

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
BROWNFIELD CLEANUP PROGRAM
ECL 27-1401 *et seq.*

BROWNFIELD SITE CLEANUP AGREEMENT

In the Matter of a Remedial Program for

**BROWNFIELD SITE
CLEANUP AGREEMENT
Index No:**

Site Name:

DEC Site No:

Site Address:

Hereinafter referred to as "Site"

by

Applicant's Name

Applicant's Address

Hereinafter referred to as "Applicant"

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("Department") is authorized to administer the Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) contained in Article 27, Title 14 of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL);

WHEREAS, the Applicant submitted an application received by the Department on [Date];
and

WHEREAS, the Department has determined that the above referenced real property and Applicant are eligible to participate in the BCP.

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF AND IN EXCHANGE FOR THE MUTUAL COVENANTS AND PROMISES, THE PARTIES AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

I. Applicant Status

The Applicant has been accepted into the BCP as a [Participant as defined in ECL 27-1405(1)(a)] or [Volunteer as defined in ECL 27-1405(1)(b)].

[If Participant, insert the following:]

- A. Within forty-five (45) days after the effective date of this Agreement, Applicant shall pay to the Department the sum set forth on Exhibit "B", which shall represent reimbursement for past State Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this Agreement. See Appendix A, Paragraph V.C for payment instructions. Applicant acknowledges that all State Costs incurred prior to the effective date of this Agreement are not included on the cost summary and that additional charges may be billed at a later date.

B. Invoices shall be sent to Applicant at the following address:
[Applicant's name, Contact name, post office address, phone number, e-mail address]

II. Real Property

The Site subject to this agreement is as follows:

Subject Property Description (A Map of the Site is attached as Exhibit "A")

Tax Map/Parcel#	Street Number	Owner
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III. Communications

A. All written communications required by this Agreement shall be transmitted by United States Postal Service, by private courier service, by hand delivery, or by electronic mail.

1. Communication from Applicant shall be sent to:

DER Project Manager - name, post office address, phone number, e-mail address

Note: one hard copy (unbound) of work plans is required, as well as one electronic copy.

Director's Name (electronic copy only)

New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237
firstname.lastname@doh.ny.gov

OGC Project Attorney- name, post office address, phone number, e-mail address

electronic copy of correspondence only

2. Communication from the Department to Applicant shall be sent to:

[Applicant's name, post office address, phone number, email address]

B. The Department and Applicant reserve the right to designate additional or different addressees for communication on written notice to the other. Additionally, the Department reserves the right to request that the Applicant provide more than one paper copy of any work plan or report.

C. Each party shall notify the other within ninety (90) days after any change in the addresses listed in this paragraph or in Paragraph III.

IV. Miscellaneous

A. Applicant acknowledges that it has read, understands, and agrees to abide by all the terms set forth in Appendix A - Standard Clauses for All New York State Brownfield Site Cleanup Agreements. The terms and conditions set forth in Appendix "A" are made a part of this Agreement as if set forth fully herein.

B. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this BCA (including any and all attachments thereto and amendments thereof) and the terms of Appendix A, the terms of this BCA shall control.

C. The effective date of this Agreement is the date it is signed by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

DATED:

[Name]
COMMISSIONER
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

By:

[Name], Director
Division of Environmental Remediation

CONSENT BY APPLICANT [for Applicants in New York State]

Applicant hereby consents to the issuing and entering of this Agreement, waives Applicant's right to a hearing herein as provided by law, and agrees to be bound by this Agreement.

Applicant's Name

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF _____)

Acknowledgment by an individual in New York State:

On the ___ day of _____ in the year 20__, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared _____ (full name) personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same in his/her capacity, and that by his/her signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.

Acknowledgment by a corporation, in New York State:

On the __ day of _____ in the year 20__, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared _____ (full name) personally known to me who, being duly sworn, did depose and say that he/she/they reside at _____ (full mailing address) and that he/she/they is (are) the _____ (president or other officer or director or attorney in fact duly appointed) of the

(full legal name of corporation), the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; and that he/she/they signed his/her/their name(s) thereto by the authority of the board of directors of said corporation.

Signature and Office of individual
taking acknowledgment

CONSENT BY APPLICANT [for Applicants outside New York State]

Applicant hereby consents to the issuing and entering of this Agreement, waives Applicant's right to a hearing herein as provided by law, and agrees to be bound by this Agreement.

Applicant's Name

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

*)
) ss:
)

Acknowledgment by an individual outside of New York State:

On the _____ day of _____, in the year 20____, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared _____ (full name) personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same in his/her capacity, that by his/her signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument, and that such individual made such appearance before the undersigned in the _____**.

Acknowledgment by a corporation outside of New York State:

On the ___ day of _____ in the year 20____, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared (full name) personally known to me who, being duly sworn, did depose and say that he/she/they reside at _____ (full mailing address) and that he/she/they is (are) the _____ (President or other officer or director or attorney in fact duly appointed) of the _____ (full legal name of corporation), the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; and that he/she/they signed his/her/their name(s) thereto by the authority of the board of directors of said corporation and that such individual made such appearance before the undersigned in the _____**.

Signature and Office of individual taking acknowledgment

* Insert the State [& County], District of Columbia, Territory, Possession or Foreign Country the acknowledgment was taken

** Insert the city or other political subdivision and the state or country or other place the acknowledgement was taken

EXHIBIT "A"

Map

The map(s) should be of sufficient detail, clarity and accuracy to show the following:

- 1) map scale, north arrow orientation, date, and location of the property with respect to adjacent streets and roadways;
- 2) proposed brownfield property boundary lines, with adjacent property owners clearly identified.

[If the Applicant has been accepted into the BCP as a Participant, insert this Exhibit B:]

EXHIBIT "B"

Cost Summary

Pursuant to Paragraph I.A, within forty-five (45) days after the effective date of this Agreement, Applicant shall pay to the Department the sum set forth in this Exhibit. The Exhibit includes a summary of past State Costs incurred prior to the effective date of the Agreement. The payment shall be made payable to "Commissioner of NYSDEC" and shall be sent to:

Director, Bureau of Program Management
Division of Environmental Remediation
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233-7012

Note: All State Costs incurred prior to the effective date of the Agreement are not included in the cost summary and additional charges may be billed at a later date.

**Provided by:
DEC Division of Environmental Remediation**

APPENDIX “A”

**STANDARD CLAUSES FOR ALL NEW YORK STATE
BROWNFIELD SITE CLEANUP AGREEMENTS**

APPENDIX A

STANDARD CLAUSES FOR ALL NEW YORK STATE BROWNFIELD SITE CLEANUP AGREEMENTS

The parties to the Brownfield Site Cleanup Agreement (hereinafter BCA or "Agreement") agree to be bound by the following clauses which are hereby made a part of the BCA. The word "Applicant" herein refers to any party to the Agreement, other than the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (hereinafter "Department").

I. Citizen Participation Plan

Within twenty (20) days after the effective date of this Agreement, Applicant shall submit for review and approval a written citizen participation plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) 27-1417 and 6 NYCRR 375-1.10 and 375-3.10. Upon approval, the Citizen Participation Plan shall be deemed to be incorporated into and made a part of this Agreement.

II. Development, Performance, and Reporting of Work Plans

A. Work Plan Requirements

The work plans ("Work Plan" or "Work Plans") under this Agreement shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with the requirements of ECL Article 27, Title 14, 6 NYCRR 375-1.6(a), 375-3.6, and 375-6, and all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and guidance documents. The Work Plans shall be captioned as follows:

1. "Remedial Investigation Work Plan" if the Work Plan provides for the investigation of the nature and extent of contamination within the boundaries of the Site and, if the Applicant is a Participant, the extent of contamination emanating from such Site. If the Applicant is a Volunteer it shall perform a qualitative exposure assessment of the contamination emanating from the site in accordance with ECL 27-1415(2)(b) and Department guidance;

2. "Remedial Work Plan" if the Work Plan provides for the development and implementation of a Remedial Program for contamination within the boundaries of the Site and, if the Applicant is a Participant, the contamination that has emanated from such Site;

3. "IRM Work Plan" if the Work Plan provides for an interim remedial measure; or

4. "Site Management Plan" if the Work Plan provides for the identification and implementation of institutional and/or engineering controls as well as

any necessary monitoring and/or operation and maintenance of the remedy.

5. "Supplemental" if additional work plans other than those set forth in II.A.1-4 are required to be prepared and implemented.

B. Submission/Implementation of Work Plans

1. The first proposed Work Plan to be submitted under this Agreement shall be submitted no later than thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Agreement. Thereafter, the Applicant shall submit such other and additional work plans as determined in a schedule to be approved by the Department.

2. Any proposed Work Plan shall be submitted for the Department's review and approval and shall include, at a minimum, a chronological description of the anticipated activities to be conducted in accordance with current guidance, a schedule for performance of those activities, and sufficient detail to allow the Department to evaluate that Work Plan. The Department shall use best efforts in accordance with 6 NYCRR 375-3.6(b) to approve, modify, or reject a proposed Work Plan within forty-five (45) days from its receipt or within fifteen (15) days from the close of the public comment period, if applicable, whichever is later.

i) Upon the Department's written approval of a Work Plan, such Department-approved Work Plan shall be deemed to be incorporated into and made a part of this Agreement and shall be implemented in accordance with the schedule contained therein.

ii) If the Department requires modification of a Work Plan, the reason for such modification shall be provided in writing and the provisions of 6 NYCRR 375-1.6(d)(3) shall apply.

iii) If the Department disapproves a Work Plan, the reason for such disapproval shall be provided in writing and the provisions of 6 NYCRR 375-1.6(d)(4) shall apply.

3. A Site Management Plan, if necessary, shall be submitted in accordance with the schedule set forth in the IRM Work Plan or Remedial Work Plan.

C. Submission of Final Reports

1. In accordance with the schedule contained in an approved Work Plan, Applicant shall submit a Final Report for an Investigation Work Plan prepared in accordance with ECL 27-1411(1) and 6 NYCRR 375-1.6. If such Final Report concludes that no remediation is necessary, and the Site does not meet the requirements for Track 1, Applicant shall submit an Alternatives Analysis prepared in accordance with ECL 27-1413 and 6 NYCRR 375-3.8(f) that supports such determination.

2. In accordance with the schedule contained in an approved Work Plan, Applicant shall submit a Final Engineering Report certifying that remediation of the Site has been performed in accordance with the requirements of ECL 27-1419(1) and (2) and 6 NYCRR 375-1.6. The Department shall review such Report, the submittals made pursuant to this Agreement, and any other relevant information regarding the Site and make a determination as to whether the goals of the remedial program have been or will be achieved in accordance with established timeframes; if so, a written Certificate of Completion will be issued in accordance with ECL 27-1419, 6 NYCRR 375-1.9 and 375-3.9.

3. Within sixty (60) days of the Department's approval of a Final Report, Applicant shall submit such additional Work Plans as it proposes to implement. In addition, Applicant shall include with every report submitted to the department a schedule for the submission of any subsequent work plan required to meet the requirements of ECL Article 27, Title 14. Failure to submit any additional Work Plans within such period shall, unless other Work Plans are under review by the Department or being implemented by Applicant, result in the termination of this Agreement pursuant to Paragraph XII.

D. Review of Submittals other than Work Plans

1. The Department shall timely notify Applicant in writing of its approval or disapproval of each submittal other than a Work Plan in accordance with 6 NYCRR 375-1.6. All Department-approved submittals shall be incorporated into and become an enforceable part of this Agreement.

2. If the Department disapproves a submittal covered by this Subparagraph, it shall specify the reason for its disapproval and may request Applicant to modify or expand the submittal. Within fifteen (15) days after receiving written notice that Applicant's submittal has been disapproved, Applicant shall elect in writing to either (i) modify or expand it within thirty (30) days of receipt of the

written notice of disapproval; (ii) complete any other Department-approved Work Plan(s); (iii) invoke dispute resolution pursuant to Paragraph XIII; or (iv) terminate this Agreement pursuant to Paragraph XII. If Applicant submits a revised submittal and it is disapproved, the Department and Applicant may pursue whatever remedies may be available under this Agreement or under law.

E. Department's Determination of Need for Remediation

The Department shall determine upon its approval of each Final Report dealing with the investigation of the Site whether remediation, or additional remediation as the case may be, is needed for protection of public health and the environment.

1. If the Department makes a preliminary determination that remediation, or additional remediation, is not needed for protection of public health and the environment, the Department shall notify the public of such determination and seek public comment in accordance with ECL 27-1417(3)(f). The Department shall provide timely notification to the Applicant of its final determination following the close of the public comment period.

2. If the Department determines that additional remediation is not needed and such determination is based upon use restrictions, Applicant shall cause to be recorded an Environmental Easement in accordance with 6 NYCRR 375-1.8(h).

3. If the Department determines that remediation, or additional remediation, is needed, Applicant may elect to submit for review and approval a proposed Remedial Work Plan (or modify an existing Work Plan for the Site) for a remedy selected upon due consideration of the factors set forth in ECL 27-1415(3) and 6 NYCRR 375-1.8(f). A proposed Remedial Work Plan addressing the Site's remediation will be noticed for public comment in accordance with ECL 27-1417(3)(f) and the Citizen Participation Plan developed pursuant to this Agreement. If the Department determines following the close of the public comment period that modifications to the proposed Remedial Work Plan are needed, Applicant agrees to negotiate appropriate modifications to such Work Plan. If Applicant elects not to develop a Work Plan under this Subparagraph then this Agreement shall terminate in accordance with Paragraph XII. If the Applicant elects to develop a Work Plan, then it will be reviewed in accordance with Paragraph II.D above.

F. Institutional/Engineering Control Certification

In the event that the remedy for the Site, if any, or any Work Plan for the Site, requires institutional or engineering controls, Applicant shall submit a written certification in accordance with 6 NYCRR 375-1.8(h)(3) and 375-3.8(h)(2).

III. Enforcement

Except as provided in Paragraph V, this Agreement shall be enforceable as a contractual agreement under the laws of the State of New York. Applicant shall not suffer any penalty except as provided in Paragraph V, or be subject to any proceeding or action if it cannot comply with any requirement of this Agreement as a result of a Force Majeure Event as described at 6 NYCRR 375-1.5(b)(4) provided Applicant complies with the requirements set forth therein.

IV. Entry upon Site

A. Applicant hereby agrees to provide access to the Site and to all relevant information regarding activities at the Site in accordance with the provisions of ECL 27-1431. Applicant agrees to provide the Department upon request with proof of access if it is not the owner of the site.

B. The Department shall have the right to periodically inspect the Site to ensure that the use of the property complies with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. The Department will generally conduct such inspections during business hours, but retains the right to inspect at any time.

C. Failure to provide access as provided for under this Paragraph may result in termination of this Agreement pursuant to Paragraph XII.

V. Payment of State Costs

A. Within forty-five (45) days after receipt of an itemized invoice from the Department, Applicant shall pay to the Department a sum of money which shall represent reimbursement for State Costs as provided by 6 NYCRR 375-1.5(b)(3)(i).

B. Costs shall be documented as provided by 6 NYCRR 375-1.5(b)(3)(ii). The Department shall not be required to provide any other documentation of costs, provided however, that the Department's records shall be available consistent with, and in accordance with, Article 6 of the Public Officers Law.

C. Each such payment shall be made payable to the "Commissioner of NYSDEC" and shall be sent

to:

Director, Bureau of Program Management
Division of Environmental Remediation
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233-7012

D. Each party shall provide written notification to the other within ninety (90) days of any change in the foregoing addresses.

E. If Applicant objects to any invoiced costs under this Agreement, the provisions of 6 NYCRR 375-1.5 (b)(3)(v) and (vi) shall apply. Objections shall be sent to the Department as provided under subparagraph V.C above.

F. In the event of non-payment of any invoice within the 45 days provided herein, the Department may seek enforcement of this provision pursuant to Paragraph III or the Department may commence an enforcement action for non-compliance with ECL 27-1409(2) and ECL 71-4003.

VI. Liability Limitation

Subsequent to the issuance of a Certificate of Completion pursuant to this Agreement, Applicant shall be entitled to the Liability Limitation set forth at ECL 27-1421, subject to the terms and conditions stated therein and to the provisions of 6 NYCRR 375-1.9 and 375-3.9.

VII. Reservation of Rights

A. Except as provided in Subparagraph VII.B, Applicant reserves all rights and defenses under applicable law to contest, defend against, dispute, or disprove any action, proceeding, allegation, assertion, determination, or order of the Department, including any assertion of remedial liability by the Department against Applicant, and further reserves all rights including the rights to notice, to be heard, to appeal, and to any other due process respecting any action or proceeding by the Department, including the enforcement of this Agreement. The existence of this Agreement or Applicant's compliance with it shall not be construed as an admission of any liability, fault, wrongdoing, or violation of law by Applicant, and shall not give rise to any presumption of law or finding of fact which shall inure to the benefit of any third party.

B. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicant hereby waives any right it may have to make a claim pursuant to Article 12 of the Navigation Law with respect to the Site and releases the State and the

New York Environmental Protection and Spill Compensation Fund from any and all legal or equitable claims, suits, causes of action, or demands whatsoever with respect to the Site that Applicant may have as a result of Applicant's entering into or fulfilling the terms of this Agreement.

VIII. Indemnification

Applicant shall indemnify and hold the Department, the State of New York, and their representatives and employees harmless from any claim, suit, action, and cost of every name and description arising out of or resulting from the fulfillment or attempted fulfillment of this Agreement by Applicant prior to the Termination Date except for those claims, suits, actions, and costs arising from the State's gross negligence or willful or intentional misconduct by the Department, the State of New York, and/or their representatives and employees during the course of any activities conducted pursuant to this Agreement. In the event that the Applicant is a Participant, this provision shall also include the Trustee of the State's Natural Resources. The Department shall provide Applicant with written notice no less than thirty (30) days prior to commencing a lawsuit seeking indemnification pursuant to this Paragraph.

IX. Change of Use

Applicant shall notify the Department at least sixty (60) days in advance of any change of use, as defined in ECL 27-1425, which is proposed for the Site, in accordance with the provisions of 6 NYCRR 375-1.11(d). In the event the Department determines that the proposed change of use is prohibited, the Department shall notify Applicant of such determination within forty-five (45) days of receipt of such notice.

X. Environmental Easement

A. Within one hundred eighty (180) days of commencement of the remedial design or at least three months prior to the date of the anticipated issuance of the certificate of completion, the owner of a brownfield site, and/or any person responsible for implementing a remedial program at such site, where institutional or engineering controls are employed pursuant to ECL Article 27, Title 14, shall execute an environmental easement pursuant to ECL Article 71, Title 36 and 6NYCRR 375 1.8(h)(2). Applicant shall cause such instrument to be recorded with the recording officer for the county in which the Site is located within thirty (30) days after the Department's approval of such instrument. Applicant shall provide the Department with a copy

of such instrument certified by the recording officer to be a true and faithful copy within thirty (30) days of such recording (or such longer period of time as may be required to obtain a certified copy provided Applicant advises the Department of the status of its efforts to obtain same within such thirty (30) day period), which shall be deemed to be incorporated into this Agreement.

B. Applicant or the owner of the Site may petition the Department to modify or extinguish the Environmental Easement filed pursuant to this Agreement at such time as it can certify that the Site is protective of public health and the environment without reliance upon the restrictions set forth in such instrument. Such certification shall be made by a Professional Engineer or Qualified Environmental Professional as defined at 6 NYCRR 375-1.2(ak) approved by the Department. The Department will not unreasonably withhold its consent.

XI. Progress Reports

Applicant shall submit a written progress report of its actions under this Agreement to the parties identified in Subparagraph III.A.1 of the Agreement by the 10th day of each month commencing with the month subsequent to the approval of the first Work Plan and ending with the Termination Date, unless a different frequency is set forth in a Work Plan. Such reports shall, at a minimum, include: all actions relative to the Site during the previous reporting period and those anticipated for the next reporting period; all approved activity modifications (changes of work scope and/or schedule); all results of sampling and tests and all other data received or generated by or on behalf of Applicant in connection with this Site, whether under this Agreement or otherwise, in the previous reporting period, including quality assurance/quality control information; information regarding percentage of completion; unresolved delays encountered or anticipated that may affect the future schedule and efforts made to mitigate such delays; and information regarding activities undertaken in support of the Citizen Participation Plan during the previous reporting period and those anticipated for the next reporting period.

XII. Termination of Agreement

Applicant or the Department may terminate this Agreement consistent with the provisions of 6 NYCRR 375-3.5(b), (c), and (d) by providing written notification to the parties listed in Paragraph III of the Agreement.

XIII. Dispute Resolution

A. In the event disputes arise under this Agreement, Applicant may, within fifteen (15) days after Applicant knew or should have known of the facts which are the basis of the dispute, initiate dispute resolution in accordance with the provisions of 6 NYCRR 375-1.5(b)(2).

B. All cost incurred by the Department associated with dispute resolution are State costs subject to reimbursement pursuant to this Agreement.

C. Notwithstanding any other rights otherwise authorized in law or equity, any disputes pursuant to this Agreement shall be limited to Departmental decisions on remedial activities. In no event shall such dispute authorize a challenge to the applicable statute or regulation.

XIV. Miscellaneous

A. If the information provided and any certifications made by Applicant are not materially accurate and complete, this Agreement, except with respect to Applicant's obligations pursuant to Paragraphs V, VII.B, and VIII, shall be null and void *ab initio* fifteen (15) days after the Department's notification of such inaccuracy or incompleteness or fifteen (15) days after issuance of a final decision resolving a dispute pursuant to Paragraph XIII, whichever is later, unless Applicant submits information within that fifteen (15) day time period indicating that the information provided and the certifications made were materially accurate and complete. In the event this Agreement is rendered null and void, any Certificate of Completion and/or Liability Limitation that may have been issued or may have arisen under this Agreement shall also be null and void *ab initio*, and the Department shall reserve all rights that it may have under law.

B. By entering into this Agreement, Applicant agrees to comply with and be bound by the provisions of 6 NYCRR 375-1, 375-3 and 375-6; the provisions of such subparts that are referenced herein are referenced for clarity and convenience only and the failure of this Agreement to specifically reference any particular regulatory provision is not intended to imply that such provision is not applicable to activities performed under this Agreement.

C. The Department may exempt Applicant from the requirement to obtain any state or local permit or other authorization for any activity conducted pursuant to this Agreement in accordance with 6 NYCRR 375-1.12(b), (c), and (d).

D. 1. Applicant shall use "best efforts" to obtain all Site access, permits, easements, approvals, institutional controls, and/or authorizations necessary to perform Applicant's obligations under this Agreement, including all Department-approved Work Plans and the schedules contained therein. If, despite Applicant's best efforts, any access, permits, easements, approvals, institutional controls, or authorizations cannot be obtained, Applicant shall promptly notify the Department and include a summary of the steps taken. The Department may, as it deems appropriate and within its authority, assist Applicant in obtaining same.

2. If an interest in property is needed to implement an institutional control required by a Work Plan and such interest cannot be obtained, the Department may require Applicant to modify the Work Plan pursuant to 6 NYCRR 375-1.6(d)(3) to reflect changes necessitated by Applicant's inability to obtain such interest.

E. The paragraph headings set forth in this Agreement are included for convenience of reference only and shall be disregarded in the construction and interpretation of any provisions of this Agreement.

F. 1. The terms of this Agreement shall constitute the complete and entire agreement between the Department and Applicant concerning the implementation of the activities required by this Agreement. No term, condition, understanding, or agreement purporting to modify or vary any term of this Agreement shall be binding unless made in writing and subscribed by the party to be bound. No informal advice, guidance, suggestion, or comment by the Department shall be construed as relieving Applicant of its obligation to obtain such formal approvals as may be required by this Agreement. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Agreement and any Work Plan submitted pursuant to this Agreement, the terms of this Agreement shall control over the terms of the Work Plan(s). Applicant consents to and agrees not to contest the authority and jurisdiction of the Department to enter into or enforce this Agreement.

2. i. Except as set forth herein, if Applicant desires that any provision of this Agreement be changed, Applicant shall make timely written application to the Commissioner with copies to the parties in Subparagraph III.A.1 of the Agreement.

ii. If Applicant seeks to modify an approved Work Plan, a written request shall be

made to the Department's project manager, with copies to the parties listed in Subparagraph III.A.1 of the Agreement.

iii. Requests for a change to a time frame set forth in this Agreement shall be made in writing to the Department's project attorney and project manager; such requests shall not be unreasonably denied and a written response to such requests shall be sent to Applicant promptly.

G. 1. If there are multiple parties signing this Agreement, the term "Applicant" shall be read in the plural, the obligations of each such party under this Agreement are joint and several, and the insolvency of or failure by any Applicant to implement any obligations under this Agreement shall not affect the obligations of the remaining Applicant(s) under this Agreement.

2. If Applicant is a partnership, the obligations of all general partners (including limited partners who act as general partners) under this Agreement are joint and several and the insolvency or failure of any general partner to implement any obligations under this Agreement shall not affect the obligations of the remaining partner(s) under this Agreement.

3. Notwithstanding the foregoing Subparagraphs XIV.G.1 and 2, if multiple parties sign this Agreement as Applicants but not all of the signing parties elect to implement a Work Plan, all Applicants are jointly and severally liable for each and every obligation under this Agreement through the completion of activities in such Work Plan that all such parties consented to; thereafter, only those Applicants electing to perform additional work shall be jointly and severally liable under this Agreement for the obligations and activities under such additional Work Plan(s). The parties electing not to implement the additional Work Plan(s) shall have no obligations under this Agreement relative to the activities set forth in such Work Plan(s). Further, only those Applicants electing to implement such additional Work Plan(s) shall be eligible to receive the Liability Limitation referenced in Paragraph VI.

4. Any change to parties pursuant to this Agreement, including successors and assigns through acquisition of title, is subject to approval by the Department, after submittal of an application acceptable to the Department.

H. Applicant shall be entitled to receive contribution protection and/or to seek contribution to the extent authorized by ECL 27-1421(6) and 6 NYCRR 375-1.5(b)(5).

I. Applicant shall not be considered an operator of the Site solely by virtue of having executed and/or implemented this Agreement.

J. Applicant and Applicant's agents, grantees, lessees, sublessees, successors, and assigns shall be bound by this Agreement. Any change in ownership of Applicant including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall in no way alter Applicant's responsibilities under this Agreement.

K. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, terms used in this Agreement which are defined in ECL Article 27 or in regulations promulgated thereunder shall have the meaning assigned to them under said statute or regulations.

L. Applicant's obligations under this Agreement represent payment for or reimbursement of State costs, and shall not be deemed to constitute any type of fine or penalty.

M. In accordance with 6 NYCRR 375-1.6(a)(4), the Department shall be notified at least 7 days in advance of, and be allowed to attend, any field activities to be conducted under a Department approved work plan, as well as any pre-bid meetings, job progress meetings, substantial completion meeting and inspection, and final inspection and meeting; provided, however that the Department may be excluded from portions of meetings where privileged matters are discussed.

N. In accordance with 6 NYCRR 375-1.11(a), all work plans; reports, including all attachments and appendices, and certifications, submitted by a remedial party shall be submitted in print, as well as in an electronic format acceptable to the Department.

O. This Agreement may be executed for the convenience of the parties hereto, individually or in combination, in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to have the status of an executed original and all of which shall together constitute one and the same.