

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
AND
BRUNSWICK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
FOR
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE
FOR THE
HIGHWAY 87 WATER MAIN TRANSMISSION PROJECT,
BRUNSWICK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into this 13th day of April, 2026, by and between the Department of the Army (hereinafter the "Government"), represented by the District Commander for Wilmington District (hereinafter the "District Commander") and Brunswick County, North Carolina (hereinafter the "Non-Federal Sponsor"), represented by its County Manager.

WITNESSETH, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Government is authorized to provide design and construction assistance for publicly owned, non-Federal water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in North Carolina including projects for wastewater treatment and related facilities; combined sewer overflow, water supply, storage, treatment, and related facilities; drinking water infrastructure including treatment and related facilities; stormwater infrastructure; and surface water resource protection and development pursuant to Section 5113 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, Public Law 110-114 (hereinafter "Section 5113");

WHEREAS Section 5113(d)(3) provides that the Federal share of project costs under each agreement entered into under Section 5113 shall be 75 percent, which may be in the form of reimbursements.

WHEREAS, as of the effective date of this Agreement, the total amount of Federal funds available for the Federal share of project costs under this Agreement is \$13,100,000; and

WHEREAS, the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor have the full authority and capability to perform in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and acknowledge that this Agreement shall be enforceable in the appropriate district court of the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I - DEFINITIONS

A. The term "Project" means approximately 44,500 feet of 12-inch water main transmission line along North Carolina (N.C.) Highway 87, beginning at the existing 30-inch line along N.C. Highway 17 (Ocean Highway) near its intersection with N.C. Highway 87 (Maco

Rd.) and extending north along Maco Rd., ultimately connecting to the existing 12-inch line at the intersection of Maco Rd. and Malmo Loop Rd., as generally described in the Letter Report for Design and Construction of the Highway 87 Water Main Transmission Line, Brunswick County, North Carolina, dated December 2025, and approved by the Division Commander for South Atlantic Division on February 13, 2026.

B. The term “HTRW” means hazardous, toxic, and radioactive wastes, which includes any material listed as a “hazardous substance” (42 U.S.C. 9601(14)) regulated under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (hereinafter “CERCLA”) (42 U.S.C. 9601-9675) and any other regulated material in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

C. The term “project costs” means all costs incurred by the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor in accordance with the terms of this Agreement that are directly related to design and construction of the Project and cost shared. The term includes the Non-Federal Sponsor’s eligible pre-Agreement design work costs, if any; the Government’s costs for conducting environmental compliance activities, providing management oversight and technical assistance, as needed, preparing monthly financial reports, reviewing design work, appraisals, and invoices provided by the Non-Federal Sponsor, conducting periodic inspections during construction, and any other costs incurred by the Government pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement; the Non-Federal Sponsor’s eligible costs for engineering, design, construction, and supervision and administration; the Non-Federal Sponsor’s eligible costs for providing real property interests and relocations, and performing permit work; and the costs of historic preservation activities except for data recovery for historic properties, if any. The term does not include any costs for operation and maintenance; HTRW cleanup and response; dispute resolution; audits; betterments; or the Non-Federal Sponsor’s cost to negotiate this Agreement.

D. The term “real property interests” means lands, easements, and rights-of-way, including those required for relocations and borrow and dredged material placement areas. Acquisition of real property interests may require the performance of relocations.

E. The term “relocation” means the provision of a functionally equivalent facility to the owner of a utility, cemetery, highway, railroad, or public facility when such action is required by applicable legal principles of just compensation. Providing a functionally equivalent facility may include the alteration, lowering, raising, or replacement and attendant demolition of the affected facility or part thereof.

F. The term “pre-Agreement design work” means the design work performed by the Non-Federal Sponsor prior to the effective date of this Agreement that the Government determines was accomplished in a satisfactory manner and is necessary for the Project.

G. The term “betterment” means a difference in the design or construction of an element of the Project that results from applying standards that the Government determines exceed those that the Government would otherwise apply to design or construction of that element.

ARTICLE II - OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

A. As of the effective date of this Agreement, the total amount of Federal funds available for the Federal share of project costs under this Agreement is limited to \$13,100,000.-

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall be responsible for all costs more than this amount.

B. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall design and construct the Project in accordance with all requirements of applicable Federal laws and implementing regulations, including but not limited to, if applicable, Section 601 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d), and Department of Defense Directive 5500.11 issued pursuant thereto; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6102); and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), and Army Regulation 600-7 issued pursuant thereto and the following:

1. In accordance with Article III, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide the real property interests and relocations required for construction and operation and maintenance of the Project. The Non-Federal Sponsor hereby gives the Government a right to enter, at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner, upon property that the Non-Federal Sponsor now or hereafter owns or controls for the purpose of performing inspections pursuant to Article II.D.

2. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall afford the Government the opportunity to review and comment on all design work, including relevant plans and specifications, and related contract solicitations, prior to the Non-Federal Sponsor's issuance of such solicitations. In addition, until the Government has provided written confirmation that environmental compliance has been completed, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall not issue the solicitation for the first construction contract for the Project or commence construction of the Project using its own forces.

3. The Non-Federal Sponsor is responsible for obtaining all permits and licenses necessary for design, construction, and operation and maintenance of the Project and for ensuring compliance with all requirements of such permits and licenses.

4. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall establish and maintain such legal and institutional structures as necessary to ensure the effective long-term operation of the Project at no cost to the Government.

5. Upon completion of design, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall furnish the Government with copies of the completed design.

6. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall operate and maintain the Project at no cost to the Government. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall furnish the Government with a copy of the as-built drawings for the completed work.

7. No more frequently than every 30 calendar days, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide the Government an invoice with the documentation required by Article V for the Government to determine whether costs incurred by the Non-Federal Sponsor are eligible for

inclusion in project costs. If the Non-Federal Sponsor incurred costs for pre-Agreement design work, documentation of such costs shall be included in the Non-Federal Sponsor's initial invoice. Following completion of the Project, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall notify the Government, which shall conduct a final inspection of the Project. No later than 60 calendar days after the Government conducts the final inspection, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide its final invoice, unless an extension is requested by the Non-Federal Sponsor in writing and approved by the Government.

C. Using information developed and provided by the Non-Federal Sponsor, the Government shall ensure environmental compliance activities necessary to achieve compliance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations for design and construction of the Project are completed prior to initiation of construction. The Government will notify the Non-Federal Sponsor in writing when such compliance has been completed.

D. The Government may perform periodic inspections to verify the progress of construction, and that work is being performed in a satisfactory manner. In addition, the Government may provide technical assistance to the Non-Federal Sponsor on an as-needed basis during design and construction of the Project. Further, the Government shall perform a final inspection to verify satisfactory completion of the Project.

E. Subject to the limitation on available Federal funds identified in Article II.A. for the Federal share of project costs under this Agreement, the Government shall be responsible for 75 percent of project costs, with reimbursement for costs incurred by the Non-Federal Sponsor determined in accordance with this paragraph. The Government shall review each invoice provided by the Non-Federal Sponsor and, based on the procedures, requirements, and conditions provided in Article V, shall determine the costs, or portion thereof, that are eligible for inclusion in project costs. To the maximum extent practicable, within 30 calendar days of receipt of each invoice, the Government, subject to the availability of Federal funds, shall reimburse the Non-Federal Sponsor for 75 percent of the Non-Federal Sponsor's eligible costs included in each invoice, less 25 percent of the costs incurred by the Government during that same invoice period. The Government shall provide a written explanation to the Non-Federal Sponsor for costs it determines are not eligible for inclusion in project costs.

F. The Government shall ensure compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 300101-307108), prior to initiation of construction. All costs incurred by the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor for actions associated with historic preservation, including the identification and treatment of historic properties as those properties are defined in the NHPA and the mitigation of adverse effects other than data recovery, as the Government determines necessary and subject to audit in accordance with Article X.B. to determine reasonableness, allocability, and allowability of such costs, shall be included in project costs and shared in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement. If historic properties are discovered during construction and the effect(s) of construction are determined to be adverse, strategies shall be developed to avoid, minimize, or mitigate these adverse effects. In accordance with 54 U.S.C. 312507, up to 1 percent of the total amount available for the Project may be applied toward data recovery of historic properties and such costs shall be borne entirely by the Government. If costs associated with data recovery of

historic properties exceed 1 percent of the total amount authorized to be appropriated for the Project, in accordance with 54 U.S.C. 312508, the Government will seek a waiver from the 1 percent limitation under 54 U.S.C. 312507 and upon receiving the waiver, will proceed with data recovery at full Federal expense. Nothing in this Agreement shall limit or otherwise prevent the Non-Federal Sponsor from voluntarily contributing costs associated with data recovery that exceed 1 percent.

G. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall not use Federal program funds to meet any of its obligations under this Agreement unless the Federal agency providing the funds verifies in writing that the funds are authorized to be used for the Project. Federal program funds are those funds provided by a federal agency, plus any non-Federal contribution required as a matching share for such work.

H. The Non-Federal Sponsor and the Government, in consultation with appropriate Federal and State officials, shall develop a facilities development plan or resource protection plan, including appropriate engineering plans and specifications.

I. If the Non-Federal Sponsor elects to include betterments in the design or construction of the Project, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall notify the Government in writing and describe the betterments it intends to design and construct. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall be solely responsible for all costs due to betterments, including costs associated with obtaining permits for such work, without reimbursement by the Government.

ARTICLE III - REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS AND RELOCATIONS

A. The Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor shall jointly determine the real property interests required for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project, and the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide the Government with general written descriptions, including maps as appropriate, of such real property interests. Prior to the Non-Federal Sponsor initiating acquisition of such real property interests or initiating construction on real property interests it already owns or controls, the Non-Federal Sponsor, in accordance with Article IV.A., shall investigate to verify that HTRW does not exist in, on, or under the real property interests required for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project. Subject to the requirements in Article IV.B., the Non-Federal Sponsor shall acquire such real property interests and notify the Government in writing when such interests have been acquired. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall ensure all such real property interests required for the Project are retained in public ownership.

B. The Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor shall jointly determine the relocations required for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project, and the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide the Government with general written descriptions, including maps and plans and specifications, as appropriate, for such relocations. Upon written confirmation by the Government, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall perform or ensure performance of such relocations and notify the Government in writing when such relocations have been accomplished.

C. In acquiring the real property interests for the Project, the Non-Federal Sponsor assures the Government that it will comply with the following:

(1) fair and reasonable relocation payments and assistance shall be provided to or for displaced persons, as are required to be provided by a Federal agency under 42 U.S.C. 4622, 4623 and 4624.

(2) relocation assistance programs offering the services described in 42 U.S.C. 4625 shall be provided to such displaced persons.

(3) within a reasonable period prior to displacement, comparable replacement dwellings will be available to displaced persons in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 4625(c)(3);

(4) in acquiring real property, the Non-Federal Sponsor will be guided, to the greatest extent practicable under State law, by the land acquisition policies in 42 U.S.C. 4651 and the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 4652; and

(5) displaced persons will be paid or reimbursed for necessary expenses as specified in 42 U.S.C. 4653 and 4654.

ARTICLE IV - HTRW

A. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall be responsible for undertaking any investigations to identify the existence and extent of any HTRW regulated under applicable law, that may exist in, on, or under real property interests required for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project.

B. In the event the Non-Federal Sponsor discovers that HTRW exists in, on, or under any of the real property interests needed for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide written notice to the Government within 15 calendar days of such discovery, in addition to providing any other notice required by applicable law. If HTRW is discovered prior to acquisition, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall not proceed with the acquisition of such real property interests until the parties agree that the Non-Federal Sponsor should proceed. If HTRW is discovered in, on, or under real property interests the Non-Federal Sponsor owns or controls or after acquisition of the real property interests, no further Project activities within the contaminated area shall proceed until the parties agree on an appropriate course of action.

1. If the Non-Federal Sponsor initiates or continues construction, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall be responsible, as between the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor, for the performance and costs of HTRW cleanup and response, including the costs of any studies and investigations necessary to determine an appropriate response to the contamination. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall pay such costs without reimbursement or credit by the Government.

2. In the event the Non-Federal Sponsor fails to discharge its responsibilities under this Article, the Government may suspend or terminate future performance under this Agreement, including reimbursements pursuant to Article II.E.

C. As between the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall be considered the owner and operator of the Project for purposes of CERCLA liability or other applicable law.

D. Any decision made pursuant to this Article shall not relieve any third party from any HTRW liability that may arise under applicable law.

ARTICLE V - DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBLE NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR COSTS

A. The Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor agree that the Non-Federal Sponsor's costs that are eligible for inclusion in project costs shall be determined in accordance with the following procedures, requirements, and conditions and subject to audit in accordance with Article X.B. to determine reasonableness, allocability, and allowability of costs.

1. Real Property Interests.

a. General Procedure. The Government shall include in project costs the value of required real property interests acquired from private owners after the effective date of this Agreement except that the value of real property interests donated to the Non-Federal Sponsor are not eligible for inclusion in project costs. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall obtain for each required real property interest acquired from private owners an appraisal of the fair market value of such interest that is prepared by a qualified appraiser who is acceptable to the parties. Subject to valid jurisdictional exceptions, the appraisal shall conform to the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice. The appraisal must be prepared in accordance with the applicable rules of just compensation, as specified by the Government.

(1) Date of Valuation. The fair market value of real property interests acquired from private owners by the Non-Federal Sponsor shall be the fair market value of such real property interests at the time the interests are acquired.

(2) Except for real property interests acquired through eminent domain proceedings, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall submit an appraisal for each real property interest to the Government for review and approval no later than, to the maximum extent practicable, 60 calendar days after the Non-Federal Sponsor concludes the acquisition of the interest. If, after coordination and consultation with the Government, the Non-Federal Sponsor is unable to provide an appraisal that is acceptable to the Government, the Government shall obtain an appraisal to determine the fair market value of the real property interest for valuation purposes.

(3) The Government shall include in the project costs the appraised amount approved by the Government. Where the amount paid or proposed to be paid

by the Non-Federal Sponsor exceeds the approved appraised amount, the Government, at the request of the Non-Federal Sponsor, shall consider all factors relevant to determining fair market value and, in its sole discretion, after consultation with the Non-Federal Sponsor, may approve in writing an amount greater than the appraised amount.

b. Eminent Domain Procedure. For real property interests acquired by eminent domain proceedings, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall notify the Government in writing of its intent to institute such proceedings and submit the appraisals of the specific real property interests to be acquired for review and approval by the Government. If the Government provides written approval of the appraisals, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall use the amount set forth in such appraisals as the estimate of just compensation for the purpose of instituting the eminent domain proceeding. If the Government provides written disapproval of the appraisals, the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor shall consult to promptly resolve the issues that are identified in the Government's written disapproval. In the event the issues cannot be resolved, the Non-Federal Sponsor may use the amount set forth in its appraisal as the estimate of just compensation for purpose of instituting the eminent domain proceeding. The fair market value for valuation purposes shall be either the amount of the court award for the real property interests taken or the amount of any stipulated settlement or portion thereof that the Government approves in writing.

c. Waiver of Appraisal. Except as required by paragraph A.1.b. of this Article, the Government may waive the requirement for an appraisal pursuant to this paragraph if, in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Section 24.102(c)(2):

(1) the Non-Federal Sponsor determines that an appraisal is unnecessary because the valuation problem is uncomplicated and the anticipated value of the real property interest proposed for acquisition is estimated at \$15,000 or less, based on a review of available data. When the Non-Federal Sponsor determines that an appraisal is unnecessary, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall prepare the written waiver valuation required by 49 C.F.R. Section 24.102(c)(2) and submit a copy thereof to the Government for approval. The Government may approve exceeding the \$15,000 threshold, up to an amount of \$35,000, if the Non-Federal Sponsor offers the owner the option of having the Non-Federal Sponsor appraise the real property interest.

(2) if the Non-Federal Sponsor determines that the acquisition is uncomplicated, has a low fair market value, and the Non-Federal Sponsor offers the owner the option to have the property appraised, the Non-Federal Sponsor may request in writing approval to use a waiver valuation for properties with estimated values of more than \$35,000 and up to \$50,000. If use of a waiver valuation is approved by the Government, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide a report measuring the cost and time benefits, condemnation rate, settlement rate, and other relevant metrics to document the administrative savings, accuracy, and efficacy of the use of the waiver valuation.

d. Incidental Costs. The Government shall include in project costs eligible incidental costs, documented to the satisfaction of the Government, that the Non-Federal Sponsor incurs after the effective date of this Agreement in acquiring required real property

interests from private owners. Such incidental costs include closing and title costs, appraisal costs, survey costs, attorney's fees, plat maps, mapping costs, actual amounts expended for payment of any relocation assistance benefits provided in accordance with Article III.C., and other payments by the Non-Federal Sponsor for items that are generally recognized as compensable, and required to be paid, by applicable state law due to the acquisition of required real property interests.

e. Except for permit work pursuant to Article V.A.4., any publicly owned real property interests required for the Project will be provided by the Non-Federal Sponsor at no cost to the Government.

2. Relocations. The Government shall include in project costs eligible costs of required relocations performed by the Non-Federal Sponsor after the effective date of this Agreement.

a. For a relocation other than a highway, eligible costs shall be only that portion of relocation costs that the Government determines is necessary to provide a functionally equivalent facility, reduced by depreciation, as applicable, and by the salvage value of any removed items.

b. For a relocation of a highway, which is any highway, roadway, or street, including any bridge thereof, that is owned by a public entity, eligible costs shall be only that portion of relocation costs that would be necessary to accomplish the relocation in accordance with the design standard that the State of North Carolina would apply under similar conditions of geography and traffic load, reduced by the salvage value of any removed items.

c. Relocation costs, as determined by the Government, include actual costs of performing the relocation; planning, engineering, and design costs; and supervision and administration costs. Relocation costs do not include any costs associated with betterments, as determined by the Government, nor any additional cost of using new material when suitable used material is available.

3. Design and Construction Work. The Government shall include in project costs eligible costs of the design and construction work performed by the Non-Federal Sponsor after the effective date of this Agreement and eligible costs of pre-Agreement design work, if any.

a. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall provide documentation, satisfactory to the Government, for the Government to determine the amount of eligible costs. Appropriate documentation includes invoices and certification of specific payments to contractors, suppliers, and the Non-Federal Sponsor's employees. Where the Non-Federal Sponsor's cost for completed pre-Agreement design work is expressed as fixed costs plus a percentage of project costs, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall calculate such costs based on actual costs.

b. The following costs are not eligible for inclusion in project costs: interest charges, or any adjustment to reflect changes in price levels after completion of the design or construction work; pre-Agreement design work previously reimbursed under another

agreement; pre-Agreement design work in excess of 6 percent of project costs; costs that exceed the Government's estimate of the cost for such design and construction work; design or construction work obtained at no cost to the Non-Federal Sponsor; or any construction work initiated prior to completion of environmental compliance.

4. Permit Work. The Government shall include in project costs eligible costs of permit work performed by the Non-Federal Sponsor after the effective date of this Agreement. Eligible costs shall be equivalent to the direct costs, documented to the satisfaction of the Government, that the Non-Federal Sponsor incurs in obtaining all permits and licenses necessary for design and construction of the Project, including the permits necessary for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project on publicly owned or controlled real property interests. Appropriate documentation includes invoices and certification of specific payments to contractors, suppliers, and the Non-Federal Sponsor's employees involved in obtaining such permits. Failure to comply with these permits and licenses may result in the Government denying, in whole or part, inclusion of the Non-Federal Sponsor's costs for design and construction of the Project in project costs.

5. Compliance with Federal Labor Laws. In undertaking construction and relocations, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall comply with applicable Federal labor laws covering non-Federal construction, including, but not limited to, 40 U.S.C. 3141-3148 and 40 U.S.C. 3701-3708 (labor standards originally enacted as the Davis-Bacon Act, the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, and the Copeland Anti-Kickback Act). The Non-Federal Sponsor's failure to comply with these laws may result in the Government denying, in whole or part, inclusion of the Non-Federal Sponsor's costs for relocations and construction of the Project in project costs.

6. Compliance with Build America Buy America Act. In undertaking construction and relocations, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall comply with the Build America Buy America Act (Division G, Title IX of Public Law 117-58). The Non-Federal Sponsor's failure to comply may result in the Government denying, in whole or part, inclusion of the Non-Federal Sponsor's costs for relocations and construction of the Project in project costs.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Non-Federal Sponsor shall not be entitled to credit or reimbursement for any costs incurred by the Non-Federal Sponsor prior to the effective date of this Agreement, excluding costs for pre-Agreement design work.

ARTICLE VI - ACCOUNTING

A. As of the effective date of this Agreement, project costs are projected to be \$20,000,000, with the amount of Federal funds available for such work limited to \$13,100,000. Costs incurred by the Government are projected to be \$917,000. Costs incurred by the Non-Federal Sponsor are projected to be \$19,083,000, which includes eligible design and construction work after the effective date of this Agreement projected to be \$19,083,000, eligible pre-Agreement design work projected to be \$0, eligible real property interests projected to be \$0,

eligible relocations projected to be \$0, and eligible permit work projected to be \$0. Reimbursements pursuant to Article II.E. for eligible costs incurred by the Non-Federal Sponsor are projected to be \$12,183,000. These amounts are estimates only that are subject to adjustment by the Government and are not to be construed as the total financial responsibilities of the Non-Federal Sponsor.

B. The Government shall provide the Non-Federal Sponsor with monthly financial reports setting forth the estimated project costs and the Government's and Non-Federal Sponsor's estimated shares of such costs; costs incurred by the Government to date; costs incurred by the Non-Federal Sponsor to date; the total amount of reimbursements made to the Non-Federal Sponsor to date; and the balance of the Federal funds available for the Project.

C. After the Non-Federal Sponsor has provided its final invoice to the Government, the Government shall conduct a final accounting and furnish the Non-Federal Sponsor with the written results of such final accounting. As a part of the final accounting, the Government will determine the total reimbursable amount by taking 75 percent of eligible costs incurred by the Non-Federal Sponsor, less 25 percent of the costs incurred by the Government for the Project. Should the final accounting determine that funds in excess of the total reimbursable amount have been reimbursed to the Non-Federal Sponsor, the Non-Federal Sponsor, within 60 calendar days of receipt of written notice from the Government, shall provide the Government with the full amount of such excess reimbursement by delivering a check payable to "FAO, USAED, Wilmington (K7)" to the District Commander, or by providing an Electronic Funds Transfer of such funds in accordance with procedures established by the Government. Should the final accounting determine that the reimbursements provided to the Non-Federal Sponsor are less than the total reimbursable amount, then subject to the limitation on available Federal funds identified in Article II.A. for the Federal share of project costs under this Agreement, the Government shall reimburse the Non-Federal Sponsor for the amount equal to such difference.

ARTICLE VII - TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION

If at any time the Non-Federal Sponsor fails to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement, the Government may suspend or terminate this Agreement. If the Government determines that the Federal funds available for the Project will be exhausted prior to completion of the Project, the Government shall notify the Non-Federal Sponsor and the Non-Federal Sponsor may continue with design and construction of the Project, at no cost to the Government, and with no further participation in the Project by the Government.

ARTICLE VIII - HOLD AND SAVE

The Non-Federal Sponsor shall hold and save the Government free from any and all damages arising from design, construction, or operation and maintenance of the Project, except for damages due to the fault or negligence of the Government or its contractors.

ARTICLE IX - DISPUTE RESOLUTION

As a condition precedent to a party bringing any suit for breach of this Agreement, that party must first notify the other party in writing of the nature of the purported breach and seek in good faith to resolve the dispute through negotiation. If the parties cannot resolve the dispute through negotiation, they may agree to a mutually acceptable method of non-binding alternative dispute resolution with a qualified third party acceptable to the parties. Each party shall pay an equal share of any costs for the services provided by such a third party as such costs are incurred. The existence of a dispute shall not excuse the parties from performance pursuant to this Agreement.

ARTICLE X - MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS AND AUDITS

A. The parties shall develop procedures for the maintenance by the Non-Federal Sponsor of books, records, documents, or other evidence pertaining to costs and expenses for a minimum of three years after the final accounting. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall assure that such materials are reasonably available for examination, audit, or reproduction by the Government.

B. The Government may conduct, or arrange for the conduct of, audits. Government audits shall be conducted in accordance with applicable Government cost principles and regulations. The Government's costs of audits shall not be included in project costs.

C. To the extent permitted under applicable Federal laws and regulations, the Government shall allow the Non-Federal Sponsor to inspect books, records, documents, or other evidence pertaining to costs and expenses maintained by the Government, or at the Non-Federal Sponsor's request, provide to the Non-Federal Sponsor or independent auditors any such information necessary to enable an audit of the Non-Federal Sponsor's activities under this Agreement. The Non-Federal Sponsor shall pay the costs of non-Federal audits without reimbursement or credit by the Government.

ARTICLE XI - RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES

In the exercise of their respective rights and obligations under this Agreement, the Government and the Non-Federal Sponsor each act in an independent capacity, and neither is to be considered the officer, agent, or employee of the other. Neither party shall provide, without the consent of the other party, any contractor with a release that waives or purports to waive any rights a party may have to seek relief or redress against that contractor.

ARTICLE XII - NOTICES

A. Any notice, request, demand, or other communication required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be deemed to have been duly given if in writing and delivered personally or mailed by registered or certified mail, with return receipt, as follows:

If to the Non-Federal Sponsor:

County Manager
Brunswick County, North Carolina
P.O. Box 249
Bolivia, NC 28422

If to the Government:

District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District
69 Darlington Ave.
Wilmington, NC 28403

B. A party may change the recipient or address to which such communications are to be directed by giving written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this Article.

ARTICLE XIII - CONFIDENTIALITY

To the extent permitted by the laws governing each party, the parties agree to maintain the confidentiality of exchanged information when requested to do so by the providing party.

ARTICLE XIV - THIRD PARTY RIGHTS, BENEFITS, OR LIABILITIES

Nothing in this Agreement is intended, nor may be construed, to create any rights, confer any benefits, or relieve any liability, of any kind whatsoever in any third person not a party to this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement, which shall become effective upon the date it is signed by the District Commander.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

BRUNSWICK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

BY: 

Brad A. Morgan
COL, U.S. Army
District Commander

BY: 

Steve Stone
County Manager

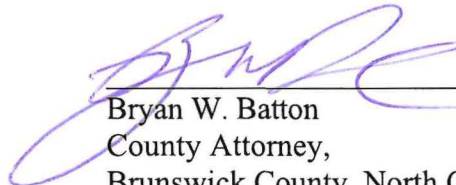
DATE: April 13, 2026

DATE: 3/16/26

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

I, Bryan W. Batton, do hereby certify that I am the principal legal officer for Brunswick County, North Carolina, that Brunswick County, North Carolina is a legally constituted public body with full authority and legal capability to perform the terms of the Agreement between the Department of the Army and Brunswick County, North Carolina in connection with the Highway 87 Water Main Transmission Project, Brunswick County, North Carolina, and to pay damages, if necessary, in the event of the failure to perform in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, and that the person who executed this Agreement on behalf of Brunswick County, North Carolina acted within his statutory authority.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have made and executed this certification this
10 day of March 2026.



Bryan W. Batton
County Attorney,
Brunswick County, North Carolina

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.



Steve Stone
County Manager, Brunswick County, North Carolina

DATE: 3/16/20

**NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR'S
SELF-CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL CAPABILITY
FOR AGREEMENTS**

I, Aaron Smith, do hereby certify that I am the Finance Director of Brunswick County, North Carolina (the "Non-Federal Sponsor"); that I am aware of the financial obligations of the Non-Federal Sponsor for the Highway 87 Water Main Transmission Project, Brunswick County, North Carolina; and that the Non-Federal Sponsor has the financial capability to satisfy the Non-Federal Sponsor's obligations under the Highway 87 Water Main Transmission Project, Brunswick County, North Carolina.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have made and executed this certification this 7th day of October, 2025.

BY:



Aaron Smith

TITLE: Finance Director, Brunswick County, North Carolina

DATE: October 7, 2025