New York State businesses have a substantial presence in State Contracts and strongly contribute to the economies of the state and the nation. In recognition of their economic activity and leadership in doing business in New York State, Bidders for this contract for commodities, services or technology are strongly encouraged and expected to consider New York State businesses in the fulfillment of the requirements of the Contract. Such partnering may be as subcontractors, suppliers, protégés or other supporting roles.

Bidders need to be aware that all authorized users of this Contract will be strongly encouraged, to the maximum extent practical and consistent with legal requirements, to use responsible and responsive New York State businesses in purchasing commodities that are of equal quality and functionality and in utilizing services and technology. Furthermore, Bidders are reminded that they must continue to utilize small, minority and women-owned businesses, consistent with current State law.

Utilizing New York State businesses in State Contracts will help create more private sector jobs, rebuild New York’s infrastructure, and maximize economic activity to the mutual benefit of the Contractor and its New York State business partners. New York State businesses will promote the Contractor’s optimal performance under the Contract, thereby fully benefiting the public sector programs that are supported by associated procurements.

Public procurements can drive and improve the State’s economic engine through promotion of the use of New York businesses by its Contractors. The State therefore expects Bidders to provide maximum assistance to New York businesses in their use of the Contract. The potential participation by all kinds of New York businesses will deliver great value to the State and its taxpayers.

Bidders can demonstrate their commitment to the use of New York State businesses by responding to the question below:

**Will New York State Businesses be used in the performance of this Contract? \_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No If yes, identify New York State Business (es) that will be used; (Attach identifying information).**