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November 15, 2022

Attn: Mr. Tyler S. Maryak U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District 696 Virginia Road Concord, MA 01742-2751 tyler.s.maryak@usace.army.mil

RE: Solicitation #W912WJ23R0002

Environmental Planning and Consulting Services

Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Small Business Contract for Various

Projects Locations Throughout the Northeastern United States

Dear Mr. Maryak,

I am writing to you on behalf of the members of the Small Environmental Business Action Coalition, Inc. (SEBAC), www.sebac.org. SEBAC serves as a voice for the small business community providing environmental engineering, remediation, and related support to the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) and other Federal agencies throughout the country. A key part of our mission is to support and promote opportunities for small businesses by monitoring the federal government's goals, policies, and regulations regarding small business participation.

As we understand, the New England District released a Total Small Business Set-aside solicitation for Environmental Planning and Consulting Services on October 17, 2022, and responses must be received by December 1, 2022. After review of the solicitation, we have several concerns regarding the response requirements.

Given that this solicitation is a small business set-aside, which falls under NAICS 541620 with a size standard of \$16.5M, the level of detail required for the response is a significant burden to any small business preparing a response. Specifically, Attachment C "Contractor Evaluations" is requesting very specific project details that most large and small businesses likely do not have easily accessible. In the decades that we have been reviewing and responding to federal solicitations, we have never witnessed a request for the level of detail that the New England District is requiring, nonetheless, for a small business set-aside. Additionally, the information in Attachment C is not even factored into the list of proposal evaluation factors. Representing a number of small businesses that meet the requirements under NAICS 541620 and offer the skills necessary to successfully complete this work, SEBAC is requesting that Attachment C be removed from the response requirements.

The responses to questions (dated October 26, 2022) were posted to SAM.gov on November 4, 2022. As we understand, the District has not responded to all the questions submitted, many of which the answers will determine the course and strategy of the proposal submission. SEBAC

respectfully asks that this IDIQ response date be extended to two weeks after the remaining responses to questions are posted.

We appreciate your consideration for this request, and I would kindly ask that you provide an acknowledgement of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if I can be of any further service or provide additional information in support of our position on this matter: I can be reached at jdwyer@sebac.org. We look forward to engaging you in a dialogue, and we thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John M. Dwyer
President