STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Invitation for Bid #: 19-IFB-015121-DAD

Regional Prepositioned Debris Monitoring
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1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The North Carolina Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management (NCEM) is soliciting Bids to acquire the services of a qualified Vendor(s) to enter into pre-event contracts with activating entities at no immediate or annual cost to NCEM for the following services: Vendors shall provide disaster recovery services in the way of debris monitoring services resulting from a natural or manmade disaster in order to eliminate immediate threats to public health and safety and assist in community disaster recovery. This is a multi-jurisdiction solicitation; however, each Activating Entity will contract directly with the awarded Vendor entirely in the Activating Entity’s sole discretion.

This Invitation for Bid, hereafter, IFB, is designed to solicit Bids from qualified Vendors for thirteen regional contracts to be awarded based on geographic regions as described below. Each region has its own unique geographic challenges and all Vendors are encouraged to research, prior to bid submission, the areas described below, and evaluate their ability to respond to the unique needs of each region. Vendors are also encouraged to review the debris quantity forecasts in ATTACHMENT I.

Region 1 – Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Pasquotank and Perquimans Counties
Region 2 – Beaufort, Bertie, Hyde, Martin, Pitt, Tyrell and Washington Counties
Region 3 – Carteret, Craven, Greene, Lenoir, Pamlico and Wayne Counties
Region 4 – Cumberland, Duplin, Jones, Onslow, Pender and Sampson Counties
Region 5 – Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Hoke, New Hanover and Robeson Counties
Region 6 – Franklin, Granville, Halifax, Northampton, Person, Vance and Warren Counties
Region 7 – Edgecombe, Harnett, Johnston, Nash, Wake and Wilson Counties
Region 8 – Anson, Chatham, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond and Scotland Counties
Region 9 – Caswell, Davie, Forsyth, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin Counties
Region 10 – Alamance, Davidson, Durham, Guilford, Orange and Randolph Counties
Region 11 – Cabarrus, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly and Union Counties
Region 12 – Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, McDowell, Mitchell, Watauga, Rutherford, Wilkes and Yancey Counties
Region 13 – Buncombe, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, Polk, Swain and Transylvania Counties

Entities that are eligible to activate a debris monitoring services contract awarded by the activating entity pursuant to this IFB include eligible entities as outlined in 44 CFR 206.221(e) and may include the following: counties, incorporated municipalities, public school systems, community colleges, other units of government located within a geographic region, and state agencies such as the NC Department of Transportation, constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina, and other state agencies with the legal responsibility for management of state-owned property, and as indicated below, including but not limited to local roads, rights of ways, federal aid highways, state roads, government maintained...
public property, and/or drainage easements, within a geographic region. Entities activating a debris monitoring services contract are referred to in this IFB as “Activating Entities.”

Pursuant to NCGS 166A-19.12(13), NCEM has the power as delegated by the Governor and the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety for the “Administration of federal and State grant funds provided for emergency management purposes, including those funds provided for planning and preparedness activities by emergency management agencies.” FEMA provides disaster assistance for debris removal under the Stafford Act at 42 U.S.C. 5173, 5189f, and 5170b. As the Recipient, the Public Assistance Section of NCEM “receives funding under the disaster declaration and disburses funding to approved subrecipients.” Pursuant to 44 C.F.R §206.222, Applicants for Public Assistance include:

(a) State and local governments.
(b) Private non-profit organizations or institutions which own or operate a private nonprofit facility as defined in § 206.221(e).
(c) Indian tribes or authorized tribal organizations and Alaska Native villages or organizations, but not Alaska Native Corporations, the ownership of which is vested in private individuals.

Bids shall be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of this IFB and any addenda issued hereto.

2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

Quantities referenced in this document represent the best available estimates of the State’s requirements. Each disaster is unique. Therefore, nothing in this document shall be construed to prevent the State, when necessary, from soliciting bids to acquire additional debris removal services, nor shall it be construed to require the State to purchase services beyond its actual requirements.

This is a multi-vendor awarded contract to ensure the needs of the Activating Entity are met; however, no quantities are guaranteed.

2.1 INVITATION FOR BID DOCUMENT

The IFB is comprised of the base IFB document, any attachments, and any addenda released before Contract award. All attachments and addenda released for this IFB in advance of any Contract award are incorporated herein by reference.

2.2 RESERVED E-PROCUREMENT SOLICITATION

ATTENTION: This is NOT an E-Procurement solicitation. Paragraph #16 of Attachment C: North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions, paragraphs (b) and (c), do not apply to this solicitation.

2.3 NOTICE TO VENDORS REGARDING IFB TERMS AND CONDITIONS

It shall be the Vendor’s responsibility to read the Instructions, the IFB’s terms and conditions, all relevant exhibits and attachments, and any other components made a part of this IFB and comply with all requirements and specifications herein. Vendors also are responsible for obtaining and complying with all Addenda and other changes that may be issued in connection with this IFB.

If Vendors have questions, issues, or exceptions regarding any term, condition, or other component within this IFB, those must be submitted as questions in accordance with the instructions in Section 2.5 BID QUESTIONS. If the State determines that any changes will be made as a result of the questions asked, then such decisions will be communicated in the form of an IFB addendum. The State may also elect to leave open the possibility for later negotiation and amendment of specific provisions of the Contract that have been addressed during the question and answer period. Other than through this process, the State rejects and will not be required to evaluate or consider any additional or modified terms and conditions submitted with Vendor’s Bid. This applies to any language appearing in or attached to
the document as part of the Vendor’s Bid that purports to vary any terms and conditions or Vendors’ instructions herein or to render the Bid non-binding or subject to further negotiation. *Vendor’s Bid shall constitute a firm offer.*

By execution and delivery of this IFB Response, the Vendor agrees that any additional or modified terms and conditions, whether submitted purposely or inadvertently, shall have no force or effect, and will be disregarded. Noncompliance with, or any attempt to alter or delete, this paragraph shall constitute sufficient grounds to reject Vendor’s Bid as nonresponsive.

Any bid that contains language that indicates the bid is non-binding or subject to further negotiation before a contractual document may be signed shall be rejected.

### 2.4 IFB SCHEDULE

The table below shows the *intended* schedule for this IFB. The State will make every effort to adhere to this schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issue IFB</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>July 10, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary (highly encouraged) Pre-bid Meeting (virtual)</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>July 21, 2020 at 2:00 PM ET via WebEx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit Written Questions</td>
<td>Vendor</td>
<td>July 24, 2020 by 2:00 PM ET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide Response to Questions</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>July 28, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit Bids</td>
<td>Vendor</td>
<td>August 10, 2020 by 2:00 PM ET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Award</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>As soon as possible after evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Effective Date</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Immediately upon contract execution</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2.5 BID QUESTIONS

Upon review of the IFB documents, Vendors may have questions to clarify or interpret the IFB in order to submit the best Bid possible. To accommodate the Bid Questions process, Vendors shall submit any such questions by the above due date.

Written questions shall be emailed to angie.dunaway@ncdps.gov by the date and time specified above. Vendors should enter “19-IFB-015121-DAD Questions” as the subject for the email. Questions submittals should include a reference to the applicable IFB section and be submitted in a format shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Vendor Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IFB Section, Page Number</td>
<td>Vendor question …?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Questions received prior to the submission deadline date and time, the State’s response, and any additional terms deemed necessary by the State will be posted in the form of an addendum to the Interactive Purchasing System (IPS), [http://www.ips.state.nc.us](http://www.ips.state.nc.us), and shall become an Addendum to this IFB. No information, instruction or advice provided orally or informally by any State personnel, whether made in response to a question or otherwise in connection with this IFB, shall be considered authoritative or binding. Vendors shall rely only on written material contained in an Addendum to this IFB.

### 2.6 BID SUBMITTAL

**IMPORTANT NOTE: This is an absolute requirement.** Vendor shall bear the risk for late submission due to unintended or unanticipated delay – whether delivered by hand, U.S. Postal Service, courier or other delivery service. It is the Vendor’s sole responsibility to ensure its Bid has been submitted to this Office by the specified time and date of opening. The time and date of submission will be marked on each Bid when received. Any Bid submitted after the Bid deadline will be rejected.
Attempts to submit a Bid via facsimile (FAX) machine, telephone or email in response to this IFB shall NOT be accepted.

a) Submit one (1) signed, original Bid response, two (2) un-redacted copies, one (1) redacted copy and one (1) electronic version on a flash drive. The electronic (flash drive) version shall be an exact replica of the hardcopy and shall contain two (2) files – un-redacted version and, if required, redacted (Proprietary and Confidential Information Excluded; and, Federal ID number removed). All shall be submitted simultaneously with the Bid response to the address identified in the table above.

Electronic file(s) shall NOT be password-protected but, shall be in .PDF or .XLS format, and shall be capable of being copied to other sources.

b) Submit your Bid in a sealed package. Clearly mark the outside of the package with: (1) Vendor name; (2) the IFB number; and (3) the due date. Address the package(s) for delivery as shown in the table above. If Vendor is submitting more than one (1) Bid, each Bid shall be submitted in separate sealed envelope and marked accordingly. For delivery purposes, separate sealed envelopes from a single Vendor may be included in the same outer package. Bids may be subject to rejection unless submitted with the information above included on the outside of the sealed Bid package.

Critical updated information may be included in Addenda to this IFB. It is important that all Vendors proposing on this IFB periodically check the State’s IPS website for any Addenda that may be issued prior to the bid opening date. All Vendors shall be deemed to have read and understood all information in this IFB and all Addenda thereto.

Contact with anyone working for or with the State regarding this IFB other than the State Contract Lead named on the face page of this IFB in the manner specified by this IFB shall constitute grounds for rejection of said Vendor’s offer, at the State’s election.

Public Bid Opening. All bids will be opened in public at the following location: DPS Purchasing and Logistics, 3030 Hammond Business Place, Raleigh, NC 27603.

2.7 BID CONTENTS

Vendors shall populate all attachments of this IFB that require the Vendor to provide information and include an authorized signature where requested. Failure to provide all information requested in this IFB consistent with all IFB instructions may constitute grounds for rejection of the Bid. Vendor IFB responses shall include the following items and those attachments shall be arranged in the following order:

a) **SECTION 1**: Completed and signed pages requiring information and/or execution.
- **FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION**, IFB page 2
- **EXECUTION PAGE**, IFB page 3
- Any **ADDENDA** released in conjunction with this IFB (if required to be returned)
• REFERENCES (ref § 4.6)
• PROOF OF INSURANCE (ref § 5.11)
• PROOF OF ABILITY TO SECURE PAYMENT & PERFORMANCE BOND (ref § 5.12)
• PROJECT MANAGER/TRANSMITTING NOTICE TO PROCEED (ref § 6.1)
• ATTACHMENT D: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR
• ATTACHMENT E: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
• ATTACHMENT F: HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS INFORMATION
• ATTACHMENT H: CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

b) **SECTION 2**: Download, complete and print the Excel PRICE file. The link to the price file is located in Attachment A – Pricing. The "PRICE" file on the flash drive shall be in .XLS format and shall be an exact replica of the printed information that appears in Section 2 of the submitted hardcopy.

c) **SECTION 3**: Entire body of the IFB (including signature on all attachments where requested).

d) **SECTION 4**: Detailed response for the following items. Vendors are requested to keep responses straightforward and to the point and should not include generic marketing materials. Responses will be reviewed as part of the evaluation process.

1. **Corporate Background and Experience**
   This section shall include background information on the organization and should give details of experience with similar projects, (ref § 4.5).

2. **Outsourcing**
   Detail the manner in which the Vendor intends to utilize resources or workers located outside of the United States, (ref § 3.5 and Attachment D).

3. **Project Organization**
   This section must include the proposed staffing, deployment and organization of personnel to be assigned to this project. Including information verifying their qualifications and experience.

4. **Technical Approach**
   This section shall include, in narrative, outline, and/or graph form, the Vendor's approach to accomplishing the tasks outlined in the Scope of Work (ref § 5) of this IFB, including the training plan for staff assigned to this project.

2.8 **DEFINITIONS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS**

a) **ACTIVATING ENTITY**: Eligible Applicants for FEMA PA Assistance to activate the IFB, enter into the contract with the Vendor for debris removal services, and issue the Notice to Proceed.

b) **ACTIVATING ENTITY CONTACT**: Representative of the Activating Entity who corresponds with Vendors that contract with the Activating Entity and that administers the contract for the Subrecipient Activating Entity.

c) **BAFO**: Best and Final Offer, submitted by a Vendor to alter its initial offer, made in response to a request by the issuing agency.

d) **BUYER**: The employee of the State or Other Eligible Entity that places an order with the Vendor.

e) **CONTRACT LEAD**: Representative of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety who corresponds with potential Vendors and activating entities concerning the debris removal project.

f) **DEBRIS MONITORING SERVICES CONTRACTOR**: The Vendor activated by the Activating Entity as the Activating Entity’s contractor for Debris Monitoring services.

g) **DPS**: Department of Public Safety

h) **ELIGIBLE DEBRIS**: All disaster-related debris located on local roads, rights of ways, federal aid highways, state
roads, government maintained public property, and/or drainage easements.

i) **E-PROCUREMENT SERVICE(S):** The program, system, and associated Services through which the State conducts electronic procurement.

j) **ET:** Eastern Time

k) **FEMA:** Federal Emergency Management Agency

l) **FHWA:** Federal Highway Administration

m) **IFB:** Invitation for Bid

n) **JFHQ:** North Carolina Division of Emergency Management, Joint Force Headquarters

o) **NC DEQ:** North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

p) **NCEM:** North Carolina Emergency Management

q) **PDAT:** FEMA Procurement Disaster Assistance Team

r) **PRINCIPLE PLACE OF BUSINESS:** That principle place from which the overall trade or business of the Vendor is directed or managed.

s) **OPENING DATE:** Responses will only be accepted up until the specified time and date listed in the IFB and then publicly opened. NO responses will be accepted after that time and date.

t) **QUALIFIED BID:** A responsive Bid submitted by a responsible Vendor.

u) **PPDR:** Private Property Debris Removal

v) **PREPOSITIONED:** A contract established prior to a disaster that can be enacted as needed.

w) **REDACTED:** Copy of the Vendors bid response excluding any proprietary information identified as confidential and proprietary in accordance with Attachment B, Paragraph 14 of the Instructions to Vendors; including the removal of the Vendors federal identification number.

x) **SERVICES or SERVICE DELIVERABLES:** The tasks and duties undertaken by the Vendor to fulfill the requirements and specifications of this solicitation.

y) **SHALL or MUST:** Denotes that which is a mandatory requirement. Failure to meet a mandatory requirement will result in the rejection of the bid.

z) **SHOULD:** Denotes that which is recommended, not mandatory.

aa) **STATE:** The State of North Carolina, including any of its sub-units recognized under North Carolina law.

bb) **STATE AGENCY:** Any of the more than 400 sub-units within the executive branch of the State, including its departments, boards, commissions, institutions of higher education and other institutions.

c) **USACE:** U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

d) **UN-REDACTED:** Copy of the Vendors bid response unedited including all confidential and/or proprietary information.

e) **VENDORS:** Supplier, Vendor, proposer, company, firm, corporation, partnership, individual or other entity submitting a response to an Invitation for Bid.

### 3.0 METHOD OF AWARD AND BID EVALUATION PROCESS

#### 3.1 METHOD OF AWARD

Contracts will be awarded in accordance with G.S. 143-52 and the evaluation criteria set out in this solicitation. Prospective Vendors shall not be discriminated against on the basis of any prohibited grounds as defined by Federal and State law. Activating entities shall enter into separate contracts with Vendors by issuing a Notice to Proceed which incorporates by reference all pricing, terms, and conditions of the contract awarded by NCEM pursuant to this IFB.

All qualified bids will be evaluated and award or awards will be made based on the qualified bid(s) offering the lowest price that meet the requirements set out herein.

While the intent of this IFB is to award a Contract(s) to Vendor(s) for all line items per Geographic Region, the State reserves the right to make separate awards to different Vendors for one or more line items, to not award any portion of...
the Services or to cancel this IFB in its entirety without awarding a contract, if it is considered to be most advantageous to the State to do so. It is the State and the Activating Entity's intention to have primary, secondary, and tertiary Vendors available to appropriately respond to the magnitude of the event. Vendors may be awarded more than one region, but consideration will be paid toward capacity to ensure activation by all eligible areas would not overwhelm the Vendors resources and detrimentally effect North Carolina's recovery. Vendors cannot be awarded the monitoring contract (this IFB) and the hauling contract (a separately issued IFB) for the same geographic region as described in Section 1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND.

The status of a Vendor's E-Procurement Services account(s) shall be considered a relevant factor in determining whether to approve the award of a contract under this IFB. Any Vendor with an E-Procurement Services account that is in arrears by 91 days or more at the time of bid opening may, at the State's discretion, be disqualified from further evaluation or consideration.

The State reserves the right to waive any minor informality or technicality in bids received.

Pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.323, NCEM has conducted an independent cost analysis in conjunction with this procurement. Issuance of the Notice to Proceed constitutes Activating Entity's approval of the Method of Award as outlined herein.

3.2 CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS

From the issuance date of this IFB through the date the contract is awarded, each Vendor submitting a Bid (including its representatives, sub-Vendors and/or suppliers) is prohibited from having any communications with any person inside or outside the using agency, issuing agency, other government agency office, or body (including the purchaser named above, department secretary, agency head, members of the general assembly and/or governor’s office), or private entity, if the communication refers to the content of Vendor’s Bid or qualifications, the contents of another Vendor’s Bid, another Vendor’s qualifications or ability to perform the contract, and/or the transmittal of any other communication of information that could be reasonably considered to have the effect of directly or indirectly influencing the evaluation of Bids and/or the award of the contract. A Vendor not in compliance with this provision shall be disqualified from contract award, unless it is determined in the State’s discretion that the communication was harmless, that it was made without intent to influence and that the best interest of the State would not be served by the disqualification. A Vendor’s Bid may be disqualified if its sub-Vendor and supplier engage in any of the foregoing communications during the time that the procurement is active (i.e., the issuance date of the procurement to the date of contract award). Only those discussions, communications or transmittals of information authorized or initiated by the issuing agency for this IFB or general inquiries directed to the purchaser regarding requirements of the IFB (prior to Bid submission) or the status of the contract award (after submission) are excepted from this provision.

3.3 BID EVALUATION PROCESS

The State shall review all Vendor responses to this IFB to confirm that they meet the specifications and requirements of the IFB.

Issuance of the Notice to Proceed constitutes Activating Entity’s approval of the Bid Evaluation Process as outlined herein.

The State will conduct a One-Step evaluation of Bids:

a) Bids will be received from each responsive Vendor according to the method of submission specified in Section 2.6 of this IFB.

b) All Bids must be received by the issuing agency not later than the date and time specified on the cover sheet of this IFB.

c) At that date and time, the Bid from each responding Vendor will be opened publicly and the name of the Vendor will be announced.

d) At their option, the evaluators may request oral presentations or discussions with any or all Vendors for clarification or to amplify the materials presented in any part of the Bid. Vendors are cautioned, however, that the evaluators...
are not required to request presentations or other clarification—and often do not. Therefore, all Bids should be complete and reflect the most favorable terms available from the Vendor.

e) Bids will generally be evaluated to ensure completeness, content, and experience with similar projects, ability of the Vendor and its staff, and cost. Specific evaluation criteria are listed in 3.4 EVALUATION CRITERIA, below. Contracts will be awarded on a low-cost per Geographic Region basis; with the intent to have a primary, secondary, and tertiary Vendor to appropriately respond to the magnitude of the event.

f) Vendors are cautioned that this is a request for offers, not an offer or request to contract, and the State reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all offers at any time if such rejection is deemed to be in the best interest of the State.

g) The State reserves the right to reject all original offers and request one or more of the Vendors submitting Bids to submit best and final offers (BAFOs), prepared in collaboration with the State after the initial responses to the IFB have been evaluated.

h) The State reserves the right to reject all original offers and request one or more of the Vendors submitting Bids within a competitive range to submit a best and final offer (BAFO), based on discussions and negotiations with the State, if the initial responses to the IFB have been evaluated.

i) Upon completion of the evaluation process, the State will make Award(s) based on the evaluation and post the award(s) to IPS under the IFB number for this solicitation. Award of a Contract to one Vendor does not mean that the other Bids lacked merit, but that the selected Vendors met the standard of responsive and responsible at a lower overall cost.

3.4 EVALUATION CRITERIA

All qualified Bids will be evaluated and award made based on whether or not the requirements listed in this IFB have been met. If all requirements have been met then the remaining Vendors will be awarded solely on a low-cost basis. Minimum requirements include, but are not limited to, completion of Attachments A, D, E, F, H and J. If additional pages are necessary to fully answer questions presented in the listed attachments, please clearly label those answers.

Vendor should have sufficient cash flow and/or available financing from a financial institution to perform the proposed contract for 60 days without receiving payment from the Activating Entity. The evaluators may randomly select any of Vendor’s references, but the evaluators reserve the right to contact all the references listed. The failure of the Vendor to list all similar contracts within the past three (3) years may result in the rejection of the Vendor’s Bid. Vendors shall disclose any instances in which prior contracts were denied FEMA reimbursement due in part or in whole to the Vendor’s noncompliance. The evaluators may check all public sources to determine whether Vendor has listed all contracts for similar work within the past three (3) years. If the evaluators determine that references for other public contracts for similar contracts were not listed, the evaluators may contact the public entities to make inquiry into Vendor’s performance of those contracts. Award of a contract to one Vendor does not mean that the other Bids lacked merit.

3.5 PERFORMANCE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Vendor shall complete ATTACHMENT D: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR. In addition to any other evaluation criteria identified in this IFB, the State may also consider, for purposes of evaluating proposed or actual contract performance outside of the United States, how that performance may affect the following factors to ensure that any award will be in the best interest of the State:

a) Total cost to the Activating Entity
b) Level of quality provided by the Vendor
c) Process and performance capability across multiple jurisdictions
d) Protection of the State and Activating Entity’s information and intellectual property
e) Availability of pertinent skills
f) Ability to understand the State and Activating Entity’s business requirements and internal operational culture
g) Particular risk factors such as the security of the State and Activating Entity’s information technology
h) Relations with citizens and employees
i) Contract enforcement jurisdictional issues

3.6 INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND PHRASES
This Invitation for Bid serves two functions: (1) to advise potential Vendors of the parameters of the solution being sought by the Department and the Activating Entity; and (2) to provide (together with other specified documents) the terms of the Contract resulting from this procurement. As such, all terms in the Invitation for Bid shall be enforceable as contract terms in accordance with the General Contract Terms and Conditions. All provisions of the North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions (ATTACHMENT C) and Required Elements for Utilization of Federal Funds (ATTACHMENT G) shall apply to and be incorporated by reference into a Notice to Proceed issued by an Activating Entity. References to “NCEM,” “State,” or “State of North Carolina” in the North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions and Required Elements for Utilization of Federal Funds shall also mean the Activating Entity which has issued a Notice to Proceed to Vendor(s). Vendor(s) shall be bound to the Activating Entity by all provisions in the North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions and Required Elements for Utilization of Federal Funds to the same extent as Vendor(s) are bound to the State under a contract awarded pursuant to this IFB. The use of phrases such as “shall,” “must,” and “requirements” are intended to create enforceable contract conditions. In determining whether Bids should be evaluated or rejected, the Department will take into consideration the degree to which Vendors have proposed or failed to propose solutions that will satisfy the Activating Entity’s needs as described in the Invitation for Bid. Except as specifically stated in the Invitation for Bid, no one requirement shall automatically disqualify a Vendor from consideration. However, failure to comply with any single requirement may result in the Department exercising its discretion to reject a Bid in its entirety.

4.0 REQUIREMENTS
This Section lists the requirements related to this IFB. By submitting a Bid, the Vendor agrees to meet all stated requirements in this Section as well as any other specifications, requirements and terms and conditions stated in this IFB. If a Vendor is unclear about a requirement or specification or believes a change to a requirement would allow for the State to receive a better Bid, the Vendor is urged and cautioned to submit these items in the form of a question during the question and answer period in accordance with Section 2.5.

4.1 CONTRACT TERM
The Contract shall have an initial term of three (3) years, beginning on the date of contract award (the “Effective Date”). This Agreement may be extended, upon agreement, for two (2) additional one (1) year periods.

4.2 PRICING
Bid price shall constitute the total cost to Activating Entity to complete performance in accordance with the requirements and specifications herein, including all applicable charges, handling, administrative and other similar fees. Vendor shall not invoice for any amounts not specifically allowed for in this IFB. Complete ATTACHMENT A: FEE SCHEDULE and include the Fee Schedule in your Bid.

4.3 INVOICES
The Vendor must submit any and all invoices directly to the Activating Entity in accordance with Section 5.

4.4 FINANCIAL STABILITY
Each Vendor shall certify it is financially stable by completing the ATTACHMENT E: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION. The State is requiring this certification to minimize potential issues from contracting with a Vendor that is financially unstable or lacks the financial resources to fully perform the services required under the contract(s). From the date of the Certification to the expiration of the Contract, the Vendor shall notify the State and the Activating Entity within thirty (30) days of any occurrence or condition that materially alters the truth of any statement made in this Certification.
4.5 VENDOR EXPERIENCE

In its Bid, Vendor shall demonstrate experience with public and/or private sector clients with similar or greater size and complexity to the State of North Carolina. Vendor shall provide information as to the qualifications and experience of all executive, managerial, legal, and professional personnel to be assigned to this project, including resumes citing experience with similar projects and the responsibilities to be assigned to each person.

Vendor shall provide any FEMA courses/certifications or formally documented work-related experience relative to performing the duties referenced in Section 5.0 (SCOPE OF WORK).

4.6 REFERENCES

Vendors shall provide at least three (3) references for which your company has provided Services of similar size and scope to that proposed herein. The State may contact these users to determine the Services provided are substantially similar in scope to those proposed herein and Vendor’s performance has been satisfactory. The information obtained may be considered in the evaluation of the Bid.

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4.7 BACKGROUND CHECKS

Any personnel or agent of the Vendor performing Services under any contract arising from this IFB may be required to undergo a background check at the expense of the Vendor, if so requested by the State or the Activating Entity.

4.8 PERSONNEL

Vendor shall not substitute key personnel assigned to the performance of this Contract without prior written approval by the Contract Lead or the Activating Entity contact. Vendor shall notify the Contract Lead or the Activating Entity of any desired substitution, including the name(s) and references of Vendor’s recommended substitute personnel. The State or Activating Entity will approve or disapprove the requested substitution in a timely manner. The State or the Activating Entity may, in its sole discretion, terminate the services of any person providing services under this Contract. Upon such termination, the State or Activating Entity may request acceptable substitute personnel or terminate the contract services provided by such personnel.

4.9 VENDOR’S REPRESENTATIONS

a) Vendor warrants that qualified personnel shall provide Services under this Contract in a professional manner. “Professional manner” means that the personnel performing the Services will possess the skill and competence consistent with the prevailing business standards in the industry. Vendor agrees that it will not enter any agreement with a third party that may abridge any rights of the State or Activating Entity under this Contract. Vendor will serve as the prime Vendor under this Contract and shall be responsible for the performance and payment of all subcontractor(s) that may be approved by the State and Activating Entity. Names of any third-party Vendors or subcontractors of Vendor may appear for purposes of convenience in Contract documents; and shall not limit Vendor’s obligations hereunder. Vendor will retain executive representation for functional and technical expertise as needed in order to incorporate any work by third party subcontractor(s).
b) If any Services, deliverables, functions, or responsibilities not specifically described in this Contract are required for Vendor’s proper performance, provision and delivery of the service and deliverables under this Contract, or are an inherent part of or necessary sub-task included within such service, they will be deemed to be implied by and included within the scope of the contract to the same extent and in the same manner as if specifically described in the contract. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, Vendor will furnish all of its own necessary management, supervision, labor, facilities, furniture, computer and telecommunications equipment, software, supplies and materials, vehicles, and all other equipment necessary for the Vendor to provide and deliver the Services.

c) Vendor warrants that it has the financial capacity to perform and to continue perform its obligations under the contract; that Vendor has no constructive or actual knowledge of an actual or potential legal proceeding being brought against Vendor that could materially adversely affect performance of this Contract; and that entering into this Contract is not prohibited by any contract, or order by any court of competent jurisdiction.

5.0 SCOPE OF WORK

Pursuant to NCGS 166A-19.12, NCEM has the power as delegated by the Governor and the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety for the “Administration of federal and State grant funds provided for emergency management purposes, including those funds provided for planning and preparedness activities by emergency management agencies.” FEMA provides disaster assistance for debris removal under the Stafford Act at 42 U.S.C. 5173, 5189f, and 5170b and at 44 CFR Part 206, including but may not be limited to, 44 CFR 206.224. Under the FEMA PA Program, the “Recipient” is the grant administrator for the funds. The “Recipient” is a non-Federal entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients.” 2 CFR 200.86, 44 CFR 206.202, and the FEMA PA Program and Policy Guide June 1, 2020. As the Recipient, the Public Assistance Section of NCEM “receives funding under the disaster declaration and disburses funding to approved subrecipients.” FEMA PA Program Overview. Subrecipients are “the government or other legal entity to which a subgrant is awarded and which is accountable to the recipient for the use of the funds provided.” 44 CFR 206.201. The Subrecipient is the non-Federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.” 2 CFR 200.93 and the FEMA PA Program and Policy Guide June 1, 2020. Under this IFB, NCEM is a Recipient. The Activating Entity is a Subrecipient. The Vendor is a contractor of the Activating Entity Subrecipient under this IFB.

NCEM is taking measures to ensure our communities are abundantly prepared to respond in the event of a natural or manmade disaster, or other potential events. Activation of the contract by the Activating Entity is strictly voluntary. No entity is required to purchase goods and services available under a contract awarded pursuant to this IFB; the intention is to allow entities the best available services at the best available price.

The extent and severity of the natural disasters to affect North Carolina have shown the need to have pre-positioned debris removal monitoring services contracts available for local governments and State Agencies to activate as necessary. Therefore, NCEM has developed this IFB for the Activating Entity to activate and award contracts for these services in the thirteen separate geographical regions around the state as identified in Section 1.0 of this IFB. The primary purposes of this bid offering for regional debris removal monitoring services are to provide a system for monitoring the removal of debris in the event of a disaster that ensures that:

1. All debris removal performed within a local government in the region is done properly and expeditiously;
2. All debris removal activities are eligible for reimbursement, where reimbursement is available; and
3. All debris removal activities are conducted in compliance with State, NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA guidelines and all applicable federal, state and local law and regulations.

While it is anticipated that these monitoring services will most frequently be utilized in the event of a federal or state-declared emergency or disaster, the availability of these services shall also apply for non-declared disaster events. If
the event is a non-declared disaster event, the cost of services provided during a non-declared disaster event may not receive reimbursement under the FEMA or State PA Program. Additionally, services may be performed within a municipality or in unincorporated areas at the direction of an Activating Entity.

It is a requirement of this bid offering that the successful Vendor be able to provide the services set out in these bid specifications in full compliance with all State, NCEM, FEMA, FHWA guidelines and regulations and all federal, state, and local law and regulations applicable at the time work is performed to ensure reimbursement under the FEMA Public Assistance Program or from another federal funding source, if reimbursement is available. Any conflict with the language included in these specifications shall be construed to comply with State, NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA requirements, including but not limited, the requirements promulgated under Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, and 44 CFR Part 206.

The monitoring services contractor (hereinafter referred to as “monitoring services contractor”) or debris monitoring services contractor will work closely throughout the project with Activating Entity personnel. The Activating Entity and the debris monitoring services contractor/ monitoring services contractor will provide the names, contact information, and program areas of appropriate local and debris monitoring services contractor personnel.

5.1 SERVICES ACTIVATION PROCEDURES

Any Activating Entity shall be authorized under the terms of the contract between the Activating Entity’s awarding authority and the successful Vendor (hereinafter sometimes referred to as “debris monitoring services contractor” or “contractor”) to activate the contract in the event of a disaster within its jurisdiction warranting the need for debris removal and/or disposal activities. No entity shall be required to activate the services of the debris monitoring services contractor. However, in the event an entity desires to utilize the services of the debris monitoring services contractor, the entity will forward to the Vendor a written Notice to Proceed on a form prepared for that purpose.

The debris monitoring services contractor will be required to respond to the Notice to Proceed within 24 hours of its receipt and to activate its forces as soon as weather and safety conditions allows as directed by the Activating Entity.

Once activated, the debris monitoring services contractor shall provide the services set out in this IFB to the extent necessary to meet the needs of the entity.

The debris monitoring services contractor must be able to provide the minimum services included in these bid specifications upon activation and must be prepared to place project personnel, including a project manager, in the region requested by the Activating Entity within 24 hours of receipt of the written Notice to Proceed. Each Vendor shall include with his or her Bid Submittal Form complete and adequate contact information for transmitting the Notice to Proceed to the debris monitoring services Vendor. Project communication contacts for the Activating Entity shall be detailed in the Notice to Proceed delivered by the Activating Entity. The debris monitoring services Vendor shall be responsible for coordinating with these designated representatives to ensure compliance with the 24-hour mobilization requirement is met.

Upon activation, Vendor shall perform or participate in the Activating Entity’s initial debris quantity estimating. Vendor shall use debris quantity estimates to create a work plan and establish a not-to-exceed contract price for performance of all debris removal activities required under the Notice to Proceed. A not-to-exceed contract price is required by 2 C.F.R. 200.318(j)(1). The not-to-exceed contract price shall be based on initial debris quantity estimates multiplied by the applicable pricing in Vendor’s Contract awarded by NCEM. The not-to-exceed contract price shall be provided to the Activating Entity along with the work plan within 7 days of receipt of the Notice to Proceed.

All activities conducted for the Activating Entity shall be performed during daylight hours. The Vendor may work seven days per week, including holidays. However, the Activating Entity may suspend all operations due to inclement weather.
5.2 TRAINING REQUIREMENT

The debris monitoring services vendor shall provide all employees and contract labor, including the project manager, with adequate training concerning safety, eligibility for reimbursement, if reimbursement is available, and disaster specific information. All training shall meet State, NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA requirements, and where possible or required by State, NCEM, FEMA, or FHWA rules or regulations, shall involve personnel from either or all of these agencies. Proof of training shall be provided to the Activating Entity when responding to a Notice to Proceed. The Vendor must demonstrate in his or her bid documents that all workers will be adequately trained prior to performing any work on the project.

5.3 SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Vendor must demonstrate in its bid documents that the debris monitoring services it shall be capable of performing includes each of the following services in compliance with all State, NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA guidelines and regulations and applicable federal, state and local law and regulations to any of the entities in the region for which the contract is awarded. As there may be a need for simultaneous performance of services of the contract in more than one jurisdiction in the region at the same time, the successful Vendor must demonstrate the ability to provide each of these services simultaneously on a regional basis. The scope of services as described below shall be considered minimum standards to meet in submitting bids and/or providing services in the event the Vendor is awarded the regional debris monitoring services contract under this IFB.

Vendor shall demonstrate that it is experienced and knowledgeable in handling and executing disaster debris removal in compliance and consistent with the policies, publications, guidelines and regulations of the State, NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA and all applicable federal, State and local laws and regulations in effect at the time of the work being performed. Throughout these bid specifications, any reference to FEMA shall also mean FHWA compliance when the circumstances dictate, such as when sites eligible for emergency relief work are involved. The debris monitoring services contractor shall further demonstrate compliance with, including but not limited to, the following:

- FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide V.4 (June 2020) and any potential updates
- FEMA Procurement Disaster Assistance Team (PDAT) Field Manual
- Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200
- Title 44 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Part 206
- 41 C.F.R. Part 60-1.4 Equal Opportunity Clause
- 29 C.F.R. §5.5(b) Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act
- Clean Air Act and Federal Water Pollution Control Act
- 2 C.F.R. part 180 and 2 C.F.R. part 3000 Suspension and Debarment Compliance
- Section 6002 Solid Waste Disposal Act
- FEMA and Federal Requirements for Access to Records
- Prohibition on Use of Department of Homeland Security Seal, Logo, and Flags
- Compliance with Federal Law, Regulations and Executive Orders for FEMA Financial Assistance
- Other applicable Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, policy or guidance

In addition to the compliance requirements above, the debris monitoring services vendor shall comply with requirements under 2 C.F.R. §200.321. The awarded Vendor agrees, if subcontracts are to be let, to assure that minority businesses, women’s business enterprises and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.
The affirmative steps must include:

a. Placing qualified small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises on solicitation lists;

b. Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;

c. Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises;

d. Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourages participation by small and minority businesses, and women’s business enterprises;

e. Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as North Carolina Department of Administration Office of Historically Underutilized Businesses, the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

All Vendors shall document their efforts to comply with the above-described affirmative steps in their bid documents if subcontractor pricing is solicited in preparing a response to this IFB. The awarded Vendor shall document efforts to comply with the above-described affirmative steps in securing subcontractors to perform pursuant to a Notice to Proceed issued by an Activating Entity.

Except by written consent and agreement of the Activating Entity, the debris monitoring services vendor is expected to complete all activities for an Activating Entity within 180 days of the date of a declaration of emergency or disaster or, if there is no emergency or disaster declaration, within 180 days of the issuance of the Notice to Proceed. All work, including site restoration prior to close-out, shall be completed within 60 calendar days after receiving notice from the Activating Entity that the last load of debris has been delivered unless there is a written extension of time granted by the Activating Entity. No changes in scope of work or time frames for completion will be allowed except as specifically authorized in the contract executed between the Vendor and the Activating Entity and, where applicable, approved by NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA. The contract shall provide for the assessment of liquidated damages in the amount of $5000 per calendar day for each day in which contract activities extend beyond the maximum allowable time established.

5.4 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND WORK FORCES

The debris monitoring services vendor shall provide all management, supervision, labor, materials, and equipment necessary for the efficient and effective removal, disposal and reduction of all eligible debris. This shall include, at a minimum, a project manager, an adequate number of workers acting under the direction of the project manager, and proper and sufficient equipment and materials to accomplish the functions of the contract. All workers, including contract workers, shall report to and work under the supervision of the project manager.

The Vendor must demonstrate in his or her bid documents the ability to provide adequate and properly trained personnel for this function within 24 hours of receiving a Notice to Proceed. The debris monitoring services vendor may use contract labor for this function and is encouraged to employ local residents and subcontractors in the Activating Entity.

5.5 PROJECT MANAGER

The debris monitoring services vendor shall have a project manager assigned to the Activating Entity at the time of contract activation and shall provide the Activating Entity with adequate contact information regarding this person in its initial response to the Notice to Proceed. The Vendor must demonstrate in his or her bid documents that he or she will be able to assign a project manager to an Activating Entity at the time of responding to a Notice to Proceed and that said project manager will be able to perform all duties set out herein. The project manager shall be someone with authority to handle all issues which arise throughout the project period. He or she shall be knowledgeable and experienced in handling issues with debris removal and monitoring activities and/or NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA related issues.
Additionally, the project manager shall perform, at a minimum, each of the following duties:

(1) contact designated personnel from the Activating Entity immediately upon receipt of the Notice to Proceed to discuss the scope of services expected
(2) remain within the Activating Entity region during all work hours throughout the length of the project
(3) schedule and coordinate daily debris removal monitoring activities with designated Activating Entity personnel and debris monitoring personnel and provide planning for future operations pertinent to the specific event requiring the debris removal activities
(4) provide documents and estimates to the Activating Entity to assist the entity in planning and executing the debris removal activities
(5) attend and participate in meetings and press conferences with designated entity personnel as determined necessary by the Activating Entity
(6) oversee and supervise all debris removal and disposal monitoring activities throughout the project
(7) regularly communicate with designated Activating Entity and debris monitoring services contractor personnel to keep the Activating Entity informed of all aspects of the debris removal and disposal activities
(8) provide input to the Activating Entity to improve efficiency of monitoring collection and removal of debris
(9) identify, address and troubleshoot potential problems and questions that could impact all elements of the debris removal and disposal process, including but not limited to work area safety and the eligibility of reimbursement for removal of certain types of debris.

5.6 FIELD WORKERS

In addition to the project manager, the monitoring services vendor shall provide an adequate number of field workers to accomplish the functions of the contract under the direction of the project manager. The Activating Entity shall approve the number of field workers assigned to work on the contract. The monitoring services vendor may use contract labor for this function. All field workers, including contract workers, shall report to and work under the supervision of the project manager. The Vendor must demonstrate in his or her bid documents the ability to provide adequate and properly trained personnel for this function within 24 hours of receiving a Notice to Proceed.

5.7 CLERICAL STAFF AND SUPERVISOR

The monitoring services vendor may be compensated for non-field work clerical staff performing administrative functions necessary for performance of the contract as approved by the Activating Entity. This includes personnel performing functions such as billing, invoicing, and other contract-related administrative services, data systems personnel, GIS services, and the like. Clerical staff consists of personnel who perform some or all of the duties listed herein. Clerical Supervisors are managerial personnel proficient in all duties listed herein and who oversee work performed by the clerical staff utilized under this contract. The Activating Entity shall approve the number of clerical staff and supervisors assigned to work on the contract. All clerical staff working on this activity shall be billed at the same hourly rate. All clerical supervisor(s) working on this activity shall be billed at the same hourly rate. The monitoring services vendor shall only bill for actual hours these personnel spend on work related to the contract.

5.8 FIELD DOCUMENTATION OF WORK

The monitoring services vendor shall be required to carefully document all debris removal activities utilizing the documentation methods set out in these bid specifications and those required under State, NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA guidelines and regulations. Additionally, where applicable, the monitoring services vendor shall communicate with FEMA to ensure the documentation being utilized satisfies FEMA verification requirements. The Vendor must demonstrate in his or her bid documents the ability to properly document all activities as required herein.
5.9 FIXED SITE MONITORING

The monitoring services vendor, utilizing adequate experienced personnel, shall oversee the inspection of disposal and unloading sites by providing monitoring, verification of load capacity and quantities, and documentation at designated temporary disposal sites. All personnel working on this activity shall be billed at the same hourly rate. The Vendor must demonstrate in his or her bid documents the ability to provide adequate and properly trained personnel for this function within 24 hours of receiving a Notice to Proceed. Services of these monitors will include at a minimum each of the following:

1. completing load tickets recording debris removal vendor haulers' cubic yardage and other record keeping that may be necessary
2. signing each load ticket before permitting a truck to proceed from the check-in area to the disposal area
3. remaining in constant contact with designated debris removal management personnel
4. performing other duties as directed by designated debris removal management personnel
5. accurately measuring and calculating load hauling compartments and volume capacities in cubic yards
6. adequately documenting and recording all required measurements and computations
7. ensuring debris is properly separated and not co-mingled at the disposal and unloading site
8. performing safety inspections of all vehicles, equipment and all elements of the disposal sites

5.10 FIELD DEBRIS MONITORING

The monitoring services vendor, utilizing adequate experienced personnel, shall also perform roving on-site, street level work area inspections of debris cleanup and collection placed with each of the debris removal vendor’s loading crews. All personnel working on this activity shall be billed at the same hourly rate. The Vendor must demonstrate in his or her bid documents the ability to provide adequate and properly trained personnel for this function within 24 hours of receiving a Notice to Proceed. These field debris monitors shall inspect and control debris collection utilizing load tickets. Services include at a minimum each of the following:

1. providing knowledgeable and experienced field monitor personnel at designated areas to check and verify information on debris removal
2. utilizing maps developed by the Activating Entity and debris removal vendor related to location of debris and progress of removal
3. determining debris eligibility and the estimation of debris to be removed
4. documenting all collection activity of trucks and trailers used to transport debris
5. issuing load tickets at the loading site for each load with multiple copies to ensure compliance with State, NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA policy and to provide for quality assurance
6. inspecting the area for safety concerns and considerations including, but not limited to, downed power lines, children playing in area, provisions for adequate traffic control, safe operation of trucks and equipment in the work area and on haul routes
7. ensuring recyclables and hazardous materials are properly handled, sorted and disposed of by the debris removal vendor
8. performing pre-work inspection of areas to check debris piles to identify potential hazards and/or utilities to prevent damage to private property and all elements of the county right of way
9. documenting and reporting to the field monitor’s supervisor any damages to utility components, driveways, road surfaces, private property, vehicles, etc., with photos and information about the owner and circumstances causing the damage
10. transmitting damage information to the Activating Entity within 24 hours of the incident for their records and information
11. ensuring the work area is clear of debris to the specified level before equipment moves to a new work area
12. accurately measuring and calculating load hauling compartments and volume capacities in cubic yards
13. adequately documenting and recording all required measurements and computations
(14) properly monitoring and recording performance and productivity of debris removal crews
(15) remaining in constant contact with designated debris removal management personnel
(16) ensuring that loads are properly contained before leaving the loading area
(17) ensuring that only eligible debris is collected for loading and hauling
(18) performing safety inspections of all vehicles, equipment and all elements of the work sites
(19) performing other duties as directed by designated debris removal management personnel and/or designated Activating Entity personnel

“Eligible debris” is all disaster-related debris located on county roads, rights of ways, federal aid highways, state roads, county-maintained public property, and/or drainage easements provided:

(1) The debris complies with current or future State, NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA debris eligibility guidelines and regulations;
(2) The removal of the debris is the legal responsibility of the Activating Entity; and
(3) The debris presents an immediate health and safety threat to the general public or to the users of an eligible public facility

5.11 BONDING AND INSURANCE

All Vendors shall provide adequate documentation to demonstrate ability to satisfy the following requirements related to insurance, bonding, and payment of liquidated damages:

General and Professional Liability Insurance

The debris monitoring services vendor shall maintain such general and professional liability insurance as will protect the Vendor and any Activating Entity from any claims for Worker’s Compensation and from claims for damage and/or personal injury, including death, which may arise from operations under the regional contract executed. Such insurance shall also cover any financial loss to the Activating Entity as a result of the denial of State, NCEM, FEMA, and FHWA reimbursement due to the errors and/or negligence of the debris monitoring services vendor. Such insurance shall be written by companies authorized to do business in North Carolina.

Proof of insurance with the following minimum coverage shall be included with each bid submitted by the debris monitoring services vendor:

General Liability:

$1,000,000 – Bodily injury and property damage combined occurrence
$1,000,000 – Bodily injury and property damage combined aggregate
$1,000,000 – Personal injury aggregate

Automobile Liability:

$1,000,000 – Bodily injury and property damage combined coverage. Any automobile including hired and non-owned vehicles. Automobile Liability Insurance, to include liability coverage, covering all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles, used within North Carolina in connection with the Contract. The minimum combined single limit shall be $1,000,000.00 bodily injury and property damage; $250,000.00 uninsured/under insured motorist; and $2,500.00 medical payment.
Statutory Workers Compensation as required under North Carolina law Employers Liability:

$500,000 – Limit each occurrence. The Vendor shall provide and maintain Worker’s Compensation Insurance, as required by the laws of North Carolina, as well as employer’s liability coverage with minimum limits of $500,000.00, covering all of Vendor’s employees who are engaged in any work under the Contract in North Carolina. If any work is sub-contracted, the Vendor shall require the sub-Vendor to provide the same coverage for any of his employees engaged in any work under the Contract within the State.

Umbrella Coverage:

$1,000,000 – Each occurrence

$1,000,000 – Aggregate

5.12 PAYMENT AND PERFORMANCE BOND

The debris monitoring services vendor shall also be required to execute a payment and performance bond equal to 100% of the estimated cost of a project conducted on behalf of any Activating Entity within 10 days of a receipt of a Notice to Proceed. All Vendors shall include in their bid proof of ability to secure such payment and performance bond as evidenced by letter of credit from a bank holding deposits for the Vendor’s company or a statement from a surety company satisfactory to demonstrate the Vendor’s ability to secure such bond in the event required due to activation by one or more of the entities included in the regional contract executed with the successful Vendor.

Additionally, the debris monitoring services vendor shall be required to post a contractual performance bond in the amount of $1,000,000 prior to execution of the contract between NCEM and the successful debris monitoring services vendor. Intended awarded Vendors shall only be required to provide one bond to NCEM regardless of the number of geographic regions awarded. This bond shall be made payable to the NCEM on behalf of the entities in the region and shall be called in on behalf of an Activating Entity in the event that a Vendor fails to acknowledge and execute, in the prescribed time, a proper Notice to Proceed, or fails to satisfy any other obligations under the contract. This requirement is in addition to the requirement to post the payment and performance bond required herein. Each Vendor must provide proof of his or her ability to secure this bond at the time of execution of the contract if he or she is determined to be the lowest responsible Vendor meeting bid specifications.

5.13 PRICING AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES

The Vendor shall include his or her bid pricing schedule on the attached Bid Submittal Form based on all categories of work. Except where otherwise specifically provided, all pricing will be unit pricing.

The Activating Entity shall determine at the outset of the contract when the billing cycle for contract payments will begin – either on the contract activation date or date of disaster declaration. The debris monitoring services vendor shall be expected to mobilize and sustain its workforce in all activating jurisdictions in a region for a period of 60 days prior to any reimbursement by an Activating Entity. An Activating Entity may agree to reimburse the debris monitoring services vendor within a shorter time frame, but shall not be contractually required to make any payments in less than 60 days. After the initial 60-day period expires, the Vendor shall be entitled to payment for the first 30 days of work performed by the Vendor in an Activating Entity after the Notice to Proceed provided the Vendor has satisfactorily performed the functions required under the contract. The Activating Entity shall have sole discretion in determining whether the work has been performed to its satisfaction. An example of the payment schedule is listed below:

- Notice to Proceed;
- Debris monitoring services vendor reports to Activating Entity within 24 hours of notice;
Debris monitoring services vendor submits bill to Activating Entity for first 30-day period within one week of the end of the first 30-day period with same procedure for subsequent 30-day periods during the project;
At the end of the second 30-day period, the Activating Entity remits payment for the first 30-day period if satisfactory work has been performed;
Process continues until work is completed and all payments have been made. By submitting a bid Vendor acknowledges and accepts these terms.

Payment for work completed may be invoiced on a monthly basis after the initial 60-day period from issuance of the Notice to Proceed. Invoices shall be based on reconciled load tickets from the daily reports. All payments will be based on unit pricing submitted by the Vendor in response to this IFB.

The debris monitoring services vendor shall be expected to work diligently and efficiently to complete the debris removal and disposal monitoring project in any Activating Entity in the shortest time possible. The Activating Entity may withhold payments not to exceed 10% of the project value when satisfactory progress has not been achieved by the Vendor during any period for which a payment is due. Additionally, the Activating Entity shall recover from the Vendor any delay costs caused by the acts or omissions of the Vendor or his or her agents.

The Activating Entity may also withhold payment or final payment for reasons including, but not limited to the following:

1. unsatisfactory job performance or progress,
2. defective or disputed work,
3. failure to comply with material provisions of the contract,
4. third party claims filed,
5. damage to the Activating Entity’s right of way or other Activating Entity-maintained properties, or
6. reasonable evidence that a claim will be filed.

Final payment, less any offsets or deductions authorized hereunder or by law, shall be made within 60 days of the certification of completion of the project by the Activating Entity, provided the debris monitoring services vendor has filed all contractually required documents and certification of the activation entity, including acceptable evidence of the satisfaction of all claims or liens.

6.0 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

6.1 PROJECT MANAGER AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Activating Entity Subrecipient as defined in 2 CFR 200.93 and 44 CFR 206.201 is designated and listed below in “Contact Information for Transmitting the Notice to Proceed”.

Angie Dunaway, Purchasing Director, NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, 3030 Hammond Business Place, Raleigh, NC 27603, (919) 324-6228, is designated as the Contract Officer for the Department Recipient as defined in 2 CFR 200.86 and 44 CFR 206.202.

Kevin Kasai, NC Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management-JFHQ, 1636 Gold Star Drive, Raleigh, NC, 27607, (919) 825-2275, is designated as the Contract Lead for the Department Recipient as defined in 2 CFR 200.86 and 44 CFR 206.202 concerning administrative and operational issues of this contract.

The Vendor shall designate and make available to the Activating Entity a project manager. The project manager shall be the Activating Entity’s point of contact for contract related issues and issues concerning performance, progress review, scheduling and service.
POINT OF CONTACT FOR ALL CONTRACT RELATED ISSUES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTACT NAME</th>
<th>TELEPHONE NUMBER</th>
<th>E-MAIL</th>
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CONTACT INFORMATION FOR TRANSMITTING THE NOTICE TO PROCEED:

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<tr>
<th>CONTACT NAME</th>
<th>TELEPHONE NUMBER</th>
<th>E-MAIL</th>
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</table>

PROJECT MANAGER TO BE PLACED IN THE ACTIVATING REGION WITHIN 24 HOURS OF RECEIPT OF THE WRITTEN NOTICE TO PROCEED:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>CONTACT NAME</th>
<th>TELEPHONE NUMBER</th>
<th>E-MAIL</th>
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6.2 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Vendor, Activating Entity, and State agree that it is in their mutual interest to resolve disputes informally. A claim by the Vendor shall be submitted in writing to the Activating Entity’s designee for resolution. A claim by the State shall be submitted in writing to the Vendor’s Project Manager and Activating Entity for resolution. The Vendor, Activating Entity or State shall negotiate in good faith and use all reasonable efforts to resolve such dispute(s). During the time the Vendor, Activating Entity, or State are attempting to resolve any dispute, each shall proceed diligently to perform their respective duties and responsibilities under this Contract or under the PA program. If a dispute cannot be resolved between the Vendor, Activating Entity or State within thirty (30) days after delivery of notice, either entity may elect to exercise any other remedies available under this Contract, or at law. This term shall not constitute an agreement by either entity to mediate or arbitrate any dispute.

6.3 CONTRACT CHANGES

Contract changes, if any, over the life of the contract shall be implemented by contract amendments agreed to in writing by the Activating Entity, Vendor and State.

------------------------------------ The Remainder of this Page is Left Intentionally Blank ------------------------------------
ATTACHMENT A: FEE SCHEDULE

Vendor shall offer a firm fixed price, all inclusive of labor, materials, transportation, general and administrative overhead, and profit.

The below information is demonstrative of all categories of work that Vendor will be required to provide costs for, and will appear in the Excel PRICE file that is subsequently linked. **The Vendor shall download the Excel PRICE file located at ftp://ftp1.ncem.org**, populate the only the Vendor’s pricing in the Cost column or if additional personnel is believed necessary the Title column. For submission Vender shall print a copy of the Excel PRICE and also provide in electronic flash drive to the Vendor’s response, clearly showing for which Region as described Section 1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND.

**PRICE File download** at ftp://ftp1.ncem.org (Please copy and paste address into a Chrome browser to access).
Username: debmonitoring
Password: Nc3mD3br1s!

### VENDOR’S HOURLY RATE FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITIONS</th>
<th>$ HOURLY RATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations Manager</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scheduler/Expeditors</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIS Analyst</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Supervisors</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debris Site/Tower Monitors</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Specialist</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Inspectors (Citizen Drop-Off Site Monitors)</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Load Ticket Data Entry Clerks (QA/QC)</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Billing/Invoice Analysts</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistants</td>
<td>$_____________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Coordinators (Crew Monitors)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL**

$_____________

**OTHER REQUIRED POSITIONS**

Proposer may include other positions, with hourly rates, as needed.
ATTACHMENT B: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

1. **READ, REVIEW AND COMPLY by SIGNING**: It shall be the Vendor’s responsibility to read this entire document, review all enclosures and attachments, and any addenda thereto, and comply with all requirements specified herein, regardless of whether appearing in these Instructions to Vendors or elsewhere in this IFB document.

2. **LATE BIDS**: Late Bids, regardless of cause, will not be opened or considered, and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be the Vendor’s sole responsibility to ensure the timely submission of Bids.

3. **ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION**: The State reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, to waive any informality in Bids and, unless otherwise specified by the Vendor, to accept any item in the Bid.

4. **BASIS FOR REJECTION**: Pursuant to 01 NCAC 05B .0501, the State reserves the right to reject any and all offers, in whole or in part, by deeming the offer unsatisfactory as to quality or quantity, delivery, price or service offered, non-compliance with the requirements or intent of this solicitation, lack of competitiveness, error(s) in specifications or indications that revision would be advantageous to the State, cancellation or other changes in the intended project or any other determination that the proposed requirement is no longer needed, limitation or lack of available funds, circumstances that prevent determination of the best offer, or any other determination that rejection would be in the best interest of the State.

5. **EXECUTION**: Failure to execute page 1 of the IFB (Execution Page) in the designated space shall render the Bid non-responsive, and it will be rejected.

6. **ORDER OF PRECEDENCE**: In cases of conflict between specific provisions in this solicitation or those in any resulting contract documents, the order of precedence shall be (high to low) (1) any special terms and conditions specific to this IFB, including any negotiated terms; (2) requirements and specifications and administration provisions in Sections 4, 5 and 6 of this IFB; (3) North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions in ATTACHMENT C: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS; (4) Instructions in ATTACHMENT B: INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS; (5) ATTACHMENT A: PRICING, and (6) Vendor’s Bid.

7. **INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE**: Vendor shall furnish all information requested in the spaces provided in this document. Further, if required elsewhere in this Bid, each Vendor shall submit with its Bid any sketches, descriptive literature and/or complete specifications covering the products and Services offered. Reference to literature submitted with a previous Bid or available elsewhere will not satisfy this provision. Failure to comply with these requirements shall constitute sufficient cause to reject a Bid without further consideration.

8. **RECYCLING AND SOURCE REDUCTION**: It is the policy of the State to encourage and promote the purchase of products with recycled content to the extent economically practicable, and to purchase items which are reusable, refillable, repairable, more durable and less toxic to the extent that the purchase or use is practicable and cost-effective. We also encourage and promote using minimal packaging and the use of recycled/recyclable products in the packaging of commodities purchased. However, no sacrifice in quality of packaging will be acceptable. The Vendor remains responsible for providing packaging that will adequately protect the commodity and contain it for its intended use. Vendors are strongly urged to bring to the attention of purchasers those products or packaging they offer which have recycled content and that are recyclable. As required by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6962(c)(3)(A)(i)) the Vendor certifies, by signing this offer that the percentage of recovered materials content for EPA-designated items to be delivered or used in the performance of the contract will be at least the amount required by the applicable contract specifications or other contractual requirements.

9. **CERTIFICATE TO TRANSACT BUSINESS IN NORTH CAROLINA**: As a condition of contract award, each out-of-State Vendor that is a corporation, limited-liability company or limited-liability partnership shall have received, and shall maintain throughout the term of The Contract, a Certificate of Authority to Transact Business in North Carolina from the North Carolina Secretary of State, as required by North Carolina law. A State contract requiring only an isolated transaction completed within a period of six months, and not in the course of a number of repeated transactions of like nature, shall not be considered as transacting business in North Carolina and shall not require a Certificate of Authority to Transact Business.
10. **SUSTAINABILITY**: To support the sustainability efforts of the State of North Carolina we solicit your cooperation in this effort. Pursuant to Executive Order 156 (1999), it is desirable that all print responses submitted meet the following:

- All copies of the Bid are printed double sided.
- All submittals and copies are printed on recycled paper with a minimum post-consumer content of 30%.
- Unless absolutely necessary, all Bids and copies should minimize or eliminate use of non-recyclable or non-reusable materials such as plastic report covers, plastic dividers, vinyl sleeves, and GBC binding. Three-ringed binders, glued materials, paper clips, and staples are acceptable.
- Materials should be submitted in a format which allows for easy removal, filing and/or recycling of paper and binder materials. Use of oversized paper is strongly discouraged unless necessary for clarity or legibility.

11. **HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES**: The State is committed to retaining Vendors from diverse backgrounds, and it invites and encourages participation in the procurement process by businesses owned by minorities, women, disabled, disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled. In particular, the State encourages participation by Vendors certified by the State Office of Historically Underutilized Businesses, as well as the use of HUB-certified vendors as subcontractors on State contracts.

12. **RECIPROCAL PREFERENCE**: Reserved.

13. **INELIGIBLE VENDORS**: As provided in G.S. 147-86.59 and G.S. 147-86.82, the following companies are ineligible to contract with the State of North Carolina or any political subdivision of the State: a) any company identified as engaging in investment activities in Iran, as determined by appearing on the Final Divestment List created by the State Treasurer pursuant to G.S. 147-86.58, and b) any company identified as engaged in a boycott of Israel as determined by appearing on the List of restricted companies created by the State Treasurer pursuant to G.S. 147-86.81. A contract with the State or any of its political subdivisions by any company identified in a) or b) above shall be void ab initio.

14. **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**: To the extent permitted by applicable statutes and rules, the State will maintain as confidential trade secrets in its Bid that the Vendor does not wish disclosed. As a condition to confidential treatment, each page containing trade secret information shall be identified in boldface at the top and bottom as “CONFIDENTIAL” by the Vendor, with specific trade secret information enclosed in boxes, marked in a distinctive color or by similar indication. Cost information shall not be deemed confidential under any circumstances. Regardless of what a Vendor may label as a trade secret, the determination whether it is or is not entitled to protection will be determined in accordance with G.S. 132-1.2. Any material labeled as confidential constitutes a representation by the Vendor that it has made a reasonable effort in good faith to determine that such material is, in fact, a trade secret under G.S. 132-1.2. Vendors are urged and cautioned to limit the marking of information as a trade secret or as confidential so far as is possible. If a legal action is brought to require the disclosure of any material so marked as confidential, the State will notify Vendor of such action and allow Vendor to defend the confidential status of its information.

15. **PROTEST PROCEDURES**: When a Vendor wishes to protest the award of The Contract awarded by the Division of Purchase and Contract, or awarded by an agency in an awarded amount of at least $25,000, a Vendor shall submit a written request addressed to the State Purchasing Officer at: Division of Purchase and Contract, 1305 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1305. A protest request related to an award amount of less than $25,000 shall be sent to the purchasing officer of the agency that issued the award. The protest request must be received in the proper office within thirty (30) consecutive calendar days from the date of the Contract award. Protest letters shall contain specific grounds and reasons for the protest, how the protesting party was harmed by the award made and any documentation providing support for the protesting party’s claims.

| Note: | Contract award notices are sent only to the Vendor actually awarded the Contract, and not to every person or firm responding to a solicitation. Bid status and Award notices are posted on the Internet at [https://www.ips.state.nc.us/ips/](https://www.ips.state.nc.us/ips/). All protests will be handled pursuant to the North Carolina Administrative Code, 01 NCAC 05B .1519. |

16. **MISCELLANEOUS**: Any gender-specific pronouns used herein, whether masculine or feminine, shall be read and
17. **COMMUNICATIONS BY VENDORS**: In submitting its Bid, the Vendor agrees not to discuss or otherwise reveal the contents of its Bid to any source, government or private, outside of the using or issuing agency until after the award of the Contract or cancellation of this IFB. All Vendors are forbidden from having any communications with the using or issuing agency, or any other representative of the State concerning the solicitation, during the evaluation of the Bids (i.e., after the public opening of the Bids and before the award of the Contract), unless the State directly contacts the Vendor(s) for purposes of seeking clarification or another reason permitted by the solicitation. A Vendor shall not: (a) transmit to the issuing and/or using agency any information commenting on the ability or qualifications of any other Vendor to provide the advertised good, equipment, commodity; (b) identify defects, errors and/or omissions in any other Vendor’s Bid and/or prices at any time during the procurement process; and/or (c) engage in or attempt any other communication or conduct that could influence the evaluation or award of a Contract related to this IFB. Failure to comply with this requirement shall constitute sufficient justification to disqualify a Vendor from a Contract award. Only those communications with the using agency or issuing agency authorized by this IFB are permitted.

18. **TABULATIONS**: Bid tabulations can be electronically retrieved at the Interactive Purchasing System (IPS), [https://www.ips.state.nc.us/ips/BidNumberSearch.aspx](https://www.ips.state.nc.us/ips/BidNumberSearch.aspx). Click on the IPS BIDS icon, click on Search for Bid, enter the bid number, and then search. Tabulations will normally be available at this web site not later than one working day after the bid opening. Lengthy or complex tabulations may be summarized, with other details not made available on IPS, and requests for additional details or information concerning such tabulations cannot be honored.

19. **VENDOR REGISTRATION AND SOLICITATION NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**: The North Carolina electronic Vendor Portal (eVP) allows Vendors to electronically register for free with the State to receive electronic notification of current procurement opportunities for goods and Services of potential interests to them available on the Interactive Purchasing System, as well as notifications of status changes to those solicitations. Online registration and other purchasing information is available at the following website: [http://ncadmin.nc.gov/about-doa/divisions/purchase-contract](http://ncadmin.nc.gov/about-doa/divisions/purchase-contract).

20. **WITHDRAWAL OF BID**: Bids that have been delivered by hand, U.S. Postal Service, courier or other delivery service may be withdrawn only in writing and if receipt is acknowledged by the office issuing the IFB prior to the time for opening Bids identified on the cover page of this IFB (or such later date included in an Addendum to the IFB). Written withdrawal requests shall be submitted on the Vendor’s letterhead and signed by an official of the Vendor authorized to make such request. Any withdrawal request made after the opening of Bids shall be allowed only for good cause shown and in the sole discretion of the Division of Purchase and Contract.

21. **INFORMAL COMMENTS**: The State shall not be bound by informal explanations, instructions or information given at any time by anyone on behalf of the State during the competitive process or after award. The State is bound only by information provided in writing in this IFB and in formal Addenda issued through IPS.

22. **COST FOR BID PREPARATION**: Any costs incurred by Vendor in preparing or submitting offers are the Vendor’s sole responsibility; the State of North Carolina will not reimburse any Vendor for any costs incurred or associated with the preparation of Bids.

23. **VENDOR’S REPRESENTATIVE**: Each Vendor shall submit with its Bid the name, address, and telephone number of the person(s) with authority to bind the firm and answer questions or provide clarification concerning the firm's Bid.

24. **INSPECTION AT VENDOR’S SITE**: The State reserves the right to inspect, at a reasonable time, the equipment, item, plant or other facilities of a prospective Vendor prior to Contract award, and during the Contract term as necessary for the State’s determination that such equipment, item, plant or other facilities conform with the specifications/requirements and are adequate and suitable for the proper and effective performance of the Contract.
ATTACHMENT C: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL CONTRACT TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. PERFORMANCE AND DEFAULT:
   
a) It is anticipated that the tasks and duties undertaken by the Vendor shall include services or the manufacturing, furnishing, or development of goods and other tangible features or components as deliverables that are directly correlated and/or ancillary to the services performed. Except as provided immediately below, and unless otherwise mutually agreed in writing prior to award, any service deliverables or ancillary services provided by Vendor in performance of the contract shall remain property of the State. During performance, Vendor may provide proprietary components as part of the service deliverables that are identified in the solicitation response. Vendor grants the State a personal, permanent, non-transferable license to use such proprietary components of the service deliverables and other functionalities, as provided under this Agreement. Any technical and business information owned by Vendor or its suppliers or licensors made accessible or furnished to the State shall be and remain the property of the Vendor or such other party, respectively. Vendor agrees to perform its services under the contract in the same or similar manner provided to comparable users. The State shall notify the Vendor of any defects or deficiencies in performance of its services or failure of service deliverables to conform to the standards and specifications provided in this solicitation. Vendor agrees to remedy defective performance or any nonconforming deliverables upon timely notice provided by the State.

   b) Vendor has a limited, non-exclusive license to access and use State Data provided to Vendor, but solely for performing its obligations under this Agreement and in confidence as may be further provided herein. Vendor or its suppliers shall at a minimum, and except as otherwise specified and agreed herein, provide assistance to the State related to all services performed or deliverables procured hereunder during the State’s normal business hours. Vendor warrants that its support, customer service, and assistance will be performed in accordance with generally accepted and applicable industry standards.

   c) If, through any cause, Vendor shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner the obligations under The Contract, the State shall have the right to terminate The Contract by giving written notice to the Vendor and specifying the effective date thereof. In that event, any or all finished or unfinished deliverables under The Contract prepared by the Vendor shall, at the option of the State, become its property, and the Vendor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any acceptable work completed as to which the option is exercised. Notwithstanding, Vendor shall not be relieved of liability to the State for damages sustained by the State by virtue of any breach of The Contract, and the State may withhold any payment due the Vendor for the purpose of setoff until such time as the exact amount of damages due the State from such breach can be determined. The State may require at any time a performance bond or other acceptable alternative performance guarantees from a Vendor without expense to the State.

   d) In the event of default by the Vendor, the State may procure the goods and services necessary to complete performance hereunder from other sources and hold the Vendor responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby. In addition, in the event of default by the Vendor under The Contract, or upon the Vendor filing a petition for bankruptcy or the entering of a judgment of bankruptcy by or against the Vendor, the State may immediately cease doing business with the Vendor, immediately terminate The Contract for cause, and may take action to debar the Vendor from doing future business with the State.

2. GOVERNMENTAL RESTRICTIONS: In the event any Governmental restrictions are imposed which necessitate alteration of the goods, material, quality, workmanship or performance of the Services offered prior to acceptance, it shall be the responsibility of the Vendor to notify the Contract Lead at once, in writing, indicating the specific regulation which required such alterations. The State reserves the right to accept any such alterations, including any price adjustments occasioned thereby, or to cancel the Contract.

3. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS: Any and all payments to the Vendor shall be dependent upon and subject to the availability of funds to the agency for the purpose set forth in The Contract.

4. TAXES: Any applicable taxes shall be invoiced as a separate item.
a) G.S. 143-59.1 bars the Secretary of Administration from entering into Contracts with Vendors if the Vendor or its affiliates meet one of the conditions of G.S. 105-164.8(b) and refuses to collect use tax on sales of tangible personal property to purchasers in North Carolina. Conditions under G.S. 105-164.8(b) include: (1) Maintenance of a retail establishment or office, (2) Presence of representatives in the State that solicit sales or transact business on behalf of the Vendor and (3) Systematic exploitation of the market by media-assisted, media-facilitated, or media-solicited means. By execution of the Bid document the Vendor certifies that it and all of its affiliates, (if it has affiliates), collect(s) the appropriate taxes.

b) The agency(ies) participating in The Contract are exempt from Federal Taxes, such as excise and transportation. Exemption forms submitted by the Vendor will be executed and returned by the using agency.

c) Prices offered are not to include any personal property taxes, nor any sales or use tax (or fees) unless required by the North Carolina Department of Revenue.

5. **SITUS AND GOVERNING LAWS:** This Contract is made under and shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina, without regard to its conflict of laws rules, and within which State all matters, whether sounding in Contract or tort or otherwise, relating to its validity, construction, interpretation and enforcement shall be determined.

6. **PAYMENT TERMS:** Payment terms are Net not later than 60 days after receipt of a correct invoice or acceptance of goods, whichever is later. The using agency is responsible for all payments to the Vendor under the Contract. Payment by some agencies may be made by procurement card, if the Vendor accepts that card (Visa, MasterCard, etc.) from other customers, and it shall be accepted by the Vendor for payment under the same terms and conditions as any other method of payment accepted by the Vendor. If payment is made by procurement card, then payment may be processed immediately by the Vendor.

7. **NON-DISCRIMINATION:**
   a) The Vendor will take necessary action to comply with all Federal and State requirements concerning fair employment and employment of people with disabilities, and concerning the treatment of all employees without regard to discrimination on the basis of any prohibited grounds as defined by Federal and State law.
   b) The vendor will take necessary action to ensure its internal employee policies and procedures are consistent with Executive Order #82 (Roy Cooper, December 6, 2018), which extends workplace protections and accommodations to pregnant employees.

8. **CONDITION AND PACKAGING:** Unless otherwise provided by special terms and conditions or specifications, it is understood and agreed that any item offered or shipped has not been sold or used for any purpose and shall be in first class condition. All containers/packaging shall be suitable for handling, storage or shipment.

9. **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY WARRANTY AND INDEMNITY:** Vendor shall hold and save the State, its officers, agents and employees, harmless from liability of any kind, including costs and expenses, resulting from infringement of the rights of any third party in any copyrighted material, patented or patent-pending invention, article, device or appliance delivered in connection with The Contract.
   a. Vendor warrants to the best of its knowledge that:
      i. Performance under The Contract does not infringe upon any intellectual property rights of any third party; and
      ii. There are no actual or threatened actions arising from, or alleged under, any intellectual property rights of any third party;
   b. Should any deliverables supplied by Vendor become the subject of a claim of infringement of a patent, copyright, trademark or a trade secret in the United States, the Vendor, shall at its option and expense, either procure for the State the right to continue using the deliverables, or replace or modify the same to become non-infringing. If neither of these options can reasonably be taken in Vendor’s judgment, or if further use shall be prevented by injunction, the Vendor agrees to cease provision of any affected deliverables and refund any sums the State has paid Vendor and make every reasonable effort to assist the State in procuring substitute deliverables. If, in the sole opinion of the State, the cessation of use by the State of any such deliverables due to infringement issues makes the retention of other items acquired...
from the Vendor under this Agreement impractical, the State shall then have the option of terminating the Agreement, or applicable portions thereof, without penalty or termination charge; and Vendor agrees to refund any sums the State paid for unused Services or Deliverables.

c. The Vendor, at its own expense, shall defend any action brought against the State to the extent that such action is based upon a claim that the deliverables supplied by the Vendor, their use or operation, infringes on a patent, copyright, trademark or violates a trade secret in the United States. The Vendor shall pay those costs and damages finally awarded or agreed in a settlement against the State in any such action. Such defense and payment shall be conditioned on the following:
   i. That the Vendor shall be notified within a reasonable time in writing by the State of any such claim; and
   ii. That the Vendor shall have the sole control of the defense of any action on such claim and all negotiations for its settlement or compromise provided, however, that the State shall have the option to participate in such action at its own expense.

d. Vendor will not be required to defend or indemnify the State if any claim by a third party against the State for infringement or misappropriation results from the State’s material alteration of any Vendor-branded deliverables or services, or from the continued use of the deliverable(s) or Services after receiving notice of infringement on a trade secret of a third party.

10. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE: If this contract contemplates deliveries or performance over a period of time, the State may terminate this contract at any time by providing 15 days’ notice in writing from the State to the Vendor. In that event, any or all finished or unfinished deliverables prepared by the Vendor under this contract shall, at the option of the State, become its property. If the contract is terminated by the State as provided in this section, the State shall pay for those items for which such option is exercised, less any payment or compensation previously made.

11. ADVERTISING: Vendor agrees not to use the existence of The Contract or the name of the State of North Carolina as part of any commercial advertising or marketing of products or Services. A Vendor may inquire whether the State is willing to act as a reference by providing factual information directly to other prospective customers.

12. ACCESS TO PERSONS AND RECORDS: During and after the term hereof, the State Auditor and any using agency’s internal auditors shall have access to persons and records related to The Contract to verify accounts and data affecting fees or performance under the Contract, as provided in G.S. 143-49(9).

13. ASSIGNMENT: No assignment of the Vendor’s obligations nor the Vendor’s right to receive payment hereunder shall be permitted.

   However, upon written request approved by the issuing purchasing authority and solely as a convenience to the Vendor, the State may:
   a) Forward the Vendor’s payment check directly to any person or entity designated by the Vendor, and
   b) Include any person or entity designated by Vendor as a joint payee on the Vendor’s payment check.

In no event shall such approval and action obligate the State to anyone other than the Vendor and the Vendor shall remain responsible for fulfillment of all Contract obligations. Upon advance written request, the State may, in its unfettered discretion, approve an assignment to the surviving entity of a merger, acquisition or corporate reorganization, if made as part of the transfer of all or substantially all of the Vendor’s assets. Any purported assignment made in violation of this provision shall be void and a material breach of The Contract.

14. INSURANCE:

   COVERAGE - During the term of the Contract, the Vendor at its sole cost and expense shall provide commercial insurance of such type and with such terms and limits as may be reasonably associated with the Contract. As a minimum, the Vendor shall provide and maintain the following coverage and limits:

   a) Worker’s Compensation - The Vendor shall provide and maintain Worker’s Compensation Insurance, as required by the laws of North Carolina, as well as employer’s liability coverage with minimum limits of $500,000.00, covering all of Vendor’s employees who are engaged in any work under the Contract in North Carolina. If any work is sub-contracted, the Vendor shall require the sub-Vendor to provide the same coverage for any of his employees
engaged in any work under the Contract within the State.

b) **Commercial General Liability** - General Liability Coverage on a Comprehensive Broad Form on an occurrence basis in the minimum amount of $1,000,000.00 Combined Single Limit. Defense cost shall be in excess of the limit of liability.

c) **Automobile** - Automobile Liability Insurance, to include liability coverage, covering all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles, used within North Carolina in connection with the Contract. The minimum combined single limit shall be $250,000.00 bodily injury and property damage; $250,000.00 uninsured/under insured motorist; and $2,500.00 medical payment.

**REQUIREMENTS** - Providing and maintaining adequate insurance coverage is a material obligation of the Vendor and is of the essence of The Contract. All such insurance shall meet all laws of the State of North Carolina. Such insurance coverage shall be obtained from companies that are authorized to provide such coverage and that are authorized by the Commissioner of Insurance to do business in North Carolina. The Vendor shall at all times comply with the terms of such insurance policies, and all requirements of the insurer under any such insurance policies, except as they may conflict with existing North Carolina laws or The Contract. The limits of coverage under each insurance policy maintained by the Vendor shall not be interpreted as limiting the Vendor’s liability and obligations under the Contract.

15. **GENERAL INDEMNITY:** The Vendor shall hold and save the State, its officers, agents, and employees, harmless from liability of any kind, including all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any other person, firm, or corporation furnishing or supplying work, Services, materials, or supplies in connection with the performance of The Contract, and from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any person, firm, or corporation that may be injured or damaged by the Vendor in the performance of The Contract and that are attributable to the negligence or intentionally tortious acts of the Vendor provided that the Vendor is notified in writing within 30 days from the date that the State has knowledge of such claims. The Vendor represents and warrants that it shall make no claim of any kind or nature against the State’s agents who are involved in the delivery or processing of Vendor deliverables or Services to the State. The representation and warranty in the preceding sentence shall survive the termination or expiration of The Contract.

16. **ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT:**

a) Purchasing shall be conducted through the Statewide E-Procurement Service. The State’s third-party agent shall serve as the Supplier Manager for this E-Procurement Service. The Vendor shall register for the Statewide E-Procurement Service within two (2) business days of notification of award in order to receive an electronic purchase order resulting from award of this contract.

b) Reserved.

c) Reserved.

d) The Supplier Manager will capture the order from the State approved user, including the shipping and payment information, and submit the order in accordance with the E-Procurement Service. Subsequently, the Supplier Manager will send those orders to the appropriate Vendor on State Contract. The State or State-approved user, not the Supplier Manager, shall be responsible for the solicitation, bids received, evaluation of bids received, award of contract, and the payment for goods delivered.

e) Vendor shall at all times maintain the confidentiality of its user name and password for the Statewide E-Procurement Services. If Vendor is a corporation, partnership or other legal entity, then the Vendor may authorize its employees to use its password. Vendor shall be responsible for all activity and all charges by such employees. Vendor agrees not to permit a third party to use the Statewide E-Procurement Services through its account. If there is a breach of security through the Vendor’s account, Vendor shall immediately change its password and notify the Supplier Manager of the security breach by email. Vendor shall cooperate with the State and the Supplier Manager to mitigate and correct any security breach.

17. **SUBCONTRACTING:** Performance under The Contract by the Vendor shall not be subcontracted without prior written approval of the State’s assigned Contract Lead. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, acceptance of a Vendor’s
Bid shall include approval to use the subcontractor(s) that have been specified therein.

18. **CONFIDENTIALITY:** Any State information, data, instruments, documents, studies or reports given to or prepared or assembled by or provided to the Vendor under The Contract shall be kept as confidential, used only for the purpose(s) required to perform The Contract and not divulged or made available to any individual or organization without the prior written approval of the State.

19. **CARE OF STATE DATA AND PROPERTY:** The Vendor agrees that it shall be responsible for the proper custody and care of any data owned and furnished to the Vendor by the State (State Data), or other State property in the hands of the Vendor, for use in connection with the performance of The Contract or purchased by or for the State for The Contract. Vendor will reimburse the State for loss or damage of such property while in Vendor’s custody.

The State’s Data in the hands of the Vendor shall be protected from unauthorized disclosure, loss, damage, destruction by a natural event or other eventuality. Such State Data shall be returned to the State in a form acceptable to the State upon the termination or expiration of this Agreement. The Vendor shall notify the State of any security breaches within 24 hours as required by G.S. 143B-1379. See G.S. 75-60 et seq.

20. **OUTSOURCING:** Any Vendor or subcontractor providing call or contact center services to the State of North Carolina or any of its agencies shall disclose to inbound callers the location from which the call or contact center services are being provided.

If, after award of a contract, the Vendor wishes to relocate or outsource any portion of performance to a location outside the United States, or to contract with a subcontractor for any such performance, which subcontractor and nature of the work has not previously been disclosed to the State in writing, prior written approval must be obtained from the State agency responsible for the contract.

Vendor shall give notice to the using agency of any relocation of the Vendor, employees of the Vendor, subcontractors of the Vendor, or other persons providing performance under a State contract to a location outside of the United States.

21. **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS:** Vendor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, codes, rules, regulations, and licensing requirements that are applicable to the conduct of its business and its performance in accordance with The Contract, including those of federal, state, and local agencies having jurisdiction and/or authority.

22. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT:** This IFB and any documents incorporated specifically by reference represent the entire agreement between the parties and supersede all prior oral or written statements or agreements. This IFB, any addenda hereto, and the Vendor’s Bid are incorporated herein by reference as though set forth verbatim.

All promises, requirements, terms, conditions, provisions, representations, guarantees, and warranties contained herein shall survive the contract expiration or termination date unless specifically provided otherwise herein, or unless superseded by applicable Federal or State statutes of limitation.

23. **ELECTRONIC RECORDS:** The State will digitize all Vendor responses to this solicitation, if not received electronically, as well as any awarded contract together with associated procurement-related documents. These electronic copies shall constitute a preservation record and shall serve as the official record of this procurement with the same force and effect as the original written documents comprising such record. Any electronic copy, printout or other output readable by sight shown to reflect such record accurately shall constitute an "original."

24. **AMENDMENTS:** This Contract may be amended only by a written amendment duly executed by the State and the Vendor.

25. **NO WAIVER:** Notwithstanding any other language or provision in The Contract, nothing herein is intended nor shall be interpreted as a waiver of any right or remedy otherwise available to the State under applicable law. The waiver by the State of any right or remedy on any one occasion or instance shall not constitute or be interpreted as a waiver of that or any other right or remedy on any other occasion or instance.

26. **FORCE MAJEURE:** Neither party shall be deemed to be in default of its obligations hereunder if and so long as it
is prevented from performing such obligations as a result of events beyond its reasonable control, including without
limitation, fire, power failures, any act of war, hostile foreign action, nuclear explosion, riot, strikes or failures or
refusals to perform under subcontracts, civil insurrection, earthquake, hurricane, tornado, or other catastrophic
natural event or act of God.

27. **SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY:** Notwithstanding any other term or provision in The Contract, nothing herein is intended
nor shall be interpreted as waiving any claim or defense based on the principle of sovereign immunity or other State
or federal constitutional provision or principle that otherwise would be available to the State under applicable law.

28. **PREA:** “The NC Department of Public Safety is committed to a standard of zero-tolerance pertaining to unduly
familiar or sexually abusive behavior either by another juvenile or by staff, volunteer, vendor, Vendor or party.
Staff, volunteers, vendors, Vendors or parties are strictly prohibited from engaging in personal dealings or any
conduct of a sexual nature with any inmate or juvenile. Conversation and conduct with any inmate or juvenile
must be professional at all times. Sexual acts between a juvenile or inmate and staff, volunteer, vendor, Vendor or party
may violate North Carolina law. Additionally, sexual acts between a juvenile or inmate and staff member
will contradict the standards of the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA). Such acts also may be
punishable, at a minimum, as a Class E felony in North Carolina. Under North Carolina, consent of the inmate or
juvenile may not available as a defense for an individual who is charged criminally based on sexual conduct with
the inmate or juvenile. Also, pursuant to PREA standards, no juvenile or inmate can consent to engage in sexual
activity with staff, volunteers, vendors, Vendors or parties. Any contractual facility will comply with the national
standards to prevent, detect, and respond to PREA (115.12, 212, 312) and permit the Department to monitor this
aspect of the contract to ensure compliance with the PREA standards.

As a valued partner with DPS, it is important to remember that if you become aware of a report of any incidents
of unduly familiar or sexually abusive behavior or sexual harassment, you have a duty to report this information
immediately to your contact person with the Agency, by email to prea@ncdps.gov, or the DPS Communications
office at (800) 368-1985.

Additionally, it may violate North Carolina law to sell or give an inmate or juvenile any alcoholic beverages,
barbiturate or stimulant drug, or any narcotic, poison or poisonous substance, except upon the prescription of a
physician; and it may violate North Carolina law to give an inmate or juvenile any tobacco or tobacco products,
alcohol, or cell phones. It may also violate NCDPS policy to convey to or take from any juvenile or inmate any
letters, or verbal messages; to convey any weapon or instrument by which to effect an escape, or that will aid in
an assault or insurrection; to trade with any inmate for clothing or stolen goods or to sell any inmate any article
forbidden by NCDPS policy.

By signing this document, you acknowledge that you understand and will abide by this policy as outlined above.”

29. **Vendor** shall be responsible to ensure that it has checked the federal System for Awards Management (SAM)
to verify that Vendors or sub-Recipients have not been suspended or debarred from doing business with federal
or State government”.
ATTACHMENT D: LOCATION OF WORKERS UTILIZED BY VENDOR

In accordance with NC General Statute 143-59.4, the Vendor shall detail the location(s) at which performance will occur, as well as the manner in which it intends to utilize resources or workers outside of the United States in the performance of this Contract. The State will evaluate the additional risks, costs, and other factors associated with such utilization prior to making an award. Please complete items a, b, and c below.

a) Will any work under this Contract be performed outside the United States? □ YES □ NO

If the Vendor answered “YES” above, Vendor must complete items 1 and 2 below:

1. List the location(s) outside the United States where work under this Contract will be performed by the Vendor, any sub-Vendors, employees, or other persons performing work under the Contract:

2. Describe the corporate structure and location of corporate employees and activities of the Vendor, its affiliates or any other sub-Vendors that will perform work outside the U.S.:

b) The Vendor agrees to provide notice, in writing to the State and Activating Entity, of the relocation of the Vendor, employees of the Vendor, sub-Vendors of the Vendor, or other persons performing services under the Contract outside of the United States □ YES □ NO

NOTE: All Vendor or sub-Vendor personnel providing call or contact center services to the State of North Carolina under the Contract shall disclose to inbound callers the location from which the call or contact center services are being provided.

c) Identify all U.S. locations at which performance will occur:
ATTACHMENT E: CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

Name of Vendor: _______________________________________________________________

The undersigned hereby certifies that: [check all applicable boxes]

☐ The Vendor is in sound financial condition and, if applicable, has received an unqualified audit opinion for the latest audit of its financial statements.

Date of latest audit: __________________________

☐ The Vendor has no outstanding liabilities, including tax and judgment liens, to the Internal Revenue Service or any other government entity.

☐ The Vendor is current in all amounts due for payments of federal and state taxes and required employment-related contributions and withholdings.

☐ The Vendor is not the subject of any current litigation or findings of noncompliance under federal or state law.

☐ The Vendor has not been the subject of any past or current litigation, findings in any past litigation, or findings of noncompliance under federal or state law that may impact in any way its ability to fulfill the requirements of this Contract.

☐ He or she is authorized to make the foregoing statements on behalf of the Vendor.

Note: This is a continuing certification and Vendor shall notify the Activating Entity and Contract Lead within 15 days of any material change to any of the representations made herein.

If any one or more of the foregoing boxes is NOT checked, Vendor shall explain the reason in the space below:

______________________________________________________________________________

Signature                                         Date

______________________________________________________________________________

Printed Name                                         Title

[This Certification must be signed by an individual authorized to speak for the Vendor]
ATTACHMENT F: HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES INFORMATION

Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) consist of minority, women and disabled business firms that are at least fifty-one percent owned and operated by an individual(s) of the categories. Also included in this category are disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled.

Pursuant to G.S. 143B-1361(a), 143-48 and 143-128.4, the State invites and encourages participation in this procurement process by businesses owned by minorities, women, disabled, disabled business enterprises and non-profit work centers for the blind and severely disabled. This includes utilizing subcontractors perform the required functions in this IFB. Any questions concerning NC HUB certification, contact the North Carolina Office of Historically Underutilized Businesses at (919) 807-2330. The Vendor shall respond to question a) and b) below.

a) Is Vendor submitting this IFB a Historically Underutilized Business?  □ Yes  □ No

b) Is Vendor a Certified with North Carolina as a Historically Underutilized Business?  □ Yes  □ No

If the awarded Vendor plans to subcontract with minority businesses, women's business enterprises and labor surplus area firms (2 C.F.R. §200.321) indicate below the HUB subcontractor name(s). If more than one subcontractor will be utilized, please enter “See Attached” and provide an additional page to list all required information with clearly defined Region's.

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ATTACHMENT G: REQUIRED ELEMENTS FOR UTILIZATION OF FEDERAL FUNDS

To the extent applicable, the following are the requirements that Vendor must agree to in order to be awarded any contract under this IFB. If Vendor is unwilling to meet any of these requirements, Vendor's submittal shall not be considered.

1. **No governmental non-competes.** Vendor shall not impose or enforce any non-competition agreement upon the employees included in Vendor's bid that would prevent those employees from accepting any offer of employment from the State of North Carolina outside of the first Term of the Contract. By executing this IFB the Vendor affirms this condition, as directed in the VENDOR EXPERIENCE SECTION 4.5 section of this IFB. This affirmation is a material condition for the State’s award of any work under this IFB.

2. **Program Monitoring.** Vendor agrees to assist and cooperate with the Federal grantor agency and NCEM or their duly designated representatives in the monitoring of the project or projects to which this contract relates, and to provide in form and manner approved by NCEM such monitoring reports, progress reports, and the like as may be required and to provide such reports at the times specified.

3. **Termination for Cause.** If through any cause, Vendor shall fail to fulfill in a timely or proper manner any obligations under this Contract, or if Vendor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of the Contract, NCEM shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice to Vendor of such termination and specifying the effective date of such termination. Unless a shorter time is determined by NCEM to be necessary, NCEM shall effect termination according to the following procedure:
   a. Notice to Cure. NCEM shall give written notice of the conditions of default, setting for the ground or grounds upon which such default is declared (“Notice to Cure”). The Vendor shall have ten (10) days from receipt of the Notice to Cure or any longer period that is set forth in the Notice to Cure to cure the default.
   b. Notice of Termination. If the conditions set forth in the Notice to Cure are not cured within the period set forth in the Notice to Cure, NCEM may terminate the Contract, in whole or in part. NCEM shall give the Vendor written notice of such termination (“Notice of Termination”), specifying the applicable provision(s) under which the Contract is terminated and the effective date of the termination.
   c. In such event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, and reports prepared by Vendor entitle Vendor’s receipt of just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents. Notwithstanding the above, Vendor shall not be relieved of liability to NCEM for damage sustained to NCEM by virtue of any breach of this Contract by Vendor. NCEM may withhold any payments to Vendor for the purpose of set off until such time as the exact amount of damages due NCEM from Vendor is determined.

4. **Funding Contingency.** The awarded Contract may be suspended and/or terminated without liability to the State and NCEM is under no obligation to make any payments to the Vendor.

5. **Equal Employment Opportunity.** During the performance of this contract, the Vendor agrees as follows:
   a. The Vendor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The Vendor 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 Vendor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

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

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

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

e. The Vendor will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.

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

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

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

Provided, however, that in the event a Vendor becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor vendor as a result of such direction by the administering agency, the Vendor may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.
The applicant further agrees that it will be bound by the above equal opportunity clause with respect to its own employment practices when it participates in federally assisted construction work: Provided, that if the applicant so participating is a State or local government, the above equal opportunity clause is not applicable to any agency, instrumentality or subdivision of such government which does not participate in work on or under the contract.

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

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

6. **Anti-Discrimination**. Vendor will comply with the following clauses: Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (PL 88-352), and the regulations issued pursuant thereto (prohibiting discrimination on the basis race, color, national origin and ensuring that individuals are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (codified as amended at 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.) (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex); Titles I, II, III, IV, and V of the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (codified as amended at 29 U.S.C. § 794) (prohibiting discrimination on the basis of handicap); the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.) (prohibiting age discrimination); Executive Order 11063 as amended by Executive Order 2259; and Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

7. **Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 3701-3708).**

Compliance with the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.

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

   b. **Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages**. In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in 29 CFR §5.5(b)(1) the Vendor and any subcontractor responsible therefor shall be liable for the
unpaid wages. In addition, such Vendor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States (in the case of work done under contract for the District of Columbia or a territory, to such District or to such territory), for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or mechanic, including watchmen and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in 29 CFR §5.5(b)(1), in the sum of $26 for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in 29 CFR §5.5(b)(1).

c. Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages. NCDEM shall upon its own action or upon written request of an authorized representative of the Department of Labor withhold or cause to be withheld, from any moneys payable on account of work performed by the Vendor or subcontractor under any such contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime Vendor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, which is held by the same prime Vendor, such sums as may be determined to be necessary to satisfy any liabilities of such Vendor or subcontractor for unpaid wages and liquidated damages as provided in the clause set forth in 29 CFR §5.5(b)(2).

d. Subcontracts. The Vendor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraph (b)(1) through (4) of 29 CFR §5.5 and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime Vendor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in 29 CFR §5.5(b)(2) through (4).

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

Clean Air Act

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

b. The Vendor agrees to report each violation to NCEM and the activating entity and understands and agrees that NCEM and the activating entity will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.

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

Federal Water Pollution Control Act

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

b. The Vendor agrees to report each violation to NCEM and the activating entity and understands and agrees that NCEM and the activating entity will, in turn, report each violation as required to assure notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the appropriate Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office.

c. The Vendor agrees to include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding $150,000 financed in whole or in part with Federal assistance provided by FEMA.
9. Debarment and Suspension.
   a. This contract is a covered transaction for purposes of 2 C.F.R. pt. 180 and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000. As such, the Vendor is required to verify that none of the Vendor’s principals (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.995) or its affiliates (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.905) are excluded (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.940) or disqualified (defined at 2 C.F.R. § 180.935).
   b. The Vendor must comply with 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C, and must include a requirement to comply with these regulations in any lower tier covered transaction it enters into.
   c. This certification is a material representation of fact relied upon by NCEM and any activating entity. If it is later determined that the Vendor did not comply with 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C, in addition to remedies available to NCEM and any activating entity, the Federal Government may pursue available remedies, including but not limited to suspension and/or debarment.
   d. The Vendor agrees to comply with the requirements of 2 C.F.R. pt. 180, subpart C and 2 C.F.R. pt. 3000, subpart C while this offer is valid and throughout the period of any contract that may arise from this offer. The Vendor or proposer further agrees to include a provision requiring such compliance in its lower tier covered transactions.

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

    Required Certification. If applicable, Vendors must sign and submit to the NCEM the certification. See Attachment H.

    a. In the performance of this contract, the Vendor shall make maximum use of products containing recovered materials that are EPA-designated items unless the product cannot be acquired—
       • Competitively within a timeframe providing for compliance with the contract performance schedule;
       • Meeting contract performance requirements; or
       • At a reasonable price.
    b. Information about this requirement, along with the list of EPA designated items, is available at EPA’s Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines web site, https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive-procurement-guideline-cpg-program.
    c. The Vendor also agrees to comply with all other applicable requirements of Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.”

12. Women and Minority Owned Businesses. 2 C.F.R. § 200.321 requires that all necessary affirmative steps are taken by the State and Vendor to assure that minority and women’s businesses are used when possible, and N.C. Gen. Stat. 143-128.2 establishes a ten percent (10%) goal for participation by minority and women owned
businesses in total value of work performed for the State.

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

   a. The Vendor agrees to provide NCEM, the FEMA Administrator, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives, and the activating entity access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Vendor which are directly pertinent to this contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions.

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

   c. The Vendor agrees to provide the FEMA Administrator or his authorized representative access to construction or other work sites pertaining to the work being completed under the contract.

   d. In compliance with the Disaster Recovery Act of 2018, NCEM, the activating entity, and the Vendor acknowledge and agree that no language in this contract is intended to prohibit audits or internal reviews by the FEMA Administrator or the Comptroller General of the United States.

   e. Vendor agrees to allow the departments and agencies of the State of North Carolina, FEMA, the Comptroller General of the United States, and any of their duly authorized representatives access to any books, documents, papers, and records of Vendor which are directly pertinent to the contract for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions.

14. **Records Retention.** All records required to be kept on the project shall be maintained for at least five (5) years after final payments and until all other pending matters under the grant for this project have been closed. However, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this project is commenced before the end of the five (5) year period, the records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the five (5) year period, whichever is later.

15. **Energy Efficiency.** All participants in the projects funded hereby shall recognize 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 (PL 94-163).

16. **Personnel.** Vendor represents that it has, or will secure at its own expense, all personnel required in performing the work under this Contract. Such personnel shall not be employees of or have any contractual relationship with Activating Entity, State or NCEM. All of the work required hereunder will be performed by Vendor or under its supervision, and all personnel engaged in the work shall be fully qualified and shall be authorized or permitted under State and local law to perform such work. No person who is serving a sentence in penal or correctional institution shall be employed to work under this Contract.

17. **Program Fraud and False or Fraudulent Statements or Related Acts.** Vendor acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chapter 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to its actions pertaining to the Contract.

18. **No Obligation by Federal Government.** The Federal Government is not a party to this contract and is not subject to any obligations or liabilities to the non-Federal entity, Vendor, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract.
19. **Compliance with Federal Law, Regulations, and Executive Orders.** This is an acknowledgement that FEMA financial assistance will be used to fund all or a portion of the contract. The Vendor will comply with all applicable Federal law, regulations, executive orders, FEMA policies, procedures, and directives.

20. **DHS, Seal, Logo, and Flags.** The Vendor shall not use the DHS seal(s), logos, crests, or reproductions of flags or likenesses of DHS agency officials without specific FEMA pre-approval.
ATTACHMENT H: CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

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

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.

If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying,” in accordance with its instructions.

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

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

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

__________________________________________
Signature of Vendor’s Authorized Official

__________________________________________
Name and Title of Vendor’s Authorized Official

______________________________
Date
ATTACHMENT I: DEBRIS QUANTITY FORECAST

The chart below provides forecasts of debris quantities for each county in the State of North Carolina. County data is grouped by geographic region. The forecast is based on the USACE hurricane debris estimating model; model assumptions are listed below. This chart is provided for informational purposes only to assist Vendors in understanding the variations among geographic regions in the state. Fees quoted in Attachment A shall be based on a unit of one (1).

Assumptions:

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ATTACHMENT J: CERTIFICATION OF CAPACITY/CAPABILITIES

Name of Vendor: _______________________________________________________________

Please answer all questions fully. If additional space is needed please provide explanations on an additional page clearly titled "Attachment J: Additional Information Provided". By signing this page Vendor certifies that all information is complete and accurate to best of Vendor’s capabilities.

1. Please provide the number of direct employees of the Vendor. __________________________________

2. Is there a minimum standard of training that all employees receive, such as FEMA ICS or NIMS training? If so please list: _________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

3. List physical locations that would allow Vendor Representatives to be on site within the required 24 hours:
   ______________________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

4. Please provide a brief description of the equipment immediately available to Vendor staff to ensure proper execution of the scope of work: ___________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

5. Please list contracts Vendor has held within the last three (3) years, with dates, that would be multijurisdictional and speak to their capacity to effectively execute this scope of work: ________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

6. Please disclose any instances in which prior contracts were denied FEMA reimbursement due in part or in whole to the Vendor’s noncompliance: _______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________ __________________
Signature Date

Printed Name Title

[This Certification must be signed by an individual authorized to speak for the Vendor]