U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Cooperative Agreement

GRANT NUMBER (FAIN): 95318901 **MODIFICATION NUMBER:** 0 **PROGRAM CODE:** 4B	**DATE OF AWARD** 07/20/2023
TYPE OF ACTION New	**MAILING DATE** 07/25/2023
PAYMENT METHOD: ASAP	**ACH#** PEND

RECIPIENT TYPE:
State

Send Payment Request to:
Contact EPA RTPFC at: rtpfc-grants@epa.gov

RECIPIENT:
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development
400 North Street, 4th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120
EIN: 38-3849352

PAYEE:
Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development
400 North Street, 4th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

PROJECT MANAGER	EPA PROJECT OFFICER	EPA GRANT SPECIALIST
Brian Eckert 400 North Street, 4th Floor Commonwealth Keystone Bldg. Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225 **Email:** breckert@pa.gov **Phone:** 717-720-1400	Brett Gilmartin Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, 3LD50 Philadelphia, PA 19103-2852 **Email:** Gilmartin.Brett@epa.gov **Phone:** 215-814-9999	Tanya Dupree Grants Management Section, 3MD22 Four Penn Center 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103-2852 **Email:** Dupree.Tanya@epa.gov **Phone:** 215-814-5408

PROJECT TITLE AND DESCRIPTION
BROWNFIELD REVOLVING LOAN FUND

See Attachment 1 for project description.

BUDGET PERIOD	PROJECT PERIOD	TOTAL BUDGET PERIOD COST	TOTAL PROJECT PERIOD COST
10/01/2023 - 09/30/2028	10/01/2023 - 09/30/2028	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00

NOTICE OF AWARD

Based on your Application dated 05/18/2023 including all modifications and amendments, the United States acting by and through the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby awards $1,000,000.00. EPA agrees to cost-share 100.00% of all approved budget period costs incurred, up to and not exceeding total federal funding of $1,000,000.00. Recipient's signature is not required on this agreement. The recipient demonstrates its commitment to carry out this award by either: 1) drawing down funds within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date; or 2) not filing a notice of disagreement with the award terms and conditions within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. If the recipient disagrees with the terms and conditions specified in this award, the authorized representative of the recipient must furnish a notice of disagreement to the EPA Award Official within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. In case of disagreement, and until the disagreement is resolved, the recipient should not draw down on the funds provided by this award/amendment, and any costs incurred by the recipient are at its own risk. This agreement is subject to applicable EPA regulatory and statutory provisions, all terms and conditions of this agreement and any attachments.

ISSUING OFFICE (GRANTS MANAGEMENT OFFICE)	AWARD APPROVAL OFFICE
ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS	**ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS**
U.S. EPA, Region 3 , US EPA Region 3, 3MD22 Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103-2852	U.S. EPA, Region 3, Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division, 3LD00 R3 - Region 3 Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103-2852

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Digital signature applied by EPA Award Official Lisa White - Mission Support Division, Deputy Director	**DATE** 07/20/2023

EPA Funding Information

FUNDS	FORMER AWARD	THIS ACTION	AMENDED TOTAL
EPA Amount This Action	$0	$1,000,000	$1,000,000
EPA In-Kind Amount	$0	$0	$0
Unexpended Prior Year Balance	$0	$0	$0
Other Federal Funds	$0	$0	$0
Recipient Contribution	$0	$0	$0
State Contribution	$0	$0	$0
Local Contribution	$0	$0	$0
Other Contribution	$0	$0	$0
Allowable Project Cost	$0	$1,000,000	$1,000,000

Assistance Program (CFDA)	Statutory Authority	Regulatory Authority
66.818 - Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements	CERCLA: Secs. 104(k)(3) & 104(k)(5)(E) & 104(k)(10)(B)(iii) & Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (PL 117-58)	2 CFR 200, 2 CFR 1500 and 40 CFR 33

Fiscal									
Site Name	Req No	FY	Approp. Code	Budget Oganization	PRC	Object Class	Site/Project	Cost Organization	Obligation / Deobligation
-	2303BF0014	23	E4SD	0300AG7	000D79X89	4114	-	-	$1,000,000
									$1,000,000

Budget Summary Page

Table A - Object Class Category (Non-Construction)	Total Approved Allowable Budget Period Cost
1. Personnel	$0
2. Fringe Benefits	$0
3. Travel	$0
4. Equipment	$0
5. Supplies	$0
6. Contractual	$0
7. Construction	$0
8. Other	$1,000,000
9. Total Direct Charges	$1,000,000
10. Indirect Costs: 0.00 % Base	$0
11. Total (Share: Recipient 0.00 % Federal 100.00 %)	$1,000,000
12. Total Approved Assistance Amount	$1,000,000
13. Program Income	$0
14. Total EPA Amount Awarded This Action	$1,000,000
15. Total EPA Amount Awarded To Date	$1,000,000

Attachment 1 - Project Description

This Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) funded cooperative agreement will provide funding to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to capitalize a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) as authorized by CERCLA 104(k)(3) in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Brownfields are real property, the expansion, development or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Specifically, this cooperative agreement will provide funding for the recipient to capitalize a RLF from which to make loans and subgrants to clean up brownfield site(s) and conduct other necessary activities to prudently manage the RLF. Additionally, the recipient will competitively procure (as needed) and direct a Qualified Environmental Professional to oversee the environmental site activities, will create a community involvement plan and administrative record for each site that is remediated, and will report on program income, interim progress, and final accomplishments by completing and submitting relevant portions of the Property Profile Form and Brownfields RLF Form using EPA’s Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System. Further, the recipient will issue approximately 4 loans to remediate 4 brownfield sites; anticipates holding 5 community meetings, finalizing 4 Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives, and submitting 20 quarterly reports. Work conducted under this cooperative agreement, will benefit the residents, business owners, and stakeholders in and near the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Subawards will be utilized to execute loans to borrowers for Brownfields remediation.

Administrative Conditions

General Terms and Conditions

The recipient agrees to comply with the current EPA general terms and conditions available at: https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-general-terms-and-conditions-effective-october-1-2022-or-later.

These terms and conditions are in addition to the assurances and certifications made as a part of the award and the terms, conditions, or restrictions cited throughout the award.

The EPA repository for the general terms and conditions by year can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/grants/grant-terms-and-conditions#general.

A. Intergovernmental Review Period

In accordance with 40 CFR Part 29, EPA must allow for an intergovernmental review comment period on this grant program. Accordingly, the Grantee may incur costs at its own risk but shall not draw down any funds associated with this award until the process is completed. This includes successful resolution of any issues identified during the comment period, which ends August 22, 2023.

B. Correspondence Condition

The terms and conditions of this agreement require the submittal of reports, specific requests for approval, or notifications to EPA. Unless otherwise noted, all such correspondence should be sent to the following email addresses:

· Federal Financial Reports (SF-425): RTPFC-Grants@epa.gov with a copy to grant specialist of record.

· MBE/WBE reports (EPA Form 5700-52A): R3_MBE-WBE_Reports@epa.gov

· All other forms/certifications/assurances, Indirect Cost Rate Agreements, Requests for Extensions of the Budget and Project Period, Amendment Requests, Requests for other Prior Approvals, updates to recipient information (including email addresses, changes in contact information or changes in authorized representatives) and other notifications: Grant specialist and project officer of record.

· Payment requests (if applicable): RTPFC-Grants@epa.gov

· Quality Assurance documents, workplan revisions, equipment lists, programmatic reports and deliverables: project officer of record.

Programmatic Conditions

FY23 Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Cooperative Agreement

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funds

Terms and Conditions

Please note that these Terms and Conditions (T&Cs) apply to Brownfields RLF capitalization cooperative agreements awarded under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) § 104(k) and the

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), as well as, agreements that transitioned to § 104(k), or agreements which have been amended after 12/24/14.

I. GENERAL FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

Note: For the purposes of complying with certain provisions of the Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG), 2 CFR Part 200, loans made by RLF recipients are *Subawards* as that term is defined at 2 CFR § 200.1. The term subaward also encompasses "grants" made by the RLF recipient under CERCLA § 104(k)(3)(B)(ii). The UGG requirements for subawards in the form of loans and subawards in the form of grants are different. For clarity, these T&Cs refer to "loans" to describe subawards that generate program income from repayments of principal, interest charges and loan processing fees paid by "borrowers." The T&Cs refer to "subgrants" to describe subawards the RLF recipient provides to an eligible entity or nonprofit organization ("subgrantees") under terms that do not require repayment.

A. Federal Policy and Guidance

1. Cooperative Agreement Recipients: By awarding this cooperative agreement, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved the application for the Cooperative Agreement Recipient (CAR). These T&Cs are effective for activities occurring after the date of award of this cooperative agreement.

2. In implementing this agreement, the CAR shall comply with and require that work done by borrowers and subgrantees with cooperative agreement funds comply with the requirements of CERCLA § 104(k). The CAR shall also ensure that cleanup activities supported with cooperative agreement funding comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations. The CAR must ensure cleanups are protective of human health and the environment.

3. The CAR must consider whether it is required to have borrowers or subgrantees conduct cleanups through a State or Tribal response program. If the CAR chooses not to require borrowers and subgrantees to participate in a State or Tribal response program, then the CAR is required to consult with the EPA Project Officer on each loan or subgrant to ensure the proposed cleanup is protective of human health and the environment.

If the State or Tribe does not have a promulgated response program that is applicable to the planned brownfield activity, then the CAR is required to consult with the EPA Project Officer to ensure the protectiveness of human health and the environment.

4. A term and condition or other legally binding provision shall be included in all loan and subgrant agreements entered into with the funds awarded under this agreement, or when funds awarded under this agreement are used in combination with non-federal sources of funds, to ensure that the CAR complies with all applicable federal and state laws and requirements. In addition to CERCLA § 104(k), applicable federal laws and requirements include 2 CFR Part 200.

5. The CAR must comply with federal cross-cutting requirements. These requirements include, but are not limited to, DBE requirements found at 40 CFR Part 33; OSHA Worker Health & Safety Standard 29 CFR § 1910.120; Uniform Relocation Act (40 USC § 61); National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC § 470); Endangered Species Act (P.L. 93-205); Permits required by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act; Executive Order 11246, Equal Employment Opportunity, and implementing regulations at 41 CFR § 60-4; Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, as amended (40 USC §§ 327-333); the Anti-Kickback Act (40 USC § 276c); and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as implemented by Executive Orders 11914 and 11250. For additional information on cross-cutting requirements visit

https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-subaward-cross-cutter-requirements.

6. The CAR must comply with Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage requirements and associated U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) regulations for all construction, alteration, and repair contracts and subcontracts awarded with funds provided under this agreement by operation of CERCLA § 104(g). For more detailed information on complying with Davis-Bacon please see the Davis-Bacon Addendum to these terms and conditions.

7. For funding added after May 14, 2022, refer to the General Term & Conditions for Buy America Sourcing requirements under the Build America, Buy America (BABA) provisions of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA; also known as Bipartisan Infrastructure Law or BIL) (P.L. 117-58, §§70911-70917). An adjustment period waiver may apply to funding awarded between May 14, 2022 and February 28, 2023. The CAR can also refer to EPA's Frequently Asked Questions for BABA for more information.

8. The recipient agrees to have financial management and programmatic management systems in place to:

a. Track and report on expenditures of IIJA funds.
b. Track and report outputs and outcomes achieved with IIJA funds.

9. RLF supplemental funding is generally awarded on an annual basis to high-performing CARs who meet specific criteria. The CAR can find additional information on the timing and procedures for supplemental funding requests on the EPA Brownfields Program website (https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-revolving-loan-fund-rlf-grants).

II. SITE/BORROWER/SUBGRANTEE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All brownfield sites that will be addressed using RLF funds must be located within the geographic boundary described in the scope of work for this cooperative agreement (i.e., the EPA-approved workplan).

A. Brownfield Site Eligibility

1. Prior to performing site work, the CAR must provide information to the EPA Project Officer about each site that will be addressed under this cooperative agreement. The CAR may use cooperative agreement funds to prepare information that is provided to the EPA Project Officer. The information that must be provided includes whether the site meets the definition of a brownfield site as defined in § 101(39) of CERCLA and whether the CAR is the potentially responsible party under CERCLA § 107, is exempt from CERCLA liability, or has defenses to CERCLA liability.

2. If the site is excluded from the general definition of a brownfield site but is eligible for a property-specific funding determination, then the CAR may request a property-specific funding determination from the EPA Project Officer. In its request, the CAR must provide information sufficient for EPA to make a property-specific funding determination on how financial assistance will protect human health and the environment, and either promote economic development or enable the creation of, preservation of, or addition to parks, greenways, undeveloped property, other recreational property, or other property used for nonprofit purposes. The CAR must not incur costs for cleaning up sites requiring a property-specific funding determination by EPA until the EPA Project Officer has advised the CAR that EPA has determined that the property is eligible.

3. Brownfield Sites Contaminated with Petroleum

a. For any petroleum-contaminated brownfield site that is not included in the CAR's EPA-approved workplan, the CAR shall provide sufficient documentation to EPA prior to incurring costs under this cooperative agreement which

documents that:

i. the State determines there is “no viable responsible party” for the site;

ii. the State determines that the person assessing, investigating, or cleaning up the site is a person who is not potentially liable for cleaning up the site; and

iii. the site is not subject to any order issued under Section 9003(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

This documentation must be prepared by the CAR or the State, following contact and discussion with the appropriate state petroleum program official. Please contact the EPA Project Officer for additional information.

b. Documentation must include:

i. the identity of the State program official contacted;

ii. the State official’s telephone number;

iii. the date of the contact; and

iv. a summary of the discussion relating to the State’s determination that there is no viable responsible party and that the person assessing, investigating, or cleaning up the site is not potentially liable for cleaning up the site.

Other documentation provided by a State to the recipient relevant to any of the determinations by the State must also be provided to the EPA Project Officer.

c. If the State chooses not to make the determinations described in Section II.A.3. above, the CAR must contact the EPA Project Officer and provide the information necessary for EPA to make the requisite determinations.

d. EPA will make all determinations on the eligibility of petroleum-contaminated brownfield sites located on tribal lands (i.e., reservation lands or lands otherwise in Indian country, as defined at 18 U.S.C. § 1151). Before incurring costs for these sites, the CAR must contact the EPA Project Officer and provide the information necessary for EPA to make the determinations.

B. Borrower and Subgrantee Eligibility

1. The CAR may provide loans to an eligible entity, a site owner, a site developer, or another person without regard to whether the borrower is a for-profit organization. Borrowers do not have to own the property throughout the term of the loan unless ownership is required for the purpose of securing collateral or the CAR otherwise determines that borrower site ownership is necessary.

2. The CAR may only provide cleanup subgrants to an eligible entity or nonprofit organization to clean up sites owned by the eligible entity or nonprofit organization at the time of the award of the subgrant. Eligible subgrantees include eligible entities as defined under CERCLA § 104(k)(1), which includes nonprofit organizations exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and other nonprofit organizations as defined at 2 CFR § 200.70. Nonprofit institutions of higher education as defined at 2 CFR § 200.55 are also eligible for cleanup subgrants. Nonprofit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are not eligible for subgrants.

3. The subgrantee must retain ownership of the site throughout the period of performance of the subgrant. The subgrantee must consult with the CAR, who in turn must consult with the EPA Project Officer prior to transferring title or otherwise conveying the real property comprising the site during the period of performance of the subgrant. Once the subgrant ends, the statutory ownership requirement is extinguished. For the purposes of this agreement, the term "owns" means fee simple title unless EPA Project Officer approves a different ownership arrangement.

4. The CAR shall not provide a subgrant to itself or another component of its own unit of government or organization.

5. The CAR may discount loans, also referred to as the practice of forgiving a portion of loan principal. For an individual loan, the amount of principal discounted may be any percentage of the total loan amount up to 50%, provided that the total amount of the principal forgiven for that loan shall not exceed $500,000 of the CAR's total award amount (EPA funds + cost share, if applicable – see Section IV.A.1. and IV.B.3.). Eligible entities and nonprofit organizations described in Section II.B.1. are eligible for discounted loans. **Private, for-profit entities are not eligible for discounted loans.** In addition to these terms, a discounted loan shall not be used in combination with a subgrant at the same site. The discounted amount in a discounted loan shall apply towards non-loan costs in the 50/50 split rule described in Section IV.B.4. (i.e., the discounted amount cannot apply towards the 50% of EPA funds + cost share, if applicable – see Section IV.A.1., that must be spent on loans and associated eligible programmatic expenses). The CAR may request a waiver of the discounted amount, discounted percentage, or the minimum 50/50 split by consulting with the EPA Project Officer for information about the waiver process. In general, a loan may not be discounted after it has already been executed. Any post-execution discounting has to be approved by the EPA Project Officer.

6. The CAR shall not loan or subgrant funds that will be used to pay for cleanup activities at a site for which a borrower or subgrantee is potentially liable under CERCLA § 107. In addition, the borrower or subgrantee may not be affiliated with a potentially liable person as described in CERCLA §§ 101(40)(H) and 107(q)(1)(A)(ii). The CAR may rely on its own investigation which can include an opinion from the borrower's or subgrantee's counsel. However, the CAR must advise the borrower or subgrantee that the investigation and/or opinion of its subgrantee counsel is not binding on the Federal Government.

7. For approved eligible petroleum-contaminated brownfield sites, the borrower or subgrantee cleaning up the site must not be potentially liable for cleaning up the site. For brownfield grant purposes, an entity generally will not be considered potentially liable for petroleum contamination if it has not dispensed or disposed of petroleum or petroleumproduct at the site, has not exacerbated the contamination at the site, and taken reasonable steps with regard to the contamination at the site.

8. The CAR shall maintain sufficient documentation supporting and demonstrating the eligibility of the sites, borrowers, and subgrantees.

9. A borrower or subgrantee must submit information regarding its overall environmental compliance history including any penalties resulting from environmental non-compliance at the site subject to the loan or subgrant. The CAR, in consultation with EPA, must consider this history in its analysis of the borrower or subgrantee as a cleanup and business risk.

10. An entity that is currently suspended, debarred, or otherwise declared ineligible cannot be a borrower or subgrantee.

C. Obligations for CARs, Borrowers, or Subgrantees

1. CARs, borrowers, or subgrantees who are eligible, or seek to become eligible, to receive a loan or subgrant must

provide information indicating that cooperative agreement funds will not be used to pay for a response cost at a site for which the CAR, borrower, or subgrantee is potentially liable under CERCLA § 107. The CAR, borrower, or subgrantee must demonstrate that it meets the requirements for one of the Landowner Liability Protections as either a Bona Fide Prospective Purchaser (BFPP), Contiguous Property Owner (CPO), or Innocent Landowner (ILO). These requirements include certain threshold criteria and continuing obligations that must be met in order for the CAR, borrower, or subgrantee to maintain its eligible status. If the CAR, borrower, or subgrantee fails to meet these obligations, EPA may disallow the costs incurred under this cooperative agreement for cleaning up the site under CERCLA § 104(k)(8)(C). The Landowner Liability Protection requirements include:

a. Performing “all appropriate inquiries” into the previous ownership and uses of the property before acquiring the property.

b. Not being potentially liable or affiliated with any other person who is potentially liable for response costs at the site through: any direct or indirect familial relationship, any contractual, corporate, or financial relationship, or through the result of a reorganized business entity that was potentially liable.

While not necessary to obtain ILO protection, the CAR, borrower, or subgrantee must still establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the act or omission that caused the release or threat of release of hazardous substances and any resulting damages were caused by a third party with whom the person does not have an employment, agency, or contractual relationship.

c. Demonstrating that no disposal of hazardous substances occurred at the facility after acquisition by the landowner (does not specifically apply for the CPO protection).

d. Taking “reasonable steps” with respect to hazardous substance releases by stopping any continuing releases, preventing any threatened future releases, and preventing or limiting human, environmental, or natural resource exposure to any previously released hazardous substance.

e. Complying with any land use restrictions established or relied on in connection with the response action at the site and not impeding the effectiveness or integrity of institutional controls employed in connection with the response action.

f. Providing full cooperation, assistance, and access to persons that are authorized to conduct response actions or natural resource restoration at the site from which there has been a release or threatened release.

g. Complying with information requests and administrative subpoenas (does not specifically apply for the ILO protection).

h. Providing all legally required notices with respect to the discovery or release of any hazardous substances at the site (does not specifically apply for the ILO protection).

Notwithstanding the CAR’s, borrower’s, and subgrantee’s continuing obligations under this agreement, the CAR, borrower, and subgrantee are subject to the applicable liability provisions of CERCLA governing its status as a BFPP, CPO, or ILO. CERCLA requires additional obligations to maintain the liability limitations for BFPP, CPO, and ILO; the relevant provisions for these obligations include §§ 101(35), 101(40), 107(b), 107(q) and 107(r).

CARs, borrowers, and subgrantees that are exempt from CERCLA liability or do not have to meet the requirements for asserting an affirmative defense to CERCLA liability must also comply with continuing obligation items c.-h.

III. GENERAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

A. Sufficient Progress

1. This condition supplements the requirements of the Termination and Sufficient Progress Conditions in the General Terms and Conditions.

The EPA Project Officer will assess whether the recipient is making sufficient progress in implementing its cooperative agreement 2 years from the date of award and on an annual basis thereafter. If EPA determines that the CAR has not made sufficient progress in implementing its cooperative agreement, the CAR, if directed to do so, must implement a corrective action plan concurred on by the EPA Project Officer and approved by the Grants Management Officer or Award Official. Alternatively, EPA may terminate this agreement under 2 CFR § 200.340. for material non-compliance with its terms, or with the consent of the CAR as provided at 2 CFR § 200.340, depending on the circumstances. Sufficient progress at 2 years and annually thereafter is indicated by the CAR having made a loan(s) and/or grant(s), but may also be demonstrated by a combination of all the following: hiring of all key personnel, the establishment and advertisement of the RLF, the development of one or more potential loans/subgrants, or other documented activities that demonstrate to EPA's satisfaction that the CAR will successfully perform the cooperative agreement.

2. Partial termination can occur if a CAR fails to complete the initial round of lending in the time schedule provided in the cooperative agreement. In this situation, as provided at 2 CFR §§ 200.340(a)(1) and (5) or 2 CFR § 200.340(a)(3), as appropriate, the agreement may be partially terminated and the following actions may occur:

a. Unused cooperative agreement funds will be deobligated by EPA;

b. The cooperative agreement award may be amended to reflect the reduced amount of the cooperative agreement;

c. EPA may determine whether sufficient funds remain to permit effective RLF operation; or

d. EPA may terminate the agreement and recover the federal share of its assets if it determines that the purpose of the cooperative agreement cannot be met.

B. Substantial Involvement

1. The EPA Project Officer will be substantially involved in overseeing and monitoring this cooperative agreement. Substantial involvement, includes, but is not limited to:

a. Close monitoring of the CAR's performance to verify compliance with the EPA-approved workplan and achievement of environmental results.

b. Participation in periodic telephone conference calls to share ideas, project successes and challenges, etc., with EPA.

c. Reviewing and commenting on quarterly and annual reports prepared under the cooperative agreement (the final decision on the content of reports rests with the recipient or subrecipients receiving pass-through awards).

d. Verifying sites meet applicable site eligibility criteria (including property-specific funding determinations described in Section II.A.2.) and when the CAR awards a subaward. The CAR must obtain technical assistance from the EPA Project Officer, or his/her designee, on which sites qualify as a brownfield site and

determine whether the statutory prohibitions found in CERCLA § 104(k)(5)(B)(i)-(iv) apply. (Note, the prohibition does not allow a subrecipient to use EPA cooperative agreement funds to clean up a site for which the subrecipient is potentially liable under CERCLA § 107.)

e. Reviewing and approving Quality Assurance Project Plans and related documents or verifying that appropriate Quality Assurance requirements have been met where quality assurance activities are being conducted pursuant to an EPA-approved Quality Assurance Management Plan.

f. Monitoring the use of program income after the cooperative agreement project period ends.

Substantial involvement may also include, depending on the direction of the EPA Project Officer:

g. Collaboration during the performance of the scope of work including participation in project activities, to the extent permissible under EPA policies. Examples of collaboration include:

i. Consultation between EPA staff and the CAR on effective methods of carrying out the scope of work provided the CAR makes the final decision on how to perform authorized activities.

ii. Advice from EPA staff on how to access publicly available information on EPA or other federal agency websites.

iii. With the consent of the CAR, EPA staff may provide technical advice to the CAR's contractors or subrecipients provided the CAR approves any expenditures of funds necessary to follow advice from EPA staff. (The CAR remains accountable for performing contract and subaward management as specified in 2 CFR § 200.318 and 2 CFR § 200.332 as well as the terms of the EPA cooperative agreement.)

iv. EPA staff participation in meetings, webinars, and similar events upon the request of the CAR or in connection with a co-sponsorship agreement.

h. Reviewing and approving that the Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA), or equivalent state Brownfields program document, meets the Brownfields Program's requirements for an ABCA.

i. Reviewing proposed procurements in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.325, as well as the substantive terms of proposed contracts or subawards (i.e., both subgrants and loans) as appropriate and discussing compliance with 50/50 split rule. If applicable, the EPA Project Officer may review the substantive terms of intra-governmental loans. The EPA Project Officer may review requests for proposals, invitations for bid, scopes of work and/or plans and specifications for contracts over $250,000 prior to advertising for bids.

j. Reviewing the qualifications of key personnel. (EPA does not have the authority to select employees or contractors, including consultants, employed by the CAR or subrecipients receiving pass-through awards.)

k. Reviewing information in performance reports to ensure all costs incurred by the CAR, borrower, subgrantee, and/or its contractor(s) if needed to ensure appropriate expenditure of grant funds.

EPA may waive any of the provisions in Section III.B.1., except for property-specific funding determinations. The EPA Project Officer will provide waivers to provisions a. – f. in Section III.B.1. in writing.

2. Effects of EPA's substantial involvement include:

a. EPA's review of any project phase, document, or cost incurred under this cooperative agreement will not have any effect upon CERCLA § 128 *Eligible Response Site* determinations or rights, authorities, and actions under CERCLA or any federal statute.

b. The CAR remains responsible for ensuring that all cleanups are protective of human health and the environment and comply with all applicable federal and state laws. If changes to the expected cleanup become necessary based on public comment or other reasons, the CAR must consult with the EPA Project Officer and the State.

c. The CAR and its subrecipients remain responsible for ensuring costs are allowable under 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E.

C. Cooperative Agreement Recipient Roles and Responsibilities

1. All additional sites selected for eligible activities throughout the period of performance (i.e.,

sites that were not identified in the workplan) must be located within the geographic boundary(ies) identified by the CAR in the workplan.

Consistent with the FY23 RLF Grant Guidelines and FY23 RLF Supplemental Funding Instructions, criteria for selecting additional sites must at least consider whether the site is located within an underserved community[1] in addition to considering the prioritization criteria identified in the FY23 application, FY23 RLF Supplemental Funding request, the workplan, or developed during implementation of the workplan. Note, subgrant criteria developed during the implementation of the workplan must lead to the CAR addressing sites in areas with similar characteristics as the areas discussed in the FY23 application or supplemental funding request.

2. CARs, other than state entities, that procure a contractor(s) (including consultants) where the contract will be more than the micro-purchase threshold in 2 CFR § 200.320(a)(1) ($10,000 for most CARs) must select the contractor(s) in compliance with the fair and open competition requirements in 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500. This requirement also applies to procurement processes that were completed before the award of this cooperative agreement. See the *Brownfields Grants: Guidance on Competitively Procuring a Contractor* for additional information.

CARs may procure multiple contractors to ensure the appropriate expertise is in place to perform work under the agreement (e.g., expertise to provide oversight on site cleanup activities vs. community engagement) and to allow the ability for work be performed concurrently at multiple sites within the defined and approved geographic boundary.

3. The CAR is responsible for establishing an RLF team that will implement the program and assign a Program Manager for coordinating the team's activities as outlined below.

4. The CAR must acquire the services of a Qualified Environmental Professional(s) as defined in 40 CFR § 312.10, if it does not have such a professional on staff, to provide technical assistance, advice, and expertise to the CAR while the borrower or subgrantee and their cleanup contractor direct the cleanup at a given site.

5. The CAR shall act as or appoint a qualified "fund manager" to carry out responsibilities that relate to financial management of the loan and/or subgrant program. However, the CAR remains accountable to EPA for the proper expenditure of cooperative agreement funds. Any funding arrangements between the CAR and the fund manager must be consistent with 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500 and EPA's Subaward Policy. Additional information is available in EPA's Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services, Supplies, and Equipment Under EPA Assistance Agreements.

6. The CAR shall appoint appropriate legal counsel if counsel is not already available. Counsel must review all loan/subgrant agreements prior to execution unless the EPA Project Officer waives this requirement.

7. The CAR is responsible for ensuring that borrowers and subgrantees comply with the terms of their agreements with the CAR, and that agreements between the CAR and borrowers and subgrantees are consistent with the terms and conditions of this agreement.

8. When the CAR makes loans and subgrants under this agreement, they become a pass-through entity for the purposes of the subrecipient oversight and management requirements of 2 CFR §§ 200.331 through 200.332. Requirements for oversight and management of subgrantees are supplemented in EPA's National Term and Condition for Subawards which is included in the General Terms and Conditions of this Cooperative Agreement.

9. The following requirements apply when a pass-through entity (CAR) makes loans. These requirements apply to loans and borrowers in lieu of those specified in EPA's National Term and Condition for Subawards.

a. Pass-through entities must establish and follow a system that ensures all loan agreements are in writing and contain all of the elements required by 2 CFR § 200.332(a) with the exception of the indirect cost provision of 2 CFR § 200.332(a)(4). EPA has developed an optional template for subaward agreements that is available in Appendix D of EPA's Subaward Policy which may also be used for loan agreements.

b. Borrowers must comply with the internal control requirements specified at 2 CFR § 200.303 and are subject to the 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F, *Audit Requirements*. The pass-through entity (CAR) must include a condition in all loans that requires borrowers to comply with this requirement. No other provisions of the Uniform Grant Guidance, including the Procurement Standards, apply directly to borrowers.

c. Prior to making loans or subgrants, the pass-through entity (CAR) must ensure that each borrower or subgrantee has a "unique entity identifier." This identifier is required for registering in the System for Award Management (SAM) and by 2 CFR Part 25 and 2 CFR § 200.332(a)(1), but based on 2 CFR § 25.300, borrowers and subgrantees do not have to register in SAM. The unique entity identifier (UEI) is generated when an entity registers in SAM. Information on registering in SAM and obtaining a UEI is available in the General Condition of the pass-through entity's (CAR's) agreement with EPA entitled *"System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements."*

d. The pass-through entity (CAR) must ensure that the terms of all loan agreements and subgrants require that borrowers and subgrantees comply with 2 CFR Part 170, *Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation* under Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) set forth in the General Condition of the pass-through entity's (CAR's) agreement with EPA entitled *"Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation."*

e. In addition to other prudent lending practices described, in Section VI. below, pass-through entities (CARs) must comply with EPA's General T&Cs (Establishing and Managing Subawards).

10. As the pass-through entity, the CAR must report to EPA on its borrower and subgrantee monitoring activities under 2 CFR § 200.332(d), including the following information as part of the CAR's quarterly performance reporting:

a. Summaries of results of reviews of financial and programmatic reports;

b. Summaries of findings from site visits and/or desk reviews to ensure effective borrower or subgrantee performance;

c. Environmental results the borrower or subgrantee achieved;

d. Summaries of audit findings and related pass-through entity management decisions, if any; and

e. Actions the pass-through entity has taken to correct any deficiencies such as those specified at 2 CFR § 200.332(e), 2 CFR § 200.208, *Specific conditions*, and the 2 CFR § 200.339, *Remedies for Noncompliance*.

11. The CAR agrees to provide the proposed leveraged funding, including any voluntary cost-share contribution or overmatch, that is described in its workplan. If the proposed leveraging does not materialize during the period of award performance, and the CAR does not provide a satisfactory explanation, EPA may consider this factor in evaluating future applications from the CAR. In addition, if the proposed leveraging does not materialize during the period of award performance, then EPA may reconsider the legitimacy of the award. If EPA determines that the CAR knowingly or recklessly provided inaccurate information regarding the leveraged funding in its submitted competitive application or supplemental funding request, EPA may take action as authorized by 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500, and/or 2 CFR Part 180 as applicable.

12. Cybersecurity – The recipient agrees that when collecting and managing environmental data under this cooperative agreement, it will protect the data by following all applicable State Law cybersecurity requirements.

a. EPA must ensure that any connections between the recipient's network or information system and EPA networks used by the recipient to transfer data under this agreement are secure. For purposes of this section, a connection is defined as a dedicated persistent interface between an Agency IT system and an external IT system for the purpose of transferring information. Transitory, user-controlled connections such as website browsing are excluded from this definition.

If the recipient's connections as defined above do not go through the Environmental Information Exchange Network or EPA's Central Data Exchange, the recipient agrees to contact the EPA Project Officer and work with the designated Regional/ Headquarters Information Security Officer to ensure that the connections meet EPA security requirements, including entering into Interconnection Service Agreements as appropriate. This condition does not apply to manual entry of data by the recipient into systems operated and used by EPA's regulatory programs for the submission of reporting and/or compliance data.

b. The recipient agrees that any subawards it makes under this agreement will

require the subrecipient to comply with the requirements in Cybersecurity Section a. above if the subrecipient's network or information system is connected to EPA networks to transfer data to the Agency using systems other than the Environmental Information Exchange Network or EPA's Central Data Exchange. The recipient will be in compliance with this condition: by including this requirement in subaward agreements; and during subrecipient monitoring deemed necessary by the recipient under 2 CFR § 200.332(d), by inquiring whether the subrecipient has contacted the EPA Project Officer. Nothing in this condition requires the recipient to contact the EPA Project Officer on behalf of a subrecipient or to be involved in the negotiation of an Interconnection Service Agreement between the subrecipient and EPA.

13. All geospatial data created must be consistent with Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) endorsed standards. Information on these standards may be found at www.fgdc.gov.

D. Quarterly Performance Reports

1. In accordance with EPA regulations 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500 (specifically, § 200.329, *Monitoring and Reporting*

Program Performance), the CAR agrees to submit quarterly performance reports to the EPA Project Officer within 30 days after each reporting period. The reporting periods are October 1 – December 31 (1st quarter); January 1 – March 31 (2nd quarter); April 1 – June 30 (3rd quarter); and July 1 – September 30 (4th quarter).

These reports shall cover work status, work progress, difficulties encountered, preliminary data results and a statement of activity anticipated during the subsequent reporting period, including a description of equipment, techniques, and materials to be used or evaluated. A discussion of expenditures and financial status for each workplan task, along with a comparison of the percentage of the project completed to the project schedule and an explanation of significant discrepancies from the EPA-approved workplan and budget shall be included in the report. The report shall also include any changes of key personnel concerned with the project that were approved by the EPA Grants Management Officer or Award Official. (Note, as provided at 2 CFR § 200.308, *Revision of budget and program*, the CAR must seek prior approval from the EPA Grants Management Officer or Award Official for a change in a key person.)

The CAR shall refer to and utilize the Quarterly Reporting function within the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) to submit quarterly reports unless approval is obtained from the EPA Project Officer to use an alternate format for reports.

2. The CAR must submit performance reports on a quarterly basis in ACRES using the Revolving Loan Fund Quarterly Report function or to the EPA Project Officer. Quarterly performance reports must include:

a. A summary that clearly differentiates between activities completed with EPA funds provided under the Brownfield RLF cooperative agreement, and related activities completed with other sources of leveraged funding.

b. A summary and status of approved activities performed during the reporting quarter; a summary of the performance outputs/outcomes achieved during the reporting quarter; and a description of problems encountered during the reporting quarter that may affect the project schedule.

c. A comparison of actual accomplishments to the anticipated outputs/outcomes specified in the EPA-approved workplan and reasons why anticipated outputs/outcomes were not met.

d. An update on the project schedule and milestones, including an explanation of any discrepancies from the EPA-approved workplan.

e. A list of the loans and/or subgrants during the reporting quarter.

f. The amount of the cooperative agreement's total award amount (EPA funds + cost share, if applicable – see Section IV.A.1.) that has been committed thus far on loan costs and non-loan costs, respectively, and whether the cooperative agreement is expected to meet the 50/50 split by the end of the cooperative agreement project period for the cooperative agreement's current total award amount.

g. A budget summary table with the following information: current approved project budget; EPA funds drawn down during the reporting quarter; costs drawn down to date (cumulative expenditures); program income generated and used (e.g., program income received and disbursed during the reporting quarter and during the entire cooperative agreement, and the amount of program income remaining); and total remaining funds. The budget summary table must include costs that are charged to the "other" budget object class category (e.g., subawards, etc.).

The CAR shall include an explanation of any discrepancies in the budget from the EPA-approved workplan,

cost overruns or high unit costs, and other pertinent information. Program income accounting records must differentiate program income generated from interest and fees, versus program income generated from principal repayments. The CAR shall include a statement on funding transfers[2] among direct budget categories or programs, functions and activities that occurred during the quarter and cumulatively during the period of performance.

Note: Each property where cleanup activities were performed and/or completed must have its corresponding information updated in ACRES (or via the Property Profile Form with prior approval from the EPA Project Officer) prior to submitting the quarterly performance report (see Section III.E. below).

3. For the loans executed by the CAR under this agreement, the CAR must also report on the following items as part of the CAR's quarterly performance reporting:

a. Summaries of results of reviews of borrower financial and programmatic reports.

b. Environmental results achieved by the borrower.

4. The CAR must maintain records that will enable it to report to EPA on the amount of funds (direct EPA funding and program income) disbursed by the CAR to clean up specific properties under this cooperative agreement.

5. In accordance with 2 CFR § 200.329(e)(1), the CAR agrees to inform EPA as soon as problems, delays, or adverse conditions become known which will materially impair the ability to meet the outputs/outcomes specified in the EPA-approved workplan.

E. ACRES Data Submission

1. Property Profile Form: The CAR must report on interim progress (e.g., loan signed, clean up started) and any final accomplishments (e.g., clean up completed, contaminants removed, institutional controls required, engineering controls required) by completing and submitting relevant portions of the electronic Property Profile Form using the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES). The CAR must enter the data in ACRES as soon as the interim action or final accomplishment has occurred, or within 30 days after the end of each reporting quarter. The CAR must enter any new data into ACRES prior to submitting the quarterly performance report to the EPA Project Officer. The CAR must utilize the electronic version of the Property Profile Form in ACRES unless approval is obtained from the EPA Project Officer to use the hardcopy version of the Property Profile Form or its use is included in the approved workplan.

2. Brownfields RLF Form: Additionally, the CAR must also report program income details on the Brownfields RLF Form, which is located on the CAR's RLF cooperative agreement homepage in ACRES.

F. Final Cooperative Agreement Performance Report with Environmental Results

1. In accordance with EPA regulations 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500 (specifically, § 200.329 *Monitoring and Reporting Program Performance* and 2 CFR § 200.344(a), *Closeout*), the CAR agrees to submit to the EPA Project Officer within 120 days after the expiration or termination of the approved project period a final performance report on the cooperative agreement via email, unless the EPA Project Officer agrees to accept a paper copy of the report. The final performance report shall document and summarize the elements listed in Section III.D.2., as appropriate, for activities that occurred over the entire project period. In addition, when applicable, the CAR must include required documentation associated with an EPA-approved waiver for not meeting the minimum 50/50 split by the end of the cooperative agreement's project period.

Iv. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Cost Share Requirement

1. As provided in IIJA, no cost share is required for this agreement. However, the CAR may have an open non-IIJA funded RLF cooperative agreement where cost share is required as part of its overall RLF program. Therefore, any references to cost share in these Terms and Conditions are related to the overall RLF program (i.e., cost share associated with a non-IIJA funded RLF cooperative agreement).

B. Eligible Uses of the Funds for the Cooperative Agreement Recipient, Borrower, and/or Subgrantee

1. To the extent allowable under the EPA-approved workplan, the CAR may use cooperative agreement funds to capitalize a revolving loan fund to be used for loans or subgrants for cleanup and for eligible programmatic expenses. Eligible programmatic expenses may include activities described in Section V. of these Terms and Conditions. In addition, eligible programmatic expenses may include:

a. Determining whether RLF cleanup activities at a particular site are authorized by CERCLA § 104(k).

b. Ensuring that an RLF cleanup complies with applicable requirements under federal and state laws, as required by CERCLA § 104(k).

c. Ensuring the adequacy of each RLF cleanup as it is implemented, including overseeing the borrowers and/or subgrantees activities to ensure compliance with applicable federal and state environmental requirements.

d. Preparing and updating an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) which will include information about the site and contamination issues, cleanup standards, applicable laws, alternatives considered, and the proposed cleanup.

e. Developing a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) as required by 2 CFR § 1500.12. The specific requirement for a QAPP is outlined in Implementation of Quality Assurance Requirements for Organizations Receiving EPA Financial Assistance available at https://www.epa.gov/grants/implementation-quality-assurance-requirements-organizations-receiving-epa-financial.

f. Performing limited site characterization to confirm the effectiveness of the proposed cleanup design or the effectiveness of a cleanup once an action has been completed.

g. Ensuring that public participation requirements are met. This includes preparing a Community Involvement Plan which will include reasonable notice, opportunity for public involvement and comment on the proposed cleanup, and response to comments.

h. Establishing an Administrative Record for each site.

i. Ensuring that the site is secure if a borrower or subgrantee is unable or unwilling to complete a brownfield site cleanup.

j. Using a portion of a loan or subgrant to purchase environmental insurance for the site. [The loan or subgrant shall not be used to purchase insurance intended to provide coverage for any of the ineligible uses under Section IV., *Ineligible Uses of the Funds for the Cooperative Agreement Recipient, Borrower, and/or Subgrantees*.]

k. Any other eligible programmatic costs, including costs incurred by the recipient in making and managing a loan or subgrant; obtaining RLF fund manager services; quarterly reporting to EPA including preparation of Property Profiles; awarding, managing and monitoring loans and subgrants as required by the terms of this agreement implementing 2 CFR § 200.332 and the "Establishing and Managing Subawards" General Term and Condition; and carrying out outreach pertaining to the loan and subgrant program to potential borrowers and subgrantees.

l. Borrower and subgrantee progress reporting to the CAR.

2. The CAR must maintain records that will enable it to report to EPA on the amount of costs incurred by the CAR, borrowers, or subgrantees at brownfield sites.

3. Each site being remediated via an RLF subgrant is limited to a total of $500,000 of the CAR's total award amount (i.e., funds EPA awards directly to the CAR for all open RLF grants and any associated cost share, if applicable – see Section IV.A.1.). The term "CAR's total award amount" is used to represent the EPA funds + cost share (if applicable – see Section IV.A.1.) from all of the CAR's open RLF grants (i.e., the term considers the RLF program as a single, unified program rather than separate open RLF cooperative agreements; it does not include any funding from cooperative agreements that the CAR has already closed out). The total award amount also never includes program income earned while the cooperative agreement is open or retained and post-closeout program income. For the purposes of determining compliance with the subgrant cap, the value of any technical assistance the CAR provides to the subgrantee (e.g., an ABCA paid for with EPA funds or cost share, if applicable – see Section IV.A.1.) would not be included in the subgrant and does not count towards the $500,000 per site cap. However, any expenses charged to the subgrant by the subgrantee (e.g., including the cost of an ABCA) would count towards the $500,000 subgrant cap. Private, for-profit entities are not eligible for subgrants.

4. At least 50% of each open cooperative agreement's total award amount (i.e., EPA funds + cost share, if applicable – see Section IV.A.1.) must be used by the CAR to provide loans for the cleanup of eligible brownfield sites and associated eligible programmatic costs by the end of the cooperative agreement project period. The remaining EPA funding and cost share, if applicable – see Section IV.A.1, may be used for all other eligible programmatic costs that are not associated with loans, such as subgrants, forgiven principal in discounted loans, and eligible programmatic costs to manage/market the RLF. This is referred to as the 50/50 split rule, which addresses the minimum ratio of loan costs to non-loan costs required for the cooperative agreement's total award amount by the end of the cooperative agreement project period. CARs are not required to meet the 50/50 split rule "proportionally" when drawing down funds, but the EPA Project Officer will monitor to confirm the CAR is on track to meet the minimum 50/50 split by the end of the cooperative agreement.

The CAR may request a waiver of the $500,000 subgrant limit or the minimum 50/50 split by seeking a waiver through the EPA Project Officer who can provide information on the waiver process. However, a waiver is not required for either requirement when only program income is used, since subgrants that are funded with 100% program income are not limited in amount and do not contribute to this 50% limitation. A waiver is also not required for the discounted amount of a loan if the loan is funded with 100% program income. Furthermore, if program income and/or post-closeout program income are combined with EPA funds and/or cost share (if applicable – see Section IV.A.1.) the program income and post-closeout program income must not be included in the total subgrant or loan amount for the purposes of determining compliance with the subgrant cap, discounted loan limits, or 50/50 split rule.

If the CAR has more than one open RLF cooperative agreement and would like to close out the older cooperative agreement more quickly, the CAR has the option of:

a. Submitting a waiver request to the EPA Project Officer requesting to apply the 50/50 split rule to the CAR's RLF program as a whole for all open RLF cooperative agreements, rather than to each open RLF cooperative agreement individually, on one condition: if one of those open RLF grants closes out (i.e., project period ends) and that closing cooperative agreement does not meet the 50/50 split requirement on its own due to excessive non-loan costs, the CAR must continue to include that cooperative agreement in the 50/50 split calculation for the other open cooperative agreement going forward. This allows the 50/50 split rule to be honored for the entire open RLF program.

b. Requesting that the EPA Project Officer and Grants Management Officer allow shifting of programmatic costs (loan and non-loan costs) between the two open cooperative agreements, in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.405(c), to better achieve the CAR's RLF program priorities. Once the oldest cooperative agreement closes out, the workplan and budget for the remaining open cooperative agreement would need to be amended to include programmatic costs.

5. To determine whether a cleanup subgrant is appropriate, the CAR must consider the following as required by CERCLA § 104(k)(3)(C):

a. The extent to which the subgrant will facilitate the creation of, preservation of, or addition to a park, greenway, undeveloped property, recreational property, or other property used for nonprofit purposes;

b. The extent to which the subgrant will meet the needs of a community that has the inability to draw on other sources of funding for environmental remediation and subsequent redevelopment of the area in which a brownfield site is located because of the small population or low income of the community;

c. The extent to which the subgrant will facilitate the use or reuse of existing infrastructure; and

d. The benefit of promoting the long-term availability of funds from a revolving loan fund for brownfield remediation.

The CAR must maintain sufficient records to support and document these determinations.

6. If the CAR makes a subgrant to a local government that includes an amount (not to exceed 10% of the subgrant) for Brownfields Program development and implementation, the terms and conditions of that agreement must include a provision that ensures that the local government subgrantee maintains records adequate to ensure compliance with the limits on the amount of subgrant funds that may be expended for this purpose.

8. Under CERCLA § 104(k)(5)(E), CARs and subgrantees may use up to 5% of the direct EPA funding for this cooperative agreement for administrative costs, including indirect costs under 2 CFR § 200.414. The limit on administrative costs for the CAR under this agreement is $50,000**.** The total amount of indirect costs and any direct costs for cooperative agreement administration by the CAR paid for by EPA under the cooperative agreement shall not exceed this amount. Note that additional administrative costs may be allowed when using program income received under this cooperative agreement during the period of performance (see Section IV.D.2.). Subgrantees and borrowers may use up to 5% of the amount of Federal funds (direct EPA funding, cost share – if applicable – see Section IV.A.1, and program income) in their subawards for administrative costs. As required by 2 CFR § 200.403(d), the CAR and subgrantees must classify administrative costs as direct or indirect consistently and shall not classify the same types of costs in both categories. [Note: Borrowers may charge direct administrative costs to their loan, but borrowers cannot charge indirect costs.]

The term “administrative costs” does not include:

a. Investigation and identification of the extent of contamination of a brownfield site;

b. Design and performance of a response action; or

c. Monitoring of a natural resource.

Eligible cooperative agreement and subgrant administrative costs subject to the 5% limitation include direct costs for:

a. Costs incurred to comply with the following provisions of the *Uniform Administrative Requirements for Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* at 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500 other than those identified as programmatic.

i. Record-keeping associated with equipment purchases required under 2 CFR § 200.313;

ii. Preparing revisions and changes in the budgets, scopes of work, program plans and other activities required under 2 CFR § 200.308;

iii. Maintaining and operating financial management systems required under 2 CFR § 200.302;

iv. Preparing payment requests and handling payments under 2 CFR § 200.305;

v. Financial reporting under 2 CFR § 200.328;

vi. Non-federal audits required under 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F; and

vii. Closeout under 2 CFR § 200.344 with the exception of preparing the recipient’s final performance report. Costs for preparing this report are programmatic and are not subject to the 5% limitation on direct administrative costs.

b. Pre-award costs for preparation of the proposal and application for this cooperative agreement (including the final workplan) or applications for subgrants are not allowable as direct costs but may be included in the CAR’s or subrecipient’s indirect cost pool to the extent authorized by 2 CFR § 200.460.

c. Borrowers may use up to 5% of the amount of the Federal funds in the loan for loan administration costs. Eligible administrative costs for borrowers include direct costs for:

i. Salaries, benefits, and other compensation for persons who are not directly engaged in the cleanup of the site (e.g., marketing and human resource personnel), but only to the extent to which these persons activities support the cleanup and subsequent re-use of the site;

ii. Facility costs such as depreciation, utilities, and rent on the borrower’s administrative offices; and

iii. Supplies and equipment not used directly for cleanup at the site.

d. Eligible <u>direct</u> costs for <u>loan administration</u> include expenses for:

i. Preparing revisions and changes in the budget, workplans, and other documents required under the loan agreement;

ii. Maintaining and operating financial management and personnel systems;

iii. Preparing payment requests and handling payments; and

iv. Audits including non-federal audits required under 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F.

e. Borrowers shall not use loan funds for indirect costs even if the borrower has an indirect cost rate approved by a cognizant Federal agency.

C. Ineligible Uses of the Funds for the Cooperative Agreement Recipient, Borrower, and/or Subgrantee

1. Cooperative agreement funds shall not be used by the CAR, borrower and/or subgrantee for any of the following activities:

a. Pre-cleanup Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessment activities with the exception of site monitoring activities that are reasonable and necessary during the cleanup process, including determination of the effectiveness of a cleanup;

b. Monitoring and data collection necessary to apply for, or comply with, environmental permits under other federal and state laws, unless such a permit is required as a component of the cleanup action;

c. Construction, demolition, and site development activities that are not cleanup actions (e.g., marketing of property (activities or products created specifically to attract buyers or investors), construction of a new facility, or addressing public or private drinking water supplies that have deteriorated through ordinary use);

d. Job training activities unrelated to performing a specific cleanup at a site covered by a loan or subgrant;

e. To pay for a penalty or fine;

f. To pay a federal cost share requirement (e.g., a cost share required by another federal grant) unless there is specific statutory authority;

g. To pay for a response cost at a brownfield site for which the CAR or recipient of the subgrant or loan is potentially liable under CERCLA § 107;

h. To pay a cost of compliance with any federal law, excluding the cost of compliance with laws applicable to the cleanup; and

i. Unallowable costs (e.g., lobbying and purchases of alcoholic beverages) under 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E.

2. Cooperative agreement funds shall not be used for any of the following properties:

a. Facilities listed, or proposed for listing, on the National Priorities List (NPL);

b. Facilities subject to unilateral administrative orders, court orders, and administrative orders on consent or judicial consent decree issued to or entered by parties under CERCLA;

c. Facilities that are subject to the jurisdiction, custody, or control of the United States government except for land held in trust by the United States government for an Indian tribe; or

d. A site excluded from the definition of a brownfield site for which EPA has not made a property-specific

funding determination.

D. Use of Program Income – During the Performance Period

1. Program income for the RLF shall be defined as the gross income received by the recipient, directly generated by the cooperative agreement award or earned during the period of the award. Program income shall include principal repayments, interest earned on outstanding loan principal, interest earned on accounts holding RLF program income not needed for immediate lending, all loan fees and loan-related charges received from borrowers and other income generated from RLF operations including proceeds from the sale, collection, or liquidations of assets acquired through defaults of loans.

2. In accordance with 2 CFR § 200.307 and 2 CFR § 1500.8, during the performance period of the cooperative agreement the CAR is authorized to add program income to the funds awarded by EPA and use the program income under the same terms and conditions of this agreement unless otherwise specified (e.g., Section IV.B.4. regarding the minimum 50/50 split). Accordingly, program income may be used for administrative costs, including any applicable indirect costs, provided that the total amount of funds used for administrative costs does not exceed 5% of the sum of direct EPA funding and program income the CAR generates. CARs that intend to use program income for cost share for other Brownfield Grants under 2 CFR § 200.307(c)(3) must obtain prior approval from the EPA Grant Management Officer or Award Official unless the cost share method for using program income was approved at time of award. Note that repayments of principal for loans made all or in part with cooperative agreement funds shall not be used for cost share for other Brownfield Grants. These repayments of principal must be returned to the CAR's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund.

3. In accordance with 2 CFR § 1500.8(c), to continue the mission of the Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund, recipients may use cooperative agreement funding prior to using program income funds generated by the revolving loan fund.

4. The CAR that elects to use program income to cover all or part of an RLF's programmatic costs shall maintain adequate accounting records and source documentation to substantiate the amount and percent of program income expended for eligible RLF programmatic costs, and comply with OMB cost principles at 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E when charging costs against program income. For any cost determined by EPA to have been an ineligible or unallowable use of program income, the recipient shall reimburse the RLF or refund the amount to EPA as directed by the EPA Action Official in its disallowance determination. EPA will notify the recipient of the time period allowed for reimbursement or refund.

5. Loans or subgrants made with a combination of program income, post-closeout program income, and/or direct funding from EPA are subject to the same terms and conditions as those applicable to this agreement. Loans and subgrants made with direct funding from EPA in combination with non-federal sources of funds are also subject to the same terms and conditions of this agreement.

6. The CAR must obtain the EPA Project Officer approval of the substantive terms of loans and subgrants made entirely with program income unless this requirement is waived by the EPA Project Officer.

E. Interest-Bearing Accounts

1. The CAR must deposit advances of cooperative agreement funds (as described in Section VII.A., *Methods of Disbursement*) and program income (as defined earlier) in an interest-bearing account unique to this cooperative agreement [i.e., separate from funds for another open RLF cooperative agreement, and separate from post-closeout program income governed under a Closeout Agreement (COA) since separate reporting of funds is required under a

COA]. Consistent with 2 CFR 200.305(d)(7) as well as the unique accounting requirements for states under 2 CFR 200.302(a) and 200.305(a), the CAR does not have to establish entirely separate bank accounts for EPA funds. The CAR does, however, have to be able to account for EPA funds (including cost share and program income) received, obligated, and expended, and Federal funds must be deposited and maintained in insured accounts whenever possible as required by the regulation. Subaccounts are allowed, as long as the interest earned and all funds for each of the CAR's open and post-closeout RLF grants can be accounted for accurately by the CAR.

2. Advances of EPA funds (and other Federal funds as well) must also be placed in interest bearing accounts as provided in 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(8) for CARs other than states which are subject to applicable Treasury regulations. Advances of EPA funds must be maintained in an account that is separate from the post-closeout program income in the RLF. While interest earned by CARs on advances of EPA funds should be minimal given the regulatory and T&C requirements for prompt disbursement of drawn down funds, any interest the CAR does earn on advanced Federal funds is subject to 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(9). This regulation generally requires that interest on advanced Federal funds in excess of $500 must be transmitted annually to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

3. Interest earned on program income is considered additional program income.

F. Closeout Agreement and Use of Post Cooperative Agreement (i.e., Post-Closeout) Program Income

1. As provided at 2 CFR § 200.307(f) and 2 CFR § 1500.8(c) after the end of the period of performance of the cooperative agreement, the CAR may keep and use program income at the end of the cooperative agreement (retained program income) and use program income earned after the cooperative agreement period of performance (post-closeout program income) in accordance with terms of a COA. At the end of the cooperative agreement period of performance, the CAR shall comply with the attached COA. The COA goes into effect for this assistance agreement number the day after the cooperative agreement period of performance ends unless otherwise designated by the EPA Grants Management Officer or Award Official. The period of performance is identified as the project period in the Notice of Award.

2. This COA is based on the FY22 RLF COA template. EPA plans to modify RLF COA templates every five years. EPA reserves the right to renegotiate the terms of this RLF COA every five years, in conjunction with the template change (e.g., next change will be in FY27). If the CAR agrees to continue to operate the RLF under a COA past FY27, the CAR shall work with the EPA Project Officer to update to the latest COA template. Otherwise, the Project Officer and CAR will negotiate a mutually acceptable disposition of unused program income, and an Authorized EPA Official (e.g., Grants Management Officer or Award Official) will modify the COA accordingly.

V. RLF REQUIREMENTS

A. Authorized RLF Cleanup Activities

1. The CAR, or borrower/subgrantee with CAR concurrence, shall prepare an ABCA, or equivalent state Brownfields program document, which will include information about the site and contamination issues (i.e., exposure pathways, identification of contaminant sources, etc.); cleanup standards; applicable laws; alternatives considered; and the proposed cleanup. The evaluation of alternatives must include effectiveness, ability to implement, and the cost of the response proposed. The evaluation of alternatives must also consider the resilience of the remedial options to address potential adverse impacts caused by extreme weather events (e.g., sea level rise, increased frequency and intensity of flooding, etc.). The alternatives may additionally consider the degree to which they reduce greenhouse gas discharges, reduce energy use or employ alternative energy sources, reduce volume of wastewater generated/disposed of, reduce

volume of materials taken to landfills, and recycle and re-use materials generated during the cleanup process to the maximum extent practicable. The evaluation will include an analysis of reasonable alternatives including no action. The cleanup method chosen must be based on this analysis and documented in a decision document upon completion of the public comment period. The CAR, or borrower/subgrantee with CAR concurrence, must consult with the relevant state program (or EPA if there is not a state program that covers the site) to determine if the selected cleanup requires formal modification based on public comments or new information.

2. Prior to conducting or engaging in any on-site activity with the potential to impact historic properties (such as invasive sampling or cleanup), the CAR shall consult with the EPA Project Officer regarding potential applicability of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 USC § 470) and, if applicable, shall assist EPA in complying with any requirements of the NHPA and implementing regulations.

B. Quality Assurance (QA) Requirements

1. When environmental data are collected as part of the brownfield cleanup (e.g., cleanup verification sampling, post-cleanup confirmation sampling), the CAR shall comply with 2 CFR § 1500.12 requirements to develop and implement quality assurance practices sufficient to produce data adequate to meet project objectives and to minimize data loss. State law may impose additional QA requirements.

2. Assistance Agreement Recipients that are entering into the State's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) may follow the EPA approved State Quality Assurance Program as long the CA recipient attests to following the State's plan. This is typically applicable for sites currently going through or are anticipated to be entered in the appropriate State VCP. Recipients should contact the EPA Project Officer to review the requirements and to receive the attestation memo for this quality assurance approach. In such case in which the proper attestation signatures cannot be obtained, Recipients implementing environmental programs within the scope of the assistance agreement must submit to the EPA Project Officer and approval Quality Assurance Program Plan/Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPrP/QAPP) at least 90 days prior to the initiation of data collection in the field.

The QAPP should be prepared in accordance with EPA QA/R-5: EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans. No environmental data collection or data compilation may occur until the QAPP is approved by the EPA Project Officer and Quality Assurance Regional Manager. Additional information on the requirements can be found at the EPA Office of Grants and Debarment website at https://www.epa.gov/grants/implementation-quality-assurance-requirements-organizations-receiving-epa-financial.

3. The recipient shall notify the EPA Project Officer and the EPA Quality Assurance Manager or designee (hereafter referred to as QAM) when substantive changes are needed to the QAPP. EPA may require the QAPP be updated and re-submitted for approval.

4. The recipient must review their approved QAPP at least annually. The results of the QAPP review and any revisions must be submitted to the EPA Project Officer and the QAM at least annually and may also be submitted when changes occur (the QAM or EPA Project Officer may add additional specifications).

5. **Competency of Organizations Generating Environmental Measurement Data:** In accordance with Agency Policy Directive Number FEM-2012-02, *Policy to Assure the Competency of Organizations Generating Environmental Measurement Data under Agency-Funded Assistance Agreements*, the CAR agrees, by entering into this agreement, that it has demonstrated competency prior to award, or alternatively, where a pre-award demonstration of competency is not practicable, the CAR agrees to demonstrate competency prior to carrying out any activities under the award

involving the generation or use of environmental data. The CAR shall maintain competency for the duration of the project period of this agreement and this will be documented during the annual reporting process. A copy of the Policy is available online at http://www.epa.gov/fem/lab_comp.htm or a copy may also be requested by contacting the EPA Project Officer for this award.

C. Public Involvement and Community Outreach

1. All RLF loan and subgrant cleanup activities require a site-specific Community Involvement Plan that includes providing reasonable notice, and the opportunity for public involvement and comment on the proposed cleanup options under consideration for the site. All information, including responses to public comments and administrative records, may be made available to the public to the extent consistent with 2 CFR § 200.338 and applicable state, tribal, or local law.

D. Public Awareness

1. The CAR agrees to clearly reference EPA investments in the project during all phases of community outreach outlined in the EPA-approved workplan which may include the development of any post-project summary or success materials that highlight achievements to which this project contributed.

a. If any documents, fact sheets, and/or web materials are developed as part of this cooperative agreement, then they shall comply with the *Acknowledgement Requirements for Non-ORD Assistance Agreements* in the General Terms and Conditions of this agreement.

b. If the EPA logo is displayed along with logos from other participating entities on websites, outreach materials, or reports, it must **not** be prominently displayed to imply that any of the recipient or subrecipient's activities are being conducted by the EPA. Instead, the EPA logo should be accompanied with a statement indicating that the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development received financial support from the EPA under an Assistance Agreement per the term and condition described in Section V.D.1.a. above. More information is available at https://www.epa.gov/stylebook/using-epa-seal-and-logo.

c. Investing in America Emblem: The recipient will ensure that a sign is placed at construction sites supported in whole or in part by this award displaying the official Investing in America emblem and must identify the project as a "project funded by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law." The sign must be placed at construction sites in an easily visible location that can be directly linked to the work taking place and must be maintained in good condition throughout the construction period.

The recipient will ensure compliance with the guidelines and design specifications provided by EPA for using the official Investing in America emblem available at https://www.epa.gov/invest/investing-america-signage.

d. Procuring Signs: Consistent with section 6002 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. 6962, and 2 CFR 200.323, recipients are encouraged to use recycled or recovered materials when procuring signs. Signage costs are considered an allowable cost under this assistance agreement provided that the costs associated with signage are reasonable. Additionally, to increase public awareness of projects serving communities where English is not the predominant language, recipients are encouraged to translate the language on signs (excluding the official Investing in America emblem or EPA logo or seal) into the appropriate non-English language(s). The costs of such translation are allowable, provided the costs are reasonable.

3. The CAR agrees to notify the EPA Project Officer listed in this award document of public or media events

publicizing the accomplishment of significant events related to construction and/or site reuse projects as a result of this agreement, and provide the opportunity for attendance and participation by federal representatives with at least ten (10) working days' notice.

4. To increase public awareness of projects serving communities where English is not the predominant language, CARs are encouraged to include in their outreach strategies communication in non-English languages. Translation costs for this purpose are allowable, provided the costs are reasonable.

5. All public awareness activities conducted with EPA funding are subject to the provisions in the General Terms and Conditions on compliance with section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

E. Administrative Record

1. The CAR shall establish an Administrative Record that contains the documents that form the basis for the selection of a cleanup plan. Documents in the Administrative Record shall include the ABCA; site investigation reports; the cleanup plan; cleanup standards used; responses to public comments; and verification that shows that cleanups are complete. The CAR shall keep the Administrative Record available at a location convenient to the public and make it available for inspection. The Administrative Record must be retained for three (3) years after the termination of the cooperative agreement subject to any requirements for maintaining records of site cleanups ongoing at the time of t ermination contained in the CAR's COA.

F. Implementation of RLF Cleanup Activities

1. The CAR shall ensure the adequacy of each RLF cleanup in protecting human health and the environment as it is implemented. Each loan and subgrant agreement shall contain terms and conditions, subject to any required approvals by the state or tribal regulatory oversight authority, that allow the CAR to change cleanup activities as necessary based on comments from the public or any new information acquired.

2. If the borrower or subgrantee is unable or unwilling to complete the RLF cleanup, the CAR shall ensure that the site is secure. The CAR shall notify the appropriate state agency and EPA to ensure an orderly transition should additional activities become necessary.

G. Completion of RLF Cleanup Activities

1. The CAR shall ensure that the successful completion of an RLF cleanup is properly documented. This must be done through a final report or letter from a Qualified Environmental Professional, or other documentation provided by a State or Tribe that shows cleanups are complete (including No Further Action letters, institutional controls, etc.). This documentation must be included as part of the Administrative Record.

VI. REVOLVING LOAN FUND REQUIREMENTS

A. Prudent Lending and Subgranting Practices

1. The CAR is expected to establish economically sound structures and day-to-day management and processing procedures to maintain the RLF and meet longterm brownfield cleanup lending/subgranting objectives. These include establishing: underwriting principles that can include the establishment of interest rates, repayment terms, fee structure, and collateral requirements sufficient to recover, as a minimum, the principal amount of the loan less any repayment discounts; and, lending/subgranting practices that can include loan/subgrant processing, documentation, approval, servicing, administrative procedures, collection, and recovery actions. Intra-governmental loans may be

made consistent with EPA's guidance with the approval of the EPA Project Officer. Governmental recipients may not make intra-governmental subgrants. Non-profit recipients may not make intra-entity loans and subgrants without EPA Project Officer approval of a waiver.

2. The CAR shall not incur costs under this cooperative agreement for loans subgrants or other eligible costs until an RLF cooperative agreement workplan has been submitted to and approved by the EPA Project Officer or program manager. The CAR shall ensure that the objectives of the workplan are met through its or the fund manager's selection and structuring of individual loans/subgrants and lending/subgranting practices. These activities shall include, but not be limited to the following:

a. Considering awarding subgrants on a competitive basis. If the CAR decides not to award any such subgrants competitively, it must document the basis for that decision and inform the EPA Project Officer in the first quarterly performance report. The CAR must inform the EPA Project Officer if the CAR subsequently decides to award subgrants competitively in the quarterly performance report immediately following the decision.

b. Establishing appropriate project selection criteria consistent with federal and state requirements, the intent of the RLF program, and the cooperative agreement entered into with EPA.

c. Establishing threshold eligibility requirements whereby only eligible borrowers or subgrantees receive RLF financing.

d. Developing a formal protocol for potential borrowers or subgrantees to demonstrate eligibility, based on the procedures described in the initial RLF application proposal and cooperative agreement application. Such a protocol shall include descriptions of projects that will be funded, how loan monies will be used, and qualifications of the borrower or subgrantee to make legitimate use of the funds. Additionally, CARs shall ask borrowers or subgrantees for an explanation of how a project, if selected, would be consistent with RLF program objectives, statutory requirements and limitations, and protect human health and the environment.

e. Requiring that borrowers or subgrantees submit information describing the borrower's or subgrantee's environmental compliance history. The CAR shall consider this history in an analysis of the borrower or subgrant recipient as a cleanup and business risk.

f. Establishing procedures for handling the day-to-day management and processing of loans and repayments.

g. Establishing standardized procedures for the disbursement of funds to the borrower or subgrantee.

B. Inclusion of Additional Terms and Conditions in RLF Loan and Subgrant Documents

1. All loans and subgrants must include the information required by 2 CFR § 200.332(a). EPA has developed an optional template to use in creating this agreement that is available on EPA's Subaward Policy internet page. EPA does not require CARs to use the template.

2. The CAR shall ensure that the borrower or subgrantee meets the cleanup and other program requirements of the RLF cooperative agreement by including the following special terms and conditions in RLF loan agreements and subgrants:

a. Borrowers or subgrantees shall use funds only for eligible activities and in compliance with the

requirements of CERCLA § 104(k) and applicable federal and state laws and regulations. (See Section I.A.2. and Section II.)

b. Borrowers or subgrantees shall ensure that the cleanup protects human health and the environment.

c. Borrowers or subgrantees shall document how funds are used.

d. Borrowers or subgrantees shall maintain records for a minimum of three (3) years following completion of the cleanup financed all or in part with RLF funds unless one of the conditions described at 2 CFR § 200.334 is present. Borrowers or subgrantees shall obtain written approval from the CAR prior to disposing of records, so that the CAR can maintain the records, if necessary, for complying with the CAR's obligations under 2 CFR § 200.334. CARs shall also require that the borrower or subgrantee provide access to records relating to loans and subgrants supported with RLF funds to authorized representatives of the federal government. As stated in the attached COA, records related to the COA must be retained by the CAR for the duration of the COA and retained for a period of three (3) years following termination or discontinuation of the COA.

e. Borrowers or subgrantees shall certify that they are not currently, nor have they been, subject to any penalties resulting from environmental noncompliance at the site subject to the loan or subgrant.

f. Borrowers or subgrantees shall certify that they are not potentially liable under CERCLA § 107 for the site or that, if they are, they qualify for a limitation or defense to liability under CERCLA. If asserting a limitation or defense to liability, the borrower or subgrantee must state the basis for that assertion. When using cooperative agreement funds for petroleum-contaminated brownfield sites, borrowers or subgrantees shall certify that they are not a viable responsible party or potentially liable for the petroleum contamination at the site. The CAR may consult with EPA for assistance with this matter.

g. Borrowers or subgrantees shall conduct cleanup activities as required by the CAR.

h. Subgrantees, other than borrowers, shall comply with all applicable EPA assistance regulations (2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500). All procurements conducted with subgrant funds, but not loans, must comply with Procurement Standards of 2 CFR §§ 200.317 through 200.327, as applicable.

i. Borrowers must comply with the internal control requirements specified at 2 CFR § 200.303 and are subject to the 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F, *Audit Requirements*. The CAR must oversee and manage loans as required by 2 CFR §§ 200.330 through 200.332. No other provisions of the Uniform Grant Guidance apply directly to borrowers.

j. A term and condition or other legally binding provision shall be included in all loans and subgrants entered into with the funds under this agreement, or when funds awarded under this agreement are used in combination with non-federal sources of funds, to ensure that borrowers and subgrantees comply with all applicable federal and state laws and requirements. In addition to CERCLA § 104(k), federal applicable laws and requirements include 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500.

k. EPA provides general information on statutes, regulations and Executive Orders that apply to EPA grants on the Grants internet site at www.epa.gov/grants. Many federal requirements are agreement or program specific and EPA encourages CARs to review the terms of their cooperative agreement carefully and consult with their EPA Project Officer for advice if necessary.

C. Default

1. In the event of a loan default, the CAR shall make reasonable efforts to enforce the terms of the loan agreement including proceeding against the assets pledged as collateral to cover losses to the loan. If the cleanup is not complete at the time of default, the CAR is responsible for:

a. documenting the nexus between the amount paid to the borrower (bank or other financial institution) and the cleanup that took place prior to the default; and

b. securing the site (e.g., ensuring public safety) and informing the EPA Project Officer and the State.

D. Conflict of Interest

1. The CAR shall establish and enforce conflict of interest provisions that prevent the award of subawards that create real or apparent personal conflicts of interest, or the CAR's appearance of lack of impartiality. Such situations include, but are not limited to, situations in which an employee, official, consultant, contractor, or other individual associated with the CAR (affected party) approves or administers a grant or subaward to a subaward recipient in which the affected party has a financial or other interest. Such a conflict of interest or appearance of lack of impartiality may arise when:

a. The affected party,

b. Any member of his immediate family,

c. His or her partner, or

d. An organization which employs, or is about to employ, any of the above, has a financial or other interest in the subrecipient.

Affected employees will neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from subrecipients. Recipients may set minimum rules where the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal intrinsic value. To the extent permitted by State or local law or regulations, such standards of conduct will provide for penalties, sanctions, or other disciplinary actions for violations of such standards by affected parties.

VII. DISBURSEMENT, PAYMENT, AND CLOSEOUT

For the purposes of these Terms and Conditions, the following definitions apply: "payment" is

EPA's transfer of funds to the CAR; the CAR incurs an "obligation" when it enters into an agreement with a borrower or a subgrantee; "disbursement" is the transfer of funds from the CAR to the borrower or subgrantee. The CAR may also disburse funds to a contractor or to pay an allowable cost (e.g. personnel compensation) as provided in 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(1). "Closeout" refers to the process EPA follows to both ensure that all administrative actions and work required under the cooperative agreement have been completed and to establish a COA to govern the use of retained and post-closeout program income.

A. Methods of Disbursement

1. The CAR may choose to disburse funds to the borrower or subgrantee by means of 'actual expense' or 'schedule.' If the schedule method is used, the recipient must ensure that the schedule is designed to reasonably approximate the borrower's or subgrantee's incurred costs.

a. An 'actual expense' disbursement approach requires the borrower or subgrantee to submit documentation

of the borrower's or subgrantee's expenditures (e.g., invoices) to the CAR prior to requesting payment from EPA.

b. A 'schedule' disbursement is one in which all, or an agreed upon portion, of the obligated funds are disbursed to the borrower or subgrantee on the basis of an agreed upon schedule (e.g., progress payments) provided the schedule minimizes the time elapsing between disbursement by the CAR and the borrower or subgrantee's payment of costs incurred in carrying out the loan/subgrant. In unusual circumstances, disbursement may occur upon execution of the loan or subgrant. The CAR shall submit documentation of disbursement schedules to EPA.

c. If the disbursement schedule of the loan/subgrant agreement calls for disbursement of the entire amount of the loan/subgrant upon execution, the CAR shall demonstrate to the EPA Project Officer that this method of disbursement is necessary for purposes of cleaning up the site covered by the loan/subgrant. Further, the CAR shall include an appropriate provision in the loan/subgrant agreement which ensures that the borrower/subgrantee uses funds promptly for costs incurred in connection with the cleanup and that interest accumulated on schedule disbursements is applied to the cleanup.

B. Schedule for Closeout

1. Assuming any applicable cost share requirement has been satisfied (see Section IV.A.1.), there are two fundamental criteria for closeout:

a. Final payment of funds from EPA to the CAR following the end date for the project and budget period of the cooperative agreement as part of the closeout process or prior to the end date when the CAR has disbursed all of the EPA funding of the funds awarded; and

b. Completion of all workplan and cleanup activities funded completely, or in part, by direct EPA funding from the amount of the award.

2. The first criterion of cooperative agreement closeout is met when the CAR receives all payments from EPA. The second closeout criterion is met when all workplan and cleanup activities funded by the cooperative agreement are complete.

3. The CAR must follow the attached COA for any retained and future program income generated after closeout (i.e., post-closeout program income). Eligible uses include continuing to operate an RLF for brownfield site cleanup and/or other brownfield site activities as identified in the attached COA.

C. Compliance with Closeout Schedule

1. If the CAR fails to comply with the closeout schedule, any funds attributable to the cooperative agreement, including retained program income not obligated under loan agreement to a borrower or subgrantee, may be subject to federal recovery.

D. Final Requirements

1. The CAR must submit the following documentation:

a. The Final Cooperative Agreement Performance Report as described in Section III.F. of these Terms and

Conditions.

b. Administrative and Financial Reports as described in the General Terms and Conditions of this agreement.

2. The CAR must ensure that all appropriate data have been entered into ACRES or all hardcopy Property Profile Forms are submitted to the EPA Project Officer.

E. Recovery of RLF Assets

1. In case of termination, the CAR shall return to EPA its fair share of the value of the RLF assets consisting of cash, receivables, personal and real property, and notes or other financial instruments developed through use of the funds. EPA's fair share is the amount computed by applying the percentage of EPA participation in the total capitalization of the RLF to the current fair market value of the assets thereof. EPA also has remedies under *Remedies for Noncompliance* at 2 CFR §§ 200.339 through 200.342 and CERCLA § 104(k) when EPA determines that the value of such assets has been reduced by improper/illegal use of cooperative agreement funding. In such instances, the CAR may be required to compensate EPA over and above the EPA's share of the current fair market value of the assets. Nothing in this agreement limits EPA's authorities under CERCLA to recover response costs from a potentially responsible party.

F. Loan Guarantees

1. If the CAR chooses to use the RLF funds to support a loan guarantee approach, the following terms and conditions apply:

a. The CAR shall:

i. Document the relationship between the expenditure of CERCLA § 104(k) funds and cleanup activities;

ii. Maintain an escrow account expressly for the purpose of guaranteeing loans, by following the payment requirement described under the Escrow Requirements term and condition below; and

iii. Ensure that cleanup activities guaranteed by RLF funds are carried out in accordance with CERCLA § 104(k), CERCLA § 104(g) relating to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act, and applicable federal and state laws and will protect human health and the environment.

b. Payment of funds to a CAR shall not be made until a guaranteed loan has been issued by a participating financial institution. Loans guaranteed with RLF funds shall be made available as needed for specified cleanup activities on an "actual expense" or "schedule" basis to the borrower. (See Section VII.A., *Methods of Disbursement*). The CAR's escrow arrangement shall be structured to ensure that the CERCLA § 104(k) funds are properly "disbursed" by the recipient for the purposes of the cooperative agreement as required by 2 CFR § 200.305. If the funds are not properly disbursed, the CERCLA § 104(k) funds that the recipient places in an escrow account will be subject to the interest recovery provisions of 2 CFR § 200.305.

c. To ensure that funds transferred to the CAR are disbursements of assisted funds, the escrow account shall be structured to ensure that:

i. The recipient does not retain the funds;

ii. The recipient does not have access to the escrow funds on demand;

iii. The funds remain in escrow unless there is a default of a guaranteed loan;

iv. The organization holding the escrow (i.e., the escrow agency), shall be a bank or similar financial institution that is independent of the recipient; and

v. There must be an agreement with the financial institution participating in the guaranteed loan program which documents that the financial institution has made a guaranteed loan to clean up a brownfield site in exchange for access to funds held in escrow in the event of a default by the borrower or subgrantee.

d. Federal Obligation to the Loan Guarantee Program - Any obligations that the CAR incurs for loan guarantees in excess of the amount awarded under the cooperative agreement are the CAR's responsibility. This limitation on the extent of the Federal Government's financial commitment to the CAR's loan guarantee program shall be communicated to all participating banks and borrower or subgrantee.

e. Repayment of Guaranteed Loans - Upon repayment of a guaranteed loan and release of the escrow amount by the participating financial institution, the CAR shall return the cooperative agreement funds placed in escrow to EPA based on disposition instructions provided by the EPA Project Officer. Alternatively, the CAR may, with EPA approval:

i. Guarantee additional loans under the terms and conditions of the agreement; or

ii. Amend the terms and conditions of the agreement to provide for another disposition of funds that will redirect the funds for other brownfield sites' related activities authorized by the terms of the cooperative agreement or, if applicable, a COA.

[1] When EPA uses the term "underserved communities" it has the meaning defined in Executive Order 13985: Advancing Racial Equity And Support For Underserved Communities Through The Federal Government,which defines "underserved communities" as "populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life….". As described in the Executive Order, "underserved communities" may include communities denied the consistent, fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality. It also includes "communities environmentally overburdened," that is, a community adversely and disproportionately affected by environmental and human health harms or risks, and "disadvantaged, communities" as referenced in Executive Order 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, and defined in Office of Management and Budget's Memo M-21-28: Interim Implementation Guidance for the Justice40 Initiative.

[2] Per EPA's General Term and Condition, the CAR must obtain prior approval from the EPA Grants Management Officer or Award Official for cumulative transfers of funds in excess of 10% of the total budget.

Davis-Bacon Terms and Conditions For Cooperative Agreements to Governmental Entities

DAVIS-BACON PREVAILING WAGE TERM AND CONDITION

The following terms and conditions specify how Cooperative Agreement Recipients (CARs) will assist EPA in meeting its Davis-Bacon (DB) responsibilities when DB applies to EPA awards of financial assistance under CERCLA 104(g) and any other statute which makes DB applicable to EPA financial assistance. If a CAR has questions regarding when DB applies, obtaining the correct DB wage determinations, DB contract provisions, or DB compliance monitoring, they should contact the regional Brownfields Coordinator or Project Officer for guidance.

1. Applicability of the Davis-Bacon Prevailing Wage Requirements

After consultation with DOL, EPA has determined that for Brownfields Grants for remediation of sites contaminated with hazardous substances and petroleum, DB prevailing wage requirements apply when the project includes the following activities.

Hazardous substances contamination:

(a) All construction, alteration and repair activity involving the remediation of hazardous substances, including excavation and removal of hazardous substances, construction of caps, barriers, structures which house treatment equipment, and abatement of contamination in buildings.

Petroleum contamination:

(a) Installing piping to connect households or businesses to public water systems or replacing public water system supply well(s) and associated piping due to groundwater contamination,

(b) Soil excavation/replacement when undertaken in conjunction with the installation of public water lines/wells described above, or

(c) Soil excavation/replacement, tank removal, and restoring the area by paving or pouring concrete when the soil excavation/replacement occurs in conjunction with both tank removal and paving or concrete replacement.

In the above circumstances, all the laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors will be covered by the DB requirements for all construction work performed on the site. Other petroleum site cleanup activities such as in situ remediation, and soil excavation/replacement and tank removal when not in conjunction with paving or concrete replacement, will not normally trigger DB requirements.

If the CAR encounters a unique situation at a site (e.g., unusually extensive excavation, construction of permanent facilities to house in situ remediation systems, reconstruction of roadways) that presents uncertainties regarding DB applicability, the CAR must discuss the situation with EPA before authorizing work on that site.

2. Obtaining Wage Determinations

(a) Unless otherwise instructed by EPA on a project specific basis, the CAR shall use the following DOL General Wage Classifications for the locality in which the construction activity subject to DB will take place. CARs must obtain proposed wage determinations for specific localities at https://sam.gov/.

(i) When soliciting competitive contracts, awarding new contracts or issuing task orders, work assignments or similar instruments to existing contractors (ordering instruments), the CAR shall use the “Heavy Construction” classification for the following activities:

Hazardous substances contamination: excavation and removal of hazardous substances, construction of caps, barriers, and similar activities that do not involve construction of buildings.

Petroleum contamination: installing piping to connect households or businesses to public water systems or replacing public water system supply well(s) and associated piping, including soil excavation/replacement.

(ii) When soliciting competitive contracts, awarding new contracts, or issuing ordering instruments, the CAR shall use the “Building Construction” classification for the following activities:

Hazardous substances contamination: construction of structures which house treatment equipment, and abatement of contamination in buildings (other than residential structures less than 4 stories in height).

Petroleum contamination: soil excavation/replacement, tank removal, and restoring the area by paving or pouring concrete when the soil excavation/replacement occurs in conjunction with both tank removal and paving or concrete replacement at current or former service station sites, hospitals, fire stations, industrial or freight terminal facilities, or other sites that are associated with a facility that is not used solely for the underground storage of fuel or other contaminant.

(iii) When soliciting competitive contracts, awarding new contracts or issuing ordering instruments for soil excavation/replacement, tank removal, and restoring the area by paving or pouring concrete when the soil excavation/replacement occurs in conjunction with both tank removal and paving or concrete replacement at a facility that is used solely for the underground storage of fuel or other contaminant the CAR shall use the “Heavy Construction” classification. (Only applies to petroleum contamination.)

(iv) When soliciting competitive contracts, awarding new contracts or issuing ordering instruments for the abatement of contamination in residential structures less than 4 stories in height the CAR shall use “Residential Construction” classification. (Only applies to hazardous substances contamination.)

Note: CARs must discuss unique situations that may not be covered by the General Wage Classifications described above with EPA. If, based on discussions with a CAR, EPA determines that DB applies to a unique situation (e.g., unusually extensive excavation), the Agency will advise the CAR which General Wage Classification to use based on the nature of the construction activity at the site.

(b) CARs shall obtain the wage determination for the locality in which a Brownfields cleanup activity subject to DB will take place *prior* to issuing requests for bids, proposals, quotes or other methods for soliciting contracts (solicitation) for activities subject to DB. These wage determinations shall be incorporated into solicitations and any subsequent contracts. Prime contracts must contain a provision requiring that subcontractors follow the wage determination incorporated into the prime contract.

(i) While the solicitation remains open, the CAR shall monitor https://sam.gov/ on a weekly basis to ensure that the wage determination contained in the solicitation remains current. The CAR shall amend the solicitation if DOL issues a modification more than 10 days prior to the closing date (i.e., bid opening) for the solicitation. If DOL modifies or supersedes the applicable wage determination less than 10 days prior to the closing date, the CAR may request a finding from EPA that there is not reasonable time to notify interested contractors of the modification of the wage determination. EPA will provide a report of the Agency’s finding to the CAR.

(ii) If the CAR does not award the contract within 90 days of the closure of the solicitation, any modifications or supersedes DOL makes to the wage determination contained in the solicitation shall be

effective unless EPA, at the request of the CAR, obtains an extension of the 90-day period from DOL pursuant to 29 CFR 1.6(c)(3)(iv). The CAR shall monitor https://sam.gov/ on a weekly basis if it does not award the contract within 90 days of closure of the solicitation to ensure that wage determinations contained in the solicitation remain current.

(iii) If the CAR carries out Brownfields cleanup activity subject to DB by issuing a task order, work assignment or similar instrument to an existing contractor (ordering instrument) rather than by publishing a solicitation, the CAR shall insert the appropriate DOL wage determination from https://sam.gov/ into the ordering instrument.

(c) CARs shall review all subcontracts subject to DB entered into by prime contractors to verify that the prime contractor has required its subcontractors to include the applicable wage determinations.

(d) As provided in 29 CFR 1.6(f), DOL may issue a revised wage determination applicable to a CAR's contract after the award of a contract or the issuance of an ordering instrument if DOL determines that the CAR has failed to incorporate a wage determination or has used a wage determination that clearly does not apply to the contract or ordering instrument. If this occurs, the CAR shall either terminate the contract or ordering instrument and issue a revised solicitation or ordering instrument or incorporate DOL's wage determination retroactive to the beginning of the contract or ordering instrument by change order. The CAR's contractor must be compensated for any increases in wages resulting from the use of DOL's revised wage determination.

3. Contract and Subcontract Provisions

(a) The CAR shall insert in full in any contract in excess of $2,000 which is entered into for the actual construction, alteration and/or repair, including painting and decorating, of a public building or public work, or building or work financed in whole or in part from Federal funds or in accordance with guarantees of a Federal agency or financed from funds obtained by pledge of any contract of a Federal agency to make a loan, grant or annual contribution (except where a different meaning is expressly indicated), and which is subject to DB, the following labor standards provisions.

(1) Minimum wages.

(i) All laborers and mechanics employed or working upon the site of the work will be paid unconditionally and not less often than once a week, and without subsequent deduction or rebate on any account (except such payroll deductions as are permitted by regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor under the Copeland Act (29 CFR Part 3)), the full amount of wages and bona fide fringe benefits (or cash equivalents thereof) due at time of payment computed at rates not less than those contained in the applicable wage determination of the Secretary of Labor which the CAR obtained under the procedures specified in Item 2, above, and made a part hereof, regardless of any contractual relationship which may be alleged to exist between the contractor and such laborers and mechanics.

Contributions made or costs reasonably anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits under section 1(b)(2) of the Davis-Bacon Act on behalf of laborers or mechanics are considered wages paid to such laborers or mechanics, subject to the provisions of paragraph (a)(1)(iv) of this section; also, regular contributions made or costs incurred for more than a weekly period (but not less often than quarterly) under plans, funds, or programs which cover the particular weekly period, are deemed to be constructively made or incurred during such weekly period. Such laborers and mechanics shall be paid the appropriate wage rate and fringe benefits on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed, without regard to skill, except as

provided in § 5.5(a)(4). Laborers or mechanics performing work in more than one classification may be compensated at the rate specified for each classification for the time actually worked therein: Provided that the employer's payroll records accurately set forth the time spent in each classification in which work is performed. The wage determination (including any additional classification and wage rates conformed under paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section) and the Davis-Bacon poster (WH-1321) shall be posted at all times by the contractor and its subcontractors at the site of the work in a prominent and accessible place where it can be easily seen by the workers. CARs shall require that the contractor and subcontractors include the name of the CAR employee or official responsible for monitoring compliance with DB on the poster.

(ii)(A) The CAR, on behalf of EPA, shall require that contracts and subcontracts entered into under this agreement provide that any class of laborers or mechanics, including helpers, which is not listed in the wage determination and which is to be employed under the contract shall be classified in conformance with the wage determination. The EPA Award Official shall approve an additional classification and wage rate and fringe benefits therefore only when the following criteria have been met:

(1) The work to be performed by the classification requested is not performed by a classification in the wage determination; and

(2) The classification is utilized in the area by the construction industry; and

(3) The proposed wage rate, including any bona fide fringe benefits, bears a reasonable relationship to the wage rates contained in the wage determination.

(ii)(B) If the contractor and the laborers and mechanics to be employed in the classification (if known), or their representatives, and the CAR agree on the classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits where appropriate), a report of the action taken shall be sent by the CAR to the EPA Award Official. The Award Official will transmit the report to the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will approve, modify, or disapprove every additional classification action within 30 days of receipt and so advise the Award Official or will notify the Award Official within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(ii)(C) In the event the contractor, the laborers or mechanics to be employed in the classification or their representatives, and the CAR do not agree on the proposed classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits, where appropriate), the Award Official shall refer the questions, including the views of all interested parties and the recommendation of the award official, to the Administrator for determination. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will issue a determination within 30 days of receipt and so advise the contracting officer or will notify the Award Official within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(ii)(D) The wage rate (including fringe benefits where appropriate) determined pursuant to paragraphs (a)(1)(ii)(B) or (C) of this section, shall be paid to all workers performing work in the classification under this contract from the first day on which work is performed in the classification.

(iii) Whenever the minimum wage rate prescribed in the contract for a class of laborers or mechanics includes a fringe benefit which is not expressed as an hourly rate, the contractor shall either pay the benefit as stated in the wage determination or shall pay another bona fide fringe benefit or an hourly cash equivalent thereof.

(iv) If the contractor does not make payments to a trustee or other third person, the contractor may consider as part of the wages of any laborer or mechanic the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing bona fide fringe benefits under a plan or program, Provided, That the Secretary of Labor has found, upon the written request of the contractor, that the applicable standards of the Davis-Bacon Act have been met. The Secretary of Labor may require the contractor to set aside in a separate account assets for the meeting of obligations under the plan or program.

(2) Withholding.

The CAR, upon written request of the Award Official or an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, shall withhold or cause to withhold from the contractor under this contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements, which is held by the same prime contractor, so much of the accrued payments or advances as may be considered necessary to pay laborers and mechanics, including apprentices, trainees, and helpers, employed by the contractor or any subcontractor the full amount of wages required by the contract. In the event of failure to pay any laborer or mechanic, including any apprentice, trainee, or helper, employed or working on the site of the work, all or part of the wages required by the contract, EPA may, after written notice to the contractor, or CAR take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds until such violations have ceased.

(3) Payrolls and basic records.

(i) Payrolls and basic records relating thereto shall be maintained by the contractor during the course of the work and preserved for a period of three years thereafter for all laborers and mechanics working at the site of the work. Such records shall contain the name, address, and social security number of each such worker, his or her correct classification, hourly rates of wages paid (including rates of contributions or costs anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits or cash equivalents thereof of the types described in section 1(b)(2)(B) of the Davis-Bacon Act), daily and weekly number of hours worked, deductions made and actual wages paid. Whenever the Secretary of Labor has found under 29 CFR 5.5(a)(1)(iv) that the wages of any laborer or mechanic include the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing benefits under a plan or program described in section 1(b)(2)(B) of the Davis-Bacon Act, the contractor shall maintain records which show that the commitment to provide such benefits is enforceable, that the plan or program is financially responsible, and that the plan or program has been communicated in writing to the laborers or mechanics affected, and records which show the costs anticipated or the actual cost incurred in providing such benefits. Contractors employing apprentices or trainees under approved programs shall maintain written evidence of the registration of apprenticeship programs and certification of trainee programs, the registration of the apprentices and trainees, and the ratios and wage rates prescribed in the applicable programs.

(ii)(A) The contractor shall submit weekly for each week in which any contract work is performed a copy of all payrolls to the CAR who will maintain the records on behalf of EPA. The payrolls submitted shall set out accurately and completely all of the information required to be maintained under 29 CFR 5.5(a)(3)(i), except that full social security numbers and home addresses shall not be included on weekly transmittals. Instead the payrolls shall only need to include an individually identifying number for each employee (e.g., the last four digits of the employee's social security number). The required weekly payroll information may be submitted in any form desired. Optional Form WH-347 is available for this purpose from the Wage and Hour Division website at https://www.dol.gov/whd/forms/wh347.pdf or its successor site. The prime contractor is responsible

for the submission of copies of payrolls by all subcontractors. Contractors and subcontractors shall maintain the full social security number and current address of each covered worker, and shall provide them upon request to the CAR for transmission to the EPA, if requested by EPA, the contractor, or the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor for purposes of an investigation or audit of compliance with prevailing wage requirements. It is not a violation of this section for a prime contractor to require a subcontractor to provide addresses and social security numbers to the prime contractor for its own records, without weekly submission to the CAR.

(ii)(B) Each payroll submitted to the CAR shall be accompanied by a "Statement of Compliance," signed by the contractor or subcontractor or his or her agent who pays or supervises the payment of the persons employed under the contract and shall certify the following:

(1) That the payroll for the payroll period contains the information required to be provided under § 5.5 (a)(3)(ii) of Regulations, 29 CFR Part 5, the appropriate information is being maintained under § 5.5 (a)(3)(i) of Regulations, 29 CFR Part 5, and that such information is correct and complete;

(2) That each laborer or mechanic (including each helper, apprentice, and trainee) employed on the contract during the payroll period has been paid the full weekly wages earned, without rebate, either directly or indirectly, and that no deductions have been made either directly or indirectly from the full wages earned, other than permissible deductions as set forth in Regulations, 29 CFR Part 3;

(3) That each laborer or mechanic has been paid not less than the applicable wage rates and fringe benefits or cash equivalents for the classification of work performed, as specified in the applicable wage determination incorporated into the contract.

(ii)(C) The weekly submission of a properly executed certification set forth on the reverse side of Optional Form WH-347 shall satisfy the requirement for submission of the "Statement of Compliance" required by paragraph (a)(3)(ii)(B) of this section.

(ii)(D) The falsification of any of the above certifications may subject the contractor or subcontractor to civil or criminal prosecution under section 1001 of title 18 and section 231 of title 31 of the United States Code.

(iii) The contractor or subcontractor shall make the records required under paragraph (a)(3)(i) of this section available for inspection, copying, or transcription by authorized representatives of the EPA or the Department of Labor, and shall permit such representatives to interview employees during working hours on the job. If the contractor or subcontractor fails to submit the required records or to make them available, EPA may, after written notice to the contractor, CAR, sponsor, applicant, or owner, take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds. Furthermore, failure to submit the required records upon request or to make such records available may be grounds for debarment action pursuant to 29 CFR 5.12.

(4) Apprentices and Trainees.

(i) Apprentices. Apprentices will be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work they performed when they are employed pursuant to and individually registered in a bona fide apprenticeship program registered with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services, or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office, or if a person is employed in his or her first 90 days of probationary employment as an apprentice

in such an apprenticeship program, who is not individually registered in the program, but who has been certified by the Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services or a State Apprenticeship Agency (where appropriate) to be eligible for probationary employment as an apprentice. The allowable ratio of apprentices to journeymen on the job site in any craft classification shall not be greater than the ratio permitted to the contractor as to the entire work force under the registered program. Any worker listed on a payroll at an apprentice wage rate, who is not registered or otherwise employed as stated above, shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed. In addition, any apprentice performing work on the job site in excess of the ratio permitted under the registered program shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the work actually performed. Where a contractor is performing construction on a project in a locality other than that in which its program is registered, the ratios and wage rates (expressed in percentages of the journeyman's hourly rate) specified in the contractor's or subcontractor's registered program shall be observed. Every apprentice must be paid at not less than the rate specified in the registered program for the apprentice's level of progress, expressed as a percentage of the journeymen hourly rate specified in the applicable wage determination. Apprentices shall be paid fringe benefits in accordance with the provisions of the apprenticeship program. If the apprenticeship program does not specify fringe benefits, apprentices must be paid the full amount of fringe benefits listed on the wage determination for the applicable classification. If the Administrator determines that a different practice prevails for the applicable apprentice classification, fringes shall be paid in accordance with that determination. In the event the Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services, or a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office, withdraws approval of an apprenticeship program, the contractor will no longer be permitted to utilize apprentices at less than the applicable predetermined rate for the work performed until an acceptable program is approved.

(ii) Trainees. Except as provided in 29 CFR 5.16, trainees will not be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work performed unless they are employed pursuant to and individually registered in a program which has received prior approval, evidenced by formal certification by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. The ratio of trainees to journeymen on the job site shall not be greater than permitted under the plan approved by the Employment and Training Administration. Every trainee must be paid at not less than the rate specified in the approved program for the trainee's level of progress, expressed as a percentage of the journeyman hourly rate specified in the applicable wage determination. Trainees shall be paid fringe benefits in accordance with the provisions of the trainee program. If the trainee program does not mention fringe benefits, trainees shall be paid the full amount of fringe benefits listed on the wage determination unless the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division determines that there is an apprenticeship program associated with the corresponding journeyman wage rate on the wage determination which provides for less than full fringe benefits for apprentices. Any employee listed on the payroll at a trainee rate who is not registered and participating in a training plan approved by the Employment and Training Administration shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed. In addition, any trainee performing work on the job site in excess of the ratio permitted under the registered program shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the work actually performed. In the event the Employment and Training Administration withdraws approval of a training program, the contractor will no longer be permitted to utilize trainees at less than the applicable predetermined rate for the work performed until an acceptable program is approved.

(iii) Equal employment opportunity. The utilization of apprentices, trainees and journeymen under this part shall be in conformity with the equal employment opportunity requirements of Executive Order 11246, as

amended, and 29 CFR Part 30.

(5) Compliance with Copeland Act requirements. The contractor shall comply with the requirements of 29 CFR Part 3, which are incorporated by reference in this contract.

(6) Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses contained in 29 CFR 5.5(a)(1) through (10) and such other clauses as the EPA may by appropriate instructions require, and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for the compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with all the contract clauses in this term and condition.

(7) Contract termination: debarment. A breach of the contract clauses in 29 CFR 5.5 may be grounds for termination of the contract, and for debarment as a contractor and a subcontractor as provided in 29 CFR 5.12.

(8) Compliance with Davis-Bacon and Related Act requirements. All rulings and interpretations of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts contained in 29 CFR Parts 1, 3, and 5 are herein incorporated by reference in this contract.

(9) Disputes concerning labor standards. Disputes arising out of the labor standards provisions of this contract shall not be subject to the general disputes clause of this contract. Such disputes shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures of the Department of Labor set forth in 29 CFR Parts 5, 6, and 7. Disputes within the meaning of this clause include disputes between the contractor (or any of its subcontractors), the CAR, borrower or subrecipient and EPA, the U.S. Department of Labor, or the employees or their representatives.

(10) Certification of eligibility.

(i) By entering into this contract, the contractor certifies that neither it (nor he or she) nor any person or firm who has an interest in the contractor's firm is a person or firm ineligible to be awarded Government contracts by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

(ii) No part of this contract shall be subcontracted to any person or firm ineligible for award of a Government contract by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

(iii) The penalty for making false statements is prescribed in the U.S. Criminal Code, 18 U.S.C. 1001.

4. Contract Provisions for Contracts in Excess of $100,000

(a) Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. The ***CAR*** shall insert the following clauses set forth in paragraphs (a)(1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section in full in any contract in an amount in excess of $100,000 and subject to the overtime provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. These clauses shall be inserted in addition to the clauses required by Item 3, above or 29 CFR 4.6. As used in this paragraph, the terms laborers and mechanics include watchmen and guards.

(1) Overtime requirements. No contractor 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.

(2) Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages. In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in

paragraph (a)(1) of this section the contractor and any subcontractor responsible therefore shall be liable for the unpaid wages. In addition, such contractor 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 paragraph (a)(1) of this section, in the sum of $10 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 paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(3) Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages. The ***CAR,*** upon written request of the Award Official or an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, shall withhold or cause to withhold from any moneys payable on account of work performed by the contractor or subcontractor under any such contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, which is held by the same prime contractor, such sums as may be determined to be necessary to satisfy any liabilities of such contractor or subcontractor for unpaid wages and liquidated damages as provided in the clause set forth in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(4) Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraph (a)(1) through (4) of this section and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in paragraphs (a)(1) through (4) of this section.

(b) In addition to the clauses contained in Item 3, above, in any contract subject only to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act and not to any of the other statutes cited in 29 CFR 5.1, the CAR shall insert a clause requiring that the contractor or subcontractor shall maintain payrolls and basic payroll records during the course of the work and shall preserve them for a period of three years from the completion of the contract for all laborers and mechanics, including guards and watchmen, working on the contract. Such records shall contain the name and address of each such employee, social security number, correct classifications, hourly rates of wages paid, daily and weekly number of hours worked, deductions made, and actual wages paid. Further, the CAR shall insert in any such contract a clause providing that the records to be maintained under this paragraph shall be made available by the contractor or subcontractor for inspection, copying, or transcription by authorized representatives of the (write the name of agency) and the Department of Labor, and the contractor or subcontractor will permit such representatives to interview employees during working hours on the job.

5. Compliance Verification

(a) The CAR shall periodically interview a sufficient number of employees entitled to DB prevailing wages (covered employees) to verify that contractors or subcontractors are paying the appropriate wage rates. As provided in 29 CFR 5.6(a)(3), all interviews must be conducted in confidence. The CAR must use Standard Form 1445 or equivalent documentation to memorialize the interviews. Copies of the SF 1445 are available from EPA on request.

(b) The CAR shall establish and follow an interview schedule based on its assessment of the risks of noncompliance with DB posed by contractors or subcontractors and the duration of the contract or subcontract. At a minimum, the CAR must conduct interviews with a representative group of covered employees within two weeks of each contractor or subcontractor's submission of its initial weekly payroll data and two weeks prior to the estimated completion date for the contract or subcontract. CARs must conduct more frequent interviews if the initial interviews or other information indicates that there is a risk that the contractor or subcontractor is not complying with DB. CARs shall immediately

conduct necessary interviews in response to an alleged violation of the prevailing wage requirements. All interviews shall be conducted in confidence.

(c) The CAR shall periodically conduct spot checks of a representative sample of weekly payroll data to verify that contractors or subcontractors are paying the appropriate wage rates. The CAR shall establish and follow a spot check schedule based on its assessment of the risks of noncompliance with DB posed by contractors or subcontractors and the duration of the contract or subcontract. At a minimum, the CAR must spot check payroll data within two weeks of each contractor or subcontractor's submission of its initial payroll data and two weeks prior to the completion date the contract or subcontract. CARs must conduct more frequent spot checks if the initial spot check or other information indicates that there is a risk that the contractor or subcontractor is not complying with DB. In addition, during the examinations the CAR shall verify evidence of fringe benefit plans and payments thereunder by contractors and subcontractors who claim credit for fringe benefit contributions.

(d) The CAR shall periodically review contractors and subcontractors use of apprentices and trainees to verify registration and certification with respect to apprenticeship and training programs approved by either the U.S Department of Labor or a state, as appropriate, and that contractors and subcontractors are not using disproportionate numbers of, laborers, trainees and apprentices. These reviews shall be conducted in accordance with the schedules for spot checks and interviews described in Item 5(b) and (c) above.

(e) CARs must immediately report potential violations of the DB prevailing wage requirements to the EPA DB contact listed above and to the appropriate DOL Wage and Hour District Office listed at https://www.dol.gov/whd/america2.htm.