

7. Certifications. As used herein and throughout this Agreement, the words “certify” and/or “certification” shall mean an expression of the Engineering Consultant’s professional opinion to the best of its information, knowledge and belief, and therefore does not constitute a warranty or guarantee by the Engineer.
8. Records and Audits. The Engineer shall maintain accounts and records, including personnel, property and financial records, adequate to identify and account for all costs pertaining to the Agreement. These records will be made available for audit purposes to the Client or any authorized representative, and will be retained for three years after, the expiration of this Contract unless permission to destroy them is granted by the Client.
9. Findings Confidential. All of the reports, information, data, etc., prepared or assembled by the Engineer under this Agreement are confidential and the Engineer agrees that they shall not be made available to any individual or organization without the prior written approval of the Client unless required by law, court order, or for use in connection with legal or administrative proceedings, mediation, or arbitration.
10. Standard of Care, Disclaimer of Warranties. Engineer will strive to perform Services under this Agreement in a manner consistent with the level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by members of the profession currently practicing in the same locality under similar conditions. NO OTHER REPRESENTATION AND NO WARRANTY OR GUARANTEE, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, IS INCLUDED OR INTENDED BY THIS AGREEMENT.
11. Ownership of Documents & Copyright. All documents, including electronic files, prepared or furnished by Engineer are instruments of service, and Engineer retains all common law, statutory and other reserved rights, ownership and property interest (including the copyright and the right of reuse) in such documents, whether or not the Project is completed. The Client may make and retain copies of them for information and reference in connection with the use of the Project; however, such copies are not intended or represented to be suitable for reuse by others, and may not be used by others unless otherwise required by law, court order, or for use in connection with legal or administrative proceedings, mediation, or arbitration. The Client agrees not to distribute, publish or otherwise disseminate Engineer’s documents without first obtaining Engineer’s prior written consent. The Client may request and negotiate with the Engineer to acquire ownership of the documents for a mutually agreed amount. If Client acquires ownership of Documents prepared by Engineer, Client agrees: 1.) that any subsequent reuse or modification of them by Client or any party obtaining them through Client will be at Client’s sole risk and without liability to engineer, and 2.) Client will defend, indemnify and hold harmless Engineer from and against any claims, damages, and liabilities arising from or related to any use, reuse or modification of Documents by Client or any party obtaining them through Client. Client agrees that Engineer may retain copies of all documents for its files. Electronic communications and CADD data transferred by Email, websites or computer disks (collectively “E-Data”) are provided only as an accommodation by Engineer for the benefit of Client. Signed paper prints of documents constitute the contract deliverables. Client assumes the risk that E-Data may differ from the paper deliverable. Client agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Engineer from and against Client, damages, and liabilities for defects or inappropriate use of E-Data created or transmitted by Engineer.
12. Third-Party Beneficiaries and Reliance Upon Documents. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall create a contractual relationship with or a cause of action in favor of a third-party against either the Client or the Engineer. Engineer’s performance of the Services, as set forth in this Agreement, is intended solely and exclusively for the Client’s benefit and use. No party may claim under this Agreement as a third-party beneficiary, unless otherwise required by law, court order, or for use in connection with legal or administrative proceedings, mediation or arbitration. Client agrees not to distribute, publish or otherwise disseminate Engineer’s Documents, without first obtaining Engineer’s prior written consent. No third-party may rely upon Engineer’s documents or the performance or non-performance of services unless Engineer has agreed to such reliance in advance and in writing. The Client and Engineer agree to require a similar provision in all contracts with contractors, subcontractors, sub consultants, vendors and other entities involved in this Project to carry out the intent of this provision.
13. Compliance with Local Laws. The Engineer shall exercise usual and customary professional care in its effort to comply with applicable laws, codes and regulations as of the date of the execution of this Agreement. Design changes made necessary by newly enacted laws, codes and regulations after this date shall entitle the Engineer to a reasonable adjustment in the schedule and additional compensation in accordance with the Additional Services provisions of this Agreement.
14. Public Responsibility. Both the Client and the Engineer owe a duty of care to the public that requires them to conform to applicable codes, standards, regulations and ordinances, principally to protect the public health and safety. The Client shall make no request of the Engineer that, in the Engineer’s reasonable opinion, would be contrary to the Engineer’s professional responsibilities to protect the public. The Client shall take all actions and render all reports required of the Client in a timely manner. Should the Client fail to take any required actions or render any required notices to appropriate public authorities in a timely manner, the Client agrees that the Engineer has the right to exercise its professional judgment in reporting to appropriate public officials or taking other necessary action. The Client agrees to