

EFG PROPOSAL OF WORK
For
THE NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS ONLINE TECHNICAL TRAINING
RFP NO. 2025-045



Submitted on February 25, 2024 by:

Earth Forward Group, LLC

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

18 Ranch Road

Woodbridge, CT 06525

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TAB A - Cover Page & Statement of Understanding

TXShare

Your Public Sector Solutions Center

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

For

Online Technical Skills Training

RFP # 2025-045

Sealed proposals will be accepted until 2:00 PM CT, **February 26, 2025**, and then publicly opened and read aloud thereafter.

Earth Forward Group, LLC

Legal Name of Proposing Firm

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Principal

Contact Person for This Proposal

Title

203-687-8278

diana@earthforwardgroup.com

Contact Person Telephone Number

Contact Person E-Mail Address

18 Ranch Road

Woodbridge, CT

06525

Street Address of Principal Place of Business

City/State

Zip

Same as above

Mailing Address of Principal Place of Business

City/State

Zip

Same as above

Point of Contact for Contract Negotiations

Title

Point of Contact Telephone Number

Point of Contact Person E-Mail Address

Acknowledgment of Addenda (initial): #1 DM #2 DM #3 DM #4 DM #5 DM

NOTE: Any confidential/proprietary information must be clearly labeled as "confidential/proprietary". All proposals are subject to the Texas Public Information Act.

COVER SHEET



Earth Forward Group fully understands the scope of work outlined in this solicitation. Our team is well prepared to deliver Online Training Services and On Customer Site Training Services in OSHA Safety Training, Building Maintenance, and Education.

TAB B - Key Personnel

Shane Bulick, Director of Programs and Program Manager for Pennsylvania, will be responsible for managing all projects and delivery of training services under this RFP.



Shane Bulick, BPI #5054413
Director of Programs



Education & Certifications

The Pennsylvania State University – College of Earth & Mineral Science
Bachelor's of Science, Physical & Environmental Geography

University Park, PA
December 2012

Building Performance Institute (BPI) - Building Science Home Energy Professional Energy Auditor & Quality Control Inspector
Building Performance Association (BPA) - National Home Performance Conference - Presenter & Selection Committee Member

Relevant Experience

Earth Forward Group, LLC, Woodbridge, CT, February 2025 – Present

Director of Programs

- Builds stakeholder capacity in environmental and energy workforce and education
- Designs, implements, and evaluates K-16 energy education and green workforce development programs
- Manages client projects, researching, writing and providing advisory services with a focus on business sustainability
- Creates environmental sustainability strategies and reporting programs for public, private, and non-profit organizations
- Bridges key stakeholders, including educators, utilities, and states with weatherization contractors and professionals

Performance Systems Development Ithaca, NY, December 2018 – February 2025

Director - QA Services

- Developed, coordinated, and implemented income-qualified utility program delivery, inspections, and growth management to maximize savings potential while increasing quality of measure installation
- Oversight of a team of 32 members to deliver quality control inspections, contractor performance reviews, technical building science training, and program policy and procedure development
- Created SOP's for operational tasks that increased scalability and sustainability focused on workload dispersion and career path development
- Monitored workflow, created and tracked internal KPI's, and wrote RFP responses for contractual bids
- Managed financial oversight while increasing program revenue by over 1,449% in under 3 years while increasing net marginal performance from negative results to approaching lower to mid 30 percentile

CLEARresult York, PA, October 2014 – December 2018

Energy Auditor, Auditor Supervisor, Senior Auditor

- Completed energy audit evaluations for residential income-qualified customers and market-rate customers for utility programs across Pennsylvania
- Trained energy auditors, field technicians, and crew leaders to perform building science evaluations using diagnostic tools and develop work scopes based on priority lists and/or energy models
- Reviewed on average 40 energy audits per week and associated work scopes to ensure program compliance and alignment

Additional Qualifications

ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

2002 - 2016; HVAC installer for T.B.'s Installations building ductwork and installing HVAC equipment
2005 - 2011; United States Marine Corps; Honorable Discharge, Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran



Shane Bulick, BPI #5054413

Director of Programs



2002 - 2013; Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership volunteer staff

2008 - 2011; Penn State University & Oregon State University researcher; ecology based studies sponsored by NSF & NOAA

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

2012 National Science Foundation, Findings presentation for South Africa Project - Ecological Society of America

2022 BPA National Home Performance Conference, "Audit Analytics & Customer Engagement"

2023 BPA National Home Performance Conference, "Audit Analytics & Customer Engagement"

2024 BPA National Home Performance Conference, "Designing & Implementing Internal Quality Control Strategies for Weatherization Contractors"

2024 National Home Performance Conference, "Field Staff: Tips & Tricks for Navigating a Weatherization Career"

2025 National Home Performance Conference, "Natural Consequences of Installations That Make You Say What The!?!?"

TRAININGS

I serve as a subject matter expert (SME) for building science trainees in multiple utility weatherization programs covering topics from blower door diagnostics, internal quality control, customer engagement, and beyond.



TAB C - References

Lilia Snyder, City of New Haven

lsnyder@newhavenct.gov

(203) 946-6550

Pam Dincher, Clean Energy Center at the Pennsylvania College of Technology

pb2@pct.edu

(570) 320-2400 ext. 3317

Akisha Everett, Minneapolis Climate Action

akisha@mplsclimate.org

Alice Martin, Avangrid

alice.martin@uinet.com

Telephone: (203) 499-3650

Cell: (203) 314-1060

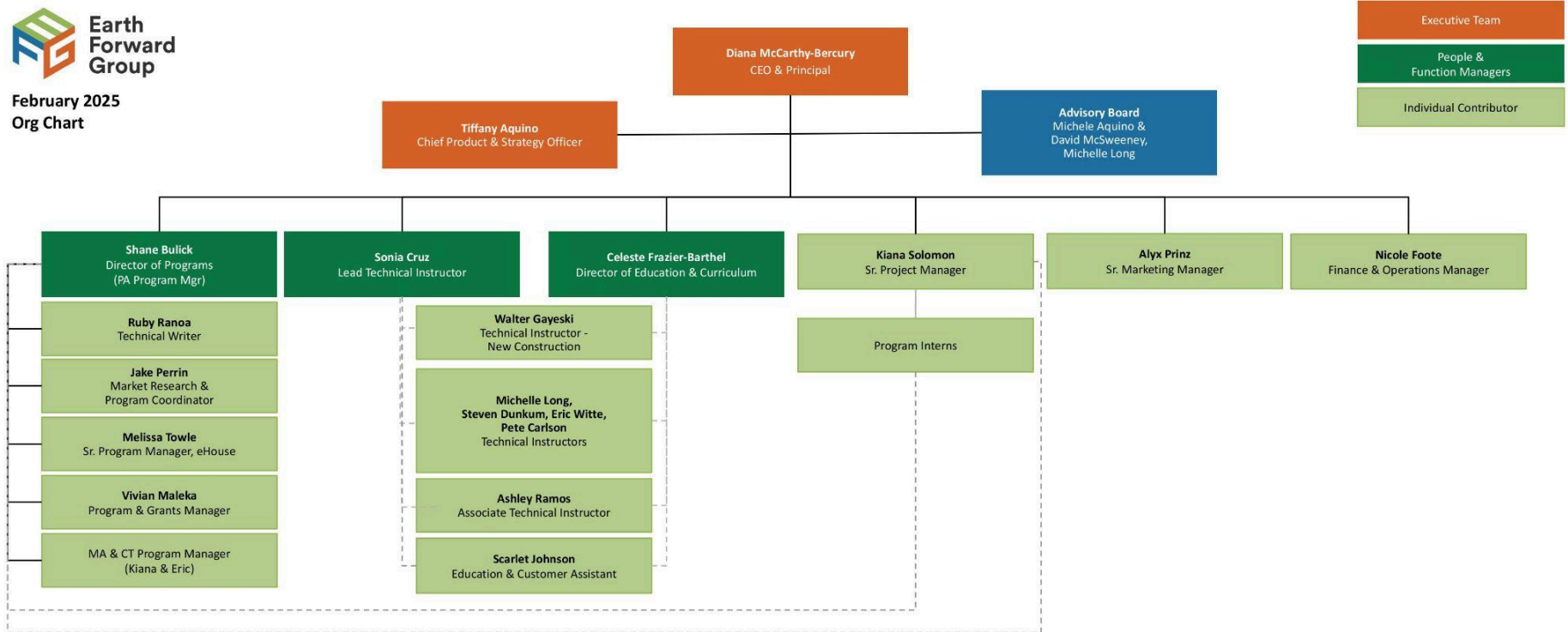


TAB D - Project-Related Experience and Qualifications

5.2.1 Provide a general organizational chart for customer service issues.

Customer service issues can be sent to info@earthforwardgroup.com to be resolved by our Customer Assistant, Scarlet Johnson (Figure 1). If necessary, customer service issues will be escalated to Shane Bulick, Director of Programs and Program Manager for Pennsylvania, who will serve as the project manager for all services under this RFP. Shane Bulick will be supported by the Programs Team (Ruby Ranoa, Jake Perrin, Melissa Towle, Vivian Maleka, Kiana Solomon, and Eric Witte), who will handle customer service issues as appropriate.

Figure 1. Earth Forward Group Organizational Chart





5.2.2 How will your team interface with Customer?

All customer communications, including private course requests, are best handled via email at info@earthforwardgroup.com, virtual meeting rooms, and phone calls, as appropriate. Select public training courses can also be purchased directly from our website at <https://www.earthforwardgroup.com/courses>, using the unique 5% discount code, which can be provided via email by request.

5.2.3 Are there any goods or services not outlined in the Scope of Work that you wish to offer?

Aside from the courses in the “other” category in EFG’s [course catalog](#), other Optional Ancillary Goods and Services include:

- Train-the-Trainer sessions and curriculum licensing for any of the following courses. For pricing information, please contact info@earthforwardgroup.com.
 - Building Performance Institute Building Science Principles Certificate of Knowledge
 - Building Performance Institute Healthy Housing Principles Certificate of Knowledge
 - Building Performance Institute Infiltration & Duct Leakage Certification
 - Building Performance Institute Building Analyst-Technician Certification
 - Blower Door & Weatherization Technical Training
 - Air Sealing & Insulation, Identifying Health & Safety Barriers Technical Training
 - Duct Blasting & Sealing Technical Training
 - Heat Pumps & Geothermal Technology Technical Training
 - Solar Energy Basics (Photovoltaic Cells & Thermal) Technical Training
 - Lighting Design & Building Code Technical Training
 - Health & Safety (Lead, Mold, Asbestos) Technical Training
 - Decarbonization & Sustainability Technical Training
 - Introduction to Sustainability & Energy in Buildings
 - Introduction to Building Performance & Clean Energy Careers
 - Resume Development & Interview Preparation
- Custom curriculum design services by request. If there is a topic not covered by EFG’s [course catalog](#), our team is well-equipped to create a custom curriculum to address your team’s needs. Topics can include those related to building science, building performance, sustainability, energy efficiency, construction, HVAC, solar, geothermal energy, etc.
- Project management services for comprehensive training programs as agreed necessary by both parties, including the design and coordination of multi-course training plans delivered over an extended period.
- EFG provides monitoring, evaluation, and technical writing services at the customer’s request. These services include a unique monitoring and evaluation plan to meet any specific customer goals such as demographic or knowledge metrics, via an event report, delivered at the conclusion of each training course or program.

5.2.4 Describe your experience working with government agencies as customers.

Earth Forward Group has worked with several government agencies, ranging from local county and state governments to U.S. embassies, including managing rate-payer, state, and federal funded programs.



Our current projects include conducting workforce development technical training and certification courses in Connecticut (since 2019) and Massachusetts (since 2023), funded by rate-payer utility programs. Additionally, EFG has a current contract to conduct stakeholder research, outreach, and engagement services for the South Central Regional Council of Governments.

EFG executed a Train-the-Trainer style workforce development program in November 2024 in partnership with the Office of Energy at the Environmental Protection Agency of Pennsylvania and the Clean Energy Center at the Pennsylvania College of Technology, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

In November of 2024, EFG ran Train-the-Trainer style sessions on Building Performance Institute Building Science Principles and our own Weatherization and Blower Door curriculum to increase the training capacity of the Regional Apprenticeship Training Center of Minneapolis, in partnership with Minneapolis Climate Action, funded by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grants.

From 2021 to 2022, Earth Forward Group provided [community outreach, engagement, and research services](#) to inform the City of Hartford's Climate Action Plan, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

EFG has an ongoing relationship with the City of New Haven since 2021, executing multiple workforce development and training programs such as the Small Contractor Development Program and [Climate Conscious Contractor Program](#), which were funded by local government funding and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Since 2017, in partnership with the Liberia Institute for Girls, EFG provided [program design and execution services](#) to build, establish, and train instructors at a K-16 STEM academy for girls and young women, housed on a campus in the rural Toddee region of Liberia. This project has been funded in part by the U.S. Embassy in Liberia.

5.2.5 Any major requirements that cannot be met by your firm?

Earth Forward Group does not currently teach any courses in the following specialties:

- Public Safety CEU Training
- Firefighter Training
- EPA 608 Section 608 Certification
- Food & Beverage Handling
- CDL Licensure
- Water & Wastewater Utilities:
 - SCADA
 - Pump Maintenance
 - Other
- Automotive & Heavy Equipment Maintenance & Repairs



5.2.6 List the business location(s) out of which your firm's team members will work from. You are encouraged to provide options to cover other geographic areas besides the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

The Earth Forward Group team provides our training services virtually or at the customer's site by request, anywhere in the world. Our team members primarily operate out of the following locations:

- Woodbridge, CT (Headquarters)
- Cheshire, CT
- Derby, CT
- Hartford, CT
- Thomaston, CT
- Santa Cruz, CA
- St. Petersburg, FL
- Sturbridge, MA
- Worcester, MA
- Fort Washington, MD
- Bozeman, MT
- Corvallis, OR
- Belleville, PA
- Wakefield, RI
- Cairo, Egypt

5.2.7 Provide a general overview of your company including its size, years in business, experience and major clients. How long have you been specifically in this type of business?

Earth Forward Group, LLC (EFG) is a woman-owned small business incorporated in the State of Connecticut, with offices throughout the United States and internationally. The company was formed in New Haven in 2015 and provides consulting, program design, management, training, and research services to public, private, and nonprofit entities related to efficient and renewable energy, weatherization, building performance, workforce development, and sustainability management. The EFG team is composed of professionals with specialized knowledge in energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy efficient building design, weatherization, energy and greenhouse gas benchmarking, tracking and monitoring, and sustainability management. EFG has formal and experiential training in optimizing workforce development programs as well as leveraging partnerships with schools, educational organizations, and local business networks to secure employment for the entry-level and transitioning workforce. EFG collaborates with each client to meet their unique needs and provide reliable guidance about pertinent policy, industry certifications, and training resources that are most relevant to clients' workforce development initiatives.

EFG has been delivering workforce development and training programs as part of rate-payer funded utility programs since 2019, with team members with experience running rate-payer energy programs since 2005. Presently, EFG is providing project management, energy education, technical training, and events management to three states in the Northeast as part of their rate-payer funded utility programs. We currently conduct training and certifications for each of these programs and work directly with participants to teach energy efficient building practices and technology-specific training.



5.2.8 Describe your invoicing process. Payment terms? Is payment by credit card accepted?

For private training courses, payment will be invoiced upon completion of the training program. All invoices are subject to NET30 billing terms and can be paid via credit card, check, or ACH.

For public training courses purchased directly from our website, payment is due upon class registration and can be paid via debit or credit card. Please note that to receive a discount on public training courses, customers will use the unique 5% discount code at checkout, which can be provided via email by request.

5.2.9 Include a list of similar contracts (five or so preferably) awarded within the last 5 years.

- **Minneapolis Climate Action (November 2024-Present):** Building Performance Institute Building Science Principles Certificate of Knowledge and Weatherization & Blower Door Technical Training Train-the-Trainer Program
- **Pennsylvania Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Energy (November 2024):** Federal US Department of Energy's Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation Program
- **The Clean Energy Center at the Pennsylvania College of Technology (August 2023-Present):** CTE Career Readiness, Outreach & Support Services
- **Avangrid & Berkshire Gas (2023-Present):** [Mass Save Green STEP \(Sustainability Technical Education\) Program](#)
- **City of New Haven (2022):** [Climate Conscious Contractor Program](#)
- **Avangrid, United Illuminating, Southern Connecticut Gas & Connecticut Natural Gas (2019-Present):** [EnergizeCT Green STEP \(Sustainability Technical Education\) Program](#)

5.2.10 Identify any contracts within the past three years that have been terminated due to non-performance.

Not applicable.

5.2.11 State the warranty that may apply to the goods or services you are proposing.

Not applicable.

TAB E - Technical Proposal

Earth Forward Group offers training and certification courses in OSHA Safety Training, Building Maintenance, and Education, including related courses in building performance, energy efficiency, and career exploration. Our team offers courses in both service categories (Online Training Services and On Customer Site Training Services), allowing for the most flexibility to train your team.

5.1.1 Provide a catalog of the training courses you offer. This may be attached via a weblink or a document insert. Which courses are online only versus available on the customer's site?

Please see Earth Forward Group's Course Catalog here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ACEYuqJsdBg1Jix3eA3gX7xVMxVBEGhNwPg1Wi-y9HQ/edit?usp=sharing>



Earth Forward Group's courses are nearly all available virtually, with the expectation of the three following courses that are BPI-proctored or hands-on. Our team takes a hands-on approach in preparation for field exams and hands-on project learning, as needed.

- Building Performance Institute Infiltration & Duct Leakage Certification
- Building Performance Building-Analyst Technician Certification
- Residential Carpentry Basics and Green Construction Best Practices

5.1.2 Describe how your firm offers a complete online technical skills training catalog to allow for building skills, from basics to advanced troubleshooting.

Earth Forward Group's courses are nearly all available virtually, with the expectation of the three following courses that are BPI-proctored or hands-on. Our team takes a hands-on approach in preparation for field exams and hands-on project learning, as needed.

- Building Performance Institute Infiltration & Duct Leakage Certification
- Building Performance Building-Analyst Technician Certification
- Residential Carpentry Basics and Green Construction Best Practices

EFG offers courses designed to help individuals build their skills in the following focus areas:

- Building Performance and Weatherization for Existing Buildings
- New Construction
- High Efficiency and Emerging Technologies, and
- All construction professionals.

Building Performance and Weatherization for Existing Buildings

Our building performance, weatherization, and energy efficiency courses begin at career exploration, through our Introduction to Building Performance & Clean Energy Careers course and/or the Urban Green Council GPRO Getting Started with Green Building course.

The Building Performance Institute (BPI) Building Science Principles (BSP) and BPI Healthy Housing Principles Certificate of Knowledge courses and our Introduction to Sustainability & Energy in Buildings course serve as foundational knowledge for advanced certifications, including Urban Green Council GPRO Operations and Maintenance Essentials and BPI Infiltration and Duct Leakage (IDL) (in-person). Additionally, a BPI BSP Certificate of Knowledge is a BPI prerequisite for the advanced BPI Building Analyst-Technician (BA-T) Certification course (in-person).

Furthermore, the following technical training courses are designed to be taken as needed to fulfill specific skill gaps for building performance and weatherization professionals:

- Blower Door & Weatherization
- Air Sealing & Insulation, Identifying Health & Safety Barriers
- Duct Blasting & Sealing
- Heat Pumps & Geothermal Technology



- Energy Efficient Lighting Design & Building Code
- Decarbonization & Sustainability

New Construction

The Urban Green Council GPRO Getting Started with Green Building course serves as an entry point for career exploration, guiding learners toward more specialized training. Participants can then advance to the GPRO Fundamentals of Building Green course, and the internationally recognized U.S. Green Building Council Leader in Energy and Environmental Design Green Associate (LEED GA) Certification.

Additionally, International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) requires blower door and duct blasting testing of new buildings. Therefore, the following certification and technical courses will prove useful for new construction professionals:

- Blower Door & Weatherization
- Duct Blasting & Sealing
- BPI Infiltration and Duct Leakage (IDL) (in-person)

Furthermore, the following technical training courses are designed to be taken as needed to fulfill specific skill gaps for new construction professionals:

- Energy Efficient Lighting Design & Building Code
- Decarbonization & Sustainability
- Introduction to Sustainability & Energy in Buildings

Additionally, EFG offers an advanced hands-on project-based course for contractors, Residential Carpentry Basics and Green Construction Best Practices.

High Efficiency and Emerging Technologies

The Introduction to Building Performance & Clean Energy Careers course serves as an entry point for career exploration, guiding learners toward more specialized training.

The following technical training courses are designed to be taken as needed to fulfill specific skill gaps for high efficiency and emerging technologies professionals:

- Heat Pumps
- Geothermal Technology
- Solar Energy Basics (PV & Thermal)
- Energy Efficient Lighting Design & Building Code

All Construction Professionals

Our 10-hour OSHA safety training course is required for most entry-level workers in the construction and building industries, while the 30-hour course is intended for those in a supervisory role with more safety responsibilities.



Additionally, the US Environmental Protection Agency Renovation, Repair, and Painting Lead-Based Safety training course is required for contractors who will be working with lead-based paint.

Furthermore, the following technical training courses are designed to be taken as needed to fulfill specific skill gaps for all professionals:

- Resume Development & Interview Preparation
- Health & Safety (Lead, Mold, Asbestos)

The following Certificate of Knowledge courses are recommended for any professionals in the construction and building industries:

- BPI Building Science Principles
- BPI Healthy Housing Principles

5.1.3 Describe what additional fees are charged for providing training on the customer's site.

Aside from direct training costs, such as instructor time and course materials (e.g., exam fees and textbooks), additional fees may include (but are not limited to): instructor travel (travel time, flights, ground transportation, and federal per diem rates for lodging, meals, and incidentals), project management services (as appropriate and as agreed upon by both parties), monitoring and evaluation services (as requested), and technical writing services (as requested). EFG's mobile training lab ("Teach-Test House") is also available for rent by request for customers in need of a hands-on residential training environment and BPI-certified test house for field exams.

5.1.4 Describe how you may offer comprehensive technical skills courses, encompassing topics related to electrical, mechanical, HVAC, plant management, and OSHA safety.

EFG offers the following technical skills courses, all available virtually: Blower Door & Weatherization; Air Sealing & Insulation; Duct Blasting & Sealing; Heat Pumps & Geothermal Technology; Solar Energy Basics (Photovoltaic Cells & Thermal Technology); Energy Efficient Lighting Design & Building Code; Lead, Mold, and Asbestos Health & Safety; Decarbonization & Sustainability; Introduction to Sustainability & Energy in Buildings; Introduction to Building Performance & Clean Energy Careers; and Residential Carpentry Basics & Green Construction Best Practices.

Additionally, EFG offers virtual OSHA 10-hour and 30-hour safety courses.

5.1.5 Describe how your courses cover foundational skills through advanced troubleshooting.

EFG offers courses designed to help individuals build their skills in the following focus areas:

- Building Performance and Weatherization for Existing Buildings
- New Construction
- High Efficiency and Emerging Technologies, and
- All construction professionals.



Building Performance and Weatherization for Existing Buildings

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The Building Performance Institute (BPI) Building Science Principles (BSP) and BPI Healthy Housing Principles Certificate of Knowledge courses and our Introduction to Sustainability & Energy in Buildings course serve as foundational knowledge for advanced certifications, including Urban Green Council GPRO Operations and Maintenance Essentials and BPI Infiltration and Duct Leakage (IDL) (in-person). Additionally, a BPI BSP Certificate of Knowledge is a BPI prerequisite for the advanced BPI Building Analyst-Technician (BA-T) Certification course (in-person).

Furthermore, the following technical training courses are designed to be taken as needed to fulfill specific skill gaps for building performance and weatherization professionals:

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- Air Sealing & Insulation, Identifying Health & Safety Barriers
- Duct Blasting & Sealing
- Heat Pumps & Geothermal Technology
- Energy Efficient Lighting Design & Building Code
- Decarbonization & Sustainability

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- BPI Infiltration and Duct Leakage (IDL) (in-person)

Furthermore, the following technical training courses are designed to be taken as needed to fulfill specific skill gaps for new construction professionals:

- Energy Efficient Lighting Design & Building Code
- Decarbonization & Sustainability
- Introduction to Sustainability & Energy in Buildings



Additionally, EFG offers an advanced hands-on project-based course for contractors, Residential Carpentry Basics and Green Construction Best Practices.

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Our 10-hour OSHA safety training course is required for most entry-level workers in the construction and building industries, while the 30-hour course is intended for those in a supervisory role with more safety responsibilities.

Additionally, the US Environmental Protection Agency Renovation, Repair, and Painting Lead-Based Safety training course is required for contractors who will be working with lead-based paint.

Furthermore, the following technical training courses are designed to be taken as needed to fulfill specific skill gaps for all professionals:

- Resume Development & Interview Preparation
- Health & Safety (Lead, Mold, Asbestos)

The following Certificate of Knowledge courses are recommended for any professionals in the construction and building industries:

- BPI Building Science Principles
- BPI Healthy Housing Principles

5.1.6 In your proposal, describe the features of your training offerings such as: Virtual Instructor-led Training, Online Training, On-site Training at Customer Location, Bulk Discount Programs, Course Catalog, and Webinars.

Virtual Instructor-led Training

All courses in our [course catalog](#) are available to be taught virtually live, with the exception of the three courses that are BPI-proctored or hands-on project learning. Our virtual instructor-led training courses include the following:



- A dedicated virtual instructor live on Google Meet that delivers EFG’s unique, specialized curriculum;
- A virtual teaching assistant that provides classroom support for students such as technical support, troubleshooting, and classroom management;
- Electronic textbooks and virtual exams for each participant (if applicable);
- Live test-your-knowledge quizzes to check in during class;
- Virtual proctor to administer exams, as appropriate; and
- BPI course enrollment and account creation for each participant (if applicable).

Online Training

Asynchronous online courses are under development and are tentatively scheduled to be released in July 2025 via EFG’s Learning Management System (LMS).

On-site Training at Customer Location

All courses in our [course catalog](#) are available to be taught in-person at the customer’s site. Our one-site training courses include the following:

- 1-2 in-person instructors that deliver EFG’s unique, specialized curriculum (Quantity depends on class size);
- An in-person teaching assistant that provides classroom support for students such as technical support, troubleshooting, and classroom management;
- Hardcover textbooks and exams for each participant (if applicable);
- Live test-your-knowledge quizzes to check in during class;
- In-person proctor to administer exams and field exams, as appropriate;
- BPI course enrollment and account creation for each participant (if applicable);
- Hands-on activities during class;
- Networking opportunities for participants;
- Equipment purchasing, as necessary; and
- EFG’s mobile training lab (“Teach-Test House”) by request for customer sites in need of a hands-on residential training environment and BPI-certified test house for field exams.

Bulk Discount Programs

Earth Forward Group offers bulk discount programs based on participant quantities. To learn more, please contact info@earthforwardgroup.com.

Course Catalog

EFG’s course catalog can be found [here](#).

Webinars

Not currently available.

5.1.7 Describe any training that has been approved by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) or other states’ approved training programs.

Not applicable, but Earth Forward Group is willing to take these steps towards approval as requested.



5.1.8 Describe training that you can provide that meets federal training requirements such as OSHA, USDA, FEMA, etc.

Please see column J in Earth Forward Group's [Course Catalog](#).

5.1.9 What sets your business apart from your competitors?

Earth Forward Group stands out as a small, woman-owned business dedicated to workforce development. We offer personalized training programs, customized curriculum, and flexible delivery options—including English, Spanish, virtual, in-person, and hybrid formats as detailed in our course catalog—to maximize program accessibility and impact. With over 20 years of experience in workforce development, our team designs specialized training programs led by building science experts with hands-on experience in construction, energy, and building industries spanning several decades. What truly sets us apart is our commitment to excellence in customer service, commitment to student support, and rigorous program monitoring and evaluation, ensuring measurable success for all of our clients.

5.1.10 Describe how a customer would order services from your firm.

If a customer prefers to book a private training course(s), they would select their preferred course(s) and email our scheduling team at info@earthforwardgroup.com to discuss details of scheduling availability, location, and number of participants.

If a customer does not meet the minimum participation requirements for a private training course (as detailed in column N in our [course catalog](#)) or prefers to give their team multiple options for training dates and times, individual attendees can register for our public training courses. Select public training courses such as our Building Performance Institute Building Science Principles Certificate of Knowledge course can be purchased directly from our website at <https://www.earthforwardgroup.com/courses>, with provided discount code, available by request via email at info@earthforwardgroup.com.

5.1.11 How long after an order will it take to provide training? What is a typical schedule?

Depending on the class and delivery format (i.e., virtual, in-person, or hybrid), private course scheduling can take up to two weeks before delivery. When registering for a public course, the training delivery will take place at the dates and times specified in the course registration.

5.1.11 What quality control measures do you have in place?

For all courses delivered by Earth Forward Group, our team employs short surveys for attendees to measure their course quality and instructor satisfaction, as well as knowledge and interest lift. This feedback serves as a constant loop of improvement, as course updates are made on a regular basis by EFG's curriculum specialist, Celeste Frazier-Barthel. At the request of the customer, these results can also be made available via a training event summary report at the conclusion of the training program.



5.1.12 How would you improve your ability to meet growing demand?

Earth Forward Group is currently training a new cohort of instructors, allowing our team to expand our reach across states and meet increasing demand for our training courses. If industry demand was strong enough to warrant the hiring of another cohort of new instructors, our team would happily do so.

Furthermore, Earth Forward Group has been increasing our availability for and quality of direct virtual delivery of our training courses to meet growing demand in other states, such as Texas.

The team is additionally working on developing asynchronous options for our courses in our own Learning Management System (LMS) to increase accessibility and flexibility for participants.

5.1.13 What are some current issues that may affect your ability to meet demand?

The availability of our instructors and industry demand can vary seasonally. Therefore, some seasons such as late spring and summer may have less scheduling availability than others.

5.1.14 Explain what is involved in the implementation of a new customer account.

For private group training courses, new customers would simply contact us with an inquiry about their preferred course(s) and email our scheduling team at info@earthforwardgroup.com to discuss details of scheduling availability, location, and number of participants. To receive special discounted pricing, they should mention their involvement with the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

For individuals registering for our public training courses at <https://www.earthforwardgroup.com/courses>, they will enter their personal information such as name, contact information such as address and phone number, and payment and billing information. From there, EFG staff will register their information in our system for their selected course(s).

5.1.15 Identify any subcontractors or third-party services that will be utilized in the performance of a contract.

Not applicable.

5.1.16 Describe and clearly indicate any exceptions to the specifications or requirements found in this RFP.

Not applicable.

5.1.17 Provide any other additional information you feel is necessary that describes why your firm is the best choice.

Not applicable.



TAB F - Pricing

EXHIBIT 1 - WORKSHEET

PROPOSED DISCOUNT FOR RFP #2025-045

Category #1: Online Training Services		
Item	Description	% Discount Off Your Published List Price

1. Describe Your Subcategories Below*:

A	All courses	5%
B		
C		
D		
E		
F		

*You may add additional pages if you are proposing further subcategories.



Category #2: On-site Training Services		
Item	Description	% Discount Off Your Published List Price

2 Describe Your Subcategories Below*:

A	All courses	5%
B		
C		
D		
E		
F		

*You may add additional pages if you are proposing further subcategories.



**EXHIBIT 2
PRICE LIST**

A. Current Published Price List for Items Offered

For each of the bid items you wish to offer, please provide the current published list price. Please attach this information to your proposal in printed copy or via a weblink. Please match the Category item number from the Bid Price Worksheet to the matching item on your current published price list.

Check One:

☐ Printed Copy of Price List Attached to This Exhibit 2.

☒ Use This Web Link to Price List: See below

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ACEYuqJsdBg1Jix3eA3gX7xVMxVBEGhNwPg1Wi-y9HQ/edit?usp=sharing>

NOTE: The current price list included in EXHIBIT 2 will NOT be a part of your contractual obligation and may be modified at your discretion during the term of any contract that is awarded to you. Only the Proposed Contractual Discounts on Pricing for Categories Offered entered on the EXHIBIT 1 – WORKSHEET will be contractually obligated.

You are however requested to provide us with the newest version of the current price list whenever it is updated.

Weblink:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ACEYuqJsdBg1Jix3eA3gX7xVMxVBEGhNwPg1Wi-y9HQ/edit?usp=sharing>



TAB G - Required Attachments

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENT I:
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSALS COMPLIANCE AND SUBMITTAL**

Compliance with the Solicitation

Submissions must be in strict compliance with this solicitation. Failure to comply with all provisions of the solicitation may result in disqualification.

Compliance with the NCTCOG Standard Terms and Conditions

By signing its submission, the Offeror acknowledges that it has read, understands and agrees to comply with the NCTCOG standard terms and conditions.

Acknowledgment of Insurance Requirements

By signing its submission, Offeror acknowledges that it has read and understands the insurance requirements for the submission. Offeror also understands that the evidence of required insurance must be submitted within ten (10) working days following notification of its offer being accepted; otherwise, NCTCOG may rescind its acceptance of the Offeror's proposals. The insurance requirements are outlined in Section 2.6 - General Terms and Conditions.

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Typed Name

2/24/2025

Date

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENT II:
CERTIFICATIONS OF OFFEROR**

I hereby certify that the information contained in this proposal and any attachments is true and correct and may be viewed as an accurate representation of proposed services to be provided by this organization. I certify that no employee, board member, or agent of the North Central Texas Council of Governments has assisted in the preparation of this proposal. I acknowledge that I have read and understand the requirements and provisions of the solicitation and that the organization will comply with the regulations and other applicable local, state, and federal regulations and directives in the implementation of this contract.

I also certify that I have read and understood all sections of this solicitation and will comply with all the terms and conditions as stated; and furthermore that I, Diana McCarthy-Bercury (typed or printed name) certify that I am the Principal (title) of the corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship, or other eligible entity named as offeror and respondent herein and that I am legally authorized to sign this offer and to submit it to the North Central Texas Council of Governments, on behalf of said offeror by authority of its governing body.

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Typed Name

2/24/2025

Date

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENT III:
CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS**

This certification is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 45 CFR Part 93, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension, for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3017), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 98), Department of Education (34 CFR Parts 85, 668, 682), Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 76).

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that both it and its principals:

1. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
2. Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or Local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification, or destruction of records, making false Proposals, or receiving stolen property;
3. Are not presently indicated for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity with commission of any of the offense enumerated in Paragraph (2) of this certification; and,
4. Have not within a three-year period preceding this contract had one or more public transactions terminated for cause or default.

Where the prospective recipient of federal assistance funds is unable to certify any of the qualifications in this certification, such prospective recipient shall attach an explanation to this certification form.

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Typed Name

2/24/2025

Date

REQUIRED
ATTACHMENT IV: RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING

Section 319 of Public Law 101-121 prohibits recipients of federal contracts, grants, and loans exceeding \$100,000 at any tier under a federal contract from using appropriated funds for lobbying the Executive or Legislative Branches of the federal government in connection with a specific contract, grant, or loan. Section 319 also requires each person who requests or receives a federal contract or grant in excess of \$100,000 to disclose lobbying.

No appropriated funds may be expended by the recipient of a federal contract, loan, or cooperative agreement to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal executive department or agency as well as any independent regulatory commission or government corporation, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any of the following covered federal actions: the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan the entering into of any cooperative agreement and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

As a recipient of a federal grant exceeding \$100,000, NCTCOG requires its subcontractors of that grant to file a certification, set forth in Appendix B.1, that neither the agency nor its employees have made, or will make, any payment prohibited by the preceding paragraph.

Subcontractors are also required to file with NCTCOG a disclosure form, set forth in Appendix B.2, if the subcontractor or its employees have made or have agreed to make any payment using nonappropriated funds (to include profits from any federal action), which would be prohibited if paid for with appropriated funds.

**REQUIRED
LOBBYING CERTIFICATION
FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOANS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS**

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge or belief, that:

1. No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an officer or employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative Contract, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative contract; and
2. If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, and or cooperative contract, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form – LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying”, in accordance with the instructions.
3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers and that all sub-recipients shall certify accordingly.

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Typed Name

2/24/2025

Date

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENT V:
DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE CERTIFICATION**

The Earth Forward Group LLC (company name) will provide a Drug Free Work Place in compliance with the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited on the premises of the Earth Forward Group LLC (company name) or any of its facilities. Any employee who violates this prohibition will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. All employees, as a condition of employment, will comply with this policy.

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

This certification is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Sections 5151-5160 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, 41 U.S.C. 701, for the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 3017), Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 98), Department of Education (34 CFR Parts 85, 668 and 682), Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR Part 76).

The undersigned subcontractor certifies it will provide a drug-free workplace by:

Publishing a policy Proposal notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the consequences of any such action by an employee;

Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees of the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the subcontractor's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, the availability of counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed on employees for drug violations in the workplace;

Providing each employee with a copy of the subcontractor's policy Proposal;

Notifying the employees in the subcontractor's policy Proposal that as a condition of employment under this subcontract, employees shall abide by the terms of the policy Proposal and notify the subcontractor in writing within five days after any conviction for a violation by the employee of a criminal drug abuse statute in the workplace;

Notifying the Board within ten (10) days of the subcontractor's receipt of a notice of a conviction of any employee; and,

Taking appropriate personnel action against an employee convicted of violating a criminal drug statute or requires such employee to participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program.

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Typed Name

2/24/2025

Date

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENT VI:
DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND
CERTIFICATION REGARDING DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The undersigned certifies that, to the best of his or her knowledge or belief, that:

“No employee of the contractor, no member of the contractor’s governing board or body, and no person who exercises any functions or responsibilities in the review or approval of the undertaking or carrying out of this contract shall participate in any decision relating to this contract which affects his/her personal pecuniary interest.

Executives and employees of contractors shall be particularly aware of the varying degrees of influence that can be exerted by personal friends and associates and, in administering the contract, shall exercise due diligence to avoid situations which give rise to an assertion that favorable treatment is being granted to friends and associates. When it is in the public interest for the contractor to conduct business with a friend or associate of an executive or employee of the contractor, an elected official in the area or a member of the North Central Texas Council of Governments, a permanent record of the transaction shall be retained.

Any executive or employee of the contractor, an elected official in the area or a member of the NCTCOG, shall not solicit or accept money or any other consideration from a third person, for the performance of an act reimbursed in whole or part by contractor or Department. Supplies, tools, materials, equipment or services purchased with contract funds shall be used solely for purposes allowed under this contract. No member of the NCTCOG shall cast a vote on the provision of services by that member (or any organization which that member represents) or vote on any matter which would provide a direct or indirect financial benefit to the member or any business or organization which the member directly represents.

No officer, employee or paid consultant of the contractor is a member of the NCTCOG.

No officer, manager or paid consultant of the contractor is married to a member of the NCTCOG.

No member of NCTCOG directly owns, controls or has interest in the contractor.

The contractor has disclosed any interest, fact, or circumstance that does or may present a potential conflict of interest.

No member of the NCTCOG receives compensation from the contractor for lobbying activities as defined in Chapter 305 of the Texas Government Code.

Should the contractor fail to abide by the foregoing covenants and affirmations regarding conflict of interest, the contractor shall not be entitled to the recovery of any costs or expenses incurred in relation to the contract and shall immediately refund to the North Central Texas Council of Governments any fees or expenses that may have been paid under this contract and shall further be liable for any other costs incurred or damages sustained by the NCTCOG as it relates to this contract.

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Typed Name

2/24/2025

Date

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENT VII:
CERTIFICATION OF FAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES**

That the submitter has not been found guilty of unfair business practices in a judicial or state agency administrative proceeding during the preceding year. The submitter further affirms that no officer of the submitter has served as an officer of any company found guilty of unfair business practices in a judicial or state agency administrative during the preceding year.

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Typed Name

2/24/2025

Date

REQUIRED ATTACHMENT VIII:
CERTIFICATION OF GOOD STANDING TEXAS CORPORATE FRANCHISE TAX CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Article 2.45, Texas Business Corporation Act, state agencies may not contract with for profit corporations that are delinquent in making state franchise tax payments. The following certification that the corporation entering into this offer is current in its franchise taxes must be signed by the individual authorized on Form 2031, Corporate Board of Directors Resolution, to sign the contract for the corporation.

The undersigned authorized representative of the corporation making the offer herein certified that the following indicated Proposal is true and correct and that the undersigned understands that making a false Proposal is a material breach of contract and is grounds for contract cancellation.

Indicate the certification that applies to your corporation:

X _____ The Corporation is a for-profit corporation and certifies that it is not delinquent in its franchise tax payments to the State of Texas.

_____ The Corporation is a non-profit corporation or is otherwise not subject to payment of franchise taxes to the State of Texas.

Type of Business (if not corporation):

☐ Sole Proprietor

☐ Partnership

☐ Other

Pursuant to Article 2.45, Texas Business Corporation Act, the North Central Texas Council of Governments reserves the right to request information regarding state franchise tax payments.

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury
Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Typed Name

2/24/2025
Date

**OPTIONAL ATTACHMENT IX:
HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES, MINORITY OR WOMEN-OWNED OR
DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES**

Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs), minority or women-owned or disadvantaged businesses enterprises (M/W/DBE) are encouraged to participate in the solicitation process.

NCTCOG recognizes the certifications of most agencies. HUB vendors must submit a copy of their certification for consideration during the evaluation of their proposal. Please attach the copy to this form. This applies only to the Offeror and not a subcontractor.

Texas vendors who are not currently certified are encouraged to contact either the Texas United Certification Program, State of Texas HUB Program, or the North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency, among others. Contact:

State of Texas HUB Program
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
Lyndon B. Johnson State Office Building
111 East 17th Street
Austin, Texas 78774
(512) 463-6958
<http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/>

North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency
624 Six Flags Drive, Suite 100
Arlington, TX 76011
(817) 640-0606
<http://www.nctrca.org/certification.html>

Texas United Certification Program
USDOT website at
<https://www.transportation.gov/DBE>

You must include a copy of your certification document as part of this solicitation to receive points in the evaluation.

Vendor to Sign Below to Attest to Validity of Certification:

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Typed Name

2/24/2025

Date

State of Connecticut

Department of Administrative Services

Supplier Diversity Program

This Certifies

Earth Forward Group, LLC

18 Ranch Rd Woodbridge CT 06525

Woman Owned

Small/Minority Business Enterprise

June 10, 2023 through June 10, 2025

As a

Owner(s): Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Contact: Diana McCarthy-Bercury

E-Mail: diana@earthforwardgroup.com

Telephone: (203) 687-8278 Ext: **FAX:** Diana McCarthy

Web Address: www.earthforwardgroup.com

****Affiliate Companies:**



Supplier Diversity Director



Supplier Diversity Specialist

** A contractor awarded a contract or a portion of a contract under the set-aside program shall not subcontract with any person(s) with whom the contractor is affiliated.

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENT X:
NCTCOG FEDERAL AND STATE OF TEXAS REQUIRED PROCUREMENT PROVISIONS**

The following provisions are mandated by Federal and/or State of Texas law. Failure to certify the following will result in disqualification of consideration for contract. Entities or agencies that are not able to comply with the following will be ineligible for consideration of contract award.

**PROHIBITED TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT
CERTIFICATION**

This Contract is subject to the Public Law 115-232, Section 889, and 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, including §200.216 and §200.471, for prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance or equipment.

Public Law 115-232, Section 889, identifies that restricted telecommunications and video surveillance equipment or services (e.g., phones, internet, video surveillance, cloud servers) include the following:

- A) Telecommunications equipment that is produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliates of such entities).
- B) Video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporations, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliates of such entities).
- C) Telecommunications or video surveillance services used by such entities or using such equipment.
- D) Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, Director of the National Intelligence, or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by the government of a covered foreign country. The entity identified below, through its authorized representative, hereby certifies that no funds under this Contract will be obligated or expended to procure or obtain telecommunication or video surveillance services or equipment or systems that use covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as a critical technology as part of any system prohibited by 2 CFR §200.216 and §200.471, or applicable provisions in Public Law 115-232 Section 889.

☒ **The Contractor or Subrecipient hereby certifies that it does comply with the requirements of 2 CFR §200.216 and §200.471, or applicable regulations in Public Law 115-232 Section 889.**

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

2/24/2025

Typed Name

Date

-OR-

☐ **The Contractor or Subrecipient hereby certifies that it cannot comply with the requirements of 2 CFR §200.216 and §200.471, or applicable regulations in Public Law 115-232 Section 889.**

Vendor Name

Authorized Signature

Typed Name

Date

(Continued on next page)

(REQUIRED)

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FIREARMS ENTITIES OR FIREARMS TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

This contract is subject to the Texas Local Government Code chapter 2274, Subtitle F, Title 10, prohibiting contracts with companies who discriminate against firearm and ammunition industries.

TLGC chapter 2274, Subtitle F, Title 10, identifies that “discrimination against a firearm entity or firearm trade association” includes the following:

A) means, with respect to the entity or association, to:

- I. refuse to engage in the trade of any goods or services with the entity or association based solely on its status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association; and
- II. refrain from continuing an existing business relationship with the entity or association based solely on its status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association; or
- III. terminate an existing business relationship with the entity or association based solely on its status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association.

B) An exception to this provision excludes the following:

- I. contracts with a sole-source provider; or
- II. the government entity does not receive bids from companies who can provide written verification.

The entity identified below, through its authorized representative, hereby certifies that they have no practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association; and that they will not discriminate during the term of the contract against a firearm entity or firearm trade association as prohibited by Chapter 2274, Subtitle F, Title 10 of the Texas Local Government Code.

☒ **The Contractor or Subrecipient hereby certifies that it does comply with the requirements of Chapter 2274, Subtitle F, Title 10.**

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

2/24/2025

Typed Name

Date

-OR-

☐ **The Contractor or Subrecipient hereby certifies that it cannot comply with the requirements of Chapter 2274, Subtitle F, Title 10.**

Vendor Name

Authorized Signature

Typed Name

Date

(Continued on next page)

(REQUIRED)

This contract is subject to the Texas Local Government Code chapter 809, Subtitle A, Title 8, prohibiting contracts with companies who boycott certain energy companies.

TLGC chapter Code chapter 809, Subtitle A, Title 8, identifies that “boycott energy company” means, without an ordinary business purpose, refusing to deal with, terminating business activities with, or otherwise taking any action that is intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations with a company because the company:

- I. engages in the exploration, production, utilization, transportation, sale, or manufacturing of fossil fuel-based energy and does not commit or pledge to meet environmental standards beyond applicable federal and state law; and
- II. does business with a company described by paragraph (I).

The entity identified below, through its authorized representative, hereby certifies that they do not boycott energy companies, and that they will not boycott energy companies during the term of the contract as prohibited by Chapter 809, Subtitle A, Title 8 of the Texas Local Government Code.

☒ The Contractor or Subrecipient hereby certifies that it does comply with the requirements of Chapter 809, Subtitle A, Title 8.

Earth Forward Group LLC

Vendor Name

Vendor Name
Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Authorized Signature

Diana McCarthy-Bercury

2/24/2025

Typed Name

Date _____

-OR-

☐ The Contractor or Subrecipient hereby certifies that it cannot comply with the requirements of Chapter 809, Subtitle A, Title 8.

Vendor Name

Authorized Signature

Typed Name

Date

IF APPLICABLE - CIQ ATTACHMENT XI

Not applicable.