

**CONTRACT NO. 473-19-00008**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS,**  
**TEXAS RELIABILITY ENTITY, INC.**  
**AND**  
**ELECTRIC RELIABILITY COUNCIL OF TEXAS, INC.**

The parties to this contract are the Public Utility Commission of Texas, an agency of the State of Texas, located at 1701 N. Congress Ave., Austin, Texas 78701, Texas Reliability Entity, Inc., a Texas nonprofit corporation, located at 805 Las Cimas Parkway, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78746, and Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT), a Texas nonprofit corporation, located at 7620 Metro Center Drive, Austin, Texas 78744.

**Article 1. DEFINITIONS**

When used in this contract, the following terms have the following meanings:

- 1.1 "PUCT," means the Public Utility Commission of Texas, an agency of the state of Texas, acting through its Executive Director and the agency's designated contract administrator.
- 1.2 "Commission" means the governing body of the PUCT.
- 1.3 "Contractor" includes Texas Reliability Entity, Inc., and any successors, heirs, and assigns.
- 1.4 "Business day" means a day the PUCT is open for business and is not observing a holiday.
- 1.5 "May" means "is authorized to."
- 1.6 "Services" means any and all services performed and any and all goods and products delivered by Contractor as specified in the Statement of Work.
- 1.7 "Statement of Work" means the description of goods and services to be provided under this contract found in Attachment A to this contract.
- 1.8 "ERCOT" means the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc., a Texas non-profit.
- 1.9 "Parties" means PUCT, ERCOT and Contractor. "Any Party" means PUCT, ERCOT, or Contractor.

**Article 2. COMPENSATION**

**2.1 Compensation.** Contractor agrees to provide all Services (including labor, expenses, and any other services) described in the Statement of Work, for the firm fixed price of \$5,366,000 to be paid in quarterly installments as shown in the following table:

Contract Year	Dates	Firm Fixed Price Offer	Quarterly Payment
Year 1	January 1, 2020- December 31, 2020	\$1,205,867	\$301,466.75
Year 2	January 1, 2021- December 31, 2021	\$1,332,358	\$333,089.50

Year 3	January 1, 2022- December 31, 2022	\$1,385,676	\$346,419.00
Year 4	January 1, 2023- December 31, 2023	\$1,442,099	\$360,524.75
Total	January 1, 2020- December 31, 2023	\$5,366,000	

Contractor understands that the PUCT and ERCOT are not responsible for payment of any costs or expenses exceeding this amount.

If Contractor believes that changes in the scope of Services to be performed will require Contractor to increase its fee, it must request the PUCT's written authorization to increase its fee. Contractor must document the changes in the scope of Services and why they will require additional effort. The PUCT must approve the increase in fee by written amendment to this contract before Contractor performs any Services or may invoice the increased fee.

**2.2 Payment Process.** Contractor must submit an invoice to the PUCT contract administrator with a copy to the ERCOT contract administrator no later than thirty days prior to the beginning of the quarter in which the Services will be performed, with the exception of the invoice for the first quarter of the contract term, which is due immediately upon execution of the contract. At the end of each quarter, Contractor must submit an updated statement with a brief description of the Services that were performed and the name of the person who performed the Services. No payment will be made for administrative overhead or overtime.

On the statement or invoice, Contractor must include a statement that the invoice accurately describes the Services performed and the Services were performed in compliance with the contract. The statement or invoice must include the vendor identification number issued by the Texas Comptroller or Contractor's federal taxpayer identification number, a description of the Services provided, and the name and division of the PUCT contract administrator.

Contractor must submit the invoice to the PUCT as follows:

By email to: [Payables@puc.texas.gov](mailto:Payables@puc.texas.gov), with a copy to [ContractOversight@puc.texas.gov](mailto:ContractOversight@puc.texas.gov)

Or by mail to: Accounts Payable  
Public Utility Commission of Texas  
P.O. Box 13326  
Austin, TX 78711-3326

Within five business days of receiving the invoice, the PUCT contract administrator will review the invoice and any other relevant documentation to ensure the Services were performed in compliance with the contract. If the invoice does not contain required information or documentation, or if the PUCT disputes that the Services were performed in compliance with the contract, the PUCT will reject the invoice and give the contractor its reasons and the opportunity to submit a corrected invoice.

Upon approval of the invoice, the PUCT contract administrator will notify the contractor and submit the invoice to ERCOT for payment. ERCOT must pay all PUCT approved and undisputed amounts within thirty days of initial receipt of Contractor's invoice from Contractor.

**2.3 Release of Claims.** Contractor's acceptance of payment releases the PUCT and ERCOT of all claims for compensation owed in connection with this contract.

**2.4 Refund.** Contractor will promptly refund or credit within thirty calendar days any funds erroneously paid by ERCOT which are not expressly authorized under the contract.

**2.5 Payments Made to Subcontractors.** Contractor must pay any subcontractor hereunder the appropriate share of payments received not later than the 10th day after the date Contractor receives the payment. The subcontractor's payment is overdue on the 11th day after the date Contractor receives the payment. The PUCT must approve Contractor's use of any subcontractor before Contractor engages the subcontractor (see Section 5.1 of this contract).

**2.6 Records.** Contractor and its subcontractors, if any, must maintain records and books of account relating to Services provided under this contract. Contractor must, for a period of seven (7) years following the later of the expiration or termination of this contract or the resolution of all issues that arise from any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit, open records request, administrative review, or other action involving the contract or documents, maintain its records (electronic and paper) of the work performed under this contract. Records include, but are not limited to: correspondence concerning the subject of this contract between Contractor and the PUCT or ERCOT; Contractor's internal correspondence; and correspondence between Contractor and any third party. Contractor must make all records that support the performance of Services and payment available to any of the following PUCT, ERCOT, PUCT's or ERCOT's designees, or the State Auditor during normal business hours with reasonable notice, upon the request of the PUCT contract administrator or the ERCOT contract administrator.

**2.7 Sole Compensation.** Payments under this Article are Contractor's sole compensation under this contract. Contractor must not incur expenses not contemplated under the Statement of Work, with the expectation that ERCOT, the PUCT, or the state of Texas will pay the expense.

### **Article 3. CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION**

**3.1 PUCT Contract Administration.** The PUCT designates Mick Long to serve as its primary point of contact and contract administrator throughout the term of this contract. Contractor and ERCOT acknowledge that the PUCT contract administrator does not have any authority to amend this contract on behalf of the PUCT, except as expressly provided herein. Contractor and ERCOT further acknowledge that such authority is exclusively held by the Commission exercising its authority through a vote in an open meeting, or the Executive Director of the PUCT as the Commission's authorized designee.

**3.2 ERCOT Contract Administration.** ERCOT designates Jimmy Ramirez to serve as its primary point of contact and contract administrator throughout the term of this contract. Contractor and the PUCT acknowledge that the ERCOT contract administrator does not have any authority to amend this contract on behalf of ERCOT, except as expressly provided herein.

Contractor and the PUCT further acknowledge that such authority is exclusively held by the ERCOT President and Chief Executive Officer or his or her authorized designee.

**3.3 Contractor Contract Administration.** Contractor designates Joseph Younger to serve as its primary point of contact and contract administrator throughout the term of this contract. The PUCT and ERCOT acknowledge that the Contractor's contract administrator does not have any authority to amend this contract on behalf of Contractor, except as expressly provided herein. The PUCT and ERCOT further acknowledge that such authority is exclusively held by the Texas RE President and Chief Executive Officer or his or her authorized designee.

**3.4 Reporting.** Contractor must report directly to the PUCT contract administrator and must perform all activities in accordance with the reasonable instructions, directions, and requests conveyed to Contractor by the PUCT contract administrator.

**3.5 Cooperation.** The Parties' respective contract administrators must handle all communications between them in a timely and cooperative manner. The Parties must timely notify each other by email or other written communication of any change in designee or contact information.

**3.6 Inquiries and Prompt Referral.** Contractor will promptly refer all inquiries regarding this contract received from state legislators, other public officials, the media, or anyone else not a Party to this contract to the PUCT contract administrator.

#### **Article 4. REPORTS AND RECORDS**

**4.1 Written Reports.** Contractor must provide written reports to the PUCT in the form and with the frequency specified in the Statement of Work, or as otherwise agreed in writing between the Parties.

**4.2 Distribution of Consultant Reports.** Contractor agrees the PUCT has the right to distribute any consultant report associated with this contract, or to allow another Texas state agency or the Texas legislature to distribute it. The PUCT will also have the right to post any consultant report associated with this contract to the PUCT's website or to the website of a standing committee of the legislature. This provision does not waive any right to confidentiality that the PUCT may assert for the report or any portion thereof.

#### **Article 5. SUBCONTRACTING PARTIES**

**5.1 Use of Subcontractors.** The Parties acknowledge and agree that, at the time of execution of this contract, Contractor intends to perform the Services required under this Contract using its own employees. Contractor will notify the PUCT contract administrator of any other proposed subcontract and will work with the PUCT HUB Coordinator to procure such other subcontractor and to submit appropriate subcontractor selection documentation for approval prior to engaging any other subcontractor, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld. Any subcontract not contemplated at the initiation of this contract and any subsequent substitution of a subcontractor must be approved by an amendment according to the terms of Article 7.

**5.2 Sole Responsibility.** Contractor is solely responsible for the quality and timeliness of the work produced by all subcontractors that Contractor may engage to provide Services hereunder

and for the timely payment for all work produced by all subcontractors that the PUCT accepts and ERCOT pays for in accordance with the terms of this contract.

**5.3 Prime Vendor Contract.** The Parties expressly agree that this Contract is intended to constitute a prime vendor contract, with Contractor serving as the prime vendor for delivery of the Services made the subject hereof. Contractor acknowledges and agrees that it is fully liable and responsible for timely, complete delivery of the Services described in this Contract, notwithstanding the engagement of any subcontractor to perform an obligation under this Contract.

#### **Article 6. TERM AND TERMINATION**

**6.1 Term.** The term of this Contract will begin on January 1, 2020, and will continue in effect until December 31, 2023 unless sooner terminated under Sections 6.2 or 6.3 of this Contract.

**6.2 Termination for Cause by the PUCT.** If Contractor fails to provide the goods or services contracted for according to the provisions of the contract, or fails to comply with any terms or conditions of the contract, the PUCT may serve upon Contractor written notice requiring Contractor to cure such default. Unless within thirty (30) days after receipt of said notice by Contractor, said default is corrected or arrangements satisfactory to the PUCT for correcting the default have been made by Contractor, the PUCT may terminate this contract for default and will have all rights and remedies provided by law and under this contract. If the PUCT terminates Contractor for a violation of Section 18.12, of this contract, the PUCT need not provide any notice or opportunity for curing the default. The PUCT will not be liable for any damages or loss to Contractor as a result of termination for cause.

**6.3 Termination for Cause by Contractor.** If the PUCT or ERCOT is in default of any material term of this contract, Contractor may serve upon PUCT and ERCOT written notice requiring the defaulting party to cure such default. Unless within thirty (30) days after receipt of said notice by PUCT and ERCOT, said default is corrected or arrangements satisfactory to Contractor for correcting the default have been made by the defaulting party, Contractor may terminate this contract for default and will have all rights and remedies provided by law and under this contract. Contractor will not be liable for any damages or loss to the PUCT or ERCOT as a result of termination for cause.

**6.4 Termination for the Convenience of the PUCT.** The PUCT may, with a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice to Contractor, terminate this contract whenever the interests of the PUCT so require. Unless Contractor, the PUCT, and ERCOT agree otherwise in writing, the PUCT and ERCOT will only be responsible for payment for services rendered during the time period between when notice is provided and the effective date of the termination of the contract. If payment has already been made for a period of time beyond the termination of the contract, Contractor will refund a pro rata share of the payment equal to the quarterly payment divided by the number of days in the quarter, then multiplied by the number of days in the quarter after the termination is effective. The PUCT will not be liable for any damages or loss to Contractor as a result of termination for convenience.

**6.5 Transfer of Duties.** In the event of termination, Contractor will provide reasonable cooperation to transfer its duties under the contract to another entity without disruption to the provision of Services.

**6.6 Remedies for Breach.** All remedies available to the PUCT for breach or anticipatory breach of this contract by Contractor are cumulative and may be exercised concurrently or separately, and the exercise of any one remedy will not be deemed an election of such remedy to the exclusion of other remedies. Except for the indemnification obligations under Article 12 of this contract, Contractor will not be liable under this contract for any special, indirect, incidental, consequential, punitive or exemplary damages of any kind. Except for the indemnification obligations under Article 12 of this contract, the total cumulative liability of Contractor for claims of any kind, whether based on this contract or tort or otherwise relating to this contract will not exceed the compensation paid to Contractor for services under this contract, plus reasonable legal fees. Damages available under this contract may either be invoked separately or combined with any injunctive relief in accordance with applicable law.

**6.7 Survival.** In the event that this Contract expires or is terminated pursuant to its terms, the rights and obligations of the Parties under it will end; provided that the provisions of Sections 2.3 through 2.6, 3.6, 4.2, 6.5 through 6.7, 7.5, 9.2, 9.4 through 9.6, 17.2, 19.1 through 19.5, 19.10 through 19.12, and Articles 1, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 23, 28, and 29 will survive in their entirety.

#### **Article 7. ASSIGNMENT, AMENDMENTS, AND MODIFICATIONS**

**7.1 Material Change Requests.** The PUCT or ERCOT may propose changes to the Statement of Work. Upon receipt of a written request from the PUCT or ERCOT for a change to the Statement of Work, Contractor must, within the deadline specified in the request, or if no deadline is specified within a reasonable time thereafter, submit to the PUCT and ERCOT a detailed written estimate of any proposed price and schedule adjustments to this contract. No changes to the Statement of Work, will occur without the Parties' written consent as provided in accordance with the terms stated in this contract.

**7.2 Changes in Law, Rules, or Rulings.** Changes in federal or state legislation, rules and regulations or rulings by the PUCT after the effective date of this contract may require modification of the terms of this contract, including an increase or decrease in Contractor's duties or compensation. In the event of changes to statutes, rules, or regulations affecting the terms of this contract, the PUCT and Contractor must negotiate the terms of a contract modification in good faith and incorporate the modification into this Contract by written amendment.

**7.3 No Assignment of Duties.** This contract will be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the permitted successors and assigns of any Party (including by merger of Contractor or otherwise by operation of law); provided, however, that Contractor may not otherwise, without the prior written consent of the PUCT, assign or transfer this contract or any obligation incurred under this contract. Any attempt by Contractor to assign or transfer this contract or any obligation incurred

under this contract, in contravention of this article, will be voidable at the PUCT's sole discretion.

**7.4 Amendments and Modifications.** This contract may not be amended or modified in any manner except by written instrument executed by authorized representatives of the Parties in accordance with the terms of this contract.

**7.5 Binding on Successors.** The terms of this contract will be binding on any successor organization of any of the Parties.

#### **Article 8. REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES AND COVENANTS**

**8.1 Warranty of Performance.** Contractor represents, warrants, and covenants that it will perform the Services outlined in the Statement of Work, in a professional and workmanlike manner, consistent with professional standards of practice in the professional industry.

**8.2 Warranty of Services.** Contractor warrants that the Services will be rendered by the qualified personnel named in Section 19.8 of this contract. If Services provided under this contract require a professional license, then Contractor represents, warrants, and covenants that the activity will be performed only by duly licensed personnel.

#### **Article 9. RISK OF LOSS AND PROPERTY RIGHTS**

**9.1 Risk of Loss.** The risk of loss for all items to be furnished hereunder will remain with Contractor until the items are delivered to and accepted by the PUCT, at which time the risk of loss will pass to the PUCT.

**9.2 Ownership.** Except for materials where any intellectual property rights are vested in a third party, such as software or hardware, in which case such rights remain the property of the third party, all finished materials, deliverables, conceptions, or products created or prepared for or on behalf of the PUCT and purchased by the PUCT, or on behalf of the PUCT, that the PUCT has accepted as part of the performance of Services hereunder, will be the PUCT's property exclusively and will be given to the PUCT either at the PUCT's request during the term of the Contract or upon termination or expiration of the contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, materials created, prepared for, or purchased exclusively by the PUCT or on behalf of the PUCT are the PUCT's exclusive property regardless of whether delivery to the PUCT is effectuated during or upon termination or expiration of this contract.

**9.3 Licensed Software.** With PUCT's advanced written consent, Contractor may obtain software licenses as an agent of the PUCT for software that is used by Contractor solely for the purpose of providing Services under this contract. Contractor must provide the PUCT and ERCOT with a copy of any software license obtained by Contractor as an agent for the PUCT for the purpose of providing Services under this contract.

**9.4 Prior Works.** Except as provided herein, all previously owned materials, conceptions, or products remain the property of Contractor and nothing contained in this contract will be construed to require Contractor to transfer ownership of such materials to the PUCT.

**9.5 Trademarks.** The Parties agree that no rights to any trademark or service mark belonging to another Party or to any non-Party are granted to any other Party by this contract, unless by separate written instrument. The PUCT and ERCOT acknowledge and agree that use of any trademark associated with any software provided by Contractor under this contract does not give the PUCT or ERCOT any rights of ownership in the trademark or the software.

**9.6 Program Information.** Program information, data, and details relating to Contractor's Services under this contract must be maintained separately from Contractor's other activities. Contractor must undertake all reasonable care and precaution in the handling and storing of this information.

**9.7 Provision to be Inserted in Subcontracts.** Contractor must insert a provision containing Sections 9.2 and 9.6 of this contract in all subcontracts hereunder except altered as necessary for proper identification of the contracting Parties, ERCOT, and the PUCT under this contract.

#### **Article 10. PUBLIC INFORMATION**

**10.1 Texas Public Information Act. (Texas Government Code Chapter 552).** The Parties acknowledge that notwithstanding any other provisions of this contract, the Texas Public Information Act ("PIA") governs the treatment of all information held by or under the control of the PUCT. The PUCT will notify Contractor of requests for Contractor's information as required under the PIA. The PUCT will also notify ERCOT of requests for ERCOT's information as required under the PIA.

**10.2 Agreement Not Confidential.** The Parties acknowledge that not all terms of this contract may be confidential under the PIA, regardless of whether those terms are marked "Proprietary," "Trade Secret," or "Confidential." Contractor further acknowledges that in the event of a dispute over the release of a proposal or part of a proposal the PUCT is bound by the decision made by the Office of the Attorney General of Texas.

**10.3 Contractor's Duty to Provide Public Information.** Contractor is required, at no additional cost to the state, to make available in a format that is accessible by the public any information created or exchanged with either the state, or ERCOT, or both the state and ERCOT, pursuant to this contract. For the purpose of Section 10.3 of this contract, paper documents, Adobe Portable Document Format files (.pdf), Microsoft Excel spreadsheets (.xls), Microsoft Word documents (.docx), and Hypertext Markup Language (.html) files will be considered "accessible by the public," unless another format is specified by the PUCT, at the PUCT's sole discretion. If information created or exchanged with the state pursuant to this contract is excepted from disclosure under the PIA, Contractor will not be required to make the information available to the public, but may be required to facilitate the PUCT's provision of the information to the Texas Attorney General for a decision on the information's confidentiality. The PUCT has no duty or responsibility to argue a defense of confidentiality to Contractor's information or data; it will be Contractor's sole responsibility to do so.

#### **Article 11. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTION**

**11.1 No Conflicting Relationships.** Contractor certifies to the PUCT that no existing or contemplated relationship exists between Contractor and the PUCT that interferes with fair competition or is a conflict of interest, and that no existing or contemplated relationship exists between Contractor and another person or organization, whether or not located within the State of Texas, that constitutes or will constitute a conflict of interest for Contractor with respect to the PUCT. Texas Reliability Entity's role as the NERC Regional Entity for the ERCOT region does not create a conflict of interest and will not be deemed to violate this Article.

**11.2 Prohibition on Transactions with Parties Adverse to the PUCT.** Contractor agrees that during the term of this contract and any extensions or renewals thereof, it will neither provide contractual services nor enter into any agreement, oral or written, to provide services to a person or organization that is regulated or funded by the PUCT or that has interests that are directly or indirectly adverse to those of the PUCT. The PUCT may waive this provision in writing if, in the PUCT's sole judgment, such activities of the Contractor will not be adverse to the interests of the PUCT. For the purposes of this article, NERC is not a party adverse to the PUCT.

**11.3 Notice of Conflict.** Contractor agrees to promptly notify the PUCT of any circumstance that may create a real or perceived conflict of interest, whether arising prior to or during the term of the contract. Contractor agrees to use its best efforts to resolve any real or perceived conflict of interest to the satisfaction of the PUCT. If Contractor fails to do so, it will be grounds for termination of this contract for cause, pursuant to Section 6.2 of this contract.

**11.4 Prohibited Employment.** Contractor agrees that it will not hire any person whose employment with Contractor would violate any of the employment restrictions in Texas Government Code Chapter 572 or Texas Utilities Code Chapter 12.

## **Article 12. INDEMNIFICATION**

Contractor must indemnify, defend and hold harmless the PUCT, the State of Texas, ERCOT and their officers, agents, employees, representatives, contractors, assignees, and designees from any and all liabilities, claims, suits, assessments, penalties, losses, damages, demands or causes of action, and all related costs, attorney fees and expenses of whatever kind or nature asserted by a third party and occurring in any way incident to, arising out of, or in connection with acts or omissions of Contractor, its agents, employees and subcontractors, committed in the conduct of this contract. Contractor will have the obligation to undertake the defense of any such claim, process, or legal proceeding at Contractor's expense; provided, however, that either the PUCT, ERCOT, or both, may participate in the defense with counsel of their own choosing. Any defense must be coordinated by Contractor with the Office of the Attorney General when Texas State Agencies are named defendants in any lawsuit. Contractor may not agree to any settlement without first obtaining concurrence from the Office of the Attorney General when Texas State Agencies are named defendants in any lawsuit. Contractor, the PUCT, and ERCOT agree to furnish timely written notice to each other of any claim.

If all or any part of the deliverables of this contract is the subject of any claim, suit, or proceeding for infringement or misappropriation of any intellectual property right, Contractor may, and in the event of any adjudication that the deliverables or any part thereof infringes or

misappropriates any patent, trademark, copyright, or trade secret, or if the licensing or use of any of the deliverables or any part thereof is enjoined, Contractor must, at its expense do one of the following things: (i) procure for ERCOT and the PUCT the right under such patent, trademark, copyright or trade secret to fully use the deliverables or the affected part thereof; or (ii) replace the deliverable or affected part thereof with another non-infringing deliverable; or (iii) suitably modify the deliverable or affected part thereof to make it non-infringing.

### **Article 13. INSURANCE**

**13.1 Contractor Responsibility.** Contractor agrees to comply with all state and federal laws applicable to the liability and payment of Contractor and Contractor's employees, including laws regarding wages, taxes, insurances, and workers' compensation. Neither the PUCT nor the State of Texas nor ERCOT will be liable to the Contractor, its employees, agents, or others for the provision of unemployment insurance or workers' compensation or any benefit available to a state employee.

**13.2 Minimum Insurance.** Contractor must, at its sole cost and expense, secure and maintain as a minimum, from the effective date of this contract and thereafter during the term of this contract and any renewals or extensions thereof, for its own protection and the protection of the PUCT, the State of Texas, and ERCOT:

- a) commercial liability insurance, covering, at a minimum, the following categories of liability within the following limits: (i) bodily injury and property damage - \$1,000,000 limit per occurrence, \$2,000,000 aggregate, (ii) medical expense - \$5,000 limit per person, (iii) personal injury and advertising liability - \$1,000,000 limit, (iv) products or completed operations - \$2,000,000 aggregate, (v) damage to premises rented - \$50,000 limit;
- b) automobile liability coverage for vehicles driven by Contractor's employees (\$500,000 per occurrence);
- c) workers' compensation insurance in accordance with the statutory limits, as follows: (i) employer's liability - \$1,000,000 each incident, (ii) disease - \$1,000,000 each employee and \$1,000,000 policy limit;
- d) cyber incident coverage to include: privacy breach related legal expenses to review and determine responsibilities under privacy breach laws; expenses related to compliance with privacy law notification requirements; credit and identification monitoring for up to 12 months after a cyber incident; expenses related to forensic investigations to investigate a system intrusion into the Contractor's computer system; and expenses to hire a public relations firm for public communications response; and
- e) a fidelity bond or crime policy in the amount of \$1,000,000 with third party coverage for ERCOT and the PUCT for Contractor's employees working on ERCOT premises or working with ERCOT intellectual property, proprietary information, or Confidential Information.

The PUCT, the State of Texas, and ERCOT must be named an additional insured on the commercial liability and automobile policies. Contractor must provide a waiver of subrogation for each of these policies.

Insurance coverage must be from companies licensed by the State of Texas to provide insurance with an "A" rating from A.M. Best and authorized to provide the corresponding coverage.

**13.3 Certificates of Insurance.** Contractor must furnish to the PUCT and ERCOT certificates of insurance and any applicable endorsements, signed by authorized representatives of the surety or insurers, of all such bonds and insurance and confirming the amounts of such coverage within ten (10) days of the effective date of this contract, and upon request thereafter. Contractor must provide the PUCT contract administrator and ERCOT contract administrator with timely renewal certificates as the coverage renews. Failure to maintain such insurance coverage specified herein, or to provide such certificates or endorsements promptly, will constitute a material breach of this Contract. Contractor must provide thirty (30) days written notice of any notice for renewal or cancellation of insurance.

#### **Article 14. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

The Parties agree to resolve disputes arising under this contract through the dispute resolution process provided for in Chapter 2260 of the Texas Government Code and Subchapter C of the PUCT Rules for Administrative Services.

#### **Article 15. SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY**

The State of Texas and the PUCT do not waive sovereign immunity by entering into this contract and specifically retain immunity and all defenses available to them under the Constitution, the laws of the State of Texas, or the common law.

#### **Article 16. GOVERNING LAW**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this contract, this contract will be deemed entered into in the State of Texas and will be governed by, construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas that apply to contracts executed in and performed entirely within the State of Texas, without reference to any rules of conflict of laws. The Parties consent to the exclusive jurisdiction of the State of Texas. The Parties hereby submit to the jurisdiction of the courts located in, and venue is hereby stipulated to, the state courts located in Travis County, Texas. Each Party stipulates that it is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts located in Travis County, Texas, for any cause of action arising from any act or omission in the performance of this contract. Further, each Party hereby waives any right to assert any defense to jurisdiction being held by the courts located in Travis County, Texas, for any cause of action arising from any act or omission in the performance of this contract.

#### **Article 17. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW**

**17.1 General.** Contractor must comply with all federal, state, and local laws, executive orders, regulations, and rules applicable at the time of performance. Contractor warrants that all Services sold hereunder will have been produced, sold, delivered, and furnished in strict compliance with all applicable laws and regulations to which they are subject, including, but not limited to, Equal

Employment Opportunity laws. All laws and regulations required in agreements of this character are hereby incorporated by this reference.

**17.2 Taxes.** Contractor agrees to comply with any and all applicable state tax laws that may require any filing with or payment to the State of Texas as a result of any action taken as a result of this contract.

**17.3 Workers' Compensation.** Contractor agrees that it will be in compliance with applicable state workers' compensation laws throughout the term of this contract and any renewals or extensions thereof.

**17.4 Conflicts.** Contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of and policy directions provided by the Texas statutes, the rules and regulations of the PUCT, and ERCOT rules and procedures. Contractor agrees to inform and consult with the PUCT and ERCOT when further interpretations or directions are needed in order to fully implement the rules and regulations of the PUCT or ERCOT rules and procedures. In the event that Contractor becomes aware of inconsistencies between this Contract and a Texas statute or PUCT rule, Contractor will so advise the PUCT immediately and will cooperate fully to revise applicable provisions of this contract as necessary. In the event that Contractor becomes aware of inconsistencies between this Contract and an ERCOT rule or procedure, Contractor will so advise ERCOT and PUCT immediately and will cooperate fully to revise applicable provisions of this Contract as necessary.

**17.5 Compliance with Deceptive Trade Practices Act.** Contractor must comply with Texas Business and Commerce Code Chapter 17.

**17.6 Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act.** Contractor must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. Chapter 126.

**17.7 Prohibited Use of Appropriated or Other Funds.** Contractor must comply with Texas Government Code Sections 556.005 and 556.0055 related to prohibited uses of appropriated and other funds.

**17.8 Certificate of Interested Parties Form.** At the time Contractor submits a signed contract to the PUCT, Contractor must submit a "Certificate of Interested Parties" form to the PUCT and file the form with the Texas Ethics Commission. The form and instructions for filing the form can be found at: <https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/tec/1295-Info.htm>. Contractor must not perform any work under the contract, nor receive any compensation prior to filing the form with the Texas Ethics Commission.

#### **Article 18. CONTRACTOR'S CERTIFICATION**

By accepting the terms of this Contract, Contractor certifies that, to the extent applicable, it is in compliance with the following requirements and prohibitions. Contractor understands and agrees that a false certification may lead to termination of this contract for cause.

**18.1 Prohibitions on Gifts.** Contractor has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with this contract.

**18.2 Delinquent Obligations.** Contractor is not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise or sales tax owed to the State of Texas, and is not delinquent in the payment of any child support obligations under applicable state law.

**18.3 Terrorist Financing.** The PUCT is federally mandated to adhere to the directions provided in the President's Executive Order (EO) 13224, Executive Order on Terrorist Financing – Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions With Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism, effective 9/24/2001 and any subsequent changes made to it, via cross referencing proposers or vendors with the Federal General Services Administration's System for Award Management (SAM), <https://www.sam.gov/>, which is inclusive of the United States Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) Specially Designated National (SDN) list.

<http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/SDN-List/Pages/default.aspx>

Contractor certifies that the Contractor and its principals are eligible to participate in this transaction and have not been subjected to suspension, debarment, or similar ineligibility determined by any federal, state or local governmental entity and that Contractor is not listed on the federal government's terrorism watch list as described in Executive Order 13224. Entities ineligible for federal procurement are listed at: <https://www.sam.gov/>

Contractor further certifies that it is not engaged in business with Iran, Sudan, or a foreign terrorist organization as prohibited by Section 2252.152 of the Texas Government Code.

**18.4 Antitrust.** Neither Contractor nor anyone acting for Contractor has violated the antitrust laws of this state, codified in Section 15.01, et seq. of the Texas Business and Commerce Code or the Federal Antitrust Laws, nor has communicated directly or indirectly to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business for the purpose of obtaining an unfair price advantage.

**18.5 Family Code.** Contractor has no principal who is ineligible to receive funds under Texas Family Code Section 231.006 and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

**18.6 Prohibited Compensation.** Contractor has not received compensation from the PUCT, or any agent, employee, or person acting on the PUCT's behalf for participation in the preparation of this contract.

**18.7 Government Code.** Under Texas Government Code Section 2155.004, Contractor certifies that the individual or business entity named in this contract is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated or payment may be withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

**18.8 Outstanding Obligations.** Payments due under the contract will be applied towards any debt that is owed to the State of Texas, including but not limited to delinquent taxes and child support.

**18.9 Contracting with Executive Head of State Agency.** Contractor certifies this contract is in compliance with Texas Government Code Section 669.003 relating to contracting with the

executive head of a State agency. If Texas Government Code Section 669.003 applies, bidder will provide the following information in order for the bid to be evaluated: Name of Former Executive; Name of State Agency; Date of Separation from State Agency; Position with Bidder; and Date of Employment with Bidder.

**18.10 Buy Texas.** Contractor will comply with Texas Government Code Section 2155.4441, pertaining to service contracts regarding the use of products produced in the state of Texas.

**18.11 Hurricane Recovery.** Under Texas Government Code Section 2155.006, Contractor certifies that the individual or business entity named in this proposal is not ineligible to receive the specified contract and acknowledges that this contract may be terminated and payment withheld if this certification is inaccurate.

**18.12 E-Verify.** Contractor certifies and ensures that it utilizes and will continue to utilize, for the term of this Contract, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to determine the eligibility of:

1. All persons hired to perform duties within Texas, during the term of the contract; and
2. All persons (including subcontractors) hired by the proposer to perform work pursuant to the contract, within the United States of America.

The Contractor must provide, upon request of PUCT, an electronic or hardcopy screenshot of the confirmation or tentative non-confirmation screen containing the E-Verify case verification number for attachment to the Form I-9 for the three most recent hires that match the criteria above, by the Contractor, and Contractor's subcontractors, as proof that this provision is being followed.

If this certification is falsely made, the contract may be immediately terminated, at the discretion of the state and at no fault to the state, with no prior notification. The Contractor will also be responsible for the costs of any re-solicitation that the state must undertake to replace the terminated contract.

This term should not be construed to require Contractor to utilize E-Verify to determine the eligibility of existing employees, or otherwise use E-Verify in violation of the law.

**18.13 Debarred Vendors List.** Contractor certifies that it is not on the Debarred Vendors List located at [http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/vendor\\_performance/debarred/](http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/vendor_performance/debarred/).

**18.14 Does Not Boycott Israel.** As required by Texas Government Code Section 2270.002, Contractor certifies that Contractor does not, and will not during the term of this contract, boycott Israel. Contractor further certifies that no subcontractor of Contractor boycotts Israel, or will boycott Israel during the term of this contract. If Contractor is required to make a certification pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 2270.002. Contractor certifies that Contractor does not boycott Israel and will not boycott Israel during the term of the contract resulting from this solicitation. If Contractor does not make that certification, Contractor certifies that it provided a statement to the PUCT, prior to signing this contract, stating why the certification is not required.

**18.15 No Abortion Providers.** As required by Texas Government Code Section 2272.003, Contractor certifies that it is not an abortion provider, nor an affiliate of an abortion provider.

**Article 19. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**19.1 Relationship of Parties.** Contractor is and will remain at all times an independent contractor, and nothing in this contract will be deemed to create a joint venture, partnership, employment, franchise, or master-servant relationship between the Parties. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the Parties will have principal-agent relationships as described in the Statement of Work. Except as expressly provided to the contrary elsewhere in this contract, no Party has any right or authority to act on behalf of another Party, nor to assume or create any obligation, liability or responsibility on behalf of another Party. Under no circumstances will the relationship of employer and employee be deemed to arise between the PUCT or ERCOT and Contractor's personnel. Contractor will be solely responsible for achieving the results contemplated by this contract, whether performed by Contractor, its agents, employees or subcontractors.

**19.2 Non-Exclusivity.** Nothing in this contract is intended nor will be construed as creating any exclusive arrangement between Contractor and PUCT or Contractor and ERCOT. This contract will not restrict PUCT or ERCOT from acquiring any similar, equal, or like goods or services from other entities or sources.

**19.3 Taxes and Statutory Withholdings.** Contractor acknowledges that it is not a PUCT or ERCOT employee, but is an independent contractor. Accordingly, it is Contractor's sole obligation to report as income all compensation received by Contractor under the terms of this contract. Contractor is solely responsible for all taxes (federal, state, or local), withholdings, social security, unemployment, Medicare, Workers' Compensation insurance, and other similar statutory obligations (of any governmental entity of any country) arising from, relating to, or in connection with any payment made to Contractor under this contract. Contractor must defend, indemnify and hold the PUCT and ERCOT harmless to the extent of any obligation imposed by law on the PUCT or ERCOT to pay any tax (federal, state, or local), withholding, social security, unemployment, Medicare, Workers' Compensation insurance, or other similar statutory obligation (of any governmental entity of any country) arising from, relating to, or in connection with any payment made to Contractor under this contract. Further, Contractor understands that neither it nor any of its individual employees is eligible for any PUCT or ERCOT employee benefit, including but not limited to holiday, vacation, sick pay, withholding taxes (federal, state, local), social security, Medicare, unemployment or disability insurance, Workers' Compensation, health and welfare benefits, profit sharing, 401(k) or any employee stock option or stock purchase plans. Contractor hereby waives any and all rights to any such PUCT or ERCOT employment benefit.

**19.4 Notice.** Except as otherwise stated in this contract, all notices provided for in this contract must be (a) in writing, (b) addressed to a Party at the address set forth below (or as expressly designated by such Party in a subsequent effective written notice referring specifically to this contract), (c) sent by a national carrier with tracking capability (e.g. FedEx or Certified U.S.

Mail), with proper postage affixed and (d) deemed effective upon the third business day after deposit of the notice with the carrier.

**IF TO THE PUCT:**

**ATTENTION: Executive Director**  
1701 N. Congress Ave., 7th Floor  
Austin, TX 78701

With copies to the PUCT contract administrator, and Jay Stone, CTPM, CTCM, at the same address.

**IF TO ERCOT:**

**ATTENTION: General Counsel**  
7620 Metro Center Drive  
Austin, TX 78744

**IF TO CONTRACTOR:**

**ATTENTION: Texas RE President and CEO**  
805 Las Cimas Parkway, Suite 200  
Austin, Texas 78746

With copies to the contract administrator and Texas RE General Counsel at the same address.

**19.5 Headings.** Titles and headings of articles and sections within this contract are provided merely for convenience and must not be used or relied upon in construing this contract or the Parties' intentions with respect thereto.

**19.6 Export Laws.** Contractor represents, warrants, agrees and certifies that it (a) will comply with the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (regarding, among other things, payments to government officials) and all export laws and rules and regulations of the United States Department of Commerce or other United States or foreign agency or authority and (b) will not knowingly permit any non-Party to directly or indirectly, import, export, re-export, or transship any intellectual property or any third Party materials accessed by Contractor during the course of this contract in violation of any such laws, rules or regulations.

**19.7 Preprinted Forms.** The use of preprinted forms, such as purchase orders or acknowledgments, in connection with this contract is for convenience only and all preprinted terms and conditions stated thereon are void and of no effect. The terms of this contract cannot be amended, modified, or altered by any conflicting terms, provisions, or conditions contained in a proposal or a preprinted form, such as purchase orders or acknowledgements. If any conflict exists between this Contract and any terms and conditions on a proposal, purchase order, acknowledgment, or other preprinted form, the terms and conditions of this Contract will govern.

**19.8 Specific Personnel.** Contractor has identified the personnel for this assignment ("Team") in its proposal.

Contractor warrants that it will use its best efforts to avoid any changes to the Team during the course of this Contract. Should personnel changes occur during the term of this Contract or any

extensions or renewals thereof, Contractor will recommend to the PUCT personnel with comparable experience and required qualifications and training. The PUCT must approve any change in personnel on this project in writing. Contractor must provide individuals qualified to perform the tasks assigned to such individual. At the PUCT's request, Contractor must remove from the project any individual whom the PUCT finds unacceptable for any reason in the PUCT's sole discretion. Contractor must replace such individual with another individual satisfactory to the PUCT as soon as practicable.

This provision does not prohibit the Contractor from dismissing any employee with or without cause at the sole discretion of Contractor, nor does it otherwise alter the at-will status of any of Contractor's employees.

**19.9 No Felony Criminal Convictions.** Contractor represents and warrants that neither Contractor, nor any of its employees, agents, or representatives, including any subcontractors and employees, agents or representatives of such subcontractors, has been convicted of a felony criminal offense or that if such a conviction has occurred Contractor has fully advised PUCT and ERCOT of the facts and circumstances surrounding the conviction.

**19.10 Publicity.** Contractor understands and agrees that the PUCT and ERCOT do not endorse any vendor, commodity, or service. Contractor understands and agrees that Contractor, its employees, representatives, other agents, or subcontractors may not issue any public disclosure, media release, advertisement, or publication without prior written approval of the PUCT and ERCOT: which pertains to this contract or any services or project to which this contract relates; or which pertains to any results or findings based on information provided, created, or obtained to fulfill the requirements of this contract; or which mentions the PUCT or ERCOT.

**19.11 No Third Party Beneficiaries.** Nothing contained in the contract, either express or implied, is intended to confer on any person other than the Parties, or their respective permitted successors, assigns, or transferees any interests, rights, remedies, obligations or liabilities.

**19.12 Prompt Payment.** All payments to Contractor by ERCOT, any payments by Contractor to any subcontractor, and any payments by a subcontractor to any other person or entity that provides goods or services under this contract must be made in compliance with Chapter 2251 of the Texas Government Code, commonly known as the Texas Prompt Payment Act

#### **Article 20. NO IMPLIED WAIVER**

The failure of any party, at any time, to enforce a provision of this contract will not constitute a waiver of that provision; will not affect the validity of this contract or any part of it; and will not affect the right of any party to enforce each and every provision.

#### **Article 21. ORDER OF PRECEDENCE**

In the event of conflicts or inconsistencies between the provisions of this contract and any attachments or exhibits, the following are given preference in the order listed below:

- 1) The General Terms and Conditions of this contract;
- 2) The Statement of Work, including any exhibits;

- 3) The Request for Proposals;
- 4) The Contractor's proposal.

**Article 22. FORCE MAJEURE**

Neither the PUCT nor Contractor nor ERCOT will be considered in default in the performance of its obligations under this contract to the extent that the performance of such obligations is prevented or delayed by any cause beyond the reasonable control of the affected party, which such party could not, by due diligence have avoided, including but not limited to acts of God, severe weather, explosions, riots, acts of war, or orders of legal authority. Such causes will not relieve either party of liability in the event of its failure to use due diligence to remedy the situation and remove the cause in an adequate manner, with all reasonable dispatch, and to give notice and full particulars of the same in writing to the other party as soon as possible after the occurrence of the cause that prevented or delayed performance of the obligations. If the event of Force Majeure continues for a period of more than one hundred and eighty (180) days, either party thereafter may terminate this contract upon giving at least ten (10) days prior written notice to the other party.

**Article 23. SEVERABILITY**

If any provision of this contract is held unlawful or otherwise unenforceable, that provision will be severed and deemed deleted and the remainder of this contract will continue in full force and effect, as if the provision had never existed.

**Article 24. FUNDING OUT CLAUSE**

This contract is contingent upon the continued availability of funding. If funds become unavailable through lack of appropriations, legislative or executive budget cuts, amendment of the Appropriations Act, state agency consolidations, or any other disruptions of current appropriations, provisions of Section 6.3 of this contract will apply. Any contract resulting from this solicitation is contingent upon the continued availability of lawful appropriations by the Texas Legislature. See Texas Constitution, Article III Section 49, State Debts; and Texas General Appropriations Act for the 2020-2021 Biennium, Article IX, Section 6.03, Excess Obligations Prohibited.

**Article 25. DRUG FREE WORKPLACE POLICY**

Contractor certifies that it maintains a drug-free workplace policy. Contractor must maintain a drug-free workplace and must enforce the drug-free workplace policy contained in Contractor's employee handbook effective as of the date of this contract. If Contractor modifies this policy, Contractor will provide a copy of the new policy to the PUCT Contract Administrator.

**Article 26. SUBSTITUTIONS**

Substitutions are not permitted without written approval of the PUCT and ERCOT.

**Article 27. RIGHT TO AUDIT**

Pursuant to Section 2262.154 of the Texas Government Code, the State Auditor may conduct an audit or investigation of Contractor or any other entity or person receiving funds from the state

directly under this Contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract. The acceptance of funds by Contractor or any other entity or person directly under this contract or indirectly through a subcontract under this contract acts as acceptance of the authority of the state auditor, under the direction of the legislative audit committee, to conduct an audit or investigation in connection with those funds. Under the direction of the legislative audit committee, Contractor or any other entity that is the subject of an audit or investigation by the state auditor must provide the state auditor with access to any information the state auditor considers relevant to the investigation or audit. Contractor will ensure that this clause concerning the authority to audit funds received indirectly by subcontractors through the vendor and the requirement to cooperate is included in any subcontract awards.

**Article 28. SIGNATORIES**

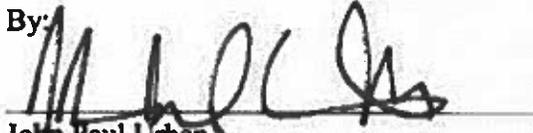
The undersigned signatories represent and warrant that they have full authority to enter into this contract on behalf of the respective parties.

**Article 29. ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This contract, including the Statement of Work, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties with regard to its subject matter and supersedes and merges all prior discussions, writings, negotiations, understandings, and agreements concerning the provision of these Services. Any terms and conditions attached to a solicitation will not be considered unless incorporated into this contract by specific reference.

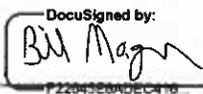
In WITNESS WHEREOF both parties by their duly authorized representatives have executed this contract effective as of January 1, 2020.

**The Public Utility Commission of Texas**

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Paul Urban  
Executive Director

Date Signed: 12/20/19

**Electric Reliability Council of Texas,  
Inc.**

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Bill Magness  
Title: President & CEO

Approved as to form (ERCOT Legal): 

Date Signed: December 27, 2019 | 1:53 PM PST

**Texas Reliability Entity**

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
W. Lane Lanford  
President and CEO

Date Signed: 12/27/19

## **ATTACHMENT A –Statement of Work**

### **I. Reliability Monitor Services**

Subject to the PUCT's supervision and oversight, Contractor will act as the Reliability Monitor for the ERCOT Region and will be responsible for monitoring, investigating, auditing, and reporting to the PUCT regarding compliance with the reliability-related ERCOT Protocols ("Protocols") and Operating Guides ("Operating Guides"), the reliability-related provisions of the PUCT Substantive Rules, and the reliability-related provisions of the Public Utility Regulatory Act (collectively "Reliability Legal Requirements") by ERCOT and ERCOT Market Participants (collectively "Market Entities"). Also, Contractor will provide other reliability-related subject matter advice, expertise, and assistance to the PUCT in the conduct of the PUCT's oversight and enforcement activities, on the terms and conditions as set forth herein. The tasks, duties, and responsibilities ("Services") of Contractor will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Knowledge of the Legal Requirements. Contractor and its staff must have a working knowledge and understanding regarding the Reliability Legal Requirements. Contractor and its staff must also have a working knowledge and understanding of the enforcement authority, policies, and procedures of the PUCT.
- B. Monitoring, Overseeing, and Reporting by Contractor. Contractor will serve as the Reliability Monitor selected by the PUCT to monitor, oversee, and report to the PUCT regarding ERCOT and Market Participant compliance and noncompliance with the Legal Requirements. With the exception of routine, real-time compliance monitoring performed by ERCOT, Contractor must perform the majority of compliance monitoring of Market Entities. Contractor may use a variety of methods and procedures to monitor and oversee reliability compliance, including data requests, compliance audits, self-certifications, spot checks, self-reports, complaints, data requests, event analysis, and investigations (collectively "Reliability Monitoring and Oversight Procedures"). Contractor must develop procedures to gather and analyze information and data as needed for its compliance monitoring activities and actively monitor reliability in the ERCOT power region, under the direction of the PUCT. Contractor will perform the following:
  1. **Monitoring and Overseeing Compliance with the Reliability Legal Requirements**
    - i. **Develop Monitoring and Oversight Procedures to ensure reliability;**
    - ii. **Identify violations of Reliability Legal Requirements using the Monitoring and Oversight Procedures;**
    - iii. **Monitor indicators of reliability deficiencies; and**
    - iv. **Conduct investigations of specific ERCOT network reliability-related events and prepare reports.**

## 2. Records and Reporting

- i. Report to the PUCT potential violations of the Reliability Legal Requirements;
- ii. Keep a record of all potential occurrences of non-compliance with the Reliability Legal Requirements and develop a system for tracking such occurrences of potential non-compliance and maintain a record of related investigative and enforcement activities;
- iii. Promptly provide information to enable Market Entities to understand and respond to alleged occurrences of non-compliance with Reliability Legal Requirements;
- iv. Keep a record of remedial actions taken by the Market Entities to understand and respond to alleged occurrences of non-compliance with Reliability Legal Requirements;
- v. Inform the PUCT Staff if the non-compliance is not resolved after ERCOT or Contractor has verbally informed the Market Participant of a problem;
- vi. Submit to the PUCT monthly reports on reliability compliance matters, including potential violations of Reliability Legal Requirements, Contractor investigations, and other reliability compliance oversight activities; and
- vii. Contractor will be PUCT's agent and representative in the matters contemplated under this contract. Therefore, communications between the Contractor, PUCT Staff, ERCOT, and other client representatives of PUCT Staff made in anticipation of litigation or in furtherance of PUCT Staff's enforcement matters may be privileged under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure and the Texas Rules of Evidence. Contractor shall maintain confidentiality of all potentially privileged communications. In situations where Contractor is monitoring ERCOT, ERCOT is not included in the privilege and should be excluded from Contractor's communications with PUCT staff and representatives of PUCT staff.

C. **PUCT Enforcement Support.** The PUCT is responsible for enforcement activities and prosecutions, as discussed in further detail below. Contractor will assist and support the PUCT in its enforcement and prosecution obligations by promptly developing reports, providing technical expertise, and otherwise supporting PUCT enforcement activities as needed. Support activities under this Section C must include the following, at a minimum:

1. Coordinate with the PUCT to identify compliance priorities, assess resources, implement methods for effective compliance monitoring, and assess the effectiveness of ERCOT systems reliability;
2. Provide expert advice, analysis, reports, and testimony services relating to Contractor's analysis, findings, and expertise, as a part of the PUCT staff's case in enforcement proceedings initiated by the PUCT and provide other requested technical assistance and support to the PUCT regarding Market Entity compliance with Legal Requirements; and
3. Coordinate with the PUCT to develop procedures for the coordination of enforcement activities between Contractor and PUCT and for PUCT, including identification of priorities, allocation of resources for investigations, and approval of investigations that require significant resources in excess of the work covered by the fixed fees under this contract.

**D. Evaluation of Network Operations and Current and Proposed Changes to Reliability Legal Requirements.** Contractor must evaluate the operation of the network and the wholesale electric system and assist the PUCT and ERCOT by developing recommendations for enhancing the reliability and efficiency of the ERCOT network and operated systems. In coordination with the PUCT, Contractor must:

1. Regularly monitor compliance performance measures to evaluate Market Participants and ERCOT compliance with the Reliability Legal Requirements;
2. Evaluate whether ERCOT manages the electric systems it operates and administers, in accordance with ERCOT Requirements;
3. Assess the effectiveness of ERCOT's management system operations;
4. Review proposed changes to the Protocols ("Protocol Revision Requests") and Operating Guides ("Operation Guide Revision Requests") to identify potential reliability impacts and inefficiencies;
5. Attend ERCOT stakeholder meetings relating to network and electric system issues;
6. Interact with Market Entities to better understand their operations; and
7. Recommend measures to enhance network reliability to improve system design.

**E.** Contractor must maintain sufficient staff to carry out the services specified in this Contract.

**F.** Contractor must submit a quarterly report summarizing Contractor's activities under I. Reliability Monitor Services.

- G. At the end of this contract period, if the contractor will no longer be performing the Reliability Monitor services under this contract, the contractor will be required to assist in a smooth transition to the next Reliability Monitor.

## II. Responsibilities of ERCOT

- A. ERCOT is the independent system operator of the regional electrical network and is responsible for ensuring its reliability and adequacy. In performing its duties, ERCOT is directly responsible and accountable to the PUCT and will cooperate fully with the PUCT in the PUCT's oversight and investigatory functions consistent with the duties, rights, and obligations provided for in the Reliability Legal Requirements. Accordingly, ERCOT has responsibility in the first instance for certain real-time compliance monitoring and reporting to the PUCT and Contractor. ERCOT will provide reasonable cooperation and technical assistance, consistent with the Legal Requirements, to Contractor and the PUCT in the performance of their duties.
- B. The tasks, duties, and responsibilities of ERCOT include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Keep a record of all occurrences of non-compliance with Reliability Legal Requirements that are identified by ERCOT;
  - 2. Promptly provide information to the Market Participants to allow Market Participants to understand and respond to alleged occurrences of non-compliance with Reliability Legal Requirements;
  - 3. Report to Contractor occurrences of non-compliance by the Market Participants in each instance;
  - 4. Inform Contractor if the non-compliance is not resolved after ERCOT has informed the Market Participants of a problem;
  - 5. Provide Contractor with access to ERCOT's operations centers and ERCOT's records, data, and other information concerning operations, settlement, and reliability and timely respond to data requests by Contractor;
  - 6. Provide other reasonable assistance and cooperation necessary for Contractor to perform its functions, including all access, electronic data, support, and cooperation which is determined appropriate by the PUCT, consistent with the data security requirements applicable to ERCOT pursuant to NERC standards, Reliability Legal Requirements, or other laws.
  - 7. Provide, based upon reasonable and timely requests from PUCT staff, technical assistance, analysis, reports, and testimony that may be used as part of PUCT staff's case in enforcement proceedings.
  - 8. Provide, based upon reasonable and timely requests from PUCT staff, technical assistance and information to the PUCT regarding Market Entity compliance with Legal Requirements.
  - 9. ERCOT is PUCT's agent and representative in the matters contemplated under this contract. Therefore, communications between the Contractor, PUCT Staff, ERCOT, and other client representatives of PUCT Staff made in anticipation of litigation or in furtherance of PUCT Staff's enforcement matters may be privileged under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure and the Texas Rules of Evidence. Contractor shall maintain confidentiality of all potentially privileged communications.

**III. Responsibilities of PUCT**

- A. PUCT Enforcement.** The PUCT is responsible for enforcement activities and has a legal staff that will prosecute enforcement proceedings. The PUCT will also provide a liaison to Contractor to coordinate with investigation and enforcement activities, and evaluate whether enforcement is appropriate, based on reports provided by Contractor. The PUCT will also provide staff to evaluate the penalties that are appropriate for violations of the Reliability Legal Requirements.
- B. PUCT Supervision.**
1. Contractor and ERCOT activities will be subject to the supervision and oversight of the PUCT;
  2. Contractor will perform all Services in accordance with the instructions, directions, and requests of the PUCT; and
  3. The PUCT may periodically review the performance of Contractor under this Contract, its SOW, and any amendments, to assess whether Contractor is meeting the requirements of this Contract and providing diligent and professional service under the Contract.

**IV. Fees, Expenses, and Payments**

- A. In exchange for Services performed by Contractor during each quarter, ERCOT must pay Contractor the firm fixed price in quarterly installments as described in Article 2, compensation on the following dates:**
- January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of 2020;
  - January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of 2021;
  - January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of 2022; and
  - January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of 2023.