Exhibit A



STANDARD FORM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND DESIGN-BUILDER - LUMP SUM

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Document No. 525
Second Edition, 2010
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Washington, DC

Design-Build Institute of America - Contract Documents

LICENSE AGREEMENT

By using the DBIA Contract Documents, you agree to and are bound by the terms of this License Agreement.

1. **License.** The Design-Build Institute of America ("DBIA") provides DBIA Contract Documents and licenses their use worldwide. You acknowledge that DBIA Contract Documents are protected by the copyright laws of the United States. You have a limited nonexclusive license to: (a) Use DBIA Contract Documents on any number of machines owned, leased or rented by your company or organization; (b) Use DBIA Contract Documents in printed form for bona fide contract purposes; and (c) Copy DBIA Contract Documents into any machine-readable or printed form for backup or modification purposes in support of your permitted use.
2. **User Responsibility.** You assume sole responsibility for the selection of specific documents or portions thereof to achieve your intended results, and for the installation, use, and results obtained from the DBIA Contract Documents. You acknowledge that you understand that the text of the DBIA Contract Documents has important legal consequences and that consultation with an attorney is recommended with respect to use or modification of the text. You will not represent that any of the contract documents you generate from DBIA Contract Documents are DBIA documents unless (a) the document text is used without alteration or (b) all additions and changes to, and deletions from, the text are clearly shown.
3. **Copies.** You may not use, copy, modify, or transfer DBIA Contract Documents, or any copy, modification or merged portion, in whole or in part, except as expressly provided for in this license. Reproduction of DBIA Contract Documents in printed or machine-readable format for resale or educational purposes is expressly prohibited. You will reproduce and include DBIA's copyright notice on any printed or machine-readable copy, modification, or portion merged into another document or program.
4. **Transfers.** You may not transfer possession of any copy, modification or merged portion of DBIA Contract Documents to another party, except that a party with whom you are contracting may receive and use such transferred material solely for purposes of its contract with you. You may not sublicense, assign, or transfer this license except as expressly provided in this Agreement, and any attempt to do so is void.
5. **Term.** The license is effective for one year from the date of purchase. DBIA may elect to terminate it earlier, by written notice to you, if you fail to comply with any term or condition of this Agreement.
6. **Limited Warranty.** DBIA warrants the electronic files or other media by which DBIA Contract Documents are furnished to be free from defects in materials and workmanship under normal use during the Term. There is no other warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, including, but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. Some states do not allow the exclusion of implied warranties, so the above exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. DBIA does not warrant that the DBIA Contract Documents will meet your requirements or that the operation of DBIA Contract Documents will be uninterrupted or error free.
7. **Limitations of Remedies.** DBIA's entire liability and your exclusive remedy shall be: the replacement of any document not meeting DBIA's "Limited Warranty" which is returned to DBIA with a copy of your receipt, or at DBIA's election, your money will be refunded. In no event will DBIA be liable to you for any damages, including any lost profits, lost savings or other incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use or inability to use DBIA Contract Documents even if DBIA has been advised of the possibility of such damages, or for any claim by any other party. Some states do not allow the limitation or exclusion of liability for incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.
8. **Acknowledgement.** You acknowledge that you have read this agreement, understand it and agree to be bound by its terms and conditions and that it will be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia. You further agree that it is the complete and exclusive statement of your agreement with DBIA which supersedes any proposal or prior agreement, oral or written, and any other communications between the parties relating to the subject matter of this agreement.

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INSTRUCTIONS

For DBIA Document No. 525 Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Design-Builder - Lump Sum (2010 Edition)

Checklist

Use this Checklist to ensure that the Agreement is fully completed and all exhibits are attached.

☑	Page 1	Owner's name, address and form of business
☑	Page 1	Design-Builder's name, address and form of business
☑	Page 1	Project name and address
☑	Section 2.1.3	Identify other exhibits to the Agreement
☑	Section 4.2	Note the optional provisions that are provided
☑	Section 4.3.2	Complete blanks for additional sum for use of Work Product
☑	Section 5.2.1	Complete blanks for calendar days and note the optional language that is provided
☑	Section 5.2.2	Insert any interim milestones (optional)
☑	Section 5.4	Complete blanks for liquidated damages and note the optional provisions that are provided
☑	Section 5.5	If the parties select the option provided they have to insert an amount
☑	Section 5.6	Complete blanks for early completion bonus and note the optional provision that is provided
☑	Section 5.7	Note the optional provisions that are provided
☑	Section 6.1	Complete blanks for Contract Price
☑	Section 6.2	Insert markups for changes and note optional provisions
☑	Section 6.3.4	Note the optional provision that is provided
☑	Section 6.4.1	Note optional provision
☑	Section 7.1.1	Complete blanks for day of month
☑	Section 7.2.1	Complete blanks for retention percentage and note optional provision
☑	Section 7.4	Complete blanks for interest rate
☑	Section 8.1.3	Choose overhead/profit method for termination for convenience
☑	Section 8.2.1	Complete blanks for percentages
☑	Section 8.2.2	Complete blanks for percentages
☑	Section 9.1.1	Insert Owner's Senior Representative's name, etc. (optional)
☑	Section 9.1.2	Insert Owner's Representative's name, etc. (optional)
☑	Section 9.2.1	Insert Design-Builder's Senior Representative's name, etc. (optional)
☑	Section 9.2.2	Insert Design-Builder's Representative's name, etc. (optional)
☑	Section 10.1	Attach Insurance Exhibit
☑	Section 10.2	Insert amount and conditions of bonds or other security and note the options that are provided
☑	Section 11.1	Insert any other provisions (optional)
☑	Last Page	Owner's and Design-Builder's execution of the Agreement

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General Instructions

No.	Subject	Instruction
1.	Standard Forms	Standard form contracts have long served an important function in the United States and international construction markets. The common purpose of these forms is to provide an economical and convenient way for parties to contract for design and construction services. As standard forms gain acceptance and are used with increased frequency, parties are able to enter into contracts with greater certainty as to their rights and responsibilities.
2.	DBIA Standard Form Contract Documents	Since its formation in 1993, the Design-Build Institute of America ("DBIA") has regularly evaluated the needs of owners, design-builders, and other parties to the design-build process in preparation for developing its own contract forms. Consistent with DBIA's mission of promulgating best design-build practices, DBIA believes that the design-build contract should reflect a balanced approach to risk that considers the legitimate interests of all parties to the design-build process. DBIA's Standard Form Contract Documents reflect a modern risk allocation approach, allocating each risk to the party best equipped to manage and minimize that risk, with the goal of promoting best design-build practices.
3.	Use of Non-DBIA Documents	To avoid inconsistencies among documents used for the same project, DBIA's Standard Form Contract Documents should not be used in conjunction with non-DBIA documents unless the non-DBIA documents are appropriately modified on the advice of legal counsel. Moreover, care should also be taken when using different editions of the DBIA Standard Form Documents on the same project to ensure consistency.
4.	Legal Consequences	DBIA Standard Form Contract Documents are legally binding contracts with important legal consequences. Contracting parties are advised and encouraged to seek legal counsel in completing or modifying these Documents.
5.	Reproduction	DBIA hereby grants to purchasers a limited license to reproduce its Documents consistent with the License Agreement accompanying these Documents. At least two original versions of the Agreement should be signed by the parties. Any other reproduction of DBIA Documents is strictly prohibited.
6.	Modifications	Effective contracting is accomplished when the parties give specific thought to their contracting goals and then tailor the contract to meet the unique needs of the project and the design-build team. For that reason, these Documents may require modification for various purposes including, for example, to comply with local codes and laws, or to add special terms. DBIA's latest revisions to its Documents provide the parties an opportunity to customize their contractual relationship by selecting various optional contract clauses that may better reflect the unique needs and risks associated with the project. Any modifications to these Documents should be initialed by the parties. At no time should a document be re-typed in its entirety. Re-creating the document violates copyright laws and destroys one of the advantages of standard forms-familiarity with the terms.
7.	Execution	It is good practice to execute two original copies of the Agreement. Only persons authorized to sign for the contracting parties may execute the Agreement.

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Specific Instructions

Section	Title	Instruction
General	Purpose of This Agreement	DBIA Document No. 525 ("Agreement") should be used only when the parties intend that Owner pay Design-Builder a lump sum fixed price for the completion of all design and construction services. There will be greater mutual understanding and cooperation if the lump sum is established based on Owner's Project Criteria that are well defined. If there is uncertainty about Owner's Project Criteria, or it remains to be developed by Owner and Design-Builder jointly, a cost-plus/guaranteed maximum price ("GMP") contracting approach may be more suitable. In such case, the parties should use DBIA Document No. 530.
General	Purpose of These Instructions	These Instructions are not part of this Agreement, but are provided to aid the parties in their understanding of the Agreement and in completing the Agreement.
General	Related Documents	This Agreement shall be used in conjunction with the General Conditions of Contract. Other related Contract Documents are listed in Article 2 of this Agreement.
General	Date	On Page 1, enter the date when both parties reach a final understanding. It is possible, due to logistical reasons, that the dates when the parties execute the Agreement may be different. Once both parties execute the Agreement, the effective date of the Agreement will be the date recorded on Page 1. This date does not, however, determine Contract Time, which is measured according to the terms of Article 5.
General	Parties: Owner and Design-Builder	On Page, 1 enter the legal name and full address of Owner and Design-Builder, as well as the legal form of each entity, e.g., corporation, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, or other.
2.1.2	Basis of Design Documents	The Basis of Design Documents are critical in establishing the scope of work. These documents include the Owner's Project Criteria, Design-Builder's Proposal, and the Deviation List, if any, contained in the Design-Builder's Proposal. Prior to the execution of this Agreement, Design-Builder will have submitted its Proposal based on Owner's Project Criteria. To avoid ambiguities or conflicts between Owner's Project Criteria and Design-Builder's Proposal, Design-Builder's Proposal shall specifically list any deviations from Owner's Project Criteria. Design-Builder's Deviation List shall, if accepted by Owner, become a Contract Document and shall have precedence over Owner's Project Criteria.
2.1.5	Construction Documents	After execution of the Agreement, and consistent with the requirements of Section 2.4 of the General Conditions of Contract, Design-Builder will prepare Construction Documents subject to Owner's review and approval.
3.2	Order of Precedence	The Contract Documents are listed in Section 2.1 in the order of their precedence. This hierarchy of documents reflects DBIA's belief that the Basis of Design Documents are critical documents that take precedence over other Contract Documents existing at the time the Agreement is executed. This section also makes clear that if a Deviation List exists it takes precedence over the Owner's Project Criteria. Moreover, Section 2.1.3 recognizes that there may be other exhibits attached to this Agreement. If this is the case, the parties should discuss whether these exhibits should be part of the Basis of Design Documents. If these exhibits are not made part of the Basis of Design Documents, these exhibits will not take priority over the Basis of Design Documents in the event of a conflict.
3.3	Definitions	Terms, words and phrases used in the Agreement shall have the same meanings used in the General Conditions of Contract.

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Section	Title	Instruction
3.4	Design Specification	The Owner is cautioned that if it includes design specifications in its Project Criteria, there is case law holding that the Design-Builder is entitled to rely on such information, and to the extent such information is not accurate, the Design-Builder will be entitled to an adjustment in the Contract Price and/or Contract Time. Accordingly, the Owner to avoid such potential liability should consider using performance specifications.
4.1	Work Product	This Agreement provides that the Design-Builder shall retain ownership of the Work Product it produces, but obligates Design-Builder to grant a limited license to Owner to use the Work Product according to the terms and circumstances described in Sections 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5.
4.2	Owner's Limited License Upon Payment in Full	Design-Builder shall grant Owner, at Owner's sole risk, a limited license to use the Work Product at the completion of the Work in connection with Owner's occupation of the Project. This Section also provides the parties with the option of transferring ownership of some or all of the Work Product to the Owner upon payment in full for all Work performed. Generally, where the Owner desires ownership of Work Product, it is sufficient to transfer ownership of unique architectural and design elements.
4.3	Owner's Limited License Upon Owner's Termination for Convenience or Design-Builder's Election to Terminate	Owner should not use the Termination for Convenience Clause to obtain Design-Builder's valuable design concepts, and then seek lower bids from other design-builders. Therefore, where Owner terminates this Agreement for its convenience, and then decides to complete the Project with its own or third-party forces, Design-Builder shall grant Owner the rights set forth in Section 4.2, provided Owner pays Design-Builder all amounts due Design-Builder as required by the Contract Documents, including paying Design-Builder an additional sum per Section 4.3.2 for the use of the Work Product. In the event Design-Builder elects to terminate this Agreement for cause, for reasons set forth in Section 11.4 of the General Conditions of Contract, these same conditions apply to Owner's use of the Work Product.
4.3.2	Additional Compensation	To minimize disputes, the parties should negotiate prior to execution of the Agreement the amount Owner shall pay Design-Builder for the use of Design-Builder's Work Product in the event Owner terminates this Agreement for its convenience or Design-Builder elects to terminate this Agreement for cause. Enter this amount.
4.4	Owner's Limited License Upon Design-Builder's Default	If Design-Builder is properly terminated for default, Owner is granted a limited license to use the Work Product, to complete the Project, and Owner shall thereafter have the same rights and obligations as set forth in Section 4.2.
4.5	Owner's Indemnification for Use of Work Product	Owner's use or alteration of the Work Product shall be at its sole risk, and Owner must agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Design-Builder and anyone working by or through Design-Builder, including Design Consultants of any tier.
5.1	Date of Commencement	Design-Builder's obligation to commence work is triggered by its receipt of a Notice to Proceed unless the parties mutually agree otherwise.
5.2.1	Substantial Completion of the Entire Work	Enter the calendar days duration by which Substantial Completion has to be achieved. The parties in this Section have the option of modifying the definition of Substantial Completion set forth in the General Conditions of Contract if they want to use a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy as the benchmark. If this option is selected, Substantial Completion will be deemed to be achieved no later than the date a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy is issued if applicable to the Project.

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Section	Title	Instruction
5.2.2	Interim Milestones	It may be that some portions of the Work must be completed in phases or within a prescribed period of time to accommodate Owner's needs. The parties may, at their option, identify these portions of the Work to be completed prior to Substantial Completion of the entire Work. Enter the calendar days, starting from the Date of Commencement, for achieving Substantial Completion of these identified portions of the Work. If these portions of the Work are required to be substantially completed by certain milestone dates, enter those dates. As presently drafted no remedy is provided to the Owner if an interim milestone is not met. If the Owner has special requirements as it relates to interim milestones, the Owner may want to consider a remedy for the Design-Builder's failure to meet an interim milestone, as well as a bonus to the Design-Builder for satisfying such interim milestone.
5.4	Liquidated Damages	Owner should make a good faith evaluation of the amount that is reasonably necessary to compensate it for delay. Owner should not establish liquidated damages to penalize Design-Builder. Section 5.4 establishes a grace period between the Scheduled Substantial Completion Date and the assessment of liquidated damages in order to prevent disputes as to which party bears responsibility for only a few days of delay. The parties should enter the calendar days that may pass following the Scheduled Substantial Completion Date before liquidated damages will be assessed. The parties are also provided the option of establishing liquidated damages if the Design-Builder fails to achieve Final Completion within a specified number of days after Substantial Completion. If this option is selected, the parties have to negotiate the number of days, as well as the liquidated damages amount. The parties in negotiating liquidated damages should keep in mind that the amount of liquidated damages for failing to achieve Final Completion should be a considerably scaled down amount and should reflect the financial harm to the Owner. In no case should the total amount of liquidated damages for the Project exceed an amount that is reasonably necessary to compensate Owner for Project delay. The parties also have the option here of eliminating liquidated damages altogether, in which case the Owner can recover actual damages for Project delay at an amount that is capped by the parties. The Owner is cautioned that even if this option for actual damages is selected it still cannot recover consequential damages, as these are waived under Section 10.5.1 of the General Conditions of Contract.
5.5	Liquidated Damages Cap	The parties can agree to cap liquidated damages for delay at a negotiated amount.
5.6	Early Completion Bonus	If the Project economics justify liquidated damages, then it is appropriate to couple these liquidated damages with an early completion bonus. The parties should enter the number of calendar days prior to the Scheduled Substantial Completion Date that will set the Bonus Date. Also, enter the amount of the bonus to be paid per day that will allow Owner to share with Design-Builder the economic benefits of early completion. The parties also have the option in Section 5.6 of capping the early completion bonus at a negotiated amount.
5.7	Compensation for Force Majeure Events	The parties are provided the opportunity of providing the Design-Builder the right to receive compensation for Force Majeure Events. By selecting this option, the parties agree to modify Section 8.2.2 of the General Conditions of Contract, in which case the parties have to negotiate how many cumulative days of Force Majeure delays must occur before the Design-Builder is entitled to either a negotiated amount per day for delay or the direct costs it has incurred as a result of such delay.
6.1	Contract Price	Enter the lump sum price Owner will pay Design-Builder for the Scope of Work. The Contract Price should compensate Design-Builder for the services it provides and the risk it assumes in providing single point responsibility to Owner.

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Section	Title	Instruction
6.2	Markups for Changes	Enter the markups agreed upon by Design-Builder and Owner to be used for pricing Changes to the Work. Prior to negotiating or agreeing to these markups, both parties should familiarize themselves with Article 9 of the General Conditions of Contract, Changes to the Contract Price and Time. For additive Change Orders, the parties have to negotiate the Fee the Design-Builder will receive. For deductive Change Orders, parties have the option by checking the appropriate box of whether there will be no additional reduction or whether there will be an additional reduction based on a negotiated percentage.
6.3.4	Allowance Value	This section recognizes that the parties may agree that certain items of Work should be treated as an Allowance Item and priced based on Allowance Values. The Allowance Value for which the Design-Builder will be entitled to receive compensation includes direct cost of labor, materials, equipment, transportation, taxes and insurance associated with the Allowance Item. All other costs associated with the Allowance Item, such as design fees, general conditions costs and fee, are deemed to be included in the Contract Price. However, the parties agree that in the event the actual cost of the Allowance Item is greater than or less than the Allowance Value by a negotiated percentage, then Design-Builder's right to Fee and markup shall be determined pursuant to Section 6.2.
6.4	Performance Incentives	There may be performance incentives that will influence Project success. Such incentives may include award fees tied to the Design-Builder achieving certain standards relative to client satisfaction, safety, and personnel retention. The parties are encouraged to discuss the use of such incentives during negotiation of this Agreement. Any agreement on the use of incentives should be set forth in an exhibit attached to this Agreement.
7.1.1	Progress Payments	Enter the day of the month when Design-Builder shall submit its Application for Payment.
7.2.1	Retainage	Enter the percentage Owner will retain from Progress Payments to Design-Builder until fifty percent (50%) of the Work is completed. Owner should recognize that it creates undue hardship to hold retainage on Subcontractors that have completed their work early in the Project. Owner should accordingly consider releasing retainage on Subcontractors that complete work early in the Project, providing that these Subcontractors have satisfactorily performed their portion of the Work. The parties are provided the option of modifying the retainage provision by checking the box. This option excludes from retainage the Design-Builder's General Conditions costs and amounts paid to Design-Builder's Design Consultant. The rationale for selecting this option is that the Design-Builder is obligated to pay its General Conditions costs in full each month and that under the design-bid-build delivery method, the Owner typically does not retain sums from its designer.
7.4	Interest	The parties should enter the rate at which interest will accrue on Design-Builder's payments if unpaid five (5) days after due. Late payment creates a hardship for Design-Builder, its Design Consultants and Subcontractors.
7.5	Record Keeping	The Owner is provided access to Design-Builder's accounting information as it relates to changes of the Work. However, if the parties have agreed to multipliers or markups for changes, the time to challenge and negotiate those percentages is at the time the parties execute the Agreement and not during the Project or after it has been completed. Accordingly, the Owner can at any time audit these percentages only to confirm that such percentage has been properly charged and not to challenge the composition of such percentage.

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Section	Title	Instruction
8.1.3	Termination for Convenience: Overhead and Profit	The parties should choose prior to execution of the Agreement the method that will be used to determine overhead and profit paid to Design-Builder in the event Owner terminates Design-Builder for its convenience. The parties may choose to set percentage rates for overhead and profit prior to execution of the Agreement, or may choose to determine reasonable sums to be paid for overhead and profit at the time of the termination. If the parties choose to set overhead and profit rates prior to execution of the Agreement, the percentages should be entered in Section 8.1.3.
8.2	Termination for Convenience: Additional Payments	Although it is important for Owner to have a process for terminating this Agreement for convenience, the process must consider the interests of Design-Builder. If Owner terminates this Agreement for its own convenience, compensating Design-Builder for its costs will not be adequate because Design-Builder will have committed its resources for a small amount of revenue. Therefore, in addition to the overhead and profit paid in Section 8.1, Owner shall pay Design-Builder an additional sum, calculated as a percentage of the remaining balance of the Contract Price. Enter the percentages Owner shall pay Design-Builder if Owner terminates this Agreement for its own convenience prior to or after the start of construction.
8.3	Termination for Convenience: Owner's Use of Work Product	Owner should not use the Termination for Convenience clause to obtain Design-Builder's valuable design concepts and then seek lower bids from another design-builder. If Owner terminates this Agreement for its own convenience, and chooses to proceed with the Project using Design-Builder's Work Product, Owner should pay an additional sum for the use of Design-Builder's Work Product pursuant to Section 4.3.
Article 9	Representatives of the Parties	Enter the name, title, address and telephone number of Owner's Senior Representative and Owner's Representative at Sections 9.1.1 and 9.1.2, respectively. Enter the name, title, address and telephone number of Design-Builder's Senior Representative and Design-Builder's Representative at Sections 9.2.1 and 9.2.2, respectively. The parties can elect to establish Representatives during the performance of the Project rather than at the time of execution of this Agreement. If Representatives are identified after execution of the Agreement, an appropriate amendment should be made to the Agreement at the time these individuals are designated.
10.1	Insurance	Attach an Insurance Exhibit setting forth in detail the insurance coverages required for the Project. Parties are advised to familiarize themselves with the terms of Article 5 of the General Conditions of Contract, Insurance and Bonds, and to consult their insurance advisor.
10.2	Bonds	Enter the type and amount of bonds or other performance security required for the Project. Where bonding is not required by statute, Owner may want to evaluate the project risks versus the bonding costs in deciding what type of performance security to require.
11.1	Other Provisions	Insert any other provisions. For example, the parties may elect to have disputes resolved through litigation rather than arbitration in which case the optional language in this Section should be included.

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Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Design-Builder - Lump Sum

This document has important legal consequences. Consultation with an attorney is recommended with respect to its completion or modification.

This **AGREEMENT** is made as of the _____ day of _____in the year of 20_____, by and between the following parties, for services in connection with the Project identified below.

OWNER:
(Name and address)
Town of Black Mountain
160 Midland Avenue
Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711

DESIGN-BUILDER:
(Name and address)
North State Environmental, Inc.
2889 Lowery Street
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101

PROJECT:
(Include Project name and location as it will appear in the Contract Documents)
Swannanoa River Floodbench and Constructed Wetlands Project
Black Mountain, North Carolina

In consideration of the mutual covenants and obligations contained herein, Owner and Design-Builder agree as set forth herein.

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Article 1

Scope of Work

1.1 Design-Builder shall perform all design and construction services, and provide all material, equipment, tools and labor, necessary to complete the Work described in and reasonably inferable from the Contract Documents.

Article 2

Contract Documents

2.1 The Contract Documents are comprised of the following:

2.1.1 All written modifications, amendments, minor changes and Change Orders to this Agreement issued in accordance with DBIA Document No. 535, *Standard Form of General Conditions of Contract Between Owner and Design-Builder* (2010 Edition) ("General Conditions of Contract");

2.1.2 The Basis of Design Documents, including the Owner's Project Criteria, Design-Builder's Proposal and the Deviation List, if any, contained in the Design-Builder's Proposal, which shall specifically identify any and all deviations from Owner's Project Criteria;

2.1.3 This Agreement, including all exhibits and attachments, executed by Owner and Design-Builder (List for example, performance standard requirements, performance incentive requirements, markup exhibits, allowances, or unit prices);

2.1.4 The General Conditions of Contract; and

2.1.5 Construction Documents prepared and approved in accordance with Section 2.4 of the General Conditions of Contract.

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Article 3

Interpretation and Intent

3.1 Design-Builder and Owner, prior to execution of the Agreement, shall carefully review all the Contract Documents, including the various documents comprising the Basis of Design Documents, for any conflicts or ambiguities. Design-Builder and Owner will discuss and resolve any identified conflicts or ambiguities prior to execution of the Agreement.

3.2 The Contract Documents are intended to permit the parties to complete the Work and all obligations required by the Contract Documents within the Contract Time(s) for the Contract Price. The Contract Documents are intended to be complementary and interpreted in harmony so as to avoid conflict, with words and phrases interpreted in a manner consistent with construction and design industry standards. In the event inconsistencies, conflicts, or ambiguities between or among the Contract Documents are discovered after execution of the Agreement, Design-Builder and Owner shall attempt to resolve any ambiguity, conflict or inconsistency informally, recognizing that the Contract Documents shall take precedence in the order in which they are listed in Section 2.1 hereof. Conflicts existing within Section 2.1.2 shall be resolved by giving precedence first to the Deviation List, if any, then the Owner's Project Criteria, and then the Design-Builder's Proposal.

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3.3 Terms, words and phrases used in the Contract Documents, including this Agreement, shall have the meanings given them in the General Conditions of Contract.

3.4 If Owner's Project Criteria contain design specifications: (a) Design-Builder shall be entitled to reasonably rely on the accuracy of the information represented in such design specifications and their compatibility with other information set forth in Owner's Project Criteria, including any performance specifications; and (b) Design-Builder shall be entitled to an adjustment in the Contract Price and/or Contract Time(s) to the extent Design-Builder's cost and/or time of performance have been adversely impacted by such inaccurate design specification.

3.5 The Contract Documents form the entire agreement between Owner and Design-Builder and by incorporation herein are as fully binding on the parties as if repeated herein. No oral representations or other agreements have been made by the parties except as specifically stated in the Contract Documents.

Article 4

Ownership of Work Product

4.1 Work Product. All drawings, specifications and other documents and electronic data, including such documents identified in the General Conditions of Contract, furnished by Design-Builder to Owner under this Agreement ("Work Product") are deemed to be instruments of service and Design-Builder shall retain the ownership and property interests therein, including but not limited to any intellectual property rights, copyrights and/or patents, subject to the provisions set forth in Sections 4.2 through 4.5 below.

4.2 Owner's Limited License Upon Project Completion and Payment in Full to Design-Builder. Upon Owner's payment in full for all Work performed under the Contract Documents, Design-Builder shall grant Owner a limited license to use the Work Product in connection with Owner's occupancy of the Project, conditioned on Owner's express understanding that its alteration of the Work Product without the involvement of Design-Builder is at Owner's sole risk and without liability or legal exposure to Design-Builder or anyone working by or through Design-Builder, including Design Consultants of any tier (collectively the "Indemnified Parties"), and on the Owner's obligation to provide the indemnity set forth in Section 4.5 below.

4.3 Owner's Limited License upon Owner's Termination for Convenience or Design-Builder's Election to Terminate. If Owner terminates this Agreement for its convenience as set forth in Article 8 hereof, or if Design-Builder elects to terminate this Agreement in accordance with Section 11.4 of the General Conditions of Contract, Design-Builder shall, upon Owner's payment in full of the amounts due Design-Builder under the Contract Documents, grant Owner a limited license to use the Work Product to complete the Project and subsequently occupy the Project, and Owner shall thereafter have the same rights as set forth in Section 4.2 above, conditioned on the following:

4.3.1 Use of the Work Product is at Owner's sole risk without liability or legal exposure to any Indemnified Party and on the Owner's obligation to provide the indemnity set forth in Section 4.5 below; and

4.3.2 Owner agrees to negotiate an additional sum with the Design-Builder as compensation for the right to use the Work Product to complete the Project and subsequently use the work Product in accordance with Section 4.2 if Owner resumes the Project through its employees, agents, or third parties.

4.4 Owner's Limited License upon Design-Builder's Default. If this Agreement is terminated due to Design-Builder's default pursuant to Section 11.2 of the General Conditions of Contract, then Design-Builder grants Owner a limited license to use the Work Product to complete the Project and subsequently occupy the

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Project, and Owner shall thereafter have the same rights and obligations as set forth in Section 4.2 above. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, if it is ultimately determined that Design-Builder was not in default, Owner shall be deemed to have terminated the Agreement for convenience, and Design-Builder shall be entitled to the rights and remedies set forth in Section 4.3 above.

4.5 Owner's Indemnification for Use of Work Product. If Owner is required to indemnify any Indemnified Parties based on the use or alteration of the Work Product under any of the circumstances identified in this Article 4, Owner shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless such Indemnified Parties from and against any and all claims, damages, liabilities, losses and expenses, including attorneys' fees, arising out of or resulting from the use or alteration of the Work Product.

Article 5

Contract Time

5.1 Date of Commencement. The Work shall commence within five (5) days of Design-Builder's receipt of Owner's Notice to Proceed ("Date of Commencement") unless the parties mutually agree otherwise in writing.

5.2 Substantial Completion and Final Completion.

5.2.1 Substantial Completion of the entire Work shall be achieved no later than six hundred and seventy (670) calendar days after the Date of Commencement ("Scheduled Substantial Completion Date").

5.2.3 Final Completion of the Work or identified portions of the Work shall be achieved as expeditiously as reasonably practicable. Final Completion is the date when all Work is complete pursuant to the definition of Final Completion set forth in Section 1.2.7 of the General Conditions of Contract.

5.2.4 All of the dates set forth in this Article 5 (collectively the "Contract Time(s)") shall be subject to adjustment in accordance with the General Conditions of Contract.

5.3 Time is of the Essence. Owner and Design-Builder mutually agree that time is of the essence with respect to the dates and times set forth in the Contract Documents.

5.4 Liquidated Damages.

☒ **5.4** Design-Builder and Owner have agreed not to provide for liquidated damages in this Agreement for failure of Design-Builder to achieve the Contract Time(s) set forth in this Article 5. Design-Builder understands, however, that Owner may suffer actual damages in the event the Contract Time(s) set forth herein are not timely achieved. Owner shall be able to recover such actual damages from Design-Builder to the extent it can demonstrate that actual damages have been incurred, are directly related and caused by Design-Builder's failure to meet the Contract Time(s) set forth herein, and are not waived by Section 10.5.1 of the General Conditions of Contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall Design-Builder's liability for actual damages for delays exceed Dollars ($0).

5.5 Any liquidated damages assessed pursuant to this Agreement shall be in lieu of all liability for any and all extra costs, losses, expenses, claims, penalties and any other damages, whether special or consequential, and of whatsoever nature incurred by Owner which are occasioned by any delay in achieving the Contract Time(s).

☒ Owner and Design-Builder agree that the maximum aggregate liability Design-Builder has for any

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liquidated damages that may be assessed under this Agreement for failure to achieve the Contract Time(s) shall be Dollars ($0).

☐ In addition to Design-Builder's right to a time extension for those events set forth in Section 8.2.1 of the General Conditions of Contract, Design-Builder shall also be entitled to an appropriate adjustment of the Contract Price for those events set forth in Section 8.2.1 of the General Conditions of Contract, provided, however, for Force Majeure Events, Design-Builder shall only be entitled to an increase in the Contract Price if said events exceed 30 cumulative days. Said additional compensation shall be limited to:

[Check one box only]

☐ $ _____ dollars a day for each day work is delayed beyond the Scheduled Substantial Completion Date.

or

☒ the direct costs and expenses Design-Builder can demonstrate it has reasonably and actually incurred as a result of such event.

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Article 6

Contract Price

6.1 Contract Price. Owner shall pay Design-Builder in accordance with Article 6 of the General Conditions of Contract the sum of four million seven hundred thousand Dollars ($ 4,700,000) ("Contract Price"), subject to adjustments made in accordance with the General Conditions of Contract. Unless otherwise provided in the Contract Documents, the Contract Price is deemed to include all sales, use, consumer and other taxes mandated by applicable Legal Requirements.

6.2 Markups for Changes. If the Contract Price requires an adjustment due to changes in the Work, and the cost of such changes is determined under Sections 9.4.1.3 or 9.4.1.4 of the General Conditions of Contract, the following markups shall be allowed on such changes:

6.2.1 For additive Change Orders, including additive Change Orders arising from both additive and deductive items, it is agreed that Design-Builder shall receive a Fee of three percent (3 %) of the additional costs incurred for that Change Order, plus any other markups set forth at Exhibit ___ _____ hereto.

6.2.2 For deductive Change Orders, including deductive Change Orders arising from both additive and deductive items, the deductive amounts shall include:

[Check one box only]

☒ No additional reduction to account for Design-Builder's Fee or any other markup.

or

☐ An amount equal to the sum of: (a) _____percent (_____%) applied to the direct costs of the net reduction (which amount will account for a reduction associated with Design-Builder's Fee); plus (b) any other markups set forth at Exhibit _____ hereto applied to the direct costs of the net reduction.

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6.3 Allowance Items and Allowance Values.

6.3.1 Any and all Allowance Items, as well as their corresponding Allowance Values, are set forth in an Exhibit hereto.

6.3.2 Design-Builder and Owner have worked together to review the Allowance Items and Allowance Values based on design information then available to determine that the Allowance Values constitute reasonable estimates for the Allowance Items. Design-Builder and Owner will continue working closely together during the preparation of the design to develop Construction Documents consistent with the Allowance Values. Nothing herein is intended in any way to constitute a guarantee by Design-Builder that the Allowance Item in question can be performed for the Allowance Value.

6.3.3 No work shall be performed on any Allowance Item without Design-Builder first obtaining in writing advanced authorization to proceed from Owner. Owner agrees that if Design-Builder is not provided written authorization to proceed on an Allowance Item by the date set forth in the Project schedule, due to no fault of Design-Builder, Design-Builder may be entitled to an adjustment of the Contract Time(s) and Contract Price.

6.3.4 The Allowance Value for an Allowance Item includes the direct cost of labor, materials, equipment, transportation, taxes and insurance associated with the applicable Allowance Item. All other costs, including design fees, Design-Builder's overall project management and general conditions costs, overhead and fee, are deemed to be included in the original Contract Price, and are not subject to adjustment, regardless of the actual amount of the Allowance Item.

6.3.5 Whenever the actual costs for an Allowance Item is more than or less than the stated Allowance Value, the Contract Price shall be adjusted accordingly by Change Order, subject to Section 6.3.4. The amount of the Change Order shall reflect the difference between actual costs incurred by Design-Builder for the particular Allowance Item and the Allowance Value.

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Article 7

Procedure for Payment

7.1 Progress Payments.

7.1.1 Design-Builder shall submit to Owner on the fifteenth (15th) day of each month, beginning with the first month after the Date of Commencement, Design-Builder's Application for Payment in accordance with Article 6 of the General Conditions of Contract.

7.1.2 Owner shall make payment within thirty (30) days after Owner's receipt of each properly submitted and accurate Application for Payment in accordance with Article 6 of the General Conditions of Contract, but in each case less the total of payments previously made, and less amounts properly withheld under Section 6.3 of the General Conditions of Contract.

7.2 Retainage on Progress Payments.

7.2.1

Owner will retain five percent (5 %) from Design-Builder's Applications for Payment, exclusive of general conditions costs, and any amounts paid to Design-Builder's Design Consultant, from each Application for Payment provided, however, that when fifty percent (50%) of the Work has been satisfactorily completed by Design-Builder and Design-Builder is otherwise in compliance with its

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contractual obligations, Owner will not retain any additional amounts from Design-Builder's subsequent Applications for Payment. Owner will also reasonably consider reducing retainage for Subcontractors completing their work early in the Project.

7.2.2 Within fifteen (15) days after Substantial Completion of the entire Work or, if applicable, any portion of the Work, pursuant to Section 6.6 of the General Conditions of Contract, Owner shall release to Design-Builder all retained amounts relating, as applicable, to the entire Work or completed portion of the Work, less an amount equal to (a) the reasonable value of all remaining or incomplete items of Work as noted in the Certificate of Substantial Completion and (b) all other amounts Owner is entitled to withhold pursuant to Section 6.3 of the General Conditions of Contract.

7.3 Final Payment. Design-Builder shall submit its Final Application for Payment to Owner in accordance with Section 6.7 of the General Conditions of Contract. Owner shall make payment on Design-Builder's properly submitted and accurate Final Application for Payment within thirty (30) days after Owner's receipt of the Final Application for Payment, provided that Design-Builder has satisfied the requirements for final payment set forth in Section 6.7.2 of the General Conditions of Contract.

7.4 Interest. Payments due and unpaid by Owner to Design-Builder, whether progress payments or final payment, shall bear interest commencing five (5) days after payment is due at the rate of six percent (6%) per month until paid.

7.5 Record Keeping and Finance Controls. With respect to changes in the Work performed on a cost basis by Design-Builder pursuant to the Contract Documents, Design-Builder shall keep full and detailed accounts and exercise such controls as may be necessary for proper financial management, using accounting and control systems in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and as may be provided in the Contract Documents. During the performance of the Work and for a period of three (3) years after Final Payment, Owner and Owner's accountants shall be afforded access to, and the right to audit from time-to-time, upon reasonable notice, Design-Builder's records, books, correspondence, receipts, subcontracts, purchase orders, vouchers, memoranda and other data relating to changes in the Work performed on a cost basis in accordance with the Contract Documents, all of which Design-Builder shall preserve for a period of three (3) years after Final Payment. Such inspection shall take place at Design-Builder's offices during normal business hours unless another location and time is agreed to by the parties. Any multipliers or markups agreed to by the Owner and Design-Builder as part of this Agreement are only subject to audit to confirm that such multiplier or markup has been charged in accordance with this Agreement, with the composition of such multiplier or markup not being subject to audit.

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Article 8

Termination for Convenience

8.1 Upon ten (10) days' written notice to Design-Builder, Owner may, for its convenience and without cause, elect to terminate this Agreement. In such event, Owner shall pay Design-Builder for the following:

8.1.1 All Work executed and for proven loss, cost or expense in connection with the Work;

8.1.2 The reasonable costs and expenses attributable to such termination, including demobilization costs and amounts due in settlement of terminated contracts with Subcontractors and Design Consultants; and

8.1.3 ***(Choose one of the following:)***

☒ The fair and reasonable sums for overhead and profit on the sum of items 8.1.1 and 8.1.2 above.

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8.2 In addition to the amounts set forth in Section 8.1 above, Design-Builder shall be entitled to receive one of the following as applicable:

8.2.1 If Owner terminates this Agreement prior to commencement of construction, Design-Builder shall be paid for the services rendered.

8.2.2 If Owner terminates this Agreement after commencement of construction, Design-Builder shall be paid for the services rendered and at a reasonable unit price for the constructed portions of the project.

8.3 If Owner terminates this Agreement pursuant to Section 8.1 above and proceeds to design and construct the Project through its employees, agents or third parties, Owner's rights to use the Work Product shall be as set forth in Section 4.3 hereof. Such rights may not be transferred or assigned to others without Design-Builder's express written consent and such third parties' agreement to the terms of Article 4.

Article 9

Representatives of the Parties

9.1 Owner's Representatives.

9.1.1 Owner designates the individual listed below as its Senior Representative ("Owner's Senior Representative"), which individual has the authority and responsibility for avoiding and resolving disputes under Section 10.2.3 of the General Conditions of Contract: *(Identify individual's name, title, address and telephone numbers)*

Angela Reece
Project and Facilities Manager
160 Midland Avenue, Black Mountain, NC 28711
828.419.9315

9.1.2 Owner designates the individual listed below as its Owner's Representative, which individual has the authority and responsibility set forth in Section 3.4 of the General Conditions of Contract: *(Identify individual's name, title, address and telephone numbers)*

Angela Reece
Project and Facilities Manager
160 Midland Avenue, Black Mountain, NC 28711
828.419.9315

9.2 Design-Builder's Representatives.

9.2.1 Design-Builder designates the individual listed below as its Senior Representative ("Design-Builder's Senior Representative"), which individual has the authority and responsibility for avoiding and resolving disputes under Section 10.2.3 of the General Conditions of Contract: *(Identify individual's name, title, address and telephone numbers)*

Darrell Westmoreland
CEO
2889 Lowery Street, Winston Salem, NC 27101
336.345.3239

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9.2.2 Design-Builder designates the individual listed below as its Design-Builder's Representative, which individual has the authority and responsibility set forth in Section 2.1.1 of the General Conditions of Contract: *(Identify individual's name, title, address and telephone numbers)*
Darrell Westmoreland
CEO
2889 Lowery Street, Winston Salem, NC 27101
336.345.3239

Article 10

Bonds and Insurance

10.1 Insurance. Design-Builder and Owner shall procure the insurance coverages set forth in the Insurance Exhibit attached hereto and in accordance with Article 5 of the General Conditions of Contract.

10.2 Bonds and Other Performance Security. Design-Builder shall provide the following performance bond and labor and material payment bond or other performance security:

Performance Bond.

☒ Required ☐ Not Required

Payment Bond.

☒ Required ☐ Not Required

Other Performance Security.

☐ Required ☒ Not Required

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Article 11

Other Provisions

11.1 Other provisions, if any, are as follows: *(Insert any additional provisions)*

☒ Notwithstanding Section 2.3.1 of the General Conditions of Contract, if the parties agree upon specific performance standards in the Basis of Design Documents, the design professional services shall be performed to achieve such standards.

☒ Any claims, disputes, or controversies between the parties arising out of or related to the Agreement, or the breach thereof, which have not been resolved in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 10.2 of the General Conditions of Contract shall be resolved in a court of competent jurisdiction in the state in which the Project is located.

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In executing this Agreement, Owner and Design-Builder each individually represents that it has the necessary financial resources to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement, and each has the necessary corporate approvals to execute this Agreement, and perform the services described herein.

OWNER:	**DESIGN-BUILDER:**
_____	_____
(Name of Owner)	*(Name of Design-Builder)*
_____	_____
(Signature)	*(Signature)*
_____	_____
(Printed Name)	*(Printed Name)*
_____	_____
(Title)	*(Title)*
Date: _____	Date: _____

Caution: You should sign an original DBIA document which has this caution printed in blue. An original assures that changes will not be obscured as may occur when documents are reproduced.

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