

	U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Cooperative Agreement	GRANT NUMBER (FAIN): 95323701 MODIFICATION NUMBER: 0 PROGRAM CODE: BF	DATE OF AWARD 08/03/2023
		TYPE OF ACTION New	MAILING DATE 08/08/2023
		PAYMENT METHOD: ASAP	ACH# PEND
		RECIPIENT TYPE: Not for Profit	
RECIPIENT: CLARION COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 160 S Second Avenue, Suite 3 Clarion, PA 16214-2444 EIN: 25-1237688		PAYEE: CLARION COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 160 S Second Avenue, Suite 3 Clarion, PA 16214-2444	
PROJECT MANAGER Jarred Heuer 160 S Second Avenue, Suite 3 Clarion, PA 16214-2444 Email: jarred@clarioncountyedc.com Phone: 814-226-9045		EPA PROJECT OFFICER Anthony Geiger Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, 3LD00 Philadelphia, PA 19103-2852 Email: Geiger.Anthony@epa.gov Phone: 215-814-3367	
EPA GRANT SPECIALIST Bobbi Robinson Grants Management Section, 3MD22 Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103-2852 Email: Robinson.Bobbi@epa.gov Phone: 215-814-2107			
PROJECT TITLE AND DESCRIPTION Community-wide environmental assessment of brownfield sites This agreement will provide funding for Clarion County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) to conduct eligible assessment-related activities as authorized by CERLCA 104(k)(2) in Clarion County, Pennsylvania. Brownfields are real property, the expansion, development or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Specifically, this agreement will provide funding to the recipient to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct cleanup planning and community involvement related activities. Additionally, the recipient will competitively procure (as needed) and direct a Qualified Environmental Professional to conduct environmental site activities. Also, the recipient will report on interim progress and final accomplishments by completing and submitting relevant portions of the Property Profile Form using EPA's Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES). Further, the recipient anticipates conducting twenty (20) Phase I and nine (9) Phase II environmental site assessments, holding five (5) community meetings, developing four (4) Remedial Action Plans to initiate brownfields revitalization, and submitting seventeen (17) quarterly reports. Work conducted under this agreement will benefit the residents, business owners, and stakeholders in and near Clarion County, Pennsylvania. No subawards are included in this assistance agreement.			
BUDGET PERIOD 07/01/2023 - 09/30/2027	PROJECT PERIOD 07/01/2023 - 09/30/2027	TOTAL BUDGET PERIOD COST \$500,000.00	TOTAL PROJECT PERIOD COST \$500,000.00
NOTICE OF AWARD			
Based on your Application dated 06/26/2023 including all modifications and amendments, the United States acting by and through the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby awards \$500,000.00. EPA agrees to cost-share <u>100.00%</u> of all approved budget period costs incurred, up to and not exceeding total federal funding of \$500,000.00. Recipient's signature is not required on this agreement. The recipient demonstrates its commitment to carry out this award by either: 1) drawing down funds within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date; or 2) not filing a notice of disagreement with the award terms and conditions within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. If the recipient disagrees with the terms and conditions specified in this award, the authorized representative of the recipient must furnish a notice of disagreement to the EPA Award Official within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. In case of disagreement, and until the disagreement is resolved, the recipient should not draw down on the funds provided by this award/amendment, and any costs incurred by the recipient are at its own risk. This agreement is subject to applicable EPA regulatory and statutory provisions, all terms and conditions of this agreement and any attachments.			
ISSUING OFFICE (GRANTS MANAGEMENT OFFICE)		AWARD APPROVAL OFFICE	
ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS U.S. EPA, Region 3 , US EPA Region 3, 3MD22 Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103-2852		ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS U.S. EPA, Region 3, LCRD 3LD00 R3 - Region 3 Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19103-2852	
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY			
Digital signature applied by EPA Award Official Jacqueline Guerry - Acquisition and Assistance Branch, Chief			DATE 08/03/2023

EPA Funding Information

FUNDS	FORMER AWARD	THIS ACTION	AMENDED TOTAL
EPA Amount This Action	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000
EPA In-Kind Amount	\$0	\$0	\$0
Unexpended Prior Year Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Recipient Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Contribution	\$0	\$0	\$0
Allowable Project Cost	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000

Assistance Program (CFDA)	Statutory Authority	Regulatory Authority
66.818 - Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements	CERCLA: Secs. 104(k)(2) & 104(k)(5)(E)	2 CFR 200, 2 CFR 1500 and 40 CFR 33

Fiscal									
Site Name	Req No	FY	Approp. Code	Budget Organization	PRC	Object Class	Site/Project	Cost Organization	Obligation / Deobligation
-	2303BF0022	23	E4	0300AG7	000D79	4114	-	-	\$500,000
									\$500,000

Budget Summary Page

Table A - Object Class Category (Non-Construction)	Total Approved Allowable Budget Period Cost
1. Personnel	\$25,300
2. Fringe Benefits	\$0
3. Travel	\$4,600
4. Equipment	\$0
5. Supplies	\$2,200
6. Contractual	\$467,900
7. Construction	\$0
8. Other	\$0
9. Total Direct Charges	\$500,000
10. Indirect Costs: 0.00 % Base	\$0
11. Total (Share: Recipient <u>0.00</u> % Federal <u>100.00</u> %)	\$500,000
12. Total Approved Assistance Amount	\$500,000
13. Program Income	\$0
14. Total EPA Amount Awarded This Action	\$500,000
15. Total EPA Amount Awarded To Date	\$500,000

Administrative Conditions

General Terms and Conditions

The recipient agrees to comply with the current EPA general terms and conditions available at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-general-terms-and-conditions-effective-october-1-2022-or-later>.

These terms and conditions are in addition to the assurances and certifications made as a part of the award and the terms, conditions, or restrictions cited throughout the award.

The EPA repository for the general terms and conditions by year can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/grant-terms-and-conditions#general>.

A. Correspondence Condition

The terms and conditions of this agreement require the submittal of reports, specific requests for approval, or notifications to EPA. Unless otherwise noted, all such correspondence should be sent to the following email addresses:

- Federal Financial Reports (SF-425): RTPFC-Grants@epa.gov with a copy to grant specialist of record.
- MBE/WBE reports (EPA Form 5700-52A): [R3 MBE-WBE Reports@epa.gov](mailto:R3_MBE-WBE_Reports@epa.gov).
- All other forms/certifications/assurances, Indirect Cost Rate Agreements, Requests for Extensions of the Budget and Project Period, Amendment Requests, Requests for other Prior Approvals, updates to recipient information (including email addresses, changes in contact information or changes in authorized representatives) and other notifications: Grant specialist and project officer of record.
- Payment requests (if applicable): RTPFC-Grants@epa.gov
- Quality Assurance documents, workplan revisions, equipment lists, programmatic reports and deliverables: project officer of record.

B. Pre-Award Costs

In accordance with 2 CFR 1500.9, the recipient may charge otherwise allowable pre-award costs (both Federal and non-Federal matching shares) incurred from 7/01/2023 to the actual award date provided that such costs were contained in the approved application and all costs are incurred within the approved budget period.

Programmatic Conditions

FY23 Brownfields Community-wide Assessment Cooperative Agreement Terms and Conditions

Please note that these Terms and Conditions (T&Cs) apply to Brownfield Assessment Cooperative Agreements awarded under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) § 104(k).

I. GENERAL FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: For the purposes of these Terms and Conditions, the term “assessment” includes eligible activities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) § 104(k)(2)(A)(i) such as activities involving the inventory, characterization, assessment, and planning relating to brownfield sites as described in the EPA-approved workplan.

A. Federal Policy and Guidance

1. Cooperative Agreement Recipients: By awarding this cooperative agreement, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved the application for the Cooperative Agreement Recipient (CAR) submitted in the Fiscal Year 2023 competition for Brownfield Assessment cooperative agreements.
2. In implementing this agreement, the CAR shall ensure that work done with cooperative agreement funds complies with the requirements of CERCLA § 104(k). The CAR shall also ensure that assessment activities supported with cooperative agreement funding comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
3. A term and condition or other legally binding provision shall be included in all subawards entered into with the funds awarded under this agreement, or when funds awarded under this agreement are used in combination with non-federal sources of funds, to ensure that the CAR complies with all applicable federal and state laws and requirements. In addition to CERCLA § 104(k), applicable federal laws and requirements include 2 CFR Part 200.
4. The CAR must comply with federal cross-cutting requirements. These requirements include, but are not limited to, DBE requirements found at 40 CFR Part 33; OSHA Worker Health & Safety Standard 29 CFR § 1910.120; Uniform Relocation Act (40 USC § 61); National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC § 470); Endangered Species Act (P.L. 93-205); Permits required by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act; Executive Order 11246, Equal Employment Opportunity, and implementing regulations at 41 CFR § 60-4; Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, as amended (40 USC §§ 327-333); the Anti-Kickback Act (40 USC § 276c); and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as implemented by Executive Orders 11914 and 11250. For additional information on cross-cutting requirements visit <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-subaward-cross-cutter-requirements>.
5. The CAR must comply with Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage requirements and associated U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) regulations for all construction, alteration, and repair contracts and subcontracts awarded with funds provided under this agreement by operation of CERCLA § 104(g). Assessment activities generally do not involve construction, alteration, and repair within the meaning of the Davis-Bacon Act. However, the recipient must contact the EPA Project Officer if there are unique circumstances (e.g., removal of an underground storage tank or another structure and restoration of the site) that indicate that the Davis-Bacon Act applies to an activity the CAR intends to carry out with funds provided under this agreement. EPA will provide guidance on Davis-Bacon Act compliance if necessary.

II. SITE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All brownfield sites that will be addressed using funds from the cooperative agreement must be located within the geographic boundary described in the scope of work for this cooperative agreement (i.e., the EPA-approved workplan).

A. Eligible Brownfield Site Determinations

1. Prior to performing site work, the CAR must provide information to the EPA Project Officer about each site that will be addressed under this cooperative agreement. The CAR may use cooperative agreement funds to prepare information that is provided to the EPA Project Officer. The information that must be provided includes whether the site meets the definition of a brownfield site as defined in CERCLA § 101(39), and whether the CAR is the potentially responsible party under CERCLA § 107, is exempt from CERCLA liability, and/or has defenses to CERCLA liability.
2. If the site is excluded from the general definition of a brownfield, but is eligible for a property-specific funding determination, then the CAR may request a property-specific funding determination from the EPA Project Officer. In its request, the CAR must provide information sufficient for EPA to make a property-specific funding determination on how financial assistance will protect human health and the environment, and either promote economic development or enable the creation of, preservation of, or addition to parks, greenways, undeveloped property, other recreational property, or other property used for nonprofit purposes. The CAR must not incur costs for assessing sites requiring a property-specific funding determination by EPA until the EPA Project Officer has advised the CAR that EPA has determined that the property is eligible.

3. Brownfield Sites Contaminated with Petroleum

- a. For any petroleum-contaminated brownfield site that is not included in the CAR's EPA-approved workplan, the CAR shall provide sufficient documentation to EPA prior to incurring costs under this cooperative agreement which documents that:
 - i. the State determines there is "no viable responsible party" for the site;
 - ii. the State determines that the person assessing or investigating the site is a person who is not potentially liable for cleaning up the site; and
 - iii. the site is not subject to any order issued under Section 9003(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

This documentation must be prepared by the CAR or the State, following contact and discussion with the appropriate state petroleum program official. Please contact the EPA Project Officer for additional information.

b. Documentation must include:

- i. the identity of the State program official contacted;
- ii. the State official's telephone number;
- iii. the date of the contact; and
- iv. a summary of the discussion relating to the State's determination that there is no viable responsible party and that the person assessing or investigating the site is not potentially liable for cleaning up the site.

Other documentation provided by a State to the recipient relevant to any of the determinations by the State must also be provided to the EPA Project Officer.

- c. If the State chooses not to make the determinations described in Section II.A.3. above, the CAR must contact the EPA Project Officer and provide the necessary information for EPA to make the requisite determinations.

d. EPA will make all determinations on the eligibility of petroleum-contaminated brownfield sites located on tribal lands (i.e., reservation lands or lands otherwise in Indian country, as defined at 18 U.S.C. § 1151). Before incurring costs for these sites, the CAR must contact the EPA Project Officer and provide the necessary information for EPA to make the determinations.

III. GENERAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

A. Sufficient Progress

1. This condition supplements the requirements of the Termination and Sufficient Progress Conditions in the General Terms and Conditions.

The EPA Project Officer will assess whether the recipient is making sufficient progress in implementing its cooperative agreement 18 months and 30 months from the date of award. If EPA determines that the CAR has not made sufficient progress in implementing its cooperative agreement, the CAR, if directed to do so, must implement a corrective action plan concurred on by the EPA Project Officer and approved by the Grants Management Officer or Award Official. Alternatively, EPA may terminate this agreement under 2 CFR § 200.340 for material non-compliance with its terms, or with the consent of the CAR as provided at 2 CFR § 200.340, depending on the circumstances.

Sufficient progress at 18 months is indicated when:

at least 25% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed for eligible activities;

a Qualified Environmental Professional(s) has been procured;

sites are prioritized or an inventory has been initiated (unless site prioritization or an inventory was completed prior to award);

community engagement activities have been initiated; and/or

other documented activities have occurred that demonstrate to EPA's satisfaction that the CAR will successfully perform the cooperative agreement.

Sufficient progress at 30 months is indicated when:

at least 45% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed for eligible activities;

assessments on at least two sites have been initiated; and/or

other documented activities have occurred that demonstrate to EPA's satisfaction that the CAR will successfully perform the cooperative agreement.

B. Substantial Involvement

1. The EPA Project Officer will be substantially involved in overseeing and monitoring this cooperative agreement. Substantial involvement, includes, but is not limited to:

a. Close monitoring of the CAR's performance to verify compliance with the EPA-approved workplan and achievement of environmental results.

- b. Participation in periodic telephone conference calls to share ideas, project successes and challenges, etc., with EPA.
- c. Reviewing and commenting on quarterly and annual reports prepared under the cooperative agreement (the final decision on the content of reports rests with the recipient or subrecipients receiving pass-through awards).
- d. Verifying sites meet applicable site eligibility criteria (including property-specific funding determinations described in Section II.A.2.) and when the CAR awards a subaward for site assessment. The CAR must obtain technical assistance from the EPA Project Officer, or his/her designee, on which sites qualify as a brownfield site and determine whether the statutory prohibitions found in CERCLA § 104(k)(5)(B)(i)-(iv) apply. (Note, the prohibition does not allow a subrecipient to use EPA cooperative agreement funds to assess a site for which the subrecipient is potentially liable under CERCLA § 107.)
- e. Reviewing and approving Quality Assurance Project Plans and related documents or verifying that appropriate Quality Assurance requirements have been met where quality assurance activities are being conducted pursuant to an EPA-approved Quality Assurance Management Plan.

Substantial involvement may also include, depending on the direction of the EPA Project Officer:

- f. Collaboration during the performance of the scope of work including participation in project activities, to the extent permissible under EPA policies. Examples of collaboration include:
 - i. Consultation between EPA staff and the CAR on effective methods of carrying out the scope of work provided the CAR makes the final decision on how to perform authorized activities.
 - ii. Advice from EPA staff on how to access publicly available information on EPA or other federal agency websites.
 - iii. With the consent of the CAR, EPA staff may provide technical advice to the CAR's contractors or subrecipients provided the CAR approves any expenditures of funds necessary to follow advice from EPA staff. (The CAR remains accountable for performing contract and subaward management as specified in 2 CFR § 200.318 and 2 CFR § 200.332 as well as the terms of the EPA cooperative agreement.)
 - iv. EPA staff participation in meetings, webinars, and similar events upon the request of the CAR or in connection with a co-sponsorship agreement.
- g. Reviewing and approving that the Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA), or equivalent state Brownfields program document, meets the Brownfields Program's requirements for an ABCA.
- h. Reviewing proposed procurements in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.325, as well as the substantive terms of proposed contracts or subawards as appropriate. This may include reviewing requests for proposals, invitations for bid, scopes of work and/or plans and specifications for contracts over \$250,000 prior to advertising for bids.
- i. Reviewing the qualifications of key personnel. (EPA does not have the authority to select employees or contractors, including consultants, employed by the CAR or subrecipients receiving pass-through awards.)
- j. Reviewing information in performance reports to ensure all costs incurred by the CAR and/or its contractor(s) if needed to ensure appropriate expenditure of grant funds.

EPA may waive any of the provisions in Section III.B.1., except for property-specific funding determinations. The EPA

Project Officer will provide waivers to provisions a. – e. in Section III.B.1 in writing.

2. Effects of EPA's substantial involvement include:

- a. EPA's review of any project phase, document, or cost incurred under this cooperative agreement will not have any effect upon CERCLA § 128 *Eligible Response Site* determinations or rights, authorities, and actions under CERCLA or any federal statute.
- b. The CAR remains responsible for ensuring that all assessments are protective of human health and the environment and comply with all applicable federal and state laws.
- c. The CAR and its subrecipients remain responsible for ensuring costs are allowable under 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E.

C. Cooperative Agreement Recipient Roles and Responsibilities

1. All additional sites selected for eligible activities throughout the period of performance (i.e., sites that were not identified in the workplan) must be located within the geographic boundary(ies) identified by the CAR in the workplan.

Consistent with the FY23 Community-wide Assessment Grant Guidelines, criteria for selecting additional sites must at least consider whether the site is located within an underserved community in addition to considering the prioritization criteria identified in the FY23 application, the workplan, or developed during implementation of the workplan. Note, criteria developed during the implementation of the workplan must lead to the CAR addressing sites in areas with similar characteristics as the areas discussed in the FY23 application.

2. The CAR is responsible for ensuring that funding received under this cooperative agreement does not exceed the statutory \$200,000 funding limitation for an individual brownfield site. Waiver of this funding limit for a brownfield site must be submitted to the EPA Project Officer and approved prior to the expenditure of funding exceeding \$200,000. In no case may funding for site-specific assessment activities exceed \$350,000 on a site receiving a waiver.

CARs expending funding from a Community-wide Assessment cooperative agreement must include this amount in any total funding expended on the site.

3. If the CAR's workplan includes eligible planning activities to prepare a brownfield site for reuse (see <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/information-eligible-planning-activities> for eligible planning activities), the CAR must demonstrate meaningful community engagement in the reuse planning of brownfields assessed under the grant. Meaningful community engagement is demonstrated by actively including local nonprofit organizations, citizen leaders, or similar local groups/entities in brownfield reuse planning.

4. CARs, other than state entities, that procure a contractor(s) (including consultants) where the contract will be more than the micro-purchase threshold in 2 CFR § 200.320(a)(1) (\$10,000 for most CARs) must select the contractor(s) in compliance with the fair and open competition requirements in 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500. This requirement also applies to procurement processes that were completed before the award of this cooperative agreement. See the [Brownfields Grants: Guidance on Competitively Procuring a Contractor](#) for additional information.

CARs may procure multiple contractors to ensure the appropriate expertise is in place to perform work under the agreement (e.g., expertise to conduct site assessment activities vs. planning activities) and to allow the ability for work be performed concurrently at multiple sites within the defined and approved geographic boundary.

5. The CAR must acquire the services of a Qualified Environmental Professional(s) as defined in 40 CFR § 312.10, if it does not have such a professional on staff to coordinate, direct, and oversee the brownfield site assessment activities at a given site.

6. Cybersecurity – The recipient agrees that when collecting and managing environmental data under this cooperative agreement, it will protect the data by following all applicable State or Tribal law cybersecurity requirements.

a. EPA must ensure that any connections between the recipient's network or information system and EPA networks used by the recipient to transfer data under this agreement are secure. For purposes of this section, a connection is defined as a dedicated persistent interface between an Agency IT system and an external IT system for the purpose of transferring information. Transitory, user-controlled connections such as website browsing are excluded from this definition.

If the recipient's connections as defined above do not go through the Environmental Information Exchange Network or EPA's Central Data Exchange, the recipient agrees to contact the EPA Project Officer no later than 90 days after the date of this award and work with the designated Regional/ Headquarters Information Security Officer to ensure that the connections meet EPA security requirements, including entering into Interconnection Service Agreements as appropriate. This condition does not apply to manual entry of data by the recipient into systems operated and used by EPA's regulatory programs for the submission of reporting and/or compliance data.

b. The recipient agrees that any subawards it makes under this agreement will require the subrecipient to comply with the requirements in Cybersecurity Section a. above if the subrecipient's network or information system is connected to EPA networks to transfer data to the Agency using systems other than the Environmental Information Exchange Network or EPA's Central Data Exchange. The recipient will be in compliance with this condition: by including this requirement in subaward agreements; and during subrecipient monitoring deemed necessary by the recipient under 2 CFR § 200.332(d), by inquiring whether the subrecipient has contacted the EPA Project Officer. Nothing in this condition requires the recipient to contact the EPA Project Officer on behalf of a subrecipient or to be involved in the negotiation of an Interconnection Service Agreement between the subrecipient and EPA.

9. All geospatial data created must be consistent with Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) endorsed standards. Information on these standards may be found at www.fgdc.gov.

D. Quarterly Performance Reports

1. In accordance with EPA regulations 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500 (specifically, § 200.329, *Monitoring and Reporting Program Performance*), the CAR agrees to submit quarterly performance reports to the EPA Project Officer within 30 days after each reporting period. The reporting periods are October 1 – December 31 (1st quarter); January 1 – March 31 (2nd quarter); April 1 – June 30 (3rd quarter); and July 1 – September 30 (4th quarter).

These reports shall cover work status, work progress, difficulties encountered, preliminary data results and a statement of activity anticipated during the subsequent reporting period, including a description of equipment, techniques, and materials to be used or evaluated. A discussion of expenditures and financial status for each workplan task, along with a comparison of the percentage of the project completed to the project schedule and an explanation of significant discrepancies from the EPA-approved workplan and budget shall be included in the report. The report shall also include any changes of key personnel concerned with the project that were approved by the EPA Grants Management Officer or Award Official. (Note, as provided at 2 CFR § 200.308, *Revision of budget and program*, the CAR must seek prior approval from the EPA Grants Management Officer or Award Official for a change in a key person.)

The CAR shall refer to and utilize the Quarterly Reporting function within the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) to submit quarterly reports unless approval is obtained from the EPA Project Officer to use an alternate format for reports.

2. The CAR must submit performance reports on a quarterly basis in ACRES using the Assessment Quarterly Report function or to the EPA Project Officer. Quarterly performance reports must include:

- a. A summary that clearly differentiates between activities completed with EPA funds provided under the Brownfield Assessment cooperative agreement and related activities completed with other sources of leveraged funding.
- b. A summary and status of approved activities performed during the reporting quarter; a summary of the performance outputs/outcomes achieved during the reporting quarter; and a description of problems encountered during the reporting quarter that may affect the project schedule.
- c. A comparison of actual accomplishments to the anticipated outputs/outcomes specified in the EPA-approved workplan and reasons why anticipated outputs/outcomes were not met.
- d. An update on the project schedule and milestones, including an explanation of any discrepancies from the EPA-approved workplan.
- e. A list of the properties where assessment and/or planning activities were performed and/or completed during the reporting quarter.
- f. A budget summary table with the following information: current approved project budget; EPA funds drawn down during the reporting quarter; costs drawn down to date (cumulative expenditures); program income generated and used (if applicable) (i.e., program income received and disbursed during the reporting quarter and during the entire cooperative agreement, and the amount of program income remaining); and total remaining funds. The budget summary table must include costs that are charged to the "other" budget object class category (e.g., participant support costs, subawards, etc.).

The CAR shall include an explanation of any discrepancies in the budget from the EPA-approved workplan, cost overruns or high unit costs, and other pertinent information. The CAR shall include a statement on funding transfers [2] among direct budget categories or programs, functions and activities that occurred during the quarter and cumulatively during the period of performance.

Note: Each property where assessment activities were performed and/or completed must have its corresponding information updated in ACRES (or via the Property Profile Form with prior approval from the EPA Project Officer) prior to submitting the quarterly performance report (see Section III.E. below).

3 The CAR must maintain records that will enable it to report to EPA on the amount of funds disbursed by the CAR to assess the specific properties under this cooperative agreement.

4. In accordance with 2 CFR § 200.329(e)(1), the CAR agrees to inform EPA as soon as problems, delays, or adverse conditions become known which will materially impair the ability to meet the outputs/outcomes specified in the EPA-approved workplan.

E. Property Profile Submission

1. The CAR must report on interim progress (e.g., assessments started, reuse planning activities started) and any final

accomplishments (e.g., assessments completed, clean up required, contaminants found, institutional controls required, engineering controls required) by completing and submitting relevant portions of the electronic Property Profile Form using the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES). The CAR must enter the data in ACRES as soon as the interim action or final accomplishment has occurred, or within 30 days after the end of each reporting quarter. The CAR must enter any new data into ACRES prior to submitting the quarterly performance report to the EPA Project Officer. The CAR must utilize the electronic version of the Property Profile Form in ACRES unless approval is obtained from the EPA Project Officer to use the hardcopy version of the Property Profile Form or its use is included in the approved workplan.

F. Final Cooperative Agreement Performance Report with Environmental Results

1. In accordance with EPA regulations 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500 (specifically, § 200.329, *Monitoring and Reporting Program Performance* and 2 CFR § 200.344(a), *Closeout*), the CAR agrees to submit to the EPA Project Officer within 120 days after the expiration or termination of the approved project period a final performance report on the cooperative agreement via email; unless the EPA Project Officer agrees to accept a paper copy of the report. The final performance report shall document and summarize the elements listed in Section III.D.2., as appropriate, for activities that occurred over the entire project period.

IV. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Eligible Uses of the Funds for the Cooperative Agreement Recipient

1. To the extent allowable under the EPA-approved workplan, cooperative agreement funds may be used for eligible programmatic expenses to inventory, characterize, assess sites; conduct site-specific planning, general brownfield-related planning activities around one or more brownfield sites; conduct outreach and community engagement; and for reasonable participant support costs associated with one community liaison per target area identified in the selected FY23 application. Eligible programmatic expenses include activities described in Section V. of these Terms and Conditions. In addition, eligible programmatic expenses may include:

- a. Determining whether assessment activities at a particular site are authorized by CERCLA § 104(k).
- b. Ensuring that an assessment complies with applicable requirements under federal and state laws, as required by CERCLA § 104(k).
- c. Preparing and updating an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) which will include information about the site and contamination issues, cleanup standards, applicable laws, alternatives considered, and the proposed cleanup.
- d. Preparing a Community Involvement Plan which includes reasonable notice, opportunity for public involvement and comment on the proposed cleanup, and response to comments.
- e. Developing a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) as required by 2 CFR § 1500.12. The specific requirement for a QAPP is outlined in *Implementation of Quality Assurance Requirements for Organizations Receiving EPA Financial Assistance* available at <https://www.epa.gov/grants/implementation-quality-assurance-requirements-organizations-receiving-epa-financial>.
- f. Using a portion of the cooperative agreement funds to purchase environmental insurance for the characterization or assessment of the site. [Funds shall not be used to purchase insurance intended to provide coverage for any of the ineligible uses under Section IV., *Ineligible Uses of the Funds for the Cooperative Agreement Recipient*.]

g. Any other eligible programmatic costs, including direct costs incurred by the recipient in reporting to EPA; procuring and managing contracts; awarding, monitoring, and managing subawards to the extent required to comply with 2 CFR § 200.332 and the “Establishing and Managing Subawards” General Term and Condition; and carrying out community engagement pertaining to the assessment activities.

3. Under CERCLA § 104(k)(5)(E), CARs and subrecipients may use up to 5% of the amount of federal funding for this cooperative agreement for administrative costs, including indirect costs under 2 CFR § 200.414. The limit on administrative costs for the CAR under this agreement is **\$25,000**. The total amount of indirect costs and any direct costs for cooperative agreement administration by the CAR paid for by EPA under the cooperative agreement shall not exceed this amount. Subrecipients may use up to 5% of the amount of Federal funds in their subawards for administrative costs. As required by 2 CFR § 200.403(d), the CAR and subrecipients must classify administrative costs as direct or indirect consistently and shall not classify the same types of costs in both categories. The term “administrative costs” does not include:

- a. Investigation and identification of the extent of contamination of a brownfield site;
- b. design and performance of a response action; or
- c. monitoring of a natural resource.

Eligible cooperative agreement and subaward administrative costs subject to the 5% limitation include direct costs for:

- a. Costs incurred to comply with the following provisions of the *Uniform Administrative Requirements for Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* at 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500 other than those identified as programmatic.
 - i. Record-keeping associated with equipment purchases required under 2 CFR § 200.313;
 - ii. Preparing revisions and changes in the budgets, scopes of work, program plans and other activities required under 2 CFR § 200.308;
 - iii. Maintaining and operating financial management systems required under 2 CFR § 200.302;
 - iv. Preparing payment requests and handling payments under 2 CFR § 200.305;
 - v. Financial reporting under 2 CFR § 200.328;
 - vi. Non-federal audits required under 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F; and
 - vii. Closeout under 2 CFR § 200.344 with the exception of preparing the recipient’s final performance report. Costs for preparing this report are programmatic and are not subject to the 5% limitation on direct administrative costs.
- b. Pre-award costs for preparation of the proposal and application for this cooperative agreement (including the final workplan) or applications for subawards are not allowable as direct costs but may be included in the CAR’s or subrecipient’s indirect cost pool to the extent authorized by 2 CFR § 200.460.

B. Ineligible Uses of the Funds for the Cooperative Agreement Recipient

1. Cooperative agreement funds shall not be used by the CAR for any of the following activities:

- a. Cleanup activities;
- b. Site development activities that are not brownfield site assessment activities (e.g., marketing of property (activities or products created specifically to attract buyers or investors) or construction of a new facility);
- c. General community visioning, area-wide zoning updates, design guideline development, master planning, green infrastructure, infrastructure service delivery, and city-wide or comprehensive planning/plan updates – these activities are all ineligible uses of grant funds if unrelated to advancing cleanup and reuse of brownfield sites or sites to be assessed. Note: for these types of activities to be an eligible use of grant funds, there must be a specific nexus between the activity and how it will help further cleanup and reuse of the priority brownfield site(s). This nexus must be clearly described in the workplan for the project;
- d. Job training activities unrelated to performing a specific assessment at a site covered by the cooperative agreement;
- e. To pay for a penalty or fine;
- f. To pay a federal cost share requirement (e.g., a cost share required by another federal grant) unless there is specific statutory authority;
- g. To pay for a response cost at a brownfield site for which the CAR or subaward recipient is potentially liable under CERCLA § 107;
- h. To pay a cost of compliance with any federal law, excluding the cost of compliance with laws applicable to the assessment; and
- i. Unallowable costs (e.g., lobbying and purchases of alcoholic beverages) under 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E.

2. Cooperative agreement funds shall not be used for any of the following properties:

- a. Facilities listed, or proposed for listing, on the National Priorities List (NPL);
- b. Facilities subject to unilateral administrative orders, court orders, and administrative orders on consent or judicial consent decree issued to or entered by parties under CERCLA;
- c. Facilities that are subject to the jurisdiction, custody or control of the United States government except for land held in trust by the United States government for an Indian tribe; or
- d. A site excluded from the definition of a brownfield site for which EPA has not made a property-specific funding determination.

V. ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

A. Authorized Assessment Activities

1. Prior to conducting or engaging in any on-site activity with the potential to impact historic properties (such as invasive sampling), the CAR shall consult with the EPA Project Officer regarding potential applicability of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 USC § 470) and, if applicable, shall assist EPA in complying with any requirements of the NHPA and implementing regulations.

2. If funds from this cooperative agreement are used to prepare an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA), or equivalent state Brownfields program document, the CAR must include information about the site and contamination issues (i.e., exposure pathways, identification of contaminant sources, etc.); cleanup standards; applicable laws; alternatives considered; and the proposed cleanup. The evaluation of alternatives must include effectiveness, ability to implement, and the cost of the response proposed. The evaluation of alternatives must also consider the resilience of the remedial options to address potential adverse impacts caused by extreme weather events (e.g., sea level rise, increased frequency and intensity of flooding, etc.). The alternatives may additionally consider the degree to which they reduce greenhouse gas discharges, reduce energy use or employ alternative energy sources, reduce volume of wastewater generated/disposed of, reduce volume of materials taken to landfills, and recycle and re-use materials generated during the cleanup process to the maximum extent practicable. The evaluation will include an analysis of reasonable alternatives including no action. The cleanup method chosen must be based on this analysis.

B. Quality Assurance (QA) Requirements

1. When environmental data are collected as part of the brownfield cleanup (e.g., cleanup verification sampling, post-cleanup confirmation sampling), the CAR shall comply with 2 CFR § 1500.12 requirements to develop and implement quality assurance practices sufficient to produce data adequate to meet project objectives and to minimize data loss. State law may impose additional QA requirements.
2. Assistance Agreement Recipients that are entering into the State's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) may follow the EPA approved State Quality Assurance Program as long the CA recipient attests to following the State's plan. This is typically applicable for sites currently going through or are anticipated to be entered in the appropriate State VCP. Recipients should contact the EPA Project Officer to review the requirements and to receive the attestation memo for this quality assurance approach. In such case in which the proper attestation signatures cannot be obtained, Recipients implementing environmental programs within the scope of the assistance agreement must submit to the EPA Project Officer and approval Quality Assurance Program Plan/Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPrP/QAPP) at least 90 days prior to the initiation of data collection in the field.
3. The QAPP should be prepared in accordance with [EPA QA/R-5: EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans](#). No environmental data collection or data compilation may occur until the QAPP is approved by the EPA Project Officer and Quality Assurance Regional Manager. Additional information on the requirements can be found at the EPA Office of Grants and Debarment website at <https://www.epa.gov/grants/implementation-quality-assurance-requirements-organizations-receiving-epa-financial>.
4. The recipient shall continue to implement and adhere to the Quality Management Plan (QMP), based on the [EPA QA/R-2: EPA Requirements for Quality Management Plans](#), submitted to the EPA Project Officer within 90 days of the award. In accordance with EPA QA/R-2 Section 2.7: Recipient must review its QMP at least annually to reconfirm the suitability and effectiveness of the approved quality management practices. QMP review results and/or revisions made must be submitted to EPA Project Officer and QA contact at least annually but may be submitted when the changes occur. Significant changes made to the quality system that affect the performance of work for the Agency requiring the revision of an approved QMP are listed in EPA QA/R-2 Section 2.6.
5. **Competency of Organizations Generating Environmental Measurement Data:** In accordance with Agency Policy Directive Number FEM-2012-02, *Policy to Assure the Competency of Organizations Generating Environmental Measurement Data under Agency-Funded Assistance Agreements*, the CAR agrees, by entering into this agreement, that it has demonstrated competency prior to award, or alternatively, where a pre-award demonstration of competency is not practicable, the CAR agrees to demonstrate competency prior to carrying out any activities under the award involving the

generation or use of environmental data. The CAR shall maintain competency for the duration of the project period of this agreement and this will be documented during the annual reporting process. A copy of the Policy is available online at http://www.epa.gov/fem/lab_comp.htm or a copy may also be requested by contacting the EPA Project Officer for this award.

C. Public Awareness

1. The CAR agrees to clearly reference EPA investments in the project during all phases of community outreach outlined in the EPA-approved workplan which may include the development of any post-project summary or success materials that highlight achievements to which this project contributed.

a. If any documents, fact sheets, and/or web materials are developed as part of this cooperative agreement, then they shall comply with the *Acknowledgement Requirements for Non-ORD Assistance Agreements* in the General Terms and Conditions of this agreement.

b. If the EPA logo is displayed along with logos from other participating entities on websites, outreach materials, or reports, it must **not** be prominently displayed to imply that any of the recipient or subrecipient's activities are being conducted by the EPA. Instead, the EPA logo should be accompanied with a statement indicating that the CCEDC received financial support from the EPA under an Assistance Agreement per the term and condition described in Section V.C.1.a. above. More information is available at <https://www.epa.gov/stylebook/using-epa-seal-and-logo>.

c. If a sign is developed as part of a project funded by this cooperative agreement, then the sign shall include either a statement (e.g., this project has been funded, wholly or in part, by EPA) and/or EPA's logo acknowledging that EPA is a source of funding for the project. The EPA logo may be used on project signage when the sign can be placed in a visible location with a direct linkage to site activities. Use of the EPA logo must follow the sign specifications available at <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-logo-seal-specifications-signage-produced-epa-assistance-agreement-recipients>. To obtain the appropriate EPA logo or seal graphic file, the CAR should send a request directly to EPA's Office of Public Affairs (OPA) and include the EPA Project Officer in the communication. Instructions for contacting OPA are available at <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/using-epa-seal-and-logo>.

2. The CAR agrees to notify the EPA Project Officer listed in this award document of public or media events publicizing the accomplishment of significant events related to construction and/or site reuse projects as a result of this agreement, and provide the opportunity for attendance and participation by federal representatives with at least ten (10) working days' notice.

3. To increase public awareness of projects serving communities where English is not the predominant language, CARs are encouraged to include in their outreach strategies communication in non-English languages. Translation costs for this purpose are allowable, provided the costs are reasonable.

4. All public awareness activities conducted with EPA funding are subject to the provisions in the General Terms and Conditions on compliance with section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

D. All Appropriate Inquiry

1. As required by CERCLA § 104(k)(2)(B)(ii) and CERCLA § 101(35)(B), the CAR shall ensure that a Phase I site characterization and assessment carried out under this agreement will be performed in accordance with EPA's all appropriate inquiries regulation (AAI). The CAR shall utilize the practices in ASTM standard E1527-21 "*Standard Practices for Environmental Site Assessment: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process*" (or the latest recognized ASTM

standard at the time the assessment is performed), or EPA's All Appropriate Inquiries Final Rule (40 CFR Part 312). A suggested outline for an AAI final report is provided in "*All Appropriate Inquiries Rule: Reporting Requirements and Suggestions on Report Content*" (Publication Number: EPA 560-F-23-004 (or the latest available publication)). This does not preclude the use of cooperative agreement funds for additional site characterization and assessment activities that may be necessary to characterize the environmental impacts at the site or to comply with applicable state standards.

2. AAI final reports produced with funding from this agreement must comply with 40 CFR Part 312 and must, at a minimum, include the information below. All AAI reports submitted to the EPA Project Officer as deliverables under this agreement must be accompanied by a completed "*All Appropriate Inquiries: Reporting Requirements Checklist for Assessment Grant Recipients*" (Publication Number: EPA 560-F-23-017 (or the latest available publication)) that the EPA Project Officer will provide to the recipient. The checklist is available to CARs on EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/all-appropriate-inquiries-reporting-requirements-checklist-assessment-grant-recipients>. The completed checklist must include:

a. An **opinion** as to whether the inquiry has identified conditions indicative of releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances, and as applicable, pollutants and contaminants, petroleum or petroleum products, or controlled substances, on, at, in, or to the subject property.

b. An identification of "**significant**" **data gaps** (as defined in 40 CFR § 312.10), if any, in the information collected for the inquiry. Significant data gaps include missing or unattainable information that affects the ability of the environmental professional to identify conditions indicative of releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances, and as applicable, pollutants and contaminants, petroleum or petroleum products, or controlled substances, on, at, in, or to the subject property. The documentation of significant data gaps must include information regarding the significance of these data gaps.

c. **Qualifications and signature** of the environmental professional(s). The environmental professional must place the following statements in the document and sign the document:

"[I, We] declare that, to the best of [my, our] professional knowledge and belief, [I, we] meet the definition of Environmental Professional as defined in 40 CFR § 312.10 of this part."

"[I, We] have the specific qualifications based on education, training, and experience to assess a property of the nature, history, and setting of the subject property. [I, We] have developed and performed the all appropriate inquiries in conformance with the standards and practices set forth in 40 CFR Part 312."

Note: Please use either "I/my" or "We/our."

d. In compliance with 40 CFR § 312.31(b), the environmental professional must include in the final report an **opinion regarding additional appropriate investigation**, if the environmental professional has such an opinion.

3. EPA may review checklists and AAI final reports for compliance with the AAI regulation documentation requirements at 40 CFR Part 312 (or comparable requirements for those using ASTM Standard 1527-21 or the latest recognized ASTM standard at the time the assessment is performed). Any deficiencies identified during an EPA review of these documents must be corrected by the recipient within 30 days of notification. Failure to correct any identified deficiencies may result in EPA disallowing the costs for the entire AAI report as authorized by 2 CFR § 200.339. If a recipient willfully fails to correct the deficiencies EPA may consider other available remedies under 2 CFR § 200.339 and 2 CFR § 200.340.

E. Completion of Assessment Activities

1. The CAR shall properly document the completion of all activities described in the EPA- approved workplan. This must be

done through a final report or letter from a Qualified Environmental Professional, or other documentation provided by a State or Tribe that shows assessments are complete.

F. Inclusion of Additional Terms and Conditions

1. In accordance with 2 CFR § 200.334, the CAR shall maintain records pertaining to the cooperative agreement for a minimum of three (3) years following submission of the final financial report unless one or more of the conditions described in the regulation applies. The CAR shall provide access to records relating to assessments supported with Assessment cooperative agreement funds to authorized representatives of the Federal government as required by 2 CFR § 200.337.
2. The CAR has an ongoing obligation to advise EPA if it assessed any penalties resulting from environmental non-compliance at sites subject to this agreement.

VI. PAYMENT AND CLOSEOUT

For the purposes of these Terms and Conditions, the following definitions apply: “payment” is EPA’s transfer of funds to the CAR; “closeout” refers to the process EPA follows to ensure that all administrative actions and work required under the cooperative agreement have been completed.

A. Payment Schedule

1. The CAR may request advance payment from EPA pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(1) and the prompt disbursement requirements of the General Terms and Conditions of this agreement.

This requirement does not apply to states which are subject to 2 CFR § 200.305(a).

B. Schedule for Closeout

1. Closeout will be conducted in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.344. EPA will close out the award when it determines that all applicable administrative actions and all required work under the cooperative agreement have been completed.
2. The CAR, within 120 days after the expiration or termination of the cooperative agreement, must submit all financial, performance, and other reports required as a condition of the cooperative agreement.

a. The CAR must submit the following documentation:

- i. The Final Cooperative Agreement Performance Report as described in Section III.F. of these Terms and Conditions.
- ii. Administrative and Financial Reports as described in the General Terms and Conditions of this agreement.

b. The CAR must ensure that all appropriate data have been entered into ACRES or all hardcopy Property Profile Forms are submitted to the EPA Project Officer.

c. As required by 2 CFR § 200.344, the CAR must immediately refund to EPA any balance of unobligated (unencumbered) advanced cash or accrued program income that is not authorized to be retained for use on other cooperative agreements.

1. When EPA uses the term “underserved communities” it has the meaning defined in Executive Order 13985: *Advancing Racial Equity And Support For Underserved Communities Through The Federal Government*, which defines “underserved

communities” as “populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life....”. As described in the Executive Order, “underserved communities” may include communities denied the consistent, fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality. It also includes “communities environmentally overburdened,” that is, a community adversely and disproportionately affected by environmental and human health harms or risks, and “disadvantaged, communities” as referenced in Executive Order 14008, *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*, and defined in Office of Management and Budget’s Memo M-21-28: Interim Implementation Guidance for the Justice40 Initiative.

2. Per EPA’s General Term and Condition, the CAR must obtain prior approval from the EPA Grants Management Officer or Award Official for cumulative transfers of funds in excess of 10% of the total budget.

Davis-Bacon Terms and Conditions For Cooperative Agreements to Nonprofits

DAVIS-BACON PREVAILING WAGE TERM AND CONDITION

The following terms and conditions specify how Cooperative Agreement Recipients (CARs) will assist EPA in meeting its Davis-Bacon (DB) responsibilities when DB applies to EPA awards of financial assistance under CERCLA 104(g) and any other statute which makes DB applicable to EPA financial assistance. If a CAR has questions regarding when DB applies, obtaining the correct DB wage determinations, DB contract provisions, or DB compliance monitoring, they should contact the regional Brownfields Coordinator or Project Officer for guidance.

1. Applicability of the Davis-Bacon Prevailing Wage Requirements

After consultation with DOL, EPA has determined that for Brownfields Grants for remediation of sites contaminated with hazardous substances and petroleum, DB prevailing wage requirements apply when the project includes the following activities.

Hazardous substances contamination:

(a) All construction, alteration and repair activity involving the remediation of hazardous substances, including excavation and removal of hazardous substances, construction of caps, barriers, structures which house treatment equipment, and abatement of contamination in buildings.

Petroleum contamination:

(a) Installing piping to connect households or businesses to public water systems or replacing public water system supply well(s) and associated piping due to groundwater contamination,

(b) Soil excavation/replacement when undertaken in conjunction with the installation of public water lines/wells described above, or

(c) Soil excavation/replacement, tank removal, and restoring the area by paving or pouring concrete when the soil excavation/replacement occurs in conjunction with both tank removal and paving or concrete replacement.

In the above circumstances, all the laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors will be

covered by the DB requirements for all construction work performed on the site. Other petroleum site cleanup activities such as in situ remediation, and soil excavation/replacement and tank removal when not in conjunction with paving or concrete replacement, will not normally trigger DB requirements.

If the CAR encounters a unique situation at a site (e.g., unusually extensive excavation, construction of permanent facilities to house in situ remediation systems, reconstruction of roadways) that presents uncertainties regarding DB applicability, the CAR must discuss the situation with EPA before authorizing work on that site.

2. Obtaining Wage Determinations

(a) Unless otherwise instructed by EPA on a project specific basis, the CAR shall use the following DOL General Wage Classifications for the locality in which the construction activity subject to DB will take place. CARs must obtain proposed wage determinations for specific localities at <https://sam.gov/>. After the CAR obtains its proposed wage determination, it must submit the wage determination to Suzanne Hersch of EPA Office of Grants and Dembarment (OGD) at hersh.suzanne@epa.gov for approval prior to inserting the wage determination into a solicitation, contract or issuing task orders, work assignments or similar instruments to existing contractors (ordering instruments unless subsequently directed otherwise by EPA's Award Official).

(i) When soliciting competitive contracts, awarding new contracts or issuing task orders, work assignments or similar instruments to existing contractors (ordering instruments), the CAR shall use the "Heavy Construction" classification for the following activities:

Hazardous substances contamination: excavation and removal of hazardous substances, construction of caps, barriers, and similar activities that do not involve construction of buildings.

Petroleum contamination: installing piping to connect households or businesses to public water systems or replacing public water system supply well(s) and associated piping, including soil excavation/replacement.

(ii) When soliciting competitive contracts, awarding new contracts, or issuing ordering instruments, the CAR shall use the "Building Construction" classification for the following activities:

Hazardous substances contamination: construction of structures which house treatment equipment, and abatement of contamination in buildings (other than residential structures less than 4 stories in height).

Petroleum contamination: soil excavation/replacement, tank removal, and restoring the area by paving or pouring concrete when the soil excavation/replacement occurs in conjunction with both tank removal and paving or concrete replacement at current or former service station sites, hospitals, fire stations, industrial or freight terminal facilities, or other sites that are associated with a facility that is not used solely for the underground storage of fuel or other contaminant.

(iii) When soliciting competitive contracts, awarding new contracts or issuing ordering instruments for soil excavation/replacement, tank removal, and restoring the area by paving or pouring concrete when the soil excavation/replacement occurs in conjunction with both tank removal and paving or concrete replacement at a facility that is used solely for the underground storage of fuel or other contaminant the CAR shall use the "Heavy Construction" classification. (Only applies to petroleum contamination.)

(iv) When soliciting competitive contracts, awarding new contracts or issuing ordering instruments for the

abatement of contamination in residential structures less than 4 stories in height the CAR shall use "Residential Construction" classification. (Only applies to hazardous substances contamination.)

Note: CARs must discuss unique situations that may not be covered by the General Wage Classifications described above with EPA. If, based on discussions with a CAR, EPA determines that DB applies to a unique situation (e.g., unusually extensive excavation) the Agency will advise the CAR which General Wage Classification to use based on the nature of the construction activity at the site.

(b) CARs shall obtain the wage determination for the locality in which a Brownfields cleanup activity subject to DB will take place *prior* to issuing requests for bids, proposals, quotes or other methods for soliciting contracts (solicitation) for activities subject to DB. These wage determinations shall be incorporated into solicitations and any subsequent contracts. Prime contracts must contain a provision requiring that subcontractors follow the wage determination incorporated into the prime contract.

(i) While the solicitation remains open, the CAR shall monitor <https://sam.gov/> on a weekly basis to ensure that the wage determination contained in the solicitation remains current. The CAR shall amend the solicitation if DOL issues a modification more than 10 days prior to the closing date (i.e., bid opening) for the solicitation. If DOL modifies or supersedes the applicable wage determination less than 10 days prior to the closing date, the CAR may request a finding from EPA that there is not a reasonable time to notify interested contractors of the modification of the wage determination. EPA will provide a report of the Agency's finding to the CAR.

(ii) If the CAR does not award the contract within 90 days of the closure of the solicitation, any modifications or supersedes DOL makes to the wage determination contained in the solicitation shall be effective unless EPA, at the request of the CAR, obtains an extension of the 90-day period from DOL pursuant to 29 CFR 1.6(c)(3)(iv). The CAR shall monitor <https://sam.gov/> on a weekly basis if it does not award the contract within 90 days of closure of the solicitation to ensure that wage determinations contained in the solicitation remain current.

(iii) If the CAR carries out Brownfields cleanup activity subject to DB by issuing a task order, work assignment or similar instrument to an existing contractor (ordering instrument) rather than by publishing a solicitation, the CAR shall insert the appropriate DOL wage determination from <https://sam.gov/> into the ordering instrument.

(c) CARs shall review all subcontracts subject to DB entered into by prime contractors to verify that the prime contractor has required its subcontractors to include the applicable wage determinations.

(d) As provided in 29 CFR 1.6(f), DOL may issue a revised wage determination applicable to a CAR's contract after the award of a contract or the issuance of an ordering instrument if DOL determines that the CAR has failed to incorporate a wage determination or has used a wage determination that clearly does not apply to the contract or ordering instrument. If this occurs, the CAR shall either terminate the contract or ordering instrument and issue a revised solicitation or ordering instrument or incorporate DOL's wage determination retroactive to the beginning of the contract or ordering instrument by change order. The CAR's contractor must be compensated for any increases in wages resulting from the use of DOL's revised wage determination.

3. Contract and Subcontract Provisions

(a) The CAR shall insert in full in any contract in excess of \$2,000 which is entered into for the actual construction, alteration and/or repair, including painting and decorating, of a public building or public work, or building or work

financed in whole or in part from Federal funds or in accordance with guarantees of a Federal agency or financed from funds obtained by pledge of any contract of a Federal agency to make a loan, grant or annual contribution (except where a different meaning is expressly indicated), and which is subject to DB, the following labor standards provisions.

(1) Minimum wages.

(i) All laborers and mechanics employed or working upon the site of the work will be paid unconditionally and not less often than once a week, and without subsequent deduction or rebate on any account (except such payroll deductions as are permitted by regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor under the Copeland Act (29 CFR Part 3)), the full amount of wages and bona fide fringe benefits (or cash equivalents thereof) due at time of payment computed at rates not less than those contained in the applicable wage determination of the Secretary of Labor which the CAR obtained under the procedures specified in Item 2, above, and made a part hereof, regardless of any contractual relationship which may be alleged to exist between the contractor and such laborers and mechanics.

Contributions made or costs reasonably anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits under section 1(b)(2) of the Davis-Bacon Act on behalf of laborers or mechanics are considered wages paid to such laborers or mechanics, subject to the provisions of paragraph (a)(1)(iv) of this section; also, regular contributions made or costs incurred for more than a weekly period (but not less often than quarterly) under plans, funds, or programs which cover the particular weekly period, are deemed to be constructively made or incurred during such weekly period. Such laborers and mechanics shall be paid the appropriate wage rate and fringe benefits on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed, without regard to skill, except as provided in § 5.5(a)(4). Laborers or mechanics performing work in more than one classification may be compensated at the rate specified for each classification for the time actually worked therein: Provided that the employer's payroll records accurately set forth the time spent in each classification in which work is performed. The wage determination (including any additional classification and wage rates conformed under paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section) and the Davis-Bacon poster (WH-1321) shall be posted at all times by the contractor and its subcontractors at the site of the work in a prominent and accessible place where it can be easily seen by the workers. CARs shall require that the contractor and subcontractors include the name of the CAR employee or official responsible for monitoring compliance with DB on the poster.

(ii)(A) The CAR, on behalf of EPA, shall require that contracts and subcontracts entered into under this agreement provide that any class of laborers or mechanics, including helpers, which is not listed in the wage determination and which is to be employed under the contract shall be classified in conformance with the wage determination. The EPA Award Official shall approve an additional classification and wage rate and fringe benefits therefore only when the following criteria have been met:

- (1) The work to be performed by the classification requested is not performed by a classification in the wage determination; and
- (2) The classification is utilized in the area by the construction industry; and
- (3) The proposed wage rate, including any bona fide fringe benefits, bears a reasonable relationship to the wage rates contained in the wage determination.

(ii)(B) If the contractor and the laborers and mechanics to be employed in the classification (if known), or their representatives, and the CAR agree on the classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for

fringe benefits where appropriate), a report of the action taken shall be sent by the CAR to the EPA Award Official. The Award Official will transmit the report, to the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will approve, modify, or disapprove every additional classification action within 30 days of receipt and so advise the Award Official or will notify the Award Official within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(ii)(C) In the event the contractor, the laborers or mechanics to be employed in the classification or their representatives, and the CAR do not agree on the proposed classification and wage rate (including the amount designated for fringe benefits, where appropriate), the Award Official shall refer the questions, including the views of all interested parties and the recommendation of the award official, to the Administrator for determination. The Administrator, or an authorized representative, will issue a determination within 30 days of receipt and so advise the contracting officer or will notify the Award Official within the 30-day period that additional time is necessary.

(ii)(D) The wage rate (including fringe benefits where appropriate) determined pursuant to paragraphs (a)(1)(ii)(B) or (C) of this section, shall be paid to all workers performing work in the classification under this contract from the first day on which work is performed in the classification.

(iii) Whenever the minimum wage rate prescribed in the contract for a class of laborers or mechanics includes a fringe benefit which is not expressed as an hourly rate, the contractor shall either pay the benefit as stated in the wage determination or shall pay another bona fide fringe benefit or an hourly cash equivalent thereof.

(iv) If the contractor does not make payments to a trustee or other third person, the contractor may consider as part of the wages of any laborer or mechanic the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing bona fide fringe benefits under a plan or program, Provided, That the Secretary of Labor has found, upon the written request of the contractor, that the applicable standards of the Davis-Bacon Act have been met. The Secretary of Labor may require the contractor to set aside in a separate account assets for the meeting of obligations under the plan or program.

(2) Withholding.

The CAR, upon written request of the Award Official or an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, shall withhold or cause to withhold from the contractor under this contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements, which is held by the same prime contractor, so much of the accrued payments or advances as may be considered necessary to pay laborers and mechanics, including apprentices, trainees, and helpers, employed by the contractor or any subcontractor the full amount of wages required by the contract. In the event of failure to pay any laborer or mechanic, including any apprentice, trainee, or helper, employed or working on the site of the work, all or part of the wages required by the contract, EPA may, after written notice to the contractor, or CAR take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds until such violations have ceased.

(3) Payrolls and basic records.

(i) Payrolls and basic records relating thereto shall be maintained by the contractor during the course of the work and preserved for a period of three years thereafter for all laborers and mechanics working at the site of

the work. Such records shall contain the name, address, and social security number of each such worker, his or her correct classification, hourly rates of wages paid (including rates of contributions or costs anticipated for bona fide fringe benefits or cash equivalents thereof of the types described in section 1(b)(2)(B) of the Davis-Bacon Act), daily and weekly number of hours worked, deductions made and actual wages paid. Whenever the Secretary of Labor has found under 29 CFR 5.5(a)(1)(iv) that the wages of any laborer or mechanic include the amount of any costs reasonably anticipated in providing benefits under a plan or program described in section 1(b)(2)(B) of the Davis-Bacon Act, the contractor shall maintain records which show that the commitment to provide such benefits is enforceable, that the plan or program is financially responsible, and that the plan or program has been communicated in writing to the laborers or mechanics affected, and records which show the costs anticipated or the actual cost incurred in providing such benefits. Contractors employing apprentices or trainees under approved programs shall maintain written evidence of the registration of apprenticeship programs and certification of trainee programs, the registration of the apprentices and trainees, and the ratios and wage rates prescribed in the applicable programs.

(ii)(A) The contractor shall submit weekly for each week in which any contract work is performed a copy of all payrolls to the CAR who will maintain the records on behalf of EPA. The payrolls submitted shall set out accurately and completely all of the information required to be maintained under 29 CFR 5.5(a)(3)(i), except that full social security numbers and home addresses shall not be included on weekly transmittals. Instead, the payrolls shall only need to include an individually identifying number for each employee (e.g., the last four digits of the employee's social security number). The required weekly payroll information may be submitted in any form desired. Optional Form WH-347 is available for this purpose from the Wage and Hour Division website at <https://www.dol.gov/whd/forms/wh347.pdf> or its successor site. The prime contractor is responsible for the submission of copies of payrolls by all subcontractors. Contractors and subcontractors shall maintain the full social security number and current address of each covered worker, and shall provide them upon request to the CAR for transmission to the EPA, if requested by EPA, the contractor, or the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor for purposes of an investigation or audit of compliance with prevailing wage requirements. It is not a violation of this section for a prime contractor to require a subcontractor to provide addresses and social security numbers to the prime contractor for its own records, without weekly submission to the CAR.

(ii)(B) Each payroll submitted to the CAR shall be accompanied by a "Statement of Compliance," signed by the contractor or subcontractor or his or her agent who pays or supervises the payment of the persons employed under the contract and shall certify the following:

(1) That the payroll for the payroll period contains the information required to be provided under § 5.5(a)(3)(ii) of Regulations, 29 CFR Part 5, the appropriate information is being maintained under § 5.5(a)(3)(i) of Regulations, 29 CFR Part 5, and that such information is correct and complete;

(2) That each laborer or mechanic (including each helper, apprentice, and trainee) employed on the contract during the payroll period has been paid the full weekly wages earned, without rebate, either directly or indirectly, and that no deductions have been made either directly or indirectly from the full wages earned, other than permissible deductions as set forth in Regulations, 29 CFR Part 3;

(3) That each laborer or mechanic has been paid not less than the applicable wage rates and fringe benefits or cash equivalents for the classification of work performed, as specified in the applicable wage determination incorporated into the contract.

(ii)(C) The weekly submission of a properly executed certification set forth on the reverse side of Optional Form WH-347 shall satisfy the requirement for submission of the "Statement of Compliance" required by paragraph (a)(3)(ii)(B) of this section.

(ii)(D) The falsification of any of the above certifications may subject the contractor or subcontractor to civil or criminal prosecution under section 1001 of title 18 and section 231 of title 31 of the United States Code.

(iii) The contractor or subcontractor shall make the records required under paragraph (a)(3)(i) of this section available for inspection, copying, or transcription by authorized representatives of the EPA or the Department of Labor, and shall permit such representatives to interview employees during working hours on the job. If the contractor or subcontractor fails to submit the required records or to make them available, EPA may, after written notice to the contractor, CAR, sponsor, applicant, or owner, take such action as may be necessary to cause the suspension of any further payment, advance, or guarantee of funds. Furthermore, failure to submit the required records upon request or to make such records available may be grounds for debarment action pursuant to 29 CFR 5.12.

(4) Apprentices and Trainees.

(i) Apprentices. Apprentices will be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work they performed when they are employed pursuant to and individually registered in a bona fide apprenticeship program registered with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services, or with a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office, or if a person is employed in his or her first 90 days of probationary employment as an apprentice in such an apprenticeship program, who is not individually registered in the program, but who has been certified by the Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services or a State Apprenticeship Agency (where appropriate) to be eligible for probationary employment as an apprentice. The allowable ratio of apprentices to journeymen on the job site in any craft classification shall not be greater than the ratio permitted to the contractor as to the entire work force under the registered program. Any worker listed on a payroll at an apprentice wage rate, who is not registered or otherwise employed as stated above, shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed. In addition, any apprentice performing work on the job site in excess of the ratio permitted under the registered program shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the work actually performed. Where a contractor is performing construction on a project in a locality other than that in which its program is registered, the ratios and wage rates (expressed in percentages of the journeyman's hourly rate) specified in the contractor's or subcontractor's registered program shall be observed. Every apprentice must be paid at not less than the rate specified in the registered program for the apprentice's level of progress, expressed as a percentage of the journeymen hourly rate specified in the applicable wage determination. Apprentices shall be paid fringe benefits in accordance with the provisions of the apprenticeship program. If the apprenticeship program does not specify fringe benefits, apprentices must be paid the full amount of fringe benefits listed on the wage determination for the applicable classification. If the Administrator determines that a different practice prevails for the applicable apprentice classification, fringes shall be paid in accordance with that determination. In the event the Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services, or a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office, withdraws approval of an apprenticeship program, the contractor will no longer be permitted to utilize apprentices at less than the applicable predetermined rate for the work performed until an acceptable program is approved.

(ii) Trainees. Except as provided in 29 CFR 5.16, trainees will not be permitted to work at less than the predetermined rate for the work performed unless they are employed pursuant to and individually registered in a program which has received prior approval, evidenced by formal certification by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. The ratio of trainees to journeymen on the job site shall not be greater than permitted under the plan approved by the Employment and Training Administration. Every trainee must be paid at not less than the rate specified in the approved program for the trainee's level of progress, expressed as a percentage of the journeyman hourly rate specified in the applicable wage determination. Trainees shall be paid fringe benefits in accordance with the provisions of the trainee program. If the trainee program does not mention fringe benefits, trainees shall be paid the full amount of fringe benefits listed on the wage determination unless the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division determines that there is an apprenticeship program associated with the corresponding journeyman wage rate on the wage determination which provides for less than full fringe benefits for apprentices. Any employee listed on the payroll at a trainee rate who is not registered and participating in a training plan approved by the Employment and Training Administration shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the classification of work actually performed. In addition, any trainee performing work on the job site in excess of the ratio permitted under the registered program shall be paid not less than the applicable wage rate on the wage determination for the work actually performed. In the event the Employment and Training Administration withdraws approval of a training program, the contractor will no longer be permitted to utilize trainees at less than the applicable predetermined rate for the work performed until an acceptable program is approved.

(iii) Equal employment opportunity. The utilization of apprentices, trainees and journeymen under this part shall be in conformity with the equal employment opportunity requirements of Executive Order 11246, as amended, and 29 CFR Part 30.

(5) Compliance with Copeland Act requirements. The contractor shall comply with the requirements of 29 CFR Part 3, which are incorporated by reference in this contract.

(6) Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses contained in 29 CFR 5.5(a)(1) through (10) and such other clauses as the EPA may by appropriate instructions require, and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for the compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with all the contract clauses in this term and condition.

(7) Contract termination: debarment. A breach of the contract clauses in 29 CFR 5.5 may be grounds for termination of the contract, and for debarment as a contractor and a subcontractor as provided in 29 CFR 5.12.

(8) Compliance with Davis-Bacon and Related Act requirements. All rulings and interpretations of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts contained in 29 CFR Parts 1, 3, and 5 are herein incorporated by reference in this contract.

(9) Disputes concerning labor standards. Disputes arising out of the labor standards provisions of this contract shall not be subject to the general disputes clause of this contract. Such disputes shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures of the Department of Labor set forth in 29 CFR Parts 5, 6, and 7. Disputes within the meaning of this clause include disputes between the contractor (or any of its subcontractors), the CAR, borrower or subrecipient and EPA, the U.S. Department of Labor, or the employees or their representatives.

(10) Certification of eligibility.

(i) By entering into this contract, the contractor certifies that neither it (nor he or she) nor any person or firm who has an interest in the contractor's firm is a person or firm ineligible to be awarded Government contracts by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

(ii) No part of this contract shall be subcontracted to any person or firm ineligible for award of a Government contract by virtue of section 3(a) of the Davis-Bacon Act or 29 CFR 5.12(a)(1).

(iii) The penalty for making false statements is prescribed in the U.S. Criminal Code, 18 U.S.C. 1001.

4. Contract Provisions for Contracts in Excess of \$100,000

(a) Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. The **CAR** shall insert the following clauses set forth in paragraphs (a)(1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section in full in any contract in an amount in excess of \$100,000 and subject to the overtime provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. These clauses shall be inserted in addition to the clauses required by Item 3, above or 29 CFR 4.6. As used in this paragraph, the terms laborers and mechanics include watchmen and guards.

(1) Overtime requirements. No contractor or subcontractor contracting for any part of the contract work which may require or involve the employment of laborers or mechanics shall require or permit any such laborer or mechanic in any workweek in which he or she is employed on such work to work in excess of forty hours in such workweek unless such laborer or mechanic receives compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty hours in such workweek.

(2) Violation; liability for unpaid wages; liquidated damages. In the event of any violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (a)(1) of this section the contractor and any subcontractor responsible therefore shall be liable for the unpaid wages. In addition, such contractor and subcontractor shall be liable to the United States (in the case of work done under contract for the District of Columbia or a territory, to such District or to such territory), for liquidated damages. Such liquidated damages shall be computed with respect to each individual laborer or mechanic, including watchmen and guards, employed in violation of the clause set forth in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, in the sum of \$10 for each calendar day on which such individual was required or permitted to work in excess of the standard workweek of forty hours without payment of the overtime wages required by the clause set forth in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(3) Withholding for unpaid wages and liquidated damages. The **CAR**, upon written request of the Award Official or an authorized representative of the Department of Labor, shall withhold or cause to withhold from any moneys payable on account of work performed by the contractor or subcontractor under any such contract or any other Federal contract with the same prime contractor, or any other federally-assisted contract subject to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, which is held by the same prime contractor, such sums as may be determined to be necessary to satisfy any liabilities of such contractor or subcontractor for unpaid wages and liquidated damages as provided in the clause set forth in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(4) Subcontracts. The contractor or subcontractor shall insert in any subcontracts the clauses set forth in paragraph (a)(1) through (4) of this section and also a clause requiring the subcontractors to include these clauses in any lower tier subcontracts. The prime contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor or lower tier subcontractor with the clauses set forth in paragraphs (a)(1) through (4) of this section.

(b) In addition to the clauses contained in Item 3, above, in any contract subject only to the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act and not to any of the other statutes cited in [29 CFR 5.1](#), the CAR shall insert a clause

requiring that the contractor or subcontractor shall maintain payrolls and basic payroll records during the course of the work and shall preserve them for a period of three years from the completion of the contract for all laborers and mechanics, including guards and watchmen, working on the contract. Such records shall contain the name and address of each such employee, social security number, correct classifications, hourly rates of wages paid, daily and weekly number of hours worked, deductions made, and actual wages paid. Further, the CAR shall insert in any such contract a clause providing that the records to be maintained under this paragraph shall be made available by the contractor or subcontractor for inspection, copying, or transcription by authorized representatives of the (write the name of agency) and the Department of Labor, and the contractor or subcontractor will permit such representatives to interview employees during working hours on the job.

5. Compliance Verification

- (a) The CAR shall periodically interview a sufficient number of employees entitled to DB prevailing wages (covered employees) to verify that contractors or subcontractors are paying the appropriate wage rates. As provided in 29 CFR 5.6(a)(3), all interviews must be conducted in confidence. The CAR must use Standard Form 1445 or equivalent documentation to memorialize the interviews. Copies of the SF 1445 are available from EPA on request.
- (b) The CAR shall establish and follow an interview schedule based on its assessment of the risks of noncompliance with DB posed by contractors or subcontractors and the duration of the contract or subcontract. At a minimum, the CAR must conduct interviews with a representative group of covered employees within two weeks of each contractor or subcontractor's submission of its initial weekly payroll data and two weeks prior to the estimated completion date for the contract or subcontract. CARs must conduct more frequent interviews if the initial interviews or other information indicates that there is a risk that the contractor or subcontractor is not complying with DB. CARs shall immediately conduct necessary interviews in response to an alleged violation of the prevailing wage requirements. All interviews shall be conducted in confidence.
- (c) The CAR shall periodically conduct spot checks of a representative sample of weekly payroll data to verify that contractors or subcontractors are paying the appropriate wage rates. The CAR shall establish and follow a spot check schedule based on its assessment of the risks of noncompliance with DB posed by contractors or subcontractors and the duration of the contract or subcontract. At a minimum, the CAR must spot check payroll data within two weeks of each contractor or subcontractor's submission of its initial payroll data and two weeks prior to the completion date the contract or subcontract. CARs must conduct more frequent spot checks if the initial spot check or other information indicates that there is a risk that the contractor or subcontractor is not complying with DB. In addition, during the examinations the CAR shall verify evidence of fringe benefit plans and payments thereunder by contractors and subcontractors who claim credit for fringe benefit contributions.
- (d) The CAR shall periodically review contractors and subcontractors use of apprentices and trainees to verify registration and certification with respect to apprenticeship and training programs approved by either the U.S Department of Labor or a state, as appropriate, and that contractors and subcontractors are not using disproportionate numbers of, laborers, trainees and apprentices. These reviews shall be conducted in accordance with the schedules for spot checks and interviews described in Item 5(b) and (c) above.
- (e) CARs must immediately report potential violations of the DB prevailing wage requirements to the EPA DB contact listed above and to the appropriate DOL Wage and Hour District Office listed at <https://www.dol.gov/whd/america2.htm>.