

A. M/W/DSBE PARTICIPATION

1. Only firms that are certified by an approved certifying agency² and identified in the OEO Certification Registry by the time of contract award will be credited toward the participation ranges on City contracts. An OEO Certification Registry is maintained by the OEO and is available online at www.phila.gov/OEO/directory. Firms owned and controlled by minority persons, women or disabled persons, which are certified as MBE, WBE, DSBE or DBE by an approved certifying agency may apply to the OEO for listing in its OEO Certification Registry.

2. No applicant that seeks to meet the participation range(s) for participation by entering into a subcontract with any M/W/DSBE participant shall be considered to meet the range(s) if the M/W/DSBE participant does not perform a commercially useful function ("CUF"). An M/W/DSBE performs a Commercially Useful Function when it performs a distinct element of a City Contract (as required by the services to be performed in accordance with the NOCO) which is worthy of the dollar amount of the M/W/DSBE Subcontract and the M/W/DSBE carries out its responsibilities by managing and supervising the services involved and actually self-performing at least twenty percent (20%) of the services of the Subcontract with its own employees. For suppliers, an M/W/DSBE performs a Commercially Useful Function when it is responsible for sourcing the material, negotiating price, determining quality and quantity, ordering the material and paying for it from its own funds. Commercial usefulness will be evaluated and determined by the OEO on a proposal by proposal basis as informed by prevailing industry standards and the M/W/DSBE's NAIC codes. Participation that is not commercially useful will not be counted.

3. In order to maximize opportunities for as many businesses as possible, a firm that is certified in two or more categories (e.g. MBE and WBE and DSBE or WBE and DSBE) will only be credited toward one participation range as either an MBE or WBE or DSBE. The firm will not be credited toward more than one category. Applicants will note with their submission which category, MBE or WBE or DSBE, is submitted for credit.

4. An MBE/WBE/DSBE submitting as the prime applicant is required, like all other applicants, to submit a proposal that is responsive to the Policy. The M/W/DSBE Applicant will receive credit towards the participation range for its certification category (e.g., MBE range or WBE range or DSBE range). In addition, the participation of an M/W/DSBE partner, as part of a joint venture created for this contract, may be credited towards the participation ranges only to the extent of the M/W/DSBE partner's ownership interest in the joint venture in accordance with the following criteria:

- The MBE, WBE or DSBE partner(s) must be identified in the OEO Registry prior to contract award;
- The M/W/DSBE partner(s) must derive substantial benefit from the arrangement;
- The M/W/DSBE partner(s) must be substantially involved in all phases of the contract including planning, staffing and daily management;
- The business arrangement must be customary (i.e., each partner shares in the risk and profits of the joint venture commensurate with their ownership interest, contributes working capital and other resources, etc).

5. M/W/DSBE Subcontractors must perform at least twenty percent (20%) of the total amount of work to be performed under the Subcontract with their own employees.

² Approved certifying agencies are identified on the OEO webpage found at www.phila.gov/OEO. Applicant is strongly encouraged to search the Pennsylvania Unified Certification Program ("PaUCP") Directory which offers a robust listing of DBEs; the PaUCP Directory is found at www.paucp.com.

6. In listing participation commitments on the Solicitation for Participation and Commitment Form, applicants are required to list a detailed description of the services or supply effort, the dollar amount of the quotation, and percentage of the contract the participation represents. In calculating the percentage amount, applicants may apply the standard mathematical rules in rounding off numbers. The OEO reserves the right to request clarifying information from applicants in the event of an inconsistency or ambiguity in the Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form.

B. RESPONSIVENESS

1. A proposal responsive to the Policy is one which contains documentary evidence of the M/W/DSBEs that have been solicited and that will be used by the applicant on the contract, if awarded; where the proposal satisfies the M/W/DSBE participation ranges for that contract, the applicant is rebuttably presumed not to have discriminated in its selection of contract participants.

2. Applicants must submit documentary evidence of MBE, WBE and DSBEs who have been solicited and with whom commitments have been made in response to each of the participation ranges included in this NOCO. Failure to submit the Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form will result in the rejection of the proposal as nonresponsive, although the City, at its sole discretion, may allow applicants to submit or amend the Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form at any time prior to award. The Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form must contain the following information:

- Documentation of all solicitations (regardless of whether commitments resulted therefrom) as well as all commitments made on the enclosed document entitled "Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form". Applicants should only make actual solicitations of M/W/DSBEs whose services or materials are within the scope of this NOCO. Mass mailing of a general nature to M/W/DSBEs or similar methods will not be deemed solicitation, but rather will be treated as informational notification only. A reasonable period of time should be given to all solicited firms to ensure that they have sufficient time to adequately prepare their quotes/subproposals. The applicant's listing of a commitment with an M/W/DSBE constitutes a representation that the applicant has made a legally binding commitment to contract with such firm, upon receipt of a contract award from the City ("Contract Commitment").

- If the applicant has entered into a joint venture with an MBE, WBE and/or DSBE partner, the applicant is also required to submit along with the Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form, a document entitled "Joint Venture Eligibility Information Form," available at OEO, for the City's review and approval of the joint venture arrangement.

3. If Applicant does not fully meet each of the range(s) for participation established for this NOCO, applicant must demonstrate that it exercised Best and Good Faith Efforts to achieve the M/W/DSBE participation ranges along with a written request, on its letterhead, for the reduction of part or all of the M/W/DSBE participation ranges ("Request For Reduction/Waiver"). Applicant, through the submission of documentary evidence must show that applicant took all necessary steps and made reasonable efforts to achieve the M/W/DSBE participation ranges, even if these efforts were not fully successful. OEO will evaluate the scope, intensity and appropriateness of these efforts to ascertain whether they could reasonably be expected to achieve M/W/DSBE participation commensurate with the ranges. Failure to submit the documentary evidence will result in rejection of the proposal as nonresponsive; the City, at its sole discretion, may allow applicants to submit or amend their submission at any time prior to award which may result in revision to Applicant's participation commitments. The submission shall contain and discuss, at a minimum, the following:

- Reasons for not committing with any MBE/WBE/DSBEs that submitted a quote/subproposal, regardless of whether the quote/subproposal was solicited by applicant.

- Any additional evidence pertinent to applicant's conduct relating to this NOCO including sufficient evidence which demonstrates to the OEO that applicant has not engaged in discriminatory practices in the solicitation of and commitment with contract participants. In describing applicant's efforts to achieve participation within the ranges, applicant may submit any corroborating documentation (e.g., copies of advertisements for participation).

The applicant's documentary evidence will be reviewed by the OEO to determine whether applicant exercised Best and Good Faith Efforts in response to the participation ranges. Applicant's expressed desire to self-perform services with its own employees will not excuse applicant from exercising Best and Good Faith Efforts to include M/W/DSBEs in its proposal and cannot be used as a basis for requesting a reduction or waiver of the participation ranges. OEO's review will include consideration of the following:

- Applicant's contracting activities and business practices on similar public and private sector contracts. For example, if applicant rejects any M/W/DSBE based on price, applicant must fully document its reasons for the rejection and also demonstrate that applicant subjects non-M/W/DSBEs to the same pricing standards. OEO will investigate whether there was any attempt at good faith negotiation of price.

- Whether M/W/DSBEs were treated as equally as other businesses in the solicitation and commitment process. For example, the OEO will investigate whether M/W/DSBEs are given the same information, access to the plans and requirements of the contract and given adequate amount of time to prepare a quote/subproposal as others who were solicited by applicant. The OEO will also investigate whether M/W/DSBEs were accorded the same level of outreach as non-M/W/DSBEs, for example whether applicant short listed M/W/DSBEs for participation or solicited M/W/DSBEs at any pre-proposal meetings.

- Whether the applicant's contracting decisions were based upon policies which disparately affect M/W/DSBEs. OEO will ascertain whether applicant selected portions of work or material needs consistent with the capacity of available M/W/DSBE subcontractors and suppliers. OEO will consider whether applicant employed policies which facilitate the participation of M/W/DSBEs on City contracts such as segmentation of the contract or prompt payment practices.

4. After review of the applicant's submission and other information the OEO deems relevant to its evaluation, the OEO will make a written determination that will be forwarded to the awarding City Department.

- If the proposal is determined nonresponsive by the OEO, the applicant will be notified and may file a written appeal with the Executive Director of OEO within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of notification; the decision of the Executive Director of OEO shall be final.

C. RESPONSIBILITY

1. Upon award, the completed Solicitation For Participation and Commitment Form and accompanying documents regarding solicitation and commitments with MBEs, WBEs and DSBEs become part of the contract and the successful applicant is required to enter into legally binding agreement(s) ("M/W/DSBE Subcontract(s)") with its M/W/DSBE participants for the services and in the dollar amount(s) and percentage(s) as so committed (the "Contract Commitment(s)"). M/W/DSBE percentage commitments are to be maintained throughout the term of the contract and shall apply to the total contract value (including amendments). Any change in commitment, including but not limited to, substitutions for the listed firm(s), changes or reductions in the work and/or listed dollar/percentage amounts, must be pre-approved in writing by the OEO.

2. Unless otherwise specified in the M/W/DSBE Subcontract, the successful applicant shall, within five (5) business days after receipt of a payment from the City for services performed under the contract, deliver to its M/W/DSBE participants, their proportionate share of such payment for services performed (including the supply of materials). In connection with the payment of its M/W/DSBE participants, the successful applicant agrees to fully comply with the City's payment reporting process which may include the use of electronic payment verification systems.

3. No privity of contract exists between the City and any M/W/DSBE participant identified in any contract resulting from this NOCO. The City does not intend to give or confer upon any such M/W/DSBE participant(s) any legal rights or remedies in connection with the subcontracted services pursuant to Executive Order 03-12 or by reason of any contract resulting from the NOCO except such rights or

remedies that the M/W/DSBE subcontractor may seek as a private cause of action under any legally binding contract to which it may be a party.

4. If the OEO determines that the applicant has discriminated against a M/W/DSBE at any time during the term of the contract, the OEO may recommend to the Director of Finance the imposition of sanctions on the applicant including debarment of the applicant from submitting and/or participating in future City contracts for a period of up to three (3) years.

D. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

1. The OEO shall have the right to make site visits to the applicant's place of business and/or job site and obtain documents and information from any applicant, subcontractor, supplier, manufacturer or contract participant that may be required in order to ascertain applicant's responsiveness and responsibility.

2. Failure to cooperate with the OEO in its review may result in a recommendation to terminate the contract.

E. RECORDS AND REPORTS

1. The successful applicant shall maintain all books and records relating to its M/W/DSBE commitments (e.g. copies of quotations, subcontracts, joint venture agreement, correspondence, cancelled checks, invoices, telephone logs) for a period of at least three (3) years following acceptance of final payment from the City. These records shall be made available for inspection by the OEO and/or other appropriate City officials. The successful applicant agrees to submit reports and other documentation to the OEO as deemed necessary by the OEO to ascertain the successful applicant's fulfillment of its M/W/DSBE commitments.

F. REMEDIES

1. The successful applicant's compliance with the requirements of Executive Order 03-12 is material to the contract. In the event the City determines that the successful applicant has failed to comply with any of the requirements of this Antidiscrimination Policy, including substantial compliance with any Contract Commitment, the City may, in addition to any other rights and remedies it may have under the Contract which includes termination of the Contract, exercise one or more of the following remedies which shall be deemed cumulative and concurrent:

- Debar successful applicant from proposing on and/or participating in any future contracts for a maximum period of three (3) years.

- Withhold from the contract payment(s) or any part thereof until corrective action is taken. If corrective action is not taken to the satisfaction of OEO, the City may, without institution of a lawsuit, deduct money in an amount equal to the M/W/DSBE shortfall which amount shall be collected and considered not as a penalty but as liquidated damages for the successful applicant's failure to comply with the contract.

The remedies enumerated above are for the sole benefit of the City and City's failure to enforce any provision or the City's indulgence of any non-compliance with any provision hereunder, shall not operate as a waiver of any of the City's rights in connection with any contract resulting from this NOCO nor shall it give rise to actions by any third parties including identified M/W/DSBE participants.

ANTIDISCRIMINATION POLICY SOLICITATION FOR PARTICIPATION AND COMMITMENT FORM
Minority (MBE), Woman (WBE), Disabled (DSBE) and Disadvantaged (DBE) Business Enterprises

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY (OEO)

Bid Number or Proposal Title:		Name of Bidder/Proposer:		Bid/RFP Opening Date:	
Public Advocate for the City of Philadelphia Gas Commission					
List below ALL MBE/WBE/DBE/DSBEs that were solicited regardless of whether a commitment resulted therefrom. - Photocopy this form as necessary.					
<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> DSBE <input type="checkbox"/> M-DBE <input type="checkbox"/> W-DBE	Work or Supply Effort to be Performed	Date Solicited	Commitment Made	Give Reason(s) If No Commitment	
Company Name		By Phone	Yes (if Yes, give date)		
Address		By Mail	NO		
Contact Person		Quote Received	Amount Committed To		
Telephone Number		YES?	Dollar Amount		
Fax Number		NO	\$		
Email Address			Percent of Total Bid/RFP		
OEO REGISTRY #	CERTIFYING AGENCY		%		
<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> DSBE <input type="checkbox"/> M-DBE <input type="checkbox"/> W-DBE	Work or Supply Effort to be Performed	Date Solicited	Commitment Made	Give Reason(s) If No Commitment	
Company Name		By Phone	Yes (if Yes, give date)		
Address		By Mail	NO		
Contact Person		Quote Received	Amount Committed To		
Telephone Number		YES?	Dollar Amount		
Fax Number		NO	\$		
Email Address			Percent of Total Bid/RFP		
OEO REGISTRY #	CERTIFYING AGENCY		%		
<input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> DSBE <input type="checkbox"/> M-DBE <input type="checkbox"/> W-DBE	Work or Supply Effort to be Performed	Date Solicited	Commitment Made	Give Reason(s) If No Commitment	
Company Name		By Phone	Yes (if Yes, give date)		
Address		By Mail	NO		
Contact Person		Quote Received	Amount Committed To		
Telephone Number		YES?	Dollar Amount		
Fax Number		NO	\$		
Email Address			Percent of Total Bid/RFP		
OEO REGISTRY #	CERTIFYING AGENCY		%		

1. If Bidder/Proposer makes solicitation(s) and commitment(s) with a DBE, Bidder/Proposer shall indicate which class type, M-DBE or W-DBE, is submitted for credit.
 2. Attach all quotations to this form.
 09/2010