

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

EXHIBITS TO MARAD GRANT AGREEMENTS UNDER THE
FISCAL YEARS 2025-26 MEGA PROGRAM

November 4, 2025

EXHIBIT A

APPLICABLE FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS

By entering into this agreement for an FYs 2025-26 Mega Grant, the Recipient assures and certifies, with respect to this Grant, that it will comply with all applicable Federal laws, regulations, executive orders, policies, guidelines, and requirements as they relate to the application, acceptance, and use of Federal funds for this Project. Performance under this agreement shall be governed by and in compliance with the following requirements, as applicable, to the type of organization of the Recipient and any applicable sub-recipients. The applicable provisions to this agreement include, but are not limited to, the following:

General Federal Legislation

- a. Davis-Bacon Act - 40 U.S.C. §§ 3141, et seq.
- b. Federal Fair Labor Standards Act - 29 U.S.C. §§ 201, et seq.
- c. Hatch Act - 5 U.S.C. §§ 1501, et seq., but see 49 U.S.C. § 5323(l)(2)
- d. Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 - 42 U.S.C. §§ 4601, et seq.
- e. National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 - Section 106 - 54 U.S.C. § 306108
- f. Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 - 54 U.S.C. §§ 312501, et seq.
- g. Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act - 25 U.S.C. §§ 3001, et seq.
- h. Clean Air Act, P.L. 90-148, as amended - 42 U.S.C. §§ 7401, et seq.
- i. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, as amended - 33 U.S.C. § 1344
- j. Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, P.L. 93-205, as amended - 16 U.S.C. § 1536
- k. Coastal Zone Management Act, P.L. 92-583, as amended - 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451, et seq.
- l. Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 - Section 102(a) - 42 U.S.C. § 4012a
- m. Age Discrimination Act of 1975 - 42 U.S.C. §§ 6101, et seq.
- n. American Indian Religious Freedom Act, P.L. 95-341, as amended
- o. Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972, as amended, 21 U.S.C. §§ 1101, et seq.
- p. The Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970, P.L. 91-616, as amended - 42 U.S.C. §§ 4541, et seq.
- q. Sections 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 290dd through 290dd-2
- r. Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 - 42 U.S.C. § 4151, et seq.
- s. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act - 40 U.S.C. § 3701, et seq.
- t. Copeland Anti-kickback Act, as amended - 18 U.S.C. § 874 and 40 U.S.C. § 3145
- u. National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 - 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321, et seq.
- v. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, P.L. 90-542, as amended – 16 U.S.C. §§ 1271, et seq.
- w. Single Audit Act of 1984 - 31 U.S.C. §§ 7501, et seq.
- x. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 - 42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.
- y. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended - 20 U.S.C. § 1681 through § 1683, and § 1685 through § 1687
- z. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended - 29 U.S.C. § 794
- aa. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d *et seq.*
- bb. Limitation on Use of Appropriated Funds to Influence Certain Federal Contracting and Financial Transactions – 31 U.S.C. § 1352
- cc. Freedom of Information Act - 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended
- dd. Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act – 16 U.S.C. § 1855

- ee. Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 – 7 U.S.C. § 4201, et seq.
- ff. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1956 – 16 U.S.C. § 661, et seq.
- gg. Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and the General Bridge Act of 1946 - 33 U.S.C. §§ 401 and 525
- hh. Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, 49 U.S.C. 303 and 23 U.S.C. § 138
- ii. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended --42 U.S.C. §§ 9601, et seq.
- jj. Safe Drinking Water Act -- 42 U.S.C. §§ 300f to 300j-26
- kk. Wilderness Act -- 16 U.S.C. §§ 1131-1136
- ll. Migratory Bird Treaty Act 16 U.S.C. § 703, et seq.
- mm. The Federal Funding Transparency and Accountability Act of 2006, as amended (Pub. L. 109–282, as amended by section 6202 of Public Law 110–252)
- nn. Cargo Preference Act of 1954 – 46 U.S.C. § 55305
- oo. Build America, Buy America Act – Pub. L. No. 117-58, div. G, §§ 70901–70927
- pp. The Buy American Act, 41 U.S.C. chapter 83
- qq. Section 889 of the John D. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, Pub. L. 115-232

Executive Orders

- a. Executive Order 11990 – Protection of Wetlands
- b. Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management
- c. Executive Order 12372 – Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs
- d. Executive Order 12549 – Debarment and Suspension
- e. Executive Order 14005 – Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America’s Workers
- f. Executive Order 14025 – Worker Organizing and Empowerment
- g. Executive Order 14149 – Restoring Freedom of Speech and Ending Federal Censorship
- h. Executive Order 14154 – Unleashing American Energy
- i. Executive Order 14151 – Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing
- j. Executive Order 14168 – Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government
- k. Executive Order 14173 – Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity

General Federal Regulations

- a. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards – 2 CFR Parts 200, 1201
- b. Non-procurement Suspension and Debarment – 2 CFR Parts 180, 1200
- c. Procedures for predetermination of wage rates – 29 CFR Part 1
- d. Contractors and subcontractors on public building or public work financed in whole or part by loans or grants from the United States – 29 CFR Part 3
- e. Labor standards provisions applicable to contracts governing federally financed and assisted construction (also labor standards provisions applicable to non-construction)

- contracts subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act) – 29 CFR Part 5
- f. Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor (Federal and federally assisted contracting requirements) – 41 CFR Parts 60, et seq.
 - g. New Restrictions on Lobbying – 49 CFR Part 20
 - h. Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation – Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 – 49 CFR Part 21, including any amendments thereto
 - i. Uniform relocation assistance and real property acquisition for Federal and Federally assisted programs – 49 CFR Part 24
 - j. Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance – 49 CFR Part 25
 - k. Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap in Programs and Activities Receiving or Benefiting from Federal Financial Assistance – 49 CFR Part 27
 - l. DOT's implementation of DOJ's ADA Title II regulations compliance procedures for all programs, services, and regulatory activities relating to transportation under 28 CFR Part 35
 - m. Enforcement of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap in Programs or Activities Conducted by the Department of Transportation – 49 CFR Part 28
 - n. Denial of public works contracts to suppliers of goods and services of countries that deny procurement market access to U.S. contractors – 49 CFR Part 30
 - o. Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance) – 49 CFR Part 32
 - p. DOT's implementing ADA regulations for transit services and transit vehicles, including the DOT's standards for accessible transportation facilities in Part 37, Appendix A – 49 CFR Parts 37 and 38
 - q. Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs – 49 CFR Part 26, including any amendments thereto
 - r. Buy America Preferences for Infrastructure Projects – 2 CFR 184

Office of Management and Budget Circulars

- a. Any applicable OMB Circular based upon the specific FYs 2025-26 Mega Grant Recipient.

EXHIBIT B
ADDITIONAL STANDARD TERMS

[The remainder of this page intentionally left blank.]

TERM B.1
TITLE VI ASSURANCE
(Implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended)

**ASSURANCE CONCERNING NONDISCRIMINATION IN FEDERALLY-ASSISTED
PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES RECEIVING OR BENEFITING FROM FEDERAL
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

(Implementing the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans With Disabilities
Act, as amended)

49 CFR Parts 21, 25, 27, 37 and 38

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)

Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Assurances

DOT Order No. 1050.2A

By signing and submitting the Technical Application and by entering into this agreement under the FYs 2025-26 Mega program, the Recipient **HEREBY AGREES THAT**, as a condition to receiving any Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), through the Maritime Administration (MARAD), it is subject to and will comply with the following:

Statutory/Regulatory Authorities

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*, 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin);
- 49 CFR Part 21, including any amendments thereto (entitled *Non-discrimination In Federally-Assisted Programs Of The Department Of Transportation—Effectuation Of Title VI Of The Civil Rights Act Of 1964*);
- 28 CFR section 50.3 (U.S. Department of Justice Guidelines for Enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964);

The preceding statutory and regulatory cites hereinafter are referred to as the “Acts” and “Regulations,” respectively.

General Assurances

In accordance with the Acts, the Regulations, and other pertinent directives, circulars, policy, memoranda, and/or guidance, the Recipient hereby gives assurance that it will promptly take any measures necessary to ensure that:

“No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity,” for which the Recipient receives Federal financial assistance from DOT, including MARAD.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 clarified the original intent of Congress, with respect to Title VI and other Non-discrimination requirements (The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973), by restoring the broad, institutional-wide scope and coverage of these non-discrimination statutes and requirements to include all programs and activities of the Recipient, so long as any portion of the program is Federally assisted.

Specific Assurances

More specifically, and without limiting the above general Assurance, the Recipient agrees with and gives the following Assurances with respect to its Federally assisted FYs 2025-26 Mega program:

1. The Recipient agrees that each “activity,” “facility,” or “program,” as defined in §§ 21.23 (b) and 21.23 (e) of 49 CFR Part 21, including any amendments thereto, will be (with regard to an “activity”) facilitated, or will be (with regard to a “facility”) operated, or will be (with regard to a “program”) conducted in compliance with all requirements imposed by, or pursuant to the Acts and the Regulations.
2. The Recipient will insert the following notification in all solicitations for bids, Requests For Proposals for work, or material subject to the Acts and the Regulations made in connection with the FYs 2025-26 Mega Grant and, in adapted form, in all proposals for negotiated agreements regardless of funding source:

“The Recipient, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that for any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.”

3. The Recipient will insert the clauses of Appendix A and E of this Assurance in every contract or agreement subject to the Acts and the Regulations.
4. The Recipient will insert the clauses of Appendix B of this Assurance, as a covenant running with the land, in any deed from the United States effecting or recording a transfer of real property, structures, use, or improvements thereon or interest therein to a Recipient.

5. That where the Recipient receives Federal financial assistance to construct a facility, or part of a facility, the Assurance will extend to the entire facility and facilities operated in connection therewith.
6. That where the Recipient receives Federal financial assistance in the form, or for the acquisition of real property or an interest in real property, the Assurance will extend to rights to space on, over, or under such property.
7. That the Recipient will include the clauses set forth in Appendix C and Appendix D of this Assurance, as a covenant running with the land, in any future deeds, leases, licenses, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the Recipient with other parties:
 - a. for the subsequent transfer of real property acquired or improved under the applicable activity, project, or program; and
 - b. for the construction or use of, or access to, space on, over, or under real property acquired or improved under the applicable activity, project, or program.
8. That this Assurance obligates the Recipient for the period during which Federal financial assistance is extended to the program, except where the Federal financial assistance is to provide, or is in the form of, personal property, or real property, or interest therein, or structures or improvements thereon, in which case the Assurance obligates the Recipient, or any transferee for the longer of the following periods:
 - a. the period during which the property is used for a purpose for which the Federal financial assistance is extended, or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits; or
 - b. the period during which the Recipient retains ownership or possession of the property.
9. The Recipient will provide for such methods of administration for the program as are found by the Secretary of Transportation or the official to whom he/she delegates specific authority to give reasonable guarantee that it, other recipients, sub-recipients, contractors, subcontractors, consultants, transferees, successors in interest, and other participants of Federal financial assistance under such program will comply with all requirements imposed or pursuant to the Acts, the Regulations, and this Assurance.
10. The Recipient agrees that the United States has a right to seek judicial enforcement with regard to any matter arising under the Acts, the Regulations, and this Assurance.

By signing this ASSURANCE, the Recipient also agrees to comply (and require any sub-recipients, contractors, successors, transferees, and/or assignees to comply) with all applicable provisions governing MARAD's access to records, accounts, documents, information, facilities, and staff. You also recognize that you must comply with any program or compliance reviews, and/or complaint investigations conducted by MARAD. You must keep records, reports, and submit the material for review upon request to MARAD, or its designee in a timely, complete,

and accurate way. Additionally, you must comply with all other reporting, data collection, and evaluation requirements, as prescribed by law or detailed in program guidance.

The Recipient gives this ASSURANCE in consideration of and for obtaining any Federal grants, loans, contracts, agreements, property, and/or discounts, or other Federal-aid and Federal financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the recipients by the U.S. Department of Transportation under the FYs 2025-26 Mega program. This ASSURANCE is binding on the Recipient, other recipients, sub-recipients, contractors, subcontractors and their subcontractors', transferees, successors in interest, and any other participants in the FYs 2025-26 Mega program.

APPENDIX A

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the “contractor”) agrees as follows:

1. **Compliance with Regulations:** The contractor (hereinafter includes consultants) will comply with the Acts and the Regulations relative to Non-discrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration (MARAD), as they may be amended from time to time, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.
2. **Non-discrimination:** The contractor, with regard to the work performed by it during the contract, will not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in the selection and retention of subcontractors, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment. The contractor will not participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by the Acts and the Regulations, including employment practices when the contract covers any activity, project, or program set forth in Appendix B of 49 CFR Part 21, including any amendments thereto.
3. **Solicitations for Subcontracts, Including Procurements of Materials and Equipment:** In all solicitations, either by competitive bidding, or negotiation made by the contractor for work to be performed under a subcontract, including procurements of materials, or leases of equipment, each potential subcontractor or supplier will be notified by the contractor of the contractor’s obligations under this contract and the Acts and the Regulations relative to Non-discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin.
4. **Information and Reports:** The contractor will provide all information and reports required by the Acts, the Regulations, and directives issued pursuant thereto and will permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as may be determined by the Recipient or MARAD to be pertinent to ascertain compliance with such Acts, Regulations, and instructions. Where any information required of a contractor is in the exclusive possession of another who fails or refuses to furnish the information, the contractor will so certify to the Recipient or MARAD, as appropriate, and will set forth what efforts it has made to obtain the information.
5. **Sanctions for Noncompliance:** In the event of a contractor’s noncompliance with the Non-discrimination provisions of this contract, the Recipient will impose such contract sanctions as it or MARAD may determine to be appropriate, including, but not limited to:
 - a. withholding payments to the contractor under the contract until the contractor complies; and/or
 - b. cancelling, terminating, or suspending a contract, in whole or in part.
6. **Incorporation of Provisions:** The contractor will include the provisions of paragraphs one through six in every subcontract, including procurements of materials and leases of equipment, unless exempt by the Acts, the Regulations and directives issued pursuant

thereto. The contractor will take action with respect to any subcontract or procurement as the Recipient or MARAD may direct as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance. Provided, that if the contractor becomes involved in, or is threatened with litigation by a subcontractor, or supplier because of such direction, the contractor may request the Recipient to enter into any litigation to protect the interests of the Recipient. In addition, the contractor may request the United States to enter into the litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

APPENDIX B

CLAUSES FOR DEEDS TRANSFERRING UNITED STATES PROPERTY

The following clauses will be included in deeds effecting or recording the transfer of real property, structures, or improvements thereon, or granting interest therein from the United States pursuant to the provisions of Specific Assurance 4:

NOW, THEREFORE, the U.S. Department of Transportation as authorized by law and upon the condition that the Recipient will accept title to the lands and maintain the project constructed thereon in accordance with the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. No. 117-58 (Nov. 15, 2021), 49 U.S.C. § 6701, the Regulations for the Administration of the FYs 2025-26 Mega program, and the policies and procedures prescribed by the Maritime Administration (MARAD) of the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance and in compliance with all requirements imposed by Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Non-discrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, including any amendments thereto, pertaining to and effectuating the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252; 42 U.S.C. § 2000d to 2000d-4), does hereby remise, release, quitclaim and convey unto the Recipient all the right, title and interest of the U.S. Department of Transportation in and to said lands described in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

(HABENDUM CLAUSE)

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said lands and interests therein unto Recipient and its successors forever, subject, however, to the covenants, conditions, restrictions and reservations herein contained as follows, which will remain in effect for the period during which the real property or structures are used for a purpose for which Federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits and will be binding on the Recipient, its successors and assigns.

The Recipient, in consideration of the conveyance of said lands and interests in lands, does hereby covenant and agree as a covenant running with the land for itself, its successors and assigns, that (1) no person will on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination with regard to any facility located wholly or in part on, over, or under such lands hereby conveyed [,] [and]* (2) that the Recipient will use the lands and interests in lands and interests in lands so conveyed, in compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Non-discrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation, including any amendments thereto, Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and as said Regulations and Acts may be amended, and (3) that in the event of breach of any of the above-mentioned non-discrimination conditions, the Department will have a right to enter or re-enter said lands and facilities on said land, and that above described land and facilities will thereon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the U.S. Department of Transportation and its assigns as such interest existed prior to this instruction].*

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary in order to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

APPENDIX C

CLAUSES FOR TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED OR IMPROVED UNDER THE ACTIVITY, FACILITY, OR PROGRAM

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, leases, permits, or similar instruments entered into by the Recipient pursuant to the provisions of Specific Assurance 7(a):

- A. The (Recipient, lessee, permittee, etc. as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree [in the case of deeds and leases add “as a covenant running with the land”] that:
 - 1. In the event facilities are constructed, maintained, or otherwise operated on the property described in this (deed, license, lease, permit, etc.) for a purpose for which a U.S. Department of Transportation activity, facility, or program is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits, the (Recipient, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will maintain and operate such facilities and services in compliance with all requirements imposed by the Acts and Regulations (as may be amended) such that no person on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities.
- B. With respect to licenses, leases, permits, etc., in the event of breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, Recipient will have the right to terminate the (lease, license, permit, etc.) and to enter, re-enter, and repossess said lands and facilities thereon, and hold the same as if the (lease, license, permit, etc.) had never been made or issued.*
- C. With respect to a deed, in the event of breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, the Recipient will have the right to enter or re-enter the lands and facilities thereon, and the above described lands and facilities will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of the Recipient and its assigns.*

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

APPENDIX D

CLAUSES FOR CONSTRUCTION/USE/ACCESS TO REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED UNDER THE ACTIVITY, FACILITY OR PROGRAM

The following clauses will be included in deeds, licenses, permits, or similar instruments/agreements entered into by Recipient pursuant to the provisions of Specific Assurance 7(b):

- A. The (Recipient, licensee, permittee, etc., as appropriate) for himself/herself, his/her heirs, personal representatives, successors in interest, and assigns, as a part of the consideration hereof, does hereby covenant and agree (in the case of deeds and leases add, “as a covenant running with the land”) that (1) no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the use of said facilities, (2) that in the construction of any improvements on, over, or under such land, and the furnishing of services thereon, no person on the ground of race, color, or national origin, will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination, (3) that the (Recipient, licensee, lessee, permittee, etc.) will use the premises in compliance with all other requirements imposed by or pursuant to the Acts and Regulations, as amended, set forth in this Assurance.
- B. With respect to (licenses, leases, permits, etc.), in the event of breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, Recipient will have the right to terminate the (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) and to enter or re-enter and repossess said land and the facilities thereon, and hold the same as if said (license, permit, etc., as appropriate) had never been made or issued.*
- C. With respect to deeds, in the event of breach of any of the above Non-discrimination covenants, Recipient will there upon revert to and vest in and become the absolute property of Recipient and its assigns.*

(*Reverter clause and related language to be used only when it is determined that such a clause is necessary to make clear the purpose of Title VI.)

APPENDIX E

During the performance of this contract, the contractor, for itself, its assignees, and successors in interest (hereinafter referred to as the “contractor”) agrees to comply with the following non-discrimination statutes and authorities; including but not limited to:

Pertinent Non-Discrimination Authorities:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*, 78 stat. 252), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin); and 49 CFR Part 21, including any amendments thereto
- The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, (42 U.S.C. § 4601), (prohibits unfair treatment of persons displaced or whose property has been acquired because of Federal or Federal-aid programs and projects);
- Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, (23 U.S.C. § 324 *et seq.*), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex);
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, (29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.*), as amended, (prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability); and 49 CFR Part 27;
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, (42 U.S.C. § 6101 *et seq.*), (prohibits discrimination on the basis of age);
- Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, (49 U.S.C. § 471, Section 47123), as amended, (prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, or sex);
- The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, (PL 100-209), (Broadened the scope, coverage and applicability of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, by expanding the definition of the terms “programs or activities” to include all of the programs or activities of the Federal-aid recipients, sub-recipients and contractors, whether such programs or activities are Federally funded or not);
- Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in the operation of public entities, public and private transportation systems, places of public accommodation, and certain testing entities (42 U.S.C. §§ 12131 – 12189) as implemented by Department of Transportation regulations at 49 CFR Parts 37 and 38;
- The Federal Aviation Administration’s Non-discrimination statute (49 U.S.C. § 47123) (prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and sex);
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, which prohibits you from discriminating because of sex in education programs or activities (20 U.S.C. § 1681 *et seq.*).

TERM B.2
CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER
RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS -- PRIMARY COVERED TRANSACTIONS

2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200

These assurances and certifications are applicable to all Federal-aid construction contracts, design-build contracts, subcontracts, lower-tier subcontracts, purchase orders, lease agreements, consultant contracts or any other covered transaction requiring MARAD approval or that is estimated to cost \$25,000 or more – as defined in 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200.

By signing and submitting the Technical Application and by entering into this agreement under the FYs 2025-26 Mega program, the Recipient is providing the assurances and certifications for First Tier Participants and Lower Tier Participants in the FYs 2025-26 Mega Grant, as set out below.

1. Instructions for Certification – First Tier Participants:

- a. The prospective first tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
- b. The inability of a person to provide the certification set out below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective first tier participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective first tier participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such a person from participation in this transaction.
- c. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the contracting agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the contracting agency may terminate this transaction for cause of default.
- d. The prospective first tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the contracting agency to whom this proposal is submitted if any time the prospective first tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- e. The terms "covered transaction," "civil judgment," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "participant," "person," "principal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, are defined in 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200. "First Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction between a Recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds and a participant (such as the prime or general contract). "Lower Tier Covered Transactions" refers to any covered transaction under a First Tier Covered Transaction (such as subcontracts). "First Tier Participant" refers to

the participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a Recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds (such as the prime or general contractor). “Lower Tier Participant” refers to any participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a First Tier Participant or other Lower Tier Participants (such as subcontractors and suppliers).

f. The prospective first tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

g. The prospective first tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions,” provided by the department or contracting agency, entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions exceeding the \$25,000 threshold.

h. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant is responsible for ensuring that its principals are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in covered transactions. To verify the eligibility of its principals, as well as the eligibility of any lower tier prospective participants, each participant may, but is not required to, check the System for Award Management website (<https://www.sam.gov/>), which is compiled by the General Services Administration.

i. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require the establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of the prospective participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

j. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph (f) of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion – First Tier Participants:

a. The prospective first tier participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:

(1) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;

(2) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment, including a civil settlement, rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(3) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(2) of this certification; and

(4) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

b. Where the prospective participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

2. Instructions for Certification - Lower Tier Participants:

(Applicable to all subcontracts, purchase orders and other lower tier transactions requiring prior MARAD approval or estimated to cost \$25,000 or more - 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200)

a. The prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

b. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department, or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

c. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

d. The terms “covered transaction,” “civil settlement,” “debarred,” “suspended,” “ineligible,” “participant,” “person,” “principal,” and “voluntarily excluded,” as used in this clause, are defined in 2 CFR Parts 180 and 1200. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations. “First Tier Covered Transactions” refers to any covered transaction between a Recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds and a participant (such as the prime or general contract). “Lower Tier Covered Transactions” refers to any covered transaction under a First Tier Covered Transaction (such as subcontracts). “First Tier Participant” refers to the participant who has entered into a covered

transaction with a Recipient or subrecipient of Federal funds (such as the prime or general contractor). “Lower Tier Participant” refers any participant who has entered into a covered transaction with a First Tier Participant or other Lower Tier Participants (such as subcontractors and suppliers).

e. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

f. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction,” without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions exceeding the \$25,000 threshold.

g. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant is responsible for ensuring that its principals are not suspended, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in covered transactions. To verify the eligibility of its principals, as well as the eligibility of any lower tier prospective participants, each participant may, but is not required to, check the System for Award Management website (<https://www.sam.gov/>), which is compiled by the General Services Administration.

h. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

i. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph e of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion -- Lower Tier Participants:

1. The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in covered transactions by any Federal department or agency.

2. Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

TERM B.3
REQUIREMENTS REGARDING DELINQUENT TAX LIABILITY OR A FELONY
CONVICTION UNDER ANY FEDERAL LAW

As required by sections 744 and 745 of Title VII, Division B of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, Pub. L. No. 118-42 (March 8, 2024), and anticipated for future appropriations acts, and as implemented through USDOT Order 4200.6, the funds provided under this award shall not be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that:

- (1) Has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless a Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government; or
- (2) Was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless a Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

The Recipient therefore agrees:

1. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this exhibit, the following definitions apply:

“**Covered Transaction**” means a transaction that uses any funds under this award and that is a contract, memorandum of understanding, cooperative agreement, grant, loan, or loan guarantee.

“**Felony Conviction**” means a conviction within the preceding 24 months of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law and includes conviction of an offense defined in a section of the United States Code that specifically classifies the offense as a felony and conviction of an offense that is classified as a felony under 18 U.S.C. 3559.

“**Participant**” means the Recipient, an entity who submits a proposal for a Covered Transaction, or an entity who enters into a Covered Transaction.

“**Tax Delinquency**” means an unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted, or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability.

2. **Mandatory Check in the System for Award Management.** Before entering a Covered Transaction with another entity, a Participant shall check the System for Award Management (the “SAM”) at <http://www.sam.gov/> for an entry describing that entity.
3. **Mandatory Certifications.** Before entering a Covered Transaction with another entity, a Participant shall require that entity to:
 - (1) Certify whether the entity has a Tax Delinquency; and
 - (2) Certify whether the entity has a Felony Conviction.
4. **Prohibition.** If
 - (1) the SAM entry for an entity indicates that the entity has a Tax Delinquency or a Federal Conviction;
 - (2) an entity provides an affirmative response to either certification in section 3; or
 - (3) an entity’s certification under section 3 was inaccurate when made or became inaccurate after being madethen a Participant shall not enter or continue a Covered Transaction with that entity unless the USDOT has determined in writing that suspension or debarment of that entity are not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.
5. **Mandatory Notice to the USDOT.**
 - (a) If the SAM entry for a Participant indicates that the Participant has a Tax Delinquency or a Felony Conviction, the Recipient shall notify the USDOT in writing of that entry.
 - (b) If a Participant provides an affirmative response to either certification in section 1, the Recipient shall notify the USDOT in writing of that affirmative response.
 - (c) If the Recipient knows that a Participant’s certification under section 1 was inaccurate when made or became inaccurate after being made, the Recipient shall notify the USDOT in writing of that inaccuracy.
6. **Flow Down.** For all Covered Transactions, including all tiers of subcontracts and subawards, the Recipient shall:
 - (1) require the SAM check in section 2;
 - (2) require the certifications in section 3;
 - (3) include the prohibition in section 4; and

- (4) require all Participants to notify the Recipient in writing of any information that would require the Recipient to notify the USDOT under section 5.

TERM B.4

RECIPIENT POLICY TO BAN TEXT MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING

(a) *Definitions.* The following definitions are intended to be consistent with the definitions in DOT Order 3902.10, Text Messaging While Driving (Dec. 30, 2009) and Executive Order 13513, Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving (Oct. 1, 2009). For clarification purposes, they may expand upon the definitions in the executive order.

For the purpose of this Term B.4, “**Motor Vehicles**” means any vehicle, self-propelled or drawn by mechanical power, designed and operated principally for use on a local, State or Federal roadway, but does not include a military design motor vehicle or any other vehicle excluded under Federal Management Regulation 102-34-15.

For the purpose of this Term B.4, “**Driving**” means operating a motor vehicle on a roadway, including while temporarily stationary because of traffic congestion, a traffic signal, a stop sign, another traffic control device, or otherwise. It does not include being in your vehicle (with or without the motor running) in a location off the roadway where it is safe and legal to remain stationary.

For the purpose of this Term B.4, “**Text messaging**” means reading from or entering data into any handheld or other electronic device (including, but not limited to, cell phones, navigational tools, laptop computers, or other electronic devices), including for the purpose of Short Message Service (SMS) texting, e-mailing, instant messaging, obtaining navigational information, or engaging in any other form of electronic data retrieval or electronic data communication. The term does not include the use of a cell phone or other electronic device for the limited purpose of entering a telephone number to make an outgoing call or answer an incoming call, unless this practice is prohibited by State or local law. The term also does not include glancing at or listening to a navigational device that is secured in a commercially designed holder affixed to the vehicle, provided that the destination and route are programmed into the device either before driving or while stopped in a location off the roadway where it is safe and legal to remain stationary.

For the purpose of this Term B.4, the “**Government**” includes the United States Government and State, local, and tribal governments at all levels.

(b) *Workplace Safety.* In accordance with Executive Order 13513, Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving (Oct. 1, 2009) and DOT Order 3902.10, Text Messaging While Driving (Dec. 30, 2009), the Recipient, subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors are encouraged to:

(1) adopt and enforce workplace safety policies to decrease crashes caused by distracted drivers including policies to ban text messaging while driving—

(i) Company-owned or -rented vehicles or Government-owned, leased or rented vehicles; or

(ii) Privately-owned vehicles when on official Government business or when performing any work for or on behalf of the Government.

(2) Conduct workplace safety initiatives in a manner commensurate with the size of the business, such as—

(i) Establishment of new rules and programs or re-evaluation of existing programs to prohibit text messaging while driving; and

(ii) Education, awareness, and other outreach to employees about the safety risks associated with texting while driving.

(c) *Subawards and Contracts*. To the extent permitted by law, the Recipient shall insert the substance of this exhibit, including this paragraph (c), in all subawards, contracts, and subcontracts under this award that exceed the micro-purchase threshold, other than contracts and subcontracts for the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items.

TERM B.5
**REQUIRED USE OF AMERICAN IRON, STEEL, MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS,
AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS**

This award term implements § 70914(a) of the Build America, Buy America Act, Pub. L. No. 117-58, div. G, tit. IX, subtit. A, 135 Stat. 429, 1298 (2021), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-24-02, “Implementation Guidance on Application of Buy America Preference in Federal Financial Assistance Programs for Infrastructure,” and 2 CFR part 184.

Requirement to Use Iron, Steel, Manufactured Products, and Construction Materials Produced in the United States.

The Recipient shall not use funds provided under this award for an infrastructure project unless:

- (1) all iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States—this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States;
- (2) all manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States—this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product; and
- (3) all construction materials are manufactured in the United States—this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States.

Incorporation into an infrastructure project.

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

Categorization of articles, materials, and supplies.

An article, material, or supply should only be classified into one of the following categories: (i) Iron or steel products; (ii) Manufactured products; (iii) Construction materials; or (iv) Section 70917(c) materials. An article, material, or supply should not be considered to fall into multiple categories. In some cases, an article, material, or supply may not fall under any of the categories listed in this paragraph. The classification of an article, material, or supply as falling into one of the categories listed in this paragraph must be made based on its status at the time it is brought to the work site for incorporation into an infrastructure project. In general, the work site is the

location of the infrastructure project at which the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials will be incorporated.

Application of the Buy America Preference by category.

An article, material, or supply incorporated into an infrastructure project must meet the Buy America Preference for only the single category in which it is classified.

Determining the cost of components for manufactured products.

In determining whether the cost of components for manufactured products is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components, use the following instructions:

- (a) For components purchased by the manufacturer, the acquisition cost, including transportation costs to the place of incorporation into the manufactured product (whether or not such costs are paid to a domestic firm), and any applicable duty (whether or not a duty-free entry certificate is issued); or
- (b) For components manufactured by the manufacturer, all costs associated with the manufacture of the component, including transportation costs as described in paragraph (a), plus allocable overhead costs, but excluding profit. Cost of components does not include any costs associated with the manufacture of the manufactured product.

Waivers.

When necessary, the Recipient may apply for, and the USDOT may grant, a waiver from the Buy America preference in this award term.

A request to waive the application of the Buy America preference must be in writing. The USDOT will provide instructions on the waiver process and on the format, contents, and supporting materials required for any waiver request. Waiver requests are subject to public comment periods of no less than 15 days and must be reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Made in America Office.

When the USDOT has made a determination that one of the following exceptions applies, the awarding official may waive the application of the Buy America preference in any case in which the USDOT determines that:

- (1) applying the Buy America preference would be inconsistent with the public interest;
- (2) the types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or
- (3) the inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

There may be instances where an award qualifies, in whole or in part, for an existing waiver described at <https://www.transportation.gov/office-policy/transportation-policy/made-in-america>.

Definitions

“Buy America preference” means the “domestic content procurement preference” set forth in section 70914 of the Build America, Buy America Act, which requires the head of each Federal agency to ensure that none of the funds made available for a Federal award for an infrastructure project may be obligated unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials incorporated into the project are produced in the United States.

“Component” means an article, material, or supply, whether manufactured or unmanufactured, incorporated directly into: a manufactured product; or, where applicable, an iron or steel product.

“Construction materials” means articles, materials, or supplies that consist of only one of the items listed in paragraph (1) of this definition, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this definition. To the extent one of the items listed in paragraph (1) contains as inputs other items listed in paragraph (1), it is nonetheless a construction material.

(1) The listed items are:

- (i) Non-ferrous metals;
- (ii) Plastic and polymer-based products (including polyvinylchloride, composite building materials, and polymers used in fiber optic cables);
- (iii) Glass (including optic glass);
- (iv) Fiber optic cable (including drop cable);
- (v) Optical fiber;
- (vi) Lumber;
- (vii) Engineered wood; and
- (viii) Drywall.

(2) Minor additions of articles, materials, supplies, or binding agents to a construction material do not change the categorization of the construction material.

“Infrastructure” means public infrastructure projects in the United States, which includes, at a minimum, the structures, facilities, and equipment for roads, highways, and bridges; public transportation; dams, ports, harbors, and other maritime facilities; intercity passenger and freight railroads; freight and intermodal facilities; airports; water systems, including drinking water and wastewater systems; electrical transmission facilities and systems; utilities; broadband infrastructure; and buildings and real property; and structures, facilities, and equipment that generate, transport, and distribute energy including electric vehicle (EV) charging.

“Infrastructure project” means any activity related to the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure in the United States regardless of whether infrastructure is the primary purpose of the project. See also paragraphs (c) and (d) of 2 CFR 184.4.

“Iron or steel products” means articles, materials, or supplies that consist wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both.

“Manufactured products” means:

- (1) Articles, materials, or supplies that have been:
 - (i) Processed into a specific form and shape; or
 - (ii) Combined with other articles, materials, or supplies to create a product with different properties than the individual articles, materials, or supplies.
- (2) If an item is classified as an iron or steel product, a construction material, or a section 70917(c) material under 2 CFR 184.4(e) and the definitions set forth in this section, then it is not a manufactured product. However, an article, material, or supply classified as a manufactured product under 2 CFR 184.4(e) and paragraph (1) of this definition may include components that are construction materials, iron or steel products, or section 70917(c) materials.

“Manufacturer” means the entity that performs the final manufacturing process that produces a manufactured product.

“Predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both” means that the cost of the iron and steel content exceeds 50 percent of the total cost of all its components. The cost of iron and steel is the cost of the iron or steel mill products (such as bar, billet, slab, wire, plate, or sheet), castings, or forgings utilized in the manufacture of the product and a good faith estimate of the cost of iron or steel components.

“Produced in the United States” means:

- (1) In the case of iron or steel products, all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.
- (2) In the case of manufactured products:
 - (i) The product was manufactured in the United States; and
 - (ii) The cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard that meets or exceeds this standard has been established under applicable law or regulation for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product. The costs of components of a manufactured product are determined according to 2 CFR 184.5, as outlined above in this award term.

- (3) In the case of construction materials, all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States. *See* section 2 CFR 184.6 for more information on the meaning of “all manufacturing processes” for specific construction materials.

“Section 70917(c) materials” means cement and cementitious materials; aggregates such as stone, sand, or gravel; or aggregate binding agents or additives. *See* section 70917(c) of the Build America, Buy America Act.

EXHIBIT C
QUARTERLY PROJECT PROGRESS REPORTS AND RECERTIFICATIONS:
FORMAT AND CONTENT

1. Purpose. The purpose of the Quarterly Project Progress Reports and Recertifications under this agreement for the FYs 2025-26 Mega program are to ensure that the project scope, schedule, and budget will be maintained to the maximum extent possible.

2. Format and Content. The Recipient shall produce a quarterly cost, schedule, and status report that contains the sections enumerated in the following list. At the discretion of the USDOT, modifications or additions can be made to produce a quarterly reporting format that will most effectively serve both the Recipient and the USDOT. Some projects will have a more extensive quarterly status than others. For smaller projects, the USDOT may determine that the content of the quarterly reports will be streamlined and project status meetings will be held on a less-frequent basis. The first quarterly progress report should include a detailed description and, where appropriate, drawings of the items funded.

(a) Project Overall Status. This section provides an overall status of the project's scope, schedule and budget. The Recipient shall note and explain any deviations from the scope of work, the schedule, or the budget that are described in this agreement.

(b) Project Significant Activities and Issues. This section provides highlights of key activities, accomplishments, and issues occurring on the project during the previous quarter. Activities and deliverables to be reported on should include meetings, audits and other reviews, design packages submitted, advertisements, awards, construction submittals, construction completion milestones, submittals related to any applicable Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act or NOFO requirements, media or Congressional inquiries, value engineering/constructability reviews, and other items of significance.

(c) Action Items/Outstanding Issues. This section should draw attention to, and track the progress of, highly significant or sensitive issues requiring action and direction in order to resolve. The Recipient should include administrative items and outstanding issues that could have a significant or adverse effect on the project's scope, schedule, or budget. Status, responsible person(s), and due dates should be included for each action item/outstanding issue. Action items requiring action or direction should be included in the quarterly status meeting agenda. The action items/outstanding issues may be dropped from this section upon full implementation of the remedial action, and upon no further monitoring anticipated.

(d) Project Scope Overview. The purpose of this section is to provide a further update regarding the project scope. If the original scope contained in the grant agreement is still accurate, this section can simply state that the scope is unchanged.

(e) Project Schedule. An updated master program schedule reflecting the current status of the program activities should be included in this section. A Gantt (bar) type chart is probably the most appropriate for quarterly reporting purposes, with the ultimate format to be agreed upon between the Recipient and the USDOT. It is imperative that the master program schedule be integrated, i.e., the individual contract milestones tied to each other, such that any delays occurring in one activity will be reflected throughout the entire program schedule, with a realistic completion date being reported. Narratives, tables, and/or graphs should accompany the updated master program schedule, basically detailing the current schedule status, delays and potential exposures, and recovery efforts. The following information should also be included:

- Current overall project completion percentage vs. latest plan percentage.
- Completion percentages vs. latest plan percentages for major activities such as right-of-way, major or critical design contracts, major or critical construction contracts, and significant force accounts or task orders. A schedule status description should also be included for each of these major or critical elements.
- Any delays or potential exposures to milestone and final completion dates. The delays and exposures should be quantified, and overall schedule impacts assessed. The reasons for the delays and exposures should be explained, and initiatives being analyzed or implemented in order to recover the schedule should be detailed.

(f) Project Cost. An updated cost spreadsheet reflecting the current forecasted cost vs. the latest approved budget vs. the baseline budget should be included in this section. One way to track project cost is to show: (1) Baseline Budget, (2) Latest Approved Budget, (3) Current Forecasted Cost Estimate, (4) Expenditures or Commitments to Date, and (5) Variance between Current Forecasted Cost and Latest Approved Budget. Line items should include all significant cost centers, such as prior costs, right-of-way, preliminary engineering, environmental mitigation, general engineering consultant, section design contracts, construction administration, utilities, construction packages, force accounts/task orders, wrap-up insurance, construction contingencies, management contingencies, and other contingencies. The line items can be broken-up in enough detail such that specific areas of cost change can be sufficiently tracked and future improvements made to the overall cost estimating methodology. A Program Total line should be included at the bottom of the spreadsheet. Narratives, tables, and/or graphs should accompany the updated cost spreadsheet, basically detailing the current cost status, reasons for cost deviations, impacts of cost overruns, and efforts to mitigate cost overruns. The following information should be provided:

- Reasons for each line item deviation from the approved budget, impacts resulting from the deviations, and initiatives being analyzed or implemented in order to recover any cost overruns.

- Transfer of costs to and from contingency line items, and reasons supporting the transfers.
- Speculative cost changes that potentially may develop in the future, a quantified dollar range for each potential cost change, and the current status of the speculative change. Also, a comparison analysis to the available contingency amounts should be included, showing that reasonable and sufficient amounts of contingency remain to keep the project within the latest approved budget.
- Detailed cost breakdown of the general engineering consultant (GEC) services (if applicable), including such line items as contract amounts, task orders issued (amounts), balance remaining for tasks, and accrued (billable) costs.
- Federal obligations and/or disbursements for the project, compared to planned obligations and disbursements.

(g) Federal Financial Report (SF-425). The Federal Financial Report (SF-425) is a financial reporting form used throughout the Federal Government Grant system. Recipients shall complete this form and attach it to each quarterly Project Progress and Monitoring Report. The form is available at <https://www.grants.gov/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html>.

(h) Certifications.

- i. A certification that the Recipient is in compliance with 2 CFR 200.303 (Internal Controls) and 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F (Audit Requirements).
- ii. The certification required under 2 CFR 200.415(a).