

October 7, 2022

Galveston ISDP.O. Box 660
Galveston, TX 77553
Attention: Erich KreiterRe: Proposal for Final Geotechnical Exploration
New Ball High School & Natatorium
4115 Avenue O
Galveston, Texas
ALPHA Proposal No. 93744

ALPHA TESTING, LLC (hereinafter "ALPHA") is pleased to submit to **Galveston ISD (hereinafter "Client")** the following proposal for a Final Geotechnical Exploration on the project referenced above. The purpose of the geotechnical study will be to provide information for use in design of typical foundations and pavement for the proposed project. We understand ALPHA has been selected to provide professional services for this project based solely on our qualifications, and that the Client is currently negotiating work scope and fee only with ALPHA at this time.

Project Information

We understand the project consists of a new high school and natatorium building, with associated paved parking and drives. The high school building will be 3 to 4 stories. We understand maximum foundation loads could be 610 kips for slab-on-grade construction and 710 kips for a suspended first floor construction. We also understand the existing site will be built-up about 8 ft above existing grade.

The site is generally bounded by 43rd Street, Ursuline Street, 41st Street, and Bernardo De Galvez Avenue (nominal 20 acres). The location of the proposed structures on the site has not been finalized. From our review of site images available on GoogleEarth™, most of the site currently contains existing buildings, parking lots, and roads. The borings for the final geotechnical report will be drilled after the buildings have been removed.

Scope of Work

This study will include the following evaluations:

Subsurface soil and depth-to-water level observations at the planned boring locations to depths that would typically be significantly affected by foundations.

Engineering characterization of the subsurface materials observed.

Typical foundation types suitable for support of the proposed project.

Data required for design of typical foundation systems for the project.

Retaining wall recommendations, including lateral earth pressures, backfill requirements, and drainage requirements.

Concrete pavement sections for the planned parking and drives.

Recommendations regarding earthwork, including grading and excavation, backfilling and compaction, treatment of in-place soils for the support of foundations, and anticipated construction problems due to observed subsurface conditions (based on our experience with similar soils under similar conditions).

We have been asked to generally provide test borings on a nominal 200 ft grid over the entire site. Based on this, we propose to explore the subsurface soil conditions at the project site by drilling a total of 28 test borings. Twelve of the 28 borings will be drilled for a Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation (see ALPHA Proposal No. 93438 dated October 7, 2022). Sixteen borings will be drilled at a later date (after the preliminary borings) for the Final Geotechnical Investigation.

For the final geotechnical study, we propose to drill seven (7) borings to a depth of 100 ft and nine (9) borings to a depth of 60 ft to supplement the preliminary borings. We anticipate that more specific project information will be available by the time the site is ready for the final investigation, including building sizes and locations. It may be necessary to revise the number and/or depth of the test borings for the final investigation at that time.



At the completion of drilling operations, boreholes will be backfilled and plugged with soil cuttings. Settlement of boreholes may occur over time. ALPHA shall not be responsible for any settlement of boreholes that may occur after initial backfilling. The number and depth of the test borings required to obtain the necessary field data may vary depending on the actual soil conditions observed. If unusual subsurface conditions are encountered and alternate field work is indicated, we will consult with the Client prior to initiating any additional services. Please note, regardless of the number of borings performed subsurface conditions between borings may vary.

The study may also include laboratory tests to evaluate the moisture condition, classification, shear strength, and/or potential for shrink/swell behavior of select soil samples. The specific types and quantities of tests will be determined based on soil conditions observed in the borings performed for this study. Our laboratories are fully equipped with modern equipment for soil and rock testing and tests are performed by trained, qualified technicians in compliance with the applicable specifications. Field exploration programs are conducted with drilling equipment operated by experienced and reliable drillers. The field and laboratory staff are supervised by Professional Engineers.

Results of the field exploration and laboratory tests will be utilized in the engineering analysis and the formulation of our recommendations. Results of our study, including the substantiating data and our recommendations, will be presented in a written report prepared by a Licensed Professional Engineer.

The final geotechnical report will be based on the 16 borings performed for the final geotechnical study plus the 12 borings for the preliminary geotechnical study (28 borings total). In the event the preliminary study is not performed, it will be necessary to revise the number and/or depth of the borings necessary for the final study.

Fee and Schedule

Our fee for performance of the scope of work presented herein for the project described will be as noted below. We will not exceed this figure without your approval. Boring operations would commence within about 10 working days from your notification to proceed. The complete written report would be sent to you in electronic PDF format within about 15 working days following completion of the boring operations.

Work Scope	Lump Sum Fee	Time to Complete Study
Final Geotechnical Investigation	\$59,000.00	8 Weeks

The above cost estimate is valid for 180 days and are based on Client providing suitable access and entry to test boring locations during normal business hours. Client represents that it has full authority from the current landowner to engage ALPHA to perform this study. The pricing provided above assumes test boring locations can be accessed using standard, truck-mounted drilling equipment. Surveying of boring locations and elevations is not included in the cost estimate. If difficult site conditions are encountered, alternate pricing may be provided using an All-Terrain Drilling Unit or other portable equipment.

Prior to start of drilling, ALPHA will contact Texas One-Call utility clearance (Texas811) to mark and clear utilities at the boring locations. The Client shall provide any known site specific utility information upon acceptance of this proposal. In addition, Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) services will be performed by a third-party contractor to aid in locating below-grade utilities. This service is an increased level of due diligence in conjunction with Texas One-Call clearance; however, it does not guarantee the absence of below-grade utility conflicts. ALPHA is not responsible for damage to any below-grade utilities of which we are not made aware.

Please note: Our field equipment may rut the site during drilling operations. A concerted effort will be made to minimize such problems, however, ALPHA is not responsible for re-grading or repairing rutted areas if they develop.

Due to the ever-changing circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 Virus, situations may arise during the performance of this agreement that affect availability of resources and staff of ALPHA, the Client, other consultants, and public agencies. Therefore, there could be changes in the referenced schedule and/or project costs. ALPHA will exercise reasonable efforts to overcome the challenges presented by current circumstances, but ALPHA will not be liable to Client for any delays, expenses, losses, or damages of any kind arising out of the impact of the COVID-19 Virus.



If this Proposal is acceptable, please have an authorized officer sign in the space provided below in the **Proposal Acceptance Form** and return a signed copy via either email or fax, or the signed original to our office. We will consider receipt of a signed original or copy of this Proposal as our Notice to Proceed. Work cannot be initiated prior to receiving a signed copy of this Proposal. If a copy is e-mailed or faxed, client consents to such copy of a signature, or electronic signature, as serving as an original signature. Unless prior arrangements are agreed to in writing, payment for services described in this Proposal is due within 30 days of invoice date. Payment of the invoice is not contingent on Client's agreement or acceptance of ALPHA's design recommendations or report discussion. If CLIENT objects to any portion of an invoice or report, it shall notify ALPHA in writing within ten (10) days from the date of actual receipt of the invoice of the amount and nature of the dispute, and shall timely pay undisputed portions of the invoice.

By execution of this Proposal, the undersigned Client acknowledges and agrees that the attached "Terms and Conditions" have been provided or made available to Client and Client agrees that such Terms and Conditions shall be applied to the present Proposal and shall be fully binding upon Client. The "Terms and Conditions" are attached to this proposal as "Exhibit A" and are fully incorporated into this Proposal by reference as if set forth herein.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our services. We look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

ALPHA TESTING, LLC

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tony Janish'.

Theodore A. (Tony) Janish, P.E.
Vice President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Roy Saravanathiiban'.

Duraisamy S. (Roy) Saravanathiiban, Ph.D., P.E.
Senior Geotechnical Engineer

Attachments: Proposal Acceptance Form
"Exhibit A" Terms and Conditions



**GEOTECHNICAL
PROPOSAL ACCEPTANCE FORM**

Date: October 7, 2022

ALPHA Proposal No.: 93744

Project Name: New Ball High School & Natatorium

Project Location: 4115 Avenue O, Galveston, Texas

CLIENT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

ATTENTION: _____ **TELEPHONE:** _____

EMAIL: _____ **FAX:** _____

*******REQUIRED INFORMATION***** (Must be completed in order to process)**

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CONTACT: _____

*Check box if
same as above*

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____ **TELEPHONE:** _____

Land Owner's Name: _____

Address: _____

City, St. Zip: _____

Project Legal Description: _____

Project County: _____

The undersigned hereby accepts all the Terms and Conditions set forth in this Proposal and warrants that he/she has full authority to bind the Client.

PROPOSAL ACCEPTED BY: _____

Signature

Title

Date

PRINTED NAME: _____

REPORT DISTRIBUTION

COMPANY

ATTENTION

EMAIL ADDRESS



“EXHIBIT A” Terms and Conditions

Section 1: The Agreement

The Agreement between the parties, which shall describe and govern CLIENT’s engagement of ALPHA TESTING, LLC (“ALPHA”) to provide only the services (“Services”) in connection with the project (“Project”) which are specifically identified and agreed to in the proposal (“Proposal”), consists of the Proposal, these General Terms and Conditions (“Terms”), ALPHA’s fee schedule, and any exhibits or attachments referenced in any of these documents. Together these elements constitute the entire agreement between the parties, superseding any and all prior negotiations, correspondence, or agreements, either written or oral, with respect to the subject matter of this engagement. This Agreement may only be modified by mutual signed, written agreement. In the event of a conflict between these Terms and the Proposal or exhibits, the following order of precedence shall prevail: (i) These Terms, (ii) the Proposal, and (iii) any exhibits or attachments referenced in the foregoing.

Section 2: Standard of Care

The Services shall be performed in a manner consistent with the level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by members of ALPHA’s profession currently practicing under similar conditions and in the same locality as the Project. Interpretations and recommendations by ALPHA will be based solely on information discovered by, or made available to, ALPHA during the course of the engagement. In connection with such information, CLIENT recognizes that subsurface conditions across the site may vary from those observed at test locations, including but not limited to locations where density tests and concrete tests, borings, surveys, or explorations are made, and that site conditions may change over time, and as such, CLIENT shall be solely responsible for determining the locations and scope of testing related to the subsurface exploratory program and assumes all risks related thereto. ALPHA shall not be responsible for the use or interpretation of such information by non-parties to this Agreement nor shall ALPHA be responsible for changed site conditions or for subsurface conditions at locations where testing, borings, surveys, or explorations are not made. If Client provides ALPHA’s report to any third Party, Client shall make such third party aware of this limitation of liability, and shall defend, indemnify, and hold ALPHA harmless from any action against ALPHA by such third party.

ALPHA MAKES NO OTHER REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, REGARDING THE SERVICES, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY OTHER WARRANTIES; INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF GOOD AND WORKMANLIKE PERFORMANCE AND OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Section 3: Site Access and Conditions

CLIENT shall grant to, or obtain for, ALPHA unimpeded access to the Project site for all equipment and personnel necessary for the performance of the Services, and access necessary for ALPHA’s personnel to photograph the Project site. As required to effectuate such access, CLIENT shall notify all owners, lessees, contractors, subcontractors, and other possessors of the Project site that ALPHA must be allowed free access to the site. CLIENT understands that, in the normal course of performing the Services, some damage, including but not limited to injury to vegetation, rutting, and cracking of concrete, may occur as a result of ALPHA’s performance of the Services, and further agrees that ALPHA is not responsible for the correction of any such damage caused by ALPHA unless otherwise specified in the Proposal. **CLIENT is solely responsible for the accuracy of locations for all subterranean structures and utilities, and CLIENT waives any claim against ALPHA, and shall defend (with counsel acceptable to ALPHA), indemnify, and hold ALPHA harmless from any claim or liability for injury, damages, or loss by any party, including costs of defense and attorneys’ fees, arising from damage caused as a result of subterranean structures and utilities not being properly identified or accurately located by CLIENT.** In addition, and without limiting the foregoing, CLIENT shall compensate ALPHA for any consequential damages resulting from any such claim, including without limitation time spent or expenses incurred by ALPHA in defense of any such claim, with such compensation to be based upon ALPHA’s prevailing fee schedule and expense reimbursement policy.

Section 4: CLIENT’s Responsibility and Project Understanding

CLIENT shall provide or otherwise make available to ALPHA all information in its possession or subject to its control regarding existing and proposed conditions at the site. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, plot plans, topographic surveys, hydrographic data, and previous soil data, including borings, field and laboratory tests, written reports, drawings, plans and specifications. CLIENT shall immediately, but in no event later than twenty-four (24) hours after its receipt, transmit to ALPHA any new information concerning site conditions that becomes available, and any change in plans or specifications concerning the Project to the extent such information may affect ALPHA’s performance of the Services. CLIENT shall, upon 24 hours oral or written notice, provide a representative at the job site to supervise and coordinate the Services.

Additional responsibilities of the CLIENT include: review of ALPHA’s work for overall coordination with the work of other consultants, including any architects and engineers; with reasonable promptness, but in no event later than 48 hours, provide all available information regarding requirements for ALPHA’s work; upon request by ALPHA, the CLIENT shall furnish the services of other reasonably required consultants, including surveys, testing laboratory, etc.; prepare and assemble specifications for the General Conditions and Supplementary Conditions and all architectural components of the project, and coordinate assembly of ALPHA’s specification sections into a proper format; notify ALPHA immediately if the Client, any architect, or any engineer becomes aware of any item or condition which in directly, or indirectly, may affect the performance of Alpha’s work and any fault or claimed deficiency with ALPHA’s work, or nonconformance with the Contract Documents and provide ALPHA a reasonable opportunity to cure any such deficiency or nonconformance; confer with ALPHA before issuing interpretations or clarifications of the documents prepared by ALPHA; forward to ALPHA for review and recommendation all construction phase submittals that pertain to ALPHA’s work; and advise ALPHA of the identity and scope of services of other consultants participating in the Project. Client shall be solely responsible for coordinating the services of its consultants with the services of ALPHA.

ALPHA shall not be liable for any incomplete or inaccurate information furnished by CLIENT or damages caused by CLIENT’s failure to strictly adhere to the recommendations of ALPHA contained in any Geotechnical Report, Addendum or other correspondence, and CLIENT shall defend (with counsel acceptable to ALPHA) indemnify and hold ALPHA harmless against any claims, demands or liability, including costs of defense and attorneys’ fees, arising out of, related to, or contributed to by such incomplete or inaccurate information or failure to follow the recommendations of ALPHA. CLIENT waives any claim it might have against ALPHA for damages arising out of its failure to timely provide accurate information or its failure to timely provide new, changed, or additional information, as set forth in the preceding paragraph, and further agrees to indemnify and hold harmless ALPHA from any claim or liability resulting from CLIENT’s failure to timely provide such new, changed, or additional information.



Section 5: Project Change

In the event CLIENT, the Project owner, Architect, Structural/Civil Engineer or other party makes any changes in the initial information provided by the client, including, but not limited to the size and location of the planned improvements, or makes any changes or alterations to any plans and/or specifications provided to ALPHA, CLIENT agrees to defend and hold ALPHA harmless from any liability arising out of such changes, and CLIENT assumes full responsibility for any claims, damages or liabilities arising out of or related to such changes unless CLIENT has given ALPHA prior written notice of such changes and has received from ALPHA written consent for such changes.

Section 6: Confidentiality

All data, forms, software, or any other materials developed by ALPHA pursuant to the performance of Services under this Agreement, or supplied to or obtained by ALPHA from CLIENT, or generated by ALPHA or its subcontractors is confidential (the "Confidential Material") and will be afforded Confidential Treatment by ALPHA, its employees, agents, affiliates, and subcontractors. Proprietary concepts and systems of ALPHA, and ideas developed by ALPHA during the performance of the Services shall remain the sole property of ALPHA ("Alpha Intellectual Property"). Confidential Treatment includes the following: (i) The Confidential Material will be available only to employees of ALPHA; and (ii) Confidential Material will not be disclosed to any third party without the prior authorization of CLIENT. Upon completion of the Services or other termination of this Agreement, any Confidential Material retained by ALPHA not previously provided to third parties pursuant to Client authorization shall be retained by ALPHA for a period of at least 60 days, during which time period, such Confidential Material will be returned to CLIENT upon request by CLIENT. After this time period, ALPHA shall have the right, but not the obligation, to destroy such Confidential Material, thus terminating its confidentiality obligations. If Confidential Material is retained by ALPHA past such time period, the obligations stated in this Section 5 shall survive until the earliest of the following occur: (i) Confidential Material has become available to the general public through no fault of ALPHA; or (ii) Confidential Material is received by ALPHA from others who are in lawful possession of such and who by such disclosure are not breaching any obligation to CLIENT.

Section 7: Sample Disposal

Samples of soil, rock, water, waste or other materials contaminated by hazardous substances, including asbestos, obtained from the Project site are and remain the property of the CLIENT. ALPHA shall retain such samples for no longer than fourteen (14) calendar days after the issuance of any document that includes the data obtained from them, unless other arrangements are mutually agreed upon in writing. It is CLIENT's responsibility to select and arrange for lawful disposal procedures that encompass removing the contaminated samples from ALPHA's custody and transporting them to a suitable disposal site. Accordingly, unless CLIENT indicates otherwise, within the fourteen (14) day period referenced above, CLIENT hereby instructs ALPHA to make arrangements on behalf of CLIENT and at CLIENT's sole cost and expense, for proper transportation and disposal of contaminated samples with appropriate licensed parties. Due to the risks to which ALPHA may be exposed during transportation and disposal of contaminated samples, CLIENT waives any claim against ALPHA, and shall defend, indemnify, and hold ALPHA harmless from any claim or liability for injury or loss, including costs of defense and attorneys' fees, arising out of or related to from ALPHA's service in arranging for proper transportation and disposal of contaminated samples on behalf of CLIENT. There are extra costs involved in this disposal by ALPHA of samples contaminated with highly toxic and/or hazardous substances (i.e. PCBs, Dioxins, Cyanide, Pesticides, etc.). In this case, the CLIENT shall pre-pay all transportation and disposal costs or ALPHA will return the samples to the project site for proper disposal by the Client.

Section 8: Construction Observations

ALPHA shall have no authority, duty or responsibility to reject or terminate the work of any agent or contractor of CLIENT. No action, statements, or communications of ALPHA, or ALPHA's site representative, may be construed as modifying any agreement between CLIENT and others. ALPHA's presence on the Project site in no way guarantees the completion or quality of the performance of the work of any party retained by CLIENT to provide construction related services. Neither the professional activities of ALPHA, nor the presence of ALPHA or its employees, representatives, or subcontractors on the Project Site, shall be construed to impose upon ALPHA any responsibility for methods or quality of work performance, sequencing of construction, or safety conditions at the Project site. In that regard, CLIENT acknowledges that ALPHA shall not be responsible for the means, methods, techniques or sequences of construction as these are the sole responsibility of the contractor. CLIENT further acknowledges that CLIENT or its general contractor is solely responsible for job site safety, and warrants and agrees that such responsibility shall be made evident in the Project owner's agreement with the general contractor. CLIENT shall make ALPHA an additional insured under any general contractor's general liability insurance policy.

Section 9: Ownership of Documents

All reports, boring logs, field data, field notes, laboratory test data, calculations, estimates and other documents prepared by ALPHA in connection with this engagement, shall remain the property of ALPHA. CLIENT agrees that all reports and other material(s) furnished by ALPHA to CLIENT, or to CLIENT's agents, for which CLIENT has not paid will be returned to ALPHA upon demand and will not be used by CLIENT or others for any purpose whatsoever. Unless otherwise required by law, ALPHA will retain all pertinent records relating to the Services performed for a period not exceeding five years following submission of any report, as referred to herein, during which period the records will be made available to CLIENT at a reasonable and mutually convenient time. After such five year period, ALPHA shall have the right, but not the obligation, to, in its sole discretion, destroy any or all of such documents.

Section 10: Termination

This Agreement may be terminated by ALPHA without cause upon ten (10) days' written notice by the terminating party. This Agreement may also be terminated for cause by the non-defaulting party if, after seven (7) days after written notice of a default in the performance of any material provision of this Agreement, the defaulting party fails to cure or correct such default. In the event of termination, ALPHA will be paid for services performed through the effective date of termination, plus reasonable termination expenses, including the cost of completing analysis, records, and reports necessary to document job status at the time of termination.



Section 11: RISK ALLOCATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

The parties acknowledge that a variety of risks potentially affect ALPHA by virtue of entering into an agreement to perform the Services. The parties further acknowledge and agree that there is no disparity in bargaining power between the parties. **IN ORDER FOR CLIENT TO OBTAIN THE BENEFIT OF A LOWER FEE THAN WOULD OTHERWISE BE AVAILABLE, CLIENT AGREES TO LIMIT ALPHA'S LIABILITY TO CLIENT, AND TO ANY AND ALL OTHER THIRD PARTIES, FOR CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF OR IN ANY WAY RELATED TO THE SERVICES PERFORMED OR TO BE PERFORMED BY ALPHA. ACCORDINGLY, THE CLIENT AGREES THAT THE TOTAL AGGREGATE LIABILITY OF ALPHA SHALL NOT EXCEED THE TOTAL FEE FOR THE SERVICES RENDERED ON THE PROJECT, OR \$25,000, WHICHEVER IS LOWER, FOR ANY LIABILITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO NEGLIGENT PROFESSIONAL ACTS OR ERRORS OR OMISSIONS, AND CLIENT AGREES TO INDEMNIFY ALPHA FOR ALL LIABILITIES IN EXCESS OF THE MONETARY LIMITS ESTABLISHED.** Client agrees that in no instance shall ALPHA be responsible, in total or in part, for the errors or omissions of any other professional, contractor, subcontractor or any other third party. Client also agrees that ALPHA shall not be responsible for the means, methods, procedures, performance, quality or safety of the construction contractors or subcontractors, or for their errors or omissions.

Section 12: Discovery of Unanticipated Hazardous Materials

CLIENT represents and warrants that it has made reasonable efforts to discover and has informed ALPHA of known or suspected hazardous materials on or near the Project site. The parties acknowledge that hazardous materials may exist at a site even if there is no reason to believe they are present. ALPHA and CLIENT agree that the discovery of such unanticipated hazardous materials constitutes a changed condition that shall require either a re-negotiation of the scope of ALPHA's Services or termination of this Agreement without cause. CLIENT recognizes that the discovery of hazardous materials may necessitate immediate protective measures to safeguard the public health and safety and shall compensate ALPHA for measures that, in ALPHA's sole professional discretion, are necessary and justified to preserve and protect the health and safety of site personnel and the public. CLIENT also shall compensate ALPHA for any equipment decontamination or other costs incident to the discovery of unanticipated hazardous materials. ALPHA shall notify CLIENT as soon as practicable should unexpected hazardous materials be encountered at the site that pose a threat to human health, safety and the environment. CLIENT agrees that, in the event of the discovery of hazardous materials at the site, it shall report such discovery to the proper authorities as required by Federal, State, and local regulations. CLIENT agrees to make the required report at the recommendation of ALPHA, or, if unable to do so, authorizes ALPHA to make such report. CLIENT shall also inform the Project site owner in the event that hazardous materials are encountered at the site.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, CLIENT waives any claim against ALPHA, and to the maximum extent permitted by law, agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold ALPHA harmless from any claim, liability and/or defense costs for damage, injury or loss arising from or in any way related to the presence of hazardous materials on the project site, including any costs created by delay of the project and any costs associated with possible reduction of the property's value. CLIENT is responsible for ultimate disposal of any samples secured by ALPHA that are found to be contaminated, at CLIENT's sole cost and expense.

Section 13: Ground Water Contamination

CLIENT acknowledges that it is impossible for ALPHA to discover, ascertain or know the exact composition of a site's subsurface, even after conducting a comprehensive exploratory program. As a result, there is a risk that drilling and sampling may result in contamination of certain subsurface areas. Although ALPHA will take reasonable precautions to avoid such an occurrence, CLIENT waives any claim against ALPHA for, and shall defend, indemnify and hold ALPHA harmless from, any claim or liability for injury or loss which may arise as a result of subsurface contamination caused by drilling, sampling, testing or monitoring well installation. CLIENT shall also adequately compensate ALPHA for any time spent and expenses incurred in defense of any such claim.

Section 14: Insurance

No insurance carried by ALPHA shall be deemed to limit in any way the responsibility of any contractor or subcontractor for damages resulting from their services in connection with the Project. CLIENT shall include, or cause to be included, in the Project's construction contract such requirements for insurance coverage and performance bonds to be secured and maintained by the Project contractor as CLIENT deems adequate to insure and indemnify CLIENT and ALPHA against claims for damages, and to insure compliance of work performance and materials with Project requirements.

Section 15: Indemnity

ALPHA AND THE CLIENT SHALL EACH INDEMNIFY AND HOLD THE OTHER HARMLESS FROM AND AGAINST ANY CLAIMS FOR BODILY INJURY OR DAMAGE TO TANGIBLE PROPERTY RESULTING FROM: (A) NEGLIGENT ERROR, OMISSION OR ACT OF THE INDEMNITOR OR THE INDEMNITOR'S OFFICERS, SERVANTS, EMPLOYEES OR SUBCONSULTANTS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WORK HEREUNDER; OR (B) NEGLIGENT FAILURE OF THE INDEMNITOR OR THE INDEMNITOR'S OFFICERS, SERVANTS, EMPLOYEES OR SUBCONSULTANTS TO COMPLY WITH LAWS OR REGULATIONS; OR (C) NEGLIGENT FAILURE OF THE INDEMNITOR TO PERFORM UNDER ANY CONTRACT WITH ANY OTHER PARTY, ITS, OFFICERS, SERVANTS, EMPLOYEES, SUBCONSULTANTS OR CLIENTS. THIS INDEMNITY OBLIGATION SHALL SURVIVE PERFORMANCE OF THE SERVICES HEREUNDER AND SHALL BE LIMITED BY THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS REFERENCED IN SECTION 11, ABOVE.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY HEREIN, ALPHA WILL NOT INDEMNIFY CLIENT FOR ITS OWN NEGLIGENCE.

Section 16: Invoices and Payment Terms

In consideration for the performance of the Services, ALPHA shall be paid an amount and according to terms set forth in the Proposal ("Project Cost"); however, if payment terms are not listed in the Proposal, payment for Services shall be payable within thirty (30) days of ALPHA's invoice date (the "Payment Due Date"). All payments must be paid by the Payment Due Date, and shall not be contingent upon CLIENT's receipt of separate payment, financing or closing on the project property, or other conditions whatsoever. If CLIENT objects to any portion of an invoice, it shall notify ALPHA in



writing within ten (10) days from the date of actual receipt of the invoice of the amount and nature of the dispute, and shall timely pay undisputed portions of the invoice. Past due invoices and any sums improperly withheld by CLIENT shall accrue interest thereon at the rate of one percent (1%) per month, or the maximum rate allowed by law, whichever is lower. CLIENT agrees to pay all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs, incurred by ALPHA should collection proceedings be necessary to collect on Client's overdue account. Unless the Proposal specifies the Project Cost as not-to-exceed or lump sum, CLIENT acknowledges that any cost estimates and schedules provided by ALPHA may be subject to change based upon the actual Site conditions encountered, weather delays and impact and any other requirements of the CLIENT and should be used by CLIENT for planning purposes only. ALPHA will endeavor to perform the Services within the estimates but will notify CLIENT if estimates are likely to be exceeded. In the event of changed site conditions or other conditions requiring additional time, CLIENT agrees to pay the reasonable and necessary increases resulting from such additional time.

Unless otherwise specified in the Proposal, CLIENT will be solely responsible for all applicable federal, state or local duty, import, sales, use, business, occupation, gross receipts or similar tax on the Services, and for any applicable duty, import sales, uses, business, occupation, gross receipts or tax and shipping charges relating to equipment and repair parts furnished in connection with the Services. In the event ALPHA is required to respond to any subpoena or provide testimony (as a fact or expert witness) related to the Services, CLIENT shall pay ALPHA for time and expenses in accordance with ALPHA's then current fee schedule.

Section 17: Non-Solicitation

During ALPHA's performance on the Project and for a period of one (1) year after the Project is completed or otherwise terminated for any reason, CLIENT shall not, directly or indirectly, individually or on behalf of any other person, firm, partnership, corporation, or business entity of any type: (i) solicit, assist or in any way encourage any current employee, contractor or consultant of ALPHA to terminate his or her employment relationship or consulting relationship with or for ALPHA, nor will CLIENT solicit the services of any former employee or consultant of ALPHA whose service has been terminated for less than six (6) months, or (ii) solicit to the detriment of ALPHA and/or for the benefit of any competitor of ALPHA, take away or attempt to take away, in whole or in part, any customer of ALPHA or otherwise interfere with the ALPHA's relationship with any of its customers. CLIENT understands and acknowledges that ALPHA's employees, contractors and consultants are a valuable resource to ALPHA, and often these persons hold confidential and or trade secret information of ALPHA's, including proprietary technology and valuable trade secrets of ALPHA, which are vital to the business of ALPHA and whose value depends upon them not being generally known. CLIENT expressly agrees that, if ALPHA's employees, contractors, and consultants are solicited in contravention of this Non-Solicitation provision, that ALPHA will be irreparably damaged. In such event, ALPHA shall be entitled, without bond, other security, or proof of damages, to appropriate equitable remedies with respect any breach(es) of this Agreement, including injunctive relief, in addition to any other remedies available at law or in equity.

Section 18: Resolution of Disputes

(a) Mediation. All claims, disputes, controversies or matters in question arising out of, or relating to, this Agreement or any breach thereof, including but not limited to disputes arising out of alleged design defects, breaches of contract, errors, omissions, or acts of professional negligence, (collectively "Disputes") shall be submitted to mediation before and as a condition precedent to pursuing any other remedy. Upon written request by either party to this Agreement for mediation of any dispute, CLIENT and ALPHA shall select a neutral mediator by mutual agreement. Such selection shall be made within ten (10) calendar days of the date of receipt by the other party of the written request for mediation. In the event of failure to reach such agreement or in any instance when the selected mediator is unable or unwilling to serve and a replacement mediator cannot be agreed upon by CLIENT and ALPHA within ten (10) calendar days, a mediator shall be chosen as specified in the Construction Industry Mediation Rules of the American Arbitration Association then in effect, or any other appropriate rules upon which the parties may agree.

(b) Arbitration. Any claim dispute or other matter in question arising out of or related to this Agreement subject to, but not resolved by, mediation shall be subject to arbitration, which, unless the parties mutually agree otherwise, shall be administered by the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its Construction Industry Arbitration Rules in effect of the date of this Agreement. A demand for arbitration shall be made in writing, delivered to the other party of this Agreement, and filed with the person or entity administering the arbitration. A demand for arbitration shall be made no earlier than concurrently with the filing of a request for mediation, but in no event, shall it be made after the date when the institution of legal or equitable proceedings based on the claim, dispute or other matter in question would be barred by the applicable statute of limitations. For statute of limitations purposes, receipt of a written demand for arbitration by the person or entity administering the arbitration shall constitute the institution of legal or equitable proceedings based on the claim, dispute or other matter in question. The forgoing agreement to arbitrate, and other agreements to arbitrate with an additional person or entity duly consented to by parties to the Agreement, shall be specifically enforceable in accordance with applicable law in any court having jurisdiction thereof. The award rendered by the arbitrator(s) shall be final, and judgement may be entered upon it in accordance with applicable law in any court having jurisdiction thereof.

(c) Consolidation or Joinder. Either party, as its sole discretion, may consolidate an arbitration conducted under this Agreement with any other arbitration to which it is a party provided that (1) the arbitration agreement governing the other arbitration permits consolidation; (2) the arbitrations to be consolidated substantially involve common questions of law or fact; and (3) the arbitrations employ materially similar procedural rules and methods for selecting arbitrator(s). Either party, at its sole discretion, may include by joinder persons or entities substantially involved in a common question of law or fact whose presence is required if complete relief is to be accorded in arbitration, provided that the party sought to be joined consents in writing to such joinder. Consent to arbitration involving an additional person or entity shall not constitute consent to arbitration of any claim, dispute or other matter in question not described in the written consent. The CLIENT and ALPHA grant to any person or entity made a party to an arbitration conducted under this Section 8.3, whether by joinder or consolidation, the same rights of joinder and consolidation as the Owner and Architect under this Agreement.

The provisions of this Section 18 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

Section 19: Governing Law and Survival

The validity of this Agreement, these terms, their interpretation and performance shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas without regard to its conflict of laws rules or similar principles which would refer to and apply the substantive laws of another jurisdiction, and applicable international conventions and treaties. The parties hereto hereby consent and agree that venue of any arbitration action shall lie exclusively in Dallas County, Texas, and the parties hereby consent to the exclusive jurisdiction of the state courts located in Dallas County, Texas to hear and determine any claims, disputes, or award between the parties arising out of such arbitration, or for any matter found to not arise under the parties' arbitration agreement. The parties hereto expressly submit and consent in advance to such jurisdiction and hereby waive any objection to such jurisdiction. If any of the provisions contained in this agreement are held illegal, invalid, or unenforceable, the enforceability of the remaining provisions will not be impaired.