# I. PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE

### A. GENERAL INFORMATION

This solicitation is designed to solicit responses from qualified bidders who will be responsible for providing Maintenance and Service for Chillers at Various Facilities in Lincoln and Omaha, NE at a competitive and reasonable cost

Solicitation responses shall conform to all instructions, conditions, and requirements included in the solicitation. Prospective bidders are expected to carefully examine all documents, schedules, and requirements in this solicitation, and respond to each requirement in the format prescribed. Solicitation responses may be found non-responsive if they do not conform to the solicitation.

### B. PROCURING OFFICE AND COMMUNICATION WITH STATE STAFF AND EVALUATORS

Procurement responsibilities related to this solicitation reside with the State Purchasing Bureau. The point of contact (POC) for the procurement is as follows:

RFP Number: 122255 O5

Name: Vicki Collins/Connie Heinrichs Procurement Contract Officer(s)

Agency: State Purchasing Bureau
Address: 1526 K Street, Suite 130
Lincoln, NE 68508

Telephone: 402-471-6500

E-Mail: as.materielpurchasing@nebraska.gov

From the date the solicitation is issued until the Intent to Award is issued, communication from the bidder is limited to the POC listed above. After the Intent to Award is issued, the bidder may communicate with individuals the State has designated as responsible for negotiating the contract on behalf of the State. No member of the State Government, employee of the State, or member of the Evaluation Committee is empowered to make binding statements regarding this solicitation. The POC will issue any answers, clarifications, or amendments regarding this solicitation in writing. Only the SPB or the awarding agency can award a contract. Bidders shall not have any communication with or attempt to communicate or influence any evaluator involved in this solicitation.

The following exceptions to these restrictions are permitted:

Contact made pursuant to pre-existing contracts or obligations;

Contact required by the schedule of events or an event scheduled later by the POC; and

Contact required for negotiation and execution of the final contract.

The State reserves the right to reject a bidder's solicitation response, withdraw an Intent to Award, or terminate a contract if the State determines there has been a violation of these procurement procedures.

# C. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The State expects to adhere to the procurement schedule shown below, but all dates are approximate and subject to change.

NOTE: All ShareFile links in the Schedule of Events below are unique links for each schedule step. Please click the correct link for the upload step you are requesting.

Schedule of Events			
ACT	VITY	DATE/TIME	
1.	Release solicitation	June 30, 2025	
2.	Last day to submit written questions.  ShareFile link for uploading questions: <a href="https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r3e484d02dfef4170b7206db3024b2c5c">https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r3e484d02dfef4170b7206db3024b2c5c</a>	July 9, 2025	
3.	State responds to written questions through solicitation "Addendum" to be posted to the Internet at: http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html	July 11, 2025	
_ A	Electronic Solicitation Opening – Online Via Webex  IT IS THE BIDDER'S RESPONSIBILTY TO UPLOAD ELECTRONIC FILES BY OPENING DATE AND TIME. EXCEPTIONS WILL NOT BE MADE FOR TECHNOLOGY ISSUES.  ShareFile Electronic Solicitation Submission Link: <a href="https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r6b0eccaa72924e53a5aed32bd06142c4">https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r6b0eccaa72924e53a5aed32bd06142c4</a>		
	Join Webex Meeting Join from the meeting link  https://sonvideo.webex.com/sonvideo/j.php?MTID=m37cf90f78ea91eaf7fb1s 36	<u>.</u>	
4.	Join by meeting number  Meeting number (access code): 2498 003 7915  Meeting password: SnXbZU5HP92	July 23, 2025 2:00 PM	
	Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only) +1-408-418-9388,,24980037915## United States Toll  Join by phone +1-408-418-9388 United States Toll  Global call-in numbers	Central Time	
	Join from a video system or application Dial <u>24980037915@sonvideo.webex.com</u> You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.		
	If you are a host, <u>click here</u> and login site to view host information.		
	Need help? Go to https://help.webex.com		

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Schedule of Events				
ACT	TIVITY	DATE/TIME		
5.	Review for conformance to solicitation requirements	July 23, 2025		
6.	Evaluation period	July 24-25, 2025		
7.	Post "Notification of Intent to Award" to Internet at: https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html	July 29, 2025		
8.	Contract finalization period	July 30-August 13, 2025		
9.	Contract award	August 15, 2025		
10.	Vendor start date	August 15, 2025		

### D. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions regarding the meaning or interpretation of any solicitation provision must be submitted in writing to State Purchasing Bureau and clearly marked "Solicitation Number 122255 O5; Maintenance and Chiller Service at Various Facilities in Lincoln and Omaha, NE Questions". The POC is not obligated to respond to questions that are received late per the Schedule of Events.

Bidders should submit questions for any items upon which assumptions may be made when preparing a response to the solicitation. Any solicitation response containing assumptions may be deemed non-responsive and may be rejected by the State. Solicitation responses will be evaluated without consideration of any known or unknown assumptions of a bidder. The contract will not incorporate any known or unknown assumptions of a bidder.

Questions should be uploaded using the ShareFile link provided in the solicitation Schedule of Events, Section I.C. It is recommended that bidders submit questions using the following format:

RFP Section Reference	RFP Page Number	Question

Written answers will be posted at <a href="https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html">https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html</a> per the Schedule of Events.

# E. SECRETARY OF STATE/TAX COMMISSIONER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS (Nonnegotiable)

All bidders must be authorized to transact business in the State of Nebraska and comply with all Nebraska Secretary of State Registration requirements. The bidder who is the recipient of an Intent to Award may be required to certify that it has complied and produce a true and exact copy of its current (within ninety (90) calendar days of the intent to award) Certificate or Letter of Good Standing, or in the case of a sole proprietorship, provide written documentation of sole proprietorship and complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the Department of Administrative Services website at:

https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/docs/pdf/Individual%20or%20Sole%20Proprietor%20United%20States%20Attest ation%20Form%20English%20and%20Spanish.pdf This should be accomplished prior to execution of the contract.

# F. ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING

The State reserves the right to reject solicitation responses, withdraw an intent to award or award, or terminate a contract if an ethical violation has been committed, which includes, but is not limited to:

Offering or giving, directly or indirectly, a bribe, fee, commission, compensation, gift, gratuity, or anything of value to any person or entity in an attempt to influence the bidding process;

Utilizing the services of lobbyists, attorneys, political activists, or consultants to influence or subvert the bidding process;

Being considered for, presently being, or becoming debarred, suspended, ineligible, or excluded from contracting with any state or federal entity:

Submitting a solicitation response on behalf of another Party or entity; and

Colluding with any person or entity to influence the bidding process, submit sham solicitation responses, preclude bidding, fix pricing or costs, create an unfair advantage, subvert the solicitation response, or prejudice the State.

The bidder shall include this clause in any subcontract entered into for the exclusive purpose of performing this contract.

Bidder shall have an affirmative duty to report any violations of this clause by the bidder throughout the bidding process and throughout the term of this contract for the awarded bidder and their subcontractors.

# G. DEVIATIONS FROM THE SOLICITATION

The requirements contained in the solicitation (Sections II through V) become a part of the terms and conditions of the contract resulting from this solicitation. Any deviations from the solicitation in Sections II through V must be clearly defined by the bidder in its solicitation response and, if accepted by the State, will become part of the contract. Any specifically defined deviations must not be in conflict with the basic nature of the solicitation, requirements, or applicable state or federal laws or statutes. "Deviation", for the purposes of this solicitation, means any proposed changes or alterations to either the contractual language or deliverables within the scope of this solicitation. The State discourages deviations and reserves the right to reject proposed deviations.

# H. SUBMISSION OF SOLICITATION RESPONSES

The State is only accepting electronic responses submitted in accordance with this solicitation. The State will not accept solicitation responses by mail, email, voice, or telephone, unless otherwise explicitly stated in writing by the State.

Pages may be consecutively numbered for the entire solicitation response or may be numbered consecutively within sections. Figures and tables should be numbered and referenced in the text by that number. They should be placed as close as possible to the referencing text.

It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure the solicitation response is received electronically by the date and time indicated in the Schedule of Events. Solicitation Responses must be submitted via ShareFile by the date and time of the opening per the Schedule of Events. No late solicitation responses will be accepted.

It is the responsibility of the bidder to check the website for all information relevant to this solicitation to include addenda and/or amendments issued prior to the opening date. The website can be found here: <a href="https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html">https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html</a>.

Emphasis should be concentrated on conformance to the solicitation instructions, responsiveness to requirements, completeness, and clarity of content. If the solicitation response is presented in such a fashion that makes evaluation difficult or overly time consuming the State reserves the right to reject the solicitation response as non-conforming.

The ShareFile link for uploading Solicitation Response(s) is provided in the Schedule of Events, Section I.C.

# \*\*\*UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, DO NOT SUBMIT DOCUMENTS THAT CAN ONLY BE ACCESSED WITH A PASSWORD\*\*\*

### Bidders must submit responses via ShareFile using the solicitation submission link.

Note: Not all browsers are compatible with ShareFile. Currently Google Chrome, Internet Explorer, Microsoft Edge, Safari, and Firefox are compatible. After the bidder clicks the solicitation response submission link, the bidder will be prompted to enter contact information including an e-mail address. By entering an e-mail address, the bidder should receive a confirmation email confirming the successful upload directly from ShareFile.

ShareFile link for uploading solicitation response(s) provided in the Schedule of Events, Section I.C.

The Solicitation response and Proprietary information should be uploaded as separate and distinct files.

If duplicated responses are submitted, the State will retain only the most recently submitted response.

If it is the bidder's intent to submit multiple responses, the bidder must clearly identify the separate submissions.

It is the bidder's responsibility to allow time for electronic uploading. All file uploads must be completed by the Opening date and time per the Schedule of Events. No late responses will be accepted.

# ELECTRONIC SOLICITATION RESPONSE FILE NAMES

The bidder should clearly identify the uploaded solicitation response files. To assist in identification the bidder should use the following naming convention:

122255 O5 Company Name

If multiple files are submitted for one solicitation response, add number of files to file names:

122255 O5 Company Name File 1 of 2

122255 O5 Company Name File 2 of 2

If multiple responses are submitted for the same solicitation, add the response number to the file names:

122255 O5 Company Name Response 1 File 1 of 2

The "Contractual Agreement Form" must be signed manually in ink or by DocuSign and returned by the opening date and time along with the bidder's solicitation response and any other requirements as stated in this solicitation in order for the bidder's solicitation response to be evaluated.

By signing this Contractual Agreement Form, the bidder guarantees compliance with the provisions stated in this solicitation and agrees to the terms and conditions unless otherwise indicated in writing.

#### SOLICITATION PREPARATION COSTS 1.

The State shall not incur any liability for any costs incurred by bidders in replying to this solicitation, including any activity related to bidding on this solicitation.

#### J. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SOLICITATION

Violation of the terms and conditions contained in this solicitation or any resultant contract, at any time before or after the award, shall be grounds for action by the State which may include, but is not limited to, the following:

Rejection of a bidder's solicitation response,

Withdrawal of the Intent to Award,

Withdrawal of the Award,

Negative documentation regarding Vendor Performance,

Termination of the resulting contract,

Legal action; and

Suspension or Debarment of the bidder from further bidding with the State for the period of time relative to the seriousness of the violation. Such period to be within the sole discretion of the State.

### SOLICITATION RESPONSE CORRECTIONS

A bidder may correct a mistake in an electronically submitted solicitation response prior to the time of opening by uploading a revised and completed solicitation response.

- 1. If a corrected electronic solicitation response is submitted, the file name(s) date/time stamped with latest date/time stamp will be accepted. The corrected solicitation response file name(s) should be identified as:
  - Corrected 122255 O5 Company Name Response #1 File 1 of 2,
  - h Corrected 122255 O5 Company Name Response #2 File 2 of 2, etc.

Changing a solicitation response after opening may be permitted if the change is made to correct a minor error that does not affect price, quantity, quality, delivery, or contractual conditions. In case of a mathematical error in extension of price, unit price shall govern

#### LATE SOLICITATION RESPONSES L.

Solicitation Responses received after the time and date of the opening will be considered late responses. Late responses will be considered non-responsive. The State is not responsible for responses that are late or lost regardless of cause or fault.

# BID OPENING

The opening will consist of opening solicitation responses and announcing the names of bidders. Responses WILL NOT be available for viewing by those present at the opening. Responses will be posted to the State Purchasing Bureau website once an Intent to Award has been posted to the website. Once responses are opened, they become the property of the State of Nebraska and will not be returned.

#### N. SOLICITATION REQUIREMENTS

The solicitation responses will first be examined to determine if all requirements listed below have been addressed and whether further evaluation is warranted. Solicitation responses not meeting the requirements may be rejected as non-responsive. The requirements are as follows:

Original Contractual Agreement Form signed manually in ink or by DocuSign:

Clarity and responsiveness;

Completed Sections II through V; and Completed Cost Sheet.

#### Ο. **EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

Solicitation Responses are evaluated by members of an Evaluation Committee(s). The Evaluation Committee(s) will consist of individuals selected at the discretion of the State. Names of the members of the Evaluation Committee(s) will not be published prior to the intent to award.

Any contact, attempted contact, or attempt to influence an evaluator that is involved with this Solicitation may result in the rejection of this response and further administrative actions.

### P. EVALUATION OF SOLICITATION RESPONSES

All solicitation responses that are deemed responsive to the solicitation will be evaluated based on the following:

Cost Sheet.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 73-808 allows the State to consider a variety of factors, including, but not limited to, the quality of performance of previous contracts to be considered when evaluating responses to competitive solicitations in determining a responsible bidder. Information obtained from any Contract Compliance Request or any Contract Non-Compliance Notice (See Terms & Conditions, Section H) may be used in evaluating responses to solicitations for goods and services to determine the best value for the State.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 73-107 allows for a preference for a resident disabled veteran or business located in a designated enterprise zone. When a state contract is to be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, a resident disabled veteran or a business located in a designated enterprise zone under the Enterprise Zone Act shall be allowed a preference over any other resident or nonresident bidder, if all other factors are equal.

Resident disabled veterans means any person (a) who resides in the State of Nebraska, who served in the United States Armed Forces, including any reserve component or the National Guard, who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions), and who possesses a disability rating letter issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs establishing a service-connected disability or a disability determination from the United States Department of Defense and (b)(i) who owns and controls a business or, in the case of a publicly owned business, more than fifty percent of the stock is owned by one or more persons described in (a) of this paragraph and (ii) the management and daily business operations of the business are controlled by one or more persons described in (a) of this paragraph. Any contract entered into without compliance with this section shall be null and void.

Therefore, if a resident disabled veteran or business located in a designated enterprise zone submits a solicitation response in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 73-107 and has so indicated on the Contractual Agreement Form under "Vendor must complete the following" requesting priority/preference to be considered in the award of this contract, the following will need to be submitted by the Vendor within ten (10) business days of request:

Documentation from the United States Armed Forces confirming service,

Documentation of discharge or otherwise separated characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions),

Disability rating letter issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs establishing a service-connected disability or a disability determination from the United States Department of Defense; and Documentation which shows ownership and control of a business or, in the case of a publicly owned business, more than fifty percent of the stock is owned by one or more persons described in subdivision (a) of this subsection; and the management and daily business operations of the business are controlled by one or more persons described in subdivision (a) of this subsection.

Failure to submit the requested documentation within ten (10) business days of notice will disqualify the bidder from consideration of the preference.

# Q. BEST AND FINAL OFFER

Each bidder should provide its best offer with their original solicitation response and should not expect the State to request a best and final offer (BAFO).

The State reserves the right to conduct more than one BAFO. If requested by the State, the BAFO must be submitted on the BAFO Cost Sheet and in accordance with the State's instructions. Failure to submit a requested BAFO or failure to submit a BAFO in accordance with the State's instructions may result in rejection of the bidder's entire solicitation response. BAFOs may be scored and ranked by the Evaluation Committee.

# R. REFERENCE AND CREDIT CHECKS

The State reserves the right to conduct and consider reference and credit checks. The State reserves the right to use third parties to conduct reference and credit checks. By submitting a solicitation response, the bidder grants to the State the right to contact or arrange a visit in person with any or all of the bidder's clients. Reference and credit checks may be grounds to reject a solicitation response, withdraw an intent to award, or rescind the award of a contract.

# S. AWARD

The State reserves the right to evaluate solicitation responses and award contracts in a manner utilizing criteria selected at the State's discretion and in the State's best interest. After evaluation of the solicitation responses, or at any point in the Solicitation process, the State of Nebraska may take one or more of the following actions:

- 1. Amend the solicitation;
- Extend the date and time of a solicitation;
- 3. Waive deviations or errors in the State's solicitation process and in bidder responses that are not material, do not compromise the solicitation process or a bidder's response, and do not improve a Vendor's competitive position:
- 4. Accept or reject a portion of or all of a solicitation response:
- 5. Accept or reject all responses;
- 6. Withdraw the solicitation;
- 7.
- Elect to re-release the solicitation; Award single lines or multiple lines to one or more Vendors; or, 8.
- Award one or more all-inclusive contracts.

The State of Nebraska may consider, but is not limited to considering, one or more of the following award criteria:

Price.

Location,

Quality,

Delivery time,

Bidder qualifications and capabilities,

State contract management requirements and/or costs; and,

Oil analysis reporting: The ability of the bidder to provide oil analysis reports as part of their service offering, which may be used to evaluate product performance and maintenance planning.

The solicitation does not commit the State to award a contract. Once intent to award decision has been determined, it will be posted to the Internet at: https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html

Any protests must be filed by a bidder within ten (10) business days after the intent to award decision is posted to the Internet. Grievance and protest procedure is available https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/docs/NE DAS Materiel Purchasing Agency-SPB Policy 23 07 Protest Policy.pdf available on

#### T. LUMP SUM OR "ALL OR NONE" SOLICITATION RESPONSES

The State reserves the right to purchase item-by-item, by groups or as a total when the State may benefit by so doing. Bidders may submit a response on an "all or none" or "lump sum" basis but should also submit a response on an item-by-item basis. The term "all or none" means a conditional response which requires the purchase of all items on which responses are offered and bidder declines to accept award on individual items; a "lump sum" response is one in which the bidder offers a lower price than the sum of the individual responses if all items are purchased but agrees to deliver individual items at the prices quoted.

## "LUMP SUM" OR "ALL OR NONE" RESPONSES SHOULD BE CLEARLY IDENTIFIED ON THE FIRST PAGE OF THE SOLICITATION AND COST SHEET (IF APPLICABLE)

#### U. REJECTION OF SOLICITATION RESPONSES

The State reserves the right to reject any or all responses, wholly or in part, in the best interest of the State.

#### V. PRICES & COST CLARIFICATION

Discount and Price provisions are discussed in Sections III.E. and III.F. The State reserves the right to review all aspects of cost for reasonableness and realism as those terms are defined in (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 73-810 (1) (a) and (b) The State may request clarification of any solicitation where the cost component indicates a significant and unsupported deviation from industry standards or in areas where detailed pricing is required. Under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 73-810 (2), the State may reject a bid if the price is not reasonable or realistic.

#### 11. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Bidder should read the Terms and Conditions within this section and must initial either "Accept All Terms and Conditions Within Section as Written" or "Exceptions Taken to Terms and Conditions Within Section as Written" in the table below. If exception is not taken to a provision, it is deemed accepted as stated. If the bidder takes any exceptions, they must provide the following within the "Exceptions" field of the table below (Bidder may provide responses in separate attachment if multiple exceptions are taken):

- The specific clause, including section reference, to which an exception has been taken;
- An explanation of why the bidder took exception to the clause; and
- Provide alternative language to the specific clause within the solicitation response.

By signing the solicitation, the bidder agrees to be legally bound by all the accepted terms and conditions, and any proposed alternative terms and conditions submitted with the solicitation response. The State reserves the right to negotiate rejected or proposed alternative language. If the State and bidder fail to agree on the final Terms and Conditions, the State reserves the right to reject the solicitation response. The State reserves the right to reject solicitation responses that attempt to substitute the bidder's commercial contracts and/or documents for this solicitation.

Accept All Terms and Conditions Within Section as Written (Initial)	Exceptions Taken to Terms and Conditions Within Section as Written (Initial)	Exceptions: (Bidder must note the specific clause, including section reference, to which an exception has been taken, an explanation of why the bidder took exception to the clause, and provide alternative language to the specific clause within the solicitation response.)
DKO		

The bidders should submit with their solicitation response any license, user agreement, service level agreement, or similar documents that the bidder wants incorporated in the Contract. The State will not consider incorporation of any document not submitted with the solicitation response as the document will not have been included in the evaluation process. These documents shall be subject to negotiation and will be incorporated as addendums if agreed to by the Parties.

If a conflict or ambiguity arises after the Addendum to Contract Award has been negotiated and agreed to, the Addendum to Contract Award shall be interpreted as follows:

If only one (1) Party has a particular clause, then that clause shall control,

If both Parties have a similar clause, but the clauses do not conflict, the clauses shall be read together,

If both Parties have a similar clause, but the clauses conflict, the State's clause shall control.

# GENERAL

The contract resulting from this Solicitation shall incorporate the following documents:

Solicitation, including any attachments and addenda;

Questions and Answers:

Bidders properly submitted solicitation response, including any terms and conditions or agreements submitted by the bidder;

Addendum to Contract Award (if applicable); and

Amendments to the Contract. (if applicable)

These documents constitute the entirety of the contract.

Unless otherwise specifically stated in a future contract amendment, in case of any conflict between the incorporated documents, the documents shall govern in the following order of preference with number one (1) receiving preference over all other documents and with each lower numbered document having preference over any higher numbered document: 1) Amendment to the executed Contract with the most recent dated amendment having the highest priority, 2) Executed Contract and any attached Addenda 3) Addendums to the solicitation and any Questions and Answers, 4) the original solicitation document and any Addenda or attachments, and 5) the Vendor's submitted solicitation response, including any terms and conditions or agreements that are accepted by the State.

Unless otherwise specifically agreed to in writing by the State, the State's standard terms and conditions, as executed by the State, shall always control over any terms and conditions or agreements submitted or included by the Vendor.

Any ambiguity or conflict in the contract discovered after its execution, not otherwise addressed herein, shall be resolved in accordance with the rules of contract interpretation as established in the State of Nebraska.

### B. NOTIFICATION

Bidder and State shall identify the contract manager who shall serve as the point of contact for the executed contract.

Communications regarding the executed contract shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given if delivered personally; electronically, return receipt requested; or mailed, return receipt requested. All notices, requests, or communications shall be deemed effective upon receipt.

Either party may change its address for notification purposes by giving notice of the change and setting forth the new address and an effective date.

### C. BUYER'S REPRESENTATIVE

The State reserves the right to appoint a Buyer's Representative to manage or assist the Buyer in managing the contract on behalf of the State. The Buyer's Representative will be appointed in writing, and the appointment document will specify the extent of the Buyer's Representative authority and responsibilities. If a Buyer's Representative is appointed, the bidder will be provided with a copy of the appointment document and is expected to cooperate accordingly with the Buyer's Representative. The Buyer's Representative has no authority to bind the State to a contract, amendment, addendum, or other change or addition to the contract.

# D. GOVERNING LAW (Nonnegotiable)

Notwithstanding any other provision of this contract, or any amendment or addendum(s) entered into contemporaneously or at a later time, the parties understand and agree that, (1) the State of Nebraska is a sovereign state and its authority to contract is therefore subject to limitation by the State's Constitution, statutes, common law, and regulation; (2) this contract will be interpreted and enforced under the laws of the State of Nebraska; (3) any action to enforce the provisions of this agreement must be brought in the State of Nebraska per state law; (4) the person signing this contract on behalf of the State of Nebraska does not have the authority to waive the State's sovereign immunity, statutes, common law, or regulations; (5) the indemnity, limitation of liability, remedy, and other similar provisions of the final contract, if any, are entered into subject to the State's Constitution, statutes, common law, regulations, and sovereign immunity; and, (6) all terms and conditions of the final contract, including but not limited to the clauses concerning third party use, licenses, warranties, limitations of liability, governing law and venue, usage verification, indemnity, liability, remedy or other similar provisions of the final contract are entered into specifically subject to the State's Constitution, statutes, common law, regulations, and sovereign immunity.

The Parties must comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws, ordinances, rules, orders, and regulations.

# E. BEGINNING OF WORK & SUSPENSION OF SERVICES

The bidder shall not commence any billable work until a valid contract has been fully executed by the State and the successful Vendor. The Vendor will be notified in writing when work may begin.

The State may, at any time and without advance notice, require the Vendor to suspend any or all performance or deliverables provided under this Contract. In the event of such suspension, the Contract Manager or POC, or their designee, will issue a written order to stop work. The written order will specify which activities are to be immediately suspended and the reason(s) for the suspension. Upon receipt of such order, the Vendor shall immediately comply with its terms and take all necessary steps to mitigate and eliminate the incurrence of costs allocable to the work affected by the order during the period of suspension. The suspended performance or deliverables may only resume when the State provides the Vendor with written notice that such performance or deliverables may resume, in whole or in part.

# F. AMENDMENT

This Contract may be amended in writing, within scope, upon the agreement of both parties.

# G. CHANGE ORDERS OR SUBSTITUTIONS

The State and the Vendor, upon the written agreement, may make changes to the contract within the general scope of the solicitation. Changes may involve specifications, the quantity of work, or such other items as the State may find

necessary or desirable. Corrections of any deliverable, service, or work required pursuant to the contract shall not be deemed a change. The Vendor may not claim forfeiture of the contract by reasons of such changes.

The Vendor shall prepare a written description of the work required due to the change and an itemized cost sheet for the change. Changes in work and the amount of compensation to be paid to the Vendor shall be determined in accordance with applicable unit prices if any, a pro-rated value, or through negotiations. The State shall not incur a price increase for changes that should have been included in the Vendor's solicitation response, were foreseeable, or result from difficulties with or failure of the Vendor's solicitation response or performance.

No change shall be implemented by the Vendor until approved by the State, and the Contract is amended to reflect the change and associated costs, if any. If there is a dispute regarding the cost, but both parties agree that immediate implementation is necessary, the change may be implemented, and cost negotiations may continue with both Parties retaining all remedies under the contract and law.

In the event any good or service is discontinued or replaced upon mutual consent during the contract period or prior to delivery, the State reserves the right to amend the contract to include the alternate product at the same price.

\*\*\*Vendor will not substitute any item that has been awarded without prior written approval of SPB\*\*\*

# H. RECORD OF VENDOR PERFORMANCE

The State may document the vendor's performance, which may include, but is not limited to, the customer service provided by the vendor, the ability of the vendor, the skill of the vendor, and any instance(s) of products or services delivered or performed which fail to meet the terms of the purchase order, contract, and/or specifications. In addition to other remedies and options available to the State, the State may issue one or more notices to the vendor outlining any issues the State has regarding the vendor's performance for a specific contract ("Contract Compliance Request"). The State may also document the Vendor's performance in a report, which may or may not be provided to the vendor ("Contract Non-Compliance Notice"). The Vendor shall respond to any Contract Compliance Request or Contract Non-Compliance Notice in accordance with such notice or request. At the sole discretion of the State, such Contract Compliance Requests and Contract Non-Compliance Notices may be placed in the State's records regarding the vendor and may be considered by the State and held against the vendor in any future contract or award opportunity. The record of vendor performance will be considered in any suspension or debarment action.

# I. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL VENDOR BREACH

If Vendor breaches the contract or anticipates breaching the contract, the Vendor shall immediately give written notice to the State. The notice shall explain the breach or potential breach, a proposed cure, and may include a request for a waiver of the breach if so desired. The State may, in its discretion, temporarily or permanently waive the breach. By granting a waiver, the State does not forfeit any rights or remedies to which the State is entitled by law or equity, or pursuant to the provisions of the contract. Failure to give immediate notice, however, may be grounds for denial of any request for a waiver of a breach.

# J. BREACH

Either Party may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, if the other Party breaches its duty to perform its obligations under the contract in a timely and proper manner. Termination requires written notice of default and a thirty (30) calendar day (or longer at the non-breaching Party's discretion considering the gravity and nature of the default) cure period. Said notice shall be delivered by email, delivery receipt requested; certified mail, return receipt requested; or in person with proof of delivery. Allowing time to cure a failure or breach of contract does not waive the right to immediately terminate the contract for the same or different contract breach which may occur at a different time.

The State's failure to make payment shall not be a breach, and the Vendor shall retain all available statutory remedies.

# K. NON-WAIVER OF BREACH

The acceptance of late performance with or without objection or reservation by a Party shall not waive any rights of the Party nor constitute a waiver of the requirement of timely performance of any obligations remaining to be performed.

# L. SEVERABILITY

If any term or condition of the contract is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and conditions shall not be affected, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced as if the contract did not contain the provision held to be invalid or illegal.

# M. INDEMNIFICATION GENERAL

The Vendor agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the State and its employees, volunteers, agents, and its elected and appointed officials ("the indemnified parties") from and against any and all third party claims, liens, demands, damages, liability, actions, causes of action, losses, judgments, costs, and expenses of every nature, including investigation costs and expenses, settlement costs, and attorney fees and expenses ("the claims"), sustained or asserted against the State for personal injury, death, or property loss or damage, arising out of, resulting from, or attributable to the willful misconduct, negligence, error, or omission of the Vendor, its employees, Subcontractors, consultants, representatives, and agents, resulting from this contract, except to the extent such Vendor liability is attenuated by any action of the State which directly and proximately contributed to the claims.

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Vendor agrees it will, at its sole cost and expense, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the indemnified parties from and against any and all claims, to the extent such claims arise out of, result from, or are attributable to, the actual or alleged infringement or misappropriation of any patent, copyright, trade secret, trademark, or confidential information of any third party by the Vendor or its employees, Subcontractors, consultants, representatives, and agents; provided, however, the State gives the Vendor prompt notice in writing of the claim. The Vendor may not settle any infringement claim that will affect the State's use of the Licensed Software without the State's prior written consent, which consent may be withheld for any reason.

If a judgment or settlement is obtained or reasonably anticipated against the State's use of any intellectual property for which the Vendor has indemnified the State, the Vendor shall, at the Vendor's sole cost and expense, promptly modify the item or items which were determined to be infringing, acquire a license or licenses on the State's behalf to provide the necessary rights to the State to eliminate the infringement, or provide the State with a non-infringing substitute that provides the State the same functionality. At the State's election, the actual or anticipated judgment may be treated as a breach of warranty by the Vendor, and the State may receive the remedies provided under this Solicitation.

### PERSONNEI

The Vendor shall, at its expense, indemnify and hold harmless the indemnified parties from and against any claim with respect to withholding taxes, worker's compensation, employee benefits, or any other claim, demand, liability, damage, or loss of any nature relating to any of the personnel, including subcontractor's and their employees, provided by the Vendor.

# SELF-INSURANCE

The State of Nebraska is self-insured for any loss and purchases excess insurance coverage pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-8,239.01. If there is a presumed loss under the provisions of this agreement, Vendor may file a claim with the Office of Risk Management pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-8,239.01 to 81-8,306 for review by the State Claims Board. The State retains all rights and immunities under the State Miscellaneous (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-8,294), Tort (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-8,209), and Contract Claim Acts (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-8,302), as outlined in state law and accepts liability under this agreement only to the extent provided by law.

The Parties acknowledge that Attorney General for the State of Nebraska is required by statute to represent the legal interests of the State, and that any provision of this indemnity clause is subject to the statutory authority of the Attorney General.

# N. ATTORNEY FEES

In the event of any litigation, appeal, or other legal action to enforce any provision of the contract, the Parties agree to pay all expenses of such action, as permitted by law and if ordered by the court, including attorney's fees and costs, if the other Party prevails.

# O. PERFORMANCE BOND

The Awarded Bidder may be required to supply a bond executed by a corporation authorized to contract surety in the State of Nebraska, payable to the State of Nebraska, which shall be valid for the life of the contract to include any renewal and/or extension periods. The amount of the bond must be an established dollar amount of \$50,000. The bond, if required, will guarantee that the Awarded Bidder will faithfully perform all requirements, terms and conditions of the contract. Failure to comply shall be grounds for forfeiture of the bond as liquidated damages. The amount of forfeiture will be determined by the agency based on loss to the State. The bond will be returned when the contract has been satisfactorily completed as solely determined by the State, after termination or expiration of the contract.

# P. ASSIGNMENT, SALE, OR MERGER

Either Party may assign the contract upon mutual written agreement of the other Party. Such agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld.

The Vendor retains the right to enter into a sale, merger, acquisition, internal reorganization, or similar transaction involving Vendor's business. Vendor agrees to cooperate with the State in executing amendments to the contract to allow for the transaction. If a third party or entity is involved in the transaction, the Vendor will remain responsible for performance of the contract until such time as the person or entity involved in the transaction agrees in writing to be contractually bound by this contract and performs all obligations of the contract.

Q. CONTRACTING WITH OTHER NEBRASKA POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE STATE OR ANOTHER STATE
The Vendor may, but shall not be required to, allow agencies, as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-145(2), to use this
contract. The terms and conditions, including the price, of the contract may not be amended. The State shall not be
contractually obligated or liable for any contract entered into pursuant to this clause. A listing of Nebraska political
subdivisions may be found at the website of the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts.

The Vendor may, but shall not be required to, allow other states, agencies or divisions of other states, or political subdivisions of other states to use this contract. The terms and conditions, including price, of this contract shall apply to any such contract, but may be amended upon mutual consent of the Parties. The State of Nebraska shall not be contractually or otherwise obligated or liable under any contract entered into pursuant to this clause. The State shall be notified if a contract is executed based upon this contract.

### R. FORCE MAJEURE

Neither Party shall be liable for any costs or damages, or for default resulting from its inability to perform any of its obligations under the contract due to a natural or manmade event outside the control and not the fault of the affected Party ("Force Majeure Event") that was not foreseeable at the time the Contract was executed. The Party so affected shall immediately make a written request for relief to the other Party and shall have the burden of proof to justify the request. The other Party may grant the relief requested; relief may not be unreasonably withheld. Labor disputes with the impacted Party's own employees will not be considered a Force Majeure Event.

### S. CONFIDENTIALITY

All materials and information provided by the Parties or acquired by a Party on behalf of the other Party shall be regarded as confidential information. All materials and information provided or acquired shall be handled in accordance with federal and state law, and ethical standards. Should said confidentiality be breached by a Party, the Party shall notify the other Party immediately of said breach and take immediate corrective action.

It is incumbent upon the Parties to inform their officers and employees of the penalties for improper disclosure imposed by the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a. Specifically, 5 U.S.C. 552a (i)(1), which is made applicable by 5 U.S.C. 552a (m)(1), provides that any officer or employee, who by virtue of his/her employment or official position has possession of or access to agency records which contain individually identifiable information, the disclosure of which is prohibited by the Privacy Act or regulations established thereunder, and who knowing that disclosure of the specific material is prohibited, willfully discloses the material in any manner to any person or agency not entitled to receive it, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not more than \$5,000.

# T. EARLY TERMINATION

The contract may be terminated as follows:

The State and the Vendor, by mutual written agreement, may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, at

The State, in its sole discretion, may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, for any reason upon thirty (30) calendar day's written notice shall be delivered by email, delivery receipt requested; certified mail, return receipt requested; or in person with proof of delivery to the Vendor. Such termination shall not relieve the Vendor of warranty or other service obligations incurred under the terms of the contract. In the event of termination, the Vendor shall be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for products or services satisfactorily performed or provided.

The State may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, immediately for the following reasons:

if directed to do so by statute,

Vendor has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors, has admitted in writing its inability to pay debts as they mature, or has ceased operating in the normal course of business,

a trustee or receiver of the Vendor or of any substantial part of the Vendor's assets has been appointed by a court.

fraud, misappropriation, embezzlement, malfeasance, misfeasance, or illegal conduct pertaining to performance under the contract by its Vendor, its employees, officers, directors, or shareholders, an involuntary proceeding has been commenced by any Party against the Vendor under any one of the chapters of Title 11 of the United States Code and (i) the proceeding has been pending for

at least sixty (60) calendar days; or (ii) the Vendor has consented, either expressly or by operation of law, to the entry of an order for relief; or (iii) the Vendor has been decreed or adjudged a debtor, a voluntary petition has been filed by the Vendor under any of the chapters of Title 11 of the United States Code,

Vendor intentionally discloses confidential information,
Vendor has or announces it will discontinue support of the deliverable; and,

In the event funding is no longer available.

#### U. CONTRACT CLOSEOUT

Upon termination of the contract for any reason the Vendor shall within thirty (30) days, unless stated otherwise

Transfer all completed or partially completed deliverables to the State,

Transfer ownership and title to all completed or partially completed deliverables to the State, Return to the State all information and data unless the Vendor is permitted to keep the information or data by contract or rule of law. Vendor may retain one copy of any information or data as required to comply with applicable work product documentation standards or as are automatically retained in the course of Vendor's routine back up procedures,

Cooperate with any successor Contactor, person, or entity in the assumption of any or all of the obligations of this contract.

Cooperate with any successor Contactor, person, or entity with the transfer of information or data related to

Return or vacate any state owned real or personal property; and,

Return all data in a mutually acceptable format and manner

Nothing in this section should be construed to require the Vendor to surrender intellectual property, real or personal property, or information or data owned by the Vendor for which the State has no legal claim.

#### V. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Vendor shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12131-12134), as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADA Amendments Act) (Pub.L. 110–325, 122 Stat. 3553 (2008)), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities.

# III. VENDOR DUTIES

Bidder should read the Vendor Duties within this section and must initial either "Accept All Terms and Conditions Within Section as Written" or "Exceptions Taken to Vendor Duties Within Section as Written" in the table below. If exception is not taken to a provision, it is deemed accepted as stated. If the bidder takes any exceptions, they must provide the following within the "Exceptions" field of the table below (Bidder may provide responses in separate attachment if multiple exceptions are taken):

- 1. The specific clause, including section reference, to which an exception has been taken;
- 2. An explanation of why the bidder took exception to the clause; and
- 3. Provide alternative language to the specific clause within the solicitation response.

By signing the solicitation, the bidder agrees to be legally bound by all the accepted terms and conditions, and any proposed alternative terms and conditions submitted with the solicitation response. The State reserves the right to negotiate rejected or proposed alternative language. If the State and bidder fail to agree on the final Terms and Conditions, the State reserves the right to reject the solicitation response. The State reserves the right to reject solicitation responses that attempt to substitute the bidder's commercial contracts and/or documents for this solicitation.

Accept All Vendor Duties Within Section as Written (Initial)	Exceptions Taken to Vendor Duties Within Section as Written (Initial)	Exceptions: (Bidder must note the specific clause, including section reference, to which an exception has been taken, an explanation of why the bidder took exception to the clause, and provide alternative language to the specific clause within the solicitation response.)
DE		

# A. INDEPENDENT VENDOR / OBLIGATIONS

It is agreed that the Vendor is an independent Vendor and that nothing contained herein is intended or should be construed as creating or establishing a relationship of employment, agency, or a partnership.

The Vendor is solely responsible for fulfilling the contract. The Vendor or the Vendor's representative shall be the sole point of contact regarding all contractual matters.

The Vendor shall secure, at its own expense, all personnel required to perform the services under the contract. The personnel the Vendor uses to fulfill the contract shall have no contractual or other legal relationship with the State; they shall not be considered employees of the State and shall not be entitled to any compensation, rights or benefits from the State, including but not limited to, tenure rights, medical and hospital care, sick and vacation leave, severance pay, or retirement benefits.

By-name personnel commitments made in the bidder's solicitation response shall not be changed without the prior written approval of the State. Replacement of these personnel, if approved by the State, shall be with personnel of equal or greater ability and qualifications.

All personnel assigned by the Vendor to the contract shall be employees of the Vendor or a subcontractor and shall be fully qualified to perform the work required herein. Personnel employed by the Vendor or a subcontractor to fulfill the terms of the contract shall remain under the sole direction and control of the Vendor or the subcontractor respectively.

With respect to its employees, the Vendor agrees to be solely responsible for the following:

Any and all pay, benefits, employment taxes and/or other payroll withholding, Any and all vehicles used by the Vendor's employees, including all insurance required by state law, Damages incurred by Vendor's employees within the scope of their duties under the contract, Maintaining Workers' Compensation and health insurance that complies with state and federal law and submitting any reports on such insurance to the extent required by governing law, Determining the hours to be worked and the duties to be performed by the Vendor's employees; and, All claims on behalf of any person arising out of employment or alleged employment (including without limit claims of discrimination alleged against the Vendor, its officers, agents, or subcontractors or subcontractor's employees).

If the Vendor intends to utilize any subcontractor, the subcontractor's level of effort, tasks, and time allocation should be clearly defined in the solicitation response. The Vendor shall agree that it will not utilize any subcontractors not specifically included in its solicitation response in the performance of the contract without the prior written authorization of the State. If the Vendor subcontracts any of the work, the Vendor agrees to pay any and all subcontractors in accordance with the Vendor's agreement with the respective subcontractor(s).

The State reserves the right to require the Vendor to reassign or remove from the project any Vendor or subcontractor employee.

The vendor shall insure that the terms and conditions contained in any contract with a subcontractor does not conflict with the terms and conditions of this contract.

The Vendor shall include a similar provision, for the protection of the State, in the contract with any Subcontractor engaged to perform work on this contract.

### B. EMPLOYEE WORK ELIGIBILITY STATUS

The Vendor is required and hereby agrees to use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of employees physically performing services within the State of Nebraska. A federal immigration verification system means the electronic verification of the work authorization program authorized by the Illegal immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. 1324a, known as the E-Verify Program, or an equivalent federal program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency authorized to verify the work eligibility status of an employee.

If the Vendor is an individual or sole proprietorship, the following applies:

The Vendor must complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the Department of Administrative Services website at

https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/docs/pdf/Individual%20or%20Sole%20Proprietor%20United%20States%20Attestation%20Form%20English%20and%20Spanish.pdf

20Attestation%20Form%20English%20and%20Spanish.pdf
The completed United States Attestation Form should be submitted with the Solicitation response. If the Vendor indicates on such attestation form that he or she is a qualified alien, the Vendor agrees to provide the US Citizenship and Immigration Services documentation required to verify the Vendor's lawful presence in the United States using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program. The Vendor understands and agrees that lawful presence in the United States is required, and the Vendor may be disqualified or the contract terminated if such lawful presence cannot be verified as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 4-108.

# C. COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT / NONDISCRIMINATION (Nonnegotiable)

The Vendor shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal statutes and regulations regarding civil rights laws and equal opportunity employment. The Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act prohibits Vendors of the State of Nebraska, and their Subcontractors, from discriminating against any employee or applicant for employment, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, compensation, or privileges of employment because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, marital status, or national origin (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 48-1101 to 48-1125). The Vendor guarantees compliance with the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act, and breach of this provision shall be regarded as a material breach of contract. The Vendor shall insert a similar provision in all Subcontracts for goods and services to be covered by any contract resulting from this Solicitation.

# D. COOPERATION WITH OTHER VENDORS

Vendors may be required to work with or in close proximity to other Vendors or individuals that may be working on same or different projects. The Vendor shall agree to cooperate with such other Vendors or individuals and shall not commit or permit any act which may interfere with the performance of work by any other Vendor or individual. Vendor is not required to compromise Vendor's intellectual property or proprietary information unless expressly required to do so by this contract.

# E. DISCOUNTS

Prices quoted shall be inclusive of ALL trade discounts. Cash discount terms of less than thirty (30) days will not be considered as part of the solicitation response. Cash discount periods will be computed from the date of receipt of a

properly executed claim voucher or the date of completion of delivery of all items in a satisfactory condition, whichever is later.

### F. PRICES

Prices quoted shall be net, including transportation and delivery charges fully prepaid by the bidder, F.O.B. destination named in the Solicitation. No additional charges will be allowed for packing, packages, or partial delivery costs. Travel expenses are to be included for all facilities. No additional travel, fuel adjustment, or emergency call-back labor expenses will be approved during the contract term.

When an arithmetic error has been made in the extended total, the unit price will govern.

Prices submitted on the cost sheet, once accepted by the State, shall remain fixed for the first year of the contract period. Any request for a price increase subsequent to the first year of the contract shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the price proposed for the period. The request for a price increase must be submitted in writing to the State Purchasing Bureau a minimum of one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the end of the current contract period and be accompanied by documentation justifying the price increase. Further documentation may be required by the State to support the price increase.

The State reserves the right to deny any requested price increase. No price increases are to be billed to any State Agencies prior to the written amendment of the contract by the parties.

The State will be given full proportionate benefit of any decreases for the term of the contract.

### G. PERMITS, REGULATIONS, LAWS

The contract price shall include the cost of all royalties, licenses, permits, and approvals, whether arising from patents, trademarks, copyrights or otherwise, that are in any way involved in the contract. The Vendor shall obtain and pay for all royalties, licenses, and permits, and approvals necessary for the execution of the contract. The Vendor must guarantee that it has the full legal right to the materials, supplies, equipment, software, and other items used to execute this contract.

The State shall own and hold exclusive title to any deliverable developed as a result of this contract. Vendor shall have no ownership interest or title, and shall not patent, license, or copyright, duplicate, transfer, sell, or exchange, the design, specifications, concept, or deliverable.

# H. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Vendor shall throughout the term of the contract maintain insurance as specified herein and provide the State a current Certificate of Insurance/Acord Form (COI) verifying the coverage. The Vendor shall not commence work on the contract until the insurance is in place. If Vendor subcontracts any portion of the Contract the Vendor must, throughout the term of the contract, either:

Provide equivalent insurance for each subcontractor and provide a COI verifying the coverage for the subcontractor,

Require each subcontractor to have equivalent insurance and provide written notice to the State that the Vendor has verified that each subcontractor has the required coverage; or, Provide the State with copies of each subcontractor's Certificate of Insurance evidencing the required

Provide the State with copies of each subcontractor's Certificate of Insurance evidencing the required coverage.

The Vendor shall not allow any Subcontractor to commence work until the Subcontractor has equivalent insurance. The failure of the State to require a COI, or the failure of the Vendor to provide a COI or require subcontractor insurance shall not limit, relieve, or decrease the liability of the Vendor hereunder.

In the event that any policy written on a claims-made basis terminates or is canceled during the term of the contract or within one (1) year of termination or expiration of the contract, the Vendor shall obtain an extended discovery or reporting period, or a new insurance policy, providing coverage required by this contract for the term of the contract and one (1) years following termination or expiration of the contract.

If by the terms of any insurance a mandatory deductible is required, or if the Vendor elects to increase the mandatory deductible amount, the Vendor shall be responsible for payment of the amount of the deductible in the event of a paid claim

Notwithstanding any other clause in this Contract, the State may recover up to the liability limits of the insurance policies required herein.

# WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE

The Vendor shall take out and maintain during the life of this contract the statutory Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for all of the contactors' employees to be engaged in work on the project under this contract and, in case any such work is sublet, the Vendor shall require the Subcontractor similarly to provide Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for all of the Subcontractor's employees to be engaged in such work. This policy shall be written to meet the statutory requirements for the state in which the work is to be performed, including Occupational Disease. The policy shall include a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State. The COI shall contain the mandatory COI subrogation waiver language found hereinafter. The amounts of such insurance shall not be less than the limits stated hereinafter. For employees working in the State of Nebraska, the policy must be written by an entity authorized by the State of Nebraska Department of Insurance to write Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance for Nebraska employees.

# COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE AND COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE

The Vendor shall take out and maintain during the life of this contract such Commercial General Liability Insurance and Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance as shall protect Vendor and any Subcontractor performing work covered by this contract from claims for damages for bodily injury, including death, as well as from claims for property damage, which may arise from operations under this contract, whether such operation be by the Vendor or by any Subcontractor or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them, and the amounts of such insurance shall not be less than limits stated hereinafter.

The Commercial General Liability Insurance shall be written on an occurrence basis, and provide Premises/Operations, Products/Completed Operations, Independent Vendors, Personal Injury, and Contractual Liability coverage. The policy shall include the State, and others as required by the contract documents, as Additional Insured(s). This policy shall be primary, and any insurance or self-insurance carried by the State shall be considered secondary and non-contributory. The COI shall contain the mandatory COI liability waiver language found hereinafter. The Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance shall be written to cover all Owned, Non-owned, and Hired vehicles.

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY		
General Aggregate	\$2,000,000	
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate	\$2,000,000	
Personal/Advertising Injury	\$1,000,000 per occurrence	
Bodily Injury/Property Damage	\$1,000,000 per occurrence	
Medical Payments	\$10,000 any one person	
Damage to Rented Premises (Fire)	\$300,000 each occurrence	
Contractual	Included	
XCU Liability (Explosion, Collapse, and Underground Damage)	Included	
Independent Vendors	Included	
WORKER'S COMPENSATION		
Employers Liability Limits	\$500K/\$500K/\$500K	
Statutory Limits- All States	Statutory - State of Nebraska	
Voluntary Compensation	Statutory	
COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY		
Bodily Injury/Property Damage	\$1,000,000 combined single limit	
Include All Owned, Hired & Non-Owned Automobile liability	Included	
Motor Carrier Act Endorsement	Where Applicable	
UMBRELLA/EXCESS LIABILITY		
Over Primary Insurance	\$5,000,000 per occurrence	
COMMERCIAL CRIME		
Crime/Employee Dishonesty Including 3rd Party Fidelity	\$1,000,000	
VENDOR'S POLLUTION LIABILITY		
Each Occurrence/Aggregate Limit	\$2,000,000	
ncludes Non-Owned Disposal Sites		
MANDATORY COI SUBROGATION WAIVER LANGUAGE		
'Workers' Compensation policy shall include a waiver of s	ubrogation in favor of the State of Nebraska."	
MANDATORY COI LIABILITY WAIVER LANGUAGE		
Commercial General Liability & Commercial Automobile L	iability policies shall name the State of Nebra	

"Commercial General Liability & Commercial Automobile Liability policies shall name the State of Nebraska as an Additional Insured and the policies shall be primary and any insurance or self-insurance carried by the State shall be considered secondary and non-contributory as additionally insured."

# **EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE**

The Vendor shall furnish the Contract Manager, via email, with a certificate of insurance coverage complying with the above requirements prior to beginning work at:

RFP Number: 122255 O5 DAS, State Purchasing Bureau Attn: Brook Taylor State Purchasing Bureau 1526 K Street, Suite 130 Lincoln, NE 68508

These certificates or the cover sheet shall reference the solicitation number, and the certificates shall include the name of the company, policy numbers, effective dates, dates of expiration, and amounts and types of coverage afforded. If the State is damaged by the failure of the Vendor to maintain such insurance, then the Vendor shall be responsible for all reasonable costs properly attributable thereto.

Reasonable notice of cancellation of any required insurance policy must be submitted to the contract manager as listed above when issued and a new coverage binder shall be submitted immediately to ensure no break in coverage.

# DEVIATIONS

The insurance requirements are subject to limited negotiation. Negotiation typically includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the correct type of coverage, necessity for Workers' Compensation, and the type of automobile coverage carried by the Vendor.

### ANTITRUST

The Vendor hereby assigns to the State any and all claims for overcharges as to goods and/or services provided in connection with this contract resulting from antitrust violations which arise under antitrust laws of the United States and the antitrust laws of the State.

#### J. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

By submitting a solicitation response, the vendor certifies that no relationship exists between the vendor and any person or entity which either is, or gives the appearance of, a conflict of interest related to this solicitation or project.

Vendor further certifies that vendor will not employ any individual known by vendor to have a conflict of interest nor shall vendor take any action or acquire any interest, either directly or indirectly, which will conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of its contractual obligations hereunder or which creates an actual or appearance of conflict of interest.

If there is an actual or perceived conflict of interest, vendor shall provide with its solicitation response a full disclosure of the facts describing such actual or perceived conflict of interest and a proposed mitigation plan for consideration. The State will then consider such disclosure and proposed mitigation plan and either approve or reject as part of the overall solicitation response evaluation.

### K. STATE PROPERTY

The Vendor shall be responsible for the proper care and custody of any State-owned property which is furnished for the Vendor's use during the performance of the contract. The Vendor shall reimburse the State for any loss or damage of such property; normal wear and tears are expected.

### L. SITE RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Vendor shall use its best efforts to ensure that its employees, agents, and Subcontractors comply with site rules and regulations while on State premises. If the Vendor must perform on-site work outside of the daily operational hours set forth by the State, it must make arrangements with the State to ensure access to the facility and the equipment has been arranged. No additional payment will be made by the State on the basis of lack of access, unless the State fails to provide access as agreed to in writing between the State and the Vendor.

# M. ADVERTISING

The Vendor agrees not to refer to the contract award in advertising in such a manner as to state or imply that the company or its goods or services are endorsed or preferred by the State. Any publicity releases pertaining to the project shall not be issued without prior written approval from the State.

# N. DISASTER RECOVERY/BACK UP PLAN

The Vendor shall have a disaster recovery and back-up plan, of which a copy should be provided upon request to the State, which includes, but is not limited to equipment, personnel, facilities, and transportation, in order to continue delivery of goods and services as specified under the specifications in the contract in the event of a disaster.

# DRUG POLICY

Vendor certifies it maintains a drug free workplace environment to ensure worker safety and workplace integrity. Vendor agrees to provide a copy of its drug free workplace policy at any time upon request by the State.

# P. WARRANTY

Despite any clause to the contrary, the Vendor represents and warrants that its services hereunder shall be performed by competent personnel and shall be of professional quality consistent with generally accepted industry standards for the performance of such services and shall comply in all respects with the requirements of this Agreement. For any breach of this warranty, the Vendor shall, for a period of ninety (90) days from performance of the service, perform the services again, at no cost to the State, or if Vendor is unable to perform the services as warranted, Vendor shall reimburse the State all fees paid to Vendor for the unsatisfactory services. The rights and remedies of the parties under this warranty are in addition to any other rights and remedies of the parties provided by law or equity, including, without limitation actual damages, and, as applicable and awarded under the law, to a prevailing party, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

# Q. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

Time is of the essence with respect to Vendor's performance and deliverables pursuant to this Contract.

# IV. PAYMENT

Bidder should read the Payment clauses within this section and must initial either "Accept All Terms and Conditions Within Section as Written" or "Exceptions Taken to Payment clauses Within Section as Written" in the table below. If exception is not taken to a provision, it is deemed accepted as stated. If the bidder takes any exceptions, they must provide the following within the "Exceptions" field of the table below (Bidder may provide responses in separate attachment if multiple exceptions are taken):

- 1. The specific clause, including section reference, to which an exception has been taken;
- 2. An explanation of why the bidder took exception to the clause; and
- 3. Provide alternative language to the specific clause within the solicitation response.

By signing the solicitation, the bidder agrees to be legally bound by all the accepted terms and conditions, and any proposed alternative terms and conditions submitted with the solicitation response. The State reserves the right to negotiate rejected or proposed alternative language. If the State and bidder fail to agree on the final Terms and Conditions, the State reserves the right to reject the solicitation response. The State reserves the right to reject solicitation responses that attempt to substitute the bidder's commercial contracts and/or documents for this solicitation.

Accept All Payment Clauses Within Section as Written (Initial)	Exceptions Taken to Payment Clauses Within Section as Written (Initial)	Exceptions: (Bidder must note the specific clause, including section reference, to which an exception has been taken, an explanation of why the bidder took exception to the clause, and provide alternative language to the specific clause within the solicitation response.)
SO		

# A. PROHIBITION AGAINST ADVANCE PAYMENT (Nonnegotiable)

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-2403, "[n]o goods or services shall be deemed to be received by an agency until all such goods or services are completely delivered and finally accepted by the agency."

# B. TAXES (Nonnegotiable)

The State is not required to pay taxes and assumes no such liability as a result of this Solicitation. The Vendor may request a copy of the Nebraska Department of Revenue, Nebraska Resale or Exempt Sale Certificate for Sales Tax Exemption, Form 13 for their records. Any property tax payable on the Vendor's equipment which may be installed in a state-owned facility is the responsibility of the Vendor.

# C. INVOICES

Invoices for payments must be submitted by the Vendor to the agency requesting the services with sufficient detail to support payment. The invoice must include at a minimum the agency name, date, location, unit number, the chiller's Make, Model and serial number and a copy of the checklist that shows the work completed.

Invoices shall be submitted for the previous month's service at the beginning of next month. Invoices must separate regular service hours from premium service hours. Premium hours are considered outside of normal business hours of 8am to 3:30 pm M-F. The vendor must submit a copy of the inspection report with the invoice.

The terms and conditions included in the Vendor's invoice shall be deemed to be solely for the convenience of the parties. No terms or conditions of any such invoice shall be binding upon the State, and no action by the State, including without limitation the payment of any such invoice in whole or in part, shall be construed as binding or estopping the State with respect to any such term or condition, unless the invoice term or condition has been previously agreed to by the State as an amendment to the contract.

The State shall have forty-five (45) calendar days to pay after a valid and accurate invoice is received by the State.

### D. INSPECTION AND APPROVAL

Final inspection and approval of all work required under the contract shall be performed by the designated State officials.

The State and/or its authorized representatives shall have the right to enter any premises where the Vendor or Subcontractor duties under the contract are being performed, and to inspect, monitor or otherwise evaluate the work being performed. All inspections and evaluations shall be at reasonable times and in a manner that will not unreasonably delay work.

# E. PAYMENT (Nonnegotiable)

Payment will be made by the responsible agency in compliance with the State of Nebraska Prompt Payment Act (See Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-2403). The State may require the Vendor to accept payment by electronic means such as ACH deposit. In no event shall the State be responsible or liable to pay for any goods and services provided by the Vendor prior to the Effective Date of the contract, and the Vendor hereby waives any claim or cause of action for any such goods or services.

# F. LATE PAYMENT (Nonnegotiable)

The Vendor may charge the responsible agency interest for late payment in compliance with the State of Nebraska Prompt Payment Act (See Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-2401 through 81-2408).

# G. SUBJECT TO FUNDING / FUNDING OUT CLAUSE FOR LOSS OF APPROPRIATIONS (Nonnegotiable)

The State's obligation to pay amounts due on the Contract for fiscal years following the current fiscal year is contingent upon legislative appropriation of funds. Should said funds not be appropriated, the State may terminate the contract with respect to those payments for the fiscal year(s) for which such funds are not appropriated. The State will give the Vendor written notice thirty (30) calendar days prior to the effective date of termination. All obligations of the State to make payments after the termination date will cease. The Vendor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any authorized work which has been satisfactorily completed as of the termination date. In no event shall the Vendor be paid for a loss of anticipated profit.

# H. RIGHT TO AUDIT (First Paragraph is Nonnegotiable)

The State shall have the right to audit the Vendor's performance of this contract upon a thirty (30) days' written notice. Vendor shall utilize generally accepted accounting principles, and shall maintain the accounting records, and other records and information relevant to the contract (Information) to enable the State to audit the contract. (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-304 et seq.) The State may audit, and the Vendor shall maintain, the Information during the term of the contract and for a period of five (5) years after the completion of this contract or until all issues or litigation are resolved, whichever is later. The Vendor shall make the Information available to the State at Vendor's place of business or a location acceptable to both Parties during normal business hours. If this is not practical or the Vendor so elects, the Vendor may provide electronic or paper copies of the Information. The State reserves the right to examine, make copies of, and take notes on any Information relevant to this contract, regardless of the form or the Information, how it is stored, or who possesses the Information. Under no circumstance will the Vendor be required to create or maintain documents not kept in the ordinary course of Vendor's business operations, nor will Vendor be required to disclose any information, including but not limited to product cost data, which is confidential or proprietary to Vendor.

The Parties shall pay their own costs of the audit unless the audit finds a previously undisclosed overpayment by the State. If a previously undisclosed overpayment exceeds one-half of one percent (.5%) of the total contract billings, or if fraud, material misrepresentations, or non-performance is discovered on the part of the Vendor, the Vendor shall reimburse the State for the total costs of the audit. Overpayments and audit costs owed to the State shall be paid within ninety (90) days of written notice of the claim. The Vendor agrees to correct any material weaknesses or conditions found as a result of the audit.

# V. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK

The bidder should provide the following information in response to this Solicitation.

### A. SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work for this contract is to provide monthly, annual, and incidental preventative maintenance and repairs to the Chiller equipment owned by the State Building Division or other State Agencies. (See Attachment I-CHILLER INFORMATION SHEET). Many facilities covered by this contract are critical to the State's operations and care should be taken to ensure that the repairs are completed within 24 hours.

The State reserves the right to add additional facilities with the coordination of the vendor should the need arise. Addition of facilities is in no way guaranteed. In the event either State Building Division or other State Agencies wish to add an additional facility, the vendor shall establish a cost based on the regular hourly rate (requested on the Cost Sheet) and that shall be amended to the contract as a new facility.

Chiller maintenance / inspection to be a full-service plan that shall include maintenance, repair, or replacement of the chiller equipment described in the work plan below due to normal wear and tear as determined by vendor and manager / supervisor and / or facility contact / designee. Travel expenses are to be included for all facilities. No additional travel, fuel adjustment, or emergency call-back labor expenses will be approved during the contract term. Vendor must be able to provide electronic reports of inspections/maintenance/repair history upon request by the State.

### B. WORK PLAN

### SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE

All preventive maintenance performed by the vendor shall be scheduled upon commencement of the contract and subject to final approval of the State. Monthly and Annual chiller maintenance / inspections shall be scheduled for the same day or days each month with each facility contact / designee in order to establish a routine, unless otherwise requested by the designated facility contact / designee. The schedule for each location shall be established with each facility contact / designee at commencement of contract.

Vendor's service technician will check-in with designated facility contact/designee prior to initiating any work and will check-out prior to leaving the premises. An inspection report containing the time and location of service will be documented, and a copy will be left by the vendor (service technician) on site with the designated facility contact / designee. A copy of this documentation, signed by the designated facility contact / designee at the time of service, will be submitted with the monthly invoice.

When the vendor observes a repair or replacement needed, the vendor shall submit a recommendation for repair / replacement to the designated facility contact / designee. The recommendation shall show the building name, equipment brand / model, and details of the repair / replacement needed.

Maintenance schedules shall be permanently located in the equipment rooms for each chiller. The schedules shall be accessible to the State for monitoring. Schedules shall be maintained by indicating the work performed, signature of the service technician performing the work, and the date the work was performed. Any equipment / parts that are replaced will be noted in permanent marker / ink on the equipment and on the schedule.

Vendor will provide a copy of the Safety Data Sheets for the liquid supplies left on site.

Vendor shall perform Eddy-Current testing on all chillers approximately 120 days after contract start date and every five (5) years thereafter.

# 2. PERFORMANCE CONFERENCES AND REPORTS

At the end of each ninety (90) day period, the vendor shall meet with the respective agency to review performance and schedule major repairs contemplated during the next ninety (90) day period. The vendor shall submit written inspection reports to the respective agency at the end of the annual period. The vendor shall submit, when applicable, any written recommendations related to safety concerns, repairs, or other relevant issues. The Vendor's supervisory personnel shall be available at all times to report to and confer with the State. The vendor shall submit to the respective agency such records and reports as may be identified in this Request for Proposal.

Vendor shall have a supervisor regularly conduct a field audit of the performance of vendor's field personnel. The vendor shall semi-annually survey all equipment covered by this contract to confirm compliance to the requirements of the contract.

### 3. THE VENDOR MUST PERFORM THE FOLLOWING WORK:

Furnish all labor, parts, oil, and materials needed to maintain the State's equipment in good operating condition, perform service when required to complete predictive maintenance and repair.

Annually inspect the water side of water-cooled condensers with procedures recommended by the equipment manufacturer.

Quarterly inspection of the air side of air-cooled condensers with procedures recommended by the equipment manufacturer.

Maintain the following items related to the State's equipment,

- a. electric wiring from the motor starter to the motor;
- b. refrigerant piping between two or more pieces of equipment,
- c. the pressure and temperature controls,
- d. thermometers,
- e. gauges,
- f. control devices,
- g. thermostats,
- h. manual valves located on the equipment, and
- i. mechanical starters.

Vendor to provide written monthly inspection reports and an annual inspection report to the designated facility contact / designaee about the condition of the equipment and any recommendations for enhancements or repairs to maintain capacity, reliability, and efficiency.

# 4. ANNUAL INSPECTION PROCEDURES

- a. Test for refrigerant leaks including relief valve piping outlets,
- b. Check the main starter and control panel,
- c. Inspect and tighten electrical connections,
- d. Check relays, operating, and safety controls,
- e. Check the flow switch operation,
- f. Check vane control setting and operation,
- g. Take and record water side pressure drops across vessels,
- Perform MicroTech (for McQuay units) check, log, and last fault analysis, analyze performance,
- i. Perform operating log check if not MicroTech (non-McQuay units) and analyze,
- j. Clean oil cooler strainer on water cooled units,

- k. Check oil sump heater operation,
- I. Check purge operation,
- m. Perform oil analysis for wear metals, moisture, and acid,
- n. Inspect vibration eliminators and inspect water piping for leaks,
- o. Check minimum condenser water temperature operation; and
- p. Visually inspect the water side of condensers by removing the head where accessible and cleaning condensers with a properly sized brush and machine.

### 5. MONTHLY OPERATIONAL INSPECTION PROCEDURES

- Review manufactures recommendations for operation and compares to existing conditions.
- b. Test for refrigerant leaks including relief valve piping outlets,
- c. Check auxiliary equipment operation,
- d. Check oil levels,
- e. Visually inspect compressor starters,
- f. Check oil sump heater and gear case heater where applicable,
- g. Check relays, operating, and safety controls,
- h. Check chilled water pump(s) for operation,
- i. Check condenser water pump(s) and cooling tower,
- j. Take and record water side pressure drops across vessels,
- k. Check condenser water temperature control operation,
- I. Check the water chiller,
- m. Log all operating conditions, temperatures, pressures, and Delta-T, and
- n. Review operating procedures and conditions with State of Nebraska maintenance personnel.

# 6. LOCATIONS

The vendor shall provide the necessary labor, parts, oil, and materials to service and maintain chillers in working operation at the following locations:

- a. Department of Administrative Services located at 1526 K Street, Lincoln, NE
- b. State Data Center located at 501 South 14th Street, Lincoln, NE
- c. State Testing Lab located at 3701 South 14th Street, Lincoln, NE
- d. Transportation Services Bureau located at 1400 M Street, Lincoln, NE
- e. Staff Training Academy located at 2320 North 57th Street, Lincoln, NE
- f. Governor's Residence 1425 H Street, Lincoln, NE
- g. NDOT, 1400 Nebraska Parkway, Bldg #00203. Lincoln, NE

- h. NDOT, 1500 Nebraska Parkway, Bldg #00201, Lincoln, NE
- i. NDOT, 1600 Nebraska Parkway, Bldg #00202, Lincoln, NE
- j. NDOT, 5001. S 14th Street, Bldg #00101, Lincoln, NE
- k. State Operations Ctr 4425 S 108th Street, Omaha, NE

See Attachment I for a complete list of locations and equipment information.

Possible additions of locations and/or subtractions of locations upon mutual agreement between the State and Vendor.

C. DELIVERABLES See Cost Sheet.

# CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FORM

# BIDDER MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

By signing this Contractual Agreement Form, the bidder guarantees compliance with the provisions stated in this solicitation and agrees to the terms and conditions unless otherwise indicated in writing and certifies that bidder is not owned by the Chinese Communist Party.

'er Nebraska's Transparency in Government Procurement Act, Neb. Rev Stat § 73-603, DAS is required to ollect statistical information regarding the number of contracts awarded to Nebraska Vendors. This information is for statistical purposes only and will not be considered for contract award purposes.			
× NEBRASKA VENDOR AFFIDAVIT: Bidder hereby attests that bidder is a Nebraska Vendor. Nebraska Vendor" shall mean any bidder who has maintained a bona fide place of business and at least the employee within this state for at least the six (6) months immediately preceding the posting date of this solicitation. All vendors who are not a Nebraska Vendor are considered Foreign Vendors under Neb. Rev stat § 73-603 (c).			
I hereby certify that I am a Resident disabled veteran or business located in a designated enterprise one in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 73-107 and wish to have preference, if applicable, considered in a award of this contract.			
I hereby certify that I am a blind person licensed by the Commission for the Blind & Visually Impaired accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-8611 and wish to have preference considered in the award of this ontract.			
THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED MANUALLY IN INK OR BY DOCUSIGN			
OMPANY:	Hayes Mechanical		
DDRESS:	11825 Olive St. La Vista, NE 68128		
HONE:	402-502-0288		
MAIL:	dommen@hayesmechanical.com		
DDER NAME & TITLE:	David Ommen Business Development Manager		
GNATURE:	Minnellan		
ATE:	July 14, 2025		
VENDOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE STATE CONTACT INFORMATION (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)			
AME:			
TLE:			
HONE:			
MAIL:			