BROWNSVILLE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

Request for Proposals (RFP) Specifications

Cyber Liability Insurance

P068-25

Policy Inception: October 1, 2025

Proposals due: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 by 5:00 PM Proposal acknowledgment: Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 10:00 AM

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Cyber Application

Cyber Loss Runs

2025 Cyber Liability Insurance Specification Worksheet

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report http://www.brownsville-pub.com/about-us/financial
BPUB Website: https://www.brownsville-pub.com/rfp_status/open/

The Brownsville Public Utilities Board is seeking quotes for consideration for this line of coverage.

LEGAL NOTICE AND INVITATION FOR SEALED PROPOSALS PROPOSAL No: P068-25

The Brownsville Public Utilities Board (hereafter referred to as the BPUB) will accept sealed proposals for CYBER LIABILITY INSURANCE until 5:00 PM local time, Wednesday, July 16, 2025 in the Brownsville Public Utilities Purchasing Office, 1155 FM 511, Olmito, Texas. Proposals will be opened and acknowledged publicly on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 10:00 AM. This is a procurement for liability insurance in a municipality with population in excess of 100,000 pursuant to the competitive sealed proposal procedure outlined in the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 252, Subchapter B, Sections 252.021 (c); 252.041 (b); 252.042 (a), (b); 252.043 (b); and 252.049 (b). At the proposal opening, only the identity of the proposers will be disclosed by the BPUB. The proposals will be forwarded to BPUB's insurance committee for review, tabulation and analysis. The contents of each proposal will not be disclosed in order to protect the integrity of the follow-on negotiation process with short-listed candidates. To obtain the best and final offer(s), revisions by short-listed candidates may be permitted after original proposal submission, and before contract award. All proposals will be later made available to the public for inspection after the contract is awarded. If a proposer indicates and justifies in his proposal(s) that certain information in the proposal(s) is confidential or a trade secret, the BPUB will review those materials with the proposer prior to releasing the materials for public inspection after the contract award.

Detailed specifications, including the criteria for proposal evaluations, may be viewed at the following website: https://www.brownsville-pub.com/rfp status/open/

Please mark on the outside of the submitted envelope: "P068-25 SEALED PROPOSAL FOR CYBER LIABILITY INSURANCE, July 16, 2025, 5:00 PM" and send to the attention of Diane Solitaire, Purchasing Department, 1155 FM 511, Olmito, Texas 78575.

The BPUB reserves the right to reject any or all competitive sealed proposals and waive any irregularities contained therein and to accept any competitive sealed proposals deemed most advantageous to the BPUB. Any competitive sealed proposal received after 5:00 PM, local time, Wednesday, July 16, 2025, will be automatically rejected and returned to the proposer unopened. BPUB will not accept faxed or emailed proposals.

The Brownsville Public Utilities Board will not be responsible in the event that the U.S. Postal Service or any other carrier system fails to deliver the sealed proposal to the Brownsville Public Utilities Board, Purchasing Office by the given deadline above.

By: **Diane Solitaire**Purchasing Department (956) 983-6366

Please submit this page upon receipt

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM CYBER LIABILITY INSURANCE

P068-25

For any clarifications, please contact Diane Solitaire at Brownsville PUB Purchasing Department at (956) 983-6366 or e-mail: dsolitaire@brownsville-pub.com

Please email this page upon receipt of the RFP package or legal notice. If you only received the legal notice and you want the RFP package mailed please provide a method of shipment with account number in the space designated below.

Check one:				
Yes, I will be able to send a RFP; obtained RFP package from website.				
() Yes, I wil Email:		please email the RFP package.		
() No, I will	not be able to send a RF	P for the following reason:		
		ly indicate your reason above and return this form via email vill ensure you remain active on our vendor list.		
Liability Insurance below. The compaconnection with property of the connection with the connection wit	is acknowledgement form and e Specification Worksheet and my listed below agrees that the	the Non-Disclosure Agreement, the cyber loss runs, 2025 Cyber relevant applications will be provided to the email address listed information to be provided is confidential and is to only be used in ability insurance. The company also agrees to comply with regulations.		
Date				
Company:				
Name:				
Address:				
		Zip Code:		
		Fax:		
Email:				

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

Information provided in these specifications is to be used for purposes of preparing a proposal detailing costs of providing the services and insurance specified. It is further expected that each proposer will read these specifications with care, since failure to meet each condition or a combination of specified conditions may annul the proposal.

The Brownsville Public Utilities Board (hereafter referred to as the BPUB) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or any portion thereof and to accept the proposal deemed most advantageous to the BPUB.

Proposers are required to submit proposals on the basis of these specifications. Alternative proposals (for service on a basis different from requested in these specifications) will receive consideration if such alternatives are clearly explained. Any exceptions to coverage requested herein must be clearly noted in writing and be included as a part of the proposal.

BPUB believes that the data contained in these specifications is sufficient for preparation of a proposal. The information is believed to be accurate and is based upon the latest available information, but it is not to be considered in any way as a warranty. Requests for additional information should be directed in writing to: Diane Solitaire, Purchasing, 1155 FM 511, Olmito, TX 78575; or Email to: dsolitaire@brownsville-pub.com

THE BPUB SYSTEM

The City, located in Cameron County on the Rio Grande approximately 23 miles from the Gulf of Mexico, is a home rule city organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas, including the City's Charter, as amended (the "charter"). The City owns and operates a combined electric, water, and wastewater utilities system (collectively, the "system") serving the City and certain areas outside the city. The City's authority with regard to public utility ownership and services is generally exercised through the Brownsville Public Utilities Board (the "Board"). The Board, created and established by Article VI of the Charter as a separate and distinct agency of the city, has authority to control, manage, and operate the system and to expand and apply System revenues, subject to certain limitations. The Charter provides that the power to issue bonds; to encumber, sell, or hypothecate the system; and the city retains to fix rates, fees, and charges of the system. The mailing address of the Board is Post Office Box 3270, Brownsville, Texas 78523-3270, and the telephone number of the Board is (956) 983-6100. The Board's fiscal year is the 12-month period ended September 30 of each year and is referred to herein as the "fiscal year."

1.0 INTRODUCTION: Request for Competitive Sealed Proposal

1.1 General Information

BROWNSVILLE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD (BPUB) desires to secure a competitive insurance program that will provide the broadest coverage at the most competitive price available. These specifications will enable BPUB to select the agent and carrier that can provide such a program.

In no case is it the desire of BPUB for insurers to use illegal forms or in any manner to deviate from approved or acceptable insurance practice in the State of Texas.

Please note that a "no" answer to certain requests will not necessarily result in a disqualification or complete rejection of the entire proposal. Where specifications call for specific information please provide it.

1.2 Timetable

- 1.2.1 Specifications will be available on or after **June 23, 2025.**
- 1.2.2 Deadline to submit questions is July 7, 2025 by 5:00 PM.
- 1.2.3 Proposals, in duplicate, are due **July 16, 2025 by 5:00 PM**. Sealed envelopes will be acknowledged in public on July 17, 2025 at 10:00 AM, in such a manner as to avoid disclosure. Vendors can call in at 10:00 AM, July 17, 2025, to (956) 214-6020 to listen to the proposal opening. The contents of the proposals shall be kept confidential through the negotiation process. After the insurance contracts are awarded all proposals will be available for inspection. Please label any trade secrets or confidential information to avoid public disclosure. If BPUB receives a request for copies of the Proposals under the Texas Public Information Act, BPUB will notify the proposer of their rights to keep the information confidential.
- 1.2.4 Proposals will be considered at the first scheduled board meeting in September 8, 2025. It is anticipated but not certain that a decision will be reached on that date. The selected proposer will be notified after the board meeting in which the contract is awarded.
- 1.2.5 Binders are to be delivered to **BPUB** a minimum of ten days before requested effective date of October 1, 2025.
- 1.2.6 Policies are due to **BPUB by 60 days after October 1, 2025 effective date**. Brownsville Public Utilities Board reserves the right to withhold payment until coverage documents/policies are received.
- 1.2.7 Agents are required to meet all State and Federal insurance regulations concerning the coverage submitted.

1.3 Selection

BPUB reserves the right to accept or reject all or part of the proposals, waive technicalities, and award the proposal that best serves its interest. The contract will be awarded to the vendor who submits the most responsive proposal based on coverage afforded, reasonably anticipated premiums, insurance

company financial condition, reputation, and the quality of service. It is Brownsville PUB's intention that the selected insurance company and agent will service this account for the next three years.

1.4 Submission of Proposal

The proposal shall be submitted in duplicate in a sealed envelope. On the front of the envelope shall be written the following words to the left of the address:

"PROPOSAL FOR CYBER LIABILITY INSURANCE, P068-25, JULY 16, 2025, 5:00 PM"

Proposals must be submitted in duplicate to the BPUB, Attn.: Ms. Diane Solitaire, Purchasing Department, 1155 FM 511, Olmito, Texas 78575, to arrive by **5:00 PM** local time on **Wednesday**, **July 16, 2025.**

Proposals must be received at or before <u>time</u> on the due date. Telephone, email or faxed proposals will not be accepted. BPUB or its' agents will not be responsible for misdirected mail or packages. Any delay in mail or delivery is at the risk of the proposer. Proposals received after the deadline will be returned unopened.

1.5 Underwriting Information

Quotations shall be based on the underwriting information furnished in these specifications.

Due care and diligence have been used in preparation of the specifications and/or applications and the information contained therein is believed to be substantially correct. The ultimate responsibility, however, for determining the full extent of the exposures and the verification of information rests solely on the proposer.

1.6 Company Eligibility

All proposals must include the name of the insurance company. Each company must have a general policyholder's rating of A-VII or better as published by the A.M. Best Company, Inc., in the most recent edition of its Key Rating Guide. Please provide most recent published A.M. Best rating.

Please provide published rating.

Plans organized under the terms of the Interlocal Cooperation Act (Chapter 791, Title 7, Government Code) will be considered. The most recent audited financial statements with auditor opinion letter reinsurance provisions are required with the proposal and reinsurance provisions.

1.7 Proposal

Proposals are to be submitted in accordance with these specifications. Any restrictions, deviations, or other modifications, which either restrict or broaden coverage, should be noted in the proposals. In the absence of notification of these modifications, companies will be held to the specifications.

1.7.1 Best and Final Offer

This RFP is being solicited under the 252.021(b)(c); 252.041(b); 252.042; 252.043(h); 252.049(b) Texas Local Government established purchasing guidelines. Brownsville PUB reserves the right to negotiate price, terms and conditions and other factors with this RFP and request a Best and Final Offer which will result in the "best value" for Brownsville PUB.

1.7.2 Criteria Used in Evaluating Proposals

Proposals will be first evaluated on technical factors other than cost, including coverage (20%), services (15%) and financial stability (15%). After a preliminary evaluation of the technical criteria, cost will be included in the evaluation process. Cost criteria (50%) will be evaluated on an equal basis with the technical criteria (50%).

1.8 Qualifications of Agents

The proposer must meet these qualifications:

- 1.8.1 The recording agent must have been licensed to conduct fire and casualty insurance business in Texas for the last five years.
- 1.8.2 The agency must be producing a minimum annual gross fire and casualty premium income of at least \$1,000,000 average for each of the past five years.
- 1.8.3 The agency must provide a certificate of errors and omissions coverage with the minimum limits of \$2,000,000 annual aggregate with a maximum deductible of \$50,000.
- 1.8.4 Provide a description of your agency and resumes on the personnel who would be assigned to service Brownsville Public Utilities Board.
- 1.8.5 Provide information on Toll Free Services, such as claims handling, underwriting questions, endorsements, and loss control services.

1.9 **Ouestions Concerning These Specifications**

Questions or requests for additional information (including property inspection) should be directed in writing to <u>Diane Solitaire</u>, 1155 FM 511, Olmito, TX 78575; or Email to: <u>dsolitaire@brownsvillepub.com</u>.

1.9.1 Correction

Any interpretation, correction, or change of the proposal invitation will be made BY ADDENDUM. Changes or corrections will be issued by the Brownsville PUB Purchasing Department. Addenda will be emailed to all who have returned the Proposal Acknowledgement Form and the Non-Disclosure Agreement. Addenda will be issued as expeditiously as possible. It is the responsibility of the vendors to determine whether all addenda have been received. It will be the responsibility of all respondents to contact the Brownsville PUB prior to submitting a response to the proposal invitation to ascertain if any addenda have been issued, and to obtain any OR all addenda, execute them, and return addenda with the response to the proposal invitation. Addenda may also be posted on BPUB's webpage.

1.10 Specimen Policy to be Submitted

Please enclose with your proposal a complete, legible specimen policy with all endorsements, forms, policy jackets and examples of declaration pages.

1.11 General Policy Conditions

1.11.1 Named Insured and Address

Brownsville Public Utilities Board, the Board of Directors, all past and present Directors, employees and volunteers acting for or on behalf of the utility all while acting within the scope of their duties on behalf of Brownsville Public Utilities Board.

1425 Robinhood Drive Brownsville, TX 78521

1.11.2 Term of Policy

BPUB is seeking insurance contracts for a <u>three year period</u> with the option to terminate the contract during the term of the contract or at the end of each anniversary date on one of the following basis:

- a) Fixed price for the three year period,
- b) Two annual renewal adjustments determined by formula at the time the contract is awarded, or
- c) One year contract with two annual renewal options for rate and premiums deemed to be favorable to the BPUB. Renewal rates are to be provided to BPUB 90 days prior to anniversary date.

BPUB reserves the right to terminate the contract at the expiration of each budget period ending on September 30 of each calendar year, in accordance with Local Government Code 271.903.

Initial contract effective date is to be October 1, 2025 for all insurance contracts.

1.11.3 Cancellation Provisions

60 days notice of cancellation (except for non-payment) and 60 days notice of non-renewal or material change.

1.12 Disqualification Provision

It is necessary for the proposer/vendor to provide the documentation requested and complete response pages. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.

BROWNSVILLE PUB RIGHTS

- 1. If only one or no proposal is received by "submission date", the BPUB has the right to reject, re-propose, accept and/or extend the proposal by up to an additional two (2) weeks from original submission date.
- 2. The right to reject any/or all proposals and to make award as they may appear to be advantageous to the Brownsville Public Utilities Board.
- 3. The right to hold proposal for 90 days from submission date without action, and to waive all formalities in proposal.
- 4. The right to extend the total proposal beyond the original 90-day period prior to an award if agreed upon in writing by both parties and if proposal holds firm.
- 5. The right to terminate all or any part of the unfinished portion of the project resulting from this solicitation within thirty (30) days written notice; upon default by the vendor, for delay or non-performance by the Vendor, or if it is deemed in the best interest of the Utilities for convenience.

2.0 AGENCY QUESTIONNAIRE

Each proposing agent must complete the following:

1.	Name of Agency:	
2.	Has the agency been licensed more than 5 years to conduct fire and casualty Yes No insurance business in Texas?	
3.	Does the agency produce a minimum of \$1,000,000 in gross premium annually? Yes No Is this true for each of the last 5 years?	
4.	Did you attach a certificate showing the required limits of your errors & Yes No omissions policy?	_
5.	Have you attached a resume on each of the individuals who will be assigned Yes No to this account?	_
6.	Have you attached information regarding your agency business experience Yes No and Policyholder, Administrative, Loss Control and Claims Handling Services?	_
Gen	neral Certifications	
1.	Do policies provide at a minimum, 60 days notice of cancellation, non-renewal, Yes No _ or material change in policy terms, conditions, or premiums? Please indicate exceptions:	
2.	Do you acknowledge that unless you have specifically made comment otherwise, Yes No you will be held to strict compliance with these specifications?	
Age	ency Signature	
Age	ncy Name Authorized Signature (Failure to sign disqualifies proposal)	
Add	Type Signatory's Name & Title	
	Telephone Number Fax Number	
Date	Signatory's Email Address	

CYBER LIABILITY

3.1 Requested Program

BPUB desires quotes for a \$5,000,000 Limit of Liability and a \$10,000,000 Limit of Liability for Cyber Liability with an effective date of October 1, 2025 to October 1, 2026.

3.2 Cyber Liability Proposal

- 1. Proposals must include a complete Cyber Liability Insurance Specification Worksheet (attached to this RFP).
- 2. Proposals must include a copy of all insurers' quotes.
- 3. Proposals must include a copy of the insurers' specimen insurance policy.
- 4. Proposals must include detailed list of any required insurer panel providers.

3.3 Deviations from Specifications

Please describe coverage deviations, restrictions, modifications, recommendations, not outlined in your answers above or provide any other information you feel is appropriate and will clarify the proposal of benefit BPUB:
3.4 Additional Cyber Security Services Available
Please describe Cyber Security services available by the carrier proposed.



June 10, 2025

TO WHO IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: Cyber Security Insurance

The Brownsville Public Utilities Board (BPUB) has engaged Paul D. Pousson and Therese O'Brien with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, LLC to review BPUB's Cyber Security Insurance. Mr. Pousson, Ms. O'Brien and team are authorized to obtain information on BPUB's behalf related to their review and analysis of BPUB's Cyber Security Insurance and to negotiate the terms and conditions of this insurance.

Mr. Pousson and Ms. O'Brien are performing in a consultant capacity and receive a fee for services rendered directly from the BPUB. Mr. Pousson & Ms. O'Brien do not receive any type of compensation from the insurance policies written for BPUB.

Please extend Mr. Pousson and Ms. O'Brien every courtesy you would extend to an employee of the BPUB.

Sincerely,

Mark Dombroski

Assistant General Manager and COO

C: File

REQUIRED FORMS

CHECKLIST

The following documents are to be submitted as a part of the Bid/RFP/RFQ document

NAME	FORM DESC	CRIPTION	SUBMITTE	CD WITH BID
			YES	NO
	Acknowledgement Form	1		
Required Forms	Debarment Certificate			
(if applicable)	Ethic Statement			
	Conflict of Interest Ques	stionnaire		
	W9 or W8 Form			
	Confidentiality & Non-L (NDA)	Disclosure Agreement		
	Residence Certification	Form		
	House Bill 89 Form			
	Senate Bill 252 Form			
	Bid Schedule/Cost sheet signed	completed and		
	Cashier Check or Bid Bo Amount of Bid	ond of 5% of Total		
Special Instructions (if applicable)	OSHA 300 Log			
	Contractor Pre-Bid Disclosure completed, signed and notarized			
	Sub-Contractor Pre-Bid Disclosure completed, signed, and notarized			
Complete the Previous Customer Reference Worksheet for each reference provided				
References				
Addenda				

CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

This Confidentiality and Nondisclosure	Agreement (this "Agreement"), dated
(month) (day) 20 (the "Effective Date"),	is entered into between Public Utilities Board of the
City of Brownsville, Texas ("Party"), a municipal	corporation with offices at 1425 Robinhood Drive
Brownsville, Texas 78521, and	with offices at [
(collectively the "Parties").	

Background Statement

The Parties wish to	exchange information, to	o hold confidenti	al discussions, and	l possibly to
engage in negotiations in co	nnection with a potential b	ousiness transactic	n at the	j.
facility in]. (the "Potent	tial Transaction").	The Parties anticip	ate that they
will be disclosing, receiving	g, reviewing, and analyzin	g oral and written	information with r	espect to the
Potential Transaction that i	s confidential, proprietary	, or otherwise no	t publicly available	e. The Party
disclosing information is re	ferred to herein as the "Di	isclosing Party."	The Party receiving	; information
is referred to herein as the	"Receiving Party." In cor	nsideration of the	business discussion	s, disclosure
of Confidential Information	, and any future business	relationship betw	een the parties, the	Parties have
entered into this Agreement	to establish terms and con	iditions applicable	to the exchange of	Confidential
Information in connection v	vith the Potential Transact	ion.		

Agreement

- 1. Non-disclosure of Confidential Information. Receiving Party shall not disclose the Confidential Information to any person other than as expressly permitted by this Agreement, and shall take all reasonable measures to preserve the confidentiality and avoid the unauthorized disclosure of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information, including but not limited to those steps taken with respect to the Receiving Party's own Confidential Information of like importance. Confidential Information may, however, be disclosed by Receiving Party to its directors, officers, employees, attorneys and consultants (collectively, "Representatives"), but only if such Representatives (i) need to know the Confidential Information in connection with evaluating the Potential Transaction, and (ii) such Representatives are informed by Receiving Party of the confidential nature of the Confidential Information and agree to be bound in writing to Receiving Party by confidentiality obligations at a minimum as restrictive as the terms of this Agreement. Receiving Party shall use the Confidential Information solely for the purpose of its internal evaluation of the Potential Transaction. For purposes of this Agreement, "person" shall be broadly interpreted to include the media, any corporation, company, partnership, group, individual and any governmental representative or authority. Notwithstanding the disclosure of the Confidential Information to the Representatives, Receiving Party shall remain liable for any breach of this Agreement by such Representatives. Receiving Party shall not remove any proprietary, copyright, trade secret, or other proprietary rights legends from any form of received Confidential Information.
- 2. Notice Preceding Required Disclosure. If Receiving Party or its Representatives are requested or required (by oral question, interrogatories, requests for information or documents, subpoena, civil investigative demand, regulatory proceedings, stock exchange rules, audit requirements, or other applicable rules or regulations or similar process) to disclose any Confidential Information, Receiving Party, to the extent permitted by law, shall promptly notify Disclosing Party of such request or requirement and use commercially reasonable efforts to assist Disclosing Party so that it either may seek, at Disclosing Party's expense, an appropriate protective order or waive compliance with this Agreement. If, in the absence of a protective order or the receipt of a waiver under this Agreement, Receiving Party or its Representatives are, in the opinion of outside legal counsel, required to disclose the Confidential Information or else stand liable for contempt or suffer other censure or penalty, Receiving Party and its Representatives may disclose, without liability thereunder, only such of the Confidential Information to the party requiring disclosure as in the opinion of its outside legal counsel.

is required by applicable law, rule or regulation and, in connection with such disclosure. Receiving Party and its Representatives shall use reasonable efforts to obtain from the third party to whom disclosure is made written assurance that confidential treatment will be accorded to such portion of the Confidential Information as is disclosed.

- 3. Definition of "Confidential Information." As used in this Agreement, "Confidential Information" means (1) all oral and written information that is furnished to Receiving Party or its Representatives by Disclosing Party, (2) the name of the Disclosing Party and its partners or co-venturers, affiliates, and subsidiaries, (3) the fact that Confidential Information has been made available to the Receiving Party, and (4) the fact that information is being exchanged and discussions and negotiations concerning the Potential Transaction are taking place. Proprietary and intellectual property disclosed by the Disclosing Party shall remain the sole and absolute property of the Disclosing Party. No right in, or license under, any present or future proprietary or intellectual information, trade secret, invention, patent, copyright, mask work, trade name, or trademark is either offered or granted by execution of this Agreement. Any information furnished to Receiving Party or its Representatives by a director, officer, employee, stockholder, partner, co-venturer, consultant, agent, or representative of Disclosing Party will be deemed furnished by Disclosing Party for the purpose of this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following does not constitute Confidential Information for purposes of this Agreement: (i) information that is or becomes publicly available other than as a result of a disclosure by Receiving Party or its Representatives; (ii) information that was already known to Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis prior to being furnished to Receiving Party by Disclosing Party; (iii) information that becomes available to Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis from a source other than Disclosing Party or a representative of Disclosing Party if such source, to Receiving Party's knowledge, is neither subject to any prohibition against transmitting the information to Receiving Party nor bound by a confidentiality agreement with Disclosing Party; and (iv) information that is independently developed by Receiving Patty or its Representatives without use of or reference to Confidential Information.
- 4. Return of Information. At any time during or after the term of this Agreement, at the Disclosing Party's request, the Receiving Party and its Representatives shall promptly return to the Disclosing Party all copies, whether in written, electronic, or other form or media, of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information, or destroy all such copies and certify in writing to the Disclosing Party that such Confidential Information has been destroyed. In addition, the Receiving Party and its Representatives shall also destroy all copies of any drafts, notes, compilations, studies, synopses, or summaries of Confidential Information, or any other document prepared by or for Disclosing Party and certify in writing to the Disclosing Party that such copies have been destroyed. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Receiving Party shall not be obligated to destroy electronically stored Confidential Information to the extent that it is contained in an archived computer system backup in accordance with its security and/or disaster recovery procedures so long as such data or records, to the extent not permanently deleted or overwritten in the ordinary course of business, are not accessible in the ordinary course of business or used except as required for backup or data recovery purposes.
- 5. <u>No Waiver.</u> No failure or delay in exercising any right, power, or privilege hereunder will operate as a waiver thereof, nor will any single or partial exercise thereof preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power, or privilege hereunder.
- 6. Remedies. Because money damages may not be a sufficient remedy for a breach of this Agreement by Receiving Party or its Representatives, Disclosing Party shall be entitled to specific performance and temporary and permanent injunctive relief as remedies for any such breach or threatened breach without the necessity of proving actual damages. Such remedies will not be deemed to be the exclusive remedies for a breach of this Agreement by Receiving Party or any of its

Representatives but will be in addition to all other remedies available to Disclosing Party at law or in equity. A Receiving Party, however, shall not be liable for any special or consequential damages, as defined by the laws of the State of Texas, which result from breach of this Agreement by the Receiving Party, or its representatives.

- 7. Term. Following execution of this Agreement by the Parties, the term of this Agreement shall commence with the date first above written and shall terminate on the date that is two (2) years thereafter, unless terminated earlier by mutual agreement of the Parties, provided that with respect to Confidential Information that constitutes a trade secret under the Texas Uniform Trade Secrets Act, including any amendments thereto or successor thereof, the rights and obligations contained herein shall survive such expiration or termination until, if ever, such Confidential Information loses its trade secret protection other than due to an act or omission of the Receiving Party or its Representatives. This Agreement shall survive termination of any discussions between the Parties, the return or destruction of Confidential Information, or any termination of any other agreement, whether in effect prior to or after the date of this Agreement.
- 8. No Obligation or Joint Venture. The Parties hereto understand and agree that unless and until a binding definitive agreement for the Potential Transaction (following exchange of Confidential Information) has been executed and delivered by the Parties, no contract or agreement providing for the Potential Transaction among the Parties shall be deemed to exist among the Parties, and no Party will be under any legal obligation of any kind whatsoever with respect to such transaction by virtue of this or any written or oral expression thereof, except, in the case of this Agreement, for the matters specifically agreed to herein. This Agreement neither obligates a Party to deal exclusively with another Party nor prevents a Party or any of its affiliates from competing with another Party or any of its affiliates. Disclosing Party is not making any representation or warranty as to the accuracy, validity, or completeness of Confidential Information, and Disclosing Party shall not be liable to another party as a result of another party's use of Confidential Information, and such Confidential Information is provided "as is."
- 9. <u>No Assignment; Successors.</u> Receiving Party may not assign all or any part of this Agreement without Disclosing Party's prior written consent. Any assignment in violation of this Agreement shall be null and void <u>ab initio</u>. This Agreement inures to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their successors and permitted assigns and is binding on each other and each other's successors and permitted assigns.
- 10. Governing Law. THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, WITHOUT GIVING EFFECT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF CONFLICT OF LAWS THEREOF THAT WOULD OTHERWISE DIRECT THE APPLICATION OF THE LAWS OF A DIFFERENT JURISDICTION.
- 11. <u>Jurisdiction and Venue</u>. The Parties agree that venue for any litigation arising from any dispute or claims under the Agreement shall lie in a court of competent jurisdiction situated in Cameron County. Texas.
- 12. <u>Entire Agreement: Headings.</u> This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement among the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. The headings of the Sections of this Agreement are inserted for convenience only and do not constitute a part hereof or affect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.
- 13. <u>Savings Clause.</u> If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof to any person, place, or circumstance shall be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid,

unenforceable, or void, the remainder of the Agreement and such provisions as applied to other persons, places, and circumstances shall remain in full force and effect.

- 14. <u>Attorney's Fees.</u> In the event any action, including arbitration, is brought to enforce any provision of this Agreement, or to declare a breach of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover, in addition to any other amounts awarded, reasonable legal and other related costs and expenses, including attorney's fees incurred thereby.
- 15. <u>No Implied Licenses.</u> Nothing in this Agreement will be construed as granting any rights to Receiving Party, by license or otherwise, to any of Disclosing Party's Confidential Information, except as specifically stated in this Agreement.
- 16. Public Information Requests. Disclosing Party recognizes that Recipient is a political subdivision of the State of Texas, and as such is subject to the Texas Public Information Act ("TPIA"). Recipient agrees that it will treat any Confidential Information received from Disclosing Party as commercial or financial information exempt from disclosure pursuant to §552.110 of the TPIA. Should Recipient receive a request for public information that seeks to acquire Confidential Information, Recipient shall (a) decline to release the information for the purpose of requesting an attorney general decision, (b) within ten (10) days of the request inform the Disclosing Party's, Officer for Public Information, in writing of such request, and (c) follow the procedures set out in §552.305 of the TPIA. Recipient shall have no obligation to appeal any opinion from the Texas Attorney General determining that Confidential Information or Proprietary Materials constitute public information and directing Recipient to produce the same.

To evidence their acceptance of this Agreement, the Parties' authorized representatives have signed below effective as of the date first specified above.

PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD OF THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS	
Name: Marilyn D. Gilbert, MBA Title: General Manager and CEO	Name: Title:

ETHICS STATEMENT (Complete and Return this form with Proposal)

The undersigned firm, by signing and executing this proposal, certifies and represents to the Brownsville Public Utilities Board that firm has not offered, conferred or agreed to confer any pecuniary benefit, as defined by (1.07 (a) (6) of the Texas Penal Code, or any other thing of value as consideration for the receipt of information or any special treatment of advantage relating to this proposal; the firm also certifies and represents that the firm has not offered, conferred or agreed to confer any pecuniary benefit or other thing of value as consideration for the recipient's decision, opinion, recommendation, vote or other exercise of discretion concerning this proposal, the firm certifies and represents that firm has neither coerced nor attempted to influence the exercise of discretion by any officer, trustee, agent or employee of the Brownsville Public Utilities Board concerning this proposal on the basis of any consideration not authorized by law; the firm also certifies and represents that firm has not received any information not available to other firms so as to give the undersigned a preferential advantage with respect to this proposal; the firm further certifies and represents that firm has not violated any state, federal, or local law, regulation or ordinance relating to bribery, improper influence, collusion or the like and that firm will not in the future offer, confer, or agree to confer any pecuniary benefit or other thing of value of any officer, trustee, agent or employee of the Brownsville Public Utilities Board in return for the person having exercised their person's official discretion, power or duty with respect to this proposal; the firm certifies and represents that it has not now and will not in the future offer, confer, or agree to confer a pecuniary benefit or other thing of value to any officer, trustee, agent, or employee of the Brownsville Public Utilities Board in connection with information regarding this proposal, the submission of this proposal, the award of this proposal or the performance, delivery or sale pursuant to this proposal.

The vendor shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Brownsville Public Utilities Board, all of its officers, agents and employees from and against all claims, actions, suits, demands, proceeding, costs, damages, and liabilities, arising out of, connected with, or resulting from any acts or omissions of contractor or any agent, employee, subcontractor, or Supplier of contractor in the execution or performance of this proposal.

I have read all of the specifications and general proposal requirements and do hereby certify that all items submitted meet specifications.

COMPANY:	
AGENT NAME:	
AGENT SIGNATURE:	
ADDRESS:	
CITY:	
STATE:	ZIP CODE:
TELEPHONE:	TELEFAX:
FEDERAL ID#:	AND/OR SOCIAL SECURITY #:
DEVIATIONS FROM SPECIFICATIO	NS IF ANY:

NOTE: QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS FROM PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTORS SHOULD BE RAISED WITH OWNER AND ITS CONSULTANT (IF APPLICABLE) AND RESOLVED IF POSSIBLE, PRIOR TO THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL DATE. ANY LISTED DEVIATIONS IN A FINALLY SUBMITTED PROPOSAL MAY ALLOW THE OWNER TO REJECT A PROPOSAL AS NON-RESPONSIVE.

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS (Complete and Return this form with Proposal)

Name of Entity:
The prospective participant certifies to the best of their knowledge and belief that they and their principals:
Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency:
Have not within a three year period preceding this proposal been convicted of, 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;
Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (Federal, State, Local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1) (b) of this certification; and have not within a three year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, Local) terminated for cause or default.
I understand that a false statement on this certification may be grounds for rejection of this proposal or termination of the award. In addition, under 18 USC Section 1001, a false statement may result in a fine up to a \$10,000.00 or imprisonment for up to five (5) years, or both.
Name and Title of Authorized Representative (Typed)
Signature of Authorized Representative Date
☐ I am unable to certify to the above statements. My explanation is attached.

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED IN ITS ENTIRETY AND SUBMITTED WITH BID RESPONSE

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE For vendor doing business with local governmental entity	FORM CIQ
This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.	OFFICE USE ONLY
This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).	Date Received
By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.	
A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.	
Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.	
Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire. (The law re completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th busines you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)	s day after the date on which
Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.	
Name of Officer	
Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government offi officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship wit Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attac CIQ as necessary. A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or liother than investment income, from the vendor? Yes No B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable local governmental entity? Yes No Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 m	h the local government officer. h additional pages to this Form it income, from or at the direction income is not received from the
other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an o ownership interest of one percent or more.	
Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a)(a)(a)(b)(b)(b)(c)(c)(c)(c)(c)(c)(c)(c)(c)(c)(c)(c)(c)	
7 	
Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity	Date
Form provided by Texas Ethics Commission www.ethics.state.tx.us	Revised 1/1/2021

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

<u>Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a)</u>: "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

- (a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:
 - (2) the vendor:
 - (A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that
 - $(\bar{\textbf{i}})$ a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed;
 - (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the
 - (B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:
 - (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
 - (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

- (a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:
 - (1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);
 - (2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or
 - (3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.
- (a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:
 - (1) the date that the vendor:
 - (A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or
 - (B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or
 - (2) the date the vendor becomes aware:
 - (A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);
 - (B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or
 - (C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

Form provided by Texas Ethics Commission

www.ethics.state.tx.us

Revised 1/1/2021

BROWNSVILLE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD RESIDENCE CERTIFICATION

In accordance with Art. 601g, as passed by the 1985 Texas Legislature, the following will apply. The pertinent portion of the Act has been extracted and is as follows:

Section 1. (a)

- (1) "Nonresident bidder" means a bidder whose principal place of business is not in this state, but excludes a contractor whose ultimate parent company or majority owner has its principal place of business in this state.
- (2) "Texas resident bidder" means a bidder whose principal place of business is in this state, and includes a contractor whose ultimate parent company or majority owner has its principal place of business in this state.

Section 1. (b)

The state or governmental agency of the state may not award a contract for general construction, improvements, services, or public works projects or purchases of supplies, materials or equipment to a nonresident bidder unless the nonresident's bid is lower than the lowest bid submitted by a responsible Texas resident bidder by the same amount that a Texas resident bidder would be required to underbid a nonresident bidder to obtain a comparable contract in the state in which the nonresident's principal place of business is located.

I certify that_		_(Company Name)
is a resident	Texas bidder as defined in Art. 601g.	,
Signature:		
Print Name:		
I certify that_is a nonresid	ent bidder as defined in Art. 601g. and our principal place of business is	(Company Name)
	(City and State)	
Signature: _		
Print Name:		

Previous Customer Reference Worksheet

Name of Customer:	Customer Contact:				
Customer Address:	Customer Phone Number:				
	Customer Email:				
Name of Company Performing Referenced Wo	rk:				
What was the Period of Performance?	What was the Final Acceptance Date?				
From:					
To:					
Dollar Value of Contract?	What Type of Contract? Firm Fixed Price				
\$	☐ Time and Material ☐ Not to Exceed				
	Cost Plus Fixed Fee				
	Other, Specify:				
Provide a brief description of the work perform	ned for this customer (add additional page if required)				

(Rev. March 2024) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

Give form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.

Before	you begin. For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see F	urpose of Form, below.									
	1 Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or dis	regarded entity, enter the o	wner's na	ame on	line 1, a	and enter ti	ne busin	ness/disr	egarded		
	entity's name on line 2.)										
	 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above. 										
60	3a Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check						4 Exemptions (codes apply only to				
ge	only one of the following seven boxes.					certain entities, not individuals;					
8	☐ Individual/sole proprietor ☐ C corporation ☐ S corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/estate					see instructions on page 3):					
e 20	LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership)					Exempt payee code (if any)					
8 8	Note: Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax				. 6	Exemption from Foreign Account Tax					
PUC DE	classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.					Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting					
Print or type.	Other (see instructions)					code (if any)					
Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	3b If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC	" and antared "D" as its tax	classific	ation	_						
96	and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which				_	(Applies to					
જ	this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See ins	tructions	0.00	e v		outside the United States.)					
99	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions.		Request	ter's na	me and	address (c	ptional)			
0,											
	6 City, state, and ZIP code]								
	7 List account number(s) here (optional)										
Par	Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)										
Enter	our TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the na	me given on line 1 to av	oid	Socia	securi	ty number					
	withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security nu				\Box		_				
	nt alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for					-	-				
	s, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a	number, see How to ge	et a	or							
TIN, later.						er identification number					
	If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line or To Give the Requester for guidelines on whose number to enter.	1. See also What Name	and								
IVOITID	ar 70 Give the hequester for guidelines on whose number to enter.										
Part	Certification										
Under	penalties of perjury, I certify that:										
	number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification num										
	not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from ba										
	vice (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failu onger subject to backup withholding; and	ire to report all interest of	or divide	nds, o	(c) the	B IRS has	notifie	d me th	at I am		
	a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and										
	FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exen	ont from EATCA reportin	a ie com	roct							
			-		oubio	at to book	um usi#	bboldine			
	cation instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been se you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return.				subje						
		For real estate transaction			s not a	oply. For r					
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		itions to an individual ret	ons, item irement a	2 does	ment (IRA), and,	gener				
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other t	ition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contribution interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification.	utions to an individual ret but you must provide yo	ons, item irement a	2 does	ment (IRA), and,	gener				
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Form W-9 (Rev. 3-2024) Cat. No. 10231X

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they

Form W-8BEN-E

(Rev. October 2021)

Certificate of Status of Beneficial Owner for United States Tax Withholding and Reporting (Entities)

► For use by entities. Individuals must use Form W-8BEN. ► Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code.

► Go to www.irs.gov/FormW8BENE for instructions and the latest information.

► Give this form to the withholding agent or payer. Do not send to the IRS.

OMB No. 1545-1621

	tment of the Treasury al Revenue Service	► For use by entities, individuals must use Form W-8BEN. ■ Go to www.irs.gov/FormW8BENE for ii ■ Give this form to the withholding age	nstructions and the	latest information.	
Do No	OT use this form fo				Instead use Form
• U.S.	. entity or U.S. citizer	n or resident			W-9
• A fo	reign individual .			W-8BEN	N (Individual) or Form 8233
• A fo	reign individual or er	ntity claiming that income is effectively connected w	ith the conduct o	f trade or business within the U	Jnited States
(unle	ess claiming treaty b	enefits)			W-8ECI
• A fo gove 501(reign government, in ernment of a U.S. po (c), 892, 895, or 1443	foreign simple trust, or a foreign grantor trust (unles nternational organization, foreign central bank of iss passession claiming that income is effectively connec (3(b) (unless claiming treaty benefits) (see instruction	ue, foreign tax-ex sted U.S. income of s for other except	empt organization, foreign privor that is claiming the applicablions)	rate foundation, or ility of section(s) 115(2), W-8ECI or W-8EXP
• Any	person acting as an	intermediary (including a qualified intermediary act	ing as a qualified	derivatives dealer)	W-8IMY
Pa	rt I Identific	cation of Beneficial Owner			
1	Name of organizat	tion that is the beneficial owner		2 Country of incorporation	or organization
3	Name of disregard	ded entity receiving the payment (if applicable, see i	nstructions)		
4	Chapter 3 Status ((entity type) (Must check one box only):	orporation	☐ Partnership	
	☐ Simple trust		mplex trust		rnment - Controlled Entity
	Central Bank	of Issue Private foundation Es	tate	☐ Foreign Gover	rnment - Integral Part
	☐ Grantor trust	☐ Disregarded entity ☐ Int	ernational organiz	ation	
	If you entered disregar	rded entity, partnership, simple trust, or grantor trust above, is t	he entity a hybrid mal	king a treaty claim? If "Yes," complete	Part III. 🗌 Yes 🗌 No
5	Nonparticipating FFI other than exempt benef Participating F Reporting Momentum Reporting Momentum Registered de FFI, sponsored FFI Sponsored FFI Sponsored FFI Certified deen Part V. Certified deen Complete Part Certified deen Complete Part Certified deen Complete Part Complete Pa	FFI. del 1 FFI. del 2 FFI. nemed-compliant FFI (other than a reporting Model d FFI, or nonreporting IGA FFI covered in Part XII). ns. FI. Complete Part IV. ned-compliant nonregistering local bank. Complete ned-compliant FFI with only low-value accounts. t VI. ned-compliant sponsored, closely held investment plete Part VII. ned-compliant limited life debt investment entity. VIII. nent entities that do not maintain financial accounts.	Nonreport Foreign go central ba Internation Exempt re Entity who Territory fi Excepted Excepted Complete 501(c) org Nonprofit Publicly tr corporatic Excepted Active NF Passive N Excepted Direct rep Sponsore	cing IGA FFI. Complete Part XII covernment, government of a U. nk of issue. Complete Part XIII nal organization. Complete Part tirement plans. Complete Part tily owned by exempt beneficial of inancial institution. Complete F nonfinancial group entity. Com nonfinancial start-up company nonfinancial entity in liquidatio	
6		ce address (street, apt. or suite no., or rural route). Do			nan a registered address).
	City or town, state	or province. Include postal code where appropriat	е.	Country	
7	Mailing address (if	different from above)		,	
	City or town, state	or province. Include postal code where appropriate	e.	Country	
For P	aperwork Reductio	n Act Notice, see separate instructions.	Cat. No. 5	9689N Form V	V-8BEN-E (Rev. 10-2021)