SECTION H CLAUSES:

TASK ORDER CONFLICT OF INTEREST CERTIFICATION

Within 20 calendar days of receipt of the Task Order, the contractor shall provide the Contracting Officer with a conflict of interest certification. The contractor is required to provide a conflict of interest certification for the each task order issued under the contract. The contractor has a continued obligation to search and report any actual or potential conflicts of interest during the course of performing under a task order.

In the certification, the contractor must certify, to the best of the contractor's knowledge and belief, that all actual or potential organizational conflicts of interest have been reported to the Contracting Officer or that, to the best of the contractor's knowledge and belief, no actual or potential organizational conflicts of interest exist. In addition, the contractor must certify that its personnel who perform work under this task order or relating to this task order, have been informed of there obligations to report personal and organizational conflicts of interest to the contractor. The certification shall also include a statement that the contractor recognizes its continuing obligation to identify and report any actual or potential conflicts of interest arising during performance of this task order or other work relating to this site.

PROJECT EMPLOYEE CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT (EPAAR 1552.227-76)(MAY 1994)

(a) The Contractor recognizes that Contractor employees in performing this contract may have access to data, either provided by the Government or first generated during contract performance, of a sensitive nature which should not be released to the public without Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approval. Therefore, the Contractor agrees to obtain confidentiality agreements from all of its employees working on requirements under this contract.

(b) Such agreements shall contain provisions which stipulate that each employee agrees that the employee will not disclose, either in whole or in part, to any entity external to EPA, the Department of Justice, or the Contractor, any information or data (as defined in FAR Section 27.401) provided by the Government or first generated by the Contractor under this contract, any site-specific cost information, or any enforcement strategy without first obtaining the written permission of the EPA Contracting Officer. If a contractor, through an employee or otherwise, is subpoenaed to testify or produce documents, which could result in such disclosure, the Contractor must provide immediate advance notification to the EPA so that the EPA can authorize such disclosure or have the opportunity to take action to prevent such disclosure. Such agreements shall be effective for the life of the contract and for a period of five (5) years after completion of the contract.

(c) The EPA may terminate this contract for convenience, in whole or in part, if it deems such termination necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of information to outside entities. If such a disclosure occurs without the written permission of the EPA Contracting Officer, the Government may terminate the contract, for default or convenience, or pursue other remedies as may be permitted by law or this contract.

(d) The Contractor further agrees to insert in any subcontract or consultant agreement placed hereunder, except for subcontracts or consultant agreements for well drilling, fence erecting, plumbing, utility hookups, security guard services, or electrical services, provisions which shall conform substantially to the language of this clause, including this paragraph, unless otherwise authorized by the Contracting Officer.

NOTIFICATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST REGARDING PERSONNEL (EPAAR 1552.209-73)(MAY 1994)

(a) In addition to the requirements of the contract clause entitled "Organizational Conflicts of Interest," the following provisions with regard to employee personnel performing under this contract shall apply until the earlier of the following two dates: the termination date of the affected employee(s) or the expiration date of the contract.

(b) The Contractor agrees to notify immediately the EPA Project Officer and the Contracting Officer of (1) any actual or potential personal conflict of interest with regard to any of its employees working on or having access to information regarding this contract, or (2) any such conflicts concerning subcontractor employees or consultants working on or having access to information regarding this contract, when such conflicts have been reported to the Contractor. A personal conflict of interest is defined as a relationship of an employee, subcontractor employee, or consultant with an entity that may impair the objectivity of the employee, subcontractor employee, or consultant in performing the contract work.

(c) The Contractor agrees to notify each Project Officer and Contracting Officer prior to incurring costs for that employee's work when an employee may have a personal conflict of interest. In the event that the personal conflict of interest does not become known until after performance on the contract begins, the Contractor shall immediately notify the Contracting Officer of the personal conflict of interest. The Contractor shall continue performance of this contract until notified by the Contracting Officer of the appropriate action to be taken.

(d) The Contractor agrees to insert in any subcontract or consultant agreement placed hereunder, except for subcontracts or consultant agreements for well drilling, fence erecting, plumbing, utility hookups, security guard services, or electrical services, provisions which shall conform substantially to the language of this clause, including this paragraph (d), unless otherwise authorized by the Contracting Officer.

LIMITATION OF FUTURE CONTRACTING (EPAAR 1552-.209.74)(MAR 1997) (ALTERNATE I) ERRS

(a) The parties to this contract agree that the Contractor will be restricted in its future contracting in the manner described below. Except as specifically provided in this clause, the Contractor shall be free to compete for contracts on an equal basis with other companies.

(b) If the Contractor, under the terms of this contract, or through the performance of work pursuant to this contract, is required to develop specifications or statements of work and such specifications or statements of work are incorporated into an EPA solicitation, the Contractor shall be ineligible to perform the work described in that solicitation as a prime Contractor or subcontractor under an ensuing EPA contract.

(c) Unless prior written approval is obtained from the cognizant EPA Contracting Officer, the Contractor, during the life of the delivery order or tasking document and for a period of five (5) years after the completion of the delivery order or tasking document, agrees not to enter into a contract with or to represent any party, other than EPA, with respect to: (1) any work relating to CERCLA activities which pertain to a site where the Contractor previously performed work for EPA under this contract; or (2) any work that may jeopardize CERCLA enforcement actions which pertain to a site where the Contractor previously performed work for the EPA under this contract.

(d) During the life of this contract, including any options, the Contractor agrees that unless otherwise authorized by the Contracting Officer:

(1) It will not provide any Superfund Technical Assistance and Removal Team (START) type activities (e.g., START contracts) to EPA within the Contractor's ERRS assigned geographical area(s), either as a prime contractor, subcontractor, or consultant.

(2) It will not provide any START type activities (e.g., START contracts) to EPA as a prime contractor, subcontractor or consultant at a site where it has performed or plans to perform ERRS work.

(3) It will be ineligible for award of START type activities contracts for sites within its respective ERRS assigned geographical area(s) which result from a CERCLA administrative order, a CERCLA or RCRA consent decree or a court order.

(e) The Contractor and any subcontractors, during the life of this contract, shall be ineligible to enter into an EPA contract or a subcontract under an EPA contract, which supports EPA's performance of Superfund Headquarters policy work, including support for the analysis and development of regulations, policies, or guidance that govern, affect, or relate to the conduct of response action activities, unless otherwise authorized by the Contracting Officer. Examples of such contracts include, but are not limited to, Superfund Management and Analytical support

contracts, and Superfund Technical and Analytical support contracts.

(f) The Contractor agrees in advance that if any bids/proposals are submitted for any work that would require written approval of the Contracting Officer prior to entering into a contract subject to the restrictions of this clause, then the bids/proposals are submitted at the Contractor's own risk. Therefore, no claim shall be made against the Government to recover bid/proposal costs as a direct cost whether the request for authorization to enter into the contract is denied or approved.

(g) To the extent that the work under this contract requires access to proprietary or confidential business or financial data of other companies, and as long as such data remains proprietary or confidential, the Contractor shall protect such data from unauthorized use and disclosure.

(h) The Contractor agrees to insert in each subcontract or consultant agreement placed hereunder, except for subcontracts or consultant agreements for nondiscretionary technical or engineering services, including treatability studies, well drilling, fence erecting, plumbing, utility hookups, security guard services, or electrical services, provisions which shall conform substantially to the language of this clause, including this paragraph (h) unless otherwise authorized by the Contracting Officer. The Contractor may request in writing that the Contracting Officer exempt from this clause a particular subcontract or consultant agreement for nondiscretionary technical or engineering services not specifically listed above, including laboratory analysis. The Contracting Officer will review and evaluate each request on a case-by-case basis before approving or disapproving the request.

(i) If the Contractor seeks an expedited decision regarding its initial future contracting request, the Contractor may submit its request to both the Contracting Officer and the next administrative level within the Contracting Officer's organization.

(j) A review process available to the Contractor when an adverse determination is received shall consist of a request for reconsideration to the Contracting Officer or a request for review submitted to the next administrative level within the Contracting Officer's organization. An adverse determination resulting from a request for reconsideration by the Contracting Officer will not preclude the Contractor from requesting a review by the next administrative level. Either a request for review or a request for reconsideration must be submitted to the appropriate level within 30 calendar days after receipt of the initial adverse determination.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (EPAAR 1552.209-71)(MAY 1994)

(a) The Contractor warrants that, to the best of the Contractor's knowledge and belief, there are no relevant facts or circumstances which could give rise to an organizational conflict of interest, as defined in FAR Subpart 9.5, or that the Contractor has disclosed all such relevant information.

(b) Prior to commencement of any work, the Contractor agrees to notify the Contracting Officer immediately that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, no actual or potential conflict of interest exists or to identify to the Contracting Officer any actual or potential conflict of interest the firm may have. In emergency situations, however, work may begin but notification shall be made within five (5) working days.

(c) The Contractor agrees that if an actual or potential organizational conflict of interest is identified during performance, the Contractor will immediately make a full disclosure in writing to the Contracting Officer. This disclosure shall include a description of actions which the Contractor has taken or proposes to take, after consultation with the Contracting Officer, to avoid, mitigate, or neutralize the actual or potential conflict of interest. The Contractor shall continue performance until notified by the Contracting Officer of any contrary action to be taken.

(d) Remedies - The EPA may terminate this contract for convenience, in whole or in part, if it deems such termination necessary to avoid an organizational conflict of interest. If the Contractor was aware of a potential organizational conflict of interest prior to award or discovered an actual or potential conflict after award and did not disclose it or misrepresented relevant information to the Contracting Officer, the Government may terminate the contract for default, debar the Contractor from Government contracting, or pursue such other remedies as may be permitted by law or this contract.

(e) The Contractor agrees to insert in each subcontract or consultant agreement placed hereunder, except for subcontracts or consultant agreements for well drilling, fence erecting, plumbing, utility hookups, security guard services, or electrical services, provisions which shall conform substantially to the language of this clause, including this paragraph (e), unless otherwise authorized by the Contracting Officer.

SCREENING BUSINESS INFORMATION FOR CLAIMS OF CONFIDENTIALITY (EPAAR 1552.235-70)(APR 1984)

(a) Whenever collecting information under this contract, the Contractor agrees to comply with the following requirements:

(1) If the Contractor collects information from public sources, such as books, reports, journals, periodicals, public records, or other sources that are available to the public without restriction, the Contractor shall submit a list of these sources to the appropriate program office at the time the information is initially submitted to EPA. The Contractor shall identify the information according to source.

(2) If the Contractor collects information from a State or local Government or from a Federal agency, the Contractor shall submit a list of these sources to the appropriate program office at the time the information is initially submitted to EPA. The Contractor shall identify the information according to source.

(3) If the Contractor collects information directly from a business or from a source that represents a business or businesses, such as a trade association:

(i) Before asking for the information, the Contractor shall identify itself, explain that it is performing contractual work for the Environmental Protection Agency, identify the information that it is seeking to collect, explain what will be done with the information, and give the following notice:

(A) You may, if you desire, assert a business confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information. If you do assert a claim, the information will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, set forth in 40 CFR Part 2, Subpart B.

(B) If no such claim is made at the time this information is received by the Contractor, it may be made available to the public by the Environmental Protection Agency without further notice to you.

(C) The Contractor shall, in accordance with FAR Part 9, execute a written agreement regarding the limitations of the use of this information and forward a copy of the agreement to the Contracting Officer.

(ii) Upon receiving the information, the Contractor shall make a written notation that the notice set out above was given to the source, by whom, in what form, and on what date.

(iii) At the time the Contractor initially submits the information to the appropriate program office, the Contractor shall submit a list of these sources, identify the information according to source, and indicate whether the source made any confidentiality claim and the nature and extent of the claim.

(b) The Contractor shall keep all information collected from nonpublic sources confidential in accordance with the clause in this contract entitled "Treatment of Confidential Business Information" as if it had been furnished to the Contractor by EPA.

(c) The Contractor agrees to obtain the written consent of the Contracting Officer, after a written determination by the appropriate program office, prior to entering into any subcontract that will require the subcontractor to collect information. The Contractor agrees to include this clause, including this paragraph (c), and the clause entitled "Treatment of Confidential Business Information" in all subcontracts awarded pursuant to this contract that require the subcontractor to collect information.

TREATMENT OF CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION (EPAAR 1552.235-71)(APR 1984)

(a) The Contracting Officer, after a written determination by the appropriate program office, may disclose confidential business information (CBI) to the Contractor necessary to carry out the work required under this contract. The Contractor agrees to use the CBI only under the following conditions:

(1) The Contractor and Contractor's employees shall: (i) use the CBI only for the purposes of carrying out the work required by the contract; (ii) not disclose the information to anyone other than properly cleared EPA employees without the prior written approval of the Assistant General Counsel for Contracts and Information Law; and (iii) return to the Contracting Officer all copies of the information, and any abstracts or excerpts therefrom, upon request by the Contracting Officer, whenever the information is no longer required by the Contractor for the performance of the work required by the contract, or upon completion of the contract.

(2) The Contractor shall obtain a written agreement to honor the above limitations from each of the Contractor's employees who will have access to the information before the employee is allowed access.

(3) The Contractor agrees that these contract conditions concerning the use and disclosure of CBI are included for the benefit of, and shall be enforceable by, both EPA and any affected businesses having a proprietary interest in the information.

(4) The Contractor shall not use any CBI supplied by EPA or obtained during performance hereunder to compete with any business to which the CBI relates.

(b) The Contractor agrees to obtain the written consent of the CO, after a written determination by the appropriate program office, prior to entering into any subcontract that will involve the disclosure of CBI by the Contractor to the subcontractor. The Contractor agrees to include this clause, including this paragraph (b), in all subcontracts awarded pursuant to this contract that require the furnishing of CBI to the subcontractor.

RELEASE OF CONTRACTOR CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION (EPAAR 1552.235-79)(MAR 2001) DEVIATION

(a) The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may find it necessary to release information submitted by the Contractor either in response to this solicitation or pursuant to the provisions of this contract, to individuals not employed by EPA. Business information that is ordinarily entitled to confidential treatment under existing Agency regulations (40 C.F.R. Part 2) may be included in the information released to these individuals. Accordingly, by submission of this proposal or

signature on this contract or other contracts, the Contractor hereby consents to a limited release of its confidential business information (CBI).

(b) Possible circumstances where the Agency may release the Contractor's CBI include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) To Agency contractors and other federal agencies and their contractors tasked with recovery, or assisting the Agency in the recovery, of Federal funds expended pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 9607, as amended, (CERCLA or Superfund)and/or Sec. 311(c) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), as amended by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA) (33 U.S.C. 1321(c));

(2) To the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and contractors employed by DOJ for use in advising and representing the Agency or other federal agencies in procedures for the recovery of Superfund expenditures and costs and damages to be deposited to the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF);

(3) To the U.S. Department of the Treasury and contractors employed by that department for use in collecting costs to be deposited to the Superfund or the OSLTF;

(4) To parties liable, or potentially liable, for costs under CERCLA Sec. 107 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 9607), OPA Sec.1002 (33 U.S.C. 2702), or CWA Sec. 311 (33 U.S.C. 1321) and their insurers or guarantors ("Potentially Responsible Parties")for purposes of facilitating collection, settlement or litigation of claims against such parties;

(5) To other Agency contractors who, for purposes of performing the work required under their respective contracts, require access to information that the Agency obtained under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.); the CWA (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.); the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.); the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.); the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq); the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.); CERCLA (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.); or the OPA (33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.)

(6) To other Agency contractors tasked with assisting the Agency in handling and processing information and documents in the administration of Agency contracts, such as providing both preaward and post award audit support and specialized technical support to the Agency's technical evaluation panels;

(7) To employees of grantees working at EPA under the Senior Environmental Employment (SEE) Program;

(8) To the Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, or Chairman of a Congressional Committee or Subcommittee;

(9) To entities such as the General Accounting Office, boards of contract appeals, and the courts in the resolution of solicitation or contract protests and disputes;

(10) To Agency contractor employees engaged in information systems analysis, development, operation, and maintenance, including performing data processing and management functions, for the Agency; and

(11) Pursuant to a court order or court-supervised agreement.

(c) The Agency recognizes an obligation to protect the contractor from competitive harm that may result from the release of such information to a competitor. (See also the clauses in this document entitled "Screening Business Information for Claims of Confidentiality" and "Treatment of Confidential Business Information.") Except where otherwise provided by law, CBI shall only be released under subparagraphs (1),(2), (3),(4),(5), (6),(7), or (10) pursuant to a confidentiality agreement.

(d) With respect to EPA contractors, EPAAR 1552.235-71 will be used as the confidentiality agreement. With respect to contractors for other federal agencies, EPA will expect these agencies to enter into similar confidentiality agreements with their contractors. With respect to Potentially Responsible Parties, such confidentiality agreements may permit further disclosure to other entities where necessary to further settlement or litigation of claims under CERCLA, the CWA, or the OPA. Such entities include, but are not limited to, accounting firms and technical experts able to analyze the information, provided that they also agree to be bound by an appropriate confidentiality agreement.

(e) This clause does not authorize the Agency to release the Contractor's CBI to the public pursuant to a request filed under the Freedom of Information Act.

(f) The Contractor agrees to include this clause, including this paragraph (f), in all subcontracts at all levels awarded pursuant to this contract that require the furnishing of confidential business information by the subcontractor.

ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION (EPAAR 1552.235-800)(OCT 2000)

It is not anticipated that it will be necessary for the contractor to have access to confidential business information (CBI) during the performance of tasks required under this contract. However, the following applies to any and all tasks under which the contractor will or may have access to CBI:

The contractor shall not have access to CBI submitted to EPA under any authority until the contractor obtains from the Project Officer a certification that the EPA has followed all necessary procedures under 40 CFR part 2, subpart B (and any other applicable procedures), including

providing, where necessary, prior notice to the submitters of disclosure to the contractor.

USE OF COMPANY-OWNED OR AFFILIATED LABORATORIES AND TREATMENT FACILITIES

The On-Scene Coordinator (OSC), in conjunction with the Contracting Officer, will determine the appropriateness of using contractor-owned or affiliated laboratories under this contract. Such determinations need to be based on competition, site safety concerns, and the potential for an actual or potential conflict of interest on the part of the contractor.

There are certain situations where the use of a contractor-owned or affiliated laboratory and/or treatment facility would not be appropriate, such as in determining the extent of contamination and/or estimating volumes of material to be disposed. However, under emergency response conditions, there may be instances where real time analytical support services from the contractor-owned or affiliated laboratories are necessary. Situations of this nature would be the real time analysis of unstable waste materials to provide OSCs with the information to protect the public health and environment as well as site personnel.

REQUIRED SUBCONTRACTING OF TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

(a) The contractor is always required to subcontract the off-site treatment, storage, and ultimate disposal of the materials removed from the site. An affiliate, as defined by the FAR, is considered part of the prime contractor. If the prime contractor or prime-team subcontractors have fixed facilities for hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal within the same company, such facilities will not be eligible for use under this contract. These restrictions do not preclude contractor facilities from being utilized under other Superfund contracts.

(b) The contractor is required to subcontract all transportation of oil, petroleum, and hazardous substances removed from the site of the cleanup to an appropriate storage or disposal facility. If the prime contractor has transportation equipment within the same company, such equipment and facilities will not be eligible for use under this contract unless this requirement is waived by prior written approval of the Contracting Officer or as described in (d) below.

(c) The methods selected for off-site transportation and disposal are subject to the verbal consent of the OSC.

(d) The OSC may direct the contractor to perform off-site transportation services up to a ceiling amount of $10,000 per site when the contractor has available the necessary transportation equipment, labor, and licenses. The OSC must make a written determination that the situation on site clearly demonstrates that it is in the Government's best interest from a timing, price or cost, or other basis to allow the contractor to provide transportation, and the rates to be utilized are

acceptable to the OSC.

SECTION K PROVISION:

ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST CERTIFICATION (EPAAR 1552.209-72)(APR 1984)

The offeror [ ] is [ ] is not aware of any information bearing on the existence of any potential organizational conflict of interest. If the offeror is aware of information bearing on whether a potential conflict may exist, the offeror shall provide a disclosure statement describing this information. (See Section L of the solicitation for further information.)

SECTION L PROVISIONS:

PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS - COI PLAN

Offerors shall submit an Organizational Conflict of Interest Plan in accordance with the instructions contained in Attachment 9. The plan will outline the procedures in place to identify and report conflicts of interest (COI), whether actual or potential, throughout the period of contract performance. The plan shall address step by step, the checks and balances in place to detect and report potential or actual COI at the organizational and personal level.

The acceptability of the COI plan shall be considered part of the responsibility determination as explained in clause M.3.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTIFICATION (EPAAR 1552.209-70)(APR 1984)

(a) The prospective Contractor certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it is not aware of any information bearing on the existence of any potential organizational conflict of interest. If the prospective Contractor cannot so certify, it shall provide a disclosure statement in its proposal which describes all relevant information concerning any past, present, or planned interests bearing on whether it (including its chief executives and directors, or any proposed consultant or subcontractor) may have a potential organizational conflict of interest.

(b) Prospective Contractors should refer to FAR Subpart 9.5 and EPAAR Part 1509 for policies and procedures for avoiding, neutralizing, or mitigating organizational conflicts of interest.

(c) If the Contracting Officer determines that a potential conflict exists, the prospective Contractor shall not receive an award unless the conflict can be avoided or otherwise resolved through the inclusion of a special contract clause or other appropriate means. The terms of any

special clause are subject to negotiation.

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR EPA CONTRACTORS' CONFLICT OF INTEREST PLAN

1. PURPOSE

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has identified a need to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate actual and potential contractor conflicts of interest (COI). In order to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate conflicts, contractors are required to have a COI plan for identifying and reporting actual and potential COI. The purpose of this document is to set forth the minimum standards for a contractor's COI plan.

2. COI PLAN

The contractor's COI Plan is a document which describes the procedures a company uses to identify and report COI. Generally, a contractor's corporate COI plan will describe how a company, in its entirety, addresses conflicts, and will not be contract or program specific. The plan may also describe the options a company will consider proposing to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate a COI whenever a conflict is identified. The plan will be evaluated and approved* by the applicable EPA Contracting Officer (CO) if the COI Plan meets the EPA's minimum requirements for detecting and reporting conflicts of interest. Contractors' COI Plans should be identified by a version number and date, as appropriate. In addition, when applicable, please also identify the version number and date of any previously submitted COI Plans to the Agency, to whom (name, title, and phone number) the COI Plan was submitted, what the solicitation(s)/contract(s) numbers were, and if and when the COI Plan was approved.

* COs may accept another CO's prior approval of the same version of a contractor's COI Plan when appropriate. COs however, are not required to accept another CO's decision if the CO performs his/her own independent evaluation.

3. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CONTRACTORS' COI PLANS

A. Corporate Structure

The COI Plan shall describe any parent relationship and list all affiliates, subsidiaries, and sister companies, etc. Generally, this need not exceed three corporate tiers, unless a relationship exists beyond three tiers that would potentially create a conflict. In such a case, relationships beyond three tiers should also be included in the COI Plan. Contractors should report changes in its' corporate structure to the Agency throughout contract performance.

Contractors are invited to include under this section, a company profile. The

profile should discuss all pertinent information relevant to COI including a summary of a contractor's primary and/or environmental business functions and activities. This background information will potentially be very useful to contracting officers and the Agency when evaluating whether or not a contractor has a COI.

B. Searching and Identifying COI

The COI Plan shall include a requirement describing when a COI search must be performed by company personnel and clearly identify the procedures to be followed. The searching requirement shall encompass all work related to all clients for whom work was performed over the past three years, all current work, all sites (if applicable), and any future work reflected in marketing proposals. Contractors must search their records over the past 36 months from time of receipt of the work from EPA. However, EPA encourages contractors to search back as far as a company's records cover.

C. Data Base

The COI Plan shall require a data base that includes all necessary information for a contractor to review its past work (at a minimum over the past 36 months), work in progress, and work the company may be pursuing under any marketing proposals. This requirement does not establish any particular type or kind of retrieval system, however, the data base shall contain, at a minimum, the following information and capabilities.

(1) a list of the company's past and public clients;
(2) a description of the type(s) of work that was performed and any other pertinent information;
(3) a list of the past sites (when applicable) a contractor has worked on;
(4) a list of site name(s) (when applicable) related to any work performed; and
(5) the ability to search and retrieve the information in the data base.

If applicable, the COI Plan shall include provisions for supplemental searches of a parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, or sister company's records. The COI Plan shall also describe any cross-checks used by the company when searching COI issues.

D. Personal Certification

At a minimum, the COI Plan shall require ALL employees of the company performing work under an EPA Superfund and/or Non-Superfund contract, including work on a site, work relating to a site, or work pertaining to a CERCLA/RCRA action or work that may endanger a CERCLA enforcement action, to sign a personal certification. It should be noted however, that it is the preference of the Agency that ALL employees of the company be required to sign such a certification rather than only those employees

working under an EPA contract. The certification shall require at a minimum, that the individual agrees to report to the proper company authority any personal COI the individual may have on any work that may result in an actual or potential COI. The certification shall also state the individual has read and understands the company's COI Plan and procedures. The employee certifications shall be retained by the company.

E. Work Assignment (WA), Technical Direction Document(TDD), or Delivery Order (DO) Notification and Certification

The COI Plan shall describe the process the company requires for notifying the Agency prior to beginning work, and for submission of its' WA/TDD/DO certification within 20 days of receipt of the work from EPA.

NOTE: WA/TDD/DO certifications are NOT required if the contract contains an annual certification requirement. Nevertheless, the contractor's COI Plan should address the procedures to be followed for WA/TDD/DO certifications.

F. Annual Certification

The COI Plan shall describe the process the company requires for submission of its annual certification.

NOTE: Annual certification is NOT required if the contract contains a WA/TDD/DO certification requirement. Nevertheless, the contractor's COI Plan should address the procedures to be followed for annual certifications.

G. Notification and Documentation

The COI Plan shall clearly delineate who is the responsible official for making COI determinations within the company. Generally, this would be someone at a middle to upper level of management. The responsible official shall be free of any personal conflicts for the purpose of making COI determinations, e.g., a program manager who receives bonuses based on the total amount of sales may not be free of conflicts.

The plan shall clearly identify the process that is required when notifying the EPA of any actual or potential COI and the actions that the company has taken or will take to avoid, neutralize or mitigate the conflict. In addition, a contractor shall document all COI searches related to EPA work, whether or NOT an actual or potential COI has been identified.

H. Training

The COI Plan shall require all employees of the company to receive basic COI

training, and that each employee receive COI awareness training, at least, on an annual basis. The company's COI Plan shall be available for all employees to review. Annual awareness training shall include, at a minimum, a review of the certification language and any changes that may have occurred in the company's COI Plan. In addition, companies are encouraged to routinely disseminate to their employees current COI information.

I. Subcontractor's COI Plans

The COI Plan shall describe the process and mechanism by which the company will monitor its subcontractors to ensure all subcontractors are complying with the COI provisions in their contracts. It is important that subcontractors identify and report COI as well as submit Limitation of Future Contracting (LOFC) requests for approval.

SECTION M PROVISION:

EVALUATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST PLAN

The acceptability of an offeror's Conflict of Interest Plan submitted in response to clause L.10 will be considered as part of the responsibility determination undertaken prior to contact award to determine whether an offeror meets the responsibility standard set forth in FAR Sub-part 9.104. The offeror's conflict of interest plan will be considered "acceptable" or "unacceptable." An offeror whose Conflict Of Interest Plan is not acceptable at time of award will be considered non-responsible and ineligible for award.