PARTICIPATION BY MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES: REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

I. General Provisions

A. The NYSERDA (“NYSERDA”) is required to implement the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and Parts 140-145 of Title 5 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (“NYCRR”) for all State contracts, as defined therein, with a value (1) in excess of $25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of $100,000 for real property renovations and construction.

B. The contractor to the subject contract (the “Contractor” and the “Contract,” respectively) agrees, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the Contract and at no additional cost to NYSERDA, to fully comply and cooperate with NYSERDA in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and the regulations promulgated thereunder. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women (“EEO”) and contracting opportunities for New York State-certified minority and women-owned business enterprises (“MWBEs”). The Contractor’s demonstration of “good faith efforts” pursuant to 5 NYCRR § 142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the “Human Rights Law”) and other applicable federal, state, and local laws.

C. Failure to comply with all of the requirements herein may result in a finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of contract, leading to the assessment of liquidated damages pursuant to Section VII of this Appendix and such other remedies are available to NYSERDA pursuant to the Contract and applicable law.

II. Contract Goals

A. For purposes of this Contract, NYSERDA hereby establishes an overall goal of 30% for MWBE participation, 15% for New York State-certified minority-owned business enterprise (“MBE”) participation and 15% for New York State-certified women-owned business enterprise (“WBE”) participation (collectively, “MWBE Contract Goals”) based on the current availability of MBEs and WBEs.

B. For purposes of providing meaningful participation by MWBEs on the Contract and achieving the MWBE Contract Goals established in Section II-A hereof, the Contractor should reference the directory of MWBEs at the following internet address: https://ny.newnycontracts.com.

Additionally, the Contractor is encouraged to contact the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development at (212) 803-2414 to discuss additional methods of maximizing participation by MWBEs on the Contract.
C. The Contractor understands that only sums paid to MWBEs for the performance of a commercially useful function, as that term is defined in 5 NYCRR § 140.1, may be applied towards the achievement of the applicable MWBE participation goal. [FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS – The portion of a contract with an MWBE serving as a supplier that shall be deemed to represent the commercially useful function performed by the MWBE shall be 60% of the total value of the contract. The portion of a contract with an MWBE serving as a broker that shall be deemed to represent the commercially useful function performed by the MWBE shall be the monetary value for fees, or the markup percentage, charged by the MWBE]. [FOR ALL OTHER CONTRACTS - The portion of a contract with an MWBE serving as a broker that shall be deemed to represent the commercially useful function performed by the MWBE shall be 25% of the total value of the contract]

D. The Contractor must document “good faith efforts,” pursuant to 5 NYCRR § 142.8, to provide meaningful participation by MWBEs as subcontractors and suppliers in the performance of the Contract. Such documentation shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

1. Evidence of outreach to MWBEs;
2. Any responses by MWBEs to the Contractor’s outreach;
3. Copies of advertisements for participation by MWBEs in appropriate general circulation, trade, and minority or women-oriented publications;
4. The dates of attendance at any pre-bid, pre-award, or other meetings, if any, scheduled by NYSERDA with MWBEs; and,
5. Information describing specific steps undertaken by the Contractor to reasonably structure the Contract scope of work to maximize opportunities for MWBE participation.

III. Equal Employment Opportunity (“EEO”)

A. The provisions of Article 15-A of the Executive Law and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder pertaining to equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women shall apply to the Contract.

B. In performing the Contract, the Contractor shall:

1. Ensure that each contractor and subcontractor performing work on the Contract shall undertake or continue existing EEO programs to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status. For these purposes, EEO shall apply in the areas of recruitment, employment, job assignment, promotion, upgrading, demotion, transfer, layoff, or termination and rates of pay or other forms of compensation.
2. The Contractor shall submit an EEO policy statement to NYSERDA within seventy-two (72) hours after the date of the notice by NYSERDA to award the Contract to the Contractor.

3. If the Contractor, or any of its subcontractors, does not have an existing EEO policy statement, NYSERDA may require the Contractor or subcontractor to adopt a model statement (see Form – Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement).

4. The Contractor’s EEO policy statement shall include the following language:

   a. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or marital status, will undertake or continue existing EEO programs to ensure that minority group members and women are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force.

   b. The Contractor shall state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees that, in the performance of the contract, all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status.

   c. The Contractor shall request each employment NYSERDA, labor union, or authorized representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining or other agreement or understanding, to furnish a written statement that such employment NYSERDA, labor union, or representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of the Contractor's obligations herein.

   d. The Contractor will include the provisions of Subdivisions (a) through (c) of this Subsection 4 and Paragraph “E” of this Section III, which provides for relevant provisions of the Human Rights Law, in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the Contract.

C. Form ____ - Staffing Plan

To ensure compliance with this Section, the Contractor shall submit a staffing plan to document the composition of the proposed workforce to be utilized in the performance of the Contract by the specified categories listed, including ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories. The Contractor shall complete the staffing plan form and submit it as part of their bid or proposal or within a reasonable time, as directed by NYSERDA.

D. Form _____ - Workforce Utilization Report

1. The Contractor shall submit a Workforce Utilization Report, and shall require each of its subcontractors to submit a Workforce Utilization Report, in such form as shall be required by NYSERDA on a [MONTHLY/QUARTERLY] basis during the term of the Contract.

2. Separate forms shall be completed by the Contractor and any subcontractors.
3. Pursuant to Executive Order #162, contractors and subcontractors are also required to report the gross wages paid to each of their employees for the work performed by such employees on the contract on a quarterly basis.

E. The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, and all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. The Contractor and its subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.

IV. MWBE Utilization Plan

A. The Contractor represents and warrants that the Contractor has submitted an MWBE Utilization Plan, or shall submit an MWBE Utilization Plan at such time as shall be required by NYSERDA, through the New York State Contract System (“NYSCS”), which can be viewed at https://ny.newnycontracts.com, provided, however, that the Contractor may arrange to provide such evidence via a non-electronic method to NYSERDA, either prior to, or at the time of, the execution of the contract.

B. The Contractor agrees to adhere to such MWBE Utilization Plan in the performance of the Contract.

C. The Contractor further agrees that failure to submit and/or adhere to such MWBE Utilization Plan shall constitute a material breach of the terms of the Contract. Upon the occurrence of such a material breach, NYSERDA shall be entitled to any remedy provided herein, including but not limited to, a finding that the Contractor is non-responsive.

V. Waivers

A. If the Contractor, after making good faith efforts, is unable to achieve the MWBE Contract Goals stated herein, the Contractor may submit a request for a waiver through the NYSCS, or a non-electronic method provided by NYSERDA. Such waiver request must be supported by evidence of the Contractor’s good faith efforts to achieve the maximum feasible MWBE participation towards the applicable MWBE Contract Goals. If the documentation included with the waiver request is complete, NYSERDA shall evaluate the request and issue a written notice of approval or denial within twenty (20) business days of receipt.

B. If NYSERDA, upon review of the MWBE Utilization Plan, quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Reports described in Section VI, or any other relevant information, determines that the Contractor is failing or refusing to comply with the MWBE Contract Goals, and no waiver has been issued in regards to such non-compliance, NYSERDA may issue a notice of deficiency to the Contractor. The Contractor must respond to the notice of
deficiency within seven (7) business days of receipt. Such response may include a request for partial or total waiver of MWBE Contract Goals.

VI. Quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Report

The Contractor is required to submit a quarterly MWBE Contractor Compliance Report through the NYSCS, provided, however, that the Contractor may arrange to provide such report via a non-electronic method to NYSERDA by the 10th day following the end of each quarter during the term of the Contract.

VII. Liquidated Damages - MWBE Participation

A. Where NYSERDA determines that the Contractor is not in compliance with the requirements of this Appendix and the Contractor refuses to comply with such requirements, or if the Contractor is found to have willfully and intentionally failed to comply with the MWBE participation goals, the Contractor shall be obligated to pay to NYSERDA liquidated damages.

B. Such liquidated damages shall be calculated as an amount equaling the difference between:
   1. All sums identified for payment to MWBEs had the Contractor achieved the contractual MWBE goals; and
   2. All sums actually paid to MWBEs for work performed or materials supplied under the Contract.

C. In the event a determination has been made which requires the payment of liquidated damages and such identified sums have not been withheld by NYSERDA, the Contractor shall pay such liquidated damages to NYSERDA within sixty (60) days after they are assessed. Provided, however, that if the Contractor has filed a complaint with the Director of the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development pursuant to 5 NYCRR § 142.12, liquidated damages shall be payable only in the event of a determination adverse to the Contractor following the complaint process.
MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES – EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT

M/WBE AND EEO POLICY STATEMENT

I, _________________________, the (awardee/contractor)____________________ agree to adopt the following policies with respect to the project being developed or services rendered at ____________________________________________________________________________________

This organization will and will cause its contractors and subcontractors to take good faith actions to achieve the M/WBE contract participations goals set by the State for that area in which the State-funded project is located, by taking the following steps:

1. Actively and affirmatively solicit bids for contracts and subcontracts from qualified State certified MBEs or WBEs, including solicitations to M/WBE contractor associations.
2. Request a list of State-certified M/WBEs from NYSERDA and solicit bids from them directly.
3. Ensure that plans, specifications, request for proposals and other documents used to secure bids will be made available in sufficient time for review by prospective M/WBEs.
4. Where feasible, divide the work into smaller portions to enhanced participations by M/WBEs and encourage the formation of joint venture and other partnerships among M/WBE contractors to enhance their participation.
5. Document and maintain records of bid solicitation, including those to M/WBEs and the results thereof. The Contractor will also maintain records of actions that its subcontractors have taken toward meeting M/WBE contract participation goals.
6. Ensure that progress payments to M/WBEs are made on a timely basis so that undue financial hardship is avoided, and that bonding and other credit requirements are waived or appropriate alternatives developed to encourage M/WBE participation.

(a) This organization will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status, will undertake or continue existing programs of affirmative action to ensure that minority group members are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination, and shall make and document its conscientious and active efforts to employ and utilize minority group members and women in its work force on state contracts.
(b) This organization shall state in all solicitation or advertisements for employees that in the performance of the State contract all qualified applicants will be afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex disability or marital status.
(c) At the request of the contracting NYSERDA, this organization shall request each employment NYSERDA, labor union, or authorized representative will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, disability or marital status and that such union or representative will affirmatively cooperate in the implementation of this organization’s obligations herein.
(d) The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Law, all other State and Federal statutory and constitutional non-discrimination provisions. The Contractor and subcontractors shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed (religion), color, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, marital status or domestic violence victim status, and shall also follow the requirements of the Human Rights Law with regard to non-discrimination on the basis of prior criminal conviction and prior arrest.
(e) This organization will include the provisions of sections (a) through (d) of this agreement in every subcontract in such a manner that the requirements of the subdivisions will be binding upon each subcontractor as to work in connection with the State contract.

Agreed to this _______ day of ____________________, 202_________

By __________________________________________

Print: _____________________________________ Title: _____________________________
is designated as the Minority Business Enterprise Liaison
(Name of Designated Liaison)

responsible for administering the Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises- Equal Employment Opportunity (M/WBE-EO) program.

**M/WBE Contract Goals**

_______% Minority and Women’s Business Enterprise Participation

_______% Minority Business Enterprise Participation

_______% Women’s Business Enterprise Participation

____________________________________________
(Authorized Representative)

Title: _______________________________________

Date: _________________________________________
ATTACHMENT 2
NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE UTILIZATION PLAN FORM

Contract No. __________________________ Date ________________

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name ________________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________________________________
Telephone No. ( ) ___________________ Federal ID # _________________________________
Contract Award Amount $ _______________________________________
Brief Description of Work ____________________________________________

Prime Contractor M/WBE Status ☐ M/WBE ☐ Non-M/WBE

II. I, __________________ HEREBY AGREE TO THE 15% MINORITY OWNED BUSINESS
ENTERPRISE (MBE) GOAL AND THE 15% WOMEN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (WBE)
GOAL AS SET FOR IN THIS CONTRACT NO. __________________. I FURTHER SUBMIT THE
FOLLOWING NYS CERTIFIED M/WBES FOR YOUR REVIEW AND APPROVAL IN COMPLIANCE
WITH THE GOAL REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN THIS CONTRACT.

____________________________________
Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

The Contractor shall undertake "good faith" efforts to actively solicit MBE/WBE participation in
connection with its potential award of the NYSERDA contract.

III. MBE SUBMISSIONS

For each MBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name,
Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract
commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

IV. WBE SUBMISSIONS

For each WBE, provide the company name, address, telephone number, contact person name,
Federal ID number, estimated contract award date, contract award amount, estimated contract
commencement date, and a BRIEF description of the contract scope of work.

V. Provide the name, title, address and telephone of person(s) responsible for implementing this
subcontracting plan.

VI. If the Contractor anticipates that it will not be able to meet the contract M/WBE participation levels, a
written detailed explanation must be submitted with the bid or proposal.

I hereby declare that the above information is to the best of my ability and intention correct and that
every effort will be made in the attainment of the established M/WBE goal.

Name __________________________ Title ____________________________________________
I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name ________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________
Telephone No. ( ) ___________ Federal ID # _______________________
Contract Award Amount $ ____________________________
Brief Description of Work ______________________________________

II. I, __________________ HEREBY SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING STAFFING PLAN.

____________________________________
Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. WORKFORCE DESCRIPTION

Provide a description of the work force to be utilized on the State contract, including the work force of any subcontractors, broken down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories.

I hereby declare that the above information is to the best of my ability and intention correct.

Name ___________________ Title _________________________________
ATTACHMENT 4

NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MWBE COMPLIANCE REPORT FORM

Contract No. __________________________ Date ________________

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name_____________________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________________
Telephone No. (____)_________________________ Federal ID# ________________

Brief Description of Work ____________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_______________) PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF
THE NYERDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND
CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT NO., THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH
SUBMITTED.

________________________________________
Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

i. Provide the names, addresses and telephone numbers of each M/WBE you are actually using in
compliance with your M/WBE goal.

ii. Provide a brief description of work performed by the M/WBE, their scheduled dates for
performance and current working status.

iii. Provide a copy of your written agreement with the M/WBE. (A one-time request.)

iv. In the event you have let a blanket purchase order or other open-ended contracts, only specify
that amount actually awarded.

v. Provide the actual amounts of payments made to any M/WBES as of the date the work force
utilization report is submitted. Documentation must include copies of cancelled checks.

vi. Provide the name, title and telephone number of person(s) responsible for submitting work force
utilization reports.

vii. Compliance Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter, beginning three
months after contract award date.

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ATTACHMENT 5

NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
WORKFORCE UTILIZATION REPORT FORM

Contract No. __________________________ Date __________________________

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name_____________________________________________________________
Address                                                                                                         _____
Telephone No. (____) __________________ Federals ID# _________________
Brief Description of Work ___________________________________________________________________________________________

II. AS EVIDENCE OF (_______________________) PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF
THE NYSERDA MBE AND WBE GOALS, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND
CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT NO. __________________________, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS
HEREWITH SUBMITTED.

________________________________________
Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

i. If the work force of the contractor and/or subcontractors has changed since the last work force
   utilization report, provide 1) the total number of employees performing work on the State
   contract; and 2) the contractor’s and all subcontractor’s work force on the State contract broken
   down by specified ethnic background, gender, and Federal occupational categories.

   If the contractor’s and/or subcontractor’s work force has not changed since the last work force
   utilization report, check here: ☐

ii. Work Force Utilization Reports are due on the first day of the first month of each quarter,
beginning three months after contract award date.

IV. ALTERNATIVE SUBMITTAL ITEMS

In the event that the Contractor cannot separate the workforce to be utilized in the performance
of the NYSERDA contract from its total workforce, the Contractor shall submit, on a semi-annual
basis:

(i) The total workforce of the Contractor described categorically by: specified ethnic
background, gender and the Federal occupational data.

(ii) The Contractor acknowledges that the overall goal of an equal employment opportunity
program involves the implementation of procedures and methods for the identification,
recruitment and employment of minority group members and women.
ATTACHMENT 6

NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINORITY WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWBE) REQUEST FOR WAIVER FORM

Contract No. ___________________________ Date ______________________

I. PRIME CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Company Name _______________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________
Telephone No. ( ) ____________________________________________________
Federal ID # __________________________________________________________
Brief Description of Work:
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

II. I, (_____________________) HEREBY REQUEST A PARTIAL OR TOTAL (Circle One) WAIVER OF MY MBE AND/OR WBE GOALS AS ESTABLISHED IN CONTRACT NO. ______________________ I AGREED TO ATTAIN 15% MBE PARTICIPATION AND 15% WBE PARTICIPATION OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT PRICE. TO SUBSTANTIATE AND DEMONSTRATE MY GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED FOR THE AUTHORITY’S REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

_______________________________________________
Signature/Title of Authorized Representative

III. SUBMITTAL ITEMS

1. Provide a statement setting forth your basis for requesting a partial or total waiver.

2. Provide all names of general circulation, trade association and M/WBE-oriented publications in which you solicited M/WBEs for the purposes of complying with your participation levels.

3. List all dates solicitations for M/WBE participation were published in any of the above publications.

4. List all M/WBEs appearing in the NYS Directory of certified vendors which were solicited for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.

5. Provide proof of all dates on which solicitations were made in writing and copies of such solicitations, or a sample copy of the solicitations if an identical solicitation was made to all M/WBEs.

6. Provide copies of responses made by M/WBEs to your solicitations.
7. Provide a description of any contract documents, plans or specifications made available to M/WBEs for purposes of soliciting their bids and the date and manner in which these documents were made available.

8. Provide documentation of any negotiations between you, the Contractor, and M/WBEs undertaken for purposes of complying with your M/WBE participation levels.

9. Provide any other information you deem relevant which may help us in evaluating your request for a waiver.

10. Provide the name, title, address and telephone number of contractor's representative authorized to discuss and negotiate this waiver request.

11. Have you explored or identified any other area where your company can implement an effective equal employment opportunity program to expand the employment opportunities of minority group members and women? If so, please provide the data supporting such efforts and the results.