



**CALIFORNIA  
ENERGY COMMISSION**



**California Energy Commission  
June 12, 2024 Business Meeting  
Backup Materials for Aspen Environmental Group**

The following backup materials for the above-referenced agenda item are available in this PDF packet as listed below:

1. Proposed Resolution
2. Contract Amendment Request Form

**[PROPOSED]**

**RESOLUTION NO: 24-0612-03c**

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**STATE ENERGY RESOURCES  
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**RESOLUTION: Aspen Environmental Group**

**RESOLVED**, that the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (CEC) adopts the staff CEQA findings contained in the Agreement or Amendment Request Form (as applicable); and

**RESOLVED**, that the CEC approves an amendment to Agreement 300-22-004 with Aspen Environmental Group. Aspen provides technical support services across diverse energy research initiatives under CEC's energy research programs and this amendment will add terms and conditions for technical support for the federally funded Community Energy Reliability and Resilience Investment Program, which funds projects across California that increase community energy resilience and reliability, advance state energy and climate goals, improve energy justice and equity, and create jobs; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Executive Director or their designee shall execute the same on behalf of the CEC.

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned Secretariat to the CEC does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the CEC held on June 12, 2024.

AYE:

NAY:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Dated:

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Kristine Banaag  
Secretariat



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**CONTRACT AMENDMENT REQUEST FORM (CARF)**

CEC-276 (Revised 12/2019)

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Original Agreement # 300-22-004 Amendment # 1

Division	Agreement Manager:	MS-	Phone
ERDD	Tiffany Solorio		916-776-0812

Recipient's Legal Name	Federal ID Number
Aspen Environmental Group	95-4337914

Revisions: (check all that apply)	Additional Requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Term Extension New End Date:	Include revised schedule and complete items A, B, C, D, & H below.
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget Augmentation Amendment Amount: \$ 0	Include revised budget and complete items A, B, C, D, E, F, & H below.
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget Reallocation	Include revised budget and complete items A, B, C, D, & H below.
<input type="checkbox"/> Scope of Work Revision	Include revised scope of work and complete items A, B, C, D, & H below.
<input type="checkbox"/> Change in Project Location or Demonstration Site	Include revised scope of work and complete items A, B, C, D, G, & H below.
<input type="checkbox"/> DVBE Replacement	Include revised scope of work and complete items A, B, C, D, F & H below.
<input type="checkbox"/> Novation/Name Change of Prime Recipient	Include novation documentation and complete items A, B, D, & H below.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terms and Conditions Modification	Include applicable exhibits with bold/underline/ strikeout and complete items A, B, C, D & H below.

**A) Business Meeting Information****Business Meeting approval is not required for the following types of Agreements:**☐ Minor amendments delegated to Executive Director per December 2013 ResolutionProposed Business Meeting Date 6/12/2024 ☒ Consent ☐ Discussion

Business Meeting Presenter Time Needed: n/a

Please select one list serve. EPIC (Electric Program Electric Charge)

**Agenda Item Subject and Description:****Aspen Environmental Group**

Proposed resolution approving an amendment to agreement 300-22-004 with Aspen Environmental Group to update the terms and conditions, and adopting staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA. Aspen provides technical support services across diverse energy research initiatives under CEC's energy research programs and this amendment will add terms to cover technical support for the federally funded Community Energy Reliability and Resilience Investment Program, which funds projects across California that increase community energy resilience and reliability, advance state energy and climate goals, improve energy justice and equity, and create good-paying jobs. (EPIC, Gas R&D, CRISP-General, INDIGO-GGRF, FPIP-GGRF, CERRI-Federal Fund) Staff Contact: Tiffany Solorio



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**CONTRACT AMENDMENT REQUEST FORM (CARF)**

CEC-276 (Revised 12/2019)

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

**B) Amendment Justification (For contract amendments only)**

- ☐ Non Competitive Bid (Attach DGS-GSPD-09-007) <https://www.dgs.ca.gov/PD/Forms>
- ☒ Exempt      Select Exemption (see instructions)
- ☐ Non Competitive Follow On Funding (SB 115)

**C) List all subcontractors (major and minor) and equipment vendors: (attach additional sheets as necessary)**

Legal Company Name	Budget
ABL Incorporated	\$ 0
Allyant (Netcentric)	\$ 0
Arellano Associates, LLC.	\$ 0
Be Accessible Inc	\$ 0
Bridgestone Associates, Ltd.	\$ 0
Carlos T. Verdin	\$ 0
Chawkins Communications Consulting Inc	\$ 0
Clay Adam Cooper	\$ 0
DNV GL USA, Inc.	\$ 0
EDM Services, Inc.	\$ 0
Energy Veterans, Inc.	\$ 0
Frontier Energy, Inc.	\$ 0
Geothermal Energy Consulting/Ronald DiPippo	\$ 0
Grid Subject Matter Experts, LLC	\$ 0
iCatalysts LLC	\$ 0
Katin Engineering Consulting	\$ 0
Life Cycle Associates LLC	\$ 0
Lutzenhiser Associates	\$ 0
Pro Business Valuations, LLC	\$ 0
Public Value LLC	\$ 0
Pyramid Energy Engineering Services, PLLC	\$ 0
The Regents of the University of California, on behalf of the Los Angeles Campus' Institute of the Environment and Sustainability	\$ 0
Vermont Windpower International LLC	\$ 0
VideoVets	\$ 0

**D) List all key partners: (attach additional sheets as necessary)**

<b>Legal Company Name:</b>

**E) Budget Information (only include amendment amount information)**

Funding Source	Funding Year of Appropriation	Budget List Number	Amount
			\$

R&amp;D Program Area: ESTB: PSU

TOTAL: \$ 0

**CONTRACT AMENDMENT REQUEST FORM (CARF)**

Explanation for "Other" selection

Reimbursement Contract #: Not applicable

Federal Agreement #:

**F) Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Program (DVBE)**

1. ☐ Exempt (Interagency/Other Government Entity)
2. ☒ Meets DVBE Requirements DVBE Amount: \$420,000 DVBE %: 20 percent
  - a) ☐ Contractor is Certified DVBE
  - b) ☒ Contractor is Subcontracting with a DVBE:
3. ☐ Contractor selected through CMAS or MSA with no DVBE participation
4. ☐ Requesting DVBE Exemption (attach CEC 95)

**G) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Compliance**

1. Is Agreement considered a "Project" under CEQA?
  - ☒ Yes (skip to question 2)
  - ☐ No (complete the following (PRC 21065 and 14 CCR 15378)):

Explain why Agreement is not considered a "Project":

2. If Agreement is considered a "Project" under CEQA:

- c) ☒ Agreement **IS** exempt.
  - ☐ Statutory Exemption. List PRC and/or CCR section number:
  - ☒ Categorical Exemption. List CCR section number:
  - ☐ Common Sense Exemption. 14 CCR 15061 (b) (3)

Explain reason why Agreement is exempt under the above section:

Each exemption provides an independent basis for finding the project exempt.

The CEC adopted staff's CEQA determination when it approved this contract at its May 31, 2023, Business Meeting. The following approved exemptions are applicable to this contract and the additional terms added in this amendment do not alter staff's original CEQA determination.

14 CCR § 15306 provides that activities of basic data collection, research, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource are therefore exempt from the provisions of CEQA. The proposed project will provide occasional support to CEC staff in a variety of technical areas. The project activities primarily involve office-based activities performed on computers, such as proposal review, report editing and formatting, event planning and technology and technical support trainings. This project also involves information gathering, and site assessments for CEQA analysis and reports. Any CEQA assessments performed under this agreement will not be approved or funded by this agreement. Because the project consists of information gathering and evaluation, it falls within §15306, and is not subject to CEQA.

**CONTRACT AMENDMENT REQUEST FORM (CARF)**

14 CCR § 15061(b)(3) provides that the common-sense exemption applies only to projects where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment and that the activity is not subject to CEQA. Here, the proposed project will not involve any construction or construction-related activities. The proposed project includes proposal review, report editing, technical and environmental review, preparation of feasibility studies and appraisals, event planning and training. All of these activities are to be primarily conducted in an office using a computer. For these reasons, it can be seen with certainty that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and is not subject to CEQA.

14 CCR § 15262 provides that a project involving feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the agency, board, or commission has not approved, adopted, or funded does not require the preparation of an EIR or Negative Declaration but does require consideration of environmental factors. Here, the proposed project involves feasibility studies related to current and future research projects, information gathering on potential equipment transfer and environmental studies and analysis on proposed research projects.

This proposed project does not involve impacts on any particularly sensitive environment; any cumulative impacts of successive projects of the same type in the same place that might be considered significant; does not involve unusual circumstances that might have a significant effect on the environment; will not result in damage to scenic resources within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway; the project site is not included on any list compiled pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5, and the project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. Therefore, none of the exceptions to categorical exemptions listed in CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply to this project and this project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

- d) ☐ Agreement **IS NOT** exempt. (consult with the legal office to determine next steps)

Check all that apply

- ☐ Initial Study
- ☐ Negative Declaration
- ☐ Mitigated Negative Declaration
- ☐ Environmental Impact Report
- ☐ Statement of Overriding Considerations



**H) The following items should be attached to this CARF (as applicable)**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Exhibit A, Scope of Work/Schedule                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Attached            |
| 2. Exhibit B, Budget Detail                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Attached            |
| 3. DGS-GSPD-09-007, NCB Request                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Attached            |
| 4. CEC 95. DVBE Exemption Request                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Attached            |
| 5. CEQA Documentation                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Attached            |
| 6. Novation Documentation                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Attached            |
| 7. CEC 105, Questionnaire for Identifying Conflicts |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached |

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**Agreement Manager**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Branch Manager**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Director**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**