

**2015 STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR FEDERAL
SUBRECIPIENTS
(ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY)**

- 1. Introduction.** The recipient and any sub-recipient must comply with the applicable EPA general terms and conditions outlined below. These terms and conditions are in addition to the assurances and certifications made as part of the award and terms, conditions or restrictions reflected on the official assistance award document. Recipients **must** review their official award document for additional administrative and programmatic requirements. Failure to comply with the general terms and conditions outlined below and those directly reflected on the official assistance award document may result in enforcement actions as outlined in 2 CFR 200.338 and 200.339.
- 2. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.** This award is subject to the requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Title 2 CFR, Parts 200 and 1500. 2 CFR 1500.1, Adoption of 2 CFR 200, states that the Environmental Protection Agency adopts the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards to Non-Federal Entities (subparts A through F of 2 CFR 200), as supplemented by this part, as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) policies and procedures for financial assistance administration. This part satisfies the requirements of 2 CFR 200.110(a) and gives regulatory effect to the OMB guidance as supplemented by this part. EPA also has programmatic regulations located in 40 CFR Chapter 1 Subchapter B.

 - 2.1. Implementing Procurement Standards.** There is a one-year grace period available to non-Federal entities for implementation of the procurement standards in 2 CFR 200.317 through 200.326. As will be detailed in the 2015 OMB Compliance Supplement, non-Federal entities choosing to delay implementation will need to specify in their documented policies and procedures that they continue to comply with 40 CFR Part 30 or 31 as applicable for one additional fiscal year which begins after December 26, 2014.
 - 2.2. Effective Date and Incremental or Supplemental Funding.** Consistent with the OMB Frequently Asked Questions at <https://cfo.gov/cofar> on Effective Date and Incremental Funding, any new funding through an amendment (supplemental or incremental) on or after December 26, 2014, and any unobligated balances (defined at 200.98) remaining on the award at the time of the amendment, will be subject to the requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements (2 CFR 200 and 1500).
- 3. Automated Clearing House (ACH) Payments.** Under this payment mechanism, the Vermont Department of Finance and Management will obtain the recipient's banking information from the ACH Vendor Authorization Form. Recipients can also sign up for the Vendor Portal – a secure online system that gives vendors direct access to payment information. Additional information concerning ACH can be obtained by contacting the Vermont Department of Finance and Management at 802-828-0676, or by visiting: <http://finance.vermont.gov/forms>

- 4. Consultant Cap.** EPA participation in the salary rate (excluding overhead) paid to individual consultants retained by recipients or by a recipient's contractors or subcontractors shall be limited to the maximum daily rate for a Level IV of the Executive Schedule, available at: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/>, to be adjusted annually. This limit applies to consultation services of designated individuals with specialized skills who are paid at a daily or hourly rate. This rate does not include transportation and subsistence costs for travel performed (the recipient will pay these in accordance with their normal travel reimbursement practices). Subagreements with firms for services which are awarded using the procurement requirements in Subpart D of 2 CFR 200, are not affected by this limitation unless the terms of the contract provide the recipient with responsibility for the selection, direction and control of the individuals who will be providing services under the contract at an hourly or daily rate of compensation. See 2 CFR 1500.9.
- 5. Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility.** Recipients are subject to the program accessibility provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, codified in 40 CFR Part 7, which includes an obligation to provide individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodations and an equal and effective opportunity to benefit from or participate in a program, including those offered through electronic and information technology (“EIT”). In compliance with Section 504, EIT systems or products funded by this award must be designed to meet the diverse needs of users (e.g., U.S. public, recipient personnel) without barriers or diminished function or quality. Systems shall include usability features or functions that accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities, including those who use assistive technology. At this time, the EPA will consider a recipient’s websites, interactive tools, and other EIT as being in compliance with Section 504 if such technologies meet standards established under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, codified at 36 CFR Part 1194. While Section 508 does not apply directly to grant recipients, we encourage recipients to follow either the 508 guidelines or other comparable guidelines that concern accessibility to EIT for individuals with disabilities. Recipients may wish to consult the latest Section 508 guidelines issued by the U.S. Access Board or W3C’s Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 (see <http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/index.htm>).
- 6. Civil Rights Obligations.** This term and condition incorporates by reference the signed assurance provided by the recipient’s authorized representative on: 1) EPA Form 4700-4, “Preaward Compliance Review Report for All Applicants and Recipients Requesting EPA Financial Assistance”; and 2) Standard Form 424B or Standard Form 424D, as applicable. These assurances and this term and condition obligate the recipient to comply fully with applicable civil rights statutes and implementing EPA regulations.

6.1 Statutory Requirements

6.1.1 In carrying out this agreement, the recipient must comply with:

- 6.1.1.1** Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including limited English proficiency (LEP), by entities receiving Federal financial assistance.
- 6.1.1.2** Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities by entities receiving Federal financial assistance; and
- 6.1.1.3** The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, which prohibits age discrimination by entities receiving Federal financial assistance.

- 6.1.2 If the recipient is conducting an education program under this agreement, it must also comply with:
 - 6.1.2.1 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities operated by entities receiving Federal financial assistance.
 - 6.1.2.2 If this agreement is funded with financial assistance under the Clean Water Act (CWA), the recipient must also comply with:
 - 6.1.2.3 Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in CWA-funded programs or activities.

6.2 Regulatory Requirements

- 6.2.1 The recipient agrees to comply with all applicable EPA civil rights regulations, including:
 - 6.2.1.1 For Title IX obligations, 40 C.F.R. Part 5; and
 - 6.2.1.2 For Title VI, Section 504, Age Discrimination Act, and Section 13 obligations, 40 CFR Part 7.
 - 6.2.1.3 As noted on the EPA Form 4700-4 signed by the recipient's authorized representative, these regulations establish specific requirements including maintaining compliance information, establishing grievance procedures, designating a Civil Rights Coordinator and providing notices of non-discrimination.

6.3 TITLE VI – LEP, Public Participation and Affirmative Compliance Obligation

- 6.3.1 As a recipient of EPA financial assistance, you are required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act to provide meaningful access to LEP individuals. In implementing that requirement, the recipient agrees to use as a guide the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) document entitled "Guidance to Environmental Protection Agency Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons." The guidance can be found at http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2004_register&docid=fr25jn04-79.pdf.
- 6.3.2 If the recipient is administering permitting programs under this agreement, the recipient agrees to use as a guide OCR's Title VI Public Involvement Guidance for EPA Assistance Recipients Administering Environmental Permitting Programs. The Guidance can be found at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/06-2691.pdf>.
- 6.3.3 In accepting this assistance agreement, the recipient acknowledges it has an affirmative obligation to implement effective Title VI compliance programs and ensure that its actions do not involve discriminatory treatment and do not have discriminatory effects even when facially neutral. The recipient must be prepared to demonstrate to EPA that such compliance programs exist and are being implemented or to otherwise demonstrate how it is meeting its Title VI obligations.

7. Drug-Free Workplace. The recipient organization of this EPA assistance agreement must make an ongoing, good faith effort to maintain a drug-free workplace pursuant to the specific requirements set forth in Title 2 CFR Part 1536 Subpart B. Additionally, in accordance with these regulations, the recipient organization must identify all known workplaces under its federal awards, and keep this information on file during the performance of the award.

Those recipients who are individuals must comply with the drug-free provisions set forth in Title 2 CFR Part 1536 Subpart C.

The consequences for violating this condition are detailed under Title 2 CFR Part 1536 Subpart E. Recipients can access the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 2 Part 1536 at <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/>.

- 8. Hotel-Motel Fire Safety.** Pursuant to 15 USC 2225a, the recipient agrees to ensure that all space for conferences, meetings, conventions or training seminars funded in whole or in part with federal funds complies with the protection and control guidelines of the Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act (PL 101-391, as amended). Recipients may search the Hotel- Motel National Master List at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/hotel/> to see if a property is in compliance, or to find other information about the Act.
- 9. Recycled Paper.** When directed to provide paper documents, the recipient agrees to use recycled paper and double sided printing for all reports which are prepared as a part of this agreement and delivered to EPA. This requirement does not apply to reports prepared on forms supplied by EPA.
- 10. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.** Consistent with goals of section 6002 of RCRA (42 U.S.C. 6962), State and local institutions of higher education, hospitals and non-profit organization recipients agree to give preference in procurement programs to the purchase of specific products containing recycled materials, as identified in 40 CFR Part 247.

Consistent with section 6002 of RCRA (42 U.S.C. 6962) and 2 CFR 200.322, State agencies or agencies of a political subdivision of a State and its contractors are required to purchase certain items made from recycled materials, as identified in 40 CFR Part 247, when the purchase price exceeds \$10,000 during the course of a fiscal year or where the quantity of such items acquired in the course of the preceding fiscal year was \$10,000 or more. Pursuant to 40 CFR 247.2 (d), the recipient may decide not to procure such items if they are not reasonably available in a reasonable period of time; fail to meet reasonable performance standards; or are only available at an unreasonable price.

11. Trafficking in Persons

11.1 Provisions applicable to a recipient that is a private entity.

- 11.1.1** The recipient, the recipient's employees, subrecipients under this award, and subrecipients' employees may not—
 - 11.1.1.1** Engage in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect;
 - 11.1.1.2** Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect; or
 - 11.1.1.3** Use forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.
- 11.1.2** We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if the recipient or a subrecipient that is a private entity —
 - 11.1.2.1** Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph 26.1 of this award term; or
 - 11.1.2.2** Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph 26.1 of this award term through conduct that is either—
 - 11.1.2.2.1** Associated with performance under this award; or

11.1.2.2.2 Imputed to the recipient or subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by our Agency at 2 CFR 1532.

11.2 Provision applicable to a recipient other than a private entity. EPA may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if a subrecipient that is a private entity—

- 11.2.1** Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph 26.1. of this award term; or
- 11.2.2** Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph 26.1 of this award term through conduct that is either—
 - 11.2.2.1** Associated with performance under this award; or
 - 11.2.2.2** Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by EPA at 2 CFR 1532.

11.3 Provisions applicable to any recipient.

- 11.3.1** The recipient must inform the EPA immediately of any information received from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph 26.1 of this award term.
- 11.3.2** Our right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraph 26.1.2 and 26.2:
 - 11.3.2.1** Implements section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)), and
 - 11.3.2.2** Is in addition to all other remedies for noncompliance that are available to us under this award.
- 11.3.3** The recipient must include the requirements of paragraph 26.1 of this award term in any subaward made to a private entity.

11.4 Definitions. For purposes of this award term:

- 11.4.1** “Employee” means either:
 - 11.4.1.1** An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award; or
 - 11.4.1.2** Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award and not compensated by you including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an in-kind contribution toward cost sharing or matching requirements.
- 11.4.2** “Forced labor” means labor obtained by any of the following methods: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.
- 11.4.3** “Private entity”:
 - 11.4.3.1** Means any entity other than a State, local government, Indian tribe, or foreign public entity, as those terms are defined in 2 CFR 175.25.
 - 11.4.3.2** Includes:

11.4.3.2.1 A nonprofit organization, including any nonprofit institution of higher education, hospital, or tribal organization other than one included in the definition of Indian tribe at 2 CFR 175.25(b).

11.4.3.2.2 A for-profit organization.

11.4.4 “Severe forms of trafficking in persons,” “commercial sex act,” and “coercion” have the meanings given at section 103 of the TVPA, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7102).

12 Utilization of Small, Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises

12.1 General Compliance, 40 CFR, Part 33. The recipient agrees to comply with the requirements of EPA's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program for procurement activities under assistance agreements, contained in 40 CFR, Part 33.

12.2 Fair Share Objectives, 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart D. A recipient must negotiate with the appropriate EPA award official, or his/her designee, fair share objectives for MBE and WBE participation in procurement under the financial assistance agreements.

In accordance with 40 CFR, Section 33.411 some recipients may be exempt from the fair share objectives requirements described in 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart D. Recipients should work with their DBE coordinator, if they think their organization may qualify for an exemption.

12.3 Current Fair Share Objective/Goal. The dollar amount of this assistance agreement or the total dollar amount of all of the recipient’s financial assistance agreements in the current federal fiscal year from EPA is \$250,000, or more. The **Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation** has negotiated MBE/WBE fair share objectives/goals with EPA.

12.4 Negotiating Fair Share Objectives/Goals. In accordance with 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart D, established goals/objectives remain in effect for three fiscal years unless there are significant changes to the data supporting the fair share objectives. The recipient is required to follow requirements as outlined in 40 CFR Part 33, Subpart D when renegotiating the fair share objectives/goals.

12.5 Six Good Faith Efforts, 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart C. Pursuant to 40 CFR, Section 33.301, the recipient agrees to make the following good faith efforts whenever procuring construction, equipment, services and supplies under an EPA financial assistance agreement, and to require that sub-recipients, loan recipients, and prime contractors also comply. Records documenting compliance with the six good faith efforts shall be retained:

- a.** Ensure DBEs are made aware of contracting opportunities to the fullest extent practicable through outreach and recruitment activities. For Indian Tribal, State and Local and Government recipients, this will include placing DBEs on solicitation lists and soliciting them whenever they are potential sources.
- b.** Make information on forthcoming opportunities available to DBEs and arrange time frames for contracts and establish delivery schedules, where the requirements permit, in a way that encourages and facilitates participation by DBEs in the competitive process. This includes, whenever possible, posting solicitations for bids or proposals for a minimum of 30 calendar days before the bid or proposal closing date.

- c. Consider in the contracting process whether firms competing for large contracts could subcontract with DBEs. For Indian Tribal, State and local Government recipients, this will include dividing total requirements when economically feasible into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by DBEs in the competitive process.
- d. Encourage contracting with a consortium of DBEs when a contract is too large for one of these firms to handle individually.
- e. Use the services and assistance of the SBA and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.
- f. If the prime contractor awards subcontracts, require the prime contractor to take the steps in paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section.

12.6 MBE/WBE Reporting, 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart E. MBE/WBE reporting is limited to annual reports and only required for assistance agreements where one or more the following conditions are met:

- a. there are any funds budgeted in the contractual, equipment or construction lines of the award;
- b. \$3,000 or more is included for supplies; or
- c. there are funds budgeted for subawards or loans in which the expected budget(s) meet the conditions as described in items (a) and (b).

This award meets one or more of the conditions as described above, therefore, the recipient agrees to complete and submit a “MBE/WBE Utilization Under Federal Grants, Cooperative Agreements and Interagency Agreements” report (EPA Form 5700-52A) on an annual basis.

When completing the annual report, recipients are instructed to check the box titled “annual” in section 1B of the form. For the final report, recipients are instructed to check the box indicated for the “last report” of the project in section 1B of the form. Annual reports are due by October 30th of each year. Final reports are due within 90 days after the end of the project period.

The reporting requirement is based on planned procurements. Recipients with funds budgeted for non-supply procurement and/or \$3,000 or more in supplies are required to report annually whether the planned procurements take place during the reporting period or not. If no procurements take place during the reporting period, the recipient should check the box in section 5B when completing the form.

MBE/WBE reports should be sent to:

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region I
5 Post Office Square – Suite 100 (OARM16-2)
Boston, MA 02109-3912
Attn: Mr. Larry Wells, Disadvantaged Business Utilization Program Manager**

The current EPA Form 5700-52A can be found at the EPA Office of Small Business Program’s Home Page at http://www.epa.gov/osbp/dbe_reporting.htm

This provision represents an approved deviation from the MBE/WBE reporting requirements as described in 40 CFR, Part 33, Section 33.502; however, the other requirements outlined in 40 CFR Part 33 remain in effect, including the Fair Share Objectives negotiation as described in 40 CFR Part 33 Subpart D.

12.7 Contract Administration Provisions, 40 CFR, Section 33.302. The recipient agrees to comply with the contract administration provisions of 40 CFR, Section 33.302.

12.8 Bidders List, 40 CFR, Section 33.501(b) and (c). Recipients of a Continuing Environmental Program Grant or other annual reporting grant, agree to create and maintain a bidders list. Recipients of an EPA financial assistance agreement to capitalize a revolving loan fund also agree to require entities receiving identified loans to create and maintain a bidders list if the recipient of the loan is subject to, or chooses to follow, competitive bidding requirements. Please see 40 CFR, Section 33.501 (b) and (c) for specific requirements and exemptions.

13 Unpaid Federal Tax Liabilities and Federal Felony Convictions. Per Public Law 113-6 (Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013) and Public Law 112-175 (Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013) this award is subject to the provisions contained in the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012, Public Law 112-74, Division E, Title IV, Sections 433 and 434 (sections 433 and 434) regarding unpaid federal tax liabilities and federal felony convictions. Accordingly, by accepting this award the recipient acknowledges that it: (1) is not subject to any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, and (2) has not been convicted (or had an officer or agent acting on its behalf convicted) of a felony criminal conviction under any Federal law within 24 months preceding the award, unless EPA has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation, or such officer or agent, based on these tax liabilities or convictions and determined that such action is not necessary to protect the Government's interests. If the recipient fails to comply with these provisions, EPA will annul this agreement and may recover any funds the recipient has expended in violation of sections 433 and 434.

14 Cross-Cutting Federal Authorities. Cross-cutting federal authorities are the requirements of other federal laws and Executive Orders that apply in federal financial assistance programs. These include:

Environmental Authorities

- Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, Pub. L. 86-523, as amended
- Clean Air Act, Pub. L. 84-159, as amended
- Coastal Barrier Resources Act, Pub. L. 97-348
- Coastal Zone Management Act, Pub. L. 92-583, as amended
- Endangered Species Act, Pub. L. 93-205, as amended
- Environmental Justice, Executive Order 12898
- Floodplain Management, Executive Order 11988 as amended by Executive Order 12148
- Protection of Wetlands, Executive Order 11990

- Farmland Protection Policy Act, Pub. L. 97-98
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Pub. L. 85-624, as amended
- National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, PL 89-665, as amended
- Safe Drinking Water Act, Pub. L. 93-523, as amended
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Pub. L. 90-542, as amended

Economic and Miscellaneous Authorities

- Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966, Pub. L. 89-754, as amended, Executive Order 12372
- Procurement Prohibitions under Section 306 of the Clean Air Act and Section 508 of the Clean Water Act, including Executive Order 11738, Administration of the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with Respect to Federal Contracts, Grants, or Loans
- Uniform Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act, Pub. L. 91-646, as amended
- Debarment and Suspension, Executive Order 12549

For more information on Cross-Cutting Federal Authorities and their applicability, visit:
http://water.epa.gov/grants_funding/dwsrf/xcuts.cfm.

15 American Iron and Steel

15.1 Definitions. As used in this award term and condition—

15.1.1 “iron and steel products” means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials.

15.1.2 *Steel* means an alloy that includes at least 50 percent iron, between .02 and 2 percent carbon, and may include other elements.

15.2 Domestic preference.

15.2.1 This award term and condition implements P.L. 113-76, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, Section 436, by requiring that all iron and steel products used for a project for the construction, alteration, maintenance or repair of a public water system or treatment work are produced in the United States except as provided in paragraph (b) (2) and (b) (3) of this section and condition.

15.2.2 This requirement does not apply with respect to a project if a State agency approves the engineering plans and specifications for the project, in that agency’s capacity to approve such plans and specifications prior to a project requesting bids, prior to January 17, 2014.

15.2.3 This requirement shall not apply in any case or category of cases in which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency finds that:—

15.2.3.1 Applying the requirement would be inconsistent with the public interest;

15.2.3.2 iron and steel products are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality; or

15.2.3.3 inclusion of iron and steel products produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

15.3 Request for a Waiver under (b) (3)

15.3.1 Any recipient request to use foreign iron or steel products in accordance with paragraph (b) (3) of this section shall include adequate information for Federal Government evaluation of the request, including—

15.3.1.1 A description of the foreign and domestic iron, steel, and/or manufactured goods;

15.3.1.2 Unit of measure;

15.3.1.3 Quantity;

15.3.1.4 Cost;

15.3.1.5 Time of delivery or availability;

15.3.1.6 Location of the project;

15.3.1.7 Name and address of the proposed supplier; and

15.3.1.8 A detailed justification of the reason for use of foreign iron or steel products cited in accordance with paragraph (b) (3) of this section.

15.3.2 If the Administrator receives a request for a waiver under this section, the waiver request shall be made available to the public for at least 15 days prior to making a finding based on the request.

15.3.3 Unless the Administrator issues a waiver of this term, use of foreign iron and steel products is noncompliant with the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113-76).

15.4 This term and condition shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements.

16 Requirements under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113-76) For Sub recipients That Are Governmental Entities:

The following terms and conditions specify how recipients will assist EPA in meeting its Davis-Bacon (DB) responsibilities when DB applies to EPA awards of financial assistance under the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act with respect to State recipients and sub recipients that are governmental entities. If a sub recipient has questions regarding when DB applies, obtaining the correct DB wage determinations, DB provisions, or compliance monitoring, it may contact the State recipient. If a State recipient needs guidance, the recipient may contact the following person for guidance:

Valerie Marshall

(617) 918-1674

EPA, Region I Grants and Audit Management Branch

The recipient or sub recipient may also obtain additional guidance from DOL's web site at <http://www.dol.gov/whd/>

16.1 Applicability of the Davis- Bacon (DB) prevailing wage requirements. Under the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriation Act, DB prevailing wage requirements apply to the construction, alteration, and repair of treatment works carried out in whole or in part with assistance made available by a State water pollution control revolving fund and to any construction project carried out in whole or in part by assistance made available by a drinking water treatment revolving loan fund. If a sub recipient encounters a unique situation at a site that presents uncertainties regarding DB applicability, the sub recipient must discuss the situation with the recipient State before

authorizing work on that site.

16.2 Obtaining Wage Determinations.

16.2.1 Sub recipients shall obtain the wage determination for the locality in which a covered 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.

16.2.1.1 While the solicitation remains open, the sub recipient shall monitor www.wdol.gov weekly to ensure that the wage determination contained in the solicitation remains current. The sub recipients 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 sub recipients may request a finding from the State recipient that there is not a reasonable time to notify interested contractors of the modification of the wage determination. The State recipient will provide a report of its findings to the sub recipient.

16.2.1.2 If the sub recipient 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 the State recipient, at the request of the sub recipient, obtains an extension of the 90 day period from DOL pursuant to 29 CFR 1.6(c) (3) (iv). The sub recipient shall monitor www.wdol.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.

16.2.2 If the sub recipient carries out 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 sub recipient shall insert the appropriate DOL wage determination from www.wdol.gov into the ordering instrument.

16.2.3 Sub recipients 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.

16.2.4 As provided in 29 CFR 1.6(f), DOL may issue a revised wage determination applicable to a sub recipient's contract after the award of a contract or the issuance of an ordering instrument if DOL determines that the sub recipient 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 sub recipient 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 sub recipient's contractor must be compensated for any increases in wages resulting from the use of DOL's revised wage determination.

16.3 Contract and Subcontract provisions.

16.3.1 The Recipient shall insure that the sub recipient(s) 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 treatment work under the CWSRF or a construction project under the DWSRF 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 the labor standards provisions of any of the acts listed in § 5.1 or the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act, the following clauses:

16.3.1.1 Minimum wages.

16.3.1.1.1 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 wage determination of the Secretary of Labor which is attached hereto 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. Sub recipients may obtain wage determinations from the U.S. Department of Labor's web site, www.dol.gov.

16.3.1.1.2 (A) The sub recipient(s), on behalf of EPA, shall require 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 State award official shall approve a request for 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. (B) If the contractor and the laborers and mechanics to be employed in the classification (if known), or their representatives, and the sub recipient(s) agree on the classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits where appropriate), documentation of the action taken and the request, including the local wage determination shall be sent by the sub recipient (s) to the State award official. The State award official will transmit the request, to the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division,

Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210 and to the EPA DB Regional Coordinator concurrently. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will approve, modify, or disapprove every additional classification request within 30 days of receipt and so advise the State award official or will notify the State award official within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary. (C) In the event the contractor, the laborers or mechanics to be employed in the classification or their representatives, and the sub recipient(s) 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 request and the local wage determination, including the views of all interested parties and the recommendation of the State award official, to the Administrator for determination. The request shall be sent to the EPA DB Regional Coordinator concurrently. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will issue a determination within 30 days of receipt of the request and so advise the contracting officer or will notify the contracting officer within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary. (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.

16.3.1.1.3 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.

16.3.1.1.4 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.

16.3.1.2 Withholding. The sub recipient(s), shall upon written request of the EPA Award Official or an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, withhold or cause to be withheld 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, the (Agency) may, after written notice to the contractor, sponsor, applicant, or owner, 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.

16.3.1.3 Payrolls and basic records.

16.3.1.3.1 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.

16.3.1.3.2 (A) The contractor shall submit weekly, for each week in which any contract work is performed, a copy of all payrolls to the sub recipient, that is, the entity that receives the sub-grant or loan from the State capitalization grant recipient. Such documentation shall be available on request of the State recipient or EPA. As to each payroll copy received, the sub recipient shall provide written confirmation in a form satisfactory to the State indicating whether or not the project is in compliance with the requirements of 29 CFR 5.5(a)(1) based on the most recent payroll copies for the specified week. The payrolls 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 the weekly payrolls. 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 Web site at <http://www.dol.gov/whd/forms/wh347instr.htm> 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 sub recipient(s) for transmission to the State or EPA if requested by EPA, the State, 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 sub recipient(s). (B) Each payroll submitted 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. (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. (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 State, 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, the Federal agency or State may, after written notice to the contractor, 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.

16.3.1.4 Apprentices and trainees

16.3.1.4.1 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 sub-contractor'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.

- 16.3.1.4.2** 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.
- 16.3.1.4.3** 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.
- 16.3.1.5** 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.
- 16.3.1.6** 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 determines may be appropriate, 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 29 CFR 5.5.
- 16.3.1.7** 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.

- 16.3.1.8** 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.
- 16.3.1.9** 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) and sub recipient(s), State, EPA, the U.S. Department of Labor, or the employees or their representatives.
- 16.3.1.10** Certification of eligibility.
- 16.3.1.10.1** 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).
- 16.3.1.10.2** 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).
- 16.3.1.10.3** The penalty for making false statements is prescribed in the U.S. Criminal Code, 18 U.S.C. 1001.

16.4 Contract Provision for Contracts in Excess of \$100,000.

- 16.4.1** Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. The sub recipient 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.
- 16.4.1.1** 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.
- 16.4.1.2** 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.
- 16.4.1.3** Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages. The sub recipient, upon written request of the EPA Award Official or an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, shall withhold or cause to be withheld, 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 (b)(2) of this section.

- 16.4.1.4** 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.
- 16.4.2** 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 Sub recipient 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 Sub recipient 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.

16.5 Compliance Verification

- 16.5.1** The sub recipient 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) (6), all interviews must be conducted in confidence. The sub recipient must use Standard Form 1445 (SF 1445) or equivalent documentation to memorialize the interviews. Copies of the SF 1445 are available from EPA on request.
- 16.5.2** The sub recipient 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. Sub recipients must conduct more frequent interviews if the initial interviews or other information indicated that there is a risk that the contractor or subcontractor is not complying with DB. Sub recipients shall immediately conduct interviews in response to an alleged violation of the prevailing wage requirements. All interviews shall be conducted in confidence."
- 16.5.3** The sub recipient 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 sub recipient 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, if practicable, the sub recipient should 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. Sub recipients 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 sub recipient shall verify evidence of fringe benefit plans and payments there under by contractors and subcontractors who claim credit for fringe benefit contributions.

16.5.4 The sub recipient shall periodically review contractors and subcontractor's 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.

16.5.5 Sub recipients 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 <http://www.dol.gov/whd/america2.htm>.