

**DECEMBER 2000**

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER  
RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS - PRIMARY COVERED TRANSACTIONS**

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective contractor is providing the certification set out below.
2. The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective contractor shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective contractor to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.
3. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the contractor knowingly rendered an erroneous certification in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department may terminate this transaction for cause or default.
4. The prospective contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the department to whom this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective contractor learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
5. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the department to which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
6. The prospective contractor agrees by submitting this proposal that, should this contract be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department entering into this transaction.
7. The prospective contractor further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," which is included as an addendum to PR-1273 - "Required Contract Provisions Federal Aid Construction Contracts," without

modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

8. The contractor may rely upon a certification of a prospective subcontractor/materials supplier that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A contractor may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each contractor may, but is not required to, check the Disapproval List (telephone # 608/266/1631).
9. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a contractor is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
10. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a contractor in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters - Primary Covered Transactions

- (1) The prospective contractor certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
  - (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
  - (b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal 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 statements or receiving stolen property;
  - (c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offense enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and
  - (d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
- (2) Where the prospective contractor is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective contractor shall attach an explanation to this proposal.