



**State of New Jersey**

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY  
DIVISION OF PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & CONSTRUCTION  
P O BOX 034  
TRENTON NJ 08625-0034

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

ELIZABETH MAHER MUOIO  
*State Treasurer*

CHRISTOPHER CHIANESE  
*Director*

August 2, 2023

Union Paving & Construction Co., Inc.  
1140 Globe Avenue  
Mountainside, NJ 07092

Re: **Notice to Proceed**  
Project #P1131-01  
Re-Build By Design – Liberty Street Pumping Station and Force Main Project  
Little Ferry and Moonachie, NJ – Bergen County  
Award Amount: **\$46,647,500.**

To Whom It May Concern:

We have received and accepted your certificates of insurance and performance and payment bonds. Attached is a fully executed contract for your records.

Contract performance shall be completed within **840** calendar days of the date of this Notice to Proceed.

You have been authorized to proceed on **August 14, 2023**. Please contact Linda Fisher from NJDEP's Bureau of Climate Resilience Design & Engineering, Climate and Flood Resilience via email at [Linda.Fisher@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Linda.Fisher@dep.nj.gov) telephone at (609) 422-7321 to schedule the Construction Kick-Off Meeting.

Sincerely,

  
Christopher R. Geary, Assistant Deputy Director  
Contracts and Procurement

C J. Langsdorf  
B. Mahan  
S. Baker  
M. Ryan  
Central File  
Treasury Fiscal

Receipt and Understanding is Hereby Acknowledged.

  
Signature

8-2-23  
Date

CONTRACT

THIS AGREEMENT, made this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2023  
by and between The State of New Jersey, herein called "owner," acting herein through its  
(Corporate Name of Owner)

Division of Property Management and Construction, Deputy Director., and  
(Title of Authorized Official)

UNION PAVING & CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

(a corporation)

of 1140 Globe Avenue, City of Mountainside, County of Union, and State of New Jersey hereinafter called  
"Contractor". (FID#22154972700)

WITNESSETH: That for and in consideration of the payments and agreements hereinafter mentioned, to be made and performed by the OWNER, the CONTRACTOR hereby agrees with the OWNER to commence and complete the construction described as follows:

CONTRACT PROJECT NO.: **P1131-01-CC01**  
**RE-BUILD BY DESIGN**  
**LIBERTY STREET PUMPING STATION AND**  
**FORCE MAIN PROJECT**  
**BERGEN COUNTY – LITTLE FERRY AND MOONACHIE**  
**NEW JERSEY**

TOTAL OF BASE BID UNIT PRICES.....\$46,647,500.

SPECIFICATIONS: Dated 09-2021 included as part of this contract

ALLOWANCES: Submitted on Page 7 of 10 of the Bid Proposal Form, included as part of this contract

UNIT PRICES: Submitted on Pages 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of 10 of the Bid Proposal Form, included as part of this contract

BULLETINS: "A" dated 03-29-23, "B" dated 03-29-23, "C" dated 03-29-23, "D" dated 05-11-23, "E" dated 06-01-23, "F" dated 06-13-23 and "G" dated 06-20-23 have been acknowledged by the bidder and included as part of this contract

GEN.CONDITIONS: Instructions to Bidders & General Conditions revised December 2022, included as part of this contract

DRAWINGS: See cover sheet dated 06-03-22, included as part of this contract

POST BID REVIEW

CERTIFICATION: Dated 07-12-23, included as part of this contract

hereinafter called the project, for the sum of **FORTY-SIX MILLION SIX HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED** Dollars (**\$46,647,500.**) and all extra work in connection therewith, under the terms as stated in the General and Special Conditions, if applicable, of the Contract Specifications, and at his (its or their) own proper cost and expense to furnish all the materials, supplies, machinery, equipment, tools, superintendent, labor, insurance, and other accessories and services necessary to complete the said project in accordance with the conditions and prices stated in the Proposal, the General Conditions, Special Conditions of the Contract Specifications, the plans, which include all maps, plats, blue prints, and other drawings and printed or written explanatory matter thereof, the specifications and contract documents therefore as prepared by **AECOM Technical Services, Inc.**, herein entitled the Architect/Engineer, all of which are made a part hereof and collectively evidence and constitute the contract.

The contractor hereby agrees to commence work under this contract on **(See Notice to Proceed)** and to fully complete the project within **840** consecutive calendar days thereafter. This is of the essence for the completion of this contract. The contractor further agrees to pay, as liquidated damages, the sum of **\$5,000.00** for each consecutive calendar day thereafter as hereinafter provided in Article 7.5 of the General Conditions.

The OWNER agrees to pay the CONTRACTOR in current funds for the performance of the contract, subject to additions and deductions, as provided in the General Conditions of the Contract Specification, and to make payments on account thereof as provided in Article 10 of the General Conditions.

Only domestic materials shall be acquired or used for any public work unless the head of the department, or other public officer charged with the duty by law, shall determine it to be inconsistent with the public interest, or the cost to be unreasonable, or domestic materials of the class or kind to be used are not mined, produced or manufactured, as the case may be, in the United States in commercial quantities and of a satisfactory quality.

The Contractor shall conform to all provisions of "Law Against Discrimination" N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties to these presents have executed this contract in four (4) counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, in the year and day first above mentioned.

ATTEST:

**DIVISION OF PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
AND CONSTRUCTION**

Michael J. Gibelli  
(Witness)

By

Richard S. Flodmand  
RICHARD S. FLODMAND  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
(Title)

Scott Woodfield  
(Witness)  
Scott Woodfield  
Sec/treas

By

UNION PAVING & CONSTRUCTION CO.,  
INC.

(Contractor)

PRESIDENT

Gerard L. Burdi  
(Title)

110 GLOBE AVENUE  
MOUNTAIN SIDE, NJ 07092  
(Address)



WARRANTY:

It is hereby certified and warranted by the undersigned contractor and by the undersigned principals or officers thereof, for said Contractor and for themselves, personally and individually, that no person has been employed to solicit or secure this Contract in violation of the provisions of Section 10, Chapter 48 of the Laws of 1954, N.J.S.A. 52:34-15, or in violation of any other laws of the State of New Jersey; and it is further warranted that all applicable laws and regulations shall be complied within the performance of this contract.

Please be advised that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:49-19 et seq. and notwithstanding any provision of the law to the contrary, whenever any taxpayer, partnership or S corporation under contract to provide goods or services or construction projects to the State of New Jersey or its agencies or instrumentalities, including the legislative and judicial branches of State government, is entitled to payment for those goods or services at the same time the taxpayer, partner or shareholder of that entity is indebted for any State tax, the Director of the Division of Taxation shall seek to set off so much of that payment as shall be necessary to satisfy the indebtedness. The amount set-off shall not allow for the deduction of any expense or other deductions which might be attributable to the taxpayer, partner, or shareholder subject to set-off under this Act.

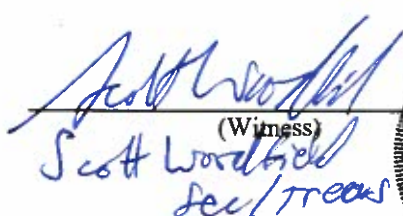
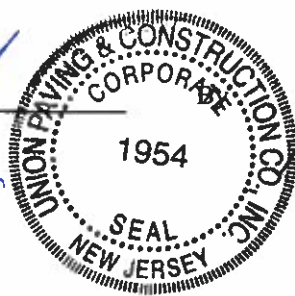
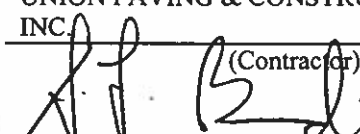
The Director of the Division of Taxation shall give notice of the set-off to the taxpayer, partner or shareholder and provide an opportunity for a hearing within 30 days of such notice under the procedures for protests established under N.J.S.A. 54:49-18. No request for conference, protest, or subsequent appeal to the Tax Court from any protest shall stay the collection of the indebtedness. Interest that may be payable by the State, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-32 et. seq. to the taxpayer shall be stayed.

By signing this contract, I certify, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-12.2, that the entity for which I am authorized to bid:

has no ongoing business activities in Northern Ireland and does not maintain a physical presence therein through the operation of offices, plants, factories, or similar facilities, either directly or indirectly, through intermediaries, subsidiaries or affiliated companies over which it maintains effective control; or

will take lawful steps in good faith to conduct any business operations it has in Northern Ireland in accordance with the McBride principles of nondiscrimination in employment as set forth in N.J.S.A. 52:18A-89.5 and in conformance with the United Kingdom's Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act of 1989, and permit independent monitoring of their compliance with those principles.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

 (Witness) Scott Woodfield Sec/Treas		UNION PAVING & CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.  (Contractor) PRESIDENT <u>Gerard L. Burdi</u> (Title) 1140 GLOBE AVENUE MOUNTAINSIDE, NJ 07092 (Address)
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This contract conforms to the standard form approved by the Attorney General.

MATTHEW J. PLATKIN  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

\* Current Wage Rates dated August 2, 2023 and are included as part of this contract.

"THE MINORITY PERCENTAGE GOAL REQUIREMENT FOR THIS CONTRACT IS 22% PER SKILLED CRAFT."

"THE FEMALE PERCENTAGE GOAL REQUIREMENT FOR THIS CONTRACT IS 6.9% PER SKILLED CRAFT."

"(The Contractor) shall maintain all documentation related to products, transactions or services under this contract for a period of five years from the date of final payment. Such records shall be made available to the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller upon request."



**EXHIBIT B**

**MANDATORY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LANGUAGE**

**N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et. seq. (P.L. 1975, C. 127)**

**N.J.A.C. 17:27-7.2**

**CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS**

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

- a. The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, the contractor will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to the following; employment, up-grading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.
- b. The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.
- c. The contractor or subcontractor will send to each labor union, with which he has a collective bargaining agreement a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this act and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.
- d. The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et. seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- e. When hiring or scheduling workers in each construction trade, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to make good faith efforts to employ minority and women workers in each construction trade consistent with the targeted employment goal prescribed by N.J.A.C. 17:27-7.2, provided however, that the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program may, in its discretion, exempt a contractor or subcontractor from compliance with the good faith procedures prescribed by the following provisions, A, B, and C, as long as the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program is satisfied that the contractor or subcontractor is employing workers provided by a union which provides evidence, in accordance with standards prescribed by the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program, that its percentage of active "card carrying" members who are minority and women workers is equal to or greater than the applicable employment goal established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-7.2. The contractor or subcontractor agrees that a good faith effort shall include compliance with the following procedures:
  - (A) If the contractor or subcontractor has a referral agreement or arrangement with a union for a construction trade, the contractor or subcontractor shall, within three business days of the contract award, seek assurances from the union that it will cooperate with the contractor or subcontractor as it fulfills its affirmative action obligations under this contract and in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., as supplemented and amended from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act. If the contractor or subcontractor is unable to obtain said assurances from the construction trade union at least five business days prior to the commencement of construction work, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to afford equal employment opportunities minority and women workers directly, consistent with this chapter. If the contractor's or subcontractor's prior experience with a construction trade union, regardless of whether the union has provided said assurances indicates a significant possibility that the trade union will not refer sufficient minority and women workers consistent with affording equal employment opportunities as specified in this chapter, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to be prepared to provide such opportunities to minority and women workers directly consistent with this chapter,

by complying with the hiring or scheduling procedures prescribed under (B) below; and the contractor or subcontractor further agrees to take said action immediately if it determines that the union is not referring minority and women workers consistent with the equal employment opportunity goals set forth in this chapter.

- (B) If good faith efforts to meet targeted employment goals have not or cannot be met for each construction trade by adhering to the procedures of (A) above, or if the contractor does not have a referral agreement or arrangement with a union for construction trade, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to take the following actions:
- (1) To notify the public agency compliance officer, the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program, and minority and women referral organizations listed by the Division pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.3, of its workforce needs, and request referral of minority and women workers;
  - (2) To notify any minority and women workers who have been listed with it as awaiting available vacancies;
  - (3) Prior to commencement of work, to request the local construction trade union refer minority and women workers to fill job openings, provided the contractor or subcontractor has a referral agreement, or arrangement with a union for the construction trade;
  - (4) To leave standing requests for additional referral of minority and women workers with the local construction trade union, provided the contractor or subcontractor has a referral agreement or arrangement with a union for the construction trade. The State Training and Employment Service and other approved referral sources in the area;
  - (5) If it is necessary to layoff some of the workers in a given trade on the construction site, layoffs shall be conducted in compliance with the equal employment opportunity and non-discrimination standards set forth in this regulation, as well as with applicable Federal and State court decisions;
  - (6) To adhere to the following procedure when minority and women workers apply or are referred to the contractor or subcontractor:
    - (i) The contractor or subcontractor shall interview the referred minority or women worker.
    - (ii) If said individuals have never previously received any document or certification signifying a level of qualification lower than that required in order to perform the work of the construction trade, the contractor or subcontractor shall in good faith determine the qualifications of such individuals. The contractor or subcontractor shall hire or schedule those individuals who satisfy appropriate qualification standards, in conformity with the equal employment opportunity and non-discrimination principles set forth in this chapter. However, a contractor or subcontractor shall determine that the individual at least possesses the requisite skills, and experience recognized by a union, apprentice program or a referral agency, provided the referral agency is acceptable to the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program. If necessary, the contractor or subcontractor shall hire minority and women workers who qualify as trainees pursuant to these rules. All of the requirements, however, are limited by the provisions of (C) below.
    - (iii) The name of any interested women or minority individual shall be maintained on a waiting list, and shall be considered for employment as described in (i) above, whenever vacancies occur. At the request of the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program, the contractor or subcontractors shall provide evidence of its good faith efforts to employ women and minorities from the list to fill vacancies.
    - (iv) If, for any reason, said contractor or subcontractor determines that a minority individual or a women is not qualified or if the individual qualifies as an advanced trainee or apprentice, the contractor or subcontractor shall inform the individual in writing with the reasons for the determination and maintain a copy of the determination in its files, and send a copy to the public agency compliance officer and to the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program.
  - (7) To keep a complete and accurate record of all requests made for the referral of workers in any trade covered by the contract, and on forms made available by the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program upon request.

- (C) The contractor or subcontractor agrees that nothing contained in (B) above shall preclude the contractor or subcontractor from complying with the union hiring hall or apprenticeship policies in any applicable collective bargaining agreement or union hiring hall arrangement, and, where required by custom or agreement, it shall send journeymen and trainees to the union for referral, or to the apprenticeship program for admission, pursuant to such agreement or arrangement. However, where the practices of a union or apprenticeship program will result in the exclusion of minorities and women or the failure to refer minorities and women consistent with the targeted county employment goal, the contractor or subcontractor shall consider for employment persons referred pursuant to (B) above without regard to such agreement or arrangement; provided further, however, that the contractor or subcontractor shall not be required to employ minority and women advanced trainees and trainees in numbers which result in the employment of advanced trainees as a percentage of the total workforce for the construction trade, which percentage significantly exceeds the apprentice to journey worker ratio specified in the applicable collective bargaining agreement, or in the absence of a collective bargaining agreement, exceeds the ratio established by practice in the area for said construction trade. Also the contractor or subcontractor agrees that, in implementing the procedures of (B) above, it shall, where applicable, employ minority and women workers residing within the geographical jurisdiction of the union.

After notification of award, but prior to signing a construction contract, the contractor shall submit to the public agency compliance officer and the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program an initial project workforce report (Form AA-201) electronically provided to the public agency by the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program, through its website, for distribution to and completion by the contractor, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-7. The contractor also agrees to submit a copy of the Monthly Project Workforce Report once a month thereafter for the duration of this contract to the Division and to the public agency compliance officer.

The contractor agrees to cooperate with the public agency in the payment of budgeted funds, as is necessary, for on-the-job and/or off-the-job programs for outreach and training of minorities and women.

- (D) The contractor and its subcontractors shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program as may be requested by the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Dept. of LWD, Construction EEO Monitoring Program for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:27-1.1 et seq.

## **ANTIDISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS**

### **Mandatory Language**

#### **N.J.S.A. 10:2-1**

The contractor agrees that:

Antidiscrimination provisions. Every contract for or on behalf of the State or any country or municipality or other political subdivision of the State, or any agency of or authority created by any of the foregoing, for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work or for the acquisition of materials, equipment, supplies or services shall contain provisions by which the contractor agrees that:

- a. In the hiring of persons for the performance of work under this contract or any subcontract hereunder, or for the procurement, manufacture, assembling or furnishing of any such materials, equipment, supplies, or services to be acquired under this contract, no contractor, nor any person acting on behalf of such contractor or subcontractor, shall, by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation or sex, discriminate against any person who is qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates;
- b. No contractor, subcontractor, nor any person on his behalf shall, in any manner, discriminate against or intimidate any employee engaged in the performance of work under this contract or any subcontract hereunder, or engaged in the procurement, manufacture, assembling or furnishing of any such materials, equipment, supplies or services to be acquired under such contract, on account of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation or sex;
- c. There may be deducted from the amount payable to the contractor by the contracting public agency, under this contract, a penalty of \$50.00 for each person for each calendar day during which such person is discriminated against or intimidated in violation of the provisions of the contract; and
- d. This contract may be canceled or terminated by the contracting public agency, and all money due or to become due hereunder may be forfeited, for any violation of this section of the contract occurring after notice to the contractor from the contracting public agency of any prior violation of this section of the contract.



## ADDITIONAL MANDATORY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT LANGUAGE

It is the policy of the State of NJ Department of the Treasury, Division of Property Management & Construction (DPMC), that its contracts should create a workforce that reflects the diversity of the State of New Jersey. Therefore, contractors engaged by the DPMC, to perform under a construction contract shall put forth a good faith effort to engage in recruitment and employment practices that further the goal of fostering equal opportunities to minorities and women.

The contractor must demonstrate to the DPMC's satisfaction that a good faith effort was made to ensure that minorities and women have been afforded equal opportunity to gain employment under the DPMC's contract with the contractor. Payment may be withheld from a contractor's contract for failure to comply with these provisions.

Evidence of a "good faith effort" includes, but is not limited to:

1. The Contractor shall recruit prospective employees through the State Job bank website, managed by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, available online at <http://NJ.gov/JobCentralNJ>;
2. The Contractor shall keep specific records of its efforts, including records of all individuals interviewed and hired, including the specific numbers of minorities and women;
3. The Contractor shall actively solicit and shall provide the DPMC with proof of solicitations for employment, including but not limited to advertisements in general circulation media, professional service publications and electronic media; and
4. The Contractor shall provide evidence of efforts described at 2 above to the DPMC no less frequently than once every 12 months.
5. The Contractor shall comply with the requirements set forth at N.J.A.C. 17:27.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACTS**  
**State Contract Language**

**Equal Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities**

The **CONTRACTORS** and the **STATE** do hereby agree that the provision of Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (the "Act") (**42 U.S.C. S12101 et. seq.**), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities in all services, programs and activities provided or made available by public entities, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereunto, are made a part of this contract. In providing any aid, benefit, or service on behalf of the **STATE** pursuant to this contract, the **CONTRACTOR** agrees that the performance shall be in strict compliance with the Act. In the event that the **CONTRACTOR**, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors violate or are alleged to have violated the Act during the performance of this contract, the **CONTRACTOR** shall defend the **STATE** in any action or administrative proceeding commenced pursuant to this Act. The **CONTRACTOR** shall indemnify, protect, and save harmless the **STATE**, its agents, servants, and employees from and against any and all suits, claims, losses, demands, or damages of whatever kind or nature arising out of or claimed to arise out of the alleged violation. The **CONTRACTOR** shall, at its own expense, appear, defend, and pay any and all charges for legal services and any and all costs and other expenses arising from such action or administrative proceeding or incurred in connection therewith. In any and all complaints brought pursuant to the **STATE's** grievance procedure, the **CONTRACTOR** agrees to abide by any decision of the **STATE** which is rendered pursuant to said grievance procedure. If any action or administrative proceeding results in an award of damages against the **STATE** or if the **STATE** incurs any expense to cure a violation of the ADA which has been brought pursuant to its grievance procedure, the **CONTRACTOR** shall satisfy and discharge the same at its own expense.

The **STATE** shall, as soon as practicable after a claim has been made against it, give written notice thereof to the **CONTRACTOR** along with full and complete particulars of the claim. If any action or administrative proceeding is brought against the **STATE** or any of its agents, servants, and employees, the **STATE** shall expeditiously forward or have forwarded to the **CONTRACTOR** every demand, complaint, notice, summons, pleading, or other process received by the **STATE** of its representatives.

It is expressly agreed and understood that any approval by the **STATE** of the services provided by the **CONTRACTOR** pursuant to this contract will not relieve the **CONTRACTOR** of the obligation to comply with the Act and to defend, indemnify, protect, and save harmless the **STATE** pursuant to this paragraph.

It is further agreed and understood that the **STATE** assumes no obligation to indemnify or save harmless the **CONTRACTOR**, its agents, servants, employees and subcontractors for any claim which may arise out of their performance of this Agreement. Furthermore, the **CONTRACTOR** expressly understands and agrees that the provisions of this indemnification clause shall in no way limit the **CONTRACTOR's** obligations assumed in this Agreement, nor shall they be construed to relieve the **CONTRACTOR** from any liability, nor preclude the **STATE** from taking any other actions available to it under any other provisions of the Agreement or otherwise at law.