

Administering Agency: Nevada County Office of the County Counsel

Contract No. PESR4849

Contract Description: **Professional Legal Services**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

THIS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT ("Contract") is made at Nevada City, California, as of October 10, 2023 by and between the County of Nevada, ("County"), and Downey Brand, LLP ("Contractor"), who agree as follows: legal services regarding the CPUC matter as further described in Exhibit A, herein.

1. **Services** Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Contract, Contractor shall provide the services described in Exhibit A. Contractor shall provide said services at the time, place, and in the manner specified in Exhibit A.
2. **Payment** County shall pay Contractor for services rendered pursuant to this Contract at the time and in the amount set forth in Exhibit B. The payments specified in Exhibit B shall be the only payment made to Contractor for services rendered pursuant to this Contract. Contractor shall submit all billings for said services to County in the manner specified in Exhibit B; or, if no manner be specified in Exhibit B, then according to the usual and customary procedures which Contractor uses for billing clients similar to County. **The amount of the contract shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00).**
3. **Term** This Contract shall be effective October 10, 2023 ("Effective Date"). All services required to be provided by this Contract shall be completed and ready for acceptance no later than the **Contract Termination Date** of: 6/30/2025.
4. **Facilities, Equipment and Other Materials** Contractor shall, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all facilities, equipment, and other materials which may be required for furnishing services pursuant to this Contract.
5. **Exhibits** All exhibits referred to herein and attached hereto are incorporated herein by this reference.
6. **Electronic Signatures** The parties acknowledge and agree that this Contract may be executed by electronic signature, which shall be considered as an original signature for all purposes and shall have the same force and effect as an original signature. Without limitation, "electronic signature" shall include faxed or emailed versions of an original signature or electronically scanned and transmitted versions (e.g., via pdf) of an original signature.
7. **Time for Performance** Time is of the essence. Failure of Contractor to perform any services within the time limits set forth in Exhibit A, or elsewhere in this Contract, shall constitute material breach of this contract. Contractor shall devote such time to the performance of services pursuant to this Contract as may be reasonably necessary for the satisfactory performance of Contractor's obligations pursuant to this Contract. Neither Party shall be considered in default of this Contract to the extent performance is prevented or delayed by any cause, present or future, which is beyond the reasonable control of the Party.

8. **Liquidated Damages**

Liquidated Damages are presented as an estimate of an intangible loss to the County. It is a provision that allows for the payment of a specified sum should Contractor be in breach of contract. Liquidated Damages shall apply shall not apply to this contract. Liquidated Damages applicable to this contract are incorporated in Exhibit E, attached hereto.

9. **Relationship of Parties**

9.1. **Independent Contractor**

In providing services herein, Contractor, and the agents and employees thereof, shall work in an independent capacity and as an independent contractor and not as agents or employees of County. Contractor acknowledges that it customarily engages independently in the trade, occupation, or business as that involved in the work required herein. Further, the Parties agree that Contractor shall perform the work required herein free from the control and direction of County, and that the nature of the work is outside the usual course of the County's business. In performing the work required herein, Contractor shall not be entitled to any employment benefits, Workers' Compensation, or other programs afforded to County employees. Contractor shall hold County harmless and indemnify County against such claim by its agents or employees. County makes no representation as to the effect of this independent contractor relationship on Contractor's previously earned California Public Employees Retirement System ("CalPERS") retirement benefits, if any, and Contractor specifically assumes the responsibility for making such determination. Contractor shall be responsible for all reports and obligations including but not limited to: social security taxes, income tax withholding, unemployment insurance, disability insurance, workers' compensation and other applicable federal and state taxes.

9.2. **No Agent Authority** Contractor shall have no power to incur any debt, obligation, or liability on behalf of County or otherwise to act on behalf of County as an agent. Neither County nor any of its agents shall have control over the conduct of Contractor or any of Contractor's employees, except as set forth in this Contract. Contractor shall not represent that it is, or that any of its agents or employees are, in any manner employees of the County.

9.3. **Indemnification of CalPERS Determination** In the event that Contractor or any employee, agent, or subcontractor of Contractor providing service under this Contract or is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction or CalPERS to be eligible for enrollment in CalPERS as an employee of the County, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless County for all payments on behalf of Contractor or its employees, agents, or subcontractors, as well as for the payment of any penalties and interest on such contributions, which would otherwise be the responsibility of County.

10. **Assignment and Subcontracting** Except as specifically provided herein, the rights, responsibilities, duties and Services to be performed under this Contract are personal to the Contractor and may not be transferred, subcontracted, or assigned without the prior written consent of County. Contractor shall not substitute or replace any personnel for those specifically named herein or in its proposal without the prior written consent of County.

Contractor shall cause and require each transferee, subcontractor, and assignee to comply with the insurance provisions set forth herein, to the extent such insurance provisions are required of Contractor under this Contract. Failure of Contractor to so cause and require such compliance

by each transferee, subcontractor, and assignee shall constitute a Material Breach of this Contract, and, in addition to any other remedy available at law or otherwise, shall serve as a basis upon which County may elect to suspend payments hereunder, or terminate this Contract, or both.

11. **Licenses, Permits, Etc.** Contractor represents and warrants to County that Contractor shall, at its sole cost and expense, obtain or keep in effect at all times during the term of this Contract, any licenses, permits, and approvals which are legally required for Contractor to practice its profession at the time the services are performed.
12. **Hold Harmless and Indemnification Contract** To the fullest extent permitted by law, each Party (the "Indemnifying Party") hereby agrees to protect, indemnify, and hold the other Party (the "Indemnified Party"), its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers, free and harmless from any and all losses, claims, liens, demands, and causes of action of every kind and character resulting from the Indemnifying Party's negligent act, willful misconduct, or error or omission, including, but not limited to, the amounts of judgments, penalties, interest, court costs, and all other expenses incurred by the Indemnified Party arising in favor of any party, including claims, liens, debts, personal injuries, death, or damages to property (including employees or property of the Indemnified Party) and without limitation, all other claims or demands of every character occurring or in any way out of, the Contract. This provision is not intended to create any cause of action in favor of any third party against either Party or to enlarge in any way either Party's liability but is intended solely to provide for indemnification of the Indemnified Party from liability for damages, or injuries to third persons or property, arising from or in connection with Indemnifying Party's performance pursuant to this Contract. The language of this clause shall not apply to the extent its enforcement would limit the availability of the Contractor (Law Firm's) insurance policy, and in no event shall the damage claimed under this provision exceed the lesser of \$350,000 or the amount of fees collected by the Contractor for the services performed under this agreement.
13. **Standard of Performance** Contractor shall perform all services required pursuant to this Contract in the manner and according to the standards observed by a competent practitioner of the profession in which Contractor is engaged in the geographical area in which Contractor practices its profession. All products of whatsoever nature which Contractor delivers to County pursuant to this Contract shall be prepared in a substantial first class and workmanlike manner and conform to the standards or quality normally observed by a person practicing in Contractor's profession.

Contractor without additional compensation. Contractor's personnel, when on the County's premises and when accessing the County network remotely, shall comply with the County's regulations regarding security, remote access, safety and professional conduct, including but not limited to Nevada County Security Policy NCSP-102 Nevada County External User Policy and Account Application regarding data and access security. Contractor personnel will solely utilize the County's privileged access management platform for all remote access support functions, unless other methods are granted in writing by the County's Chief Information Officer or his/her designee.

14. **Prevailing Wage and Apprentices** To the extent made applicable by law, performance of this Contract shall be in conformity with the provisions of California Labor Code, Division 2, Part 7, Chapter 1, commencing with section 1720 relating to prevailing wages which must be paid to workers employed on a public work as defined in Labor Code section 1720, et seq., and shall be in conformity with Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations section 200 et seq., relating to apprenticeship. Where applicable:

- Contractor shall comply with the provisions thereof at the commencement of Services to be provided herein, and thereafter during the term of this Contract. A breach of the requirements of this section shall be deemed a material breach of this contract. Applicable prevailing wage determinations are available on the California Department of Industrial Relations website at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/OPRL/PWD>.
 - Contractor and all subcontractors must comply with the requirements of Labor Code section 1771.1(a) pertaining to registration of contractors pursuant to section 1725.5. Registration and all related requirements of those sections must be maintained throughout the performance of the Contract.
 - Contracts to which prevailing wage requirements apply are subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. Each Contractor and subcontractor must furnish certified payroll records to the Labor Commissioner at least monthly.
 - The County is required to provide notice to the Department of Industrial Relations of any public work contract subject to prevailing wages within five (5) days of award.
15. **Accessibility** It is the policy of the County of Nevada that all County services, programs, meetings, activities and facilities shall be accessible to all persons, and shall comply with the provisions of the Americans With Disabilities Act and Title 24, California Code of Regulations. To the extent this Contract shall call for Contractor to provide County contracted services directly to the public, Contractor shall certify that said direct Services are and shall be accessible to all persons.
16. **Nondiscriminatory Employment** Contractor shall not discriminate in its employment practices because of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, sex or sexual orientation in contravention of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, Government Code section 12900 et seq.
17. **Drug-Free Workplace** Senate Bill 1120, (Chapter 1170, Statutes of 1990), requires recipients of state grants to maintain a "drug-free workplace". Every person or organization awarded a contract for the procurement of any property or services shall certify as required under Government Code Section 8355-8357 that it will provide a drug-free workplace.
18. **Political Activities** Contractor shall in no instance expend funds or use resources derived from this Contract on any political activities.
19. **Financial, Statistical and Contract-Related Records:**
- 19.1. **Books and Records** Contractor shall maintain statistical records and submit reports as required by County. Contractor shall also maintain accounting and administrative books and records, program procedures and documentation relating to licensure and accreditation as they pertain to this Contract. All such financial, statistical and contract-related records shall be retained for five (5) years or until program review findings and/or audit findings are resolved, whichever is later. Such records shall include but not be limited to bids and all supporting documents, original entry books, canceled checks, receipts, invoices, payroll records, including subsistence, travel and field expenses, together with a general ledger itemizing all debits and credits.
- 19.2. **Inspection** Upon reasonable advance notice and during normal business hours or at such other times as may be agreed upon, Contractor shall make the client file, and relevant books and records pertaining thereto (for example, client invoices) related to

this client matter or Contract available, to County or any other government agency with legal authorization to obtain them.

- 19.3. **Audit** Contractor shall permit the County and duly authorized representatives, with written authorization of the County, to audit the client file, and books, accounts or records (for example, client invoices and account records) relating specifically to this client or Contract. All such records shall be available for inspection by auditors designated by the County or any other government agency with legal authorization to obtain them, at reasonable times during normal business hours. Any audit may be conducted on Contractor's premises or, at County's option, Contractor shall provide such books and records within fifteen (15) days upon delivery of written notice from County. Contractor shall promptly refund any moneys erroneously charged and shall be liable for the costs of audit if the audit establishes an over-charge of five percent (5%) or more of the Maximum Contract Price.

20. **Termination**

- A.** A Material Breach, as defined pursuant to the terms of this Contract or otherwise, in addition to any other remedy available at law or otherwise, shall serve as a basis upon which County may elect to immediately suspend payments hereunder, or terminate this Contract, or both, without notice.
- B.** If Contractor fails to timely provide in any manner the services materials and products required under this Contract, or otherwise fails to promptly comply with the terms of this Contract, or violates any ordinance, regulation or other law which applies to its performance herein, County may terminate this Contract by giving **five (5) calendar days written notice to Contractor.**
- C.** Either party may terminate this Contract for any reason, or without cause, by giving **thirty (30) calendar days written notice** to the other, which notice shall be sent by registered mail in conformity with the notice provisions, below. In the event of termination not the fault of the Contractor, the Contractor shall be paid for services performed to the date of termination in accordance with the terms of this Contract. Contractor shall be excused for failure to perform services herein if such performance is prevented by acts of God, strikes, labor disputes or other forces over which the Contractor has no control.
- D.** County, upon giving **thirty (30) calendar days written notice** to Contractor, shall have the right to terminate its obligations under this Contract at the end of any fiscal year if the County or the State of California, as the case may be, does not appropriate funds sufficient to discharge County's obligations coming due under this contract.

In the event this Contract is terminated:

- 1) Contractor shall deliver copies of all writings prepared by it pursuant to this Contract as part of the Client File as defined in the California Rules of Professional Conduct, California Standing Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct Formal Op. 19-0004, and other relevant legal authority. The term "writings" shall be construed to mean and include: handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photographing, and every other means of recording upon any tangible thing any form of communication or representation, including letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols, or combinations thereof.
- 2) County shall have full ownership and control of the Client File as defined in the California Rules of Professional Conduct, California Standing Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct Formal Op. 19-0004, and other relevant legal authority, as delivered by Contractor pursuant to this Contract.
- 3) County shall pay Contractor the reasonable value of services rendered by Contractor to the date of termination pursuant to this Contract not to exceed the amount documented

by Contractor and approved by County as work accomplished to date; provided, however, that in no event shall any payment hereunder exceed the amount of the Contract specified in Exhibit B, and further provided, however, County shall not in any manner be liable for lost profits which might have been made by Contractor had Contractor completed the services required by this Contract. In this regard, Contractor shall furnish to County such financial information as in the judgment of the County is necessary to determine the reasonable value of the services rendered by Contractor. The foregoing is cumulative and does not affect any right or remedy, which County may have in law or equity.

21. **Intellectual Property** To the extent County provides any of its own original photographs, diagrams, plans, documents, information, reports, computer code and all recordable media together with all copyright interests thereto, not the property of Contractor (herein "Intellectual Property"), which concern or relate to this Contract and which have been prepared by, for or submitted to Contractor by County, shall be the property of County, and upon fifteen (15) days demand therefor, shall be promptly delivered to County without exception.
22. **Waiver** One or more waivers by one party of any major or minor breach or default of any provision, term, condition, or covenant of this Contract shall not operate as a waiver of any subsequent breach or default by the other party.
23. **Conflict of Interest** Contractor certifies that no official or employee of the County, nor any business entity in which an official of the County has an interest, has been employed or retained to solicit or aid in the procuring of this Contract. In addition, Contractor agrees that no such person will be employed in the performance of this Contract unless first agreed to in writing by County. This includes prior Nevada County employment in accordance with County Personnel Code.
24. **Entirety of Contract** This Contract contains the entire Contract of County and Contractor with respect to the subject matter hereof, and no other Contract, statement, or promise made by any party, or to any employee, officer or agent of any party, which is not contained in this Contract, shall be binding or valid.
25. **Alteration** No waiver, alteration, modification, or termination of this Contract shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by all parties, except as expressly provided in Section 19, Termination.
26. **Governing Law and Venue** This Contract is executed and intended to be performed in the State of California, and the laws of that State shall govern its interpretation and effect. The venue for any legal proceedings regarding this Contract shall be the County of Nevada, State of California. Each party waives any Federal court removal and/or original jurisdiction rights it may have.
27. **Compliance with Applicable Laws** Contractor shall comply with any and all federal, state and local laws, codes, ordinances, rules and regulations which relate to, concern or affect the Services to be provided by this Contract.
28. **Additional Contractor Responsibilities**
 - A. To the extent Contractor is a mandated reporter of suspected child and/or dependent adult abuse and neglect, it shall ensure that its employees, agents, volunteers, subcontractors, and independent contractors are made aware of, understand, and comply with all reporting requirements. Contractor shall immediately notify County of any incident or condition

resulting in injury, harm, or risk of harm to any child or dependent adult served under this Contract.

- B. Contractor will immediately notify County of any active complaints, lawsuits, licensing or regulatory investigations, reports of fraud or malfeasance, or criminal investigations regarding its operations. Contractor agrees to work cooperatively with County in response to any investigation commenced by County with regard to this Contract or the clients served herein, including providing any/all records requested by County related thereto. [
- C. Contractor shall employ reasonable background check procedures on all employees, prospective employees, volunteers and consultants performing work involving direct contact with minor children or dependent adults under this Contract, including fingerprinting and criminal records checks, sexual offender registry checks, and reference checks, including both personal and professional references.

29. **Notification** Any notice or demand desired or required to be given hereunder shall be in writing and deemed given when personally delivered or deposited in the mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the parties as follows:

COUNTY OF NEVADA:

Nevada County
Office of County Counsel
Address: 950 Maidu Ave, Suite 240
City, St, Zip Nevada City, CA 95959
Attn: Katharine L. Elliott
Email: kit.elliott@nevadacountyca.gov
Phone: 530.265.1319

CONTRACTOR:

Name of firm
Downey Brand, LLP
Address 455 Market Street, Suite 1500
City, St, Zip San Francisco, CA 94105
Attn: Megan Somogyi
Email: msomogyi@downeybrand.com
Phone: 415.848.4829

Any notice so delivered personally shall be deemed to be received on the date of delivery, and any notice mailed shall be deemed to be received five (5) days after the date on which it was mailed.

Signature Page Follows

Executed as of the day first above stated:

Authority: All individuals executing this Contract on behalf of Contractor represent and warrant that they are authorized to execute and deliver this Contract on behalf of Contractor.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract effective on the Beginning Date, above.

COUNTY OF NEVADA:

By: *Desiree Belding, CPPO, CPPB on behalf of* Date: 12/11/2023
Desiree Belding, CPPO, CPPB on behalf of (Dec 11, 2023 17:00 PST)

Printed Name/Title: Desiree Belding, Purchasing Agent

Approved as to Form – County Counsel:

By: *K. Elliott* Date: 11/14/2023
Kit Elliott (Nov 14, 2023 10:14 PST)

Printed Name/Title: Katharine L. Elliott

CONTRACTOR: Downey Brand, LLP

By: *Megan Somogyi* Date: 11/14/2023
Megan Somogyi (Nov 14, 2023 08:55 PST)

Name: Megan J. Somogyi

* Title: Partner

****If Contractor is a corporation, this Contract must be signed by two corporate officers; one of which must be the secretary of the corporation, and the other may be either the President or Vice President, unless an authenticated corporate resolution is attached delegating authority to a single officer to bind the corporation (California Corporations Code Sec. 313).***

Exhibits

- A. Schedule of Services
- B. Schedule of Charges and Payments
- C. Insurance Requirements

EXHIBIT A

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Contractor shall provide general legal representation for Nevada County, its employees, representatives, and officers related to the initiation of filing a complaint with the CPUC against PG&E and facilitating meetings and communications with PG&E about its gas infrastructure activities. The scope of representation includes but is not limited to, advice on procedural and substantive law, factual investigations, legal research, and representation throughout the CPUC process, including filing responsive pleadings and motions, discovery, participation in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution, and any hearings, and other tasks as directed by County Counsel.

Contractor shall provide regular reports and/or evaluations pursuant as follows:

- An Initial evaluation and budget shall be completed within **sixty (60)** days of assignment. (Should the amount billed exceed seventy-five (75) percent of the total budget, Contractor shall provide an updated budget at that time).
- Status report(s) every **ninety (90)** days, after the initial evaluation. Updated reports shall provide a summary of pertinent information based on the status of the case at that time.

All initial evaluations, budgets, status reports and pre-trial reports shall be emailed to the following persons:

County Counsel General Email: County.Counsel@nevadacountyca.gov
Handling Attorney Kit.elliott@nevadacountyca.gov

EXHIBIT B

SCHEDULE OF CHARGES AND PAYMENTS

Maximum Limit & Fee Schedule

Contractor shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary costs and expenses as authorized by the County; provided, however, that Contractor shall not be reimbursed for incidental costs and expenses incurred, including mileage or other travel costs, unless such costs are expressly authorized in advance and in writing by the County Counsel. Contractor shall not enter into any agreements with experts or outside vendors in excess of \$2,500.00 without prior written authorization of the County Counsel.

The total of all payments made under this Contract shall not exceed the amount shown in Section 2 of this contract.

Partner (Somogyi)	\$ 450 per hour
Associate (Inoshita)	\$ 355 per hour (to increase to \$370 in 2024)
Associate (Marelich)	\$ 285 per hour

Invoices

Invoices shall be submitted to County in a form and with sufficient detail as required by County. Work performed by Contractor will be subject to final acceptance by the County project manager(s).

Submit all invoices to:

COUNTY OF NEVADA:

Nevada County
Office of County Counsel
Address: 950 Maidu Ave, Suite 240
City, St, Zip Nevada City, CA 95959
Attn: Katharine L. Elliott
Email: county.counsel@nevadacountyca.gov
Phone: 530.265.1319

Payment Schedule

The County will make payment within thirty (30) days after the billing is received and approved by County and as outlined below.

Unless otherwise agreed to by County, all payments owed by County to Contractor under this Contract shall be made by Automated Clearing House (ACH). In the event County is unable to release payment by ACH the Contractor agrees to accept payment by County warrant.

EXHIBIT C

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Insurance. Contractor shall procure and maintain for the duration of the contract insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, or employees. Coverage shall be at least as broad as:

- (i) **Commercial General Liability CGL:** Insurance Services Office Form CG 00 01 covering CGL on an "occurrence" basis, including products and completed operations, property damage, bodily injury and personal & advertising injury with limits no less than **\$1,000,000** per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, either the general aggregate limit shall apply separately to this project/location (ISO CG 25 03 or 25 04) or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.
- (ii) **Automobile Liability** Insurance Services Office Form Number CA 0001 covering, Code 1 (any auto), or if Contractor has no owned autos, Code 8 (hired) and 9 (non-owned), with limit no less than **\$1,000,000** per accident for bodily injury and property damage.
- (iii) **Workers' Compensation** insurance as required by the State of California, with Statutory Limits, and Employer's Liability Insurance with limit of no less than **\$1,000,000** per accident for bodily injury or disease.
- (iv) **Professional Liability** (Errors and Omissions) Insurance covering **legal malpractice** with limit no less than **\$2,000,000** per occurrence or claim, **\$2,000,000** aggregate.
- (v) If the Contractor maintains broader coverage and/or higher limits than the minimums shown above, the County requires and shall be entitled to the broader coverage and/or the higher limits maintained by the contractor. Any available insurance proceeds in excess of the specified minimum limits of insurance and coverage shall be available to the County.

Other Insurance Provisions:

The insurance policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:

- (i) **Additional Insured Status: The County, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers are to be covered as additional insureds** on the CGL policy with respect to liability arising out of the work or operations performed by or on behalf of the Contractor including materials, parts, or equipment furnished in connection with such work or operations. General liability coverage can be provided in the form of an endorsement to the Contractor's insurance (at least as broad as ISO Form CG 20 10 11 85 or both CG 20 10, CG 20 25, CG 20 33, or CG 20 38; and CG 20 37 forms if later revisions used.)
- (ii) **Primary Coverage** For any claims related to this contract, the **Contractor's insurance shall be primary** insurance primary coverage at least as broad as ISO CG 20 01 04 13 as respects the County, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the County, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers shall be excess of the Contractor's insurance and shall not contribute with it.
- (iii) **Waiver of Subrogation** Contractor hereby grants to County a waiver of any right to subrogation which any insurer or said Contractor may acquire against the County by virtue of the payment of any loss under such insurance. Contractor agrees to obtain any endorsement that may be necessary to affect this waiver of subrogation, but this provision applies regardless of whether or not the County has received a waiver of subrogation endorsement from the insurer.
- (iv) **Sole Proprietors** If Contractor is a Sole Proprietor and has no employees, they are not required to have Workers Compensation coverage. Contractor shall sign a statement

attesting to this condition, and shall agree they have no rights, entitlements or claim against County for any type of employment benefits or workers' compensation or other programs afforded to County employees.

- (v) **Deductible and Self-Insured Retentions** Deductible and Self-insured retentions must be declared to and approved by the County. The County may require the Contractor to provide proof of ability to pay losses and related investigations, claims administration, and defense expenses within the retention. The Policy language shall provide, or be endorsed to provide, that the self-insured retention may be satisfied by either the named insured or County. **(Note – all deductibles and self-insured retentions must be discussed with risk, and may be negotiated)**
- (vi) **Acceptability of Insurers:** Insurance is to be placed with insurers authorized to conduct business in the state with a current A.M. Best's rating of no less than A:VII, unless otherwise acceptable to the County.
- (vii) **Claims Made Policies** if any of the required policies provide coverage on a claims-made basis: **(note – should be applicable only to professional liability)**
 - a. The Retroactive Date must be shown and must be before the date of the contract or the beginning of contract work.
 - b. Insurance must be maintained and evidence of insurance must be provided for at least five (5) years after completion of the contract of work.
 - c. If the coverage is canceled or non-renewed, and not replaced with another **claims-made policy form with a Retroactive Date**, prior to the contract effective date, the Contractor must purchase "extended reporting" coverage for a minimum of **five (5) years** after completion of contract work.
- (viii) **Verification of Coverage** Contractor shall furnish the County with original Certificates of Insurance including all required amendatory endorsements (or copies of the applicable policy language effecting coverage required by this clause) and a copy of the Declarations and Endorsement Page of the CGL policy listing all policy endorsements to County before work begins. However, failure to obtain and provide verification of the required documents prior to the work beginning shall not waive the Contractor's obligation to provide them. The County reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements required by these specifications, at any time.
- (ix) **Subcontractors** Contractor shall require and verify that all subcontractors maintain insurance meeting all the requirements stated herein, and Contractor shall ensure that County is an additional insured on insurance required from subcontractors. For CGL coverage subcontractors shall provide coverage with a format at least as broad as CG 20 38 04 13.
- (x) **Special Risks or Circumstances** County reserves the right to modify these requirements, including limits, based on the nature of the risk, prior experience, insurer, coverage, or other special circumstances.
- (xi) **Conformity of Coverages** If more than one policy is used to meet the required coverages, such as an umbrella policy or excess policy, such policies shall be following form with all other applicable policies used to meet these minimum requirements. For example, all policies shall be Occurrence Liability policies or all shall be Claims Made Liability policies, if approved by the County as noted above. In no cases shall the types of policies be different.
- (xii) **Premium Payments** The insurance companies shall have no recourse against the COUNTY and funding agencies, its officers and employees or any of them for payment of any premiums or assessments under any policy issued by a mutual insurance company.
- (xiii) **Material Breach** Failure of the Contractor to maintain the insurance required by this Contract, or to comply with any of the requirements of this section, shall constitute a material breach of the entire Contract.

(xiv) **Certificate Holder** The Certificate Holder on insurance certificates and related documents should read as follows:

County of Nevada
950 Maidu Ave.
Nevada City, CA 95959

Upon initial award of a contract to your firm, you may be instructed to send the actual documents to a County contact person for preliminary compliance review.

Certificates which amend or alter the coverage during the term of the contract, including updated certificates due to policy renewal, should be sent directly to Contract Administrator

Signature: *Megan Somogyi*
Megan Somogyi (Nov 14, 2023 08:55 PST)

Email: msomogyi@downeybrand.com

Title: Partner

Company: Downey Brand, LLP

Signature: *Kit Elliott*
Kit Elliott (Nov 14, 2023 10:14 PST)

Email: Kit.Elliott@nevadacountyca.gov

Title: County Counsel

Company: County of Nevada

Signature: *Desiree Belding, CPPO, CPPB on behalf of*
Desiree Belding, CPPO, CPPB on behalf of (Dec 11, 2023 17:00 PST)

Email: Desiree.Belding@nevadacountyca.gov

Title: Deputy Purchasing Agent

Company: County of Nevada