



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP-2325

### For: Market Analysis for Ocean Technology

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (“Corporation”) seeks proposals from qualified firms to conduct a market analysis of the global ocean technology sector and identify opportunities for the Ocean Tech Hub consortium to devise a growth strategy.

This document constitutes a Request for Proposal (“RFP”), in a competitive format, from qualified firms. This request is an offer by the Corporation to underwrite, in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFP, the services proposed by the successful firm(s), by contract.

The respondents (“Proposers”) to this RFP shall provide a proposal, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein, to provide the services to the Corporation that are described in the Scope of Work.

#### **Project Overview**

The Ocean Tech Hub (“OTH”) is focused on advancing economic prosperity, national security, and environmental sustainability through sparking the ocean technology ecosystem. OTH will harness the region’s assets and burgeoning technology and create global-market-rich opportunities by accelerating commercialization of tech-ready innovation, scaling workforce programs to create new good-paying jobs, and ensuring policy and other barriers to technology development are removed.

OTH has preliminary analyses identifying that the ocean technology field globally is poised to grow \$296 billion in the next 5-10 years, with a compound annual growth rate (“CAGR”) of 7-15%. Next generation undersea sustainable materials, unmanned vehicles, sensors, and data mapping will drive solutions to combat climate change and sea level rise; increase production of renewable energy; increase efficiencies in shipping, logistics, and supply chain; build new models for food cultivation and security; and more. Each of these technology areas has a growing market opportunity. Yet, capturing this market potential will depend on our ability to match the region’s research and technology development to market demand.

In order to position OTH in the most advantageous way to capture this growing market, the Corporation requires a more targeted, deeper, and comprehensive analysis of market demand and global use cases around the confluence of undersea robotics and automation, AI/ML, and advanced materials, as well as an assessment of how they relate to our region’s capabilities and assets. This analysis will help OTH develop a targeted growth strategy.

#### **Background**

As a quasi-public agency, the Corporation is the official full-service, economic development organization for the state of Rhode Island. The Corporation works with public, private and nonprofit partners to create the conditions for businesses in all sectors to thrive and to improve

the quality of life for our citizens by promoting the State's long-term economic health and prosperity.

The OTH is a consortium-based initiative, led by the Corporation, designed to accelerate the commercialization of ocean technology in Rhode Island and Southeastern MA. The Corporation is the lead convener of the OTH. In October 2023, the OTH was one of 31 Tech Hubs designated by the U.S. Economic Development Administration ("EDA"). This designation recognizes the long history and deep assets in Rhode Island and the southeastern MA region for developing undersea technologies that can withstand the ocean environment.

OTH's role will be to maintain constant market analysis, identify in-demand technology opportunities, rapid and accelerated commercialization capability, access to investors and ability to scale. Specifically, OTH will lead in development and deployment of these technologies:

- a. Undersea robotics and sensors with autonomous capabilities,
- b. Artificial intelligence / machine learning (AI/ML) for use with undersea technology,
- c. Advanced materials manufacturing that can withstand the ocean environment.

### **Scope of Work**

The Corporation seeks a consultant to conduct a comprehensive analysis of ocean technology market demand and global use cases and relate this to our region's capabilities and assets. This will help the Corporation develop a strategic growth plan for the OTH. Activities shall be completed in two phases and include:

#### **Task 1 (to be completed by January 25, 2024)**

- An initial market analysis of the global ocean technology sector, with product-specific segment analysis and focus on undersea robotics, autonomous vehicles, sensors, advanced materials, AI/ML and data mapping.
- Identification of key industry drivers, challenges, opportunities, trends and threats in the global undersea and related technology market.
- Identification of market gaps/opportunities; including an analysis of global use cases.
- An initial assessment of opportunities for the southeastern New England region specifically on the undersea robotics and sensors, AI/ML and advanced material technology with recommendations on prioritization of specific segments.

#### **Task 2 (to be completed by August 31, 2024)**

- Detailed buying and production trends, and identification of any environmental, social and legal implications that influence this.
- Outline of leading businesses, products and services in the ocean technology sector globally, including their product ranges, pricing strategies and strategic initiatives where possible.
- Tracking of investments in ocean technology and forecast of continued investments or decline in investments.
- Identification of risks to market entry, including regulatory environments, market saturation, and/or political dynamics.
- Competitive analysis of other ocean tech-forward regions globally.
- A final assessment of opportunities for the OTH region (Providence-Warwick MSA) in capturing the overall ocean technology market, with recommendations on prioritization of segments.

## **Qualifications**

The following will be considered in selecting the firm(s) to fulfill the services outlined in the Scope of Work:

- The extent of professional experience and expertise in providing the services outlined in the Scope of Work and any other additional services proposed by the Proposer.
- Outline of the Proposer's approach to successfully completing the Scope of Work in the outlined timeframe.
- Samples of work provided by the Proposers that are illustrative of the Proposer's capabilities as pertains to the topic area of the Scope of Work.
- Team of qualified and experienced personnel with dedicated resources for working on items outlined in the Scope of Work and any additional services proposed by the Proposer.

## **Project Timeline**

As noted in the Scope of Work section, this project has two distinct service periods, as follows:

- Phase 1 results of analysis are due by January 25, 2024.
- Phase 2 and full analysis and assessment will be due by August 31, 2024.

The successful Proposer(s) will enter into a contract for services with the Corporation. The duration of the initial contract between the Corporation and the successful Proposer is expected to begin upon the date of contract approval.

## **Budget**

This effort is grant funded. As such, the Corporation expects to spend no more than \$75,000 on this contract.

Proposers to this RFP shall include a total, maximum price to accomplish the scope items incorporated in the proposal. Additionally, Proposers shall provide a proposed fee structure for providing services necessary to complete the proposed scope items. Fee structure proposals shall include, but are not limited to, costs for specific task items from the Scope of Work along with an estimate regarding the duration and number of hours to complete each task. Additionally, proposers shall provide a personnel schedule which includes job title and billing rate for any work which may be undertaken under this contract. Proposers shall also provide job titles and rates for any subcontractors that the respondent is including in this response. If the Proposer contemplates any purchases or pass-through charges during the engagement, any mark-up rate above actual cost shall be identified as a separate line item in the budget. The Corporation reserves the right to adjust both the budget and related services.

Additionally, the Proposer should estimate any travel costs expected to incur during contract period. Travel must be included within the total budget submitted and approved by the Corporation and follow guidance from all relevant Federal and State statutes.

## **Criteria for Selection**

Responsive proposals for this RFP will be evaluated according to the Evaluation Criteria outlined below.

| <b>EVALUATION CRITERIA</b>   | <b>POINTS</b> |
|--|---------------|
| <b>OVERALL EXPERIENCE OF COMPANY &amp; DEMONSTRATED RESULTS</b><br>Our evaluation will include an assessment of the history of your company, your experience as it relates to the requirements within this RFP, evidence of past performance, quality and relevance of past work, references, and related items. | 25            |
| <b>QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL</b><br>Our evaluation will include an assessment of the qualifications and experience of your managerial team, staff, subcontractors, and related items.  | 20            |
| <b>FAMILIARITY WITH RHODE ISLAND AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETT'S ECONOMIC DRIVERS</b><br>Our evaluation will include our assessment of your understanding of our organization and Rhode Island's economic drivers and how you integrated this knowledge into your proposal.                                      | 20            |
| <b>STRATEGIC THINKING/PLANNING APPROACH</b><br>Overall approach and strategy described/outlined in the proposal and firm capacity to perform the engagement within the specified timeframe (prior experience of the firm in meeting timelines will be factored in here)  | 25            |
| <b>BUDGET APPROACH/COST EFFECTIVENESS</b><br>Effective and efficient delivery of quality services is demonstrated in relation to the budget allocation. The allocation is reasonable and appropriate.  | 10            |
| Total  | 100           |
| MBE/WBE/DisBE Participation (additional potential points)  | 6 pts         |

*NOTE: Designated Corporation staff or selected advisors will evaluate the written responses. The Corporation may at any time during the evaluation process seek clarification from the Proposer(s) regarding any information contained in their submission. Final scores for each respondent will reflect a consensus of the evaluations.*

*Any attempt by a Proposer to contact a member of the Corporation or selected advisors outside of this RFP process, in an attempt to gain knowledge or an advantage, may result in disqualification of the Proposer.*

1. ISBE Participation Evaluation (see below for scoring)
  - a. The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation encourages MBE/WBE/DisBE participation in this Request. In accordance with Title 37, Chapter 14.1, and Title 37, Chapter 2.2 of the Rhode Island General laws, the Corporation reserves the right to apply additional consideration to MBE/WBE/DisBE up to six (6) additional points in the scoring evaluation as provided below:
  - b. Calculation of ISBE Participation Rate
    - i. ISBE Participation Rate for Non-ISBE Vendors. The ISBE participation rate for non ISBE vendors shall be expressed as a percentage and shall be calculated by dividing the amount of non-ISBE vendor's total contract price that will be subcontracted to ISBEs by the non-ISBE vendor's total contract price. For example, if the non-ISBE's total contract price is \$100,000.00 and it subcontracts a total of \$12,000.00 to ISBEs, the non-ISBE's ISBE participation rate would be 12%.
    - ii. ISBE Participation Rate for ISBE Vendors. The ISBE participation rate for ISBE vendors shall be expressed as a percentage and shall be calculated by dividing the amount of the ISBE vendor's total contract price that will be subcontracted to ISBEs and the amount that will be self-performed by the ISBE vendor by the ISBE vendor's total contract price. For example, if the ISBE vendor's total contract price is \$100,000.00 and it subcontracts a total of \$12,000.00 to ISBEs and will perform a total of \$8,000.00 of the work itself, the ISBE vendor's ISBE participation rate would be 20%.
  - c. Points for ISBE Participation Rate:
    - i. The vendor with the highest ISBE participation rate shall receive the maximum ISBE participation points. All other vendors shall receive ISBE participation points by applying the following formula:

(Vendor's ISBE participation rate ÷ Highest ISBE participation rate X Maximum ISBE participation points)

For example, assuming the weight given by the RFP to ISBE participation is 6 points, if Vendor A has the highest ISBE participation rate at 20% and Vendor B's ISBE participation rate is 12%, Vendor A will receive the maximum 6 points and Vendor B will receive  $(12\% \div 20\%) \times 6$  which equals 3.6 points.

See Appendix A for information and the MBE, WBE, and/or Disability Business Enterprise Participation Plan form(s). Bidders are required to complete, sign and submit these forms with their overall proposal in a sealed envelope. Please complete separate forms for each MBE, WBE and/or Disability Business Enterprise subcontractor/supplier to be utilized on the solicitation

### **Instructions and Notifications to Proposers**

1. Potential proposers are advised to review all sections of this RFP carefully and to follow instructions completely, as failure to make a complete submission as described elsewhere herein may result in rejection of the proposal.

2. Alternative approaches and/or methodologies to accomplish the desired or intended results of this procurement are solicited. However, proposals that depart from or materially alter the terms, requirements, or scope of work defined by this RFP will be rejected as being non-responsive.
3. All costs associated with developing or submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, or to provide oral or written clarification of its content, shall be borne by the proposer. The Corporation assumes no responsibility for such costs.
4. Proposals are considered to be irrevocable for a period of not less than 120 days following the date set for submission of proposals.
5. All pricing submitted will be considered to be firm and fixed unless otherwise indicated herein.
6. Proposals that are submitted late, misdirected or sent to the wrong email address will not be accepted.
7. All proposals should identify the proposed team of professionals, including those employed by subcontractors, if any, along with respective areas of expertise and relevant credentials. Proposer should also provide a delineation of the portion of the scope of work for which each of these professionals will be responsible.
8. All proposals should include the proposer's FEIN or Social Security number as evidenced by a W9, downloadable from <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>
9. All proposals should include a completed RFP Response Certification Cover Form, included in this document and available here: <https://commerceri.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/RFP-RESPONSE-CERTIFICATION-COVER-FORM.pdf>
10. The purchase of services under an award made pursuant to this RFP will be contingent on the availability of funds and made at the discretion of the Corporation.
11. Awarding this RFP is based on the Evaluation Criteria set forth in this RFP. Vendors are advised, however, that all materials and ideas submitted as part of this proposal and during the performance of any award shall be the property of and owned by the Corporation, which may use any such materials and ideas.
12. Interested parties are instructed to peruse the Corporation's website ([www.commerceri.com](http://www.commerceri.com)) on a regular basis, as additional information relating to this solicitation may be released in the form of an addendum to this RFP. Addenda will also be posted to the Rhode Island State Division of Purchases' website at [www.ridop.ri.gov](http://www.ridop.ri.gov).
13. Equal Employment Opportunity (R.I. Gen. Laws § 28-5.1-1, et seq.) – § 28- 5.1-1  
Declaration of policy – (a) Equal opportunity and affirmative action toward its achievement is the policy of all units of Rhode Island state government, including all public and quasi-public agencies, commissions, boards and authorities, and in the classified, unclassified, and non-classified services of state employment. This policy applies to all areas where State dollars are spent, in employment, public services, grants and financial assistance, and in state licensing and regulation.

14. In accordance with Title 7, Chapter 1.2 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, no corporation organized under the laws of another state or country shall have the right to transact business in Rhode Island until it shall have procured a Certificate of Authority to do so from the Rhode Island Secretary of State (401-222-3040). This is a requirement only of the successful bidder.

15. The proposer should be aware of the State's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) requirements, which address the State's goal of fifteen percent (15%) participation by MBE's in all procurements, including a minimum of 7.5% participation by minority business enterprises owned and controlled by a minority owner, as defined in Section 37-14.1-3, and a minimum of 7.5% participation by minority business enterprises owned and controlled by a woman... For further information, visit the website [www.mbe.ri.gov](http://www.mbe.ri.gov).

16. The Corporation reserves the right to award to one or more Proposers.

### **Proposal Requirements**

In order to be considered responsive, proposals must at a minimum contain the following:

#### Technical Proposal Elements

1. Description of the proposed approach and work plan. Activities and timelines should be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-oriented. Include a timeline of major tasks and milestones.
2. Provide an overview of how you determine success. What are the analytic tools or services that you use, and what type of information, format, etc. will you be reporting back to the Corporation as it relates to meeting our objectives?
3. Person who will be the primary point of contact with the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation.
4. Qualifications of the Proposer to provide the requested services including capability, capacity, similarly complex projects and related experience and client references. Certification of availability of individuals in proposal.
5. A listing of the staff to be assigned to this engagement and their respective qualifications, past experience on engagements of this scope including resumes, and their role in those past engagements.
6. A description of the outcome monitoring and evaluation plan including a list of tools to track process, output and outcome measures for each component of the application.

## **Proposal Submission**

Responses to this RFP must be received as follows:

One (1) electronic (PDF) version must be provided by email to [RFP@commerceri.com](mailto:RFP@commerceri.com) by **11:59 pm on December 12, 2023**. Submissions that are late, misdirected or sent to the wrong email address will not be accepted.

**Note: To ensure transparency, no phone calls pertaining to this RFP will be accepted.**

Questions, interpretations, or clarifications concerning this RFP should be directed by e-mail to [RFP@commerceri.com](mailto:RFP@commerceri.com) no later than 2:00 pm on December 1, 2023. Responses to questions, interpretations, or clarifications concerning this RFP will be posted online via addendum at [www.commerceri.com](http://www.commerceri.com) and [www.ridop.ri.gov](http://www.ridop.ri.gov) on December 5, 2023 to ensure equal awareness of important facts and details.

*The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation reserves the right to terminate this solicitation prior to entering into any agreement with any qualified firm pursuant to this Request for Proposal, and by responding hereto, no firms are vested with any rights in any way whatsoever.*

*Rhode Island Commerce Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for not complying with the terms of this RFP.*



## APPENDIX A

### **PROPOSER ISBE RESPONSIBILITIES AND MBE, WBE, AND/OR DISABILITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION FORM**

#### **A. Proposer's ISBE Responsibilities (from 150-RICR-90-10-1.7.E)**

1. Proposal of ISBE Participation Rate. Unless otherwise indicated in the RFP, a Proposer must submit its proposed ISBE Participation Rate in a sealed envelope or via sealed electronic submission at the time it submits its proposed total contract price. The Proposer shall be responsible for completing and submitting all standard forms adopted pursuant to 105-RICR-90-10-1.9 and submitting all substantiating documentation as reasonably requested by either the Using Agency's MBE/WBE Coordinator, Division, ODEO, or Governor's Commission on Disabilities including but not limited to the names and contact information of all proposed subcontractors and the dollar amounts that correspond with each proposed subcontract.
2. Failure to Submit ISBE Participation Rate. Any Proposer that fails to submit a proposed ISBE Participation Rate or any requested substantiating documentation in a timely manner shall receive zero (0) ISBE participation points.
3. Execution of Proposed ISBE Participation Rate. Proposers shall be evaluated and scored based on the amounts and rates submitted in their proposals. If awarded the contract, Proposers shall be required to achieve their proposed ISBE Participation Rates. During the life of the contract, the Proposer shall be responsible for submitting all substantiating documentation as reasonably requested by the Using Agency's MBE/WBE Coordinator, Division, ODEO, or Governor's Commission on Disabilities including but not limited to copies of purchase orders, subcontracts, and cancelled checks.
4. Change Orders. If during the life of the contract, a change order is issued by the Division, the Proposer shall notify the ODEO of the change as soon as reasonably possible. Proposers are required to achieve their proposed ISBE Participation Rates on any change order amounts.
5. Notice of Change to Proposed ISBE Participation Rate. If during the life of the contract, the Proposer becomes aware that it will be unable to achieve its proposed ISBE Participation Rate, it must notify the Division and ODEO as soon as reasonably possible. The Division, in consultation with ODEO and Governor's Commission on Disabilities, and the Proposer may agree to a modified ISBE Participation Rate provided that the change in circumstances was beyond the control of the Proposer or the direct result of an unanticipated reduction in the overall total project cost.

#### **B. MBE, WBE, AND/OR Disability Business Enterprise Participation Plan Form:**

Attached is the MBE, WBE, and/or Disability Business Enterprise Participation Plan form. Bidders are required to complete, sign and submit with their overall proposal in a sealed envelope. Please complete separate forms for each MBE, WBE and/or Disability Business Enterprise subcontractor/supplier to be utilized on the solicitation.

**MBE, WBE, and/or DISABILITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION PLAN**

Bidder's Name:

Bidder's Address:

Point of Contact:

Telephone:

Email:

Solicitation No.:

Project Name:

This form is intended to capture commitments between the prime contractor/vendor and MBE/WBE and/or Disability Business Enterprise subcontractors and suppliers, including a description of the work to be performed and the percentage of the work as submitted to the prime contractor/vendor. Please note that all MBE/WBE subcontractors/suppliers must be certified by the Office of Diversity, Equity and Opportunity MBE Compliance Office and all Disability Business Enterprises must be certified by the Governor's Commission on Disabilities at time of bid, and that MBE/WBE and Disability Business Enterprise subcontractors must self-perform 100% of the work or subcontract to another RI certified MBE in order to receive participation credit. Vendors may count 60% of expenditures for materials and supplies obtained from an MBE certified as a regular dealer/supplier, and 100% of such expenditures obtained from an MBE certified as a manufacturer. This form must be completed in its entirety and submitted at time of bid. **Please complete separate forms for each MBE/WBE or Disability Business Enterprise subcontractor/supplier to be utilized on the solicitation.**

|  |   |                         |  |                              |  |
|--|---|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| Name of Subcontractor/Supplier:  |   |                         |  |                              |  |
| Type of RI Certification:  | <input type="checkbox"/> MBE <input type="checkbox"/> WBE <input type="checkbox"/> Disability Business Enterprise |                         |  |                              |  |
| Address:   |   |                         |  |                              |  |
| Point of Contact:  |   |                         |  |                              |  |
| Telephone:   |   |                         |  |                              |  |
| Email:   |   |                         |  |                              |  |
| Detailed Description of Work To Be Performed by Subcontractor or Materials to be Supplied by Supplier: |   |                         |  |                              |  |
| Total Contract Value (\$):   |   | Subcontract Value (\$): |  | ISBE Participation Rate (%): |  |
| Anticipated Date of Performance:   |   |                         |  |                              |  |

I certify under penalty of perjury that the forgoing statements are true and correct.

|  |  |              |             |
|--|--|--------------|-------------|
| <b>Prime Contractor/Vendor Signature</b> |  | <b>Title</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|  |  |              |             |
| <b>Subcontractor/Supplier Signature</b>  |  | <b>Title</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|  |  |              |             |

## RFP/RFQ RESPONSE CERTIFICATION COVER FORM

**Instruction: to fulfill your RFP response, this form must be completed, printed, signed and included with your submission.**

### SECTION 1 - RESPONDENT INFORMATION

**RFP Number:**

**RFP Title:**

**RFP Respondent Name:**

**Address:**

**Telephone:**

**Fax:**

**Contact Name:**

**Contact Title:**

**Contact Email:**

### SECTION 2 —DISCLOSURES

**RFP Respondents must respond to every statement. RFP Responses submitted without a complete response may be deemed nonresponsive.**

*Indicate "Y" (Yes) or "N" (No) for Disclosures 1-4, and if "Yes," provide details below*

\_\_\_ 1. State whether the Respondent, or any officer, director, manager, stockholder, member, partner, or other owner or principal of the Respondent or any parent, subsidiary, or affiliate has been subject to suspension or debarment by any federal, state, or municipal governmental authority, or the subject of criminal prosecution, or convicted of a criminal offense within the previous 5 years. If "Yes," provide details below.

\_\_\_ 2. State whether the Respondent, or any officer, director, manager, stockholder, member, partner, or other owner or principal of the Respondent or any parent, subsidiary, or affiliate has had any contracts with a federal, state, or municipal governmental authority terminated for any reason within the previous 5 years. If "Yes," provide details below.

\_\_\_ 3. State whether the Respondent, or any officer, director, manager, stockholder, member, partner, or other owner or principal of the Respondent or any parent, subsidiary, or affiliate has been fined more than \$5000 for violation(s) of any Rhode Island environmental law(s) by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management within the previous 5 years. If "Yes," provide details below.

\_\_\_ 4. State whether any officer, director, manager, stockholder, member, partner, or other owner or principal of the Respondent is serving or has served within the past two calendar years as either an appointed or elected official of any state governmental authority or quasi-public corporation, including without limitation, any entity created as a legislative body or public or state agency by the general assembly or constitution of this state.

*Disclosure details (continue on additional sheets if necessary):*

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### SECTION 3 —OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE

**Respondents must provide all relevant information. Respondent proposals submitted without a complete response may be deemed nonresponsive.**

If the Respondent is publicly held, the Respondent may provide owner information about only those stockholders, members, partners, or other owners that hold at least 10% of the record or beneficial equity interests of the Respondent; otherwise, complete ownership disclosure is required.

List each officer, director, manager, stockholder, member, partner, or other owner or principle of the Respondent, and each intermediate parent company and the ultimate parent company of the Respondent. For each individual, provide his or her name, business address, principal occupation, position with the Respondent, and the percentage of ownership, if any, he or she holds in the Respondent, and each intermediate parent company and the ultimate parent company of the Respondent.

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### SECTION 4 —CERTIFICATIONS

**Respondents must respond to every statement. Responses submitted without a complete response may be deemed nonresponsive.**

*Indicate "Y" (Yes) or "N" (No), and if "No," provide details below.*

**THE RESPONDENT CERTIFIES THAT:**

\_\_\_ 1. The Respondent will immediately disclose, in writing, to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation any potential conflict of interest which may occur during the term of any contract awarded pursuant to this solicitation.

\_\_\_ 2. The Respondent possesses all licenses and anyone who will perform any work will possess all licenses required by applicable federal, state, and local law necessary to perform the requirements of any contract awarded pursuant to this solicitation and will maintain all required licenses during the term of any contract awarded pursuant to this solicitation. In the event that any required license shall lapse or be restricted or suspended, the Respondent shall immediately notify the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation in writing.

\_\_\_ 3. The Respondent will maintain all required insurance during the term of any contract pursuant to this solicitation. In the event that any required insurance shall lapse or be canceled, the Respondent will immediately notify the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation in writing.

\_\_\_ 4. The Respondent understands that falsification of any information in its RFP response or failure to notify the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation of any changes in any disclosures or certifications in this Respondent Certification may be grounds for suspension, debarment, and/or prosecution for fraud.

\_\_\_ 5. The Respondent has not paid and will not pay any bonus, commission, fee, gratuity, or other remuneration to any employee or official of the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation or the State of Rhode Island or any subdivision of the State of Rhode Island or other governmental authority for the purpose of obtaining an award of a contract pursuant to this solicitation. The Respondent further certifies that no bonus, commission, fee, gratuity, or other remuneration has been or will be received from any third party or paid to any third party contingent on the award of a contract pursuant to this solicitation.

\_\_\_ 6. This RFP response is not a collusive RFP response. Neither the Respondent, nor any of its owners, stockholders, members, partners, principals, directors, managers, officers, employees, or agents has in any way colluded, conspired, or agreed, directly or indirectly, with any other Respondent or person to submit a collusive response to the solicitation or to refrain from submitting response to the solicitation, or has in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement or collusion or other communication with any other Respondent or person to fix the price or prices in the response or the response of any other Respondent, or to fix any overhead, profit, or cost component of the price in the response or the response of any other Respondent, or to secure through any collusion, conspiracy, or unlawful agreement any advantage against the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation or the State of Rhode Island or any person with an interest in the contract awarded pursuant to this solicitation.

