Good Faith Efforts

What is the Purpose of the Good Faith Efforts?

The Good Faith Efforts are methods employed by all EPA financial assistance agreement recipients to ensure that disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs) have the opportunity to compete for procurements funded by EPA financial assistance funds.

What Are the Good Faith Efforts?

- Ensure DBEs are made aware of contracting opportunities to the fullest extent practicable through outreach and recruitment activities. For Indian Tribal, State and local government recipients, this will include placing DBEs on solicitation lists and soliciting them whenever they are potential sources.

- Make information on forthcoming opportunities available to DBEs and arrange timeframes for contracts and establish delivery schedules, where the requirements permit, in a way that encourages and facilitates participation by DBEs in the competitive process. This includes, whenever possible, posting solicitations for bids or proposals for a minimum of 30 calendar days before the bid or proposal closing date.

- Consider in the contracting process whether firms competing for large contracts could subcontract with DBEs. For Indian Tribal, State and local Government recipients, this will include dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by DBEs in the competitive process.

- Encourage contracting with a consortium of DBEs when a contract is too large for one of these firms to handle individually.

- Use the services and assistance of the SBA and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.

- If the prime contractor awards subcontracts, require the prime contractor to take the steps in paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section.

What are the New Contract Administration Provisions?

When the DBE rule goes into effect, there are a number of new provisions designed to prevent unfair practices that adversely affect DBEs. Those provisions are as follows:

- A recipient must require its prime contractor to pay its subcontractor for satisfactory performance no more than 30 days from the prime contractor’s receipt of payment from the recipient.

- A recipient must be notified in writing by its prime contractor prior to any
termination of a DBE subcontractor for convenience by the prime contractor.

- If a DBE subcontractor fails to complete work under the subcontract for any reason, the recipient must require the prime contractor to employ the Six Good Faith Efforts if soliciting a replacement subcontractor.

- A recipient must require its prime contractor to employ the Six Good Faith Efforts even if the prime contractor has achieved its fair share objectives.

What are the New Forms Associated With the New Contract Administration Provisions?

EPA Form 6100-2 - DBE Program Subcontractor Participation Form. This form gives a DBE subcontractor the opportunity to describe the work the DBE subcontractor received from the prime contractor, how much the DBE subcontractor was paid and any other concerns the DBE subcontractor might have.

EPA Form 6100-3 - DBE Program Subcontractor Performance Form. This form captures an intended subcontractor's description of work to be performed for the prime contractor and the price of the work submitted to the prime.

EPA Form 6100-4 – DBE Program Subcontractor Utilization Form. This form captures the prime's intended use of an identified DBE subcontractor, and the estimated dollar amount of the subcontract.

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