

AGREEMENT NO. ___-___

(Agreement for On-Call Land Use and Planning Consulting Services)

THIS AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is made and entered into this ___ day of _____, 2025, by and between the County of Yolo, a political subdivision of the State of California (“County”), and Aspen Environmental Group, a California Corporation (“Contractor”).

W I T N E S S E T H

WHEREAS, the County is authorized by Government Code Section 23004 to make contracts as necessary for the exercise of its powers; and

WHEREAS, the County is authorized by Government Code Section 31000 to contract with persons specially trained, experienced, expert and competent in environmental land use and planning matters; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to obtain On-Call Land Use and Planning Consulting Services; and

WHEREAS, the County circulated and distributed a request for qualifications (RFQ), an excerpt of which is attached as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor submitted a proposal to provide project management, planning, and extension of staff services, and support for the review and processing of discretionary development applications, an excerpt of which is attached as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, Contractor has represented and warrants to the County that it has the necessary training, experience, expertise and competency to provide the services, goods and materials that are described in this Agreement, at a cost to the County as herein specified; that it will be able to perform the herein described services at minimum cost to the County by virtue of its current and specialized knowledge of relevant data, issues, and conditions; and that it will do so in a manner consistent with and furthering of the Values of Yolo County; and

WHEREAS, Yolo County reserves the right to approve the Contractor’s project manager and any requested personnel and subcontractor changes during the course of each project; and

WHEREAS, Contractor represents and warrants that neither Contractor, nor any of its officers, agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors, volunteers, or five percent owners, is excluded or debarred from participating in or being paid for participation in any Federal or State program; and

WHEREAS, Contractor further represents and warrants that no conditions or events now exist which give rise to Contractor or any of its officers, agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors, volunteers or five percent owners being excluded or debarred from any Federal or State program; and

WHEREAS, Contractor understands that the County is relying upon these representations in entering into this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, the County and the Contractor agree as follows:

I. BASIC SERVICES

A. Contractor shall furnish and perform the following services in accordance with Exhibits A and B, and in a manner satisfactory to the Director of Community Services or his/her written designee (“Director”): as-needed, on-call land use and planning consulting services. These services include the following tasks: consultation on discretionary development projects; services related to land use and planning; processing discretionary development applications; project management; contract staff planning support; and, attendance at public hearings.

B. More specifically, the Contractor shall provide the full range of services with regard to the services described above, with the focus on: (a) demonstrable understanding of planning and zoning laws, and other applicable laws; (b) processing the types of discretionary reviews anticipated in rural and agricultural Yolo County, such as use permits, tentative maps, rezones, and specific plans, including cannabis use permits; (c) and, analyses and review for processing discretionary applications for cannabis projects. Contractor will provide all facilities, equipment, personnel, labor and materials necessary to provide the foregoing services in accordance with this Agreement.

C. The complete contract shall include the following Exhibits attached hereto and incorporated herein:

Exhibit A
Exhibit B

RFQ Excerpt
Proposal Excerpt

In the event of any conflict between any of the provisions of this Agreement (including Exhibits), the provision that requires the highest level of performance from Contractor for the County's benefit shall prevail.

D. The Director may approve modifications of the term, scheduling, billing rates, and allocation of funds between the tasks and subtasks (if any) set forth above, provided that there is no increase in the total compensation as set forth in Paragraph II of this Agreement.

II. COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

A. For the services described in Paragraph I above, and subject to the condition that the services have been completed in a manner satisfactory to the Director or his/her designee, Contractor shall be compensated according to the hourly rates set forth in the Contractor’s proposal, for Contractor and its subconsultants, as included in Exhibit B. Provided, however, that the total amount of compensation to be paid to Contractor for the

services required by this Agreement shall not exceed three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00). In the determination of hourly fees, time allotments shall be calculated to one-tenth of an hour.

B. Contractor shall not be entitled to reimbursement for any expenses except as specifically set forth herein. The compensation set forth above includes reimbursement for all expenses incurred by Contractor in the performance of this Agreement.

III. METHOD OF PAYMENT

A. Not more frequently than monthly, and in a manner that is satisfactory to the Director, the Contractor shall submit an invoice detailing the services provided, the person(s) providing the service, the amount of time spent by each person providing the service calculated to the one-tenth of an hour, the rate per hour charged for each person providing service, and an itemization of the actual expenses for which reimbursement is requested. If requested by the County, Contractor shall provide any further documentation to verify the compensation and reimbursement sought by Contractor.

B. Within fifteen (15) calendar days of the receipt of Contractor's detailed invoice, the Director shall either authorize payment or advise Contractor in writing of any concerns that the Director has with the invoice and any need for further documentation.

C. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the Director's authorization for payment of an invoice, the County Auditor-Controller shall either issue the payment or advise Contractor in writing of any concerns that the County Auditor-Controller has with the request and any need for further documentation.

IV. REPORTS

A. Contractor shall provide such reports as are required elsewhere by this Agreement, and such additional information and reports relating to the services otherwise required by this Agreement as are reasonably requested by the Director, as the times and in the manner specified by this Agreement, or by the Director if not so specified. Any other provision of this Agreement notwithstanding, should Contractor fail to provide any report required by this Agreement in a timely manner and as otherwise set forth in this Agreement, County may withhold any payments otherwise due Contractor pursuant to this Agreement, and any other agreement between Contractor and County, until such report is properly submitted as determined by the Director.

B. County shall provide Contractor with all information pertinent to the services required of Contractor by this Agreement which is requested by Contractor and which is within County's possession. No charge will be made for these materials.

V. OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS AND WORK PRODUCTS

All professional and technical documents and information developed under this Agreement, and all work products, including writings, work sheets, reports, and related data, materials, copyrights and all other rights and interests therein, shall become the property of the County, and Contractor agrees to deliver and assign the foregoing to the County, upon completion of the services hereunder or upon any earlier termination of this Agreement. Contractor assigns the work products, as and when the same shall arise, for the full terms of protection available throughout the world. In addition, basic data prepared or obtained under this Agreement shall be made available to the County without restriction or limitation on their use. Upon request by County, Contractor agrees to compile and produce documents in response to any Public Records Act request or subpoena.

No additional charge will be made for any of the foregoing.

VI. RECORDS; ACCESS, RETENTION

Contractor shall retain and make available for review by the County and its designees all records, documents, and general correspondence relating to this Agreement and the services required hereunder for a period of not less than five (5) years after receipt of final payment or until all pending audits and proceedings are completed, whichever is later. Contractor shall make such records available for inspection and copying by the County and its designees at any reasonable time. At least thirty (30) calendar days prior to any destruction of these records following the four years, Contractor shall notify the Director. Upon such notification, the Director shall either agree to the destruction or authorize the records to be forwarded to the County for further retention.

VII. DISPUTES

Any dispute arising under this Agreement shall be decided by the County Administrative Officer who shall put his or her decision in writing and mail a copy thereof to the address for the notice to Contractor. The decision of the County Administrative Officer shall be final unless, within thirty (30) days from the date such copy is mailed to Contractor, Contractor appeals the decision in writing to the County Board of Supervisors. Any such written appeal shall detail the reasons for the appeal and contain copies of all documentation supporting Contractor's position. In connection with any appeal proceeding under this paragraph, Contractor shall be afforded the opportunity to be heard and offer evidence in support of its appeal to the County Board of Supervisors at a regular Board meeting. Pending a final decision of the dispute, Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of this Agreement and in accordance with the County Administrative Officer's decision. The decision of the County Board of Supervisors on the appeal shall be final for purposes of exhaustion of administrative remedies.

VIII. TERM AND TERMINATION

A. The term of this Agreement shall be from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028, unless sooner terminated as hereinafter provided. The County reserves the right to renew the contract after this initial term, for one (1) additional two-year renewal period by

providing thirty (30) days' written notice prior to the expiration of the remaining term.

B. Should either party fail to substantially perform its obligations in accordance with this Agreement, the other party may notify the defaulting party of such default in writing and provide not less than thirty (30) days to cure the default. Such notice shall describe the default, and shall not be deemed a forfeiture or termination of this Agreement. If such default is not cured within said thirty day period (or such longer period as is specified in the notice or agreed to by the parties), the party that gave notice of default may terminate this Agreement upon not less than fifteen (15) days advance written notice. In the event of such termination based upon Contractor default, the County reserves the right to purchase or obtain the supplies or services elsewhere, and Contractor shall be liable for the difference between the prices set forth herein and the actual cost thereof to the County. The foregoing notwithstanding, neither party waives the right to recover damages against the other for breach of this Agreement.

C. This Agreement is subject to the County, the State of California and the United States appropriating and approving sufficient funds for the activities required of the Contractor pursuant to this Agreement. If the County's adopted budget and/or its receipts from the State of California and the United States do not contain sufficient funds for this Agreement, the County may terminate this Agreement by giving ten (10) days advance written notice thereof to the Contractor, in which event the County shall have no obligation to pay the Contractor any further funds or provide other consideration and the Contractor shall have no obligation to provide any further services pursuant this Agreement. If the County terminates the Agreement pursuant to this subparagraph, the County will pay Contractor in accordance with this Agreement for all services performed to the satisfaction of the Director before such termination and for which funds have appropriated as required by law.

D. This Agreement may be terminated for any reason by either party at any time during its term, by giving 60 days' written notice to the other party.

E. If Contractor, or any of its officers, agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors, volunteers or five percent owners, becomes excluded, debarred or suspended from participation in Federally or State funded programs, the County may terminate this Agreement by giving ten (10) days advance written notice thereof to the Contractor.

F. Upon termination of this Agreement or suspension of work by either County or Contractor, Contractor shall furnish to County all documents and drawings prepared under this Agreement, whether complete or incomplete. In the event of termination for any reason, reproducible copies of all finished or unfinished documents, drawings, maps, models, photographs, and reports prepared by Contractor shall become the sole and exclusive property of Yolo County and Contractor shall be entitled to receive compensation for any work completed on such documents and other materials determined by the Director to be of satisfactory quality and within the terms and conditions of this Agreement. All creative work undertaken by Contractor such as sketches, copy, dummies and all

preparatory work for which Contractor is not compensated by the County shall remain the sole and exclusive property of the Contractor.

G. During and following the term of this Agreement, Contractor shall not use, distribute or otherwise circulate any of the materials developed pursuant to this Agreement and for which Contractor was compensated by the County without the express written permission of the Director.

IX. APPLICABLE LAWS

A. In the performance of the services required by this Agreement, Contractor shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and County statutes, ordinances, regulations, directives and laws. This Agreement is also subject to any additional restrictions or conditions that may be imposed upon the County by the Federal or State government.

B. This Agreement shall be deemed to be executed within the State of California and construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of California. Any action or proceeding arising out of this Agreement shall be filed and resolved in a California State court located in Woodland, California. Contractor waives any removal rights it might have under State or Federal law.

X. NON-DISCRIMINATION IN SERVICES AND BENEFITS

Contractor certifies that any service provided pursuant to this Agreement shall be without discrimination based on color, race, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, sexual preferences, or physical or mental disability in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and County laws and regulations and any administrative directives established by the County Board of Supervisors or the County Administrative Officer. For the purpose of this Agreement, distinctions on the grounds of color, race, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, sexual preferences, or physical or mental disability include but are not limited to the following: denying a participant any service or benefit which is different, or is provided in a different manner or at a different time from that provided to other participants under this Agreement; subjecting a participant to segregation or separate treatment in any way in the enjoyment or any advantage or privilege enjoyed by others receiving any service or benefit; treating a participant differently from others in determining whether the participant has satisfied any admission, enrollment quota, eligibility, membership, or other requirement or condition which individuals must meet in order to be provided any service or benefit; and the assignment of times or places for the provision of services.

XI. CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Contractor shall exercise all of the care and judgment consistent with good practices in the performance of the services required by this Agreement.

B. With the exception that this section shall in no event be construed to require indemnification by Contractor to a greater extent than permitted under the public policy of

the State of California, Contractor shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the County of Yolo and its officers, agents, employees and volunteers from and against any and all claims, damages, demands, losses, defense costs, expenses (including attorneys' fees) and liability of any kind or nature arising out of or resulting from performance of the work, provided that any such claim, damage, demand, loss, cost, expense or liability is caused in whole or in part by any negligent or intentional act or omission of the contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not it is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder.

Responsibility for such defense and indemnity obligations shall survive the termination or completion of this agreement for the full period of time allowed by law. The defense and indemnification obligations of this agreement are undertaken in addition to, and shall not in any way be limited by, the insurance obligations contained in this agreement. In providing any defense under this Paragraph, Contractor shall use counsel reasonably acceptable to the County Counsel.

C. Subcontractor agrees to be bound to the General Contractor/~~or~~ Contractor and the County of Yolo in the same manner and to the same extent as General Contractor/~~or~~ Contractor is bound to the County of Yolo under the Contract Documents. Subcontractor further agrees to include the same requirements and provisions of this agreement, including the indemnity and Insurance requirements, with any Sub-subcontractor to the extent they apply to the scope of the Sub-subcontractor's work. A copy of the County of Yolo Contract Document Indemnity and Insurance provisions will be furnished to the Subcontractor upon request.

XII. PUBLIC LIABILITY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE INSURANCE

A. During the term of this Agreement, Contractor shall at all times maintain, at its expense, the following coverages and requirements. The comprehensive general liability insurance shall include broad form property damage insurance.

1. Minimum Coverages (as applicable). Insurance coverage shall be with limits not less than the following:
 - a. **Comprehensive General Liability** – \$1,000,000/occurrence and \$2,000,000/aggregate
 - b. **Automobile Liability** – \$1,000,000/occurrence (general) and \$500,000/occurrence (property) (include coverage for Hired and Non-owned vehicles)
 - c. **Professional Liability/Malpractice/Errors and Omissions** – \$1,000,000/occurrence and \$2,000,000/aggregate (If any engineer, architect, attorney, accountant, medical professional, psychologist, or other licensed professional performs work under a contract, the contractor must provide this insurance. If not, then this requirement automatically does not apply.)
 - d. **Workers' Compensation** – Statutory Limits/Employers'

Liability - \$1,000,000/accident for bodily injury or disease (If no employees, this requirement automatically does not apply.)

2. The County, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers shall be named as additional insured on all but the workers' compensation and professional liability coverages. It shall be a requirement under this agreement that any available insurance proceeds broader than or in excess of the specified minimum Insurance coverage requirements and/or limits shall be available to the Additional Insured. Furthermore, the requirements for coverage and limits shall be (1) the minimum coverage and limits specified in this Agreement; or (2) the broader coverage and maximum limits of coverage of any Insurance policy or proceeds available to the named Insured; whichever is greater.

a. The Additional Insured coverage under the Contractor's policy shall be "primary and non-contributory" and will not seek contribution from the County's insurance or self insurance and shall be at least as broad as CG 20 01 04 13.

b. The limits of Insurance required in this agreement may be satisfied by a combination of primary and umbrella or excess Insurance. Any umbrella or excess Insurance shall contain or be endorsed to contain a provision that such coverage shall also apply on a primary and non contributory basis for the benefit of the County of Yolo (if agreed to in a written contract or agreement) before the County's own Insurance or self insurance shall be called upon to protect it as a named insured.

3. Said policies shall remain in force through the life of this Agreement and, with the exception of professional liability coverage, shall be payable on a "per occurrence" basis unless the County Risk Manager specifically consents in writing to a "claims made" basis. For all "claims made" coverage, in the event that the Contractor changes insurance carriers Contractor shall purchase "tail" coverage covering the term of this Agreement and not less than three years thereafter. Proof of such "tail" coverage shall be required at any time that the Contractor changes to a new carrier prior to receipt of any payments due.

4. The Contractor shall declare all aggregate limits on the coverage before commencing performance of this Agreement, and the County's Risk Manager reserves the right to require higher aggregate limits to ensure that the coverage limits required for this Agreement as set forth above are available throughout the performance of this Agreement.

5. Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and are subject to the approval of the County Risk Manager. All self-insured retentions (SIR) must be disclosed to Risk Management for approval and shall not reduce the limits of liability. Policies containing any SIR provision shall provide or be

endorsed to provide that the SIR may be satisfied either by the named Insured or Yolo County.

6. Each insurance policy shall be endorsed to state that coverage shall not be suspended, voided, canceled by either party, reduced in coverage or in limits except after thirty (30) days' prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, has been given to the Director (ten (10) days for delinquent insurance premium payments).

7. Insurance is to be placed with insurers with a current A.M. Best's rating of no less than A:VII, unless otherwise approved by the County Risk Manager.

8. The policies shall cover all activities of Contractor, its officers, employees, agents and volunteers arising out of or in connection with this Agreement.

9. For any claims relating to this Agreement, the Contractor's insurance coverage shall be primary, including as respects the County, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers. Any insurance maintained by the County shall apply in excess of, and not contribute with, insurance provided by Contractor's liability insurance policy.

10. The Contractor shall waive all rights of subrogation against the County, its officers, employees, agents and volunteers.

B. Prior to commencing services pursuant to this Agreement, Contractor shall furnish the County with original endorsements reflecting coverage required by this Agreement. The endorsements are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. All endorsements are to be received by, and are subject to the approval of, the County Risk Manager before work commences. Upon County's request, Contractor shall provide complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements reflecting the coverage required by these specifications.

C. During the term of this Agreement, Contractor shall furnish the County with original endorsements reflecting renewals, changes in insurance companies and any other documents reflecting the maintenance of the required coverage throughout the entire term of this Agreement. The endorsements are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. Upon County's request, Contractor shall provide complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements reflecting the coverage required by these specifications. Yolo County reserves the right to obtain a full certified copy of any Insurance policy and endorsements. Failure to exercise this right shall not constitute a waiver of right to exercise later.

D. Contractor agrees to include with all subcontractors in their subcontract the same requirements and provisions of this Agreement including the indemnity and insurance requirements to the extent they apply to the scope of the subcontractor's work.

Subcontractors hired by Contractor must agree to be bound to Contractor and the County of Yolo in the same manner and to the same extent as Contractor is bound to the County of Yolo under the Agreement. All subcontractors must further agree to include these same provisions with any sub-subcontractor. Contractor shall require all Subcontractors to provide a valid certificate of insurance and the required endorsements included in the agreement prior to commencement of any work and Contractor will provide proof of compliance to the County of Yolo.

E. Contractor shall maintain insurance as required by this Agreement to the fullest amount allowed by law and shall maintain insurance for a minimum of five years following the expiration of this Agreement. In the event contractor fails to obtain or maintain completed operations coverage as required by this Agreement, the County at its sole discretion may purchase the coverage required and the cost will be paid by Contractor.

XIII. WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Contractor shall provide workers' compensation coverage as required by State law, and prior to commencing services pursuant to this Agreement shall file the following statement with the County in a form substantially as set forth below.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION CERTIFICATE

I am aware of the provisions of Section 3700 of the Labor Code that require every employer to be insured against liability for workers' compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of that Code, and I will comply with such provisions before commencing any services required by this Agreement.

The person executing this certificate on behalf of Contractor affirmatively represents that she/he has the requisite legal authority to do so on behalf of Contractor, both the person executing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor and Contractor understand that the County is relying on this representation in entering into this Agreement.

XIV. NOTICE

A. All notices shall be deemed to have been given when made in writing and delivered or mailed to the respective representatives of County and Contractor at their respective addresses as follows:

Contractor:	Attn: Neda R. Delmont, COO Aspen Environmental Group Corporate Headquarters 5020 Chesebro Road, Suite 200 Agoura Hills, CA 91301 nrastegar@aspeneg.com
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County: Stephanie Cormier, Chief Assistant Director
Yolo County Department of Community Services
292 W. Beamer Street
Woodland, CA 95695
Attn: Jeff Anderson, Principal Planner
jeff.anderson@yolocounty.gov

B. Any party may change the address to which such communications are to be given by providing the other parties with written notice of such change at least fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the effective date of the change.

C. All notices shall be effective upon receipt and shall be deemed received through delivery if personally served or served using facsimile machines, or on the fifth (5th) day following deposit in the mail if sent by first class mail.

XV. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A. Contractor shall comply with the laws and regulations of the State of California and County regarding conflicts of interest, including, but not limited to, Article 4 of Chapter 1, Division 4, Title 1 of the California Government Code, commencing with Section 1090, and Chapter 7 of Title 9 of said Code, commencing with Section 87100 including regulations promulgated by the California Fair Political Practices Commission.

B. Contractor covenants that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of Contractor's obligations and responsibilities hereunder. Contractor further covenants that in the performance of this Agreement, no person having any such interest shall be employed. This covenant shall remain in force until Contractor completes performance of the services required of it under this Agreement.

C. Contractor agrees that if any fact comes to its attention that raises any question as to the applicability of any conflict of interest law or regulation, Contractor will immediately inform the County and provide all information needed for resolution of the question.

XVI. COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES

Contractor warrants that it has not employed or retained any company or person, other than a bona fide employee working for Contractor, to solicit or secure this Agreement, and that it has not paid or agreed to pay any company or person, other than a bona fide employee, any fee, commission, percentage, brokerage fee, gift, or any other consideration, contingent upon or resulting from the award or making this agreement. For breach or violation of this warranty, the County shall have the right to annul this agreement without liability, or in its discretion to deduct from the agreement

price or consideration, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such fee, commission, percentage, brokerage fee, gift or contingent fee.

XVII. AUDITS

A. Contractor shall be subject to examination and audit by the State or the County, or both, throughout the term of this Agreement and thereafter for a period of three years from the date that final payment is made pursuant to this Agreement. This does not preclude access to records by County, State, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives, as otherwise provided by this Agreement, the State contract, or State or Federal laws and regulations. Contractor agrees that County and/or State has the right to review, obtain, and copy all records pertaining to the performance of this Agreement, and agrees to provide County and/or State with any and all relevant information requested.

B. Any and all books, records, and facilities maintained by Contractor related to services provided under this Agreement may be audited, inspected and copied at any time during normal business hours. Unannounced visits may be made at the discretion of the County or State. Employees who might reasonably have information related to such records may be interviewed. All expenditures of State and federal funds furnished to Contractor pursuant to this Agreement are subject to audit by County, State and/or Federal representatives. Such audits shall consider and build upon external independent audits performed pursuant to audit requirements of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 as described in Paragraph C below.

C. Should Contractor expend \$500,000 or more in Federal funds during any fiscal year, Contractor shall furnish County a certified copy of an Audit Report from an independent CPA firm covering the Contractor's preceding fiscal year of January 1 through December 31. This Audit shall be performed in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 and conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards as described in Government Auditing Standards (1994 Revision), and provided in a form satisfactory to the Director.

D. Contractor shall provide this Audit Report no later than July 31 of each year. In the event that this Agreement expires or is terminated on a date other than December 31, Contractor shall provide County such an Audit Report covering the preceding period of January 1 through the date of expiration or termination no later than July 31 after the date of expiration or termination. Contractor shall ensure that audit work papers supporting the report are retained for a period of three (3) years from the date of the audit report, and longer if notified by the State or County to extend the retention period, and are made available to the State and/or County upon request.

E. Should an Audit Report or any State or County audit determine that Contractor has misspent funds and been overpaid based on the requirements of this Agreement and applicable laws and regulations, County shall demand repayment from Contractor in the

amount of such audit findings and withhold any payment otherwise due under this Agreement until Contractor repays such amount. Contractor shall repay County such amount within sixty (60) days of the date of the County's demand for repayment. Should Contractor fail to repay County within sixty (60) days of the date of County's demand for repayment, the County may offset the amount due from Contractor against any amounts that would otherwise be due from the County to Contractor pursuant to this Agreement or any other agreement or source.

F. Any failure or refusal by Contractor to permit access to any facilities, books, records or other information required to be provided to the State &/or the County by this Agreement &/or the State contract shall constitute an express and immediate breach of this Agreement.

XVIII. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTS

The services and obligations required of Contractor under this Agreement are not assignable in whole or in part. In addition, Contractor shall not subcontract any portion of the services required of Contractor by this Agreement without the express written consent of the Director. If any portion of the services required of Contractor are subcontracted, the subcontractor(s) shall maintain the same insurance as required of Contractor by this Agreement and Contractor shall be fully responsible to the County for all work undertaken by subcontractors.

XIX. STATUS OF CONTRACTOR

A. It is understood and agreed by all the parties hereto that Contractor is an independent contractor and that no relationship of employer-employee exists between the County and Contractor. Neither Contractor nor Contractor's assigned personnel shall be entitled to any benefits payable to employees of the County. Contractor hereby indemnifies and holds the County harmless from any and all claims that may be made against the County based upon any contention by any third party that an employer-employee relationship exists by reason of this Agreement or any services provided pursuant to this Agreement.

B. It is further understood and agreed by all the parties hereto that neither Contractor nor Contractor's assigned personnel shall have any right to act on behalf of the County in any capacity whatsoever as an agent or to bind the County to any obligation whatsoever.

C. It is further understood and agreed by all the parties hereto that Contractor must issue any and all forms required by Federal and State laws for income and employment tax purposes, including W-2 and 941 forms, for all of Contractor's assigned personnel.

XX. AMENDMENT

This Agreement may be amended only by written instrument signed by the County and Contractor.

XXI. WAIVER

The waiver by the County or any of its officers, agents or employees or the failure of the County or its officers, agents or employees to take action with respect to any right conferred by, or any breach of any obligation or responsibility of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver of such obligation or responsibility, or subsequent breach of same, or of any terms, covenants or conditions of this Agreement.

XXII. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

The person executing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor affirmatively represents that she/he has the requisite legal authority to enter into this Agreement on behalf of Contractor and to bind Contractor to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Both the person executing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor and Contractor understand that the County is relying on this representation in entering into this Agreement.

XXIII. PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

Upon its execution, this Agreement (including all exhibits and attachments) shall be subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act.

XXIV. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

A. Where there is a doubt as to whether a provision of this document is a covenant or a condition, the provision shall carry the legal effect of both. Should the County choose to excuse any given failure of Contractor to meet any given condition, covenant or obligation (whether precedent or subsequent), that decision will not be, or have the legal effect of, a waiver of the legal effect in subsequent circumstances of either that condition, covenant or obligation or any other found in this document. All conditions, covenants and obligations continue to apply no matter how often County may choose to excuse a failure to perform them.

B. Except where specifically stated otherwise in this document, the promises in this document benefit the County and Contractor only. They are not intended to, nor shall they be interpreted or applied to, give any enforcement rights to any other persons (including corporate) which might be affected by the performance or non-performance of this Agreement, nor do the parties hereto intend to convey to anyone any “legitimate claim of entitlement” with the meaning and rights that phrase has been given by case law.

XXV. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the County and Contractor and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations, or agreements, whether written or oral. In the event of a dispute between the parties as to the language of this Agreement or the construction or meaning of any term hereof, this Agreement shall be deemed to have been drafted by the parties

in equal parts so that no presumptions or inferences concerning its terms or interpretation may be construed against any party to this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first set forth above.

CONTRACT

DocuSigned by:
Neda R. Delmont
By: _____
F216D3A890BF49D...
Aspen Environmental Group

COUNTY OF YOLO

By: _____
Mary Vixie Sandy, Chair
Board of Supervisors

Attest:
Julie Dachtler, Senior Deputy Clerk
Board of Supervisors

By _____
Deputy (Seal)

Approved as to Form:

E. May

Eric May, Senior Deputy County Counsel

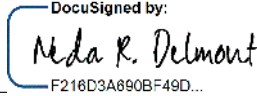
[NOTE: the forms that follow are provided to assist you, but they are not part of the contract]

WORKERS' COMPENSATION CERTIFICATE

I am aware of the provisions of Section 3700 of the Labor Code that require every employer to be insured against liability for workers' compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of that code, and I will comply with such provisions before commencing any services required by this Agreement.

The person executing this certificate on behalf of Contractor affirmatively represents that she has the requisite legal authority to do so on behalf of Contractor, both the person executing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor and Contractor understand that the County is relying on this representation in entering into this Agreement.

CONTRACTOR

By:  _____

Neda R. Delmont, COO

[NOTE: the forms that follow are provided to assist you, but they are not part of the contract]

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION FROM WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that in the performance of the work for which this Agreement is entered into, and for the duration of this Agreement, I shall not employ any person so as to become subject to the Workers' Compensation Laws of the State of California and that, should I intend to so employ any person at any time during the term of this Agreement, I shall promptly so notify the County of Yolo and provide proof of Workers' Compensation/Employers' liability insurance in an amount of not less than \$1,000,000 for per accident for bodily injury or disease before employing any such person.

Executed this ___ day of _____, 2025, at _____, California.

CONTRACTOR

By _____

Print Name/Title

EXHIBIT A**I. INTRODUCTION****A. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The County of Yolo is requesting proposals from qualified consultants and/or firms to:

- (1) provide As-Needed, On-Call, CEQA Consulting Services for the County of Yolo, Community Services Department, per scope of work, as outlined in this RFQ;

or

- (2) provide As-Needed, On-Call, Land Use and Planning Consulting Services for the County of Yolo, Community Services Department, per scope of work, as outlined in this RFQ.

A Proposer may submit a response for either (1) or (2), or a joint proposal for both.

Proposers who submit a response to this RFQ must have the ability to meet the requirements for providing the consulting services they are submitting a proposal for, including complying with all the terms and conditions contained in this RFQ.

B. SYNONYMOUS TERMS

As used throughout this proposal and its attachments, the following terms are synonymous:

- a. a. Supplier, Vendor, Contractor, Firm, Consultant
 - b. Purchase Order, Contract, Agreement
 - c. Services, Work, Scope, and Project
 - d. Bidder, Offeror, Proposer
 - e. Beacon, Beacon Bid
2. "The County" refers to the County of Yolo, California.

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EXHIBIT A**C. SCOPE OF WORK****1. PART 1 – FOR CEQA CONSULTANTS****a. General Description:**

The County of Yolo is seeking to obtain consultants to provide the following services on an as-needed, on-call basis for Environmental Planning and Development Services.

Selected consultants and/or firms will be issued an “as-needed” contract for a period of three years. As development projects arise within the County, consultants and/or firms will be contacted to quote specific tasks. There is no guarantee of any specific work being awarded.

b. Technical Specifications:

Consultant/Firm shall perform project tasks which tasks shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- i. Consultation on development projects, including meetings with County staff and Applicants;
- ii. Various environmental services related to CEQA/NEPA compliance, environmental assessments, including Initial Studies and supporting documents that meet all of the requirements set forth in the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Section 15000 et seq.), and preparation and/or review of technical studies;
- iii. Addressing environmental issues that result in a complete and legally adequate document in compliance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines and other applicable laws;
- iv. Completing environmental studies for discretionary development applications such as Use Permits, Tentative Maps, Rezones, and Specific Plans, including cannabis Use Permits;
- v. Experience with CEQA analyses and review required for cannabis projects;
- vi. Project management; and
- vii. Attendance at public hearings.

c. Minimum Requirements:

The selected Proposer (i.e., Contractor) shall meet the following requirements:

- i. Vendor shall have a minimum of five (5) years’ experience performing the CEQA consulting services required in this RFQ, including environmental reviews prepared for the types of development applications anticipated in rural and agricultural Yolo County, including licensed cannabis uses.

[REST OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

EXHIBIT A**2. PART 2 – FOR LAND USE AND PLANNING CONSULTANTS****a. General Description:**

The County of Yolo is seeking to obtain consultants to provide the following services on an as-needed, on-call basis for Land Use, Planning and Development Services.

Selected consultants and/or firms will be issued an “as-needed” contract for a period of three years. As development projects arise within the County, consultants and/or firms will be contacted to quote specific tasks. There is no guarantee of any specific work being awarded.

b. Technical Specifications:

Consultant/Firm shall perform project tasks which tasks shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- i. Consultation on discretionary development projects, including meetings with County staff and Applicants;
- ii. Various services related to land use and Planning, including a demonstrable understanding of Planning and Zoning Laws, and other applicable laws;
- iii. Processing discretionary development applications such as Use Permits, Tentative Maps, Rezones, and Specific Plans, including cannabis Use Permits;
- iv. Planning-level project management services;
- v. Contract staff Planning support; and
- vi. Attendance at public hearings.

c. Minimum Requirements:

The selected Proposer (i.e., Contractor) shall meet the following requirements:

- i. Vendor shall have a minimum of five (5) years’ experience performing the Land Use and Planning services required in this RFQ, including processing the types of development applications anticipated in both rural and agricultural communities throughout Yolo County. This will include licensed cannabis uses.

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EXHIBIT A

3. DELIVERABLES/ REPORTS

The Contractor(s) shall complete all tasks and reports required above within the County timeframes designated.

4. AWARDED CONTRACTOR(S) REQUIREMENTS

- a. The successful awarded contractor(s) must supply all insurance requirements as required in Attachment 1.
- b. **CONTRACT TERM:** Contractor(s) agrees to provide awarded items and/or services as specified in the RFQ document for a period of three (3) years from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028.

The agreement may be extended by mutual consent for two (2) additional one-year renewal periods. Contract rates shall remain firm for the initial three-year term of the contract. See Price Escalation Terms in Section IV of this RFQ for potential price increases during the renewals.

5. PROPOSAL DEADLINE

Proposals shall be submitted no later than the Proposal Deadline time and date detailed in the Section II, RFQ Schedule of Events. Proposers shall respond to the written RFQ and any exhibits, attachments, or amendments. A Proposer's failure to submit a proposal as required before the deadline shall cause the proposal to be disqualified. Late proposals shall not be accepted nor shall additional time be granted to any potential Proposer.

6. SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

The required method of submitting your proposal is electronically through Beacon Bid's platform (<https://www.beaconbid.com/solicitations/yolo-county/open>).

It is the sole responsibility of the proposer to ensure their proposal reaches Beacon before the closing date and time. If you have any questions regarding the submittal of this proposal, please contact Beacon at 1-888-402-2231 or suppliersupport@beaconbid.com for vendor support.

Bidders/Offerors are cautioned to allow adequate time to ensure timely receipt of their proposals. The County is not responsible for any delays of the Bidder's/Offeror's proposal delivery. Late proposals shall not be accepted, nor shall additional time be granted to any potential Bidder/Offeror.

7. ADDENDA

Any additional information not included in this solicitation which the County finds necessary and material to responding to the RFQ will be posted as an addendum on Beacon. Answers to questions submitted through Beacon shall be considered addenda to the solicitation documents.

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EXHIBIT A**II. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

The following RFQ Schedule of Events represents the County's best estimate of the schedule that shall be followed. Unless otherwise specified, the time of day for the following events shall be between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM., Pacific Time.

The County reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to adjust this schedule as it deems necessary. Notification of any adjustment to the Schedule of Events shall be provided to all vendors through Beacon.

The County is not responsible for failure of the prospective Bidders/Offerors to check for any RFQ document updates, changes, or answers to questions posted on the Beacon website. Failure to periodically check the website will be at the Bidder's/Offeror's sole risk.

	EVENT	DATE	TIME
1	County Issues RFQ	Thursday, January 23, 2025	
2	Deadline for Written Comments from Vendors (Posted in Beacon)	Thursday, February 6, 2025	2:00pm
3	County Issues Responses to Written Comments	Thursday, February 13, 2025	
4	Deadline Proposals Due	Thursday, February 20, 2025	2:00pm
5	County Completes Evaluations (Estimated)	March 2025	
6	Anticipated Contract Start Date based on Board Approval	July 1, 2025	

[REST OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

EXHIBIT A**III. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION****A. RFQ COORDINATOR**

The following RFQ Coordinator shall be the main point of contact for this RFQ:

RFQ Coordinator: Hiren Desai

Phone: (859) 420-6760

hiren@bluebloodconsulting.com

B. COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING THE RFQ

Upon release of this RFQ, all vendor communications concerning this procurement must be directed to the RFQ Coordinator named above, unless otherwise specified in this RFQ. Unauthorized contact regarding the RFQ with other County employees of the procuring county agency may result in disqualification.

Questions concerning this proposal, including specifications, requirements, terms and/or conditions of a solicitation, etc. should be submitted solely in writing online at: <https://www.beaconbid.com/solicitations/yolo-county/open> in the questions and answers section of the solicitation no later than the date and time noted above in the Section II. Schedule of Events Chart, Deadline for Written Comments Posted or per any changes to Schedule of Events as posted to Beacon.

The County is not responsible for failure of the prospective Bidders/Offerors to check for any solicitation document updates, changes, or answers to questions posted at the Beacon website. Failure to periodically check the website will be at the Bidder's/Offeror's sole risk.

Any oral communications shall be considered unofficial and nonbinding on the County.

Any irregularities or lack of clarity in the RFQ should be brought to the attention of the County for correction or clarification.

C. PROPOSAL PREPARATION COSTS

The County shall not pay any costs associated with the preparation, submittal, or presentation of any proposal.

D. PROPOSAL WITHDRAWAL

To withdraw a proposal, the Vendor must submit a written request, signed by an authorized representative, to the RFQ Coordinator. After withdrawing a previously submitted proposal, the vendor may submit another proposal at any time up to the deadline for submitting proposals.

E. PROPOSAL AMENDMENT

The County shall not accept any amendments, revisions, or alterations to proposals after the deadline for proposal submittal unless the County formally requests such in writing.

F. PROPOSAL ERRORS

Proposers are liable for all errors or omissions contained in their proposals. Proposers shall not be allowed to alter proposal documents after the deadline for submitting a proposal.

EXHIBIT A

G. PROHIBITION OF PROPOSER TERMS & CONDITIONS

A Proposer may **not** submit the Proposer's own contract terms and conditions in a response to this RFQ. If a proposal contains such terms and conditions, the County, at its sole discretion, may determine the proposal to be a nonresponsive counteroffer, and the proposal may be rejected.

H. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTING

The Contractor may not subcontract, transfer, or assign any portion of the contract without prior, written approval from the County. The County must approve each subcontractor in writing. The substitution of one subcontractor for another may be made only at the discretion of the County and with prior, written approval from the County.

Notwithstanding the use of approved subcontractors, the Proposer, if awarded a contract under this RFQ, shall be the prime contractor and shall be responsible for all work performed.

Contractor shall require each of its subcontractors of any tier to carry the aforementioned coverage, or Contractor may insure subcontractors under its own policy.

I. PROPOSAL OF ADDITIONAL SERVICES

If a Proposer indicates an offer of goods or services in addition to those required by and described in this RFQ, these additional goods or services may be added to the contract before contract signing at the sole discretion of the County.

J. INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION

A proposal shall be disqualified and rejected by the County if the price in the proposal was not arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement as to any matter relating to such prices with any other Proposer, a County employee, or any Competitor.

K. INSURANCE

The successful Contractor will be required to provide and maintain insurance as required and listed in Attachment 1 before commencing work on the contract.

L. LICENSURE

Before a contract pursuant to this RFQ is signed, the Proposer must hold all necessary, applicable business and professional licenses. The County may require any or all Proposers to submit evidence of proper licensure.

M. RFQ AMENDMENT AND CANCELLATION

The County reserves the unilateral right to amend this RFQ in writing at any time. The County also reserves the right to cancel or reissue the RFQ at its sole discretion. If an amendment is issued it shall be provided to all proposers through Beacon. Proposers shall respond to the final written RFQ and any exhibits, attachments, and amendments.

N. RIGHT OF REJECTION

The County reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to reject any and all proposals or to cancel this RFQ in its entirety.

EXHIBIT A

Any proposal received which does not meet the requirements of this RFQ may be considered to be nonresponsive, and the proposal may be rejected. Proposers must comply with all of the terms of this RFQ and all applicable State and County laws and regulations. The County may reject any proposal that does not comply with all of the terms, conditions, and performance requirements of this RFQ.

The County reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to waive variances in proposals provided such action is in the best interest of the County. Where the County waives minor variances in proposals, such waiver does not modify the RFQ requirements or excuse the proposer from full compliance with the RFQ. Notwithstanding any minor variance, the County may hold any Proposer to strict compliance with the RFQ.

O. DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENTS

All proposals become the property of the County, which is a public agency subject to the disclosure requirements of the California Public Records Act (CPRA, California Government Code §6250 and following). The CPRA contains limited exemptions. If you contend that any documents, as defined by the CPRA, are confidential or proprietary material and exempt from CPRA, these documents shall be clearly marked "Exempt from CPRA." Proposer shall defend, indemnify and hold the County harmless against any claim, action or litigation (including but not limited to all judgments, costs, fees, and attorney's fees) that may result from denial of a CPRA request. If Proposer does not respond to a CPRA request or agree to do so within five (5) days, the County may disclose the requested information under the CPRA."

P. PROPOSAL EVALUATION PROCESS

The evaluation process is designed to award the procurement to the Proposer with the best combination of attributes based upon the evaluation criteria.

The County reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to request clarifications of proposals or to conduct discussions for the purpose of clarification with any or all Proposers. If clarifications are made as a result of such discussion, the Proposer shall put such clarifications in writing.

Q. AWARD OF PROPOSAL

Award will be made to the Proposer offering the most advantageous proposal after consideration of all Evaluation Criteria set forth below. This criterion is not listed in any order of preference. The County reserves the right to establish weight factors that will be applied to the criteria depending upon the order of importance. The County shall not be obligated to accept the lowest priced proposal, but will make an award in the best interests of the County after all factors have been evaluated.

EXHIBIT A

Award Evaluation Criteria:

Criteria	Documentation Source (Section V of RFQ)	Maximum Points
Proposal Transmittal Letter	Exhibit A	Pass/Fail
Qualifications and Experience	Exhibit B	35
Responsibility/Demonstrated Competence	Exhibit C	10
References	Exhibit D	15
Reasonableness of Fee Proposal	Exhibit E	30
Other Factors	Exhibit F	10
Evidence of Financial Stability	Exhibit G	Pass/Fail
Responsiveness/Responsibility (in general)	Entire Proposal	Pass/Fail

The County reserves the right to hold interviews/discussions with selected finalists, if it is in the best interest of the County to do so. If the County decides to move forward with interviews, a separate set of criteria points will be created and added to the total.

R. AWARD PROCESS

The County reserves the right to make an award without further discussion of any proposal submitted. Each proposal should be initially submitted on the most favorable terms the proposer can offer. The County reserves the right to negotiate and/or include a best and final offer stage to the process.

Notwithstanding, the county reserves the right to add terms and conditions, deemed to be in the best interest of the county, during final negotiations. Any such terms and conditions shall be within the scope of the RFQ and shall not affect the basis of proposal evaluations and will be incorporated in a purchase order.

The County reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to negotiate with the apparent best evaluated Proposer.

[REST OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

EXHIBIT A**IV. TERMS AND CONDITIONS****A. QUALIFICATIONS/INSPECTION**

Proposals will only be considered from firms normally engaged in providing the types of commodities/services specified herein. The County reserves the right to inspect the Proposer's facilities, equipment, personnel, and organization at any time, or take any other action necessary to determine Proposer's ability to perform. The RFQ Coordinator reserves the right to reject proposals where evidence or evaluation is determined to indicate inability to perform.

B. NON-WAIVER

The County's failure to address errors or omissions in the proposals shall not constitute a waiver of any requirement of this RFQ by the County.

C. FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAWS

The successful proposer must operate in conformity with all applicable, federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, orders, rules, and regulations pertaining to work. It is the responsibility of the awarded proposer to ensure that all permits and/or licenses required for operation are valid and current. Failure to comply with this provision may be cause to cancel any contract awarded, and award will be made to the next lowest, responsive, responsible proposer.

D. GOVERNING LAW

If an award is made, the contract will be made in the County of Yolo and shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Any action relating to the Contract shall be instituted and prosecuted in the courts of Yolo County, California.

E. NON-DISCRIMINATION

There shall be no discrimination as to race, sex, color, creed, age or national origin in the operations conducted under any resulting contract.

F. PUBLIC AGENCY

It is intended that other public agencies (i.e., city, special district, public authority, public agency and other political subdivisions of the State of California) shall have the option to participate in any agreement created as a result of this RFQ with the same terms and conditions specified, including pricing. The County shall incur no financial responsibility in connection with a purchase order from another public agency. The public agency shall accept sole responsibility for placing orders and making payment to the vendor.

G. ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Following the award, the County may dispense with separate bidding for additional purchases of like item(s) from the successful Proposer within a twelve (12) month period from the initial purchase date provided that the Vendor agrees to provide the like item(s) at the same discounted price and under the same terms and conditions as the previous award.

EXHIBIT A**H. EXTENSIONS**

The County reserves the right to extend any contract past the end term date upon mutual agreement and under the same pricing, terms and conditions for continual service and supplies while a new contract is being solicited, evaluated and/or awarded for a period not to exceed six (6) months.

I. PRICE ESCALATION

All prices are firm for the initial three (3) year term of the contract. The Contractor may request to raise prices in accordance with the California Consumer Price (CPI-W, US City Average, All Items; NSA) Index for each of the one-year renewal periods/extensions. The increase in price shall remain firm for the entire renewal term. The County reserves the right to accept or reject the request for a price increase within ten (10) business days of the written request.

J. INVOICES AND PAYMENT TERMS

Invoices are to be mailed to the County department(s) specified on the resulting purchase order, blanket purchase order or contract. All invoices must include the purchase order number, blanket purchase order number, or contract number, product description and reference to back ordered items. Failure to comply may result in delayed payments.

The County will make payment on a Net 30-day basis unless a cash discount of one-half percent (1/2%) or greater, which amounts to \$2.50 or more, is allowed for payment within not less than twenty (20) days. The payment term shall begin on the date the merchandise is inspected, delivered and accepted by the County, or on the date a correct invoice is received in the office specified in the order, whichever is later. Prompt payment discounts shall be considered earned if payment is postmarked or personally delivered within the prescribed term. The beginning date described above shall be considered day zero for the purposes of counting days in the prescribed term.

K. COMPLIANCE

Late, incomplete, incorrect deliveries or excessive backorders will be documented, and performance evaluated when considering contract continuation or extension. Inaccurate or erroneous billing will also be documented and monitored for the purpose of evaluating performance when considering continuation or extension of contract. Failure to meet quoted delivery timeframes, or inaccurate or erroneous invoices (as determined by the Purchasing Department) may be cause for the County to cancel the balance of the awarded purchase order and award will be made to the next lowest proposer. Failure to receive County concurrence for substitutions or alternates will be documented and considered when evaluating continuation or extension of contract.

L. DEFAULT

In case of default by the awarded proposer, the County may procure the goods or services from another source and may recover the loss occasioned thereby from any unpaid balance due the selected proposer, or by any other legal means available to the County. The County may also ban selected proposer up to two years from future solicitations for default.

EXHIBIT A**M. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE**

The County reserves the right, in its best interest as determined by the County, to cancel any contract by giving written notice to the Contractor thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of such cancellation.

N. CANCELLATION FOR UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS

The obligation of the County for payment to a Contractor is limited to the availability of funds appropriated in a current fiscal period, and continuation of the contract into a subsequent fiscal period is subject to appropriation of funds, unless otherwise authorized by law.

O. ASSIGNMENT/TRANSFER/SUBCONTRACTING

Awarded Contractor shall not assign, transfer, or subcontract any portion of the contract without the express written consent of the department. Any award issued pursuant to this RFQ, and the monies, which may become due hereunder, are not assignable without the prior written approval of the County.

P. F.O.B. POINT

All prices quoted shall be F.O.B destination, freight prepaid (proposer pays and bears freight charges, proposer owns goods in transit and files any claims), excluding sales tax. The County is exempt from Federal Excise and Transportation taxes.

Q. PROTESTS

The County encourages Suppliers to resolve issues regarding requirements or the procurement process through written correspondence and discussions. The County is committed to fostering relationships with its Suppliers to encourage an ongoing pursuit to fulfill requirements.

1) Protest Procedures:

All protests shall be typed under the protester's letterhead and submitted in accordance with the provisions stated herein. Protests may be submitted by mail or by electronic mail. Protests submitted by facsimile will not be accepted. All protests must be addressed and submitted to both the RFQ Coordinator of this solicitation and the Manager of Procurement. All protests shall include at a minimum the following information:

- a. The name, address, and telephone number of the Protester;
- b. The signature of the Protester or Protester's representative;
- c. The solicitation title and due date;
- d. Name of County employee designated as the RFQ/IFB Coordinator;
- e. Identification of the statute or procedure that is alleged to have been violated;
- f. A detailed statement identifying the legal and/or factual grounds of the protest and all documentation supporting the vendor's position;
- g. The form of relief requested.

EXHIBIT A

The contact information for the Manager of Procurement is as follows:

Manager of Procurement
Yolo County Department of General Services
120 W Main St., Ste. G
Woodland, CA 95695

Protester's failure to comply with these procedures shall constitute a waiver of any right to further the RFQ Protest and shall constitute a failure to exhaust administrative remedies.

The Manager of Procurement will review the materials in connection with the protest, assess the merits of the protest, and provide a written decision on the protest. The Manager of Procurement's decision is final.

If it is determined the protest is frivolous, the party originating the protest may be determined to be irresponsible and may be ineligible for future contracts.

2) Protest of RFQ Specifications/Requirements/Terms & Conditions:

Companies who are concerned regarding irregularities or lack of clarity in specifications, requirements, terms and/or conditions of a solicitation should be brought to the attention of the County. Notice shall be provided prior to the closing date and time of the designated "question and answer period" of the proposal noted above in the Section II. Schedule of Events Chart, item#3 Deadline for Written Comments Posted on Beacon.

Notice must be clearly marked "**Notice of Protest of Specifications/Requirements/Terms & Conditions.**" No requests for protests of solicitation specifications, requirements, terms and/or conditions shall be considered after the deadline stated above.

Companies who fail to do so forfeit all rights to protest a solicitation or any subsequent award based on the specifications, requirements, terms or conditions of this solicitation. In the event of the protest for specifications, requirements, terms and/or conditions is denied and the protester wishes to continue in the solicitation process they must still submit a bid/proposal prior to the close of the solicitation.

3) Protest of Disqualification:

Initial evaluations will determine if proposals have met the minimal requirements as indicated in this RFQ. Notices will be sent to all companies who have been disqualified for not meeting the minimal requirements. Should a company disagree with the determination, notice of disagreement must be received within five (5) working days of date of notice identifying areas that are in question and how the company met the minimal requirements. Notice must be clearly marked "**Notice of Disagreement.**" Companies who fail to do so forfeit all rights in the protest process. It is at the county's discretion at the department level to make final determinations for all disqualified protests.

EXHIBIT A

4) Protest of Award of Contract:

In protests related to the award of a contract, the protest must be received by e-mail or hard copy no later than 4:00 PM Pacific Time five (5) business days after the notice of the proposed contract. Notice must be clearly marked "**Notice of Protest of Award of Contract.**" A review may be granted if the protest is received within the specified time and the firm/person submitting the protest is a Bidder/Offeror.

Throughout the review process, the County has no obligation to delay or otherwise postpone an award of a contract based on a protest.

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EXHIBIT A**V. INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF PROPOSAL****A. SUBMITTING PROPOSALS**

The required method of submitting your proposal is electronically through Beacon. It is the sole responsibility of the proposer to ensure their proposal reaches Beacon before the closing date and time. If you have any questions regarding the submittal of this proposal, please contact Beacon at 1-888-402-2231 or suppliersupport@beaconbid.com for vendor support.

Late proposals shall not be accepted, nor shall additional time be granted to any potential Proposer.

B. REQUIRED PROPOSAL SUBMITTALS

The submittals requested shall be included with the proposal response. Failure to include required submittals may be cause for rejection of your proposal. The following are required for your proposal to be considered and must be labeled with the following:

IMPORTANT: Tailor your proposal response to the specific category of services you are applying for (i.e., CEQA Consulting or Land Use and Planning Consulting as described in the Scope of Work Section of this RFQ).

If applying for both categories of services in one joint proposal, please clearly label and provide separate and distinct information for each category of services (for example: for references, complete an Exhibit D for each category – one for CEQA and one for Land Use and Planning).

1) Exhibit "A" - Proposal Transmittal Letter

- a. The proposal transmittal letter shall be signed by an official authorized to solicit business and enter into contracts for the Proposer. The cover letter should include the name, address, email address, and phone number of the authorized business contact.
- b. If the Proposer is submitting in conjunction with a subcontractor, information on the subcontractor shall also be included.

2) Exhibit "B" – Qualifications and Experience

In this section, the Proposer shall provide the following:

- a. A description summarizing Proposer/s experience over the past five years in performing similar services to those requested in Section I.C. of this RFQ.
- b. For commitments or projects referenced in the statement of experience and qualifications, list the involvement of the Project Manager and other proposed key personnel, such as Contract Staff.
- c. A statement demonstrating an understanding of the services desired by the County, and the general approach required for providing related services, including:

EXHIBIT A

- i. For CEQA Services: preparation of Initial Studies, Negative/Mitigated Negative Declarations, and Environmental Impact Reports, including a description of all activities associated with the planning, coordination, and reporting during a CEQA review process.
 - ii. For Land Use and Planning Services: a description of all activities associated with the planning, coordination, and reporting during a discretionary application review process.
 - d. A statement identifying the personnel likely to be assigned to projects for Yolo County. Vendor shall identify key staff including Project Managers, Contract Staff Planners, other Key Personnel and their qualifications, including resumes.
 - e. A statement identifying the firm's ability to produce the required product in a timely fashion and the ability to present any necessary reports or studies to elected officials and/or the general public.
 - f. A brief description of the firm's experience and history in meeting tight project deadlines.
 - g. A brief description of the firm's ability to control project budgets.
- 3) Exhibit "C" – Responsibility/Demonstrated Competence
 - a. List instances within the past five (5) years, if any, where Consultant has defaulted on a contract. Provide an explanation of the reason for the default for each instance.
 - b. List instances, if any, when your firm has been suspended or debarred by any government agency. Provide an explanation of the reason for the suspension or debarment for each instance.
 - c. List all claims made in the past five (5) years against your company concerning your company's work on a project that have been filed in court or gone to arbitration.
 - d. Have you ever been terminated from any project due to a contract dispute or claim filed against your company? If yes, please explain.
 - e. Describe the process by which your firm resolves problems with clients.
 - f. Provide a statement of conflict you, your firm, and/or other key staff may have regarding these services. The statement should not only include actual conflicts, but also any working relationships that may be perceived by disinterested parties as a conflict. If no potential conflicts of interest are identified, so state in your proposal.
- 4) Exhibit "D" - References
 - a. Please complete Exhibit D (Previous Customer Reference Form).
 - b. Provide references from three (3) different municipal agencies, including rural and agriculturally dominant areas, served by the consultant during the past five (5) years, for projects similar in size and scope. Include the name, email address and telephone number for a contact person from each reference, and the date range for which the services were rendered for each client contact. The County reserves the right to contact any references listed, if it is in the County's best interest to do so.
 - c. Preference will be given for references with California state or local government agencies.
 - d. References cannot be from any individuals on behalf of Yolo County itself.

EXHIBIT A5) Exhibit "E" – Fee Proposal

Proposer shall provide a list of rates which shall be inclusive of all costs associated with work likely to be assigned the firm related to tasks stated in this RFQ, including but not limited to personnel, administrative overhead, printing costs, attendance at meetings, travel, etc.

6) Exhibit "F"- Other Factors

In order to properly assess vendor availability, each firm shall provide a list of current commitments for the relevant category of services you are applying for (i.e., CEQA or Land Use and Planning), which are currently being handled by vendor's firm, including how many of the commitments are the responsibility of the Project Manager named in the proposal.

7) Exhibit "G"- Evidence of Financial Stability

a. Proposers must provide the following financial data demonstrating financial stability:

- i. If the Proposer is an audited organization, please provide the last three (3) years of audited financial statements (in US dollars) for your organization and identify which entity audited the statements. If such information is not available in whole or in part, please explain why.
- ii. All Proposers must provide sufficient information to enable the County to determine that the Proposer's financial health and capability are sufficient to meet the anticipated contractual and usage requirements of any resulting agreement. The County is the sole judge for making a determination about Proposer's financial stability and may request additional information, if it is in the best interest of the County to do so.

8) Exhibit "H" - Signature Page

a. Vendor shall complete and sign the County signature page form.

9) Exhibit "I" - Non-Collusion Non-Conflict of Interest Statement

a. Vendor shall complete and sign the County form.

10) Exhibit "J" - Exceptions to Agreement

a. Vendor shall include a statement that the appropriate personnel have reviewed the Sample Agreement in the submitted proposal. Vendor shall complete and sign the Certification of Exception to RFQ Documents form.

C. REQUIRED PROPOSAL FORMAT

1. The Proposer(s) are required to prepare their written proposals in accordance with the instructions outlined below. Deviations from these instructions may be construed as non-responsive and may be cause for disqualification. Emphasis should be placed on accuracy, completeness, and clarity of content.

2. The format and content of the Proposal are as follows:

EXHIBIT A

- a. If provided, **use any forms included in the Exhibits** as well as the requirements listed above. All other submitted pages are to be single-spaced typed pages with one-inch margins.
- b. Identify the Exhibit Category of the proposal, Proposal number and Proposer name on every page submitted.
- c. All pages must be numbered sequentially.

[END OF DOCUMENT: PLEASE SEE ALL RELATED ATTACHMENTS AND EXHIBITS AS NOTED IN THE TABLE OF CONTENTS.]

EXHIBIT B

Statement of Qualifications

**As-Needed On-Call
CEQA and
Land Use/Planning
Consulting Services**

Bid # RFQ-2025-0002

Submitted to:



Yolo County
Department of
Community Services



Prepared by:



February 20, 2025

EXHIBIT B

8801 Folsom Blvd., Suite 173
Sacramento, CA 95826
(916) 235-9390
www.aspeneg.com

EXHIBIT A: Transmittal Letter

February 20, 2025

Mr. Hiren Desai
Yolo County Department of Community Services
292 W. Beamer Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Re: As Needed, Both On-Call California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Consulting Services, and Land Use and Planning Services Statement of Qualifications, Bid #: RFQ-2025-0002

This letter transmits Aspen Environmental Group's Qualifications to provide both On-Call CEQA, and Land Use and Planning Consulting Services to Yolo County, Department of Community Services.

Aspen has an unmatched record of success in executing CEQA/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance, environmental assessments, and jurisdictional permitting work on behalf of federal, State, and municipal clients, particularly under on-call contracts. For example, Aspen has supported the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for more than 28 years and the California Energy Commission (CEC) for more than 26 years in complying with CEQA, NEPA, and other State and federal environmental regulations under on-call contracts.

Aspen is a two-time incumbent contractor for Yolo County, Department of Community Services, Planning Division, On-Call Environmental Services contract (Agreement #21-150 & #5555-2017-2971-Aspen-Contract). In addition, our subcontractor, Helix Environmental Planning (HELIX), is an incumbent contractor for the expiring Yolo County, Department of Community Services, Planning Division On-Call Land Use & Planning Services contract.

We are also currently managing on-call environmental services contracts with the Trinity Public Utilities District (Trinity PUD), Modesto Irrigation District (MID), and Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), to name a few. In total, Aspen has managed more than 50 on-call contracts and has successfully executed thousands of task orders under those contracts. The work under these on-call contracts has been focused almost exclusively on public infrastructure and policy planning projects.

As existing contractors to Yolo County, our Team thoroughly understands Yolo County's needs for both CEQA/NEPA and land use/planning support services. In assembling our Team of staff and subcontractors, we carefully considered every issue that could arise during the entire contract lifecycle and designed a team with a deep bench of proven experts that are located in striking distance to all anticipated projects under this contract. The Aspen Team members were hand-selected based on their expertise with project types for which Yolo County may need support. For example, for this contract we added a new teaming partner, HELIX, which has extensive CEQA and Land Use/Planning experience with local governments, ***including significant experience in processing applications for, and preparing CEQA documents for, cannabis facilities in rural and agriculturally based counties.*** HELIX will take the lead in providing support for cannabis issues as well

EXHIBIT B

as land use and planning services, given their existing relationship with Yolo County as an incumbent contractor. We also included Estep Environmental Consulting (biological resource services), Marty Ecological Consulting, Inc. (biological resource services), PAR Environmental Services, Inc. (cultural resource services), and Risk Science Associates (hazards/hazardous materials services).

Why the Aspen Team?

As demonstrated in this Statement of Qualifications, the Aspen Team is ideally suited for this contract and provides an array of valuable and relevant experience. Most importantly, we offer:

- ◆ **Consultation on Development Projects.** The Aspen Team has extensive experience consulting with Yolo County and other public agencies on development projects. ***We are currently an incumbent contractor for the Yolo County, Department of Community Services, Planning Division, On-Call Environmental Services contract.*** Under this contract, Aspen prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for Bayer Woodland Solar Farm Use Permit; an IS/MND and an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Gibson Solar Farm Use Permit; as well as an IS/Negative Declaration (ND) for Ashely Cell Tower Project Use Permit; and are currently engaged in preparing an IS/MND for the Harlan Ranch Cell Tower project. Under prior contracts with Yolo County, Aspen prepared an IS/MND for the Putah Creek Energy Farm Use Permit; IS/MND for the Taber Ranch Cell Tower Project; IS/MND for the Wilbur-Ellis Consolidation Facility Use Permit; and an EIR for the Bogle Wind Turbine Project Major Use Permit. Examples of consultation with other public agencies is provided in Table B.1-2.
- ◆ **CEQA/NEPA Experience.** Aspen specializes in the preparation of CEQA and NEPA documents, including Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), Environmental Impact Statements (EISs), Initial Studies, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, and Environmental Assessments. The Aspen Team has prepared hundreds of CEQA and NEPA documents for public infrastructure and policy planning projects throughout the State, including joint CEQA/NEPA documents (see Table B.1-3 for a list of projects in the last five years). Our focus is to help Yolo County streamline the type of CEQA and/or NEPA documentation needed for each project to save time and costs. Our CEQA/NEPA project managers have in-depth knowledge of both laws and the associated procedural requirements. In fact, a number of our project managers have developed and taught tailored CEQA/NEPA courses for our clients.
- ◆ **Land Use/Planning Experience.** The Aspen Team has experience providing Land Use and Planning services for a range of clients including Trinity County, Mendocino County, El Dorado County, Nevada County, the CEC, and the City of Orland. Our Team have processed over 300 cannabis applications and other development projects on behalf of county, city, and state agencies.
- ◆ **Exceptional Value.** Aspen provides extremely high quality CEQA documents at a relatively low cost to Yolo County. In 2017, the California Department of Finance estimated the cost of an IS/MND to be between \$65,000 and \$90,000, and the cost of an EIR to be between \$300,000 and \$400,000. Over the course of our two on-call contracts with Yolo County, Aspen has prepared seven IS/MNDs for an average cost of \$43,000 and two EIRs for an average cost of \$92,000. Our costs are far below the 2017 average, despite the high-quality analysis and documentation we provide the County, resulting in exceptional value.
- ◆ **Legally Defensible CEQA Analysis.** Not only has Aspen prepared hundreds of CEQA documents, but they have withstood legal challenge. For example, during our history, only seven such projects were challenged. They are described in Table B.1-5. None of these legal actions have overturned the public agency's approval or required the revision or recirculation of the document.

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- ◆ **Cannabis Experience.** Since 2016, our team member, HELIX, has helped local agencies, cannabis cultivators, processors, delivery services, and dispensaries throughout California bring existing and proposed cannabis operations into compliance with State and local regulations. HELIX provides a wide range of cannabis environmental compliance services, including application package review, staff report preparation, and development of CEQA documentation for a variety of cannabis business types. HELIX is familiar with the environmental issues and public concerns that these types of operations pose in a community. From regulations aimed to protect the public's health and safety to legislation creating a licensing and regulatory framework for cannabis operations, HELIX stays abreast of this rapidly evolving environment, helping local governments and private entities navigate the often-complicated processes.
- ◆ **Strong and Responsive Program Management.** We have honed our program management capabilities over 32 years to be highly efficient and extremely responsive. The proposed Principal-in-Charge (Mr. Tom Murphy) has been responsible for the management of over 2,000 work authorizations (under all contracts); 20,000 individual tasks; and management of over 130 subcontractors across the western United States. To support his efforts, our Program Manager (Ms. Amanda Wild) will be fully responsible for contract oversight, including scope of work, budget, schedule, contractual issues, as well as product quality. They are located less than 25 miles away in Aspen's Sacramento Office and can meet at any time to go over upcoming projects, discuss progress, or address any issues that may come up under the contract. Ms. Wild's dedication to being extremely responsive to each client is based on her focus of listening to the client, anticipating their needs, and then setting up our procedures and Team accordingly.
- ◆ **Battery Experts.** Aspen is **THE** expert in lithium and non-lithium battery energy storage systems (BESS). We have prepared CEQA and hazards analyses on nine non-lithium, long duration BESS projects for the CEC. In addition, we have prepared CEQA analyses on 26 lithium-ion BESS projects. Battery storage is a key strategy for decarbonizing the grid and can help the County achieve its goal of a net negative carbon footprint by 2030, as part of its 2030 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. Based on our experience in other counties, Yolo County may see numerous BESS projects come into the county for CEQA and environmental permitting.
- ◆ **Yolo County Habitat Conservation Plan & Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) Qualified Biologists.** Aspen recognizes the importance of Yolo County HCP/NCCP's role in protecting natural resources and streamlining the permitting process for developments in the County. Aspen's Team includes Jim Estep, who helped develop the Yolo County HCP/NCCP and is the sole biologist approved by the County for ALL survey types under the HCP/NCCP. Our Team also includes several other Qualified Biologists, in addition to biologists who have submitted applications to the County to be Qualified Biologists and are pending approval.
- ◆ **Public Involvement/Board Meetings.** Aspen's Project Managers are experts with public involvement and presenting results of studies and reports to elected officials and/or the general public. For example, Mr. John Carrier, our Senior Project Manager, represented the IS/MND for Putah Creek Energy Farm Use Permit to the Yolo County Planning Commission on January 16, 2020. Ms. Hedy Koczwara, our Project Manager, also represented the EIR for Gibson Solar Farm to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors in a virtual meeting on February 9, 2023.
- ◆ **Other Permitting Experience.** Our Team has significant experience coordinating with regulatory agencies and securing federal, State, and local permits. We have obtained needed regulatory permits for endangered species, jurisdictional waters, cultural resources, water quality, and air quality for projects throughout northern California. Aspen has an excellent working relationship and exceptional credibility with key regulatory agencies, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regulatory

EXHIBIT B

ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
CONSULTING SERVICES, BID #RFQ-2025-0002


Division, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB).

- ◆ **Construction Monitoring and Compliance Experience.** Aspen's Monitoring Team has worked together on monitoring and compliance efforts for nearly 30 years. We have monitored the construction of more than 100 projects (small and large), including campus developments, facilities, pipelines, transmission lines, telecommunications, solar energy projects, wind projects, reservoirs, and dams.

I will represent the Aspen Team during the selection process and any contract negotiations. I am authorized to enter into contracts on behalf of Aspen. Should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for considering our qualifications.

Sincerely,

ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP



Tom Murphy
Executive Vice President
8801 Folsom Blvd. Suite 173
Sacramento, CA 95826
Cell: 916-712-1881
tmurphy@aspeneg.com

EXHIBIT B**EXHIBIT B: Qualifications and Experience****B.1. Aspen Team Experience**

As the two-time incumbent on-call contractor for Yolo County's As-Needed, On-Call CEQA Consulting Services contract (Agreement #21-150 & #5555-2017-2971-Aspen-Contract), Aspen has recent and direct experience in working with Yolo County, Department of Community Services on a variety of CEQA-related projects over the past 10 years. ***See commendation letter from Ms. Stephanie Cormier from Yolo County, Department of Community Services in Appendix 2 of this proposal.***

Aspen will serve as the prime contractor on this contract and take the lead in the On-call CEQA portion of the RFQ. Our subcontractor, HELIX Environmental Planning (HELIX), who is an incumbent on-call contractor for Yolo County's As-Needed, On-Call Land Use and Planning Consulting Services contract will take the lead on the On-Call Land Use and Planning portion of the RFQ and on cannabis task orders.

Having a single contractor covering both parts (CEQA and Land Use/Planning) of the RFQ will add efficiency to the contract, making it easier for Yolo County to work with just one contractor instead of two. However, Aspen seeks to serve the County's needs and is willing to be selected for just Part 1 or Part 2 of the RFQ services.

This section demonstrates the Aspen Team's extensive experience relevant to Yolo County's needs. It provides the qualifications of our key personnel to perform the tasks identified in the RFQ and other assignments that may be authorized under the contract. Our Team is comprised of specialists that are able to provide all On-Call CEQA and Land Use and Planning Consulting Services that Yolo County may need during the contract term.

Aspen has taken care to ensure that Yolo County will have the best technical support available, regardless of whether they are Aspen personnel or staff from other Team member organizations. This approach results in us being able to offer the most highly qualified Team of subject matter experts for Yolo County to call upon. An added benefit of selecting the Aspen Team is that Aspen has worked with our subconsultants on previous contracts. As described in this section, many of the proposed experts are experienced in working in Yolo County. As a result, Team members will be exceptionally responsive in providing outstanding service, high-quality work products, and well-reasoned and defensible judgments and advice to Yolo County.

Aspen's specialty is the management of environmental impact assessment efforts under CEQA, NEPA, and other federal and State environmental statutes. We have consistently met all of our clients' needs in terms of timing, technical requirements, knowledge of relevant regulations, and environmental settings. While completion of CEQA and NEPA review is a major milestone, there remains the necessity to obtain permits from federal, State, and local agencies, as required. Aspen has a wide range of significant experience coordinating with permitting and resource agencies as well as with securing permits and required approvals on the local, State, and federal levels. An understanding of permit requirements and the permitting process is essential to avoiding project delays.

As described in this SOQ, our experienced Team has been formed for the express purpose of meeting all of Yolo County's foreseeable technical, analytical, and advisory needs that may arise during the term of the contract for both the On-Call CEQA portion of the RFQ, and the On-Call Land Use and Planning portion of the RFQ.

EXHIBIT B

Aspen Team Subcontractors

Aspen understands that Yolo County is seeking an on-call contractor to provide a diverse range of **both** environmental and land use services in environmental reviews; environmental permitting; field survey support; cultural resource studies; consultation on discretionary development projects, processing of development applications, and miscellaneous related services. Based on these needs, we have built an outstanding team of experts with direct experience working for Yolo County and the region at large. The Team was designed to provide Yolo County with a deep bench of proven experts that are located within striking distance to all anticipated tasks under this contract.

We evaluated the specific requirements of this RFQ and carefully and strategically expanded our existing incumbent Team to include highly experienced team members (HELIX Environmental Planning) with significant cannabis permitting experience throughout California and in rural/agricultural northern California counties. HELIX is also an incumbent contractor with Yolo County for planning support services. In addition, we added Risk Science Associates, which is a specialty hazards/hazardous materials firm.

Table B.1-1 provides an overview of our Team (in alphabetical order): the company name, their role on the project, firm size, and years of experience. Following the table are brief descriptions of each firm included on the Aspen Team.

“Aspen Environmental Group’s team of consultants has proven to be responsive, efficient, and dependable, providing Yolo County with quality environmental documentation. Aspen displays a wide array of expertise, is easy to work with, and can be called upon in short notice. It is a pleasure to work with the Aspen Team and I would highly recommend Aspen Environmental Group as a full service environmental compliance consultant.”

**Stephanie Cormier, Principal Planner
 County of Yolo
 Department of Community Services
 Planning Division
 November 27, 2019**

Table B.1-1. Information on Aspen and Subcontractor Firms

Company	Project Role	Firm Size	Years of Experience
Aspen Environmental (Aspen)	Prime and lead on CEQA projects	80	34
Estep Environmental Consulting (EEC)	Wildlife Biology, Permitting/HCP	1	34
HELIX Environmental Planning (HELIX)	Land Use & Planning Support (lead), Cannabis Issues, Wildlife Biology, Archaeology, Aesthetics, Wildfire	285	33
Marty Ecological Consulting, Inc. (MEC)	Aquatic Resources, Wildlife Biology, Construction Monitoring	1	29
PAR Environmental Services, Inc. (PAR)	Archaeology, Built Environment, Tribal Cultural Resources	10	37
Risk Science Associates (RSA)	Hazards/Hazardous Materials, Wildfire	1	34

Estep Environmental Consulting (EEC) [Wildlife/Permitting/HCP]. Mr. Jim Estep is an independent contractor with more than 34 years’ experience in resource conservation and wildlife management planning; CEQA and NEPA compliance; biological resource assessments; endangered species surveys, impact assessments, and consultations with State and federal resource agencies; mitigation planning and compliance; wildlife management techniques; and field study design. Mr. Estep has worked on numerous projects in and around the Sacramento County and Yolo County area for more than 34 years. His work has

EXHIBIT BASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICESBOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
CONSULTING SERVICES, BID #RFQ-2025-0002

focused on habitat conservation planning, wind and solar energy projects, and biological surveys and assessments. He has participated in the development of several habitat conservation plans and natural community conservation plans including the Yolo County HCP/NCCP, the Natomas Basin HCP, the South Sacramento HCP, and the Bay-Delta HCP/NCCP. Under Aspen's contracts to Yolo County, he prepared the biological resources section of the IS/MND for the following projects: Ashley Avenue Cell Tower Project, Gibson Solar Farm Use Permit Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Bayer Woodland Solar Farm Use Permit, Putah Creek Energy Farm Use Permit, and the Bogle Wind Turbine Project EIR. Mr. Estep has worked with Aspen for more than 14 years.

HELIX Environmental Planning (HELIX) [Land Use & Planning Support Lead/Cannabis Issues/Wildlife/Archaeology/Aesthetics/Wildfire]. HELIX is a leader in environmental planning, design, and natural resource sustainability and compliance and will serve as the lead for Part 2, Land Use and Planning consultation under this RFQ. Established in 1991 and with offices in Sacramento, Placer, San Diego, Orange, Riverside, and Los Angeles counties, and in the Bay Area, they provide a broad range of environmental compliance services throughout California. HELIX has extensive experience helping public and private clients across a variety of sectors comply with local, State, and federal environmental laws and regulations, manage natural and cultural resources, and design and construct sustainable projects. Services provided by HELIX include CEQA and NEPA document preparation, regulatory permitting, biological and aquatic resource assessments, arboriculture services, cultural resources investigations, historic resource evaluations, acoustic/noise studies, air quality/greenhouse gas analyses, visual resource assessments, landscape architecture, habitat restoration, and mitigation monitoring and compliance.

HELIX also has substantial experience serving as an extension of staff to local agencies reviewing and processing permit applications for conformance with local ordinances. HELIX prepares permit application package deficiency letters and staff reports and works closely with local agencies and permit applicants to ensure that adequate supporting documentation is provided prior to CEQA clearance and/or permit approval. HELIX provides further assistance to local agencies by presenting staff reports and technical findings to Planning Commissions, Zoning Administrators, and Boards of Supervisors, particularly for controversial projects. Their depth of staff resources and expertise will ensure responsiveness and efficiency in the review and processing of permit applications and preparation of staff reports and hearing presentations, as needed. HELIX has worked with Aspen for more than 20 years.

Marty Ecological Consulting, Inc. (MEC) [Wildlife/Aquatic Resources/Construction and Environmental Monitoring]. Dr. Jaymee Marty is an independent consultant having more than 29 years of professional experience in the fields of ecology and conservation biology. She has extensive experience with research, restoration and management of riparian, vernal pool, seasonal wetland and grassland habitats. In addition to her research and planning background, Dr. Marty conducts surveys for large branchiopod, amphibian, bird, small mammal, vernal pool, riparian and various wetland habitats. She holds federal and State permits for California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) and listed large branchiopods. Dr. Marty is an expert in HCP/NCCP, acting as a science advisory panel member for Yolo County, Yuba/Sutter counties, Butte County, and East Contra Costa County. Dr. Marty has worked with Aspen for more than 10 years.

PAR Environmental Services, Inc. (PAR) [Archaeology, Built Environment]. PAR is a certified small, micro, woman-owned business that focuses on providing high-quality and responsive services on cultural resources management projects. PAR's staff is composed of historic/prehistoric archaeologists, historians, and architectural historians. Staff capabilities include geoarchaeology, prehistoric and historic archaeology, obsidian studies, historic studies, architectural and engineering evaluations, and Native American consultation. PAR's cultural staff routinely prepare National Register of Historical Places and California Register of Historical Resources, Determinations of Eligibility; Finding of Effect; Historic Building Surveys/ Historic American Engineering Record documentation; Phase I, II, and III studies; and Memorandum of

EXHIBIT BASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
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Agreement documentation. PAR has completed environmental planning and cultural resource services for numerous transportation-related projects in Yolo County since 1997. In Yolo County, PAR performed pedestrian surveys of five alternative routes for a proposed gas line (PG&E Line 406). PAR recorded and completed DPR 523 forms for 17 built environment resources greater than 45 years of age including irrigation features, farmsteads, and an industrial fruit packing complex in Yolo County. PAR also performed Cultural Resources Survey for PG&E Line 407 Project, located in Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, and Yolo counties. In addition, PAR completed a Historic Property Survey Report and an Archaeology Survey Report for the City of Winters' construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Walnut Lane and Grant Avenue. PAR has worked with Aspen for more than 20 years.

Risk Science Associates (RSA) [Hazards/Hazardous Materials, Wildfire]. RSA has been in business for more than 33 years providing expertise in human health risk assessment, occupational safety and health, waste management, fire protection, and infrastructure security. The company is a sole proprietorship owned by Alvin Greenberg, PhD, QEP. RSA's clients consist mostly of local (city and county level), State, and federal government agencies, including the U.S. EPA. Dr. Greenberg has been recognized as an expert in the field of human health risk assessment by Cal-EPA, the U.S. EPA, 12 different California courts, the U.S. District Court for Southern California, and the California Energy Commission (CEC) at more than 50 different Siting Evidentiary Hearings. Dr. Greenberg has worked on more than 100 power plant cases throughout California.

Description of Our General Environmental Planning and Permitting Experience

This section presents the Aspen Team's selected experience on project types and activities similar to those requested in the RFQ for **Part 1, CEQA Consulting Services and for Part 2, Land Use and Planning Support.** For more than 34 years, public agencies have relied on Aspen to provide expert CEQA environmental services for capital improvement projects, O&M activities and plans, and field monitoring and permit compliance. Aspen has skillfully practiced and developed expertise in the analysis, environmental review, permitting, mitigation development and planning, and compliance monitoring of projects and programs with an emphasis on public infrastructure. Under our current contract with Yolo County, we have demonstrated that the Aspen Team can provide the County with the CEQA services and capabilities required by the RFQ—on time, or ahead of schedule, and within the established budget.

Similarly, public agencies have relied on HELIX for the past 33 years to provide planning support to local agencies. HELIX has reviewed and processed permit applications for conformance with local ordinances, prepared permit application package deficiency letters and staff reports, and worked closely with local agencies and permit applicants to ensure that adequate supporting documentation is provided prior to CEQA clearance and/or permit approval. HELIX has also provided assistance to local agencies by presenting staff reports and technical findings to Planning Commissions, Zoning Administrators, and Boards of Supervisors. The depth of HELIX's staff resources and expertise ensure that the Team is responsive and efficient in the review and processing of permit applications and preparation of staff reports and hearing presentations, as needed.

EXHIBIT B

PART 1, CEQA/NEPA Consulting Services

Due to our extensive experience, Aspen has a deep understanding of CEQA/NEPA and permitting, and how to use that knowledge to meet Yolo County’s permitting needs. On more than 50 environmental services on-call, multi-year contracts, Aspen regularly prepares technical reports and CEQA/NEPA documentation, conducts surveys, obtains necessary State and federal permits, conducts mitigation and permit compliance monitoring; and provides engineering and design support for public infrastructure projects throughout California.

One of Aspen’s primary services is the preparation of CEQA and NEPA documents for public agencies; primarily agencies responsible for constructing and/or permitting infrastructure and public works projects. Since the company’s inception 34 years ago, Aspen has prepared hundreds of CEQA and NEPA documents. Over 95 percent of these documents were prepared for public agencies to support capital improvement projects, third-party CEQA/NEPA compliance, or project permitting.

Compliance with CEQA (and/or NEPA) will be the major responsibility of the environmental contractor under this contract. This will involve conducting all necessary data collection and analysis, preparing required documentation and reports, and meeting all procedural requirements, including noticing, document distribution, decision support, agency coordination, and providing support at public meetings.

We expect that there are three types of projects that may require support under this On-Call CEQA Consulting Services contract:

1. Third-party CEQA support for projects requiring discretionary action where Yolo County is the lead agency;
2. General CEQA/NEPA studies that support Yolo County’s capital improvement plans; and
3. Studies addressing potential impacts from new or revised community plans, proposed legislation, or other types of policy documents.

These studies are discussed in this section. In addition, we discuss joint CEQA/NEPA projects as well.

Third-Party CEQA Document Preparation

Aspen is an expert at preparing third-party documents for applicants seeking discretionary permits from the County. The process is similar to the general CEQA/NEPA studies described below. However, in preparing third-party CEQA documents, Aspen works closely with the applicant to finalize the project description, or seek clarifying information necessary to prepare the CEQA analysis; and, with the County’s permission and participation, reviews the findings of the CEQA analysis and proposed mitigation measures with the applicant prior to publicizing the document.

Aspen’s CEQA Document Experience

- ◆ 138 EIRs
- ◆ 35 EIS/EIRs
- ◆ 100 MNDs
- ◆ 200 CXs

The project description is the backbone of the permitting process. By preparing an accurate Project Description (with Yolo County, the applicant, and/or its engineers), our scientists/planners will be able to perform their analysis accurately and efficiently, minimizing rework and schedule delays in the permitting process. To assist Aspen in preparing the Project Description, a few days after receiving the notice to proceed, we will send

Yolo County and the applicant a list of data needs necessary to develop the project description for the CEQA document. The written response to these questions will be reviewed by Aspen, Yolo County staff, and the applicant at a Project Description meeting. The response to these questions will help identify the major project elements, study area size, laydown areas, and other parameters that will be needed to perform our fieldwork and analysis.

EXHIBIT B

Using the results of the field investigations, our knowledge of the resources in the project area, and the applicant’s responses to our Project Description questions, Aspen will work with the applicant to prepare a project description that avoids or minimizes impacts while achieving project objectives. Pursuant to Section 15126.4 of the CEQA Guidelines, the applicant may propose mitigation measures for incorporation into the project description. Such applicant-proposed measures will be considered in preparation of the CEQA analysis.

Additional mitigation measures needed to reduce potential project impacts to a less-than-significant level will be prepared by our scientists/planners. As noted previously, these mitigation measures will be presented to the applicant to ensure they are willing to comply with them in the development of their project. The objective is to ensure that any mitigation concerns can be resolved to the degree possible before the CEQA document is submitted for public review. Throughout this process, Aspen will work closely with Yolo County staff to ensure that the CEQA process works smoothly. Selected examples of third-party CEQA/NEPA support, prepared in the last five years, are presented in Table B.1-2.

Table B.1-2. Selected Aspen Team Third-Party CEQA Documents Prepared in the Last Five Years

Agency	Document
Yolo County	Harlan Ranch Cell Tower Use Permit IS/ND (ZF 2024-036)
Yolo County	Ashley Avenue Cell Tower Use Permit IS/ND (ZF 2023-035)
Yolo County	Gibson Solar Farm Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) and IS/EIR for a Use Permit (ZF 2020-0043)
Yolo County	Bayer Woodland Solar Farm Use Permit IS/MND for a Use Permit (ZF 2020-0036)
Yolo County	Wilbur-Ellis Consolidation Facility Use Permit IS/MND (ZF 2019-0021)
Yolo County	Taber Ranch Cell Tower Project IS/MND (ZF 2019-0015)
Yolo County	Putah Creek Energy Farm Use Permit IS/MND (ZF 2019-006)
City of Lancaster	Residential Subdivision Focused EIR
City of Lancaster	IS/MND for Waste to Renewable Hydrogen
City of Lancaster	Concentric’s H6 Microgrid Project IS
City of Simi Valley	Guardian Street IS/MND for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP-S-2023-0013)
County of Imperial	CEQA Support for Imperial USA Corp
County of Ventura	Santa Clara River Levee (SCR-1) Project EIR
County of Ventura	Ventura River Levee (VR-1) Improvements EIR
City of Rocklin	Panda Express IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Folsom	Avenida Senior Living IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Folsom	Broadstone Villas Multi-Family Apartment IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Folsom	Creekside Apartments IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Folsom	Folsom Corporate Center Apartments IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Folsom	Livermore Park Monopine Cell Tower IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Union City	Chevron Fuel Station and Power Market Convenience Store IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Bishop	Downtown Specific Plan & Mixed-Use Overlay Program EIR (HELIX)
City of Vacaville	Centennial Park Master Plan IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Elk Grove	Laguna Creek Trail and Bruceville Road Sidewalk Improvements IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Bishop	East Line Street Bridge Replacement IS/MND (HELIX)

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Agency	Document
San Joaquin County	Harney Lane Bridge Scour Mitigation Across Paddy Creek IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Modesto	Municipal Groundwater Supply Contamination Prevention and Cleanup Project IS/MND (HELIX)
City of Yuba City	Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well System IS/MND (HELIX)
Truckee	Pioneer Trail Pipeline and Pump Station IS/MND (HELIX)

General CEQA Analysis and Document Preparation

Aspen’s expertise and extensive experience, developed over many years, is detailed below in relation to CEQA compliance functions, types of projects, and key issues:

- ◆ Preparation of Categorical Exemption documentation, Initial Studies, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, and Draft and Final EIRs (impact assessment)
- ◆ Preparation and distribution of required notices, including Notices of Preparation, Notices of Completion, Notices of Availability, and Notices of Determination
- ◆ Preparation of project descriptions and formulation of feasible alternatives (for EIRs)
- ◆ Field studies and research
- ◆ Site assessments and fatal flaw evaluations
- ◆ Engineering evaluation of projects to determine specific impact parameters
- ◆ Feasibility studies of alternatives and mitigation measures
- ◆ Mitigation measure development, evaluation, implementation, and mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP)
- ◆ Public participation, including website creation and maintenance, notices for mail and media, logistics and facilitation of public workshops and hearings, stakeholder meetings, fact sheets and brochures, graphic displays, and non-English language materials
- ◆ Meetings with elected officials and/or agency staff

“The Aspen Team...has been key in supporting SMUD’s commitment to environmental stewardship through the preparation of environmental documents, plans, and field support. Aspen has demonstrated experience and expert knowledge of CEQA and environmental permitting.”

**Ammon Rice, Supervisor
 Environmental Services
 SMUD
 August 13, 2018**

Most projects that require a discretionary action or approval are subject to environmental review under CEQA; however, CEQA allows the exemption of certain types of projects from environmental review requirements. Aspen thoroughly understands how to prepare CEQA **Categorical Exemptions** (CXs) in a cost-effective and expeditious manner. Aspen has developed an approach to provide adequate environmental documentation to support the determination that a CX is applicable to a project. Typically, most projects that are determined to be categorically exempt from the CEQA process move forward with no additional review. When a project is determined to be categorically exempt from the CEQA process, a Notice of Exemption (NOE) may be filed to commence a shorter statute of limitations of 35 days for any challenge to the decision. If a NOE is not filed, the normal 180-day statute of limitations applies. Aspen has prepared hundreds of NOEs during our 34 years of operation. Recently Aspen prepared an NOE on behalf of the CEC for a grant-funded Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) battery project in Sacramento, which allowed the project to proceed quickly.

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While some Yolo County projects may be eligible for a CXs, other actions such as new facility construction, or excavation and ground disturbance activities require analysis under CEQA. If a project is not exempt from CEQA, the review process is initiated with an evaluation to determine if the project could have a significant effect on the environment. An Initial Study is traditionally prepared to provide information and facilitate the determination of whether a significant impact could occur. Initial Studies are typically based on the environmental checklist, Appendix G, in the CEQA Guidelines.

If the Initial Study determines that a project will not result in a significant impact to the environment, a **Negative Declaration** (ND) or **Mitigated Negative Declaration** (MND) is prepared, and the public is provided opportunity to review and comment on the ND or MND prior to a decision being made on the project. If the Initial Study determines that a potentially significant impact may occur that cannot be

mitigated below the level of significance, an EIR must be prepared. The EIR may be focused if potentially significant impacts will only occur in specific resource/issue areas. If a focused EIR is prepared, the Initial Study may be incorporated by reference or included as an appendix to demonstrate why certain resource/issue areas are not assessed beyond the Initial Study, or an EIR chapter on “effects found not to be significant” can be included.

Important Factors in Successful CEQA and NEPA Compliance

- ◆ **Determine** the applicability of CEQA exemptions and NEPA exclusions
- ◆ **Develop** a complete description of all project activities
- ◆ **Formulate** a clear statement of objectives and, if needed, develop a reasonable range of alternatives
- ◆ **Identify** all responsible and cooperating agencies
- ◆ **Coordinate** early with affected and trustee agencies
- ◆ **Establish** the appropriate baseline for assessing impacts
- ◆ **Determine** data collection needs
- ◆ **Explain** clearly the basis for significance conclusions
- ◆ **Document** all procedural steps

As part of the EIR process, a scoping meeting must be held (see the Public Involvement section). Also, a reasonable range of alternatives must be developed for each proposed project (CEQA Guidelines §15126.6). Aspen will work closely with Yolo County (or the Applicant for third-party CEQA studies) to develop this reasonable range of alternatives to the project, or its location, which will feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project and avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project. Aspen has found that collaboration between the engineering and environmental teams can often resolve potentially significant impacts through planning, avoidance, or the timing of key activities. Alternatives to consider include the No Project alternative, as well as alternate designs,

alternate locations, and different construction methods,

among other possibilities and as appropriate for each project. Sufficient information about each alternative will be presented in the EIR to allow for meaningful evaluation, analysis, and comparison to the proposed project. The comparative merits of the various alternatives will be evaluated.

An EIR also includes a **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP)**, which specifies how the implementation of mitigation measures identified in the EIR should be monitored or reported. In preparing an EIR, Aspen will work closely with Yolo County to ensure we develop mitigation strategies that are feasible, effective, and practical. A key component in the development of mitigation plans is to work with the engineering team during the pre-construction planning stages. This enables Yolo County to develop measures to reduce or avoid impacts and minimize potential restoration costs after the completion of construction. In addition, well-planned mitigation during the project design phase may help to justify preparation of an MND for a project that would otherwise require an EIR.

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After finalization of an EIR, if substantial changes to the project occur, an EIR Supplement or EIR Addendum may be required. Aspen will work closely with Yolo County to prepare such documents if the need arises and to determine the appropriate type of documentation needed to satisfy CEQA. Aspen recently supported the County with an EIR Addendum for the Gibson Solar Farm Project, which had a change to the height of the generation tie line poles that would be installed from the originally planned 37 feet tall to the newly proposed 60.5 feet tall. Within nine business days, Aspen prepared an EIR Addendum and submitted it to the County. The addendum included the proposed project changes as well as an updated visual analysis based on the adjustments. This is a prime example of Aspen’s expertise and responsiveness to support the County in keeping projects moving despite changes to the original project.

Table B.1-3 lists selected CEQA/NEPA document and permitting experience prepared by the Aspen Team within the last five years. Awards received for CEQA documents are provided in Appendix 3.

Table B.1-3. Selected Team CEQA/NEPA and Permitting Experience within the Last Five Years, by Category

COMMUNICATION PROJECTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Yolo County Department of Community Services Planning Division, Harlan Ranch Cell Tower Project, Initial Study/Negative Declaration ■ Yolo County Department of Community Services Planning Division, Ashley Ave Cell Tower Project, Initial Study/Negative Declaration ■ Yolo County Department of Community Services Planning Division, Taber Ranch Cell Tower, Initial Study/Negative Declaration ■ California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Happy Camp to Somes Bar Fiber Connectivity Project IS/MND 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Department of General Services, Sawtooth Ridge Communications Tower IS/MND ■ Department of General Services, Replacement Communications Facilities Focused EIR and IS/MND ■ City of Hermosa Beach, RTI-I Transpacific Fiber-Optic Cables Project EIR ■ San Joaquin Council of Governments, AT&T Monopole Project SJMSCP Listed Species Survey ■ City of Folsom, Livermore Park Monopine Cell Tower IS/MND (HELIX)
LAND DEVELOPMENT	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Yolo County CEQA On-call Services, Wilbur-Ellis Consolidation Facility Use Permit IS/MND ■ County of Los Angeles Planning, Malibu Creek Recovery Center Project IS/MND ■ Global Premier Development, LLC, San Mateo Avenue LIHTC Senior Housing Project CEQA analysis (AQ) ■ City of Manhattan Beach, Skechers Office Complex Monitoring, EIR review, CEQA analysis (Noise), Construction monitoring ■ Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, 955 Vignes Street Warm Landing CEQA CatEx ■ Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Metro State Hospital Project CEQA CatEx ■ City of Lancaster, Residential Subdivision Focused EIR ■ City of Lancaster, Parkway Village Specific Plan EIR ■ Panda Express IS/MND, Rocklin (HELIX) ■ Avenida Senior Living IS/MND, Folsom (HELIX) ■ Broadstone Villas Multi-Family Apartment IS/MND, Folsom (HELIX) ■ Creekside Apartments IS/MND, Folsom (HELIX) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Urbacon Development Management Limited on behalf of Malibu Creek California LLC, Malibu Creek Development Program IS/MND ■ Folsom Corporate Center Apartments IS/MND, Folsom (HELIX) ■ AC Hotel by Marriott IS/MND, Folsom (HELIX) ■ Natoma Affordable Senior Apartments IS/MND, Folsom (HELIX) ■ El Dorado County On-Call Commercial Cannabis Development Permitting Services (15 individual projects) (HELIX) ■ Raley Boulevard Truck Service and Parking Facility IS/MND (HELIX) ■ Chevron Fuel Station and Power Market Convenience Store IS/MND, Union City (HELIX) ■ Old Auburn Road Subdivision IS/MND, Citrus Heights ■ City of Bishop Downtown Specific Plan & Mixed-Use Overlay Program EIR (HELIX)
MINING	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lilburn Corporation, US Gypsum Biology EIS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ County of Imperial, CEQA Support for Imperial USA Corp

EXHIBIT B

ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
 YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
 CONSULTING SERVICES, BID #RFQ-2025-0002

PUBLIC FACILITIES

- County of San Bernardino,
- LADPW, Altadena Sheriff’s Station Parking Lot (CX)
- LADPW, Whittier Aquatic Facility Initial Study/MND
- LADPW, Pitchess Detention Center Landfill Initial Study/MND
- LADPW, Alondra Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater CEQA Addendum
- LADWP, Alamitos Bay Pump Station Discharge Initial Study/MND
- LADWP, 955 Vignes Street Warm Landing Project (CX)
- LADPW, Technical Operations Carport Initial Study/MND
- Public Safety Facility and Joint Fire/Police Station Categorical Exemption, Folsom (HELIX)

RECREATION/TRAILS

- Coachella Valley Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, EA/MND and Initial Study for Six New Coachella Valley Trails Project
- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Malibu Lower-Cost Accommodations Public Works Plan EIR
- Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Crissy Field Next EA and 106 Compliance
- Friends of the Desert Mountains, Long Canyon Trail Improvement Project IS/MND
- LADPW, LACMA Magic Johnson Park Site CEQA Review and EIR Addendum
- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Puerco Canyon Camp and Trailhead Project EIR
- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, El Dorado Park EA
- Centennial Park Master Plan IS/MND, Vacaville (HELIX)

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Solar

- Yolo County, Gibson Solar Farm IS/MND, IS/EIR
- Yolo County, Bayer Woodland Solar Farm IS/MND
- Yolo County, Putah Creek Energy Farm IS/MND
- Riverside County, Skybridge Eagle Mountain Solar and Green Hydrogen Project EA/IS
- CEC, Soda Mountain Solar and BESS Opt-In CEQA EIR-Equivalent Staff Assessment
- CEC, Perkins Renewable Energy Project Opt-In CEQA EIR-Equivalent Staff Assessment
- Adapture Renewables, Orleans Solar Storage Project IS
- California State Lands Commission, Stagecoach Solar Project EIR/EIS
- Intersect Power, LLC, Easley Solar and Green Hydrogen Project EIR
- SunPower Corporation, LA County ISD High Desert Solar Project CatEx

Wind

- County of Santa Barbara - Planning Division, Strauss Wind Energy Project SEIR
- California State Lands Commission, CADEMO Offshore Wind Energy Project EIR
- Brookfield Power US Asset Management LLC, Mesa Wind Repower Project NEPA EA
- Brookfield Power US Asset Management LLC, Alta East Wind Project Tech Reports Supporting EA-IS/MND

Battery Storage

- CEC, Compass BESS Opt-in CEQA EIR-Equivalent Staff Assessment
- CEC, Soda Mountain Solar and BESS EIR-Equivalent Staff Assessment
- CEC, Camp Pendleton BESS IS/MND
- CEC, Form Energy BESS IS/MND
- CEC, Valley Children’s Hospital Microgrid Project IS/MND
- CEC, Hoopa Valley Tribe BESS CatEx
- CEC, San Diego Navy Base BESS CatEx
- Adapture Renewables, Avocado Falls BESS Project IS
- Adapture Renewables, Western Sierra Energy Center IS/MND
- CEC, SMUD Hedge BESS IS/MND
- CEC, Viejas Tribal Casino Microgrid BESS Addition CatEx
- CEC, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar BESS CatEx
- CEC, Corby BESS Opt-In CEQA EIR-Equivalent Staff Assessment
- CEC, Pacific Steel Group BESS Addition EIR Addendum
- CEC, Sandia National Laboratories BESS Demo Site CatEx
- Adapture Renewables, Orleans Solar Storage Project IS
- Adapture Renewables, Sterling Bridge BESS Project IS/MND
- City of Santa Clara, Kifer Receiving Station BESS IS/MND

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TRANSMISSION

- California Public Utilities Commission, Valley South Subtransmission Project EIR
- California Public Utilities Commission, West of Devers Transmission Project EIR/EIS
- California Public Utilities Commission, SDG&E Ocean Ranch Substation IS/MND, EIR/EIS
- California Public Utilities Commission, SCE Eldorado-Lugo-Mohave Series Capacito EA/MND
- California Public Utilities Commission, Ivanpah-Control EIR
- California Public Utilities Commission, PG&E Moraga-Oakland EIR
- City of Santa Clara, Renewable Parallel Generation Facilities Resolution EIR
- City of Santa Clara, Northern Receiving Station IS/MND
- City of Lancaster, Concentric's H6 Microgrid Project EIR
- Trinity Public Utilities District, WRAP EIS/EIR
- Port of Long Beach, SCE Transmission Tower Replacement Addition Addendum

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

- County of San Bernardino, Institution Road Reconstruction Technical Studies Supporting IS/MND
- Port of Long Beach, Toyota Logistics Services Improvement IS/MND
- County of Ventura, Highway 118 Widening at Moorpark Treat IS/MND
- ICF Consulting Group, Metro Project Support Regional Connector Sub EIS/EIR
- Port of Los Angeles, LAXT Loop Project EIR PD 5
- Port of Los Angeles, Goods Movement Workforce Training Campus EIR
- Port of Los Angeles, Terminal Island Rail System Grade Separation Tech Studies to Support NEPA Document
- Burns & McDonnell, Metro CEQA/NEPA & Environmental Compliance Services
- Port of Long Beach, Pier Wind Terminal Development EIR/EIS
- ICF Consulting Group, Metro CEQA/NEPA & Environmental Compliance Services
- ICF Consulting Group, Caltrans District 10 RFI
- East Line Street Bridge Replacement IS/MND, Bishop (HELIX)
- Harney Lane Bridge Scour Mitigation Across Paddy Creek IS/MND, San Joaquin County (HELIX)
- Laguna Creek Trail and Bruceville Road Sidewalk Improvements IS/MND, Elk Grove (HELIX)

WATER SUPPLY / WATER CONVEYANCE

- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, MWD Colorado River Aqueduct IS/MND
- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Castaic Spoils Pile Removal Project Tech Reports and Initial Study
- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, ANF O&M Plan Support Information Exchange & CEQA/NEPA Planning
- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Bouquet Inlet/Outlet Pipeline Gate Valve Surveys & Technical Studies, CEQA/NEPA Planning & Compliance Support
- Los Angeles Community College District, MND/IS for Stormwater Project at Harbor
- Antelope Valley East-Kern Water Agency, South North Intertie Pipeline (Phase II) EA/FONSI
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Copper Basin Discharge IS/MND
- City of Modesto Municipal Groundwater Supply Contamination Prevention and Cleanup Project IS/MND (HELIX)
- City of Yuba City Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well System IS/MND (HELIX)
- Pioneer Trail Pipeline and Pump Station IS/MND, Truckee (HELIX)

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT/HABITAT RESTORATION

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Mt Lowe Median Stormwater Capture Addendum
- Center for Natural Lands Management, Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy (CVMC) CEQA Addenda
- Center for Natural Lands Management, Aqua Farms Controlled Burn CEQA Addenda
- DJ&A, USFS Los Padres National Forest Eco NEPA Analysis and Documentation
- City of Laguna Beach Fire Department, Fuel Modification Professional Services IS/MND
- The Living Zoo and Gardens, San Felipe Creek Desert Pupfish Pond CatEx
- Bradford Island Tract 19 Mitigation Site Rehabilitation Categorical Exemption, Contra Costa County (HELIX)

BESS: battery energy storage system

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CEQA/NEPA and Planning Support for Policy Documents

The Aspen Team is also adept at preparing CEQA/NEPA studies and Planning Services in support of agency policy documents such as General Plan amendments, General Plan elements, Master Plans, Community Plans, or other such documents. A selected list of CEQA/NEPA analysis and Planning Reports prepared within the last five years for such policy documents is presented in Table B.1-4.

Table B.1-4. Project Experience of CEQA/NEPA Analysis and Planning Reports Prepared in Support of Policy Documents in the Last Five Years

Client	Project Name
Bureau of Land Management	Statewide Wildland Urban Interface Fuels Treatments, Programmatic Environmental Assessment (SWFT PEA)
Bureau of Land Management	Resource Management Plan Amendment and EIS for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development
California Department of Conservation	Analysis Of Oil And Gas Well Stimulation Treatments In California EIR
California Energy Commission	Technical Assistance On-Call Contract to Support The Energy Commission’s Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Program
California Energy Commission	2025 SB 100 Joint Agency Report
California Energy Commission	STEP Planning Support for AB 525: Offshore Wind Planning & Assessments
California Energy Commission	Systems Assessment & Facilities Siting Division analysis of Senate Bill 1550
California Energy Commission	Replacement Tire Efficiency Program EIR
California Energy Commission/BLM	Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan EIR/EIS
California State Lands Commission	AB 525 Strategic Plan: Phase 1 And 2 Alternative Port Assessment Reports to Support Offshore Wind Project
City of Lancaster	Parkway Village Specific Plan EIR
County of Los Angeles	Renewable Energy Ordinance Update Technical Study and Program EIR
County of Los Angeles	Santa Monica Mountains North Area Plan
Santa Barbara County	Aera East Cat Canyon Oil Field Redevelopment Project EIR
City of Bishop	Downtown Specific Plan & Mixed-Use Overlay Program EIR (HELIX)
City of Vacaville	Centennial Park Master Plan IS/MND (HELIX)
Groveland Community Services District	Municipal Services Review and Sphere of Influence Update (HELIX)
Inyo County	Renewable Energy General Plan Amendment and PEIR (HELIX)
Nevada County	As-Needed Professional Planning Project Processing and Review Services (HELIX)

NEPA Analysis and Document Preparation

If a proposed project has a federal component, such as being located on federal lands, or is financed or approved in whole or in part by a federal agency, Aspen will work with Yolo County to coordinate with the NEPA lead agency and prepare the required NEPA documentation. NEPA requires preparation of an **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** only for “proposals for legislation and other major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.” A federal agency must, therefore, evaluate and screen each proposed action to determine whether NEPA applies and, if it does, whether an EIS must

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be prepared. First, an agency must determine if the proposed action is **Categorically Excluded (CE)** or otherwise exempt from NEPA. Second, if the action is not excluded, the agency must determine whether the proposed action may “significantly affect the quality of the human environment.” This step often involves preparing an **Environmental Assessment (EA)** to determine whether the proposed action will result in any significant environmental effects. Finally, the agency will either: (1) file a **Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)** if there are no impacts or they have been suitably mitigated; or (2) prepare an EIS. NEPA’s analysis documentation requirements are similar enough to CEQA’s that the preparation of a joint environmental analysis document, such as an MND/EA or EIR/EIS, is possible, if both Lead Agencies agree to this approach.

The Aspen Team will work closely with Yolo County and the NEPA lead agency to determine the appropriate environmental document to prepare to reduce duplication between CEQA and NEPA (CEQA Guidelines §15226). Additional analysis may include compliance with federal regulations, socioeconomics, and environmental justice analyses.

Joint Documents

Aspen also has significant experience preparing environmental analyses and reports pursuant to CEQA and NEPA regulations, and has prepared numerous joint environmental reviews, which simultaneously address the requirements of both NEPA and CEQA. A project that is subject to CEQA will also be subject to NEPA when one of the following conditions occur:

- ◆ The project is jointly carried out by a federal agency
- ◆ The project requires a federal discretionary permit, entitlement, authorization, or federal funding
- ◆ The project occurs on federal land

While CEQA and NEPA requirements differ, there are similar requirements that can be readily satisfied by a joint process and the preparation of a joint environmental document, as noted earlier. Because the requirements for FONSI and NDs are less onerous than those for EIRs and EISs, CEQA and NEPA lead agencies often choose to complete separate processes for FONSI and NDs; however, cooperation and coordination can still be beneficial to both agencies. In the case of EIRs and EISs, it usually makes sense to prepare a joint document because the procedural, analytical, and documentation requirements for both are substantial and it makes sense to minimize duplication of effort by participating in a joint effort that satisfies both CEQA and NEPA. While there are several minor differences in the requirements for the preparation of EIRs versus EISs, one of the most substantive differences is NEPA’s requirement to analyze alternatives in equivalent detail; compared to CEQA’s requirement that focuses on alternatives that reduce significant impacts and the alternatives are analyzed at a lesser level of detail than the proposed project. Therefore, it is important that the lead agencies work together to develop and analyze a range of reasonable alternatives that satisfy the requirements of both CEQA and NEPA. Another important difference is CEQA’s requirement for the EIR to reach a conclusion regarding the significance of each adverse impact, which is not required in an EIS. CEQA also requires the EIR to identify all feasible measures to mitigate significant impacts; whereas, an EIS is only required to discuss ways to reduce adverse impacts.

Selected NEPA and joint CEQA/NEPA documents prepared in the last five years are included in Table B.1-3, presented earlier in this section.

Legally Challenged Documents

While none of Aspen’s CEQA documents have resulted in a successful court challenge, controversial projects often are challenged by interest groups or affected parties. Such actions are a right afforded to the parties of interest. Issues raised by opponents often include the adequacy of the environmental review

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and compliance with CEQA and/or NEPA requirements and procedures. Therefore, the quality of the analysis and adherence to legal requirements are factors critical to a successful defense.

In our 34 years in business, no Aspen-prepared ND or MND has been the subject of a legal action. We attribute this to the care with which these documents are prepared. We pay very close attention to details and CEQA requirements in particular and successfully advise our clients as to when an MND is appropriate and when an EIR is required. In addition, we are careful to ensure that the analyses in the Initial Study are thorough and well-substantiated, and that all comments and known concerns are acknowledged and specifically addressed.

In 34 years of business, only seven of Aspen’s EIRs and EIR/EISs have been challenged, as shown in Table B.1-5. **Not one such legal challenge has succeeded** in overturning the public agency’s approval or required the revision or recirculation of the document.

As an example, the Sunrise Powerlink transmission line, for which Aspen prepared the EIR/EIS (as well as a Supplemental EIR and Addenda) on behalf of the California Public Utilities Commission and the Bureau of Land Management was energized on June 17, 2012. As with many long linear facilities proposed through rural and suburban areas, this was an extremely controversial project. The Aspen Team prepared a well-documented multi-volume EIR/EIS that identified and analyzed scores of alternatives and responded to thousands of comments from individuals, organizations, public agencies, and tribal governments. The approved project — which is an Aspen-developed alternative to the applicant’s original proposal — was challenged administratively and subsequently in the courts under both state and federal processes. **The CEQA adequacy was upheld by the California State Supreme Court.**

Table B.1-5. Documents that Have Been Challenged in the Past

Document and Client	Summary of Complaint	Findings
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) Decommissioning EIR	Lawsuit filed by nonprofit organization claiming California Coastal Commission violated objectives and standards under Coastal Act when they approved the 2019 coastal development permit for SCE to deconstruct the power plant.	U.S. District Court dismissed the case indicating the California Coastal Commission did not violate statutory requirements nor was the dismantlement of the plant inconsistent with regulations. This was upheld by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear the case, leaving the lower court’s ruling in place. These rulings have permitted SCE to continue with the decommissioning following the guidelines established in the EIR.
Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility EIS/EIR, Imperial County	Seven lawsuits were filed making varied allegations, including violations of NEPA and CEQA and laws protecting wildlife and cultural resources.	Two lawsuits were dismissed in US District Court. The status of the other lawsuits is unknown.
Panoche Valley Solar Farm Project EIR, San Benito County	There was a challenge to the decision to approve the project and to cancel Williamson Act contracts, claiming the decisions were made without substantial supporting evidence.	Court upheld document’s adequacy.
Calico Solar Project Staff Assessment, California Energy Commission	Sufficiency of analysis of related action (transmission line); impacts to desert tortoise; administrative procedures reg. public opportunity for comment.	California Supreme Court declined to hear the case. (Under the Warren-Alquist Act, challenges to CEC decisions are filed in Supreme Court.)

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Document and Client	Summary of Complaint	Findings
Lompoc Wind Energy Project, Santa Barbara County	Lawsuit was filed for CEQA inadequacy and conflict with Santa Barbara County General Plan and Land Use and Development Code.	The Santa Barbara Superior Court denied the petition and the California Court of Appeals affirmed the lower court decision after an appeal.
CleanTech Hazardous Waste Facility Permit EIR	Lawsuit filed for CEQA adequacy.	In an unpublished tentative decision, the Superior Court dismissed five of the plaintiff's claims regarding EIR inadequacy.
Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Line EIR/EIS, CPUC	Administrative challenge on CEQA/NEPA processes.	The adequacy of the document was challenged in both state and federal courts. The CEQA adequacy was upheld by the State Supreme Court. The project was energized in June 2012, and one NEPA challenge remains unresolved even today. However, the document's adequacy has been upheld in all decisions issued to date.

CEQA Environmental Permitting Services

There are different requirements for compliance with environmental regulations depending on the nature of the project or activity. In some cases, compliance requires completion of a good faith effort to follow specified procedural steps along with documentation of that process, such as in Native American consultation. In other cases, documentation may consist of analysis to demonstrate compliance, such as with General Conformity determinations pursuant to the Clean Air Act. These compliance and documentation steps often occur concurrently with the CEQA or NEPA process. As part of NEPA review, the federal lead agency is required to document compliance with other applicable environmental regulations, such as the Clean Water Act (CWA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and Endangered Species Act (ESA), among others, and usually compliance procedures for these various regulations must be completed before a Record of Decision is issued. In many cases, the project proponent must apply for permits from various local, State, and federal agencies before moving forward with the project or activity. Common permits include Streambed Alteration Agreements under Section 1600 of the California Fish and Game Code, CWA Section 404 permits and Section 401 water quality certifications, and Section 2081 Incidental Take Permits pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act. Other permits may also be required, such as permits required by the Clean Air Act, Porter-Cologne Act, and others. It is important to thoroughly understand all the environmental rules and regulations applicable to a project or activity and to formulate a strategy for compliance with the myriad of potentially applicable requirements. It is also important to understand when to initiate the compliance or permitting process and how long that process will take to avoid unnecessary delays. These processes are often complex and may require substantial coordination with resource agencies, regulatory agencies, and tribal representatives.

“Because of their expertise, responsiveness, and efficiency, Aspen has become our “go to” team for conducting biological surveys and monitoring for numerous construction projects, vegetation management, and O&M activities. It is clear Aspen takes pride in their commitment and ability to provide high quality support on short notice. Aspen is consistent, dependable, eager to work, and their service has exceeded our expectations.”

**Ammon Rice, Supervisor
Environmental Services
SMUD
August 13, 2018**

EXHIBIT B

One of the first steps in permitting is to determine which agencies have jurisdiction and will need to provide approvals for planned projects or activities. As part of the permitting process, the regulatory agencies consider the timing of activities, types of facilities, and whether different water bodies will be affected. Specifically, the agencies may determine that multiple types or numbers of permits are required if activities are separated by several years, and/or if they affect different water bodies (i.e., not draining to a common stream or tributary). Table B.1-6 presents the typical permits and approvals that could be required under this contract.

Table B.1-6. Potential Permits/Approvals that Could Be Required for Projects in Yolo County

Agency	Permit/Approval	Required For
FEDERAL AGENCIES		
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Biological Opinion or Habitat Conservation Plan (Endangered Species Act, sections 7 and 10)	Adverse effects to federally listed species (including those proposed and candidates for listing)
	Eagle Conservation Plan (Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act)	Take of bald or golden eagle
	Special Purpose Utility Permit (Migratory Bird Treaty Act)	Migratory bird mortality
	Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy	Impacts to migratory birds or special-status birds and bats
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Individual/Nationwide Permit (Clean Water Act, Section 404)	Discharge of dredge or fill into waters of the U.S., including wetlands
	Section 10, Rivers and Harbors Act Permit	Activities affecting navigable waters
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	Section 106 Consultation (National Historic Preservation Act)	Affects to cultural resources listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places
U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration	Encroachment Permit	Crossing federally funded highways
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	General Conformity Determination (Clean Air Act)	Activity, with a federal nexus, that does not conform to an applicable implementation plan
STATE AGENCIES		
State Water Resources Control Board/Regional Water Quality Control Board	General Construction Activity Stormwater Permit	Stormwater discharges associated with construction activity
	Waste Discharge Requirements	Discharge of waste (non-point source) that might affect groundwater or surface water quality
	Water Quality Certification (Clean Water Act, Section 401)	Discharge into waters and wetlands
California State Lands Commission	Right-of-Way Permit (Land Use Lease)	Crossing State lands
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Incidental Take Permit (California Endangered Species Act Section 2081)	Projects with potential for take of State listed species
	Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (California Fish and Game Code, Section 1600)	Change in natural state of river, stream, or lake, including impacts to bed or bank

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Agency	Permit/Approval	Required For
California Department of Transportation	Encroachment Permit	Crossing state highway or construction within highway right-of-way
Reclamation Board	Encroachment Permit	Work within floodways, levees, and associated areas of Board jurisdiction
LOCAL AGENCIES		
Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District	Authority to Construct	Construction, modification, or installation of a stationary source of air pollutant emissions
	Permit to Operate	Operation of a new or modified stationary source
Yolo County and other counties	Applicable goals and policies and permits will be identified on a project-by-project basis	Ministerial permits
Yolo County Habitat Conservation Plan/ Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP)	Public Project Reporting Form	Report coverage for Yolo County and Cities of Davis, Woodland, West Sacramento, and Winters for HCP/NCCP covered activities
Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and/or Woodland	Applicable goals and policies and permits will be identified on a project-by-project basis	Ministerial permits

The Aspen Team will assist Yolo County staff in identifying and evaluating all environmental review and permitting requirements for each project under this on-call contract, as well as assist in the procurement of regulatory permits. We have outstanding relationships with regulatory and resource agency staff to facilitate any necessary negotiations.

The Proposed Team’s Experience Obtaining Permits from Federal, State, and Local Agencies

The Aspen Team has a demonstrated capability to assist our clients in effectively acquiring federal, State, and local permits. Understanding federal, State, and local regulations is critical because each project may trigger a different set of related environmental requirements, depending on the type and location of the activity being proposed. Often these permitting requirements must be completed prior to the initiation of project-related construction activities or ground disturbance. Ensuring that the appropriate permits are identified, processed, and received is often critical to achieving project goals or meeting construction timelines. The time required for obtaining permits is often directly related to the project developer’s relationship with the permit-issuing agencies. The Aspen Team will leverage our long-term agency relationships and extensive knowledge of regulatory requirements to serve as a strong representative of Yolo County and its interests.

“On behalf of Trinity Public Utilities District, I would like to thank you and your staff for the hard work in coordinating, developing, and satisfying all regulatory requirements for undergrounding of the powerline at Little Browns Creek. As you know, I began working with five different government agencies to resolve a storm damage issue at Little Browns Creek in 2015... Upon contacting Aspen for assistance, your Team quickly strategized a plan and within six months, permits and permissions were obtained, and the Little Brown Creek Project was completed. Aspen has the knowledge, experience and talented staff to navigate complicated environmental regulatory issues encountered by small utilities like TPUD.”

**Andy Lethbridge,
 Electric Superintendent, TPUD
 November 12, 2019**

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Our proven approach to successful and efficient environmental permitting relies on a clear and realistic permitting strategy and timeline, early and regular communication with the key agency personnel, and rapid responses to agency comments to keep the permitting process on schedule. For more complex projects, we often develop a permitting strategy that outlines what permits are anticipated to be required, any surveys or supporting information that will be needed, and an integrated timeline for preparing, submitting, and revising (if necessary) permit applications and regulatory compliance documents. The strategy remains a “living” document that is updated regularly as the project description is refined, survey results are produced, permit requirements are further developed, and input from permitting agencies is received. We use this approach on many regulatory compliance projects to ensure that permitting requirements do not fall through the cracks, no extraneous efforts are made, and ultimately, that project implementation will remain on schedule.

Examples of Aspen Permitting Experience

The Aspen Team has deep experience coordinating with permitting and resource agencies as well as with securing the permits and required approvals on the federal, State, and local levels. Aspen’s repeat on-call contracts with State and federal agencies, including with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), is evidence of the level of trust that regulatory agencies have in our work.

For example, Aspen had an on-call environmental services contract with CDFW (2013-2018) to provide technical staff and CEQA clearance for PG&E’s projects on its electric transmission, distribution and gas pipeline system. In this capacity, Aspen served as an extension of CDFW staff to review PG&E’s permit applications in support of Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements, Incidental Take Permits, and to review or prepare the associated MNDs and EIRs. Aspen’s success under this unusual contract can be attributed to our seamless working relationships with CDFW’s northern California agency staff.

As contractor to Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) for over 24 years, Aspen has routinely supported WAPA in its consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for maintenance activities along its transmission system as well as new construction of transmission lines and substations.

Another recent success story was the expedited permitting and repair of a downed distribution line along Little Browns Creek within TPUD infrastructure along Forest Road 34N96, north of Weaverville. Over the last couple of years, a series of storms passed through the Weaverville area and knocked down the distribution line along Little Browns Creek. The lines were primarily downed by trees that experienced heavy and wet snow over a period of years. This resulted in nine power poles and accompanying conductors laying within Little Browns Creek. Because of the downed distribution line, TPUD had to energize a temporary insulated cable (7.2 kV) running along the ground and through the vegetation in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. The temporary line was energized to provide power to the local communities in the Weaverville area.

TPUD requested help from Aspen on this project. Aspen was able to convince the National Forest, USFWS, and USACE that the temporary insulated cable was an Emergency Action and that immediate actions needed to be completed. Within a six-month time frame, Aspen was able to conduct the surveys, complete the permits applications, and obtain permits and permissions so that the aboveground circuit could be buried under Little Browns Creek. Refer to the excerpt from Trinity PUD in the box on this page, as well as the complete thank-you letter from Trinity PUD in Appendix 2 of this SOQ.

Battery Storage Experience

Aspen is an expert in lithium and non-lithium battery energy storage system (BESS) projects, which are becoming increasingly common throughout the state to meet California’s goals of electrifying the grid and

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reducing carbon emissions. Aspen is the CEC's prime contractor for the Non-Lithium Long Duration Energy Storage (NLLDES) Contract, and we have prepared CEQA and hazards analyses on nine demonstration NLLDES projects for the California Energy Commission. Long duration batteries are those that can store more than 10 hours of electricity and dispatch it to the grid over long periods of time (at least 8 hours) to support periods of high demand or emergency events such as public safety power shutoff (PSPS) events. Our teaming partner, Risk Science Associates, conducted a full hazards analysis on all of the currently available NLLDES battery technologies to assess the risks associated with each technology including vanadium redox, iron flow, aqueous zinc closed cell, and zinc-bromine. The CEC used this hazards assessment to select the types of batteries to include in the US San Diego Naval Base project, as well as others. Table B.2-1 includes summaries of two select CEC NLLDES projects Aspen has prepared the CEQA analysis for.

In addition to non-lithium battery projects, Aspen has prepared CEQA analysis on 26 lithium BESS projects. Battery storage is increasingly incorporated into renewable energy projects such as solar, but standalone battery projects are also being installed throughout the state. Battery storage is a key strategy for decarbonizing the grid and can help the County achieve its goal of a net negative carbon footprint by 2030, as part of its 2030 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. Should the County receive any development applications for battery storage projects or decide to develop its own battery storage facility, the Aspen Team is best suited to support these projects.

Cannabis Experience

Since 2016, HELIX has helped local agencies, cannabis cultivators, processors, delivery services, and dispensaries throughout California bring existing and proposed cannabis operations into compliance with State and local regulations. HELIX provides a wide range of cannabis environmental compliance services for local agencies in Northern California, including extension of staff services to support the review and processing of cannabis cultivation permit applications, application package review, staff report preparation, and presentations to Planning Commissions, Zoning Administrators, and/or Boards of Supervisors. HELIX is familiar with reviewing cannabis cultivation permit applications for conformance with Cannabis Land Use Ordinances (CLUOs), General Plans, Programmatic EIRs, and other local and State regulations. They are familiar with the environmental issues and public concerns that these types of operations pose in a community. HELIX understands the cannabis regulatory environment and tracks regulatory changes in this rapidly evolving environment. Our Team is familiar with the licensing and regulatory framework for cannabis operations and has extensive experience helping governments and private entities navigate the often-complicated processes. The full suite of services that we have completed for a variety of cannabis-related operations includes:

- ◆ Extension of Staff Services for Local Governments
- ◆ CEQA Documentation
- ◆ Biological Site Assessments
- ◆ Aquatic Resource Delineations
- ◆ Endangered Species Surveys
- ◆ Cultural Resources Site Assessments
- ◆ Local Agency Permitting
- ◆ CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreements (SAAs)
- ◆ Construction and Mitigation Monitoring
- ◆ Habitat Restoration and Site Restoration Plans

In addition to serving public agencies, HELIX has worked with dozens of large- and small-scale cannabis operators, including dispensaries, production facilities, testing labs, processors, and cultivators for both indoor and outdoor facilities in several California counties (Trinity, El Dorado, Nevada, Mendocino,

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Humboldt, Calaveras, and Santa Cruz counties) to help ensure their operations are environmentally compliant with CEQA, land use ordinances, the water quality control board, and other regulations. HELIX works with the cultivators early in the process and performs initial site assessments to determine regulatory constraints and requirements that their projects may face. Drawing on a multi-disciplinary team of specialists, our staff then make recommendations to improve operations, prepare detailed site plans, and assist with filing permit applications. Some of the issues presented in these projects include wells that are hydrologically connected to surface waters (triggering a SAA with the CDFW), unsafe practices (both water quality and public safety), erosion control, unpermitted construction and grading, geologically unstable slopes, and the restoration of disturbed areas.

Since 2021, HELIX has worked with Trinity County to review and process over 200 applications for cannabis projects, including reviewing supplemental CEQA checklists that tiered from Trinity County's Program EIR and performing site inspections. HELIX worked with Trinity County to prepare checklists that evaluated each application for compliance with Trinity County regulations and Program EIR and facilitated public outreach meetings to educate local applicants about the discretionary development application process for cannabis projects. HELIX reviewed over 200 subsequent CEQA consistency checklists that tiered from Trinity County's Program EIR for cannabis activities for completeness, prepared letters of incomplete for applications with missing or incorrect items, and prepared compliance approval letters for projects that met Trinity County's requirements and Program EIR. HELIX also performed over 50 site inspections for cannabis project development applications to determine whether proposed cannabis project sites were in compliance with Trinity County requirements.

HELIX also provided extension of staff services to the Nevada County Planning Department for cannabis cultivation administrative development permit application processing between 2019 and 2023. HELIX's role included cannabis permit application review and preparation of incomplete application letters for the Nevada County Planning Department staff to route to other Nevada County departments and ultimately, to the project applicants. HELIX reviewed and processed over 100 Administrative Development Permits applications for cannabis cultivation and operations projects serving as extension of staff to the Nevada County Planning Department. HELIX also prepared conditional approval letters and Cannabis CEQA compliance checklists based on the Nevada County Commercial Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance EIR for U.S. Department of Food and Agriculture review and approval.

EXHIBIT B**PART 2: Land Use and Planning Support Services**

HELIX has extensive experience with local agencies, such as with the Nevada County Planning Department, serving as extension of staff reviewing and processing discretionary permit applications for conformance with local ordinances (additional details in Part 1 Cannabis Experience section). HELIX also prepares permit application package deficiency letters and staff reports and work closely with local agencies and permit applicants to ensure that adequate supporting documentation is provided prior to CEQA clearance and/or permit approval. HELIX provides further assistance to local agencies by presenting staff reports and technical findings to Planning Commissions, Zoning Administrators, and Boards of Supervisors, particularly for controversial projects. Our Team's depth of staff resources and expertise will ensure that we are responsive and efficient in the review and processing of permit applications and preparation of staff reports and hearing presentations, as needed.

Aspen also has extensive land use and planning support to State and local governments. For Los Angeles County, Aspen is currently working on the Renewable Energy Ordinance (REO) update technical study and Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). Adopted in December 2016, the REO was designed to address the siting and development of renewable energy technologies within the County. The update will focus on utility-scale renewable energy facilities and the integration of energy storage systems to meet the County's sustainability goals.

As part of Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) implementation support, Aspen provides support to BLM to update and consolidate its plan documents and prepare implementation materials. As part of this effort, Aspen has been updating various elements of the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan and assisting with incorporation of the BLM's applicable DRECP land use plan amendments (LUPA), including a comprehensive update of the CDCA Land Tenure Element, and incorporation of LUPA components into the various Resource Management Plans (e.g., West Mojave Route Network Project, Northern and Eastern Mojave Desert Management Plan, Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert Coordinated Management Plan, etc.).

For the California State Lands Commission (CSLC), Aspen is involved in the AB 525 Strategic Plan: Phase 1 and 2 Alternative Port Assessment Reports to Support Offshore Wind Project. To comply with AB 525 (i.e., requires agencies to develop strategic plan for offshore wind development in federal waters), California State Lands Commission is conducting an analysis of the feasibility of, and potential locations for, port(s) to support offshore wind activities along the central to southern coast of California for the Morro Bay Wind Energy Area. With respect to port infrastructure and capacity, CSLC released a study that examined the feasibility of constructing a new purpose-built port on the central California coast to support offshore wind facility staging and integration or operations and maintenance. This high-level desktop screening study examined coastal sites between San Francisco and Long Beach to identify potential underused or undeveloped sites of 30 to 100 acres. A variety of land use, engineering, and environmental "screening criteria" were used to narrow the field of suitable sites. Aspen's role in this analysis was to assess the land use impacts associated with 12 sites, and to rank these sites by the relative severity of the impacts.

Please refer to Table B.1-4 for a list of similar Land Use and Planning work performed in the last 5 years.

Public Involvement

The Aspen Team is thoroughly familiar with the public involvement and notification requirements under CEQA, NEPA, and other County permitting procedures. This thorough knowledge is especially important where it may be advantageous to exceed the minimum permitting requirements and provide more creative means of public outreach. We can assist Yolo County staff with identifying the best approach for public outreach to meet these requirements, while also taking into consideration the scale and level of

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interest in each specific project. For all projects, we will document the public outreach and noticing effort, identify where in the process stakeholders had an opportunity to comment on the project, and demonstrate that all comments and suggestions have been taken into consideration in the final environmental and project-related recommendations. We recognize that we can't eliminate all opposition; therefore, we want to adequately reflect the key issues and concerns presented, make changes in the project as appropriate, and identify any remaining concerns so the Yolo County Board of Supervisors (or other appropriate oversight agency, such as the Planning Commission) has the information available to make an informed decision about a project and can anticipate what issues or groups may still have remaining concerns with a particular project or specific potential impact.

A key component of CEQA and/or NEPA projects are public meetings that are held during the environmental review process. Public meetings are generally held during the 30-day scoping period (scoping meetings are not required for all projects) as well as during the public review period for the draft environmental document. Public meetings provide an opportunity for the public to learn more about a project, ask questions directly of project team members, and provide comments on the environmental document prior to the lead agency certifying the environmental document and deciding on the project. When requested, the Aspen Team will conduct well-planned public meetings, which will inform interested parties about a proposed project and its purpose and need, communicate project messages, provide accurate information, and obtain more substantive and useful comments. Depending on the project, we may suggest that the meeting include a court reporter to provide an official record of the oral comments presented at the public meeting.

When COVID 19 protocols were in place, public meetings were held via video conference. The Aspen Team significantly augmented its "virtual" capabilities during and since the pandemic. The Aspen Team has always relied on technology to improve the way we work and communicate. We have gained significant experience with online internal and public meetings. We have used and set up many meetings on Zoom, Microsoft Teams, WebEx, Webinar, and Go-To-Meeting. We recommend using Zoom webinar for the public hearing, in the case that any hearings are to be virtual.

Aspen Team's outreach experience goes beyond public involvement associated with CEQA and NEPA requirements. We have experience with all types of public outreach and engagement from focus group meetings, facilitation of meetings among different stakeholders, such as agency coordination meetings, targeted notification of specific issues through social media, and webinars. We have in-house graphics capabilities and experienced community outreach staff to support community engagement efforts that prepare public outreach materials, brochures, and factsheets that are interesting to look at and provide clear and easily understood information. As an example, for the County of San Bernardino, Aspen completed interviews with industry stakeholders, focus group discussions with industry stakeholders, community workshops, and a webinar to receive input on the costs and benefits of renewable energy, and to assist the County with identifying the tools needed to facilitate community-oriented renewable energy in the county. Aspen has also facilitated meetings among different State and local agencies and community interest groups to bring consensus on certain issues. For the CEC, Aspen facilitated a meeting of resource agencies, local resource experts, and Elkhorn Slough Foundation representatives, to agree on the best use of mitigation funds for the Elkhorn Slough in northern California.

Aspen Team's approach to projects with strong opposition is to prepare a project-specific outreach plan in coordination with Yolo County staff. A project-specific outreach plan is critical to the success of controversial and high-profile projects, and it would be one of the first items we prepare for controversial projects.

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Key components of a typical plan include outcome-oriented goals for public involvement; communication objectives; key and consistent project-specific messages; project-appropriate outreach strategies, tactics to reach target audiences; a schedule; and clearly defined roles and responsibilities. Each plan will also identify key stakeholders and provide different avenues for public notification and engagement. The goal is to provide interested stakeholders with an opportunity to provide comment during project development (e.g., siting and routing of linear facilities), which may head-off some opposition and foster some local buy-in to the project. We understand the sensitivity of presenting information to the public at an early stage in the project and will work with Yolo County staff to present only factual information that has been vetted with the project team and approved by Yolo County. We've worked with the public in the Sacramento region, and throughout northern California, and understand concerns about such topics as agricultural operations, property values, health impacts, and visual impacts. We have worked with other key stakeholders of importance to Yolo County, including regulatory agencies (e.g., CDFW Region 2 and beyond, USFWS Sacramento field office, USACE Sacramento District, counties and cities); our approach is intended to engage stakeholders early to garner project support, to obtain local information, and identify local concerns. We've successfully used early public engagement on many of the EIR or EIR/EIS projects listed in Table B.1-3, above.

Effective stakeholder outreach and public participation can provide substantial benefits to Yolo County:

- ◆ Obtaining greater and more balanced perspectives early in the process
- ◆ Building relationships with, and providing a sense of inclusion to, stakeholders
- ◆ Offering new ideas or innovative solutions
- ◆ Building trust in the process
- ◆ Demonstrating that Yolo County listens to the public
- ◆ Obtaining positive media coverage
- ◆ Minimizing project delays or costs in the long-run
- ◆ Reducing the chance of litigation

Municipal Agencies Worked for in the Past Five Years

The Aspen Team has performed CEQA/NEPA and Land Use/Planning services for more than 30 municipal agencies over the past five years. We expect that environmental support services required by Yolo County may be similar to those assignments our Team may have recently performed for Yolo County as well as the other agency assignments listed in Table B.1-7.

Table B.1-7. Projects for Municipal Agencies Within the Last Five Years

Client	Relevant Projects
Yolo County (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Harlan Ranch AT&T Cell Tower IS/MND (in progress) ■ Bayer Woodland Solar Farm Use Permit IS/MND ■ Gibson Solar Farm IS/MND and IS/EIR ■ Ashley Avenue AT&T Cell Tower IS/ND ■ Wilbur-Ellis Distribution Center IS/MND ■ Taber Ranch Cell Tower IS ■ Putah Creek Energy Farm IS/MND
County of Imperial (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CEQA Support for Imperial USA Corp
County of Los Angeles (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Santa Monica Mountains North Area Plan
County of San Bernardino (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Rimforest Storm Drain ■ Chris Basin Annual Routine Maintenance ■ Institution Road Reconstruction

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Client	Relevant Projects
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ West Fontana Channel Flood Control ■ Elder Creek Channel Improvement Project ■ Renewable Energy Ordinance Update ■ Heaps Peak East Slope Repair
County of San Luis Obispo (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Avila Tank Farm MUP Initial Study ■ PG&E Diablo Canyon Power Plant
County of Santa Barbara (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ERG Operation Company West Cat Canyon ■ Aera East Cat Canyon Oil Field ■ Strauss Wind Energy Project
County of Ventura (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Santa Clara River Levee (SCR-1) Project ■ Ventura River Levee (VR-1) Improvements ■ Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration ■ Highway 118 Widening at Moorpark Treat ■ Camino Cielo Bridge Replacement Project
City of Hermosa Beach (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ RTI Infrastructure Transpacific Fiber-Optic Project
City of Laguna Beach Fire Department (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Fuel Modification Professional Services ■ South Laguna Fuel Modification Project ■ Park Avenue Fuel Modification Project
City of Lancaster (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Residential Subdivision Focused EIR ■ Parkway Village Specific Plan EIR ■ Concentrics' H6 Microgrid Project ■ MND/IS for Waste to Renewable Hydrogen
City of Santa Clara/Silicon Valley Power (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Self-Generation EIR ■ Northern Receiving Station ■ Kifer BESS MND ■ NRS-KRS 115kV MND ■ Homestead Sub Rebuild MND ■ Juliette Substation CX
City of Simi Valley (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Guardian Street Environmental Review
City of Torrance (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Torrance Del Amo Technology Center
Antelope Valley East-Kern Water Agency (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ South North Intertie Pipeline (Phase II)
Coachella Valley Water District (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Thousand Palms Flood Control Project
Coachella Valley Desert and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Coachella Valley Trails Project
Laguna Beach Community Development (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Laguna Beach Fuel Modification Zoning Co
Los Angeles Community College District (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Stormwater Project at Harbor IS/MND
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ DPW Whittier Aquatic Facility ■ LADPW Alamitos Bay Pump Station Discharge ■ Alondra Park Multi-benefit Stormwater ■ LACMA Magic Johnson Park Site Study Supp ■ Walnut Park Pocket Park ■ Los Angeles River Segment B Load Reduction

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Client	Relevant Projects
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Allen J. Martin Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project ■ Cudahy District Office Demo EP22-014 ■ Imperial Yard South Relocation Project ■ Department of Social Services (DPSS) Cudahy A/P District Office Demolition Project ■ Pitchess Peter J. Detention Center Landfill Closure Project Statutory Exemption ■ 955 Vignes Street Warm Landing CX ■ Metropolitan State Hospital Project CX
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Castaic Spoils Pile Removal Project ■ Beacon Phase II Energy Storage Project ■ Scattergood Energy Storage Project ■ Bee Canyon Sag Pipe Rehab ■ Bouquet Inlet/Outlet Pipeline Gate Valve ■ Distribution Station 104 CEQA Support
Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Renewable Energy Ordinance Update
Metro Water District of Southern California (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Copper Basin Valve Replacement ■ Colorado River Aqueduct ■ San Gabriel Tower and Improvements Project
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Puerco Canyon Camp and Trailhead Project ■ MLCA Public Works Plan
Port of Long Beach (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ SCE Transmission Tower Replacement Addition ■ World Oil Tank Installation Project EIR ■ Pier Wind Terminal Development EIR/EIS
Port of Los Angeles (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CEQA/NEPA Technical Support PD 1 ■ PD 2- Innovative Barracuda Chassis Depot ■ PD 3- Innovative New Dock (AIM) Chassis ■ John S. Gibson Blvd. Container Parking ■ Berth 44 Boatyard Non-Reimbursable PD 4 ■ LAXT Loop Project EIR PD 5 ■ Terminal Island Rail System Grade Separation ■ Goods Movement Workforce Training Campus
Sacramento Municipal Utility District (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Environmental and CEQA Support As-Needed ■ CEQA Compliance for the Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center Substation
Trinity Public Utilities District (Aspen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Wildfire Risk Reduction, Reliability, and Asset Protection EIS/EIR
City of Bishop (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ City of Bishop Downtown Specific Plan & Mixed-Use Overlay Program EIR ■ East Line Street Bridge Replacement IS/MND ■ Warren Street Sidewalk Improvements Categorical Exemption
City of Citrus Heights (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ On-Call Environmental Review Services (7 individual projects) ■ Old Auburn Road Subdivision IS/MND ■ Habitat for Humanity Sayonara Drive Housing Cultural Resources
City of Elk Grove (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Laguna Creek Trail and Bruceville Road Sidewalk Improvements IS/MND
City of Folsom (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Avenida Senior Living IS/MND ■ Broadstone Villas Multi-Family Apartment IS/MND ■ Creekside Apartments IS/MND ■ Folsom Corporate Center Apartments IS/MND ■ Livermore Park Monopine Cell Tower IS/MND ■ AC Hotel by Marriott IS/MND

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Client	Relevant Projects
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natoma Affordable Senior Apartments IS/MND Public Safety Facility and Joint Fire/Police Station Categorical Exemption
City of Modesto (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Modesto Municipal Groundwater Supply Contamination Prevention and Cleanup Project IS/MND
City of Rocklin (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panda Express IS/MND
City of Sacramento (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raley Boulevard Truck Service and Parking Facility IS/MND
City of Union City (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chevron Fuel Station and Power Market Convenience Store IS/MND
City of Vacaville (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centennial Park Master Plan IS/MND
City of Yuba City (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Yuba City Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well System IS/MND
El Dorado County (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> El Dorado County On-Call Commercial Cannabis Development Permitting Services (15 individual projects) Broadband Infrastructure Program EIR El Dorado County Department of Transportation On-Call Environmental Review Services (10 individual projects) Old Depot Bike Park IS/MND Forebay Park Improvements IS/MND
San Joaquin County (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-Call Environmental Review Services (3 individual projects) Harney Lane Bridge Scour Mitigation Across Paddy Creek IS/MND
Truckee Donner Public Utility District (HELIX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pioneer Trail Pipeline and Pump Station IS/MND
City of Winters (PAR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant Avenue/SR 128/Russell Boulevard Bike and Ped Improvement
County of Sutter (PAR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Howsley Road Bridge Replacement Project
Woodbridge Sanitation District (PAR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Woodbridge Sanitation District Environmental Services

B.2. Understanding Desired Services and General Approach

PART 1, CEQA Permitting

CEQA permitting is required for several projects/activities in Yolo County. CEQA compliance is required for new ordinances (such as the County’s cannabis ordinance), replacing/updated existing facilities such as bridge replacement projects, landfill expansion, and updating planning documents (e.g., the County General Plan, Elements within the General Plan, Community Specific Plans, or Area Plans). Services under **Part 2, Land Use and Planning Support** (addressed later in this subsection) could be used to update those planning documents. They could also be used to address other development projects such as lot line adjustments, Major or Minor Use Permits to revise operations of a facility (such as a vineyard) to add support facilities like an event center, expansion of operations, Use Permits for photovoltaic (PV) farms, cannabis facilities, and other development projects.

Aspen’s general approach to providing CEQA analysis for development projects (described in more detail previously in the Third Party CEQA Document Preparation) is to prepare a proposed scope, schedule, and budget based on the applicant’s Use Permit application, the applicant’s project description, and any site plans or other materials provided to the Department of Community Services. Once Aspen receives a notice to proceed from the County, it would provide the applicant with a list of additional questions needed to clarify their project description, and to provide information that is necessary for the preparation of the appropriate CEQA analysis. Aspen would then work closely with the Community Services Department to

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prepare a draft environmental document, and with the applicant to develop appropriate mitigation measures. Aspen will work closely with the County to incorporate comments on administrative draft documents, draft documents, and final documents. At the County's request, Aspen is available to prepare the various notice documents and prepare maps for use in publicizing notices in the local newspapers. For Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), Aspen is available to attend scoping meetings (or facilitate virtual meetings). Following the Scoping meeting, Aspen will prepare a Scoping Summary Report that will be included as an appendix to the EIR. It will include the Notice of Preparation (NOP), public comment letters, the meeting transcript, and a summary of the County's public outreach. Similarly, following a public comment period, Aspen will log comment letters and prepare a Response to Comments for use by the planning department in its staff report. Aspen's project manager will also be available to attend any public meetings held to consider adoption of the CEQA document and be available to respond to questions from the decision-makers.

Table B.2-1, below, provides a brief summary of recent CEQA support projects (completed within the last 5 years) for Yolo County and other City, County, and State clients.

PART 2, Land Use and Planning

The Aspen Team understands that the Yolo County Community Services Department is seeking consultants to provide as-needed, on-call land use and planning consulting services. Upon selection, HELIX will work with the County to develop a discretionary development application intake, review, and processing strategy. HELIX's proposed project approach is based on our understanding of the information provided in the RFQ and experience with other jurisdictions reviewing and processing cannabis cultivation and operation permit applications as an extension of staff.

Upon selection and receipt of a formal Notice to Proceed from the County, HELIX's project manager will prepare a master scope of work outlining the task elements necessary to successfully support the County's discretionary development application intake and review process. HELIX will work directly with the County's assigned contract manager to develop a user-friendly permit application intake, review, and processing strategy and process to be implemented in a cost and time efficient manner. Throughout the duration of the contract, HELIX will actively manage the application review process to minimize the time and cost required to complete the required review and work products.

Upon submittal of a discretionary development application package by an applicant, the assigned HELIX staff member will review the materials included in the application package for completeness and conformance with the Cannabis Land Use Ordinance (CLUO), General Plan, Programmatic EIR, and any other local or State regulations. As part of HELIX's initial review of all discretionary development applications, HELIX staff will determine whether the project aligns with County requirements and confirm that all necessary permit(s) and State documentation requirements are approved or complete. If the permit application is deemed incomplete, then HELIX staff will prepare a deficiency letter that notes the items needing completion, clarification, or correction to achieve compliance with local or State regulations. Upon transmittal of the application deficiency letter, HELIX staff will work closely with the permit applicant (or their agent) and County staff to resolve deficiencies identified in the project-specific letter. If deficiencies noted in the letter include issues that may involve other interested parties (proximity to sensitive resources, illegal diversion, or source of water, etc.), then HELIX staff will work with the permit applicant, County, and other interested parties to resolve the outstanding issues.

Once a discretionary development application is deemed complete, then HELIX staff will work with the County to determine the appropriate level of CEQA documentation needed for the project. If the CEQA document is a Categorical Exemption (CE), then preparation of the staff report and resolution will commence as soon as the application is deemed complete, and the CE is reviewed for adequacy. HELIX

EXHIBIT B

staff will provide the documentation necessary to support the County’s decisions on the permit application, environmental document, and, ultimately, project approval. Finally, we can assist with public scoping meetings and hearings as requested, ranging from planning the meetings/hearings, making formal presentations, and/or just attending the meetings/hearings to obtain information and serve as extension of staff to the County.

Experience Summary

Table B.2-1 provides a brief summary of both recent CEQA and planning projects (completed within the last 5 years) for Yolo County and other city, county, and State clients. It is followed by a “measles chart” (Figure B.2-1) identifying staff listed in the Organizational Chart (Figure B.3-1) that worked on the projects summarized in the table.

Table B.2-1. Selected CEQA and Planning Projects within the Last Five Years	
Client	Brief Project Description
Yolo County Department of Community Services Aspen Environmental Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Harlan Ranch Cell Tower IS/MND. AT&T is proposing to construct and operate a new 140-foot-high monopole cell tower with associated equipment including a backup emergency diesel generator. The Project would be located just outside the city of Woodland, California.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ashley Avenue Cell Tower IS/MND. AT&T Mobility proposed a new telecommunications tower in unincorporated Yolo County on the edge of the city of Woodland. The project consisted of installing a new 128-foot-tall monopole co-locatable tapered cell tower with 16 panel antennas, 16 remote radio units, a new 8-foot by 8-foot walk in cabinet equipment shelter and back-up emergency generator.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Gibson Solar Farm IS/MND and IS/EIR. The Gibson Solar project is a photovoltaic (PV) solar-energy-based electricity generating facility with the capacity to generate up to 20 MWac of renewable electrical energy during peak periods of production. The electricity generated by the PV field will be used in part for charging the batteries and the remaining energy generated by the PV field will be delivered to the grid. Aspen prepared an IS/MND, followed by an EIR, and an addendum to the EIR.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Bayer Woodland Solar Farm IS/MND. Bayer U.S., Crop Science sought to construct and operate a 2-MW solar PV electricity-generating facility on approximately 11 acres of land with 10.8 acres on a 39-acre parcel and the remaining 0.2 acres on existing hardscape located on the adjacent Bayer Crop Science facility.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Wilbur-Ellis Consolidation Facility IS/MND. Wilbur-Ellis Company proposed to close and consolidate its two nearby agricultural retail facilities into a single facility located in Woodland, California. The purpose of the consolidation was to construct a larger, more centralized facility to better serve the company’s customer base. The Wilbur-Ellis Consolidation Facility would be located on a 69-acre parcel that previously supported a seed research facility and also supports 45 acres of agricultural production. The parcel is under a Williamson Act Contract and has a 45-acre conservation easement held by the Yolo County Land Trust and the City of Woodland. The project will distribute fertilizer (solid, liquid, and gases) and provide farming equipment. Among the fertilizers stored at the facility would be anhydrous and aqueous ammonia.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Taber Ranch Cell Tower IS. AT&T Mobility wanted to improve communication services in Yolo County by providing wireless coverage along SR 16 near the communities of Capay and Brooks. The purpose of the Taber Ranch Cell Tower Project was to expand AT&T’s network and improve call quality, signal strength, and wireless connection services in Yolo County. The improved wireless service would benefit residents, travelers, public services, and roadway safety in the area.

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Client	Brief Project Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putah Creek Energy Farm IS/MND. The Putah Creek Energy Farm (PCEF) project was comprised of PV electric panels, inverters, support structures, an energy storage system (batteries), and electrical equipment. The proximity of PCEF to the PG&E-owned Putah Creek substation, located adjacent to PCEF’s southern border, made this site an ideal candidate for a solar generation project requiring little to no PG&E infrastructure improvements. PCEF covered 19 acres of a 31-acre walnut orchard located in unincorporated Yolo County near Winters, California.
California Energy Commission Energy Research and Development Division Aspen Environmental Group & Risk Science Associates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form Energy East Road Storage Project IS/MND. The CEC’s Non-Lithium Long-Duration Energy System (NLLDES) program provides funding for the demonstration and deployment of non-lithium-ion long-duration energy storage technologies across California. Under the NLLDES program, Form Energy, Inc. will deploy 5MW of multi-day storage with a storage capacity of 500 MWh using iron-air battery technology at a PG&E property in Mendocino County. When fully charged, the Project could discharge power to the grid continuously for 100 hours. Aspen prepared an IS/MND to evaluate the environmental impacts of the project and identify possible ways to minimize the significant effects of the project. Hoopa Valley Tribe Microgrid and NLLDES Project. Under the NLLDES program, the Hoopa Valley Tribe will deploy 1.5 MW/20 MWh of non-lithium-ion long-duration energy storage system at the Hoopa Valley Reservation in Humboldt County. The NLLDES system will be operated as part of a microgrid of solar photovoltaic and will serve the Hoopa Valley Tribe. The project will demonstrate the microgrid’s ability to power critical Tribal operations during outage events, such as Public Safety Power Shut Off (PSPS) events, and peak grid demand. Aspen is currently evaluating the project’s suitability for a CEQA Notice of Exemption.
City of Lancaster Aspen Environmental Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parkway Village Specific Plan EIR. The Parkway Village Specific Plan was developed by the City of Lancaster to guide the future development of 434.7-acre vacant area in the southern portion of the city. The planned development contains residential units, hotels, schools, parks, open space, offices, a hospital, and commercial uses. Aspen prepared an EIR to evaluate the environmental impacts of the Specific Plan and identify possible ways to minimize the significant effects of the project.
Trinity Public Utilities District Aspen Environmental Group & PAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildfire Risk Reduction, Reliability, and Asset Protection (WRAP) Project. The Trinity Public Utilities District and Western Area Power Administration are proposing to widen 317 miles of their existing transmission and distribution line rights-of-way to reduce the risk of utility-sparked wildfire in Trinity County. The ROW will be expanded to up to 130 feet. Aspen is preparing a joint EIS/EIR for this project and is assisting with permitting as well.
Sacramento Municipal Utilities District Aspen Environmental Group & Marty Ecological Consulting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rancho Seco Solar II Switchyard Project. Aspen and Marty Ecological Consulting provided biological monitoring services during the construction of the Rancho Seco Solar II Switchyard Project, which included a solar array, substation, and switchyard. Aspen and MEC conducted pre-construction surveys, provided Worker Education and Awareness Program training, and conducted construction monitoring.
City of Arvin HELIX Environmental Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Arvin Wastewater Treatment Facility Land Application Areas CEQA Categorical Exemption, Kern County. HELIX prepared a CEQA Categorical Exemption for the discharge of treated wastewater from the City of Arvin Wastewater Treatment Facility’s effluent storage reservoirs to existing land application areas in the project vicinity. In support of the project, HELIX documented the project’s eligibility for a Categorical Exemption. The infrastructure to support the discharge of treated wastewater to the land application areas was already in place and required no construction, and the project was exempt under a Class 1, Existing Facilities Categorical Exemption.

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Client	Brief Project Description
<p>El Dorado County HELIX Environmental Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ El Dorado County On-Call Commercial Cannabis Development Permitting Services. HELIX prepared CEQA documentation for proposed cannabis cultivation and operation projects on behalf of El Dorado County. HELIX has completed numerous task orders with our services to the County including review of the application materials, peer review of applicant-submitted technical studies, site reconnaissance visits, preparation of CEQA documentation, and staff support at project approval and appeal hearings.
<p>City of Bishop HELIX Environmental Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ City of Bishop Downtown Specific Plan and Mixed-Use Overlay EIR. HELIX prepared an EIR for the Bishop Downtown Specific Plan, which would increase allowable residential and commercial density in the downtown core of this rural and underserved City located in the Eastern Sierra Nevada region.
<p>City of Vacaville HELIX Environmental Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Centennial Park Master Plan IS/MND, City of Vacaville, Solano County. HELIX prepared an IS/MND for the Centennial Park Master Plan, which tiers from the Program EIR for the City of Vacaville’s General Plan Update and Energy and Conservation Action Strategy. Centennial Park is an existing 265-acre park with 35-acres of developed park space and the remainder undeveloped. The Centennial Park Master Plan identifies development of the park, anticipated to be developed in five phases over numerous years as funding becomes available. HELIX prepared visual simulations from four City-selected key observation points; air quality, greenhouse gas, and energy analyses; noise analysis; cultural resources assessment; and biological resources assessment in support of the IS/MND. HELIX also assisted City staff with Assembly Bill 52 consultation and participated in a consultation meeting with a local interested tribe. The IS/MND was approved by the City Council in November 2024.
<p>Trinity County HELIX Environmental Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Trinity County Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses. Trinity County had received over 500 applications for commercial cannabis cultivation as of fall 2021. HELIX was selected to provide review and processing of applicant-provided Appendix C Checklists (similar to Appendix G Checklists) and supporting technical studies for conformance with the County’s Program EIR and cannabis ordinance as well as public outreach support to provide feedback to permit applicants and their consultants regarding Appendix C Checklist deficiencies. HELIX staff participate in weekly team meetings with Trinity County staff, counsel, and consulting team to maintain effective internal communication and discuss important issues that staff came across in Appendix C Checklist reviews. HELIX staff also organize and presented at public outreach meetings in-person and provided site inspection support to the County. HELIX staff have reviewed over 120 Appendix C Checklists and conducted over 50 site inspections.
<p>Tuolumne County HELIX Environmental Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tuolumne County On-Call LAFCO Services. HELIX has been providing on-call LAFCO Support Services to Tuolumne LAFCO since 2019. Tasks have included review and advisory assistance with the Groveland Community Services District Municipal Services Review and Sphere of Influence Update and the potential dissolution of a road maintenance fund associated with County Service Area No. 64.
<p>Nevada County HELIX Environmental Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ As-Needed Professional Planning Project Processing and Review Services. HELIX provided extension of staff services to the Nevada County Planning Department for cannabis cultivation administrative development permit application processing between 2019 and 2023. HELIX’s role included cannabis permit application review and preparation of incomplete application letters for the Nevada County Planning Department staff to route to other Nevada County departments and ultimately, to the project applicants. HELIX reviewed and processed over 100 Administrative Development Permits applications for cannabis cultivation and operations projects serving as extension of staff to the Nevada County Planning Department. HELIX also prepared conditional approval letters and Cannabis CEQA compliance checklists

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Client	Brief Project Description
	based on the Nevada County Commercial Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance EIR for U.S. Department of Food and Agriculture review and approval.
Yuba City HELIX Environmental Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Yuba City Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well System IS/MND. Helix drafted various sections of the IS/MND for the Yuba City Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well System including environmental impact analysis, conducted background research, and analyzed technical studies such as a Biological Resources Assessment and Cultural Resources Assessment for inclusion in the IS/MND. Work was performed for Carollo Engineering with the City of Yuba City as the Lead Agency.
City of Citrus Heights HELIX Environmental Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7820 and 7828 Old Auburn Road Project IS/MND. Helix prepared an IS/MND for the City of Citrus Heights who was considering two separate but independent parcel map applications that would subdivide two existing parcels into six parcels. In addition to the parcel map applications, the project proposed to convert the existing 1,056-square foot detached garage on the western parcel into an 898-square foot Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) and a 158-square foot storage area. The project also proposed to convert the existing 624-square foot detached garage on the eastern parcel into a 624-square foot ADU on the first floor, and a 396-square foot studio living space on the top floor/attic of the garage. Also, as part of the proposed project, existing concrete foundations, sheds, and livestock shelters located on the project site would be demolished and removed.

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Figure B.2-1. Staff Who Worked on Selected CEQA and Cannabis Projects

Team Member	Project																					
	Harlan Ranch Cell Tower	Ashley Avenue Cell Tower	Gibson Solar Farm	Bayer Woodland Solar Farm	Wilbur-Ellis Consolidation Facility	Taber Ranch Cell Tower	Putah Creek Energy Farm	Form Energy East Road Storage	Hoopa Valley Tribe Microgrid and LDES	Parkway Village Specific Plan EIR	Wildfire Risk Reduction, Reliability, and Asset Protection Project	SMUD Rancho Seco Solar II Switchyard	City of Arvin Wastewater Treatment Facility Land Application Areas	El Dorado County On-Call Commercial Cannabis Development Permitting Services	City of Bishop Downtown Specific Plan and Mixed-Use Overlay EIR	City of Vacaville Centennial Park Master Plan IS/MND	Trinity County Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses	Tuolumne County On-Call LAFCO Services	Nevada County On-Call Professional Planning Project Processing and Review Services	Yuba City Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well System IS/MND	Old Auburn Road Subdivision IS/MND	
Aspen																						
Murphy, Tom	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Wild, Amanda	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Allen, Eileen			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Birdsall, Brewster			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Blewitt, Lisa	●																					
Carrier, John	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Crawford-Martin, Collin	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Dal Porto, Rachael	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
DeOliveira, Lauren	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Dunn, Leane	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Hatheway, Roger	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Hoke, Mike	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Hoffman, Jonathan	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Huntley, Christian	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Inouye, Taliata	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Kaufman, Irene	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Koczvara, Hedy	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
McOmber, Britta	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Khaili, Nader	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Patterson, Aurie	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Pulsipher, Krystal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Robinson, Mark	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Spranger, Rebecca	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Tang, Stephanie	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Vahidi, Negar	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Weeks, Grace	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Wood, Justin	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
HELIX																						
Andrade, Jose																●					●	●
deBecker, Emma																					●	●
Edgerton, Robert																					●	●
Gonzalez, Christine																					●	●
Gustafson, Erin																					●	●
Owning, Lesley																					●	●
Pano, Julia																					●	●
Siegel, Ben																					●	●
Singh, Anviti																					●	●
Estep Environmental		●	●	●			●															
Marty Ecological												●										
PAR Environmental												●										
Risk Science Associates								●														

EXHIBIT B**B.3. Aspen Team Key Personnel****Project Organization**

The structure of the Aspen Team and the staff being proposed for this effort are presented in the Organization Chart (Figure B.3-1). Our Team includes specialists already well-known to Yolo County (see commendation letter from Ms. Stephanie Cormier, Yolo County in Appendix 2 of this proposal), as well as additional experts specifically selected to address any potential needs that could arise during the term of the contract. For example, we added HELIX to our team to lead Task Orders for cannabis projects as well as provide land use and planning support services. Each individual listed has the knowledge and experience in his or her areas of expertise to address all anticipated environmental service requirements Yolo County may require for CEQA Permitting, and Land Use and Planning support. The Aspen Team has the flexibility and willingness to respond to urgent needs on short notice and with tight deadlines. Because of the variability in workload, our Team was specifically designed with redundancy so that we will be able to respond to multiple concurrent projects of various types and sizes.

Proposed Principal-in-Charge

Mr. Tom Murphy, Executive Vice President in Aspen's Sacramento office, will serve as the Principal-in-Charge overseeing the contract with Yolo County Department of Community Services. Mr. Murphy served as the Program Manager under our prior 2021 contract with Yolo County. He has unsurpassed and directly relevant experience due to his work with Yolo County, SMUD, and other nearby public agencies.

Under our existing 2021 Yolo County contract, Mr. Murphy provides focused communication to all Team members that the County's interests must receive top priority. Mr. Murphy's regular communications with all Team members maintains this vision throughout the contract period. Similarly, his communications with Yolo County staff ensures that Yolo County's needs and issues are identified immediately. Under Mr. Murphy's leadership, Aspen has been able to quickly identify appropriate staff and Team members to meet immediate and anticipated project needs. A good example of this responsiveness is the SMUD Rancho Seco Switchyard Expansion Project, where the Aspen Team was able to get a biological monitor out into the field within 24 hours of receiving the request, so that construction could continue on the project.

Proposed Program Manager

Ms. Amanda Wild will serve as the Program Manager under this contract. Amanda is well known by Yolo County Planning Staff. She is the Deputy Program Manager on our existing contract with the County. She has also been a project manager under Aspen's 2021 Contract, and she worked on six of the Yolo County projects (see Figure B.2-1), managing two of them: Bayer Woodland Solar Farm and the Wilbur-Ellis Consolidation Facility. She will be responsible for responding to the day-to-day technical and management issues associated with the contract, including training, work planning, scope of work development, budgeting, scheduling, quality assurance/quality control, document production, and progress reporting. She will be the ongoing direct point of contact with Yolo

"Amanda Wild....Under your management, the Aspen team has consistently responded in a timely manner producing high quality technical reports for these two important programs...Since the start of these two agreements, Aspen has helped to finalize and publish more than 250 technical reports and a total of 5 annual reports for ERDD."

**Doris Yamamoto, Operations
California Energy Commission Energy
Research and Development Division
February 14, 2025**

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County. Her overarching responsibility is to ensure the Aspen Team is fully and promptly responsive to the needs and requirements of Yolo County under this contract.

Ms. Wild boasts excellent working relationships with client staff on the contracts she supports, as well as the teams she manages. Her communication style and interpersonal skills contribute to her success as a manager, allowing her to effectively motivate teams to craft the highest quality deliverables. In addition, Ms. Wild's organizational skills are unparalleled and are crucial to managing a contract of this size, duration, and importance.

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Exhibit B.3-1. Aspen Team Project Organization

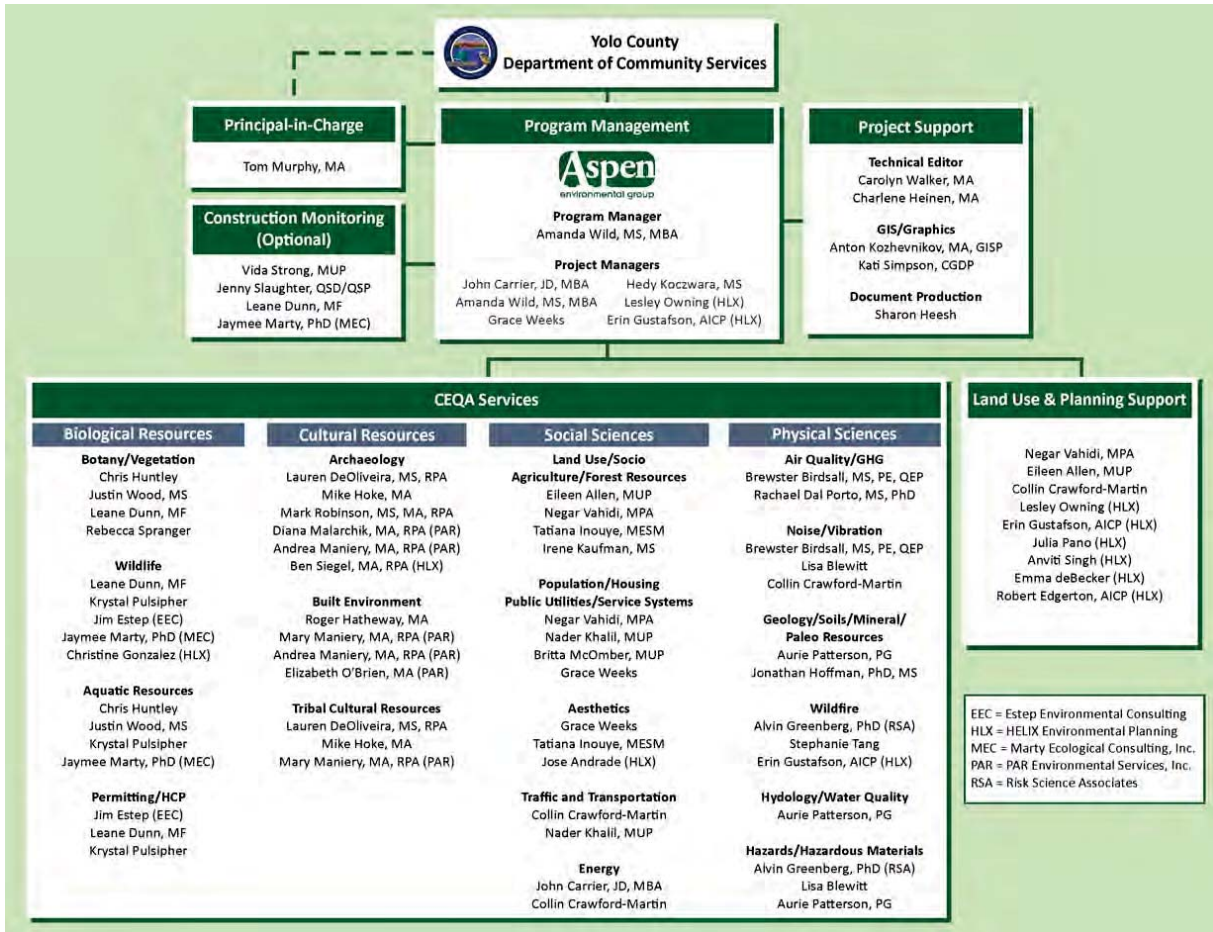


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Key Team Members

Each Key Team member included in the Organization Chart is listed in Table B.3-1. They are listed in alphabetical order by company following Mr. Murphy’s and Ms. Amanda Wild’s information. This table provides individual names, affiliations, role(s), education and licenses, and accomplishments and awards of those personnel likely to be assigned projects for Yolo County. More detailed information is presented in the resumes provided in Appendix 1, which have been tailored to focus on experience relevant to Yolo County’s anticipated On-Call CEQA, and Land Use and Planning Consulting needs.

Table B.3-1. Key Team Member Role, Education, Years of Experience, Licenses, and Awards

Name, Firm, Role	Education and Years of Experience	Licenses, Accomplishments and Awards
Tom Murphy, MA Aspen Environmental Group Principal-in-Charge	MA, Physical Geography BA, Earth Science 32 Years’ Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Outstanding Performance Award, California Energy Commission (CEC), 2001 ■ Letters of recognition from Yolo County and other various clients in Appendix 2 of this proposal
Amanda Wild, MS, MBA Aspen Environmental Group Program Manager, Project Manager	MSUS, Sustainability MBA BS, Environmental Studies 6 Years’ Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Letter of recognition from CEC in Appendix 2 of this proposal ■ Association of Women in Water, Energy, and Environment ■ Graduated Cum Laude ■ Falk School Full Scholarship
Eileen Allen, MUP Aspen Environmental Group Land Use/Socio/Agriculture/ Forest Resources, Land Use & Planning Support	MA Urban Planning AB Rhetoric 30+ Years’ Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CEC Superior Accomplishment Award, 2009
Brewster Birdsall, MS, PE, QEP Aspen Environmental Group Air Quality/GHG, Noise/Vibration	MS, Civil Engineering BS, Mechanical Engineering 31 Years’ Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Professional Engineer (Mechanical, California #32565) ■ Qualified Environmental Professional, Institute of ■ Professional Environmental Practice (#03030005) ■ Outstanding Performance Award, CEC, 2001 ■ AEP, Outstanding Environmental Analysis Document Awards for: Analysis of Oil and Gas Well Stimulation Treatments in California EIR (2016); San Luis Obispo County Renewable Energy Streamlining Program, Opportunity and Constraints Technical Study (2016); and Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project EIR/EIS (2009) ■ 2014 National AEP, NEPA Excellence Award, Burning Man 2012-2016 Special Recreation Permit EA ■ AEP Statewide Best EIR Award for the Jefferson-Martin 230 kV Transmission Project EIR, 2004 ■ APA, Environmental Award for the LAUSD New School Construction Program EIR (2006)
Lisa Blewitt Aspen Environmental Group Noise/Vibration, Hazards/Hazardous Materials	BS, Chemical Engineering 29 Years’ Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Project Management Professional Certificate ■ Engineer-in-Training ■ AEP, Outstanding Environmental Analysis Document Awards for Panoche Valley Solar Farm Project EIR (2011) ■ APA, Environmental Award for the LAUSD New School Construction Program EIR (2006)
John Carrier, JD, MBA Aspen Environmental Group Project Manager, Energy	JD, Business MBA, Business BA, Sociology 40+ Years’ Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ California BAR #99175 (inactive) ■ Letters of recognition from Yolo County and various clients ■ Mentor of the year award, 2009

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Name, Firm, Role	Education and Years of Experience	Licenses, Accomplishments and Awards
Collin Crawford-Martin Aspen Environmental Group Traffic and Transportation, Energy, Noise/Vibration, Land Use & Planning Support	BS, Energy and Earth Resources 10 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ FAA commercial drone remote pilot certification ■ Dust control plan training and certification
Rachael Dal Porto, PhD, MS Aspen Environmental Group Air Quality/GHG	PhD, Civil and Environmental Engineering MS, Civil and Environmental Engineering BS, Civil Engineering BA, Honors Chemistry 7 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Developed and executed methodology for the analysis of wildfire smoke, indoor aerosols, atmospheric aerosols, and wetland hydraulics
Lauren DeOliveira, MS, RPA Aspen Environmental Group Archaeology, Tribal Cultural Resources	MS Geographic Information Science BA Liberal Studies 15 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) ID# 17577 ■ Certified Professional Archaeologist for City of Santa Barbara, Malibu, Simi Valley, Orange County, and Riverside County ■ Affiliated with the Society for American Archaeology, Society for California Archaeology, and Ventura County Archaeology Society
Leane Dunn, MF Aspen Environmental Group Botany/Vegetation, Wildlife, Construction/Environmental Monitoring	MF, Forestry/Urban Forestry BS, Ecology and Systematic Biology 18 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Certified Yolo County HCP/NCCP Qualified Biologist ■ CDFW Scientific Collecting Permit (SC-7617) ■ CDFW Plant Collecting Permit (2081(a)-16-128-V) ■ ISA Certified Arborist and Utility Specialist (WE-7368AU)
Roger Hatheway, MA Aspen Environmental Group Built Environment	MA, History BA, History 35+ Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Author of two books: Lake Arrowhead: Postcard History Series and Rim of the World Drive ■ Taught at UCLA from 1981 to 1993 ■ Wrote weekly newspaper columns for Mountain News and Crestline Courier News focusing on history ■ Rim of the World Historical Society president
Charlene Heinen, MA Aspen Environmental Group Technical Editing	MA Economics BA Economics and Business Administration BS Art and Journalism 40+ Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Technical Editor for the CEC
Jonathan Hoffman, PhD, MS Aspen Environmental Group Geology/Soils/Mineral/Paleo Resources	PhD, Geology MS, Geology BA, Geology 11 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Many publications ■ Paleontological technical reports ■ Qualified Professional Paleontologist and Paleontological Resource Monitor under the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology's guidelines
Mike Hoke, MA Aspen Environmental Group Archaeology, Tribal Cultural Resources	MA, Anthropology BA, Anthropology AA, Communications 15+ Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Multiple publications ■ Nate Harrison Field School, Palomar Mountain, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, 2017 ■ Medieval Funerary Excavation, Transylvania Romania, 2016 ■ Certificate of Achievement (2)

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Name, Firm, Role	Education and Years of Experience	Licenses, Accomplishments and Awards
<p>Chris Huntley Aspen Environmental Group Botany/Vegetation, Aquatic Resources</p>	<p>Graduate Studies, Biology BA, Biology 27 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Outstanding Performance Award, CEC, 2001 ■ United States Army Corps of Engineers ■ Letter of Appreciation, 2010 ■ AEP, Outstanding Environmental Analysis Document Awards for: San Luis Obispo County Renewable Energy Streamlining Program, Opportunity and Constraints Technical Study (2016); Panoche Valley Solar Farm Project EIR (2011); and Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project EIR/EIS (2009)
<p>Tatiana Inouye, MESM Aspen Environmental Group Agriculture/Forest Resources Land Use/Socio, Aesthetics</p>	<p>Master of Environmental Science and Management BS, Biology 17 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ California AEP, Merit Award for Environmental Resource Document, REVEAL Initiative Report, 2017 ■ APA, Environmental Award for the LAUSD New School Construction Program EIR (2006)
<p>Irene Kaufman, MS Aspen Environmental Group Agriculture/Forest Resources Land Use/Socio</p>	<p>MS, Agriculture, Dairy Products Technology BA, English 6 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Graduate Certificate, Geographic Information Science and Technology, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, 2021 ■ Women in GIS – Board member and Mentorship committee chair (2022-2023) ■ The Land Connection – Board member and Secretary (2018-2022)
<p>Nader Khalil, MUP Aspen Environmental Group Population/Housing/Public Utilities/Service Systems, Traffic and Transportation</p>	<p>MA, Urban Planning BS, Tourism, Hospitality and Recreation Management 6 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Founded CEQA Labs, developed and implemented cutting-edge AI-driven environmental planning
<p>Hedy Koczwara, MS Aspen Environmental Group Project Manager</p>	<p>MS, Earth Systems BS, Earth Systems 23 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ AEP, Outstanding Environmental Analysis Document Awards for: Analysis of Oil and Gas Well Stimulation Treatments in California EIR (2016); San Luis Obispo County Renewable Energy Streamlining Program, Opportunity and Constraints Technical Study (2016); Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project EIR/EIS (2009); and Jefferson-Martin Final EIR (2004) ■ 2014 National AEP, NEPA Excellence Award, Burning Man 2012-2016 Special Recreation Permit EA ■ 2008 Community Resources "Dream Team" from the CEC ■ 2006 Environmental Award for Los Angeles Unified School District's New School Construction Program EIR, American Planning Association, Los Angeles Section
<p>Anton Kozhevnikov, MA, GISP Aspen Environmental Group GIS/Graphics</p>	<p>Graduate Studies BS Geography 32 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ GIS Professional Certification, URISA ■ Certificate in Cartographic Communication
<p>Britta McOmber, MUP Aspen Environmental Group Population/Housing/Public Utilities/Service Systems</p>	<p>MA, Urban and Regional Planning BA, Geography 6 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ GIS Specialist ■ Author and Contributing Researcher on many papers

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ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
 YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
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Name, Firm, Role	Education and Years of Experience	Licenses, Accomplishments and Awards
Aurie Patterson, PG Aspen Environmental Group Geology/Soils/Mineral/Paleo Resources, Hydrology/Water Quality, Hazards/Hazardous Materials	Graduate Studies in Geology BA, Geology 29 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ California Professional Geologist No. 7083 ■ Published author
Krystal Pulsipher Aspen Environmental Group Wildlife, Aquatic Resources, Permitting/HCP	BS, Conservation Biology 14 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Certified Yolo County HCP/NCCP Qualified Biologist (expires 12/31/2026) ■ Certificate, Field Ecology, Sacramento City College, 2012 ■ CDFW Plant Voucher Collecting Permit, No. 2081(a)-23-091-V ■ CDFW Scientific Collecting Permit, #13952 ■ International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist (WE-12181A) ■ USFWS Recovery, Permit for Listed Large Branchiopods (ESPER4775202) ■ Certified East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy Approved Biologist ■ Wetland regulatory and permitting support ■ Bat biology specialist
Mark Robinson, MS, MA, RPA Aspen Environmental Group Archaeology	MS Anthropology MA English BA History and Geology 40+ Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA)
Jenny Slaughter, QSD/QSP Aspen Environmental Group Construction/Environmental Monitoring	BS, Aquatic Biology 25 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Qualified SWPPP Developer and Practitioner (QSD/QSP)
Rebecca Spranger Aspen Environmental Group Botany/Vegetation	BS, Wildlife Fish and Conservation Biology 7 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2081(a) Voucher Collection Permit Holder (No. 2081(a)-22-118-V) ■ CDFW Scientific Collecting Permit - General Use- Terrestrial Wildlife (SC-223560003) ■ Unmanned Aircraft General- Small (UAG) Certification- 4807981 ■ Qualified SWPPP Practitioner (QSP) Certificate (estimated completion Dec 2024) ■ Basic Wetland Delineation Certification (completed May 2024)
Vida Strong, MUP Aspen Environmental Group Construction/Environmental Monitoring	MA, Urban Planning BS, Engineering 31 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MUP Thesis – Fiscal Impact Analysis for Rancho San Benito: A Proposed New Town
Stephanie Tang Aspen Environmental Group Wildfire	BA, Environmental Studies 7 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Association of Environmental Professionals

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Name, Firm, Role	Education and Years of Experience	Licenses, Accomplishments and Awards
<p>Negar Vahidi, MPA Aspen Environmental Group Land Use/Socio/ Agriculture/Forest Resources, Population/Housing/Public Utilities/Service Systems, Land Use & Planning Support</p>	<p>Master of Public Administration BA (with Highest Honors), Political Science 33 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ California AEP, Merit Award for Environmental Resource Document, REVEAL Initiative Report (2017) and the Otay River Watershed Management Plan (2016) ■ AEP, Outstanding Environmental Analysis Document Awards for: Analysis of Oil and Gas Well Stimulation Treatments in California EIR (2016); San Luis Obispo County Renewable Energy Streamlining Program, Opportunity and Constraints Technical Study (2016); and Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project EIR/EIS (2009) ■ 2014 National AEP, NEPA Excellence Award, Burning Man 2012-2016 Special Recreation Permit EA ■ California AEP, Outstanding Award for Environmental Analysis for the Ocotillo Wind Energy Farm EIS/EIR, 2013 ■ AEP Statewide Best EIR Award for the Jefferson-Martin 230 kV Transmission Project EIR, 2004 ■ APA, Environmental Award for the LAUSD New School Construction Program EIR (2006) ■ USACOE, Certificate of Appreciation for the Seven Oaks Dam Project (2010)
<p>Carolyn Walker, MA Aspen Environmental Group Technical Editing</p>	<p>MA, Psychology BA, English 26 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Proficient with editing and formatting in Microsoft Word and editing in Adobe Acrobat; competent in WordPress (website platform); familiar with HTML, Adobe InDesign, and Photoshop
<p>Grace Weeks Aspen Environmental Group Project Manager, Population/Housing/Public Utilities/Service Systems, Aesthetics</p>	<p>BS, Environmental Science and Management 7 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ GIS specialist
<p>Justin Wood, MS Aspen Environmental Group Botany/Vegetation, Aquatic Resources</p>	<p>MS, Biology BS, Biology 23 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CNPS Certified Field Botanist #0011 ■ President of Southern California Botanists, 2017-2018 ■ Board Member, Southern California Botanists, 2009-2017 ■ USACE, Certificate of Appreciation for the Seven Oaks Dam Project (2010) ■ AEP, Outstanding Environmental Analysis Document Awards for the Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project EIR/EIS (2009)
<p>Jim Estep Estep Environmental Consulting Wildlife, Permitting/HCP</p>	<p>BS, Wildlife and Fisheries Biology 30+ Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Certified Yolo County HCP/NCCP Qualified Biologist ■ State and federal permits to capture and band raptors, including special-status species ■ Federal Master Bander Permit No. 22872 ■ California Department of Fish and Game Scientific Collecting Permit (#SC-781)
<p>Jose Andrade HELIX Aesthetics</p>	<p>BA, Landscape Architecture 2 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Associate Member of the Sierra Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architecture ■ Associate Member of the Southern California Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architecture
<p>Emma deBecker HELIX Land Use & Planning Support</p>	<p>BA, Environmental Studies 2 Years' Experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Association of Environmental Professionals

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Name, Firm, Role	Education and Years of Experience	Licenses, Accomplishments and Awards
Robert Edgerton, AICP HELIX Land Use & Planning Support	MS, Environmental Sciences BS, Natural Resource Management 30+ Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), Certified Planner No. 159640 ■ AICP Certificate in Environmental Planning (CEP) Accreditation ■ Tuolumne County Approved Consultant ■ Association of Environmental Professionals ■ American Planning Association
Christine Gonzalez HELIX Wildlife	BS, Wildlife Biology and Management 12 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ USFW Endangered Species Act 10(a)(1)(A) Permit for Listed Large Branchiopod, No. ES-778195-15 ■ Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan Approved Qualified Biologist ■ Wetland Training Institute, Wetland Delineator Certification Program ■ East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan Approved Biologist ■ Nevada County Approved Biologist ■ PG&E, Hydrological Safety Certified ■ PG&E, Gold Shovel Certified ■ ATV Safety Certified ■ OSHA 40-hour Construction Safety ■ Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED
Erin Gustafson, AICP HELIX Project Manager, Wildfire, Land Use & Planning Support	BA, Urban Studies and Planning 11 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ American Institute of Certified Planners, Certification # 31817 ■ Association of Environmental Professionals ■ American Planning Association
Lesley Owing HELIX Project Manager, Land Use & Planning Support	BA, Environmental Economics & Policy 13 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Geographic Information System Certified, San Francisco State University, 2015 ■ Association of Environmental Professionals
Julia Pano HELIX Land Use & Planning Support	BS, Environmental Science and Management 5 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Association of Environmental Professionals
Ben Siegel, MA, RPA HELIX Archaeology	PhD Candidate, Anthropology MA, Anthropology MA, Maritime Studies and Nautical Archaeology MA, American History BA, History 16 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) ID# 989542 ■ U.S. Secretary of Interior Qualified for Historic Archaeology, Prehistoric Archaeology, and History ■ Society for Historical Archaeology
Anviti Singh HELIX Land Use & Planning Support	BA, Environmental Studies 3 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Environmental planner specializing in commercial cannabis licensing and permitting
Jaymee Marty, PhD Marty Ecological Consulting Wildlife, Aquatic, Construction/Environmental Monitoring	PhD, Restoration Ecology BS, Management 26 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Science advisor for the Yolo HCP/NCCP ■ Federal Recovery Permit for vernal pool branchiopods and California tiger salamander (CTS), TE-049461-3 ■ California State Scientific Collecting Permit for vernal pool branchiopods and CTS #12832 ■ CTS and California red-legged frog training, Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation, 25-26 March 2017 ■ Wetland Delineation Training

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Name, Firm, Role	Education and Years of Experience	Licenses, Accomplishments and Awards
Diana Malarchik, MA, RPA PAR Environmental Archaeology	PhD, Evolutionary Anthropology MA, Anthropology BA, Education 12 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) ID#17518 ■ State of Nevada Teaching License ■ Qualified PI/Archaeologist under US SOI's Professional Qualification Standards
Andrea Maniery, MA, RPA PAR Environmental Archaeology, Built Environment	MA, Anthropology BA, Anthropology 15 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) ID# 37427866 ■ Geological Society of America - Claude C. Albritton, Jr. Scholarship, 2014 ■ Qualified PI/Archaeologist under US SOI's Professional Qualification Standards
Mary Maniery, MA, RPA PAR Environmental Built Environment, Tribal Cultural Resources	MA, Anthropology BA, Anthropology BA, History 40+ Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) ID# 11585 ■ Qualified PI/Archaeologist under US SOI's Professional Qualification Standards ■ State Historical Resources Commissioner 2001-2006; Resolution of Recognition, 2006
Elizabeth O'Brien, MA PAR Environmental Built Environment	MA, Art History (Architectural) BA, Art History with Honors 25 Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Registered Professional Archaeologist #15489 ■ Qualified PI/Architectural History under US SOI's Professional Qualification Standards
Alvin Greenberg, PhD Risk Science Associates Wildfire, Hazards/Hazardous Materials	Postdoctoral, Toxicology PhD, Pharmaceutical/Medicinal Chemistry BS, Chemistry 40+ Years' Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Qualified Environmental Professional ■ Outstanding Performance Award, California Energy Commission, 2001 ■ Invited Speaker at the April 2009 Sonoma County Health District meeting on Asphalt Plant Impacts on Public Health ■ BAAQMD Recognition Award for service on the Hearing Board and as Chairman of the Hearing Board, 2002, 1996 ■ Cal/OSHA Recognition Award for service on the Standards Board, 1984

B.4. Experience in Producing Timely Products and Presenting Results to Elected Officials and the Public

Project Management Tools

Our managerial tools and procedures have been honed over time to quickly produce the reports needed for managing a multi-task contract and a contract with multiple subcontractors. Aspen's ongoing commitment to the **tight management of contracts** includes the rigorous application of Aspen's Project Management Control System (PMCS).

Throughout past contracts, we continuously evaluated the project control and management requirements and supplemented our system by acquiring and customizing several software packages. In particular, Aspen has acquired Deltek Vantagepoint project control system to be used as the platform to operate Aspen's PMCS system. The system integrates detailed work breakdown structures for all of our work in terms of technical requirements and deliverables (by discipline and task), schedule, and cost (Aspen labor, subcontractors, and other direct costs).

The Aspen PMCS provides real-time management control of all aspects of the project, beginning with the award of a contract to formal close-out. The system provides flexibility in defining the project information to be tracked; easy data accessibility; the ability to manipulate data (most notably schedule and cost); and full flexibility in producing selectively sorted and/or filtered reports. This system has managed and tracked

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more than 2,050 Task Orders (more than 23,100 tasks) and successfully produced monthly progress reports (up to 100 pages in length) and invoices (up to 400 pages in length) in a timely manner and in the detail required by each client.

Schedule Management

Aspen recognizes that schedule adherence is a fundamental element of client satisfaction and project performance. As projects are identified under this on-call contract, schedule(s) would be prepared that include, at a minimum, all contract schedule constraints, major interfaces with other agencies, and completion and delivery dates for all work products. Simple Gantt charts would be developed for projects involving few discrete tasks and low levels of task interdependency.

Aspen's proven ability to meet stringent scheduling constraints and to control costs are based on our extensive resources and capabilities, combined with our strong project and schedule management capabilities, encompassing superior planning and scheduling, schedule and cost performance status reports, and the ability to quickly respond to delays or unexpected situations. For example, Aspen completed a Final EIR and Supplemental EIR in six months for two wind energy projects in Kern County. Similarly, Aspen completed and circulated an EIR for a 420-MW solar photovoltaic facility in San Benito County just four months after project kickoff; that EIR was certified by the CEQA Lead Agency just seven months after project kickoff.

We encourage SOQ reviewers to contact Stephanie Cormier of the Yolo County Department of Community Services to discuss our schedule management performance on the existing Yolo County contract.

"The Aspen team has always responded in a timely manner with high quality responses for the work authorizations we have initiated under this agreement. They have a well-qualified list of experts on their team, and we can call on them when needed to respond to the Division's needs."

Laurie ten Hope
Deputy Director
California Energy Commission
April 18, 2019

Meeting Presentations

All Aspen project managers are adept at making presentations about a project, its potential impacts, and recommendations to elected officials and/or the general public. To facilitate such meetings, we have prepared presentation materials that have ranged from multi-media presentations to simple posters, or handouts. Based on our experience with Yolo County public meetings, Aspen's Task Order manager works closely with Yolo County staff to address questions from elected officials and the general public about the proposed project, as well as to provide additional clarifying information. For example, Mr. John Carrier, our Senior Project Manager, represented the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Putah Creek Energy Farm Use Permit (ZF#2019-006) to the Yolo County Planning Commission on January 16, 2020. Ms. Hedy Koczwara, our Project Manager, represented the EIR for Gibson Solar Farm to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors in a virtual meeting on February 9, 2023. As noted earlier, Aspen is also adept at participation in virtual meetings.

B.5. Experience and History Meeting Tight Project Deadlines

Responsiveness has been one of the hallmarks of Aspen's performance. Our efforts to be responsive to Yolo County's needs have been recognized and commended by Yolo County and its staff. As attested to in commendation letters from our clients (see Appendix 2), Aspen continues to demonstrate that our staff not only "listens" to our clients, but also "hears" what they are saying. Aspen proactively identifies Yolo County's needs and priorities, responds promptly and efficiently, and then effectively communicates the results to Yolo County staff.

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Aspen has an excellent record of meeting tight deadlines for both intermediate and final work products. Our successful experience allows us to develop internal schedules that are consistent with aggressive timelines, and then mobilize the resources needed to meet those schedules. The only acceptable reasons to extend schedules are those beyond our control (such as project suspensions, schedule extensions initiated by the client or applicant, or inadequate or late information from the applicant).

Aspen's proven ability to meet stringent scheduling constraints are based on our extensive resources and capabilities, combined with our strong project and schedule management capabilities, encompassing superior planning and scheduling; schedule status reports; and the ability to quickly respond to delays or unexpected situations. The following are examples of Aspen's schedule performance:

- ◆ On a Friday before a 3-day holiday weekend, the CEC asked Aspen to provide engineering review of a proposed temporary bridge near the Colusa Power Plant and have the results ready on the following Tuesday morning. The Aspen Team provided the requested engineering review and had the results available for the Energy Commission, as requested. The process allowed discussion of the bridge issue at a Commission Business Meeting the following Wednesday. The successful expedited review process allowed a critical energy resource to be licensed and continue on to construction as planned.
- ◆ On a Friday at 4 PM, the CEC asked Aspen to provide support for the 21-day Emergency Siting Process. Aspen expeditiously provided four teams of three consultants, each including experts in biology, land use, and cultural resources. All 12 Aspen Team members (the Emergency Siting Team) were on the steps of the Energy Commission the following Monday morning at 9:00 AM ready to work. The Emergency Siting Team was stationed at the Energy Commission for nine months and reviewed 15 power plant applications.
- ◆ Aspen routinely receives requests from WAPA Sierra Nevada Region on Friday for biological surveys that are required on Monday. We have prepared budget estimates, secured lodging, and quickly responded to schedule changes for the duration of our Biological Resources On-Call Contract. We routinely communicate directly with the crew and are often aware of changes prior to WAPA staff biologists. In one instance, communication with the crew resulted in additional biological surveys that had not been anticipated. Aspen biologists conducted the surveys over the weekend so that work could continue on Monday morning without delays. By maintaining open lines of communication between WAPA, vegetation management contractors, and landowners, we are able to quickly and efficiently provide qualified biological surveys on quick turn-around tasks requests.

B.6. Control of Project Budgets

Aspen's Program Management Team has strong, directly relevant experience and proven systems and procedures in place for estimating and tracking costs. These have been developed, demonstrated, and proven on all of our recent work authorization/task order contracts with Yolo County, CEC, California Public Utilities District, Trinity PUD, WAPA, and many other municipalities.

Aspen's Program Manager, Ms. Amanda Wild, will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the contract and will oversee and track all work completed under this contract. She has significant experience overseeing on-call contracts and has been the **Deputy Program Manager for our existing contract with Yolo County (Contract #21-150)**. She will coordinate directly with Yolo County's contract or technical manager and be the single point of contact for the Aspen Team. As Program Manager, she will work directly with Aspen's in-house administrative staff to monitor task orders budgets.

Ms. Wild will use Aspen's PMCS accounting and project control system to track the budgets on this on-call contract. The system tracks tasks and cost for both time and expenses (i.e., other direct costs). Subcontractor invoices are added as they are received. The system also tracks accounts payable and receivable.

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The PMCS system is a powerful project management system that will ensure that no hours are charged before a work authorization/task order start date, or after its end date. It alerts Project Managers when a work authorization/task order has been expensed close to 75%, 90%, and 100%. The PMCS system also restricts users from billing time once the budget is 100% consumed. The PMCS system tracks when a work authorization/task order is about to expire, so that appropriate actions can be taken to extend the period of performance of a particular project, if necessary.

Aspen provides extremely high quality CEQA documents at a relatively low cost to Yolo County. In 2017, the California Department of Finance estimated the cost of an IS/MND to be between \$65,000 and \$90,000, and the cost of an EIR to be between \$300,000 and \$400,000. Over the course of our two on-call contracts with Yolo County, Aspen has prepared seven IS/MNDs for an average cost of \$43,000 and two EIRs for an average cost of \$92,000. Our costs are far below the 2017 average, despite the high-quality analysis and documentation we provide for the County, resulting in exceptional value.

Through the implementation of the PMCS system, as under our current contract with Yolo County, the County can be assured that budget issues will not be a problem with this on-call contract. ***We encourage SOQ reviewers to contact Stephanie Cormier to discuss our budget management performance on the existing Yolo County contract.***

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Exhibit B APPENDIX 1

Part 2: Land Use & Planning Resumes

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Negar Vahidi

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
 PLANNING & PUBLIC POLICY DIRECTOR



PROFILE: Ms. Vahidi specializes in the integration and completion of NEPA and CEQA documentation, land use and public policy analyses, and socioeconomics and environmental justice analyses. She has extensive experience managing and preparing a variety of federal, State, and local environmental, planning, and analytical documents for large-scale energy and water infrastructure, and development projects. She currently serves as Aspen’s Planning and Public Policy Director focused on land use, socioeconomics, environmental justice, and public policy development and analysis.

EDUCATION:

- Master of Public Administration, University of Southern California, 1993
- BA (with Highest Honors), Political Science, University of California, Irvine, 1991

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RENEWABLE ENERGY PLANNING PROJECTS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY RENEWABLE ENERGY ORDINANCE UPDATE TECHNICAL STUDY AND PROGRAM EIR

Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, December 2024-present

Aspen is currently working on the Renewable Energy Ordinance (REO) update technical study and Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). Adopted in December 2016, the REO was designed to address the siting and development of renewable energy technologies within the County. The update will focus on utility-scale renewable energy facilities and the integration of energy storage systems to meet the County’s sustainability goals.

- Ms. Vahidi serves as Aspen’s Project Manager for the technical study, which will evaluate renewable energy generation and storage potential across unincorporated lands of Los Angeles County, and identification of suitable areas for renewable energy development. The technical study will highlight opportunities to streamline permitting for new renewable energy generation and storage projects and will identify considerations for discretionary versus ministerial permitting processes.
- Ms. Vahidi serves as Principal-in-Charge for the PEIR. The findings from the technical study will provide insights to inform the REO update and its PEIR. Aspen’s expertise in environmental planning and analysis in the energy sector will ensure that the PEIR provides a thorough assessment of the environmental issues associated with the updates to the REO, addressing key concerns and offering mitigation strategies to balance development with environmental stewardship.

STEP PLANNING SUPPORT CONTRACT

California Energy Commission, Contract no. 700-22-004; 10/03/2022 through 04/30/2026

- **AB 525: Offshore Wind Planning & Assessments.** Senior Land Use, Socioeconomics/Environmental Justice, and Alternatives Technical Specialist. For the AB 525 draft the Offshore Wind (OSW) Strategic Plan, has developed draft summaries of the impacts, strategies for addressing impacts, and mitigation for Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry, Economic and Environmental Justice, and Land Use and Planning issues separated into onshore, coastal, and offshore geographic areas.
- **2025 SB 100 Joint Agency Report.** Senior federal land use and policy technical specialist for the transmission corridor planning portion of the report providing expertise on plans of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service, and existing and proposed National Monument plans.

AB 525 STRATEGIC PLAN: PHASE 1 AND 2 ALTERNATIVE PORT ASSESSMENT REPORTS TO SUPPORT OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT*California State Lands Commission, July 2022-present*

To comply with AB 525 (i.e., requires agencies to develop strategic plan for offshore wind development in federal waters), California State Lands Commission is conducting an analysis of the feasibility of, and potential locations for, port(s) to support offshore wind activities along the central to southern coast of California for the Morro Bay Wind Energy Area. With respect to port infrastructure and capacity, CSLC released a study that examined the feasibility of constructing a new purpose-built port on the central California coast to support offshore wind facility staging and integration or operations and maintenance. This high-level desktop screening study examined coastal sites between San Francisco and Long Beach to identify potential underused or undeveloped sites of 30 to 100 acres. A variety of land use, engineering, and environmental “screening criteria” were used to narrow the field of suitable sites. Aspen’s role in this analysis was to assess the land use impacts associated with 12 sites, and to rank these sites by the relative severity of the impacts. Ms. Vahidi served as senior Land Use Planning and Permitting Technical Expert focused on visual, land use, and environmental justice impact analysis as a subcontractor (to Moffatt & Nichol), evaluating port facility options to support offshore wind development in Morro Bay Wind Energy Area (Phase 1) and along the entire CA coast (Phase 2).

DESERT RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN (DRECP) IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT*U.S. Bureau of Land Management, California Desert District, 2015-present*

As part of DRECP implementation, Aspen has been providing support to BLM update and consolidate its plan documents and prepare implementation materials. As part of this effort, Ms. Vahidi has been updating various elements of the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan and assisting with incorporation of the BLM’s applicable DRECP land use plan amendments (LUPA), including a comprehensive update of the CDCA Land Tenure Element, and incorporation of LUPA components into the various Resource Management Plans (e.g., WEMO, NEMO, NECO, etc.).

DESERT RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN AND EIS/EIR*California Energy Commission and Bureau of Land Management, 2009-2016*

Senior Technical Specialist for BLM Lands and Realty, Environmental Justice, and Socioeconomics for Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) and its Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). She’s also served as: the land use technical specialist for the land valuation team of the DRECP; the task Leader for the EIS/EIR analysis of transmission corridor route alternatives; and serves on the BLM “Red Team” for EIR/EIS technical review.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY RENEWABLE ENERGY STREAMLINING PROGRAM AND EIR*San Luis Obispo County, 2013-2015*

Project Manager for Aspen (under contract to PMC). Aspen worked collaboratively with PMC and the County by preparing an Opportunities and Constraints Technical Study (OCTS) to determine Renewable Energy Development Areas (REDAs) suitable for siting of small-scale renewable energy (RE) (less than 20 MWs) in the County. The OCTS analysis and detailed mapping effort helped the County in developing its renewable energy policy updates for its Conservation and Open Space Element, its RE Combining Designation for its Land Use Code, and development and adoption of its RE Ordinance. Aspen developed the Combining Designation maps and parameters for the County Code and provided associated performance standards for the siting of renewable energy to be included in the County’s Code update. In addition, Aspen assisted the County with developing a permitting streamlining program to help expedite siting of small-scale renewable energy in the County. Aspen’s OCTS helped identify the potential effects of the streamlining program on environmental and socioeconomic resources in the County, which then assisted in determining the best areas for RE siting to help streamline permitting of projects. The County’s process has been funded by the CEC Renewable Energy Planning and Conservation Grant Program (RECPG), which is intended to help local agencies plan for renewable energy in addition to the CEC and

BLM's Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) efforts. Aspen also prepared large portions of the County's Programmatic EIR for CEQA clearance of the COSE and its code updates, including the Agricultural, Biological, Cultural, and Visual Resources sections, and the water resources, geology/soils, and hazards sections. Ms. Vahidi also assisted PMC and the County in developing the EIR project description based on the details in Aspen's OCTS.

INYO COUNTY RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND PROGRAM EIR

Inyo County, 2013-2015

Senior Technical Adviser and Senior Socioeconomics Technical Expert for Aspen's contract with Helix. Aspen worked collaboratively with the County by preparing an OCTS to determine Solar Energy Development Areas (SEDAs) suitable for siting of solar facilities and associated transmission in the County. The OCTS provided the opportunities and constraints used in developing its renewable energy policy updates for the County's Renewable Energy General Plan Amendment (REGPA). This process has been funded by the CEC Renewable Energy Planning and Conservation Grant Program (RECPG), which is intended to help local agencies plan for renewable energy in addition to the CEC and BLM's Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) efforts. In addition, Ms. Vahidi authored the socioeconomics write-up for the REGPA and EIR, which provides information on the County's population, transient housing, local economy, public finance, and federal, State, and local economic regulatory factors and policy incentives. Both a socioeconomic and economic analysis was conducted analyzing renewable energy development effects on Inyo County's population, public services, and economy, including the potential for social disruptions. To help offset any potential negative effects of renewable energy development, supplemental and new policy directives were developed, which the County has incorporated into its REGPA. The Draft REGPA and Programmatic EIR were published in November 2014, and the Final REGPA was published in March 2015.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN RENEWABLE ENERGY ELEMENT AND COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS (SPARC PHASE 1 AND PHASE 2)

San Bernardino County, 2013-2016

Ms. Vahidi served as Aspen's project manager supporting the County on two major phases of planning for renewable energy. San Bernardino County Land Use Services Department used its CEC RECPG funds to prepare a Renewable Energy and Conservation (REC) Element for its General Plan. During Phase 1, Aspen prepared renewable energy case studies, participated in stakeholder outreach, and helped the County start on the development of its REC Element, by identifying Renewable Energy Development Areas (REDAs) suitable for siting of renewable energy by using GIS and screening criteria developed as part of Aspen's OCTS approach used for other County renewable energy planning efforts. Aspen developed a workflow and descriptions of screening criteria and preliminary maps of REDAs. Under Ms. Vahidi's direction, Aspen prepared case studies of renewable energy (RE) projects that provided examples of challenges and successes, including economic benefits, for renewable energy resource development; worked with the County and CEC to determine data sources and GIS mapping parameters to prepare RE resources maps to assist in the development of the REC Element; participated in stakeholder and public workshops by presenting RE technology details, best case studies, and areas suitable for RE siting; and Prepared the Renewable Energy Mapping Project (REMP) Technical Report for the County in support of the REC Element. The REMP Technical Report includes opportunities and constraints related to RE siting on County lands by providing a step-by-step workflow, accompanying maps, and text narrative that describes areas suitable for RE siting. During Phase 2, Aspen led the effort by conducting a cost-benefit analysis of developing community-oriented renewable energy in the County. Efforts included stakeholder interviews and focus group meetings, and community outreach workshops focused on identifying the social, environmental, and economic costs and benefits of RE development along with identifying tools for implementation of community-oriented RE, including organizations of various types (CCAs, microgrids, co-ops, etc.).

EXHIBIT B**IMPERIAL COUNTY GENERAL PLAN OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION ELEMENT***Imperial County, 2014-2016*

The County is one of the five recipients of the CEC RECPG Program to update its 1993 Conservation and Open Space Element (COSE) of the Imperial County General Plan. Aspen prepared the Baseline Conditions Report for the County's COSE Update. This effort was required to ensure that the General Plan can meet the needs for future development while remaining consistent with identified land use and environmental goals. Much of the information used in this report was presented in the Geothermal/Alternative Energy and Transmission Element Update Baseline Environmental Inventory Report prepared by Chambers Group, Inc. As part of the Baseline Conditions Report, Aspen used GIS and screening criteria developed as part of our OCTSs for other County renewable energy planning efforts. Ms. Vahidi served as Aspen's Project Manager/Senior Technical Advisor on this effort.

SENATE BILL 350 – DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY IMPACT STUDY*California ISO, 2015-2016*

Ms. Vahidi prepared the SB 350 Disadvantaged Community Impact Analysis focused on the feasibility and the socioeconomics and land use impacts of developing renewable energy throughout the State given California's RPS goals and transmission constraints.

EIR FOR SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT'S PLAN TO PROVIDE RETAIL ELECTRIC SERVICE, SPHERE PLAN, MSR, AND ANNEXATION*San Joaquin Irrigation District, 2010-2015*

This Subsequent EIR (SEIR) evaluates environmental impacts associated with the SSJID application to provide retail electric service and evaluates changes in the project and changes with respect to the circumstances under which the project would be undertaken that have occurred since the original 2006 Final EIR was certified. LAFCo may then certify the Final SEIR and take action to adopt the Sphere Plan and MSR, adopt the proposed SOI, approve the annexation, and approve the application to provide retail electric service. Ms. Vahidi provided CEQA expertise to SSJID and served as the Senior Technical lead for the social science sections of the SEIR, including agriculture, land use, policy analysis, and socioeconomics.

RINDGE DAM REMOVAL PATHWAY RISK-BENEFIT ASSESSMENT*CalTrout and California Department of Parks and Recreation, 2019-2020*

Aspen prepared a risk-benefit assessment of a pathway for removal of Rindge Dam on Malibu Creek in the coastal zone. Ms. Vahidi served as Deputy Project Manager and led up the funding sources task and the SWOT Analysis, which was used to evaluate the relative advantages and disadvantages of selecting various federal partners for the project.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2019 American Planning Association, Inland Empire Section Award of Hard Won Victories for the San Bernardino County Renewable Energy and Conservation Element
- 2017 American Planning Association, San Diego Section Award of Excellence for the Imperial County Conservation and Open Space Element Update
- 2017 California Association of Environmental Professionals, Merit Award for Environmental Resource Document, REVEAL Initiative Report
- 2016 California Association of Environmental Professionals, Merit Award for Environmental Analysis Document for the San Luis Obispo County Renewable Energy Streamlining Program
- 2013 California Association of Environmental Professionals, Outstanding Award for Environmental Analysis for the Ocotillo Wind Energy Farm EIS/EIR

EXHIBIT B

ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
CONSULTING SERVICES, BID #RFQ-2025-0002

Negar Vahidi, page 5

- 2006 American Planning Association, Los Angeles Section Environmental Award for the Los Angeles Unified School District New School Construction Program, Program EIR
- 2004 Association of Environmental Professionals Statewide Best EIR Award for the Jefferson-Martin 230-kV Transmission Project EIR
- 2001 Outstanding Performance Award from the State of California Energy Commission
- 1992-93 recipient of the USC Merit ("Ides of March") Scholarship from the Southern California Association of Public Administrators (SCAPA)
- University of California, Irvine, School of Social Sciences. Graduated with Highest Honors in Political Science.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Planning Association (APA), Los Angeles Section Executive Board Member 1999-2001
- National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP)

EXHIBIT B

ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
 YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
 CONSULTING SERVICES, BID #RFQ-2025-0002



Eileen Allen

LAND USE AND AGRICULTURE EXPERT



PROFILE: Ms. Allen has extensive experience addressing the land use and agricultural impacts and benefits of various types of development projects proposed in California. She also has many years of dealing with proposed renewable energy facilities, electric transmission lines, and existing power plants.

EDUCATION:

- MA, Urban Planning, University of California, Los Angeles, 1979
- AB Rhetoric, University of California, Berkeley, 1977

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

For Aspen Environmental Group, Ms. Allen has been a consultant to the California Energy Commission, local governments (e.g., Yolo County addressing agriculture and land use/General Plan classifications for proposed Wilbur-Ellis and Gibson Solar Farm projects), and a private energy project developer. She serves as a co-senior supervisor in Aspen's Planning and Public Policy Group which addresses Land Use and Agricultural issues, among others. She has supervised staff addressing the Land Use, Agriculture, Population & Housing, Socioeconomic, and Traffic & Transportation impacts of proposed energy facilities (e.g., solar and wind energy facilities, back up generation at data storage centers, and battery energy storage).

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

■ California Energy Commission (1987-2018)

- Energy Commissioners' Advisor for Facility Siting regarding environmental & engineering impacts of large, thermal electric power plants, including land use, consistency with general plan classifications & zoning code designations, agriculture, air quality, biological and cultural resources, and water supply and quality
- Policy Advisor to Chair Weisenmiller regarding generation and transmission facility siting
 - Representing the Chair in joint work with local, state, and federal agencies developing a land use planning effort, the California Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DCERP)
 - Reviewing DRECP draft land use analyses
 - Drafting responses to land use comments on Joint DEIR/EIS for the DRECP
- Manager of Energy Commission Environmental Office's Land Use & Traffic Transportation Unit supervising staff providing land use, general plan consistency, and zoning code conformance analyses
- Land Use evidentiary hearing expert witness testimony
- Siting Program Manager directing project managers leading multi-disciplinary, environmental staff teams in conducting environmental & engineering analyses including land use and agriculture; publication of CEQA-equivalent documents comparable to EIRs

■ EnviroSphere Company (1985-1987)

- Analysis of local/regional land use and agricultural impacts of the California-Oregon Transmission Project (COTP); co-author of COTP Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environment/Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/DEIR)

■ California Department of Conservation (1981-1985)

- Acting Program Manager, Farmland Mapping & Monitoring Program
- Presentations to forty County Boards of Supervisors; conducting public workshops on draft county farmland maps

EXHIBIT BASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICESBOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
CONSULTING SERVICES, BID #RFQ-2025-0002

Collin Crawford-Martin
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST



PROFILE: Mr. Crawford-Martin is a highly experienced Environmental Planner and Scientist with a strong background in CEQA/NEPA compliance, construction practices, city planning, and energy analysis. With years of expertise in interdisciplinary fields, he excels in conducting Air Quality, GHG emissions, Noise, and Energy analyses, providing comprehensive technical reports for a diverse range of public and private sector clients.

Collin has played a key role in compiling, contributing to, and authoring Initial Studies, Mitigated Negative Declarations, Environmental Impact Reports, Energy Commission Staff Assessments, Cannabis permit applications, and various long-range planning documents, including General Plan Amendments, Regional Transportation Plans, and Specific and Programmatic Plans. His ability to adapt to the complexities of environmental regulations and evolving industry standards has allowed him to refine his skills in utilizing state-of-the-art modeling software, such as CalEEMod and SoundPLAN, to accurately assess and predict environmental impacts across a variety of project types.

With exceptional writing and communication skills, along with a meticulous, methodological approach to environmental analysis, Collin is dedicated to delivering high-quality work that supports sustainable development and regulatory compliance. His enthusiasm for continuous learning and professional growth in the environmental and energy sectors makes him a highly valuable asset to any team.

EDUCATION:

- B.S., Environmental Science Option in Energy and Earth Resources, California State University, 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**ON-CALL LAND USE AND PLANNING CONSULTING SERVICES CONTRACT – ASSISTANT CITY PLANNER**

City of Orland, 2022-2024

Mr. Crawford-Martin was charged with a wide range of planning tasks that consisted of processing Conditional Use Permit applications, annexations and residential lot splits; drafting General Plan amendments, city Ordinances, and Resolutions; provided online and over-the-phone planning support to the residents of the city; and provided planning recommendations to the city's mayor and other administrative employees within city hall. Beyond project approvals, he played a key role in shaping the city's long-term development by drafting new ordinances that established standards and regulations for commercial signage, accessory dwelling units (ADUs), and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Mr. Crawford-Martin attended City Council meetings regularly, with the inclusion of council members and commissioners of the public works department, parks and recreation, economic development, chief of police, the city engineer, and the citizens of the city.

WHITE WOLF FARMS CANNABIS PROJECT USE PERMIT

Yolo County – White Wolf Farms, LLC, 2023-2024

Mr. Crawford-Martin assisted in preparing a Use Permit for the White Wolf Farms Cannabis Project in Yolo County. White Wolf Farms, LLC, applied for the permit to operate a commercial cannabis facility under its existing license. Classified as a Medium Outdoor facility, the farm allows up to 43,600 square feet of canopy, with its license valid through December 2025 (Lic. #CCL18-0000252). The Use Permit process involved on-site surveying of the existing facility, documentation of water storage and conveyance, evaluation of security measures, assessment of greenhouse structures, and analysis of outdoor cultivation areas. The permit application remains ongoing.

PARKWAY VILLAGE SPECIFIC PLAN EIR*City of Lancaster, 2024-present*

Mr. Crawford-Martin contributed to multiple sections of this Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which assesses the proposed development of 434.7 acres of vacant land in Lancaster. The project includes residential neighborhoods, hotels, schools, parks, a hospital, and commercial spaces. He authored the Energy, Land Use and Planning, Transportation and Traffic, and Noise sections of the EIR, while also providing input on Other CEQA Considerations and Alternatives.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS ANNEXATION*City of Orland, 2023*

Mr. Crawford-Martin prepared and executed the Rezoning and Annexation of an existing parcel containing a church as the Assistant City Planner for the City of Orland, CA. The approved request included a Conditional Use Permit to ensure the continued use of the parcel as a church remained consistent with applicable city zoning designation. The project was determined to qualify for a CEQA Categorical Exemption under Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15319 (Annexation of Existing Facilities and Lots for Exempt Facilities) of the CEQA Guidelines.

CITY OF ORLAND MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENT*City of Orland, 2023*

Mr. Crawford-Martin authored an amendment to the city's Municipal Code to allow joint tenant signs for tenants on separate parcels and presented it to the local Planning Commission. He also authored the associated Staff Report and assisted in presenting the amendment to the Planning Commission and City Council. The amendment was enacted to provide local businesses with a clear process for erecting pole signs visible from Interstate 5, helping attract passing motorists and support the local economy.

BUTTE COLLEGE GLENN CAMPUS LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT*City of Orland, 2023*

Mr. Crawford-Martin presented a staff report on his analysis of a Lot Line Adjustment request for the Butte College Glenn Center. The applicants La Vista Mesa and Tesoro Sierra Properties submitted the request to re-orient the property lines of three existing parcels to allow access to the new Butte College facility.

QUIET CREEK TENTATIVE SUBDIVISION MAP (TSM)*City of Orland, 2023*

Mr. Crawford-Martin prepared a Staff Report and assisted the city in approving a TSM for a 67-parcel subdivision. The TSM includes a stormwater drainage basin and open space area. As the Assistant City Planner, he analyzed the project's consistency with the land use and zoning designations of the site, as well as city municipal code standards. As the On-Call Environmental Planner, he analyzed the project's potential impacts under CEQA in an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) that includes mitigation measures and Conditions of Approval.

PENBROOK TENTATIVE SUBDIVISION MAP AND ZONING CODE AMENDMENT*City of Orland, 2023*

Mr. Crawford-Martin assisted the city in approving the Rezoning, Tentative Subdivision Map, and Use Permit of an existing parcel of land into 34 parcels through the authoring of an Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) Amendment. The project was an ongoing project that initiated in 2004 and was resurrected in 2023 in preparation of a residential subdivision project.

E STREET MX PARK PROJECT PERMITTING*County of Yuba, 2022-2024*

Mr. Crawford-Martin assisted a developer with a Conditional Use Permit Application and the preparation of an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the expansion of an existing motocross racetrack at the confluence of the Feather and Yuba Rivers. The project site, located within an inundated flood zone, was historically used as effluent treatment ponds for a wastewater treatment facility. As part of the project, the applicant conducted a major cleanup operation, removing vehicles, substantial debris, and multiple illegal activities, including a crude bomb-making lab.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

- Environmental Planner/Assistant City Planner/Air Quality, GHG, Noise, Energy Analyst; ECORP Consulting, Chico, CA (2021-2024)
 - CEQA/NEPA
 - Field data gathering to produce Air Quality, Noise, GHG, and Energy technical reports.
 - Drafted, interpreted, and analyzed AutoCAD files.
 - Developed and maintained comprehensive citywide plans with general, programmatic, and specific initiatives.
- Environmental Analyst, Pacific North Consulting, Chico, CA (2017-2018)
 - Conducted thorough examinations of environmental conditions, accompanied with extensive literature reviews, to analyze and ascertain potential impacts.
 - Generated and refined scientific reports, while devising mitigation recommendations to meet client requirements.
 - Identified hydrological resources for Wetland Determinations and assessed impacts associated with Streambed Alterations.
- Energy Engineer/Program Inspector, DNV GL Group, Oakland, CA (2015-2016)
 - Inspected lighting upgrade project sites, approved product specs for eligibility, and built energy saving proposals for a multitude of clientele.
 - Performed energy audits for customers and consulted them on the benefits of implementing energy efficiency measures.
 - Instructed contractors on the program details and trained them on methods for increasing energy efficiency within their projects.

CERTIFICATIONS

- FAA Commercial Drone Remote Pilot Certification
- Dust Control Plan Training and Certification

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science,
 Environmental
 Economics & Policy;
 Minor-City and Regional
 Planning, University of
 California, Berkeley,
 2013

Geographic Information
 System Certified, San
 Francisco State
 University, 2015

**PROFESSIONAL
 AFFILIATIONS**

Association of
 Environmental
 Professionals

LESLEY OWNING

Principal Planner



Ms. Owing is a Principal Planner with 13 years of experience in the provision of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for a variety of project types including restoration; parks and recreation; transportation; infrastructure improvement; renewable energy; residential, commercial, and mixed-use land development; and cannabis cultivation, operation, and processing facilities. Ms. Owing develops CEQA review and strategy plans early in the project planning phase and prepares

project site constraints analyses. She has managed many controversial projects by maintaining thorough administrative records for projects that are anticipated to face legal challenges, leading response to comments for projects that have generated hundreds of public comments, and providing public agency support through project appeal hearings. Ms. Owing stays abreast of recent CEQA case law and changes to the State CEQA Guidelines and requirements through on-going education and participation in professional environmental planning groups and conferences. She also manages numerous on-call contracts for cities and counties in Northern California and provides peer review support services. Ms. Owing provides environmental compliance support to public and private clients through overseeing the implementation of mitigation monitoring and reporting programs throughout project construction.

As-Needed Professional Planning Project Processing and Review Services (2019 - 2022). Contract Manager for the Nevada County as-needed Professional Planning Project Processing and Review Services contract. Responsible for reviewing Administrative Development Permit application materials, completing the ordinance conformance checklist, and preparing application deficiency letters for County staff to route to the project applicant and other County departments. Services also include general environmental consulting and preparation of other environmental-related documentation for the County as requested. Work performed for the Nevada County Community Development Agency Planning Department.

Humboldt County As-Needed Environmental Compliance for Cannabis Operations (2017 - 2020). Contract Manager for the Humboldt County As-Needed Cannabis Environmental Compliance Services. Responsible for reviewing the application materials and completing the ordinance conformance checklist, initiating contact with the applicant or consulting agent for outstanding information needs, coordinating with CDFW, CAL FIRE, and local tribes regarding project issues or concerns, and preparing the staff report for complete or near-complete applications. Services provided also included the provision of CEQA CEs and IS/MNDs for cannabis cultivation and operation projects. Work performed for the County of Humboldt.



EXHIBIT B

Trinity County, Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses (2021 - 2024). Contract Manager for the Trinity County as-needed Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses contract. Responsible for reviewing Appendix C Checklists submitted by permit applicants in accordance with the County's Programmatic EIR certified for the County's Cannabis Program and preparing either letters of incomplete or compliance memorandums following review of the applicant-provided Appendix C Checklist and supporting technical studies. Services also include general environmental consulting, weekly coordination with County staff and other consultants supporting the contract, and preparation of other environmental-related documentation for the County as requested. Work is being performed for the Trinity County Planning and Building Department.

El Dorado County On-Call Commercial Cannabis Development Permitting Services (2021 - 2024). Contract Manager for the El Dorado County on-call Commercial Cannabis Permitting Services contract. Responsible for the provision of the CEQA documentation (primarily IS/MNDs) required for cannabis cultivation and operation projects with applications deemed complete by County staff. Responsibilities have included overseeing the QA/QC and completion of twelve IS/MNDs. Services also include general environmental consulting, peer review of applicant-submitted technical reports, and staff support at project approval and appeal hearings as requested. Work was performed for El Dorado County.

Mendocino County Cannabis Cultivation Permits CEQA (2021 - 2022). Project Manager for the preparation of over 40 Appendix G Checklists following a template developed by the County in accordance with Section 15168 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Conducted over 20 site visits, performed background research, prepared project descriptions, and completed project-specific Appendix G Checklists analyzing the project's conformance with the County's Programmatic MND that was prepared for the adoption of the County's Medical Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance. Work was performed directly for permit applicants.

Cybele Holdings Cannabis IS/MND (2020 - 2022). Project Manager for the preparation of an IS/MND for a mixed-light commercial cannabis cultivation facility that would develop up to 5.5 acres in El Dorado County. Conducted a reconnaissance site inspection, peer-reviewed applicant-provided technical studies, managed preparation of the IS/MND, and led coordination efforts with the County and project applicant. The project included the construction of 38 greenhouses to accommodate 2 acres of mixed-light cannabis cultivation, a 2,500-sf building for storage and drying, and solar array system to power the proposed structures. The project was approved by the County in May 2022 and was the first cannabis project to be approved in the County. Work was performed for El Dorado County.

Green Valley Farms Commercial Cannabis Cultivation Facility IS/MND (2021 - 2022). Project Manager for the preparation of an IS/MND for an outdoor commercial cannabis cultivation facility that would develop less than one acre of the project property for the cultivation of 10,000 square feet of cannabis canopy in El Dorado County. Conducted a reconnaissance site inspection, peer-reviewed applicant-provided technical studies, managed preparation of the IS/MND, and led coordination efforts with the County and project applicant. Work was performed for El Dorado County.

Fuego Farms Cannabis Cultivation Operation CEQA (2021 - 2022). Project Manager for the preparation of an IS/MND for a mixed-light commercial cannabis cultivation facility that would develop up to 4.2 acres in Riverside County. Conducted a reconnaissance site inspection, peer-reviewed applicant-provided technical studies, managed preparation of the IS/MND and State Clearinghouse notices, submitted to the State Clearinghouse on behalf of County staff, and led coordination efforts with the County and project applicant. Work performed for Red Asil International with Riverside County as the CEQA Lead Agency.

EXHIBIT B

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, Urban Studies and Planning, Minors: Economics and Environmental Studies, University of California, San Diego, 2013

CERTIFICATIONS

American Institute of Certified Planners, Certification No. 31817

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of Environmental Professionals
 American Planning Association

ERIN GUSTAFSON, AICP

Environmental Project Manager III



Ms. Gustafson has 11 years of environmental planning experience assisting clients in successful completion of the environmental review process. She is skilled in preparing Initial Studies/Mitigated Negative Declarations (IS/MNDs) and Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Environmental Assessments (EAs) and Environmental Impact Studies (EISs) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). She has assisted clients with managing responses to public comments

and preparing administrative records for complex and high-profile projects throughout the state of California. Through experience working on residential and commercial, water, transportation, cannabis, renewable energy, and other land use development projects, Ms. Gustafson has coordinated multidisciplinary teams, worked closely with staff from public agencies, and integrated input from a variety of stakeholders in order to successfully complete the environmental review process.

As-Needed Professional Planning Project Processing and Review Services (2021 - 2022). Environmental Planner responsible for reviewing Administrative Development Permit application materials, completing the ordinance conformance checklist, and preparing application deficiency letters to route to the project applicant and other County departments. Work performed for the Nevada County Community Development Agency Planning Department.

El Dorado County On-Call Commercial Cannabis Development Permitting Services (2022 - 2024). Project Manager for the El Dorado County on-call Commercial Cannabis Permitting Services contract. Responsible for the provision of the CEQA documentation (primarily IS/MNDs) required for all cannabis cultivation and operation projects with applications deemed complete by County staff. To date, responsibilities have included peer-review of applicant provided site plans and submitted technical reports, site visits, and the preparation of five IS/MNDs. Work performed for El Dorado County.

Trinity County, Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses (2021 - 2024). Assistant Project Manager for the Trinity County As-needed Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses contract. Responsible for coordinating and conducting 45 cannabis cultivation site inspections on behalf of Trinity County in order to move projects toward issuance of County licenses. Responsible for reviewing Appendix C Checklists submitted by permit applicants in accordance with the County's Programmatic EIR certified for the County's Cannabis Program and preparing either letters of incomplete or compliance memorandums following review of the applicant-provided Appendix C Checklist and supporting technical studies. As of May 2023, HELIX had reviewed approximately 230 Appendix C Checklists. Services also include general environmental consulting, weekly coordination with County staff and other consultants, supporting the contract, and preparation of other environmental-related documentation for the County as requested. Work performed for the Trinity County Planning and Building Department.



EXHIBIT B

Mendocino County Cannabis Appendix G Checklist Preparation and Processing (2021 - Present). Project Manager for the preparation of over 40 Appendix G Checklists following a template developed by the County in accordance with Section 15168 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Conducted over 30 site visits, performed background research, prepared project descriptions, and completed project-specific Appendix G Checklists analyzing the project's conformance with the County's Programmatic MND that was prepared for the adoption of the County's Medical Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance. Work is ongoing and being performed directly for permit applicants.

Black Bart Trail Cannabis Cultivation CEQA Checklist (2021 - 2024). Project Manager for the preparation of two Appendix G Checklists for cannabis cultivation projects in Mendocino County. Conducted site visits, performed background research, prepared project descriptions, and managed the preparation of a project-specific Appendix G Checklists analyzing the projects' conformance with the County's Programmatic MND that was prepared for the adoption of the County's Medical Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance. Work was performed for the project applicant.

7090 Black Bart Trail CDFW Cannabis Self-Certification Biological Services (2022 - 2023). Project Manager for the preparation of an Aquatic Resources Delineation, LSA Application, and Appendix G Checklist for a cannabis cultivation project in Mendocino County. Coordinated site visits in support of the Aquatic Resources Delineation, prepared the LSA Application, and managed the preparation of a project-specific Appendix G Checklist analyzing the project's conformance with the County's Programmatic MND that was prepared for the adoption of the County's Medical Cultivation Ordinance. Work was performed for the project applicant.

O'Bergin Cannabis Cultivation CEQA Checklist (2021). Project Manager for the preparation of an Appendix G Checklist for a cannabis cultivation project in Mendocino County. Conducted a site visit, performed background research, prepared project descriptions, and managed the preparation of a project-specific Appendix G Checklist analyzing the project's conformance with the County's Programmatic MND that was prepared for the adoption of the County's Medical Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance. Work was performed for the project applicant.

Fuego Farms Cannabis Cultivation Operation CEQA (2021 - 2022). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for a mixed-light commercial cannabis cultivation facility that would develop up to 4.2 acres in Riverside County. Performed environmental analysis and prepared sections of the IS/MND. Work was performed for Red Asil International with Riverside County as the CEQA Lead Agency.

Eagleheart Ranch Cannabis Cultivation CEQA Checklist (2021 - 2023). Project Manager for the preparation of an Appendix G Checklist for a cannabis cultivation project in Mendocino County. Conducted a site visit, performed background research, prepared project description, and managed the preparation of a project-specific Appendix G Checklist analyzing the project's conformance with the County's Programmatic MND that was prepared for the adoption of the County's Medical Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance. Work was performed for the project applicant.

McNab Ranch Farms Cannabis Cultivation CEQA Checklist (2021 - 2022). Project Manager for the preparation of an Appendix G Checklist for a cannabis cultivation project in Mendocino County. Conducted a site visit, performed background research, prepared project descriptions, and managed the preparation of a project-specific Appendix G Checklist analyzing the project's conformance with the County's Programmatic MND that was prepared for the adoption of the County's Medical Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance. Provided ongoing environmental consulting services as needed. Work was performed for the project applicant.

EDUCATION

Master of Science,
Environmental Sciences,
Colorado State
University, 1999

Bachelor of Science,
Natural Resource
Management, San
Diego State University,
1990

CERTIFICATIONS

American Institute of
Certified Planners,
Certified Planner
No. 159640

Tuolumne County
Approved Consultant

PROFESSIONAL

AFFILIATIONS

Association of
Environmental
Professionals

American Planning
Association

ROBERT EDGERTON, AICP CEP

Principal Planner



Mr. Edgerton draws upon his experience as both a Project Manager and a Senior Environmental Planner to aid private companies, governmental agencies, and non-governmental organizations in the planning, entitlement, and permitting of land development and infrastructure improvement projects. Calling upon 30 years of experience in the environmental and land use planning industry, he has prepared, consulted on, and processed federal, state, and local permits in support of projects with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE),

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), State and Regional Water Quality Control Board, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Mr. Edgerton has worked both in the U.S. and abroad, and his project management skills are enhanced by his knowledge and use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for data analysis and presentation purposes, as well as principles and techniques of biological restoration. His work also focuses on California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance, and he has successfully processed more than 200 environmental compliance documents such as Environmental Impact Reports/Statements (EIR/EIS), Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), Environmental Assessments (EA). Mr. Edgerton is an accredited member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) with an advanced Certificate in Environmental Planning (CEP) accreditation.

City of Bishop Downtown Specific Plan & Mixed-Use Overlay Program EIR (2021 - 2022). Principal Planner for preparation of an EIR supporting proposed redevelopment of downtown Bishop through implementation of a Specific Plan and mixed-use overlay. The primary purpose of the proposed project is to increase housing opportunities and density in the City’s inner core while improving walkability, alternative transportation modes, and pedestrian amenities. The project and EIR were unanimously approved in December 2022. Work was performed for the City of Bishop in partnership with Alta Planning + Design.

Tuolumne County On-Call LAFCO Services (2020 - 2025). Program Manager for on-call LAFCo Support Services to Tuolumne LAFCo. Tasks included review and advisory assistance with the Groveland Community Services District MSR and potential Service Area No. 64 Road Maintenance Fund Dissolution.

Groveland Community Services District Municipal Services Review and Sphere of Influence Update (2020 - 2022). Project Manager leading preparation of a Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) update for the Groveland Community Services District (GCSD) on behalf of the Tuolumne County LAFCo. The MSR/SOI Update included an assessment of several special study areas, including two proposed residential subdivisions and an existing lighting district, seeking annexation into the GCSD. The LAFCo considered the special study areas for potential future incorporation into the GCSD at the time of MSR/SOI Update review and approval. Work performed for Tuolumne County.



EXHIBIT BASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICESBOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
CONSULTING SERVICES, BID #RFQ-2025-0002

Inyo County Vacant Lands Inventory EIR (2020 - 2023). Principal Planner for preparation of an EIR and oversight of biological and cultural resources technical studies for a vacant lands inventory and zoning review of properties located throughout Inyo County. This information will be used to identify land that might be appropriate for zone changes to promote housing opportunities primarily by increasing the allowable residential density. The review will consider increasing the amount of multi-family zoning in the County, lowering some of the minimum lot size requirements, and adding zoning areas with principal permitting for mobile home parks. The review of the County's current zoning will also focus on commercial zones for opportunities for residential infill development. Areas near public transportation and other services will be considered prime, but due to the County's rural nature, other properties located in remote communities without these services might also be identified for zone changes. A primary component of this work includes public outreach meetings and communication with property owners. The project is funded through a grant provided by the California Department of Housing and Community Development. Work performed for Inyo County Planning Department.

City of Folsom On-Call Environmental Consulting Services (2015 - 2024). Project Manager for preparation of CEQA documentation and environmental compliance services on public works, transportation, and private development projects for a variety of departments at the City of Folsom. Projects have included Oak Parkway Trail Bicycle Undercrossing IS/MND, Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience IS/MND and Categorical Exclusion, Lake Natoma Waterfront Trail Environmental Compliance, Fire Station No. 39 CEQA Categorical Exemption, IS/MNDs and technical studies in support of over 15 private development projects, and South of 50 Folsom Plan Area Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Review and Environmental Compliance Monitoring for 11 separate development phases.

Inyo County Renewable Energy General Plan Amendment and PEIR (2013 - 2015). Project Manager assisting with preparation of a General Plan Amendment and Programmatic EIR (PEIR) to address State-mandated renewable energy demands and utility-scale renewable energy projects within the footprint of Inyo County. Responsible for the oversight of several subconsultants performing various technical analyses (such as a transmission corridor constraints assessment), preparation of a PEIR, and management of a proactive public involvement campaign. Nearly all technical environmental disciplines (e.g., air quality, biological resources, socioeconomic impacts, etc.) will be prepared using HELIX in-house resource experts with support from specialist sub-contractors. Primary issues of concern to County residents include the siting and placement of transmission lines, power delivery facilities, and solar/wind renewable energy infrastructure. HELIX is coordinating all actions directly with the County and County residents, California Energy Commission (CEC), CPUC, local Tribal governments, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), and applicable federal and state public resource agencies. Work performed for Inyo County from a grant administered by the CEC.

Inyo County Owens Valley Solar Energy Study Grant Phase 2B (2014 - 2016). Project Manager and Principal Planner for Inyo County's Owens Valley Solar Energy Study (OVSES). The OVSES was a follow-on grant to the REGPA (see above) focused on renewable energy planning specifically in the highly scrutinized Owens Valley and Owens Lake areas. HELIX tasks included extensive data collection for biological resources, cultural resources, land use, and visual resources across nearly 450,000 acres. Additional work efforts included desktop and in-situ geospatial mapping and geographic information systems (GIS) analysis, as well as public outreach with local stakeholders and formalized, tribal consultation with five Tribal governments under Assembly Bill 52. Work performed for Inyo County.



EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science,
Environmental Science
and Management,
University of California,
Davis, 2021

**PROFESSIONAL
AFFILIATIONS**

Association of
Environmental
Professionals

JULIA PANO

Environmental Project Manager I



Ms. Pano is an Environmental Planner with experience preparing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance documents, including Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), Initial Studies/Mitigated Negative Declarations (IS/MNDs), Categorical Exemptions, and Addenda for a variety of project types including residential and commercial land development; cannabis cultivation, operation, and processing facilities; groundwater recharge; infrastructure improvement; renewable energy; and other planning and public works

projects. She also has experience preparing NEPA compliance documents for restoration, development, fuel break, and broadband projects with various federal lead agencies. She provides extension of staff services to multiple counties throughout Northern California by conducting permit and project application intake reviews for completeness. She conducts research, prepares impact analyses for various environmental resource issue areas, performs site reconnaissance surveys, and peer reviews technical reports prepared by technical specialists in support of CEQA documents. With an educational background in environmental compliance and conservation, Ms. Pano supports tasks related to environmental compliance and reporting to various public agencies.

As-Needed Professional Planning Project Processing and Review Services. (2021 – 2022). Environmental Planner for the Nevada County As-needed Professional Planning Project Processing and Review Services contract. Responsible for reviewing 13 Administrative Development Permit applications materials, completing the ordinance conformance checklist, and preparing application deficiency letters for County staff to route to the project applicant and other County departments. Services also include general environmental consulting and preparation of other environmental-related documentation for the County as requested Work performed for the Nevada County Community Development Agency Planning Department.

Trinity County, Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses (2022 – 2023). Environmental Planner for the Trinity County as-needed Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses contract. Responsible for reviewing over 100 Appendix C Checklists submitted by permit applicants in accordance with the County’s Programmatic EIR certified for the County’s Cannabis Program and preparing either letters of incomplete or compliance memorandums following review of the applicant-provided Appendix C Checklist and supporting technical studies. Work is being performed for the Trinity County Planning and Building Department.

El Dorado County On-Call Commercial Cannabis Development Permitting Services (2021 - 2024). Environmental Planner for the El Dorado County on-call Commercial Cannabis Permitting Services contract. Responsible for the provision of the CEQA documentation (primarily IS/MNDs) required for all cannabis cultivation and operation projects with applications deemed complete by County staff. To date, responsibilities



EXHIBIT B

have included peer-review of applicant provided site plans and submitted technical reports and the preparation of seven IS/MNDs. Work is being performed for El Dorado County.

Hawkeye Outdoor Cannabis Cultivation Pro (2021 - 2022). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for a proposed outdoor cannabis cultivation facility that would be developed on approximately one acre in the community of Somerset, El Dorado County. Conducted a reconnaissance site inspection, peer-reviewed applicant-provided technical studies, and led the preparation of the project description and impact analysis for all resource sections of the IS/MND in compliance with Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines. The project included the construction of 11 hoop houses to accommodate 10,000-sf of outdoor cannabis, a 400-sf compost area, and two shipping containers for project related storage. Work performed for El Dorado County who also served as the lead agency.

Outcrop Cannabis CEQA Checklist (2021). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a Section 15168 Checklist tiering from a Programmatic Mitigated Negative Declaration for a mixed-light commercial cannabis facility that would develop up to 2.6 acres in Mendocino County. Performed background research, drafted the project description and led the preparation of the Section 15168 Checklist. Work performed for RHYZL with Mendocino County as the lead agency.

Zentner Cannabis CEQA Checklist (2021). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a Section 15168 Checklist for an outdoor commercial cannabis facility that would develop up to 3.1 acres in Mendocino County. Performed background research, drafted the project description and led the preparation of the Section 15168 Checklist. The project includes 22,000 sf combined outdoor cannabis nursery canopy in five hoop houses for seed production and vegetation, with a compost area and various support structures. Work performed for RHYZL with Mendocino County as the lead agency.

Foster Creek Road Cannabis CEQA Checklist (2021). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a Section 15168 Checklist for a mixed-light commercial cannabis facility that would develop up to 5.2 acres in Mendocino County. Performed background research, drafted the project description and led the preparation of the Section 15168 Checklist. Work performed for RHYZL with Mendocino County as the lead agency.

13240 Poonkinney Road, Don Campbell, CEQA Cannabis Checklist (2021). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a Section 15168 Checklist tiering from a Programmatic Mitigated Negative Declaration for a multi-type commercial cannabis facility that would develop up to 5.2 acres in Mendocino County. Performed background research, drafted the project description, and led the preparation of the Section 15168 Checklist. Work performed for RHYZL with Mendocino County as the lead agency.

6105 McKeon Ponderosa Way (2022). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a Placer County Environmental Questionnaire for the 6105 McKean Ponderosa Way Project in the unincorporated community of Foresthill, Placer County. Peer-reviewed applicant-provided reports, incorporated technical studies completed by HELIX, responded to comments from the project applicant, and led the preparation of the Placer County Environmental Questionnaire and supporting documentation. Worked performed for a private applicant.

Centennial Park Master Plan IS/MND (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for the Centennial Park Master Plan, which tiers from the program EIR for the City of Vacaville's General Plan Update and Energy and Conservation Action Strategy. Centennial Park is an existing 265-acre park with 35-acres of developed park space and the remainder undeveloped. The Master Plan identifies the phased development of the park. Responsible for modeling air quality and greenhouse gas emissions through CalEEMod and preparing the corresponding IS/MND sections. Work performed for the City of Vacaville.



EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts,
 Environmental Studies,
 University of California,
 Santa Barbara, 2021

ANVITI SINGH
 Environmental Planner II



Ms. Singh is an Environmental Planner with experience preparing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance documents, including Categorical Exemptions (CEs), Initial Studies (ISs), Mitigated Negative Declarations (MNDs), and Addendums. She provides extension of staff services to multiple counties throughout Northern California by conducting permit and project application intake reviews for completeness. She also conducts research, prepares impact analyses for various environmental resource issue areas, and

summarizes technical reports prepared by technical specialists in support of CEQA documents. With an educational background in environmental compliance and conservation, Ms. Singh supports tasks related to environmental compliance and reporting to various public agencies.

Trinity County, Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses (2022). Environmental Planner for the Trinity County As-needed Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses contract. Responsible for reviewing Appendix C Checklists submitted by permit applicants in accordance with the County’s Programmatic EIR certified for the County’s Cannabis Program. Prepared either letters of incomplete or compliance memorandums following review of the applicant-provided Appendix C Checklist and supporting technical studies. Work is being performed for the Trinity County Planning and Building Department.

Somerset Ridge Commercial Cannabis Cultivation Facility IS/MND and Peer Review (2022 - 2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for the Somerset Ridge Commercial Cannabis Cultivation Facility located in El Dorado County. Performed background research, drafted the project description, and supported the preparation of the IS/MND. Work performed for the County of El Dorado.

Harde Cannabis Cultivation CEQA IS/MND (2023 - 2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for 68,000-sf of mature outdoor cannabis to be developed in two phases. Performed background research, drafted the project description and environmental analysis sections, and supported the preparation of the IS/MND. Analyzed technical reports submitted by the client for inclusion in the environmental analysis. Work performed for El Dorado County.

Single Source Solutions Cannabis CEQA Checklist (2022 - 2023). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for a mixed-light commercial cannabis facility that would develop up to 47-acres in El Dorado County. Performed background research, drafted the project description, and supported the preparation of the IS/MND. Supported Project Manager on site visits and with edits made in response to agency comments. Work performed for the County of El Dorado.

Rosewood Lane Cannabis CEQA Checklist (2022 - 2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for a mixed-light commercial cannabis facility that would



EXHIBIT B

develop up to 20-acres in El Dorado County. Performed background research, drafted the project description, and supported the preparation of the IS/MND. Work performed for the County of El Dorado.

Archon Cannabis CEQA Checklist (2023 - 2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a draft IS/MND for the Archon Cannabis Cultivation Project located in El Droado County. Drafted various sections of the IS/MND including the impact analysis and project description, conducted background research, and supported the project manager at the site visit.

Garcia Grow Cannabis Facility IS/MND (2022 - 2023). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for Garcia Grow Company Cannabis Facility in San Joaquin County. Reviewed applicant-provided technical studies including a Cultural Resources Assessment, Biological Resources Assessment, and Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report and prepared the project description and impact analysis for all resource sections of the IS/MND in compliance with Appendix G of the State CEQA guidelines. Prepared qualitative vehicle miles traveled and emissions analysis for inclusion in the IS/MND. Work performed for Garcia Grow Co., LLC with San Joaquin County as the lead agency.

Centennial Park Master Plan IS/MND (2023 - 2024). Environmental Planner for an IS/MND prepared for the expansion of the existing Centennial Park in the City of Vacaville. Conducted background research, analyzed technical studies including a Biological Resources Assessment, Cultural Resources Assessment, and Vehicle Miles Travelled Memorandum, and supported Lead Agency staff efforts for the Planning Commission hearing. Work performed for the City of Vacaville Department of Parks and Recreation.

City of Bishop Downtown Specific Plan & Mixed-Use Overlay Program EIR (2022). Environmental Planner for an EIR for a mixed-use specific plan and zoning code update. Provided support drafting the project description and impact analysis for various sections of the EIR per the site plan and comments from City of Bishop staff. Assisted with preparation of the Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Conditions and revised per comments from City of Bishop staff. Work performed for the City of Bishop.

Yuba City Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well System (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for the Yuba City Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well System located in Yuba City, Sutter County. Drafted various sections of the IS/MND including environmental impact analysis, conducted background research, and analyzed technical studies such as a Biological Resources Assessment and Cultural Resources Assessment for inclusion in the IS/MND. Work performed for Carollo Engineering with the City of Yuba City as the Lead Agency.

Luminia Kenwood Solar and BESS Consulting and Regulatory Support (2022). Environmental Planner for the Luminia Kenwood Solar Project consulting and regulatory support contract. Created an Agricultural Management Template, conducted background research, and provided support on the Administrative Draft EIR. Work performed for Luminia Kenwood Solar LLC.

Chevron Fuel Station and Power Market Convenience Store IS/MND (2022 - 2024). Environmental Planner for an IS/MND prepared for a proposed Chevron Fuel Station and Power Market Convenience Store in Union City, Alameda County. Responsibilities included drafting sections of the IS/MND, including the project description and environmental impacts analysis, ensuring compliance with CEQA. Conducted in-depth background research and analyzed technical studies, including a Phase I Geotechnical Report, Biological Resources Assessment, and Cultural Resources Assessment, to assess potential environmental impacts. Additionally, assisted with the preparation and compilation of physical copies of the Draft IS/MND for Lead Agency review. Work was performed for the City of Union City.



EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts,
 Environmental Studies,
 University of California,
 Santa Barbara, 2023

**PROFESSIONAL
 AFFILIATIONS**

Association of
 Environmental
 Professionals

EMMA DEBECKER

Environmental Planner



Ms. deBecker is an Environmental Planner with experience preparing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance documents, including Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), Initial Studies/Mitigated Negative Declarations (IS/MNDs), and Categorical Exemptions for a variety of project types including residential and commercial land development; groundwater recharge; infrastructure improvement; parks and recreation; renewable energy; and other planning and public works projects. She provides extension of staff services to

multiple counties throughout Northern California by conducting permit and project application intake reviews for completeness. Ms. deBecker also conducts research, prepares impact analyses for various environmental resource issue areas, performs site reconnaissance surveys, and peer reviews technical reports prepared by technical specialists in support of CEQA documents.

County of El Dorado Broadband Infrastructure Program EIR (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a programmatic EIR for the El Dorado County Broadband Infrastructure Project. The purpose of the programmatic EIR is to assess the potential environmental impacts that may result from the installation of broadband infrastructure within the unincorporated communities and two incorporated cities in El Dorado County. The EIR will evaluate the environmental impacts associated with the installation of fiber optic conduit underground in buried conduits, overhead on existing or newly constructed utility poles, or in combination of both. The location and installation of the fiber optic conduit will be evaluated at a programmatic level, Countywide in the EIR. Role included regulatory research and drafting the EIR. Work performed for El Dorado County.

Walker Park Phase IIA (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of grant documentation for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Program administered by the National Parks Service (NPS) for development of the 10-acre Walker Park Phase II Project in the City of Galt. Role included regulatory research, drafting grant documentation forms, supporting air quality analysis, and coordination with City staff and NPS. Work performed for the City of Galt.

Yuba County Broadband EIR (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a programmatic EIR for the Yuba County Broadband Infrastructure Project. The purpose of the programmatic EIR is to assess the potential environmental impacts that may result from the installation of broadband infrastructure within the unincorporated communities of Yuba County. The EIR will evaluate the environmental impacts associated with the installation of fiber optic conduit underground in buried conduits, overhead on existing or newly constructed utility poles, or in combination of both. The location and installation of the fiber optic conduit will be evaluated at a programmatic level, Countywide in the EIR. Role included regulatory research and drafting the EIR. Work performed for Yuba County.



Nevada County OES Roadside Vegetation Management Program, Phase 1 Environmental Compliance (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an Environmental Justice (EJ) Assessment documentation in support of a hazardous fuels reduction project in Nevada County. The project includes surveying 200 miles of County right-of-way and completion of CEQA and NEPA environmental compliance documentation for the hazardous fuels reduction project. Role includes regulatory research, identifying EJ communities within the project footprint, and drafting the EJ Assessment that tiers from the California Vegetation Program (CalVTP) Program EIR. Work is being performed for Nevada County OES in coordination with FEMA staff.

South Kern and Old River Municipal Water Companies Consolidation IS/MND (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for the Consolidation of South Kern and Old River Mutual Water Companies into the City of Bakersfield Water System Project. Old River Mutual Water Company (MWC) and South Kern MWC provide water service to residential and commercial customers, and each MWC operates using a single well. Due to uranium contamination, the proposed project includes the abandonment of the two wells and the extension of the City of Bakersfield's water system to consolidate both MWCs in the City of Bakersfield's water system. Work performed for the project included review of project plans and materials, research on Kern County and City of Bakersfield zoning ordinances and general plans, and drafting the following sections: Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, and Transportation. Work performed for Carollo Engineers with the City of Bakersfield as the lead agency.

City of Arvin Wastewater Treatment Facility Land Application Areas CEQA Categorical Exemption (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the City of Arvin Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Land Application Areas (LAAs) Project in the City of Arvin, located in Kern County. Evaluated the two City-owned parcels and one privately-owned parcel as LAAs for the land application discharge of wastewater from the WWTF. Work performed for Carollo Engineers with the City of Arvin as the lead agency.

Thornton Affordable Housing CEQA Categorical Exemption (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the 59-unit Thornton Avenue Affordable Housing Project in the City of Newark. Role included developing the project description, regulatory research, drafting the NOE, and supporting AQ emissions and noise analyses. Work performed for the City of Newark.

South Bay Connect EIR Peer Review (2024). Environmental Planner for the South Bay Connect EIR Peer Review Project. Performed a qualitative review of the South Bay Connect EIR to identify environmental impacts to the City of Newark, attended public meetings, and participated in meetings with the City of Newark. Assisted in the preparation of the draft and final Peer Review Memorandum. Work performed for the City of Newark.

John T. Klaus Park (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an Interim Use Plan for the John T. Klaus Park. The former John T. Klaus donated the 584-acre property to the County of Lake for development as a regional park. The Interim Use Plan provided framework for short-term use and management of the land before the park is developed, including recommended zoning and land use designations, preliminary site maintenance and operations management, trail improvements, temporary signage and fencing, and other facilities. Role included regulatory research, drafting the Interim Use Plan, and participating in meetings with the Lake County Public Services Department. Work performed for Lake County Public Services Department.

Delta Water Treatment Plant Groundwater Recharge Basin (2024). Environmental Planner for the preparation of an IS/MND for the expansion of the Delta Water Treatment Plant's (DWTP) capacity and the construction of three groundwater recharge basins on 45 acres. The future capacity of the DWTP is anticipated to expand from 30 million gallons per day (MGD) to 60 MGD to supply the groundwater recharge basins. The IS/MND tiers from the Stockton Delta Water Supply Project Program EIR. Work performed as a subconsultant to Nexgen with the City of Stockton Municipal Utilities Department as the lead agency.



EXHIBIT B**EXHIBIT C: Evidence of Financial Stability****C.1. List instances within the past five (5) years, if any, where Consultant has defaulted on a contract. Provide an explanation of the reason for the default for each instance.**

Aspen Environmental Group has never defaulted on a contract.

C.2. List instances, if any, when your firm has been suspended or debarred by any government agency. Provide an explanation of the reason for the suspension or debarment for each instance.

Aspen Environmental Group has never been suspended or debarred by any government agency.

C.3. List all claims made in the past five (5) years against your company concerning your company's work on a project that have been filed in court or gone to arbitration.

Refer to Table B.1-5 in Exhibit B for a list of Aspen's environmental documents that have been legally challenged. In the past five years, one claim was filed in court regarding our work on the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) Decommissioning Environmental Impact Report. The lawsuit was filed by a nonprofit organization claiming the California Coastal Commission violated objectives and standards under Coastal Act when they approved the 2019 coastal development permit for Southern California Edison to deconstruct the power plant. The U.S. District Court dismissed the case indicating the California Coastal Commission did not violate statutory requirements nor was the dismantlement of the plant inconsistent with regulations. This was upheld by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear the case, leaving the lower court's ruling in place. These rulings have permitted Southern California Edison to continue with the decommissioning following the guidelines established in the EIR.

C.4. Have you ever been terminated from any project due to a contract dispute or claim filed against your company?

Aspen Environmental Group has never been terminated from any project due to a contract dispute or claim filed against the company.

C.5. Describe the process by which your firm resolves problems with clients.

Aspen has a long track record of working well with clients throughout California. One of our major strategic objectives is to develop long-term relationships with our existing clients. For example, Aspen has been a contractor to the CPUC for 28 consecutive years, the USACE for 26 consecutive years, the CEC for 26 consecutive years, and WAPA for 29 consecutive years.

We have been able to enjoy these long-term relationships by providing high-quality, responsive work for our clients. These relationships have developed because we focus on the client's needs, while minimizing any issues that could distract the client from its core business or regulatory requirements. Our approach to avoiding or resolving issues is based on the following principles:

- ◆ **Team emphasis.** We view our role with the client as part of a single team with our objective to support the mission of each client through specific expertise, efficiencies, and capacity. At the outset of each

EXHIBIT B

assignment, the project manager shares the client's vision of the project and the project objectives with the staff assigned to work on the project. Having a clear understanding of the project's goals and objectives allows us to work together to quickly arrive at the required outcome.

- ◆ **Upfront training.** For each new contract, we train our Team about the background of the client, contracting requirements, communication protocols, templates and guidance documents, and management procedures. We believe that constant training ultimately reduces the chances for a problem to arise and conflict resolution to occur.
- ◆ **Regular communication.** Over the past 32 years, we have found that about 95 percent of misunderstandings occur because of lack of communication. We encourage our Team to proactively communicate with our clients on a regular basis. We always look at our role from the client's perspective. However, there will be times when that perspective is unclear, or the issue that arises is something that was not considered. Hence, communication with the client is paramount to the success of the contract. We believe in holding regular project calls (or in-person meetings) to ensure that project status and progress are discussed on a regular basis. That way, any issues that may arise can be addressed early, and issues minimized. We believe that our clients should never be surprised, even under difficult circumstances.
- ◆ **Deal with conflicts as soon as possible.** We have found over the years that problems that are ignored generally escalate, rather than resolve themselves. Ignoring a problem allows the parties to become more frustrated and further entrenched in their position. Through regular and frequent communication, problems or conflicts can be identified early, and when necessary, a recovery plan can be developed that will help put the project back on course for a successful completion.
- ◆ **Resolve issues at the lowest level possible.** Should an issue or conflict arise, we want to resolve it early and at the lowest level possible, that is, between Aspen's Project Manager/Technical Staff and the client's Project Manager/Technical Expert. Those who are "on the ground" are in the best position to understand the problem because they are the most familiar with the project, the potential issues, alternative solutions, and the consequences of choosing various solutions.
 - ❖ Should the conflict remain unresolved, Aspen's Program Manager (Amanda Wild) will set up a meeting between the parties involved. Under Ms. Wild's leadership, we expect most issues to be addressed with the least adverse consequences.
 - ❖ If the issue is still not able to be resolved, the next step would be for Aspen's Program Manager to set up a meeting with the immediate supervisor of the County's project manager. Hopefully, this step will allow calmer minds to analyze the situation and address the issue or problem and identify a fair and reasonable solution.
 - ❖ In the unusual circumstance in which an issue needs to be escalated to corporate management, Aspen's Principal-in-Charge and Executive Vice President, Tom Murphy, as well as Aspen's President, Hamid Rastegar, are also available to Yolo County to address any issue or concern that is unable to be resolved at a lower level.

Aspen will work diligently to resolve any issue as quickly as possible. Based on our past and on-going productive relationship with the Yolo County (and our other clients), we do not anticipate that any serious issues will arise over the course of this contract.

C.6. Statement of Conflict

Based on the work described in the RFQ, Aspen and its Team subcontractors do not have any conflicts with performing the work described in the RFQ, and do not have any contractual or other relationships that would prevent us from performing any work assigned to us.

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT D

**Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Consulting Services and/or
Land Use and Planning Consulting Services
PREVIOUS CUSTOMER REFERENCE FORM**

Contractor Name: HELIX Environmental Planning, Part 2 Land Use and Planning Consulting Services

Please provide at least three (3) customer references for whom you have performed a job similar in size and scope, preferably other California state or local government entities.

1. Company Name: County of Trinity
 Address: 560 Main Street
 Weaverville, CA 96093
 Contact Person: Drew Plebani, Cannabis Division Director
 Telephone: 530.623.1351
 E-Mail: dplebani@trinitycounty.org
 Services Provided: On-Call Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses
 Service Dates: From: 7/2021 To: ongoing Contract Value: \$476,610

2. Company Name: County of Nevada
 Address: 950 Maidu Avenue
 Nevada City, CA 95959
 Contact Person: Brian Foss, Planning Director
 Telephone: 530.265.1256
 E-Mail: brian.foss@co.nevada.ca.us
 Services Provided: On-Call Professional Planning Project Processing and Review Services
 Service Dates: From: 3/2019 To: 5/2022 Contract Value: \$48,355

3. Company Name: El Dorado County
 Address: 2850 Fairlane Court, Building C
 Placerville, CA 95667
 Contact Person: Aaron Mount, Planning Manager
 Telephone: 530.621.5345
 E-Mail: aaron.mount@edcgov.us
 Services Provided: El Dorado County On-Call Commercial Cannabis Development
 Permitting Services
 Service Dates: From: 4/2020 To: ongoing Contract Value: \$221,560

Form Completed By: Lesley Owing 916.435.1205 2/11/2025
 Name Phone Date

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT E: Fee Proposal

Refer to Table E-1 below for Aspen’s Bid Schedule. *If this Bid Schedule does not meet Yolo County’s expectations, we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss potential revisions.*

Table E-1. Bid Schedule

ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP			
Principal Associate IV	\$350.00	Monitoring Supervisor	\$252.00
Principal Associate III	\$275.00	Monitoring Manager	\$210.00
Principal Associate II	\$255.00	Senior Monitor	\$184.00
Principal Associate I	\$240.00	Field Monitor II	\$152.00
Senior Engineer IV	\$265.00	Field Monitor I	\$135.00
Senior Engineer III	\$247.00	Senior GIS Specialist	\$155.00
Senior Engineer II	\$230.00	GIS Specialist III	\$140.00
Senior Engineer I	\$215.00	GIS Specialist II	\$125.00
Senior Cultural IV	\$210.00	GIS Specialist I	\$105.00
Senior Cultural III	\$175.00	Staff II	\$115.00
Senior Cultural II	\$165.00	Staff I	\$100.00
Senior Cultural I	\$160.00	Technician III	\$95.00
Senior Associate IV	\$245.00	Technician II	\$75.00
Senior Associate III	\$230.00	Technician I	\$55.00
Senior Associate II	\$210.00	Senior Administrative III	\$168.00
Senior Associate I	\$195.00	Senior Administrative II	\$155.00
Associate IV	\$175.00	Senior Administrative I	\$145.00
Associate III	\$165.00	Administrative III	\$125.00
Associate II	\$155.00	Administrative II	\$100.00
Associate I	\$135.00	Administrative I	\$70.00

ESTEP ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

Wildlife Biologist	\$150.00
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HELIX ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Principal	\$315.00	Staff Archaeologist/Architectural Historian	\$115.00
Principal Planner	\$285.00	Landscape Architect	\$175.00
Principal Biologist/Regulatory Specialist	\$275.00	Landscape Designer	\$125.00
Principal Noise/Air Quality Specialist	\$250.00	Senior GIS Specialist	\$190.00
Principal Landscape Architect	\$250.00	GIS Specialist/Graphics Specialist	\$125.00
Principal Cultural Resources Specialist	\$245.00	Operations Manager	\$140.00

EXHIBIT B

ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
 YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
 CONSULTING SERVICES, BID #RFQ-2025-0002

HELIX ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING (continued)

Senior Noise/Air Quality Specialist	\$185.00	Technical Editor	\$125.00
Noise/Air Quality Specialist	\$140.00	Word Processor	\$110.00
Senior Environmental Project Manager	\$200.00	Clerical	\$85.00
Environmental Project Manager III	\$185.00	Director of Operations	\$220.00
Environmental Project Manager II	\$175.00	Safety Manager	\$215.00
Environmental Project Manager I	\$165.00	Senior Construction Project Manager	\$260.00
Senior Environmental Planner	\$170.00	Construction Project Manager	\$170.00
Environmental Planner III	\$145.00	Assistant Construction Project Manager	\$135.00
Environmental Planner II	\$130.00	Construction Foreman	\$105.00
Environmental Planner I	\$120.00	Land Manager	\$105.00
Senior Scientist/Regulatory Specialist	\$190.00	Equipment Manager	\$105.00
Regulatory Specialist	\$140.00	Operator	\$160.00
Biology Project Manager	\$175.00	Irrigation Technician	\$140.00
Biologist V	\$170.00	Senior Restoration Supervisor	\$150.00
Biologist III-IV	\$155.00	Restoration Supervisor	\$140.00
Biologist I-II	\$130.00	Assistant Restoration Supervisor	\$110.00
Senior Cultural Resources Project Manager	\$205.00	Restoration Foreman	\$105.00
Senior Archaeologist/Architectural Historian	\$180.00	Restoration Lead	\$90.00
Cultural Resources Project Manager	\$170.00	Restoration Technician	\$70.00
Senior Archaeology Field Director	\$150.00	Nursery Manager	\$140.00
Archaeology Field Director	\$140.00	Nursery Technician	\$55.00
Asst. Archaeology Field Director	\$125.00		

MARTY ECOLOGICAL CONSULTING, INC.

Biological Resources	\$120.00
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PAR ENVIRONMENTAL

Principal/Cultural Team Leader	\$185.00	Associate Archaeologist/GIS	\$125.00
Principal/CFO	\$175.00	Associate Archaeologist I	\$90.00
Principal Investigator - Archaeology	\$150.00	Associate Archaeologist Technician	\$80.00
PI/Senior Architectural Historian	\$135.00	Associate Administrator	\$75.00
PI/Senior BioArchaeologist	\$135.00	Clerical/Word Processor	\$70.00

RISK SCIENCE ASSOCIATES

Hazards/Hazardous Materials Senior Specialist	\$225.00
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Note: All subcontractor rates and ODC will be subject to Aspen's fee of 10%

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT F: Other Factors

Table F-1 provides a list of current projects being managed by Aspen Team members. As you are aware, time spent on projects ebbs and flows, with some tasks being more time-consuming for the project manager than other tasks and sometimes (like toward the beginning and end of a project) being busier. To help the County better assess the availability of our project managers, we have included an estimated overall percent available in the right column for each person. The number of current commitments and availability will be assessed by Amanda Wild, the overall Program Manager, prior to making a specific task assignment. Those individuals listed below are the Project Managers shown in Figure B.3-1, the Organization Chart. Although these staff members are the most likely project managers to be assigned under this contract, should the need arise, the Aspen Team has numerous other experienced CEQA project managers that can be called on to support this contract.

Aspen takes pride in providing responsive on-call services to clients with over 50 on-call contracts ranging from small cities and municipalities to State and federal agencies. Our Project Managers are sensitive to the fact that each client has different responsibilities, needs, and requirements. Their ability to be extremely responsive to each client is based on their focus on listening to the client, anticipating their needs, and then setting up the right-sized team accordingly. Through their dedicated support, Yolo County will receive all the resources needed to respond in a timely and cost-effective manner to any task orders or issues that may arise.

Table F-1. CEQA-related Services Currently Being Managed

Name, Firm, Role, Degree	CEQA Projects Actively Being Managed	Percent Time Available (%)
Tom Murphy, MA Aspen Principal-in-Charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Yolo County On-call CEQA contract (expiring) ■ Trinity PUD, EIR/EIS for a Wildfire Risk Reduction, Reliability, and Asset Protection Project ■ California Energy Commission, Peak Load Siting Contract ■ California Energy Commission, Long Duration Energy Storage Contract ■ California Energy Commission, Opt-In Contract 	35%
Amanda Wild, MS, MBA Aspen Program Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ City of Lancaster Parkway Village Specific Plan EIR ■ Western Area Power Administration Sustainability Audits ■ California Energy Commission, EPIC Contract ■ California Energy Commission, Peak Load Siting Contract - Deputy ■ California Energy Commission, Long Duration Energy Storage Contract - Deputy ■ California Energy Commission, Opt-In Contract - Deputy 	55%
John Carrier, JD, MBA Aspen Project Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ California Energy Commission, Hoopa Tribe BESS Project 	70%
Hedy Koczwarra, MS Aspen Project Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Moraga-Oakland X 115 kV Rebuild Project ■ Atlas North Solar Project ■ Jove Solar Project ■ CALFIRE Phase V Telecommunication Towers Project ■ BLM El Centro Field Office Geothermal Leasing Project ■ Silicon Valley Power Environmental Services On-call 	35%

EXHIBIT B

ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
 YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BOTH ON-CALL CEQA, AND LAND USE AND PLANNING
 CONSULTING SERVICES, BID #RFQ-2025-0002

Name, Firm, Role, Degree	CEQA Projects Actively Being Managed	Percent Time Available (%)
Grace Weeks Aspen Project Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Harlan Rach Cell Tower Project ■ Prologis Del Amo and Prairie Technology Center Project ■ Orleans Solar & Storage Project ■ Omya Haul Road Project ■ Viajero Battery Storage Project ■ Dash Green Hydrogen Reliability Project 	45%
Erin Gustafson, AICP HELIX Project Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nevada County OES Roadside Vegetation Management Program, Phase 1 Environmental Compliance, Nevada County ■ Pasta Farm 3 Cannabis Expansion IS/MND, Lake County ■ Pinnacle Pass Affordable Housing CEQA Categorical Exemption, Santa Cruz County ■ Power Line Bike Trails Improvements IS/MND, El Dorado County ■ South Kern and Old River Municipal Water Companies Consolidation IS/MND, Kern County ■ 2145 Hidden Ranch Road Cannabis CEQA Compliance, El Dorado County ■ 5700 Hackomiller Road Cannabis CEQA Compliance, El Dorado County ■ 8260 Fairplay Road Cannabis CEQA Compliance, El Dorado County ■ City of Arvin Wastewater Treatment Facility Land Application Areas CEQA Categorical Exemption, Kern County 	30%
Lesley Owning HELIX Project Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ County of El Dorado Broadband Infrastructure Program EIR, El Dorado County ■ Creekstone Senior Living Is/MND, Placer County ■ Dude Man Co Cannabis CEQA Checklist, El Dorado County ■ Harney Lane Bridge Scour Mitigation Across Paddy Creek IS/MND, San Joaquin County ■ Kern County Public Safety Communication Towers CEQA Compliance, Kern County ■ Laguna Creek Trail and Bruceville Road Sidewalk Improvements IS/MND, Sacramento County ■ Latrobe Commercial Condominium IS/MND, El Dorado County ■ Rosewood Lane Cannabis CEQA Checklist, El Dorado County ■ Thornton Affordable Housing CEQA Categorical Exemption, Alameda County ■ Trinity County, Review and Approval of Commercial Cannabis Licenses, Trinity County ■ UC Merced Classroom and Office Building 3 Addendum, Merced County ■ Yuba City Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well System IS/MND, Sutter County 	20%

EXHIBIT B

**COUNTY OF YOLO
Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Consulting Services and/or
Land Use and Planning Consulting Services
SIGNATURE PAGE
EXHIBIT "H"**

Signature by the Bidder attests that the Bidder has read, understands, and agrees to all instructions, terms, conditions, specifications, and addenda set forth in this request. Signature furthermore signifies that all prices and terms submitted for the said product(s) and/or services are accurate and shall be honored for the length of time indicated in the request.

All paper bids must be manually signed in ink in the appropriate space below. If submitting electronically, print name of "Authorized Person" in the space provided for signature.

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that I have the legal authorization to bind the firm hereunder:

For clarification of this offer, contact:

Aspen Environmental Group
Company Name


Name: Tom Murphy

5020 Chesebro Road
Address

Title: Senior Executive Vice President

Agoura Hills CA 91301
City State Zip

Phone: (916) 712-1881


Signature of Person Authorized to Sign

Fax: _____

Neda R. Delmont
Printed Name

Email: tmurphy@aspeneg.com

COO
Title

2/6/2025
Date

EXHIBIT B

Exhibit I NON-COLLUSION AND NON-CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Consulting Services and/or Land Use and Planning Consulting Services

I, Neda R. Delmont, am the
(name)

COO of Aspen Environmental Group,
(Position Title) (Company)

The term “**Offeror**,” as used herein, includes the individual or business entity submitting the Offer and for the purpose of this Affidavit includes the directors, officers, partners, managers, members, principals, owners, agents, representatives, employees, other parties in interest of the Offeror, and anyone or any entity acting for or on behalf of the Offeror, including a subcontractor in connection with this Offer.

1. **Anti-Collusion Statement.** The Offeror has not in any way directly or indirectly:

- a. Colluded, conspired, or agreed with any other person, firm, corporation, offeror or potential offeror to the amount of this Offer or the terms or conditions of this Offer.
- b. Paid or agreed to pay any other person, firm, corporation, offeror or potential offeror any money or anything of value in return for assistance in procuring or attempting to procure a contract or in return for establishing the prices in the attached Offer or the offer of any other offeror.

2. **Preparation of Solicitation and Contract Documents.** The Offeror has not received any compensation or a promise of compensation for participating in the preparation or development of the underlying Solicitation or Contract documents. In addition, the Offeror has not otherwise participated in the preparation or development of the underlying Solicitation or Contract documents, except to the extent of any comments or questions and responses in the solicitation process, which are available to all offerors, so as to have an unfair advantage over other offerors, provided that the Offeror may have provided relevant product or process information to a consultant in the normal course of its business.

3. **Participation in Decision Making Process.** The Offeror has not participated in the evaluation of offers or other decision making process for this Solicitation, and, if Offeror is awarded a contract hereunder, no individual, agent, representative, consultant, subcontractor, or subconsultant associated with Offeror, who may have been involved in the evaluation or other decision making process for this Solicitation, will have any direct or indirect financial interest in the contract, provided that the Offeror may have provided relevant product or process information to a consultant in the normal course of its business.

4. **Present Knowledge.** Offeror is not presently aware of any potential or actual conflicts of interest regarding this Solicitation, which either enabled Offeror to obtain an advantage over other offerors or would prevent Offeror from advancing the best interests of the County in the course of the performance of the Contract.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct:

2/6/2025

(Date)



(Signature)

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT J – EXCEPTIONS

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Consulting Services and/or Land Use and Planning Consulting Services

All County Contract requirements by section, subsection or numbered item for which Vendor has stated "Read and do not comply" are considered exceptions and must be documented in this form. Vendor may add additional rows to the table as necessary to include all exceptions taken. If no exceptions were taken, Vendor should write "No Exceptions" under the "Requirement(s) Section Number and Text" for Exception in row number 1.

Exception Number	Requirement(s) Section Number and Text	Describe the Nature of the Exception and Explain how Vendor's Response Still Meets the RFQ Requirements
1	No Exceptions	
2		
3		
4		
5		



Signature of Person Authorized to Sign