agreement recipient, then the contract agrees that it shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex in the performance of this contract. The contractor further agrees that it shall carry out the applicable requirements of 40 CFR part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under EPA financial assistance agreements. 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 other legally available remedies. The contractor understands that it bears the final responsibility for determining whether the contracting agency is an EPA financial assistance agreement recipient.

**END OF DOCUMENT**