

8/21/24

**CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
BETWEEN
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER
AND
PENNONI ASSOCIATES, INC.**

THIS CONTRACT is made effective the 21st day of **August, 2024**, by and between the **COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER**, a body politic and corporate of the State of New Jersey, with administrative offices at 2 South Broad Street, Woodbury, New Jersey, 08096, hereinafter referred to as "**County**", and **PENNONI ASSOCIATES, INC.**, with an address of 515 Grove Street, Suite 1B, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035, hereinafter referred to as "**Contractor**".

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the County has a need for professional engineering services as per RFP-24-013, more particularly for wetlands consulting and additional survey services as needed to rebut the contention of a property owner in West Deptford Township who alleges that a County drainage easement and installation of a drainage swale created freshwater wetlands on their subject property, which would not otherwise be present (hereinafter referred to as "Project"); and

WHEREAS, Contractor represents that it is qualified to perform said required services, and desires to so perform pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Contract.

WHEREAS, this Contract is awarded pursuant to, and consistent with, the County's Fair and Open Procurement Process and the terms and provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, agreements, and other considerations made by and between the parties, the County and the Contractor do hereby agree as follows:

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

1. **TERM**. Contractor shall complete all work required for the Project in accordance with the bid Specifications and Contractor's responding bid documents, commencing August 21, 2024 and concluding upon completion of the Project, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15(9).

2. **COMPENSATION**. Contractor shall be compensated in the total amount of \$37,000.00, as per prices set forth in Contractor's proposal dated March 18, 2024, which is incorporated into and made part of this Contract by reference.

Contractor shall be paid in accordance with this Contract document upon receipt of an invoice and a properly executed voucher. After approval by the County, the payment voucher shall be placed in line for prompt payment.

Each invoice shall contain an itemized, detailed description of all work performed during the billing period. Failure to provide sufficient specificity shall be cause for rejection of the invoice until the necessary details are provided.

It is also agreed and understood that the acceptance of the final payment by Contractor shall be considered a release in full of all claims against the County arising out of, or by reason of, the work done and materials furnished under this Contract.

3. DUTIES OF CONTRACTOR. The specific duties of the Contractor shall be for professional engineering services for wetlands consulting and additional survey services as needed to rebut the contention of a property owner in West Deptford Township who alleges that a County drainage easement and installation of a drainage swale created freshwater wetlands on their subject property, which would not otherwise be present, as set forth in Contractor's proposal dated August 8, 2024, which are incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Contract.

4. FURTHER OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES. During the performance of this Contract, the Contractor agrees as follows:

a. The Contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment and will ensure that equal employment opportunity is afforded to such applicants in recruitment and employment, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, sex, veteran status or military service. Such equal employment opportunity shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The Contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

b. The Contractor will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.

c. The Contractor will send to each labor union, with which it has a collective bargaining agreement, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union of the Contractor's commitments under this chapter and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

d. The Contractor, where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

e. The Contractor agrees to make good faith efforts to meet targeted County employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.

5. LICENSING. If the Contractor is required to maintain a license in order to perform the services which are the subject of this Contract, then prior to the effective date of this Contract, and as a condition precedent to its taking effect, Contractor shall provide to the County a copy of all current licenses to operate in the State of New Jersey, which license shall be in good standing and shall not be subject to any current action to revoke or suspend, and shall remain so throughout the term of this Contract.

Contractor shall notify the County immediately in the event of suspension, revocation or any change in status (or in the event of the initiation of any action to accomplish such suspension, revocation and/or change in status) of license or certification held by Contractor, or its agents and/or subcontractors.

6. TERMINATION. This Contract may be terminated as follows:

a. Pursuant to the termination provisions set forth in the Bid Specifications, or in the Request for Proposals, if any, as the case may be, which are specifically referred to and incorporated herein by reference.

b. If Contractor is required to be licensed in order to perform the services which are the subject of this Contract, then this Contract may be terminated by County in the event that the appropriate governmental entity with jurisdiction has instituted an action to have the Contractor's license suspended, or in the event that such entity has revoked or suspended said license. Notice of termination pursuant to this subparagraph shall be effective immediately upon the giving of said notice.

c. If, through any cause, the Contractor, shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner his obligations under this Contract, or if the Contractor shall violate any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the County shall thereupon have the right to terminate this Contract by giving written notice to the Contractor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof. In such event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, and reports prepared by the Contractor under this Contract, shall be forthwith delivered to the County.

d. The County may terminate this Contract for public convenience at any time by a notice in writing from the County to the Contractor. If the Contract is terminated by the County as provided herein, the Contractor will be paid for the services rendered to the time of termination.

e. Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor, shall not be relieved of liability to the County for damages sustained by the County by virtue of any breach of the Contract by the Contractor, and the County may withhold any payments to the Contractor for the purpose of set off until such time as the exact amount of damages due the County from the Contractor is determined.

f. Termination shall not affect the validity of the indemnification provisions of this Contract, nor prevent the County from pursuing any other relief or damages to which it may be entitled, either at law or in equity.

7. NO ASSIGNMENT OR SUBCONTRACT. This Contract may not be assigned, nor subcontracted by the Contractor, except as otherwise agreed in writing by both parties. Any attempted assignment or subcontract without such written consent shall be void with respect to the County, and no obligation on the County's part to such subcontractor or assignee shall arise, unless the County shall elect to accept, and consent to, such assignment or subcontract.

8. INDEMNIFICATION. The Contractor shall be responsible for, shall keep save and hold the County harmless from, and shall indemnify the County against, any claim, loss, liability, expense (specifically including but not limited to costs, counsel fees and/or experts' fees), or damage resulting from all mental or physical injuries or disability, including death, to employees or recipients of the Contractor's services or to any other persons, or from any damage to any property sustained in connection with this contract which results from any acts or omissions, including negligence or malpractice, of any of its officers, directors, employees, agents, servants, or independent contractors, or from the Contractor's failure to provide for the safety and protection of its employees, or from Contractor's performance or failure to perform pursuant to the terms and provisions of this Contract, whether or not due to negligence, fault, or default of the Contractor. The Contractor's liability under this Contract shall continue after the termination of this Contract with respect to any liability, loss, expense or damage resulting from acts occurring prior to termination.

9. INSURANCE. Contractor shall, if applicable to the services to be provided, maintain general liability, automobile liability, business operations, builders and Workers' Compensation insurance in amounts and with companies deemed satisfactory by the County. Said policies shall be in compliance with any applicable requirements of the State of New Jersey and of the United States. Contractor shall, simultaneously with the execution of this Contract, deliver certifications of said insurance to County, naming the County as an additional insured.

If Contractor is a member of a profession which is subject to suit for professional malpractice, then Contractor shall maintain and continue in full force and effect, an insurance policy for professional liability/malpractice with limits of liability acceptable to the County. Contractor shall, simultaneously with the execution of this Contract, and as a condition precedent to its taking effect, provide to County a copy of a certificate of insurance, verifying that said insurance is and will be in effect during the term of this Contract.

The County shall review the certificate for sufficiency and compliance with this paragraph and approval of said certificate and policy shall be necessary prior to this Contract taking effect. Contractor also hereby agrees to continue said policy in force and effect for the period of the applicable statute of limitations following the termination of this Contract, and shall provide the County with copies of certificates of insurance as the certificates may be renewed during that period of time.

10. **SET-OFF**. Should Contractor either refuse or neglect to perform the services which Contractor is required to perform in accordance with the terms of this Contract, and if expense is incurred by County by reason of Contractor's failure to perform, then and in that event, such expenses shall be deducted from any payment due to Contractor. Exercise of such set-off shall not operate to prevent County from pursuing any other remedy to which it may be entitled.

11. **PREVENTION OF PERFORMANCE BY COUNTY**. In the event that the County is prevented from performing this Contract by circumstances beyond its control, then any obligations owing by the County to the Contractor shall be suspended without liability for the period during which the County is so prevented.

12. **NON-WAIVER**. The failure by the County to enforce any particular provision of this Contract, or to act upon a breach of this Contract by Contractor, shall not operate as or be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach, nor a bar to any subsequent enforcement.

13. **PARTIAL INVALIDITY**. In the event that any provisions of this Contract shall be, or become, invalid under any law or applicable regulation, such invalidity shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provisions of this Contract.

14. **NOTICES**. Notices required by this Contract shall be effective upon mailing of notice by regular and certified mail to the addresses set forth above, or by personal service, or if such notice cannot be delivered or personally served, then by any procedure for notice pursuant to the Rules of Court of the State of New Jersey.

15. **GOVERNING LAW, JURISDICTION AND VENUE**. This Contract and all questions relating to its validity, interpretation, performance or enforcement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. The parties each irrevocably agree that any dispute arising under, relating to, or in connection with, directly or indirectly, this agreement or related to any matter which is the subject of or incidental to this agreement (whether or not such claim is based upon breach of contract or tort) shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the state and/or federal courts located in Gloucester County, New Jersey or the United States District Court, District of New Jersey, Camden, New Jersey. This provision is intended to be a "mandatory" forum selection clause and governed by and interpreted consistent with New Jersey law and each waives any objection based on forum non conveniens.

16. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS**. The parties acknowledge that Contractor is an independent contractor, and is not an employee, or agent of the County.

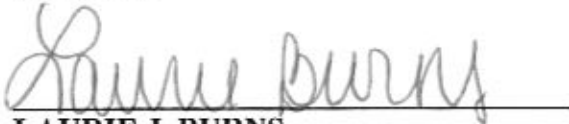
17. **BINDING EFFECT**. This Contract shall be binding on the undersigned, and their successors and assigns.

18. **CONTRACT PARTS**. This Contract consists of this Contract document, and the Contractor's Proposal dated August 8, 2024. Should there occur a conflict between this Contract and Contractor's Proposal, then this Contract shall prevail.

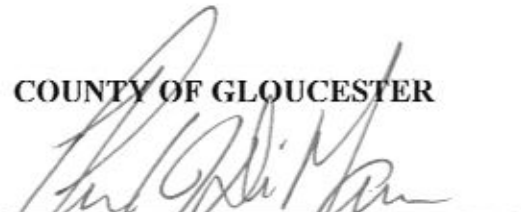
THIS CONTRACT is effective as of the date first written above.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County has caused this instrument to be signed by its Director and attested by its Clerk, pursuant to a Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners passed for that purpose, and Contractor has caused this instrument to be signed by its properly authorized representative and its corporate seal affixed the day and year first above written.


ATTEST:


LAURIE J. BURNS,
CLERK OF THE BOARD


COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER


FRANK J. DIMARCO, DIRECTOR

ATTEST:



PENNONI ASSOCIATES, INC.


By: EDUARDO S. GUETENS
Title: VP

August 8, 2024

GCEDX24008P

Mr. Eric M. Campo, Esq.
Gloucester County
County Counsel
2 South Broad Street
Woodbury, NJ 08096

RE: Wetland Consulting Services
Kings Highway Site
Block 353, Lot 1
Township of West Deptford, Gloucester County, NJ 08086

Dear Mr. Campo:

Pennoni is pleased to present this revised proposal, including the requested additional survey services for the following Scope of Services and fee in support of the above referenced site in accordance with the attached Terms and Conditions (Form LE01 9/2023):

SCOPE OF SERVICES

1. Provide consulting support services to Gloucester County (County) relative to rebutting a contention by the current property owner that a County drainage easement and installation of a drainage swale have created freshwater wetlands on the subject property that otherwise would not be present. The consulting services will include:
 - a. Review existing, available information related to the subject property including, but not limited to, aerial photographs, wetland mappings, soils mappings, and information prepared by the property owner and furnished to Pennoni by the County.
 - b. Review of onsite and adjacent drainage patterns relative to stormwater flow and discharges.
 - c. Site visit to evaluate onsite wetlands that are understood to have been verified by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection through a Letter of Interpretation (LOI).
 - d. Site visit to evaluate onsite and adjacent stormwater flow patterns along the existing drainage easement.
 - e. Prepare survey delineating the County drainage easement on subject property.
 - f. Review existing and past site conditions.
 - g. Meetings, calls, and other consulting services. We anticipate a total of 10 hours of consulting time.
 - h. Submit an Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request to NJDEP to review the current LOI file.
 - i. Submit an OPRA request to the municipality to review engineering and design documents relative to the adjacent development.

2. Deliverables

- a. Preparation of a Summary Report that presents the findings of our review and site visits and outlines our opinions and recommendations concerning the property owner contention regarding wetlands.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. Unobscured and unlimited permission to access the Site.
2. Agreements and coordination to permit access to adjacent properties by Pennoni will be performed by others if necessary for purposes of evaluation of existing conditions.
3. The scope and fees are based on the regulatory requirements in effect on the date of this proposal. Services that may be required by new rules and regulations shall be considered additional services.
4. Meetings in excess of ten (10) consulting hours are not included within the scope of work proposed and if requested will be considered an additional service invoiced at our attached Standard Rates.
5. Specifically excluded:
 - a. Engineering Services
 - b. Ecological/endangered or threatened species surveys
 - c. Wetland delineation
 - d. Cultural resource surveys
 - e. NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Verification and Permit Applications
 - f. NJDEP Freshwater Wetlands LOI Application and Permit Applications

FEE

Our fee for the above Scope of Services will be billed as time and materials with an estimate fee of \$37,000.00.

BILLING AND PAYMENT

We will invoice monthly as work progresses. Payment is due upon receipt.


TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Pennoni Associates General Terms and Conditions (Form No. LE01) attached hereto are included as part of this proposal.

Thank you for affording us the opportunity to assist you. Please sign and return one copy of this proposal as our Notice to Proceed.

Sincerely,

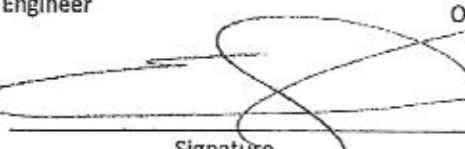
PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC



John C. Ryder P.E.
Principal Engineer



Edward Guetens
Office Director

Enclosure
Accepted by: 

Signature


Date



PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC. GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Unless withdrawn sooner, proposals are valid for thirty (30) days.
2. The technical and pricing information in proposals is the confidential and proprietary property of Pennoni Associates Inc. ("Pennoni") or any Pennoni subsidiary or affiliate. Client agrees not to use or to disclose to third parties any technical or pricing information without Pennoni's written consent.
3. The agreement created by the Client's acceptance of a proposal and these Terms & Conditions is hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement." If a proposal is submitted to Client and Client fails to return a signed copy of the proposal but knowingly allows Pennoni to proceed with the services, then Client shall be deemed to have accepted the terms of the proposal and these General Terms & Conditions. If there is a conflict or inconsistency between any express term or condition in the proposal and these General Terms & Conditions, then the proposal shall take precedence. The proposal and these General Terms & Conditions constitute the entire Agreement, and supersede any previous agreement or understanding.
4. Payment is due upon receipt of invoices as submitted. If Client chooses to make any payment via major credit card, Client agrees to pay a 3% surcharge or 1.03 times the total amount invoiced. Client agrees to pay interest at the rate of 1½ percent per month on invoices that are more than 30 days past due. If an invoice is 30 or more days past due, then Pennoni may suspend services and refuse to release work on this Agreement or any other agreement between Client and Pennoni until Client has paid all amounts due. Unless Pennoni receives written notice of Client's dispute of an invoice within 30 days of the invoice date, the invoice will be presumed correct. If payment is not made in accordance with the Agreement, then Client agrees to pay reasonable costs and attorney's fees incurred by Pennoni to collect payment.
5. All drawings, sketches, specifications and other documents ("Documents") in any form, including electronic, prepared by Pennoni are instruments of Pennoni's services, and as such are and shall remain Pennoni's property. Upon payment in accordance with the Agreement, Client shall have the right to use and reproduce the Documents solely for the purposes of constructing, remediating, using or maintaining the project contemplated by the Agreement ("Project"). The Documents are prepared for use on this Project only, and are not appropriate for use on other projects, any additions or alterations of the Project, or completion of the Project by others. Client shall not use the Documents in violation of this paragraph without Pennoni's express written consent; and such use is at the Client's sole risk. Client agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Pennoni from any claims, damages, losses, liabilities and expenses arising from such prohibited use.
6. The proposed fees and schedule constitute Pennoni's best estimate of the charges and time required to complete the Project. As the Project progresses, facts uncovered may dictate revisions in scope, schedule or fee. The hourly rate schedule for services provided on a time and material basis will be subject to increases annually.
7. Fee and schedule commitments will be subject to change for delays caused by Client's failure to provide specified facilities or information, or for delays caused by third parties, unpredictable occurrences or force majeure.
8. Where the method of payment is based on time and materials, Client agrees that the following will apply: The minimum time segment for charging work is one-quarter hour, except the minimum time segment for charging of field survey work is four (4) hours. Client reimbursable expenses include travel and living expenses of personnel when away from the home office on business connected with the Project; subcontractor and subconsultant costs; identifiable communications, mailing and reproduction costs; identifiable drafting and stenographic supplies; and expendable materials and supplies purchased specifically for the Project. A ten (10) percent administrative and handling charge will be added to client reimbursable expenses.
9. Client's termination of this Agreement will not be effective unless Client gives Pennoni seven (7) days prior written notice with accompanying reasons and details, and affords Pennoni an opportunity to respond. Where the method of payment is "Lump Sum," Client agrees that the final invoice will be based on services performed to the effective date of cancellation, plus an equitable adjustment to provide for costs Pennoni incurred for commitments made prior to cancellation. Where the method of payment is time and materials, Client agrees that the final invoice will include all services and direct expenses up to the effective date of cancellation plus an equitable adjustment to provide for costs Pennoni incurred for commitments made prior to cancellation.
10. Pennoni will maintain at its own expense Workman's Compensation Insurance, Commercial General Liability Insurance, and Professional Liability Insurance.
11. Neither the Client nor Pennoni shall assign this Agreement without the written consent of the other.

12. Pennoni does not represent or warrant that any permit or approval will be issued by any governmental or regulatory body. Pennoni will endeavor to prepare applications for such permit or approval in conformance with applicable requirements; but, in view of the complexity of and the frequent changes in applicable rules and regulations and interpretations by the authorities, Pennoni cannot guarantee that any such application will be considered complete or will conform to all applicable requirements.
13. Pennoni will perform its work in accordance with generally accepted professional standards. THERE ARE NO OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED. This Agreement is solely for the benefit of the Client and its successors. There is no third-party beneficiary of this Agreement.
14. CLIENT AND PENNONI HAVE CONSIDERED THE RISKS AND REWARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROJECT, AS WELL AS PENNONI'S TOTAL FEE FOR SERVICES. CLIENT AGREES THAT, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, PENNONI'S TOTAL AGGREGATE LIABILITY (INCLUDING THE LIABILITY OF ITS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, SUBCONTRACTORS AND CONSULTANTS) TO THE CLIENT (AND ANYONE CLAIMING BY, THROUGH OR UNDER THE CLIENT) FOR ANY AND ALL INJURIES, CLAIMS, LOSSES, EXPENSES OR DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF THIS AGREEMENT FROM ANY CAUSE OR CAUSES IS LIMITED TO THE TOTAL FEE RECEIVED BY PENNONI UNDER THIS AGREEMENT OR \$50,000, WHICHEVER IS GREATER. SUCH CAUSES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, PENNONI'S NEGLIGENCE, ERRORS, OMISSIONS, STRICT LIABILITY, OR BREACH OF CONTRACT OR WARRANTY.

IN THE EVENT THE CLIENT IS UNABLE TO ACCEPT THE ABOVE LIMITATION OF LIABILITY, PENNONI AGREES TO INCREASE THE LIMITATION TO \$1,000,000 UPON ITS RECEIPT, PRIOR TO PERFORMING ANY SERVICES, OF CLIENT'S WRITTEN AGREEMENT TO PAY AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF NOT LESS THAN 10% OF THE TOTAL FEE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT OR \$1,000, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.
15. Client shall make no claim against Pennoni unless the Client first provides a written certification, executed by an independent design professional, specifying those acts or omissions which the independent design professional contends is a violation of generally accepted professional standards and upon which the claim will be premised. The independent design professional must be licensed to practice in the state where the Project is located and in the discipline related to the claim. Client agrees that the independent design professional's certification is a condition precedent to the Client's right to institute any judicial proceeding.
16. If required under the scope of services, Pennoni shall visit the Project site to become generally familiar with the progress and quality of the work for which Pennoni prepared contract documents, and Pennoni shall not make exhaustive or continuous onsite inspections. Pennoni's services do not include supervision or direction of the contractor's work. Observation by Pennoni field representatives shall not excuse the contractor for defects or omissions in its work. Pennoni shall not control construction means, methods, techniques, sequences, or procedures, and the contractor is solely responsible for all work on the Project, including safety of all persons and property.
17. If Client does not retain Pennoni to render construction phase services, then Client waives any claim it may have against Pennoni and agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Pennoni from any loss or liability, including attorneys fees and other defense costs, arising out of or related to the interpretation of Pennoni's plans and specifications, the review of shop drawings, the evaluation of contractor's request for change orders, or the failure to detect and correct obvious errors or omissions in Pennoni's plans and specifications.
18. Unless and until a court determines that Pennoni's preparation or approval of maps, drawings, opinions, reports, surveys, change orders, designs, specifications and/or Pennoni's giving or failure to give instructions is the primary cause of any damage, claim, loss or expenses, Client shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless Pennoni and its officers, employees and consultants from and against all damages, claims, losses or expenses, including reasonable attorneys fees and other costs of defense, arising out of this Agreement. In the event the Client is required to defend Pennoni under this paragraph, Pennoni shall have the right to select its attorneys.
19. Client agrees to pay reasonable expert witness fees if Pennoni or any of its employees is subpoenaed to testify as a fact or opinion witness in any court proceeding, arbitration, or mediation to which the Client is a party.
20. Unless otherwise provided in this proposal, Pennoni shall have no responsibility for the discovery, presence, handling, removal, or disposal of hazardous materials or underground structures at the Project site.
21. Client and Pennoni waive consequential damages arising out of this Agreement.
22. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
23. Both Pennoni and Client agree to waive the right to subrogation for covered losses and each shall obtain similar waivers from Owner, subcontractors, property and casualty insurers, and any other party involved in this Project.