

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
RALEIGH, N.C.

PROPOSAL

DATE AND TIME OF BID OPENING: **MAY 20, 2008 AT 2:00 PM**

CONTRACT ID C202061
WBS 4CR.10641.6, 4CR.20641.10

FEDERAL-AID NO. STATE FUNDED

COUNTY NASH, EDGECOMBE

T.I.P. NO.

MILES 20.980

ROUTE NO. NC 97

LOCATION 3 SECTIONS OF NC-97 AND US-64 ALT, 1 SECTION OF US-64 BUS
AND NC-43, AND 10 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS.

TYPE OF WORK MILLING AND RESURFACING.

NOTICE:

ALL BIDDERS SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF GENERAL CONTRACTING AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 87 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA WHICH REQUIRES THE BIDDER TO BE LICENSED BY THE N.C. LICENSING BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS WHEN BIDDING ON ANY NON-FEDERAL AID PROJECT WHERE THE BID IS \$30,000 OR MORE, EXCEPT FOR CERTAIN SPECIALITY WORK AS DETERMINED BY THE LICENSING BOARD. BIDDERS SHALL ALSO COMPLY WITH ALL OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS REGULATING THE PRACTICES OF ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION CONTRACTING AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 87 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA. NOT WITHSTANDING THESE LIMITATIONS ON BIDDING, THE BIDDER WHO IS AWARDED ANY PROJECT SHALL COMPLY WITH CHAPTER 87 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS WITHIN 60 CALENDAR DAYS OF BID OPENING, REGARDLESS OF FUNDING SOURCES.

BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED AS SHOWN BELOW:

THIS IS A ROADWAY PROPOSAL

5% BID BOND OR BID DEPOSIT REQUIRED

PROPOSAL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
CONTRACT No. C202061
IN NASH-EDGECOMBE COUNTIES NORTH CAROLINA

Date _____ 20 ____

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

The Bidder has carefully examined the location of the proposed work to be known as Contract No. C202061 has carefully examined the plans and specifications, which are acknowledged to be part of the proposal, the special provisions, the proposal, the form of contract, and the forms of contract payment bond and contract performance bond; and thoroughly understands the stipulations, requirements and provisions. The undersigned bidder agrees to bound upon his execution of the bid and subsequent award to him by the Board of Transportation in accordance with this proposal to provide the necessary contract payment bond and contract performance bond within fourteen days after the written notice of award is received by him. The undersigned Bidder further agrees to provide all necessary machinery, tools, labor, and other means of construction; and to do all the work and to furnish all materials, except as otherwise noted, necessary to perform and complete the said contract in accordance with *the 2006 Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures* by the dates(s) specified in the Project Special Provisions and in accordance with the requirements of the Engineer, and at the unit or lump sum prices, as the case may be, for the various items given on the sheets contained herein.

The Bidder shall provide and furnish all the materials, machinery, implements, appliances and tools, and perform the work and required labor to construct and complete State Highway Contract No. C202061 in Nash-Edgecombe Counties, for the unit or lump sum prices, as the case may be, bid by the Bidder in his bid and according to the proposal, plans, and specifications prepared by said Department, which proposal, plans, and specifications show the details covering this project, and hereby become a part of this contract.

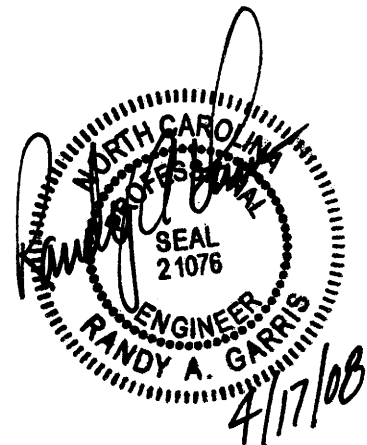
The published volume entitled *North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, Standard Specifications for Roads and Structures, July 2006* with all amendments and supplements thereto, is by reference incorporated into and made a part of this contract; that, except as herein modified, all the construction and work included in this contract is to be done in accordance with the specifications contained in said volume, and amendments and supplements thereto, under the direction of the Engineer.

If the proposal is accepted and the award is made, the contract is valid only when signed either by the Contract Officer or such other person as may be designated by the Secretary to sign for the Department of Transportation. The conditions and provisions herein cannot be changed except over the signature of the said Contract Officer.

The quantities shown in the itemized proposal for the project are considered to be approximate only and are given as the basis for comparison of bids. The Department of Transportation may increase or decrease the quantity of any item or portion of the work as may be deemed necessary or expedient.

An increase or decrease in the quantity of any item will not be regarded as sufficient ground for an increase or decrease in the unit prices, nor in the time allowed for the completion of the work, except as provided for the contract.

Accompanying this bid is a bid bond secured by a corporate surety, or certified check payable to the order of the Department of Transportation, for five percent of the total bid price, which deposit is to be forfeited as liquidated damages in case this bid is accepted and the Bidder shall fail to provide the required payment and performance bonds with the Department of Transportation, under the condition of this proposal, within 14 calendar days after the written notice of award is received by him, as provided in the *Standard Specifications*; otherwise said deposit will be returned to the Bidder.



State Contract Officer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**COVER SHEET
PROPOSAL SHEETS**

<u>PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS</u>	(WHITE SHEETS)	<i>PAGE No.</i>
Contract Time and Liquidated Damages.....		1
Prosecution of Work.....		1
Railroad Grade Crossing.....		1
Major Contract Items.....		2
Specialty Items.....		2
Fuel Price Adjustment.....		2-3
Schedule of Estimated Completion Progress.....		3
Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise.....		3-14
Progress Schedule.....		14-15
Outsourcing Outside the USA.....		15-16
Act of God.....		16
Roadway.....		17-28
Traffic Control.....		29-36
Sketch Maps		

STANDARD SPECIAL PROVISIONS (YELLOW SHEETS)

Availability of Funds – Termination of Contracts.....	1
General Seed Specification for Seed Quality.....	2-5
Plant and Pest Quarantines.....	6
Minimum Wage	7
On the Job Training.....	8-10

PROPOSAL ITEM SHEET AND SIGNATURE SHEET

- Item Sheet (s)
- Signature Sheet (Bid Acceptance by Department)

PROJECT SPECIAL PROVISIONS

GENERAL

CONTRACT TIME AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES:

(7-1-95)(Rev. 12-18-07)

RG 10

The date of availability for this contract is **June 30, 2008**.

The completion date for this contract is **December 1, 2008**.

Except where otherwise provided by the contract, observation periods required by the contract will not be a part of the work to be completed by the completion date and/or intermediate contract times stated in the contract. The acceptable completion of the observation periods that extend beyond the final completion date shall be a part of the work covered by the performance and payment bonds.

The liquidated damages for this contract are **Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)** per calendar day.

PROSECUTION OF WORK:

(7-1-95)

RG 15

The Contractor will be required to prosecute the work in a continuous and uninterrupted manner from the time he begins the work until completion and final acceptance of the project. The Contractor will not be permitted to suspend his operations except for reasons beyond his control or except where the Engineer has authorized a suspension of the Contractor's operations in writing.

In the event that the Contractor's operations are suspended in violation of the above provisions, the sum of **\$500.00** will be charged the Contractor for each and every calendar day that such suspension takes place. The said amount is hereby agreed upon as liquidated damages due to extra engineering and maintenance costs and due to increased public hazard resulting from a suspension of the work. Liquidated damages chargeable due to suspension of the work will be additional to any liquidated damages that may become chargeable due to failure to complete the work on time.

RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING:

(7-1-95)

RG 17

The Contractor's attention is directed that should the use of slow moving or stopped equipment be required at railroad grade crossings, notify the railroad's local representative of their anticipated time of work at the grade crossing at least 48 hours prior to performing work in that grade crossing location.

MAJOR CONTRACT ITEMS:

(2-19-02)

RG 28

The following listed items are the major contract items for this contract (See Articles 101 and 104-5 of the *2006 Standard Specifications*):

Line #	Description
3	Asphalt Concrete Surface Course, Type S9.5B
4	Asphalt Concrete Surface Course, Type SF9.5A

SPECIALTY ITEMS:

(7-1-95)

RG 37

Items listed below will be the specialty items for this contract (See Article 108-6 of the *2006 Standard Specifications*).

Line #	Description
9 thru 10	Long-Life Pavement Markings

FUEL PRICE ADJUSTMENT:

(11-15-05) (Rev. 11-21-06)

RG 43

Revise the *2006 Standard Specifications* as follows:

Page 1-93, Article 109-8 Fuel Price Adjustment is amended to add the following as the first paragraph:

Bidders will have the option to *opt-out* of receiving a fuel price adjustment on this contract. Bidders shall designate in their bid submission in the Miscellaneous Data Folder of Transport Expedite whether or not they wish to accept or decline receiving a fuel price adjustment on items designated in the contract. If no designation is shown in the bid, the bidder will be subject to the fuel price adjustment. The bidder will not be permitted to change the option after the Department accepts the bid. If the bidder indicates that they want to participate in the fuel price adjustment, it shall be paid as follows:

Page 1-93 Subarticle 109-8, add the following:

The base index price for DIESEL #2 FUEL is \$ **3.2404** per gallon.

Where any of the following are included in the contract, they will be eligible for fuel price adjustment.

The item(s) of work and the fuel factor used in calculating adjustments to be made are as follows:

Description	Units	Fuel Usage Factor Diesel
Unclassified Excavation	Gal/CY	0.29
Borrow Excavation	Gal/CY	0.29
Aggregate Base Course	Gal/Ton	0.55
Asphalt Concrete Base Course, Type ____	Gal/Ton	2.90
Asphalt Concrete Intermediate Course, Type ____	Gal/Ton	2.90
Asphalt Concrete Surface Course, Type ____	Gal/Ton	2.90
Open-Graded Asphalt Friction Course	Gal/Ton	2.90
Sand Asphalt Surface Course, Type ____	Gal/Ton	2.90
Aggregate for Cement Treated Base Course	Gal/Ton	0.55
Portland Cement for Cement Treated Base Course	Gal/Ton	0.55
____ In. Portland Cement Concrete Pavement	Gal/SY	0.245
Concrete Shoulders Adjacent to ____ In. Pavement	Gal/SY	0.245

SCHEDULE OF ESTIMATED COMPLETION PROGRESS:

(7-20-04)

RG 58

The Contractor's attention is directed to the Standard Special Provision entitled *Availability Of Funds Termination Of Contracts* included elsewhere in this proposal. The Department of Transportation's schedule of estimated completion progress for this project as required by that Standard Special Provision is as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Progress (% of Dollar Value)</u>
2009	(7/01/08 - 6/30/09)	100% of Total Amount Bid

The Contractor shall also furnish his own progress schedule in accordance with Article 108-2 of the *2006 Standard Specifications*. Any acceleration of the progress as shown by the Contractor's progress schedule over the progress as shown above shall be subject to the approval of the Engineer.

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE:

(10-16-07)

RG 67

Policy

It is the policy of the North Carolina Department of Transportation that Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Women Business Enterprise (WBEs) as defined in *GS 136-28.4* shall have the equal opportunity to compete fairly for and to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or in part by State Funds.

Obligation

The Contractor, subcontractor, and sub-recipient shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, creed, national origin, sex, handicapping condition or age in the performance of

this contract. The Contractor shall comply with applicable requirements of *GS 136-28.4* in the award and administration of state funded contracts. Failure by the Contractor to comply with these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of this contract or such other remedy, as the Department deems necessary.

Definitions

Commitment - The approved MBE/WBE participation submitted by the prime contractor during the bidding process.

Committed MBE/WBE - Any MBE/WBE listed on the MBE/WBE commitment list approved by the Department at the time of bid submission or any MBE/WBE utilized as a replacement for a MBE/WBE firm listed on the commitment list.

Department - North Carolina Department of Transportation

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) – A firm certified as a Disadvantaged Minority-Owned Business Enterprise through the North Carolina Unified Certification Program.

Women Business Enterprise (WBE) – A firm certified as a Disadvantaged Women-Owned Business Enterprise through the North Carolina Unified Certification Program.

MBE/WBE – This term is used for convenience only. Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise are not interchangeable terms and the goals for either or both are not interchangeable.

Goal - The MBE/WBE participation specified herein

Letter of Intent – Written documentation of the bidder/offeror's commitment to use a MBE/WBE subcontractor and confirmation from the MBE/WBE that it is participating in the contract.

Manufacturer - A firm that operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces on the premises the materials or supplies obtained by the Contractor.

Regular Dealer - A firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, warehouse, or other establishment in which the materials or supplies required for the performance of the contract are bought, kept in stock, and regularly sold to the public in the usual course of business. A regular dealer engages in, as its principal business and in its own name, the purchase and sale or lease of the products in question. A regular dealer in such bulk items as steel, cement, gravel, stone, and petroleum products need not keep such products in stock, if it owns or operates distribution equipment. Brokers and packagers are not regarded as manufacturers or regular dealers within the meaning of this section.

Form RS-1-D - Form for subcontracts involving MBE/WBE subcontractors attesting to the agreed upon unit prices and extensions for the affected contract items.

North Carolina Unified Certification Program - A program that provides comprehensive information to applicants for certification, such that an applicant is required to apply only once for a MBE/WBE certification that will be honored by all recipients of USDOT funds in the state

and not limited to the Department of Transportation only. The Certification Program is in accordance with *49 CFR Part 26*.

Contract Goal

The following goals for participation by Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises are established for this contract:

(A) Minority Business Enterprises 3 %

- (1) *If the goal is more than zero*, the Contractor shall exercise all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that Minority Business Enterprises participate in at least the percent of the contract as set forth above as the goal.
- (2) *If the goal is zero*, the Contractor shall continue to recruit the MBEs and report the use of MBEs during the construction of the project. A good faith effort will not be required with a zero goal.

(B) Women Business Enterprises 5 %

- (1) If the goal is more than zero, the Contractor shall exercise all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that Women Business Enterprises participate in at least the percent of the contract as set forth above as the goal.
- (2) *If the goal is zero*, the Contractor shall continue to recruit the WBEs and report the use of WBEs during the construction of the project. A good faith effort will not be required with a zero goal.

Contract Requirement

The approved MBE/WBE participation submitted by the Contractor shall be the **Contract Requirement**.

Certified Transportation Firms Directory

Real-time information about firms doing business with the Department and firms that are certified through North Carolina's Unified Certification Program is available in the Directory of Transportation Firms. The Directory can be accessed by the link on the Department's homepage or by entering <https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/vendor/directory/> in the address bar of your web browser. Only firms identified as MBE/WBE certified in the Directory can be utilized to meet the contract goals.

The listing of an individual firm in the Department's directory shall not be construed as an endorsement of the firm's capability to perform certain work.

Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors in Contract

Only those MBE/WBE firms with current certification are acceptable for listing in the bidder's submittal of MBE/WBE participation. The Contractor shall indicate the following required information:

(A) Electronic Bids

Bidders shall submit a listing of MBE/WBE participation in the appropriate section of Expedite, the bidding software of Bid Express®.

- (1) The names and addresses of MBE/WBE firms committed to participate in the contract. If the bidder uses the updated listing of MBE/WBE firms shown in Expedite, the bidder may use the dropdown menu to access the name and address of the MBE/WBE firm.
- (2) The contract line numbers and agreed upon unit prices of work to be performed by each MBE/WBE firm. When no figures or firms are entered, the bidder will be considered to have no MBE/WBE participation.

(B) Paper Bids

- (1) *If the goal is more than zero* bidders, at the time the bid proposal is submitted, shall submit a listing of MBE/WBE participation on the appropriate form (or facsimile thereof) contained elsewhere in the contract documents in order for the bid to be considered responsive. Bidders shall indicate the total dollar value of the MBE/WBE participation for the contract. If the bidder has no MBE/WBE participation, he shall indicate this on the form "Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors" by entering the word or number zero. This form shall be completed in its entirety. **Blank forms will not be deemed to represent zero participation.** Bids submitted that do not have MBE/WBE participation indicated on the appropriate form will not be read publicly during the opening of bids. The Department will not consider these bids for award and the proposal will be returned to the bidder.
- (2) *If the goal is zero*, bidders at the time the bid proposal is submitted, shall enter the word "zero" or number "0" or if there is participation, add the value on the "Listing of MBE/WBE Subcontractors" (or facsimile thereof) contained elsewhere in the contract documents.

Written Documentation – Letter of Intent

The bidder shall submit written documentation of the bidder/offeror's commitment to use MBE/WBE subcontractors whose participation it submits to meet a contract goal and written confirmation from each MBE/WBE, listed in the proposal, indicating their participation in the

contract. This documentation shall be submitted on the Department's form titled "Letter of Intent to Perform as a Subcontractor". This letter of intent form is available at: <http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/ps/contracts/letterofintent.pdf>. It shall be received in the office of the State Contractor Utilization Engineer no later than 12:00 noon of the sixth calendar day following opening of bids.

If the bidder fails to submit the letter of intent from each committed MBE/WBE listed in the proposal indicating their participation in the contract, the MBE/WBE participation will not count toward meeting the goal.

Counting MBE/WBE Participation Toward Meeting MBE/WBE Goal of Zero or More

- (A) If a firm is determined to be an eligible MBE/WBE firm, the total dollar value of the participation by the MBE/WBE will be counted toward the contract requirement. The total dollar value of participation by a certified MBE/WBE will be based upon the value of work actually performed by the MBE/WBE and the actual payments to MBE/WBE firms by the Contractor.
- (B) When a MBE/WBE performs as a participant in a joint venture, the Contractor may count toward its MBE/WBE goal a portion of the total value of participation with the MBE/WBE in the joint venture, that portion of the total dollar value being a distinct clearly defined portion of work that the MBE/WBE performs with its forces.
- (C)
 - (1) The Contractor may count toward its MBE/WBE goal only expenditures to MBE/WBEs that perform a commercially useful function in the work of a contract. A MBE/WBE performs a commercially useful function when it is responsible for execution of the work of the contract and is carrying out its responsibilities by actually performing, managing, and supervising the work involved. To perform a commercially useful function, the MBE/WBE shall also be responsible with respect to materials and supplies used on the contract, for negotiating price, determining quality and quantity, ordering the material and installing (where applicable) and paying for the material itself. To determine whether a MBE/WBE is performing a commercially useful function, the Department will evaluate the amount of work subcontracted, industry practices, whether the amount the firm is to be paid under the contract is commensurate with the work it is actually performing and the MBE/WBE credit claimed for its performance of the work, and other relevant factors.
 - (2) A MBE/WBE may enter into subcontracts. Work that a MBE/WBE subcontracts to another MBE/WBE firm may be counted toward the contract goal. Work that a MBE/WBE subcontracts to a non-MBE/WBE firm does not count toward the contract goal. If a MBE/WBE contractor or subcontractor subcontracts a significantly greater portion of the work of the contract than would be expected on the basis of standard industry practices, the MBE/WBE shall be presumed not to be performing a commercially useful function. The MBE/WBE may present evidence to rebut this presumption to the Department for commercially useful functions. The Department's decision on the rebuttal of this presumption will be final.

- (3) The following factors will be used to determine if a MBE/WBE trucking firm is performing a commercially useful function.
- (a) The MBE/WBE shall be responsible for the management and supervision of the entire trucking operation for which it is responsible on a particular contract, and there shall not be a contrived arrangement for the purpose of meeting MBE/WBE goals.
 - (b) The MBE/WBE shall itself own and operate at least one fully licensed, insured, and operational truck used on the contract.
 - (c) The MBE/WBE receives credit for the total value of the transportation services it provides on the contract using trucks it owns, insures, and operates using drivers it employs.
 - (d) The MBE/WBE may lease trucks from another MBE/WBE firm, including an owner-operator who is certified as a MBE/WBE. The MBE/WBE who leases trucks from another MBE/WBE receives credit for the total value of the transportation services the lessee MBE/WBE provides on the contract.
 - (e) The MBE/WBE may also lease trucks from a non-MBE/WBE firm, including from an owner-operator. The MBE/WBE who leases trucks from a non-MBE/WBE is entitled to credit for the total value of transportation services provided by non-MBE/WBE lessees not to exceed the value of transportation services provided by MBE/WBE-owned trucks on the contract. Additional participation by non-MBE/WBE lessees receives credit only for the fee or commission it receives as a result of the lease arrangement.
 - (f) For purposes of this paragraph, a lease shall indicate that the MBE/WBE has exclusive use of and control over the truck. This does not preclude the leased truck from working for others during the term of the lease with the consent of the MBE/WBE, so long as the lease gives the MBE/WBE absolute priority for use of the leased truck. Leased trucks shall display the name and identification number of the MBE/WBE.
- (D) A contractor may count toward its MBE/WBE goals 60 percent of its expenditures for materials and supplies required to complete the contract and obtained from MBE/WBE regular dealer and 100 percent of such expenditures to a MBE/WBE manufacturer.
- (E) A contractor may count toward its MBE/WBE goals the following expenditures to MBE/WBE firms that are not manufacturers or regular dealers:
- (1) The fees or commissions charged by a MBE/WBE firm for providing a bona fide service, such as professional, technical, consultant, or managerial services, or for providing bonds or insurance specifically required for the performance of a DOT-assisted contract, provided the fees or commissions are determined to be

reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees and commissions customarily allowed for similar services.

- (2) The fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement of the materials and supplies, or for transportation charges for the delivery of materials or supplies required on a job site (but not the cost of the materials and supplies themselves), provided the fees are not from a manufacturer or regular dealer and provided the fees are determined to be reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services.

Good Faith Effort for Projects with Goals more than Zero

If the MBE/WBE participation submitted in the bid by the apparent lowest responsive bidder does not meet or exceed the MBE/WBE contract goals, the apparent lowest responsive bidder shall submit to the Department documentation of its good faith efforts made to reach each contract goal. One complete set and 9 copies of this information shall be received in the office of the State Contractor Utilization Engineer no later than 12:00 noon of the sixth calendar day following opening of bids. Where the information submitted includes repetitious solicitation letters it will be acceptable to submit a representative letter along with a distribution list of the firms that were solicited. Documentation of MBE/WBE quotations shall be a part of the good faith effort submittal as necessary to demonstrate compliance with the factors listed below which the Department considers in judging good faith efforts. This documentation may include written subcontractor quotations, telephone log notations of verbal quotations, or other types of quotation documentation.

The following factors will be used to determine if the bidder has made adequate good faith effort:

- (A) Whether the bidder attended any pre-bid meetings that were scheduled by the Department to inform MBE/WBEs of subcontracting opportunities.
- (B) Whether the bidder provided solicitations through all reasonable and available means (e.g. advertising in newspapers owned and targeted to the MBE/WBEs at least 10 calendar days prior to bid opening). Whether the bidder provided written notice to all MBE/WBEs listed in the NCDOT Directory of Transportation Firms, within the Divisions and surrounding Divisions where the project is located, that specialize in the areas of work (as noted in the MBE/WBE Directory) that the bidder will be subletting.
- (C) Whether the bidder followed up initial solicitations of interests by contacting MBE/WBEs to determine with certainty whether they were interested. If a reasonable amount of MBE/WBEs within the targeted Divisions do not provide an intent to quote or no MBE/WBEs specialize in the subcontracted areas, the bidder shall notify MBE/WBEs outside of the targeted Divisions that specialize in the subcontracted areas, and call the Business Development Manager in the NCDOT Office of Civil Rights to give notification of the bidder's inability to get MBE/WBE quotes.

- (D) Whether the bidder selected portions of the work to be performed by MBE/WBEs in order to increase the likelihood of meeting the contract goals. This includes, where appropriate, breaking out contract work items into economically feasible units to facilitate MBE/WBE participation, even when the bidder might otherwise perform these work items with its own forces.
- (E) Whether the bidder provided interested MBE/WBEs with adequate and timely information about the plans, specifications and requirements of the contract.
- (F) Whether the bidder negotiated in good faith with interested MBE/WBEs without rejecting them as unqualified without sound reasons based on a thorough investigation of their capabilities. Any rejection should be noted in writing with a description as to why an agreement could not be reached.
- (G) Whether quotations were received from interested MBE/WBE firms but rejected as unacceptable without sound reasons why the quotations were considered unacceptable.
- (H) Whether the bidder specifically negotiated with subcontractors to assume part of the responsibility to meet the contract MBE/WBE goals when the work to be sublet includes potential for MBE/WBE participation.
- (I) Whether the bidder made any efforts and/or offered assistance to interested MBE/WBEs in obtaining the necessary equipment, supplies, materials, insurance, and/or bonding to satisfy the work requirements in the bid proposal.
- (J) Any other evidence that the bidder submits which show that the bidder has made reasonable good faith efforts to meet the contract goals.

If a bidder is the apparent lowest responsive bidder on more than one project within the same letting located in the same geographic area of the state, as a part of the good faith effort the Department will consider allowing the bidder to combine the MBE participation as long as the overall MBE goal value of the combined projects is achieved.

If a bidder is the apparent lowest responsive bidder on more than one project within the same letting located in the same geographic area of the state, as a part of the good faith effort the Department will consider allowing the bidder to combine the WBE participation as long as the overall WBE goal value of the combined projects is achieved.

If the Department does not award the contract to the apparent lowest responsive bidder, the Department reserves the right to award the contract to the next lowest responsive bidder that can satisfy the Department that the contract goal can be met or that adequate good faith efforts have been made to meet the goal.

Banking MBE/WBE Credit

If the bid of the lowest responsive bidder exceeds \$500,000 and if the MBE/WBE participation submitted exceeds the algebraic sum of the MBE/WBE goals by \$1000 or more, the excess will be placed on deposit by the Department for future use by the bidder. Separate accounts will be

maintained for MBE and WBE participation and these may accumulate for a period not to exceed 24 months.

When the apparent lowest responsive bidder fails to submit sufficient participation by MBE firms to meet the contract goal, as part of the good faith effort, the Department will consider allowing the bidder to withdraw funds to meet the MBE goal so long as there are adequate funds available from the bidder's MBE bank account.

When the apparent lowest responsive bidder fails to submit sufficient participation by WBE firms to meet the contract goal, as part of the good faith effort, the Department will consider allowing the bidder to withdraw funds to meet the WBE goal so long as there are adequate funds available from the bidder's WBE bank account.

MBE/WBE Replacement

The Contractor shall not terminate a committed MBE/WBE subcontractor for convenience or perform the work with its own forces or those of an affiliate. If the Contractor fails to demonstrate reasonable efforts to replace a committed MBE/WBE firm that does not perform as intended with another committed MBE/WBE firm or completes the work with its own forces without the Engineer's approval, the Contractor may be disqualified from further bidding for a period of up to 6 months.

The Contractor shall comply with the following for replacement of committed MBE/WBE.

(A) Performance Related Replacement

When a MBE/WBE is terminated or fails to complete its work on the contract for any reason, the Contractor shall take all necessary, reasonable steps to replace the MBE/WBE subcontractor with another MBE/WBE subcontractor to perform at least the same amount of work as the MBE/WBE that was terminated. The Contractor is encouraged to first attempt to find another MBE/WBE firm to do the same work as the MBE/WBE that was being terminated.

To demonstrate necessary, reasonable good faith efforts, the Contractor shall document the steps they have taken to replace any MBE/WBE subcontractor who is unable to perform successfully with another MBE/WBE subcontractor. Such documentation shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (1) Copies of written notification to MBE/WBEs that their interest is solicited in subcontracting the work defaulted by the previous MBE/WBE subcontractor or in subcontracting other items of work in the contract.
- (2) Efforts to negotiate with MBE/WBEs for specific subbids including, at a minimum:
 - (a) The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of MBE/WBEs who were contacted.

- (b) A description of the information provided to MBE/WBEs regarding the plans and specifications for portions of the work to be performed.
 - (3) For each MBE/WBE contacted but rejected as unqualified, the reasons for the Contractor's conclusion.
 - (4) Efforts made to assist the MBE/WBEs contacted, if needed, in obtaining bonding or insurance required by the Contractor.
- (B) Decertification Replacement**
- (1) When a committed MBE/WBE is decertified by the Department after a Request for Subcontract has been received by the Department, the Department will not require the Prime Contractor to solicit replacement MBE/WBE participation equal to the remaining work to be performed by the decertified firm. The participation equal to the remaining work performed by the decertified firm will count toward the contract requirement.
 - (2) When a committed MBE/WBE is decertified prior to the Department receiving a Request for Subcontract for the named MBE/WBE firm, the Prime Contractor shall take all necessary and reasonable steps to replace the MBE/WBE subcontractor with another MBE/WBE subcontractor to perform at least the same amount of work to meet the contract goal or demonstrate that it has made a good faith effort to do so.

Changes in the Work

When the Engineer makes changes that result in the reduction or elimination of work to be performed by a committed MBE/WBE, the Contractor will not be required to seek additional participation. When the Engineer makes changes that result in additional work to be performed by a MBE/WBE based upon the Contractor's commitment, the MBE/WBE shall participate in additional work to the same extent as the MBE/WBE participated in the original contract work.

When the Engineer makes changes that result in extra work, which has more than a minimal impact on the contract amount, the Contractor shall seek additional participation by MBE/WBEs unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

When the Engineer makes changes that result in an alteration of plans or details of construction and a portion or all of work had been expected to be performed by a committed MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall seek participation by MBE/WBEs unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

When the Contractor requests changes in the work that result in the reduction or elimination of work that the Contractor committed to be performed by a MBE/WBE, the Contractor shall seek additional participation by MBE/WBEs equal to the reduced MBE/WBE participation caused by the changes.

Reports

All requests for subcontracts involving MBE/WBE subcontractors shall be accompanied by a certification executed by both the Prime Contractor and the MBE/WBE subcontractor attesting to the agreed upon unit prices and extensions for the affected contract items. This information shall be submitted on the Department Form RS-1-D, located at:

<http://www.ncdot.org/doh/forms/files/FORMRS-1-D.doc> unless otherwise approved by the Engineer. The Department reserves the right to require copies of actual subcontract agreements involving MBE/WBE subcontractors.

Within 30 calendar days of entering an agreement with a MBE/WBE for materials, supplies or services, not otherwise documented by a Request for Subcontract as specified above, the Contractor shall furnish the Engineer a copy of the agreement. The documentation should also indicate the percentage (60% or 100%) of expenditures claimed for MBE/WBE credit.

All certifications will be considered a part of the project records, and consequently will be subject to penalties under State Law associated with falsifications of records related to projects.

Reporting MBE/WBE Participation

(A) The Contractor shall provide the Engineer with an accounting of payments made to MBE/WBE firms, including material suppliers, contractors at all levels (prime, subcontractor, or second tier subcontractor). This accounting shall be furnished to the Engineer for any given month by the end of the following month. Failure to submit this information accordingly may result in the following action:

- (1) Withholding of money due in the next partial pay estimate; or
- (2) Removal of an approved contractor from the prequalified bidders list or the removal of other entities from the approved subcontractors list.

(B) Electronic Bids Reporting:

The Contractor shall report the accounting of payments through the Department's Payment Tracking System, which is located at: <https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/Vendor/PaymentTracking/>. The Contractor shall also provide the Engineer an affidavit attesting the accuracy of the information submitted in the Payment Tracking System. This too shall be submitted for any given month by the end of the following month.

(C) Paper Bids Reporting:

The Contractor shall report the accounting of payments on the Department's MBE/WBE Subcontractor Payment Information Form MBE/WBE-IS, which is available at <http://www.ncdot.org/doh/forms/files/MBE/WBE-IS.xls>.

(D) Contractors reporting transportation services provided by non-MBE/WBE lessees shall evaluate the value of services provided during the month of the reporting period only.

Prior to payment of the final estimate, the Contractor shall furnish an accounting of total payment to each MBE/WBE. A responsible fiscal officer of the payee contractor, subcontractor, or second tier subcontractor who can attest to the date and amounts of the payments shall certify that the accounting is correct.

While each contractor (prime, subcontractor, 2nd tier subcontractor) is responsible for accurate accounting of payments to MBE/WBEs, it shall be the prime contractor's responsibility to report all monthly and final payment information in the correct reporting manner.

Failure on the part of the Contractor to submit the required information in the time frame specified may result in the disqualification of that contractor and any affiliate companies from further bidding until the required information is submitted.

Failure on the part of any subcontractor to submit the required information in the time frame specified may result in the disqualification of that contractor and any affiliate companies from working on any DOT project until the required information is submitted.

Failure to Meet Contract Requirements

Failure to meet contract requirements in accordance with Article 102-16(J) of the *Standard Specifications* may be cause to disqualify the Contractor.

PROGRESS SCHEDULE:

(12-18-07)

RG 70

Revise the *2006 Specifications* as follows:

Page 1-72, Article 108-2 Progress Schedule, delete in its entirety and replace with the following:

The Contractor shall prepare and submit for review and approval a schedule of proposed working progress. This schedule shall be submitted on forms supplied by the Engineer or in a format that is approved by the Engineer. A detailed Critical Path Method (CPM) schedule shall not be submitted to replace the progress schedule details required below.

The proposed progress schedule shall be submitted no later than 7 days prior to the date of the project preconstruction conference and shall be approved before any payments will be processed for the project.

When the Engineer has extended the completion date or if the project overrun is anticipated to exceed 5%, the Contractor may submit a revised progress schedule to the Engineer for review and approval. If plan revisions are anticipated to change the sequence of operations in such a manner as will effect the progress but not the completion date, then the Contractor may submit a revised progress schedule for review and approval but the completion date shall remain unchanged.

The proposed progress schedule shall contain the following items:

- (A) A time scale diagram with major work activities and milestone dates clearly labeled.
- (B) A cash curve corresponding to the milestones and work activities established above.
- (C) A written narrative that explains the sequence of work, the controlling operation(s), intermediate completion dates, milestones, project phasing, anticipated work schedule, and estimated resources. In addition, explain how permit requirements, submittal tracking, and coordination with subcontractors, utility companies and other entities will be performed.

Major work activities are defined as components comprising more than 5% of the total project cost or occupying more than 10% of total contract time and shall include, if applicable, the following:

- Clearing and grubbing
- Grading
- Drainage
- Soil stabilization
- Aggregate base course
- Pavement
- Culverts
- Bridges (including removal)
- Signals, ITS, and lighting
- Overhead signs

Major Milestones are derived from the project construction phasing and shall include, if applicable, the following:

- Start of construction
- Intermediate completion dates or times
- Seasonal limitation/observation periods/moratoriums
- Traffic shifts
- Beginning and end of each traffic control phase or work area
- Road openings
- Completion date

OUTSOURCING OUTSIDE THE USA:

(9-21-04)

RG 150

All work on consultant contracts, services contracts, and construction contracts shall be performed in the United States of America. No work shall be outsourced outside of the United States of America.

Outsourcing for the purpose of this provision is defined as the practice of subcontracting labor, work, services, staffing, or personnel to entities located outside of the United States.

The North Carolina Secretary of Transportation shall approve exceptions to this provision in writing.

ACT OF GOD

(12-19-06)

RG 151

Revise the *2006 Standard Specifications* as follows:

Page 1-69, 107-18 Contractor's Responsibility for Work, in the first paragraph, last sentence, replace the word *legally* with the word *contractually*.