

CITY OF WORCESTER

COMPETITIVE ELECTRIC SERVICE AGREEMENT

May 23, 2023

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This Competitive Electrical Services Agreement (the “Agreement”) is entered into on this the 23rd day of May, 2023, by and between the City of Worcester, a Massachusetts municipal corporation with an address of 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608 (“City”) by and through its Department of Administration and Finance and Direct Energy Services, LLC with an address of 804 Carnegie Center, Princeton, NJ 08540 a Delaware Limited Liability Company (the “Competitive Supplier”).

W I T N E S S E T H

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Legislature has adopted Chapter 164 of the Electric Utility Restructuring Act of 1997, (“Restructuring Act”), which, *inter alia*, (1) allows for competition in the generation and supply of electricity to consumers, (2) authorizes municipalities to aggregate the electrical load of electricity consumers within their boundaries, and (3) allows municipal aggregators to formulate an Aggregation Plan and conduct aggregation programs; and

WHEREAS, the City is authorized pursuant to a vote of the June 20, 2017 City Council Meeting to establish a municipal electrical aggregation plan and program; and

WHEREAS, the City has developed an electricity supply program (“Program”) to aggregate the electric loads of consumers located within the City and to negotiate competitive rates for the supply of electricity for such consumers; and

WHEREAS, the City received approval of its Program from the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) on September 30, 2019 and

WHEREAS, the Competitive Supplier desires to provide All-Requirements Power Supply to consumers located within the City, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Program and this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City desires that the Competitive Supplier provides All-Requirements Power Supply as an alternative to Basic Service for consumers within the City;

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged and for the mutual promises set forth below, the City and the Competitive Supplier agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 DEFINITIONS

Capitalized terms that are used but not defined in the body of this Agreement, including the Exhibits hereto, shall be defined as set forth in this Article 1. The words defined in this Article 1 shall be given their common and ordinary meanings when they appear without capitalization in the text. Words not defined in this Article 1 shall be given their common and ordinary meanings.

1.1 Agreement – This Competitive Electric Service Agreement.

1.2 Aggregation Plan - The City of Worcester's Community Choice Aggregation Plan, as adopted or amended by the City from time to time.

1.3 All-Requirements Power Supply – The service under which the Competitive Supplier provides all of the electrical energy, capacity, reserves, and ancillary services, transmission services, transmission to the Point of Delivery, distribution losses, congestion management, and all other services or products necessary to provide firm power supply to Participating Consumers at the Point of Sale in accordance with this Agreement. This supply service also includes any costs associated with meeting "Renewable Portfolio Standards" ("RPS") at the levels required by applicable law.

1.4 Bankruptcy – With respect to a Party, such Party (i) ceases doing business as a going concern, generally does not pay its debts as they become due or admits in writing its inability to pay its debts as they become due, files a voluntary petition in bankruptcy or is adjudicated bankrupt or insolvent, or files any petition or answer seeking any reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment, liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under the present or any future federal bankruptcy code or any other present or future applicable federal, state or other Governmental Rule, or seeks or consents to or acquiesces in the appointment of any trustee, receiver, custodian or liquidator of said Party or of all or any substantial part of its properties, or makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors, or said Party takes any corporate action to authorize or that is in contemplation of the actions set forth in this clause (i); or (ii) a proceeding is initiated against the Party seeking any reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment, liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under the present or any future federal bankruptcy code or any other Governmental Rule, and such proceeding is not dismissed within ninety (90) days after the commencement thereof, or any trustee, receiver, custodian or liquidator of said Party or of all or any substantial part of its properties is appointed without the consent or acquiescence of said Party, and such appointment is not vacated or stayed on appeal, or otherwise, within ninety (90) days after the appointment, or, within ninety (90) days after the expiration of any stay of such appointment, has not been vacated.

1.5 Basic Service – Electric supply service by the LDC as defined in M.G.L. c. 164, § 1 and in orders of the Department, as amended or promulgated, as the case may be, from time to time.

1.6 Business Day – Monday thru Friday except the following state holidays in MA: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Patriots Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

1.7 Commercially Reasonable – Any of the practices, methods and acts which, in the exercise of reasonable judgment in light of the facts known, or which in the exercise of due diligence, should have been known, at the time the decision was made, would have been expected in the industry to accomplish the desired result consistent with diligence, reliability, safety, expedition, and applicable laws and regulations.

1.8 Competitive Supplier - The entity identified as such in the Preamble of this Agreement.

1.9 Intentionally Omitted.

1.10 Customer Service Policies and Practices – Has the meaning set forth in Exhibit C.

1.11 Delivery Term – The period for which prices for All-Requirements Power Supply have been established, as set forth in Exhibit A.

1.12 Department – The Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities or any successor state agency.

1.13 DOER – The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources.

1.14 EDI – Electronic Data Interchange: The exchange of business data in a standardized format between business computer systems.

1.15 Effective Date – The date on which this Agreement is executed by the Parties (or, if the Parties execute on different dates, the date on which the last Party to execute the Agreement has executed such Agreement).

1.16 Eligible Consumers – (i) Residential, commercial, industrial, municipal, and/or other consumers of electricity who receive Basic Service from the LDC as of the Effective Date, at one or more locations within the geographic boundaries of the City; or (ii) New Consumers; or (iii) consumers within the City that are supplied by third party suppliers at the inception of the Program and are therefore ineligible, but that subsequently become eligible when those third party supply contracts lapse; provided, however, that Eligible Consumers shall not include (a) basic service customers who have asked their electric distribution company not to enroll them in competitive supply; and (b) basic service customers enrolled in a green power product program that prohibits switching to a competitive supplier. For the avoidance of doubt, all Eligible Consumers must reside or be otherwise located at one or more locations within the geographic boundaries of the City, as such boundaries exist on the Effective Date.

1.17 FERC –The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

1.18 Force Majeure – Any cause not within the reasonable control of the affected Party that, through no fault of the affected Party, precludes that Party from carrying out, in whole or in part, its obligations under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, Acts of God; hurricanes; tornadoes; fires; epidemics; landslides; earthquakes; floods; other natural catastrophes; acts of a public enemy; acts, failures to act or injunctive orders by Governmental Authorities acting in their regulatory or judicial capacity having jurisdiction over the subject of this Agreement; insurrections; military action; war, whether or not it is declared; sabotage; riots; civil disturbances or explosions. Economic hardship of either Party shall not constitute an event of *Force Majeure*.

1.19 General Communications – The type of communications described and defined in Section 7.6 herein.

1.20 Governmental Authority – Any national, state or local government or political subdivision thereof, independent system operator, regional transmission owner or operator, or any other governmental, judicial, regulatory, legislative, public or statutory instrumentality, authority, body, agency, department, bureau, board, commission, or entity.

1.21 Governmental Rule – Any law, rule, regulation, ordinance, order, code, permit, interpretation, judgment, decree, or similar form of decision or declaration of any Governmental Authority having the effect and force of law.

1.22 ISO-NE – The New England Independent System Operator, or such successor or other entity which oversees the integrated dispatch of power plants in New England and the bulk transmission of electricity throughout the New England power grid.

1.23 kWh, kW – Kilowatt-hour and kilowatts, respectively.

1.24 LDC – Local distribution company, or any successor company(ies) or entity(ies) providing electricity distribution services in the City.

1.25 NEPOOL – The New England Power Pool.

1.26 New Consumers – Residential, commercial, industrial, municipal, or other consumers of electricity that become customers of the LDC after the generation of the Initial Mailing List defined in section 5.1 and are initially placed on Basic Service.

1.27 New Consumer Notice – Has the meaning set forth in Section 5.2.

1.28 New Taxes – Any taxes enacted by any Governmental Authority after the Effective Date or by any Governmental Rule effective after the Effective Date resulting in the application, for the first time, of any tax to Participating Consumers with respect to All-Requirements Power Supply.

1.29 Opt-In Procedure – The procedure for enabling Eligible Consumers to affirmatively elect to take supply pursuant to the Program.

1.30 Opt-Out Notice - The notice provided to Eligible Consumers notifying them of the Program and their right to “Opt-Out” of purchasing All-Requirements Power supply from the Competitive Supplier and which said Opt-Out Notice is further defined in Section 5.1.

1.31 Opt-Out Procedure –The procedure that enables Eligible Consumers to affirmatively elect not to participate in the program and either remain on or revert to Basic Service.

1.32 Participating Consumers – Eligible Consumers enrolled in the Program. Very Large Consumers must receive a current market price quote from Competitive Supplier in writing before becoming Participating Consumers. Eligible Consumers who have opted out of the Program are not Participating Consumers.

1.33 Parties – The City and Competitive Supplier, as the context requires. In the singular, “Party” shall refer to either one of the Parties.

1.34 Point of Delivery – The point of interconnection between NEPOOL Pool Transmission Facilities and the transmission facilities of the LDC.

1.35 Point of Sale – The electric meter for each Participating Consumer’s account, as designated by the LDC.

1.36 Program – Green Worcester ElectriCITY Aggregation Program implemented pursuant to the Aggregation Plan.

1.37 Regulatory Event – A change in a Governmental Rule by a Governmental Authority. A “change” as used herein may include, without limitation, any amendment, modification, nullification, suspension, repeal, finding of unconstitutionality or unlawfulness of a Governmental Rule by a Governmental Authority, or any change in construction or interpretation of a Governmental Rule by a Governmental Authority.

1.38 Related Documents - Aggregation Plan and Exhibits, A, B, C, D and E.

1.39 Retail Price – As set forth in Exhibit A.

1.40 Service Commencement Date – The date of the Participating Consumers’ first meter reads for the month of December 2023, as may be reasonably extended due to Force Majeure Events or due to act or omission of the LDC.

1.41 Service Contacts – Has the meaning set forth in Section 7.3.

1.42 Small Commercial Consumer – A non-residential consumer who, at the Time of Opting In, is determined to have a historical demand, for the preceding 12 months, of less than 10 kW.

1.43 Term – Has the meaning set forth in Section 6.1.

1.44 Very Large Consumer – A consumer in the G-3 or T-2 rate class that is expected to consume more than 1,000,000 kWhs per year. Very Large Consumers are not eligible to receive pricing from the pricing tables shown in Exhibit A and must receive a current market quote from the Competitive Supplier in writing before becoming Participating Consumers. Very Large Consumers are not able to enroll through any website or portal.

ARTICLE 2 CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

2.1 The City's obligations under this Agreement shall be conditioned upon the Competitive Supplier fulfilling the following requirements:

- a) maintain its Competitive Supplier license from the Department;
- b) execute a competitive electric supplier service agreement with the LDC in a form reasonably satisfactory to Competitive Supplier;
- c) execute any appropriate ISO-NE applications and agreements;
- d) obtain authorization from the FERC to sell power at market-based rates;
- e) complete EDI testing with the LDC; and
- f) comply with any and all other requirements as set forth in this Agreement.

If Competitive Supplier has not fulfilled all such requirements by the Service Commencement Date it shall notify the City in writing of the same, and the City may terminate this Agreement without any liability.

ARTICLE 3 RIGHTS GRANTED

3.1 **GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND LIMITATIONS**

Competitive Supplier is hereby granted the exclusive right to provide All-Requirements Power Supply to Participating Consumers pursuant to the terms of the Program and this Agreement. Competitive Supplier shall be authorized to supply All-Requirements Power Supply only to Participating Consumers, and the LDC will continue to have the right and obligation to supply electricity to Eligible Consumers who opt-out of the Program and remain on, or return to, Basic Service. Competitive Supplier recognizes and agrees that this Agreement does not guarantee that any individual Eligible Consumer, any particular number or percentage of Eligible Consumers, or amount of kWhs will be served by the Competitive Supplier.

In accordance with Article 5 below, all Eligible Consumers shall be automatically enrolled in the Program unless they choose to opt-out. In the event the geographic boundaries of the City change during the term of this Agreement, Competitive Supplier shall only be obligated to supply All-Requirements Service to those Participating Consumers located within the City as such boundaries existed on the Effective Date. The Competitive Supplier has the sole obligation to make and maintain all necessary and appropriate arrangements, including, without limitation, with the LDC, and the ISO-NE, to ensure that Participating Consumers receive, at the Point of Sale, the electricity to be supplied by the Competitive Supplier pursuant to this Agreement.

To the extent allowed by law, the City specifically authorizes the LDC to provide to Competitive Supplier all billing and energy consumption information for Participating Consumers as is reasonably available from the LDC, which Competitive Supplier may receive and use solely in fulfillment of its obligations under this Agreement. Competitive Supplier shall request consumption data for individual Participating Consumers from the LDC via EDI. If further action is required by the LDC to authorize Competitive Supplier to receive such consumption and billing data, upon request of Competitive Supplier, the City agrees to use reasonable efforts, at Competitive Supplier's cost, to assist ~~Competitive Supplier in obtaining such information for Participating Consumers. Neither Party is~~ responsible for any errors that Competitive Supplier makes in the provision of All-Requirements

Power supply to the extent such errors are caused by unknown errors or omissions contained in the information provided to it by the LDC, however, upon its discovery, the Competitive Supplier shall promptly correct such errors.

ARTICLE 4 ROLE OF THE CITY

4.1 TITLE TO ALL-REQUIREMENTS POWER SUPPLY

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the City shall not receive, take title to, or be liable or responsible for the supply or delivery of, or the payments for, any All-Requirements Power Supply or any other costs arising from or related to the Competitive Supplier's relationship with any Eligible Consumer. It is and shall remain the sole obligation of the Competitive Supplier to arrange for delivery of All-Requirements Power Supply to Participating Consumers and to satisfy any and all other related obligations.

4.2 CLAIMS OF ELIGIBLE/PARTICIPATING CONSUMERS

The Competitive Supplier acknowledges and agrees that City is authorized under G.L. c. 164, § 134, to act on behalf of the Eligible Consumers in contracting for electric supply for such Eligible Consumers under the Program, and may consult with and communicate with any or all Eligible Consumers and Participating Consumers in connection therewith. Unless prohibited by state or federal law, the City may, in its sole discretion and without obligation or duty, take action and/or bring claims, including but not limited to litigation, on behalf of Eligible Consumers or Participating Consumers, against the Competitive Supplier concern matters arising under this Agreement. Nothing in this section is intended to create any rights under this Agreement on behalf of any third party.

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, and to the fullest extent allowed by law, this Agreement is not intended to confer third party beneficiary status on any person as further set forth in Section 19.10.

4.3 OWNERSHIP AND USE OF ELIGIBLE CONSUMER DATA

Competitive Supplier acknowledges and agrees that it is not the owner and has no right, title or interest in any Eligible Consumer data (including addresses, telephone numbers or other identifying information) made available by any person or entity to Competitive Supplier, in connection with or as a result of this Agreement. Competitive Supplier shall use Eligible Consumer data solely to provide All-Requirements Power Supply to Participating Consumers and to render other services pursuant to this Agreement, and for no other purpose. Any other use of Eligible Consumer data without the prior written consent of the City is strictly prohibited. Pursuant to such authorized use, Competitive Supplier may share such Eligible Consumer data with third-party vendors, but only as reasonably necessary to accommodate Competitive Supplier's provision of All-Requirements Power Supply or other performance pursuant to this Agreement (including, without limitation, collection of receivables), provided that Competitive Supplier shall inform any such vendor of the confidential nature of such data and impose upon them the use restrictions set forth in this Section and elsewhere in this Agreement. Except as expressly provided in this Agreement, Competitive Supplier shall not disclose any Eligible Consumer data to any third-party and Competitive Supplier shall take all Commercially Reasonable measures to protect Eligible Consumer data from access by, or beneficial use for, any third-party. To the extent that the provision of All-Requirements Power Supply or other services under this Agreement requires that Competitive Supplier have access to or make use of any

Eligible Consumer data, Competitive Supplier shall treat such Eligible Consumer data as confidential information. Without limiting the requirements set forth in this Section, Competitive Supplier may use Eligible Consumer data to engage in direct marketing to Eligible Consumers regarding electric supply services under the Program, but only during the term of this Agreement and subject to the terms set forth in Section 19.2. A violation of this Section by the Competitive Supplier shall be grounds for termination under Section 6.2. Competitive Supplier agrees violation of this Section shall constitute irreparable harm.

ARTICLE 5 CONSUMER CHOICE, NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS, ENROLLMENT

5.1 CONSUMER CHOICE, INITIAL ENROLLMENT AND OPT-OUT RIGHTS AT PROGRAM INCEPTION

The Parties acknowledge and agree that all Participating Consumers have the right, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134 and the Program, to change their source of electricity supply, as set forth in Article 5. The Competitive Supplier shall not interfere with the right of Participating Consumers to opt out of the Program, and shall comply with any rules, regulations or policies of the Department, the LDC and/or other lawful Governmental authority regarding the procedures for opting out of the Program, or switching from one source of electric supply to another. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, the Competitive Supplier may take lawful, Commercially Reasonable measures to encourage Participating Consumers to remain in the Program, subject to any Governmental Rules.

Once enrolled in the Program, pursuant to the procedures described in this Agreement, Participating Consumers may opt out at any time without paying any fee, charge or penalty.

When the City launches its first aggregation, all Eligible Consumers will, as of the Service Commencement Date, be automatically enrolled in the Program under the terms of this Agreement, unless they opt-out.

The Competitive Supplier will be supplied with a list of all Eligible Consumers as well as such Eligible Consumers' service and billing addresses. (Initial Mailing List)

The Competitive Supplier shall submit for the City's review and approval the design and content of the Opt-Out Notice which may be in color and may include 2 pages in addition to the reply form, but shall not exceed one ounce in weight. The Opt-Out Notice shall:

- (i) include general information about the program;
 - (ii) state the Service Commencement date on which such Eligible Consumer will be automatically enrolled in the Program;
 - (iii) state that the Competitive Supplier will be providing All-Requirements Power Supply to such Eligible Consumer as of the same date, subject to the opt-out provisions of the M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, and the Plan;
 - (iv) prominently state all charges to be assessed by the Competitive Supplier;
 - (v) provide a summary of the prices and terms included in Exhibit A;
 - (vi) fully disclose the prices and terms then being offered for Basic Service by the LDC;
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- (vii) state how such Eligible Consumer may opt-out of the Program prior to enrollment and remain on Basic Service from the LDC;
- (viii) state how all Participating Consumers, subsequent to enrollment, will also have the right to opt-out at any time and return to Basic Service or choose a new Competitive Supplier without paying a fee, charge or penalty to Competitive Supplier; and
- (ix) include Opt-Out reply form and postage-paid reply envelope that Eligible Consumers may use to exercise their opt-out rights.

Competitive Supplier shall, at its cost and in accordance with the approved design and content, prepare, print, and mail, to each such Eligible Consumer, listed on the Initial Mailing List the Opt-Out Notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of automatic enrollment. Competitive Supplier shall commence All-Requirements Power Supply as of the Service Commencement Date to such Eligible Consumers that have not exercised their right to opt out. All such Consumers shall then be deemed Participating Consumers and shall be entitled to receive supply at the prices listed in Exhibit A and pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

If any Opt-Out Notice is returned as undeliverable, the Competitive Supplier shall promptly make Commercially Reasonable efforts to identify a correct mailing address and re-send the notice.

The Parties acknowledge that the low income discounts provided by the LDC to low income consumers are not impacted by this Agreement.

5.2 NEW CONSUMERS NOT INCLUDED IN THE INITIAL MAILING LIST WHICH ARE SUPPLIED BY LDC BASIC SERVICE; OPT-OUT PROCEDURE

New Consumer List from LDC: Throughout the term of this Agreement, as set forth in the schedule in Exhibit A, or otherwise as mutually agreed to by the Parties, Competitive Supplier shall obtain from the LDC an updated file that includes all Eligible Consumers in the City that are receiving Basic Service from the LDC, hereinafter the *Updated LDC Basic Service File*.

Throughout the term of this Agreement, Competitive Supplier shall maintain a *Master Opt-Out File*, described in Article 12, that includes accurate records of a) all consumers in the City that Opted Out after receiving an Opt-Out Notice but prior to enrollment and b) all consumers that left the program for any reason after they were enrolled in the program.

Throughout the term of this Agreement, as set forth in the schedule in Exhibit A, or otherwise as mutually agreed to by the Parties, Competitive Supplier shall create a *Refresh Mailing List of New Consumers* which shall include all consumers in the Updated LDC Basic Service File, excluding only consumers listed in the Master Opt-Out File.

New Consumer, excluding Very Large Consumer (hereinafter VLC), on the LDC Basic Rate – Opt-Out: In accordance with the requirements of all applicable Governmental Rules, Competitive Supplier shall notify any New Consumer, other than a VLC, that the Competitive Supplier will be providing All-Requirements Power Supply to such New Consumer, subject to the opt-out provisions of the M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, and the Plan.

Competitive Supplier shall mail the Opt-Out Notice (as described in Section 5.1) to each such New Consumer listed in the Refresh Mailing List excluding only VLCs, no later than 30 days after the Service Commencement date and at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of enrollment. The Competitive Supplier shall continue mailing such notices to such New Consumers as set forth in the

schedule in Exhibit A, or otherwise as mutually agreed to by the Parties until sixty (60) prior to the end of the term of this Agreement.

Any such New Consumer that does not elect to opt-out of the Program as provided in this section, will be enrolled in the Program on the first meter read date following the opt-out deadline in the Opt-Out Notice mailing as described in section 5.1, will be deemed a Participating Consumer, and shall be entitled to receive supply at the prices listed in Exhibit A pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Any Consumer in the G-3 rate class that appears in the Updated Eligible Consumer File shall be assumed to be a Consumer that was previously supplied by a third party and shall be treated according to Article 5.3 unless there is documentation that the Consumer is a new customer of the LDC.

5.3 VERY LARGE CONSUMERS IDENTIFIED AFTER EFFECTIVE DATE; OPT-IN PROCEDURE

Very Large Consumer – Opt-In: With respect to any Very Large Consumer, that is in the largest industrial rate class and that is identified after the Effective Date, Competitive Supplier may contact such consumer and reasonably determine if such consumer is expected to consume more than 1,000,000 kWh per year. If Competitive Supplier reasonably determines that such Consumer is expected to consume more than 1,000,000 kWh per year, such consumer shall be designated a “Very Large Consumer” (VLC). Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, promptly after determining that a consumer is a VLC, Competitive Supplier shall quote a price at then prevailing market rates for the remaining term of the Agreement. Any VLC that accepts such market rate shall be enrolled in the Program, utilizing the Opt-In procedure, be deemed a Participating Consumer, and be entitled to receive supply at the market price quoted by the Competitive Supplier pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Very Large Consumers may not request enrollment through a website or portal.

The Competitive Supplier shall notify the City of all market prices offered to VLC.

5.4 CONSUMERS SUPPLIED BY THIRD PARTIES; OPT-IN PROCEDURE

Consumers being served under other competitive supply programs offered by third parties are not eligible to participate in the Program and will not be automatically enrolled as Participating Consumers under this Agreement at the inception of the Program. If any such consumer terminates its third party supply agreement, they will then be eligible to participate in the Program.

Residential Consumer or Small Commercial Consumer: Any residential consumer or Small Commercial Consumer may affirmatively opt-in to the Program and shall be eligible to receive supply at the prices listed in Exhibit A pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Promptly after receiving notice of the interest of any such residential consumer or Small Commercial Consumer, the Competitive Supplier shall enroll such consumer in the Program at the prices listed in Exhibit A, utilizing the Opt-In Procedure. Once enrolled in the Program, utilizing the Opt-In Procedure, such consumer shall be deemed a Participating Consumer and be entitled to receive supply at the price listed in Exhibit A and otherwise pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Very Large Consumer: Consumers reasonably expected to consume more than 1,000,000 kWh per year, may affirmatively opt-in to the Program. Promptly after receiving notice of the interest of any such commercial consumer, the Competitive Supplier shall quote a price in writing for participation in

the Program at then prevailing market rates. If such consumer elects to opt-in at the quoted market rate, Competitive Supplier shall promptly enroll such consumer in the program. Once enrolled in the Program, utilizing the Opt-In Procedure, such consumer shall be deemed a Participating Consumer and be entitled to receive supply at the market price quoted by the Competitive Supplier and otherwise pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Very Large Consumers may not request enrollment through a website or portal.

The Competitive Supplier shall notify the City of all market prices offered to eligible consumers under this section.

5.5 CONSUMERS THAT OPT OUT AND THEN OPT BACK IN

Any Eligible Consumer that elects to opt out of the Program may subsequently elect to opt back in. Promptly after receiving notice of the interest of such consumer in the Program, the Competitive Supplier shall quote a price for participation in the Program at then prevailing market rates. If the price is acceptable to such consumer, the Competitive Supplier will assist the Eligible Consumer with the Opt-In Procedure to enroll in the Program. Once enrolled, such consumer shall be deemed a Participating Consumer and be entitled to receive supply at the market price quoted by the Competitive supplier pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

The Competitive Supplier shall notify the City of all market prices offered to consumers under this section.

5.6 ENROLLMENT

The Competitive Supplier shall be responsible for enrolling all Eligible Consumers through EDI transactions submitted to the LDC for all enrollments of Eligible Consumers during the term of this Agreement.

5.7 ERRORS OF LDC

In providing the notifications and conducting the activities set forth in this Article 5, the Competitive Supplier may reasonably rely upon information provided to it by the LDC for the purpose of performing its obligations. Competitive Supplier will not be responsible for any unknown errors or omissions contained in the information provided to it by the LDC in connection with its notification of Eligible Consumers, provided that the Competitive Supplier correct the error or omission promptly upon learning of it.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent that any such error or omission resulted in the omission of Eligible Consumers from initial notification by the Competitive Supplier, upon becoming aware of such omission, the Competitive Supplier shall promptly provide All-Requirements Power supply to such consumers on the same terms and conditions available to Eligible Consumers as of the date on which the Competitive Supplier receives notice of such omission.

ARTICLE 6 TERM OF CONTRACT AND TERMINATION

6.1 **TERM**

This Agreement shall commence on the Effective Date, *provided, however*, that Competitive Supplier's obligation to provide All-Requirements Power supply shall commence on the Service Commencement Date, and shall terminate with the Participating Consumers' first meter read dates for December 2025 unless terminated earlier under Section 6.2 below.

6.2 **TERMINATION**

This Agreement may be terminated at any time upon written notice:

- a) by either Party if the other Party fails to remedy or cure its breach of any material provision or material condition of this Agreement (excluding the failure to provide or arrange for All Requirements Power Supply, which is addressed in Section 6.2(c)), within thirty (30) days following written notice to do so by the non-breaching Party; or
- b) by either Party if this Agreement or any material provision or material condition of this Agreement be finally adjudged invalid by any court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction, or if the Department or other Government Authority exercises any lawful jurisdiction so as to invalidate or disapprove this Agreement in whole or in significant part; or
- c) by the City in the event of the failure of the Competitive Supplier to provide or arrange for All-Requirements Power Supply to Participating Consumers unless and only to the extent that such failure is the direct result of *Force Majeure* or the City's material default of this Agreement; *provided, however*, that the City may terminate this Agreement if the Competitive Supplier's failure to provide or arrange All-Requirements Power Supply is entirely a direct result of actions or non-actions by any transmission service provider, the LDC, or the ISO-NE and such failure continues for ninety (90) days; or
- d) by the City in the event of the Bankruptcy of the Competitive Supplier or its Guarantor.

No delay by either Party in enforcing any of its rights hereunder shall be deemed a waiver of such rights; nor shall such a waiver of one default be deemed a waiver of any other subsequent default.

6.3 **OBLIGATIONS UPON TERMINATION**

Following termination of this Agreement, the Parties' obligations under this Agreement shall cease, except that each Party shall remain responsible for any liabilities that arose and shall retain all rights and privileges granted prior to the date of termination of this Agreement; including, e.g., the Competitive Supplier may collect all monies due from Participating Consumers for services rendered to such consumers through the date of termination; and further provided, the Competitive Supplier's obligation to indemnify the City under this Agreement shall survive.

The Parties expressly agree that the remedies available to the Competitive Supplier in the event of City default are limited to specific performance as described in this Article 6. In the event of any default by the City, therefore, the Parties expressly agree that Competitive Supplier waives and is not eligible to recover any monetary damages or other losses from the City.

In addition to the right to seek monetary damages and exercise all rights and remedies available to it

as a result of a material default of the Competitive Supplier under this Agreement, and as previously set forth in Section 4.2, above, the City has the right, but not the obligation, to seek monetary damages from the Competitive Supplier on behalf of all or any Eligible Consumers or Participating Consumers. Accordingly, the Competitive Supplier specifically waives all rights it may have at law to claim that the City has no standing or otherwise lacks the authority to seek such monetary damages and exercise such rights and remedies on behalf of individual Eligible Consumers or Participating Consumers. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein is intended to create any rights under this Agreement in any third party.

6.4 SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE

Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the Parties agree that if the City, after receiving a default notice, and after the opportunity to cure that default within the cure periods described in section 6.2(a), fails to cure the default, Competitive Supplier shall be entitled to seek specific performance of this Agreement, and this shall be Competitive Supplier's sole and exclusive remedy for any default of the City.

ARTICLE 7 CONTINUING COVENANTS

The Competitive Supplier agrees and covenants to perform each of the following additional obligations during the term of this Agreement.

7.1 STANDARDS OF MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

In performing its obligations hereunder, during the Term, the Competitive Supplier shall prudently and efficiently carry out its obligations under this Agreement; employ an adequate number of competently trained and experienced personnel to fulfill its responsibilities; deliver or arrange to deliver a safe and reliable supply of such amounts of electricity to the Point of Delivery as are required under this Agreement; comply with all applicable Governmental Rules and industry standards and practices for the supply of electricity to Participating Consumers; and, at all times with respect to Participating Consumers, implement the good Customer Service Policies and Practices as defined in Section 7.2, and employ all Commercially Reasonable efforts, skills, practices, systems and methods in performance of its obligations.

7.2 CUSTOMER SERVICE POLICIES AND PRACTICES

The Competitive Supplier shall provide, or cause to be provided, Customer Service Policies and Practices to Participating Consumers as described more fully in Exhibit C.

7.3 RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

The Competitive Supplier shall, during normal business hours (as set forth in Exhibit C), respond promptly and without charge to reasonable requests of the City for information or explanation regarding the matters covered by this Agreement and the supply of electricity to Participating Consumers. If such matter identifies a particular consumer, and consumer consent is required by law, the City will secure such consent before requesting any information under this section. Competitive Supplier shall designate a service representative or representatives (the "Service Contacts") who shall be available for these purposes, and shall further identify the office address and telephone number of such Service Contacts. Such Service Contacts shall be initially identified in Exhibit D. The Competitive Supplier shall update the names of such Service Contacts as necessary during the Term of this Agreement. Whenever necessary to comply with this Article, the Service Contacts shall call upon other employees or consultants of the Competitive Supplier to obtain such information or explanation as may be reasonably requested. Nothing in this Section shall be interpreted as limiting the obligation of the Competitive Supplier to respond to complaints or inquiries from Participating Consumers, or to comply with any Governmental Rule.

7.4 ARRANGING FOR FIRM ALL-REQUIREMENTS POWER SUPPLY

Competitive Supplier shall make all appropriate arrangements with the ISO-NE, any relevant regional transmission organization, wholesale suppliers or any other entity to ensure an uninterrupted delivery of reliable, safe, and firm All-Requirements Power Supply (free and clear of any claims, liens and encumbrances) to the Point of Delivery, and shall make all appropriate arrangements and Commercially Reasonable efforts to cause the LDC to deliver such electricity (free and clear of any claims, liens and encumbrances) to Participating Consumers at the Point of Sale. In the event the Competitive Supplier is unable to deliver sufficient electricity to the Point of Delivery to serve Participating Consumers, the Competitive Supplier shall promptly make all arrangements and

Commercially Reasonable efforts for an alternative supply as may be necessary to continue to serve Participating Consumers under the terms of this Agreement without interruption, and shall bear any and all costs it may incur in carrying out these obligations. Competitive Supplier shall not be responsible to the City if, through no fault of Competitive Supplier, the LDC disconnects, curtails or reduces service to Participating Consumers.

7.5 NON-DISCRIMINATORY PROVISION OF SERVICE

Competitive Supplier shall supply electric energy to all Participating Consumers on a non-discriminatory basis; provided, however, that the prices and other terms of such supply may vary in accordance with Article 5 or the rate classifications as appear in Exhibit A. Competitive Supplier's prices, terms and conditions shall be in accordance with all applicable Governmental Rules. The Competitive Supplier may not deny service to a Participating Consumer for failure to pay the bills of a third party, including the LDC, any electric company (whether engaged in the distribution, transmission, supply, or generation of electricity) or of any other aggregator, marketer or broker of electricity, but may to the extent allowed by law and regulation, reasonably deny or reasonably condition new service, or terminate existing service, based upon any Participating Consumer's failure to pay bills from the Competitive Supplier. Provision of electric energy supply to Participating Consumers shall be subject to Competitive Supplier's reasonable credit policies described in Exhibit A, to the extent permitted by law and regulation.

7.6 APPROVAL OF GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

Competitive Supplier shall draft and send messages and information to Eligible Consumers on matters arising under or related to this Agreement and/or the Program. Competitive Supplier shall, prior to sending any such messages or any direct mail, advertising, solicitation, bill insert, electronic mail, or other similar written or electronic communication (collectively, "General Communications") to Participating Consumers (but excluding individually drafted or tailored communications responding to a specific complaint or communication of an individual consumer), provide a copy of such General Communication to the City for its review for consistency with the City's purposes and goals and approval. The City shall have the right to disapprove such General Communications and suggest revisions if it finds the communication inconsistent with the purposes and goals of the City, factually inaccurate, or likely to mislead provided, however, that no approval shall be necessary for any communication regarding any emergency situation involving any risk to the public health, safety or welfare. The Competitive Supplier shall be solely responsible for costs associated with such communications.

7.7 Reserved

7.8 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The Parties shall promptly and fully comply with all existing and future Governmental Rules of all Governmental Authorities having jurisdiction over the activities covered by this Agreement.

7.9 CONSENT

Whenever performance of an obligation of Competitive Supplier hereto requires the consent or approval of any Governmental Authority, such Competitive Supplier shall make all Commercially Reasonable efforts to obtain such consent or approval. If the Competitive Supplier seeks the City's assistance and the City agrees to so assist, the Competitive Supplier shall pay the City's reasonable costs relating thereto.

ARTICLE 8 PRICES AND SERVICES; BILLING

8.1 SCHEDULE OF PRICES AND TERMS

Competitive Supplier agrees to provide All-Requirements Power Supply and other related services as expressly set forth herein in accordance with the prices and terms included in Exhibit A to this Agreement, which Exhibit is hereby attached and incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

8.2 OBLIGATION TO SERVE

Competitive Supplier has the sole obligation to obtain sources of supply, whether from generating facilities owned or controlled by its affiliates, through bilateral transactions, or the market, as may be necessary to provide All-Requirements Power Supply for all Participating Consumers. Competitive Supplier, except as explicitly limited by the terms included in Article 5, shall be obligated to accept all Participating Consumers, regardless of their location or energy needs, subject to Competitive Supplier's credit policies described in Exhibit A and to the extent permitted by law, and subject to the terms of any approval or other order of the Department with respect to this Agreement.

8.3 METERING

The Parties rely on LDC to furnish metering and the metered usage reports for all routine bills under this Agreement.

8.4 TERMS AND CONDITIONS PERTAINING TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNT SERVICE

The Competitive Supplier shall include the following provisions in its agreement with Participating Consumers:

8.4.1 Title

Title and risk of loss to All-Requirements Power Supply will transfer from Competitive Supplier to Participating Consumers at the Point of Sale. The prices quoted in Exhibit A shall be inclusive of, and the Competitive Supplier will be responsible for, any and all losses incurred on the local network transmission systems and distribution systems, as determined by the LDC.

8.4.2 Billing and Payment

Unless otherwise specified in an exhibit to this Agreement, or agreed to by the City and Competitive Supplier in writing, all billing under this Agreement shall be based on the meter readings of each Participating Consumer's meter(s) performed by the LDC, and Competitive Supplier shall cause the LDC to prepare and render bills to Participating Consumers on a monthly basis; and the billing and payment terms offered by the LDC to Basic Service customers shall apply to all billing under this Agreement. Any over-charge or under-charge will be accounted for in the next billing period for which actual meter data is available.

8.4.3 Regional and Local Transmission

The prices quoted in Exhibit A do not include current and future charges for distribution service costs collected by the LDC under its distribution service tariff or local transmission costs as may be imposed by the regional power pool, ISO-NE, or individual electric utilities that have FERC transmission tariffs. These costs will be collected by the LDC in the same manner that such local transmission and distribution costs are collected from Basic Service customers.

8.4.4 Taxes

All sales, gross receipts, excise or similar taxes imposed with respect to the sale or consumption of All-Requirements Power Supply shall be included on the Participating Consumer's bill and shall be remitted to the appropriate taxing authority by Competitive Supplier. Participating Consumers will be responsible for all sales taxes. The Competitive Supplier shall properly process and apply Participating Consumers' requests for an exemption from tax collection after receiving appropriate documentation from such Participating Consumer.

ARTICLE 9 DEVELOPMENT OR OFFERING OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

9.1 COMPLIANCE WITH RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD

Competitive Supplier shall comply with the applicable provisions of G.L. c. 25A, §11F, §11F1/2, and any regulations, orders or policies adopted pursuant thereto.

9.2 GREEN OPTION

Competitive Supplier shall incorporate the Green Option program as described in Exhibit A into Supplier's provision of All Requirements Power Supply under this Agreement and offer such program to interested Eligible Consumers.

ARTICLE 10 CUSTOMER SERVICE PROTECTIONS

Competitive Supplier shall post a copy of this Agreement on its web site so that it is available to all Eligible Consumers and promptly provide a copy of this Agreement to any consumer that requests a copy. Competitive Supplier agrees that it shall comply with the provisions of 220 C.M.R. 11.00, 25.00, 26.00, 27.00, 28.00 and 29.00, as applicable to Competitive Suppliers, and any amendments thereto, and any code of conduct or policies the Department may adopt in accordance with M.G.L. c. 164, § 1F(7). The Competitive Supplier shall comply with the Customer Service Policies and Practices attached as Exhibit C and incorporated by reference into this Agreement, which Customer Service Policies and Practices shall include the Competitive Supplier's plan for maintaining "service quality standards," as that phrase is used in § 1F(7); for complying with the "affirmative choice" requirements of § 1F(8); and for handling consumer complaints, including any arbitration or dispute resolution procedures. The Competitive Supplier shall provide notice to the City of any consumer complaints received from a Participating Consumer, and grant the City the right to participate in resolution of the dispute, to the extent that such complaints relate directly to the Program, and to the extent permitted by Department regulations and other applicable law.

In addition, and in accordance with the M.G.L. c. 164, § 1F(2) and 220 CMR 11.05(2)(b)(19) as such may be amended, restated, and replaced from time to time, in event of a dispute regarding an invoice or Competitive Supplier's service under this Agreement, a Participating Consumer may contact the Department, which may refer the dispute to the Massachusetts Office for Dispute Resolution for mediation of such dispute if the amount in dispute is greater than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and the subject of the dispute is within the Department's statutory and regulatory authority.

ARTICLE 11 NON-DISCRIMINATION IN HIRING AND EMPLOYMENT

Competitive Supplier shall conduct its operations and activities under this Agreement in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws regarding non-discrimination in hiring and employment of employees.

ARTICLE 12 POWER SUPPLY INFORMATION AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

12 **POWER SUPPLY INFORMATION**

12.1 Monthly Reports

- a) Once each month, Competitive Suppliers shall provide the following reports to the City's Consultant (or other designee, as the City may identify) listed in Appendix A: **Master Account List**, which shall include all accounts, active or inactive, that were ever enrolled in the program;
- b) **Master Opt Out File**, which shall list a) all consumers who opted out after receiving an Opt-Out Notice, but prior to enrollment and b) all consumers that have left the program for any reason after they were enrolled;
- c) **Monthly Refresh Mailing list**, which shall include all consumers on the Updated LDC basic service file obtained from the LDC each month, excluding only any consumer listed in the Master Opt Out file;
- d) **Monthly Usage Report**, which shall describe the usage reported to the Competitive Supplier by the LDC in the relevant LDC Meter Read Month;
- e) **Monthly Commissions Report**, which shall describe the commissions earned by the Consultant with respect to the usage in the relevant Monthly Usage Report.

All of the above reports shall be provided on or before the deadlines described in Appendix B and shall include the data described in Appendix B.

Competitive Supplier shall exercise reasonable care and use all Commercially Reasonable practices in reviewing, preparing and providing any information or data required under this Agreement. To the extent that Competitive Supplier determines that any information or data provided hereunder is in error, it shall promptly provide corrected information or data to the City or its consultant.

12.2 **POWER SUPPLY REPORT**

Within fifteen (15) days of the end of each quarterly reporting period, Competitive Supplier shall present to the City a copy of the current "Disclosure Label" required by the Department, pursuant to 220 CMR § 11.06, of all Competitive Suppliers to be disclosed to their Participating Consumers which includes information pertaining to Competitive Supplier's power supply and a reasonably detailed description of the sources of Competitive Supplier's power supply used to serve Participating Consumers pursuant to this Agreement. Competitive Supplier shall post the "Disclosure Label" on its web site under City of Worcester Community Choice Aggregation program, and the City will also post it on its aggregation website.

12.3 BOOKS AND RECORDS

Competitive Supplier shall keep its books and records in accordance with any applicable regulations or guidelines of the Department, FERC, and any other Governmental Authority or six (6) years from the termination of this Agreement, whichever is the longer period.

12.4 COPIES OF REGULATORY REPORTS AND FILINGS

Upon reasonable request, Competitive Supplier shall provide to the City a copy of each public periodic or incident-related report or record relating to this Agreement that it files with any Massachusetts or federal agency regulating rates, service, compliance with environmental laws, or compliance with affirmative action and equal opportunity requirements, unless the Competitive Supplier is required by law or regulations to keep such reports or records confidential.

ARTICLE 13 RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES; CHOICE OF LAW

13.1 CHOICE OF LAW

This Agreement and the rights of the Parties shall be interpreted and determined in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Parties agree that the venue shall be in any court of competent jurisdiction located in Worcester county, Massachusetts.

13.2 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Unless otherwise expressly provided for in this Agreement, the dispute resolution procedures of this Section 13.2 shall be the exclusive mechanism to resolve disputes arising under this Agreement. The Parties agree to use reasonable efforts to resolve any dispute(s) that may arise regarding this Agreement. Any dispute that arises under or with respect to this Agreement shall in the first instance be the subject of informal negotiations between the Parties involved in the dispute. The dispute shall be considered to have arisen when one Party sends the other Party a written notice of the dispute. The period for informal negotiations shall be fourteen (14) days from receipt of the written notice of dispute unless such time period is modified by written agreement of the Parties. In the event that the Parties cannot resolve a dispute by informal negotiations, either party may submit the dispute to non-binding mediation. Within fourteen (14) days following the expiration of the time period for informal negotiations, the Parties shall propose and agree upon a neutral and otherwise qualified mediator. In the event that the Parties fail to agree upon a mediator, the Parties shall request that the American Arbitration Association, Boston, Massachusetts, appoint a mediator. The mediation shall occur within sixty (60) business days from the appointment of the mediator, unless such time period is extended by written agreement of the Parties. The Parties shall not be required to mediate their dispute for longer than a single, 6-hour day. The decision to continue mediation shall be in the sole discretion of each Party. The Parties will bear their own costs of the mediation. The mediator's fees shall be shared equally by the Parties. In the event that the Parties cannot resolve a dispute by such mediation, either Party may seek judicial enforcement subject to the provisions of this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, injunctive relief may be immediately sought without resorting to alternative dispute resolution to prevent irreparable harm that would be caused by a breach of this Agreement. Furthermore, nothing in this Article shall prevent a Party from terminating this Agreement in accordance with the terms thereof notwithstanding this Article or any then-pending dispute resolution

process.

ARTICLE 14 INDEMNIFICATION

14.1 INDEMNIFICATION BY THE COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER

Competitive Supplier shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City and its officers, employees, officials, consultants, representatives and independent contractors (the “Indemnified Parties”), from and against any and all costs, liabilities, losses, judgments, damages, and expenses (including reasonable attorney’s fees), arising out of third-party claims, demands, causes of action, suits or other proceedings and incurred by, on behalf of or involving the Indemnified Parties to the extent such claims, demands, causes of action, suits or other proceedings arise from or in connection with (i) any material breach by Competitive Supplier of its obligations, covenants, representations or warranties contained in this Agreement, or (ii) Competitive Supplier’s actions or omissions in connection with its performance of this Agreement to the extent that such actions or omissions are asserted to have been negligent or not Commercially Reasonable. Competitive Supplier further agrees, if requested by the City in writing to do so, to investigate, handle, respond to, and defend any such claim, demand, cause of action, suit or other proceeding at Competitive Supplier’s expense. The indemnification obligation of Competitive Supplier set forth above is in addition to and not in limitation or in lieu of any other rights and remedies available to the City. This provision shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

14.2 DUTY TO MITIGATE

Each Party shall mitigate any damages that it may incur as a result of the other Party’s performance or non-performance of this Agreement.

14.3 NO CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY

The Competitive Supplier shall make no claims against the City, its officials or employees for any injury to any of the Competitive Supplier’s officers, employees, or contractors, or for damage to its equipment arising out of work contemplated by this Agreement.

ARTICLE 15 COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER'S REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

As a material inducement to entering into this Agreement, the Competitive Supplier hereby represents and warrants to the City as of the Effective Date as follows:

- a) it is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its formation and is qualified to conduct its business in those jurisdictions necessary for it to perform its obligations under this Agreement;
- b) it has all authorizations from any Governmental Authority necessary for it to legally perform its obligations under this Agreement or, if such authorizations are not required by law on the Effective Date, it will obtain such authorizations in a timely manner prior to when any performance by it requiring such authorization becomes due;
- c) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement are within its powers, have been duly authorized by all necessary action and do not violate any of the terms or conditions in its governing documents or any contract to which it is a party or any applicable Governmental Rule;
- d) subject to the conditions precedent set forth in Article 2, this Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of the Competitive Supplier enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, and the Competitive Supplier has all rights such that it can and will perform its obligations in conformance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganizations and other laws affecting creditor's rights generally and general principles of equity;
- e) no Bankruptcy is pending against it or to its knowledge threatened against it;
- f) none of the documents or other written information furnished by or on behalf of Competitive Supplier to the City pursuant to this Agreement contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements contained herein or therein, in the light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading; and
- g) all information furnished by Competitive Supplier in response to the City's Request for Proposals for competitive electric supply services is true and accurate.

ARTICLE 16 INSURANCE

In order to help support the indemnifications provided in Article 14, and its other promises and covenants stated herein, Competitive Supplier shall provide and maintain throughout the term of this Agreement and any extension or renewal thereof the following insurance with companies that are authorized and licensed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to issue policies for the coverages and limits so required.

- (a) Workers' Compensation Insurance as required by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and employer's liability insurance in the amount equal to the statutory limits.
- (b) Commercial General Liability Insurance, occurrence basis, in an amount not less than \$5,000,000 combined single limit. Commercial General Liability insurance shall include coverage for bodily injury liability, advertising injury liability, personal injury liability, broad form property damage liability, products/completed operations liability, broad form contractual liability. The insurance shall include a separation of interests clause, whereby

the actions of one insured will not negate coverage for another insured.

- (c) Automobile Liability Insurance, covering all leased, owned, non-owned, and hired vehicles - Combined single limit in an amount not less than \$1,000,000.
 - (d) Excess Liability Insurance, Umbrella Form – in an amount not less than \$5,000,000 combined single limit, which shall be following form, providing coverage over commercial general liability insurance, automobile liability insurance, and employer's liability under workers' compensation insurance.
 - (e) If any of the above insurance is written on a claims made basis, the policy retroactive date must always predate the effective date of this initial contract. Further it must provide for an extended period of indemnity of at least 36 months. Both requirements must be evidenced on the certificate of insurance.
 - (f) The City of Worcester shall be named as additional insureds on each such policy of Commercial General Liability Insurance, Excess Liability Insurance, Umbrella Form, and Automobile Liability Insurance.
 - (g) All certificates and policies shall contain the following provision:
“Notwithstanding any other provision herein, should any of the above policies be cancelled or materially amended before the expiration date thereof, the issuing company will mail thirty (30) days prior written notice thereof to the named certificate holder and to the City address listed in section 19.3 before such cancellation or amendment shall take place.”
 - (h) An original Certificate evidencing such insurance shall be furnished to the City at the execution of this Agreement. Such certificates shall not merely name the types of policy provided, but shall specifically refer to this Agreement and shall state that such insurance is as required by this Agreement.
 - (i) The Competitive Supplier shall also be required to provide to the City with its proof of insurance coverage endorsements or riders to the policies of commercial general liability insurance, automobile liability insurance, and excess liability insurance, umbrella form, which indicate that the City and its public officials and employees are included as additional insureds on each such policy. Upon request, the Competitive Supplier will provide the City a copy of insurance policies maintained to satisfy the requirements herein.
 - (j) No insurance shall be obtained from an insurer which:
 - (i) is not licensed to sell insurance in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or is not authorized to provide insurance as an excess or surplus lines insurer, and
 - (ii) does not have a current A.M. Best's rating/financial size category of A minus/VIII or better.
 - (k) Failure to provide and continue in force such insurance as aforesaid shall be deemed a material breach of this Agreement and shall operate as an immediate termination thereof.
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ARTICLE 17 CONFIDENTIALITY

Competitive Supplier acknowledges that the City is subject to certain laws pertaining to the use and release of documents and records prepared or received by a public body, including without limitation, M.G.L. c. 4, § 7, cl. 26; M.G.L. c. 66, § 10; and M.G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25, and that any document that is deemed a “public record” under such laws (hereinafter a “Public Record”) will be released to any requesting person without notice to any Party notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement.

Unless otherwise required by law, the Competitive Supplier shall disclose consumer data and/or account information (including but not limited to historic usage data, metering and billing and payment information) only to the limited extent required by this Agreement, necessary in order to fulfill its obligations pursuant to this Agreement, or otherwise ordered by a Court of competent jurisdiction or an agency of the Commonwealth with regulatory authority over the services relevant to this Agreement.

This Agreement once executed will be deemed a Public Record and treated as such.

ARTICLE 18 REGULATORY EVENT/NEW TAXES

18.1 REGULATORY EVENT

If, after the Effective Date, a Regulatory Event occurs or any New Taxes are imposed, and such event or taxes have a direct, material and adverse effect on the economic benefits to a Party of this Agreement, the affected Party shall send written notice to the other Party, setting forth the Regulatory Event or New Taxes and reasonably demonstrating the effect of the same on the affected Party. Upon delivery of such notice, the Parties shall use reasonable efforts to negotiate an amendment to this Agreement to mitigate such effect. Alternatively, if as a direct result of such a Regulatory Event or New Tax, Competitive Supplier incurs additional, material costs, Competitive Supplier shall provide a written notice to the City that documents: (a) the effective date of the Regulatory Event or New Tax; (b) a detailed explanation and reasonable demonstration of the material cost incurred as a result of the Regulatory Event or New Tax; (c) the timing of the cost impact to be incurred by the Competitive Supplier; (d) the proposed price increase per kWh to be passed on to Participating Consumers; (e) a proposed plan for coordinating with the LDC for an increase in the price per kWh that is billed by the LDC, designed to reimburse the Competitive Supplier for such cost impact. If the City and the Competitive Supplier cannot agree on the amendment to this Agreement or reimbursement contemplated by this section within thirty (30) days of such notice, or such longer time as the parties may agree, the matter shall be subject to dispute resolution in accordance with the procedures and remedies described in section 13.2.

ARTICLE 19 MISCELLANEOUS

19.1 NO ASSIGNMENT WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL

Competitive Supplier shall not assign its rights and privileges under this Agreement without the prior written approval of the City. Such approval may be denied at the reasonable discretion of the City if it determines that the proposed assignee does not have the financial ability, experience, and qualifications to fulfill all the obligations required herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the City may not unreasonably withhold its consent to an assignment to an affiliated entity under common control or management with Competitive Supplier or Competitive Supplier's corporate parent that has the financial ability, qualifications, and experience to fulfill all obligations of Competitive Supplier under this Agreement. The City may require that the assignee agree, in writing, in a form acceptable to the City, that it will be bound by the terms and conditions of this Agreement. By making any assignment under this Section, Competitive Supplier shall be deemed to have represented and warranted to the City that the assignee possesses such financial ability, qualifications, and experience. After its receipt of the City's final written approval and the Parties execution of all required documents, Competitive Supplier shall notify Participating Consumers of the approved assignment. The City may assign this Agreement without the prior consent of Competitive Supplier provided that the proposed assignee has at least the same creditworthiness as the City and such assignment would not in any way impair the rights and interests of Competitive Supplier under this Agreement. The rights and obligations created by this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the successors and permitted assigns of, the respective Parties hereto.

19.2 NEW PRODUCTS/SERVICES; DIRECT MARKETING

Except as provided in this Section, Competitive Supplier shall not engage in any "direct marketing" to any City Consumer. "Direct marketing" shall mean marketing, selling or promoting to any City Consumer anything, product or service excluding the sale of electricity conducted under the Program in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, "direct marketing" shall not include generic corporate marketing programs directed at all Competitive Supplier's consumers in general, as opposed to marketing efforts directed at City Consumers.

Prior to the introduction of any new product or service that Competitive Supplier desires to make available to Participating Consumers or other Eligible Consumers, Competitive Supplier agrees to (i) give the City advance written notice of such new product or service and (ii) discuss with the City the possible inclusion of such new product or service in the Program or another City aggregation program. For those products or services that the City wishes to consider including in this Program or any future aggregation, the Parties agree to negotiate in good faith the terms, conditions, and prices for such products and services. Any agreement of the Parties, including such terms, conditions and prices, shall be in writing.

19.3 NOTICES

All notices, demands, requests, consents or other communications required or permitted to be given or made under this Agreement shall be in writing and addressed to:

If to Competitive Supplier:

Direct Energy Services, LLC
910 Louisiana Street, STE B200
Houston, TX 77002
Attn: Vice President, NRG Home - East

With copy to:

Associate General Counsel, NRG Home
Direct Energy Services, LLC
910 Louisiana Street, STE B200
Houston, TX 77002

If to City:

City of Worcester
Division of City Energy and Asset Management
455 Main Street, Room 108
Worcester, MA 01608

With a copy to:

City Manager
City of Worcester
455 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608

Notices hereunder shall be deemed properly served (i) by hand delivery on the day and at the time on which delivered to the intended recipient at the address set forth in this Agreement; (ii) if sent by mail, on the third business day after the day on which deposited in the United States certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed to the intended recipient at its address set forth in this Agreement; or (iii) if by Federal Express or other reputable express mail service, on the next business day after delivery to such express mail service, addressed to the intended recipient at its address set forth in this Agreement. Any Party may change its address and contact person for the purposes of this Section 19.3 by giving written notice thereof in the manner required herein.

19.4 CHANGES IN EMERGENCY AND SERVICE CONTACT PERSONS

In the event that the name or telephone number of any emergency or service contact for the Competitive Supplier changes, Competitive Supplier shall give the City prompt oral notice and written notice of such change within thirty six (36) hours of said change.

19.5 ENTIRE AGREEMENT; AMENDMENTS

This Agreement and the Related Documents constitute the entire agreement between the Parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior oral or written agreements and understandings between the Parties relating to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may only be

amended or modified by a written instrument signed by all Parties hereto.

19.6 FORCE MAJEURE

If by reason of *Force Majeure* either Party is unable to carry out, either in whole or in part, its obligations herein contained, such Party shall not be deemed to be in default during the continuation of such inability, provided that: (i) the non-performing Party, within three (3) days after the event of the *Force Majeure*, gives the other Party hereto written notice describing the particulars of the event; (ii) the suspension of the performance is of no greater scope and of no longer duration than is required by the event of *Force Majeure*; (iii) no obligations of the Party which were to be performed prior to the occurrence causing the suspension of performance shall be excused as a result of the event; and (iv) the non-performing Competitive Supplier shall use all Commercially Reasonable efforts to remedy with all reasonable dispatch the cause or causes preventing it from carrying out its obligations and to mitigate the effects thereof. If any event of *Force Majeure* continues for a period of ninety (90) days or longer, either Party may terminate this Agreement by sending the other Party a written notice; *provided, however*, that neither the existence of such an event nor the termination of this Agreement on account thereof as aforesaid shall constitute a default of any Party and shall not give rise to any damages.

19.7 EXPENSES

Each Party hereto shall pay all expenses incurred by it in connection with its entering into this Agreement, including, without limitation, all of its attorneys' fees and expenses, except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement.

19.8 NO JOINT VENTURE

Competitive Supplier will perform all services under this Agreement as an independent contractor. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute either Party a partner, agent or legal representative of the other Party or to create a joint venture, partnership, agency or any relationship between the Parties. The obligations of the City and the Competitive Supplier hereunder are individual and are neither collective nor joint in nature.

19.9 JOINT WORK PRODUCT

This Agreement shall be considered the work product of the Parties hereto, and, therefore, no rule requiring construction of the Agreement against a Party alleged to be responsible for drafting the Agreement shall be applied against either Party.

19.10 NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES

This Agreement is by and between the Parties that have executed it. The Agreement is intended for the Parties' mutual benefit alone and is not intended to confer any express or implied benefits on any other person. To the fullest extent allowed by law, this Agreement is not intended to confer third party beneficiary status on any person.

19.11 COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which shall constitute a single agreement. Facsimiles and or copies of signatures shall be deemed

originals for purposes of the execution of this Agreement.

19.12 COST RECOVERY

The price for energy as described in Exhibit A includes the City's consultant commission described in Exhibit A to cover the cost of developing, implementing and operating the Aggregation. The Competitive Supplier shall include this cost adder in the Price for energy, and shall make the monthly commission payments on behalf of Participating Consumers, in the manner described in Exhibit A, and further acknowledges this obligation as a material obligation of this Agreement.

19.13 WAIVER

No waiver by either Party hereto of any one or more defaults by the other Party in the performance of any provision of this Agreement shall operate or be construed as a waiver of any future default, whether of like or different character. No failure on the part of either Party hereto to complain of any action or omission on the part of the other Party, no matter how long the same may continue, shall be deemed to be a waiver of any right hereunder by the Party failing to complain. A waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall only be effective if unequivocal, and made in writing and signed by the Party who is making such waiver.

19.13 AGGREGATION PLAN

Competitive Supplier represents that it is fully familiar with the Aggregation Plan and has not discerned any conflicts between this Agreement and the Aggregation Plan. The Parties agree that the Aggregation Plan, in the form as it exists on the Effective Date, shall be construed harmoniously with this Agreement to the greatest practicable extent. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of any conflict between this Agreement and the Aggregation Plan, the Agreement shall govern.

19.14 ADVERTISING LIMITATIONS

Competitive Supplier shall not use the name of the City, or make any reference to the City, in any advertising, publication, or other information to be distributed publicly for marketing or educational purposes, unless the City expressly agrees to such usage. Any proposed use of the name of the City must be submitted in writing for agreement and prior approval. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Competitive Supplier shall have no right, license or interest in the City Seal or any City logo and shall in no event use the same for any purpose without the City's prior written permission. The Competitive Supplier and/or the Competitive Supplier's corporate affiliates own the exclusive rights to the trademarked logo and trade name used by Competitive Supplier. No right, license or interest in this trademark and/or trade name is granted to the City hereunder, and the City agrees that it shall not assert any right, license or interest with respect to such trademark and/or trade name.

19.15 PRESS RELEASES

The City reserves the right to issue press releases with respect to this Agreement and the Program in general without the prior review, approval, or agreement of the Competitive Supplier.

19.16 HEADINGS AND CAPTIONS

The headings and captions appearing in this Agreement are intended for reference only, and are not to be considered in construing this Agreement.

19.17 SURVIVAL OF OBLIGATION

Termination of this Agreement for any reason shall not relieve the City or the Competitive Supplier of any obligation accrued or accruing prior to such termination.

19.18 REMEDIES

A. General

Subject to the limitations set forth in this Section and Article 6, the City and the Competitive Supplier reserve, and shall have, all rights and remedies available to each of them at law or in equity with respect to the performance or non-performance of the other Party under this Agreement.

B. Limitations

NEITHER PARTY HERETO SHALL BE LIABLE FOR CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE, EXEMPLARY OR INDIRECT DAMAGES, LOST PROFITS OR OTHER BUSINESS INTERRUPTION DAMAGES, WHETHER BY STATUTE, IN TORT OR CONTRACT; PROVIDED HOWEVER, THIS LIMITATION SHALL NOT APPLY TO CLAIMS OF THE CITY AGAINST THE COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER FOR INDEMNIFICATION OF THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS UNDER ARTICLE 14 OR APPLICABLE LAW.

19.19 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

By entering into this Agreement, the Competitive Supplier specifically represents that it has exercised due diligence to review and has fully complied with all relevant regulations and orders of the FERC, the Department, the Massachusetts Attorney General, and the DOER and any other Governmental Authorities having jurisdiction over any element of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

[remainder of this page intentionally blank; signature page to follow]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto, intending to be legally bound, have caused this Agreement to be executed as a sealed instrument by their duly authorized representatives the day and year first above written.

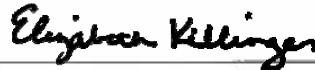
Recommended:

Department of Administration and Finance



John Odell
Chief Sustainability and Resiliency Officer

DIRECT ENERGY SERVICES, LLC



Name: Elizabeth Killinger
Title: President

Approved As To Form:



City Solicitor

CITY OF WORCESTER



Eric D. Batista
City Manager

EXHIBIT A – Prices and Terms

City of Worcester

PRICES AND TERMS

Price Structure

All prices are for **All-Requirements Power Supply** quoted in \$ per kWh, one combined price for all rate classes* and include a minimum of the RPS / APS supply mix required by MGL c 25A.

All prices are blended prices meaning one price for all rate classes.

Start date: first meter read dates for the month of December 2023

End date: first meter read dates for the month of December 2025

Standard Green Product: all participants are enrolled in this option unless they opt out. This product includes the statutory mix plus voluntary MA Class I RECs equal to 40% of the load.

REC Requirements		Price
RPS/APS compliant supply	<i>Statutory requirement</i>	\$0.1457
MA Class 1 Voluntary RECs (excludes biomass)	40% of load	\$0.0164
Total	Statutory requirement + 40% of load	\$0.1621

Optional Greenest Product: to enroll in this option participant must affirmatively opt in. This product includes the voluntary MA Class I RECs equal to 100% of the load minus the MA Class 1 REC statutory requirement.

REC Requirements		Price
RPS/APS compliant supply	<i>Statutory requirement</i>	\$0.1457
MA Class 1 Voluntary RECs (excludes biomass)	78% - 2023 76% - 2024 73% - 2025	\$0.0306
Total	100% of load minus the MA Class 1 statutory REC requirement	\$0.1763

Voluntary RECs mean RECs that are in addition to any RECs that are required by MGL c 25A.

*All customers, regardless of rate class, that are included within the load profile provided to all bidders prior to Effective Date, are eligible for the aggregation price.

Terms for System Supply Service

Renewable Energy in System Supply:

- 1. Renewable Portfolio Standard:** The Competitive Supplier shall include Renewable Energy in the All Requirements Power Supply mix in an amount no less than that required by any Governmental Authority, including laws, regulations or policies adopted pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 25A, section 11F and 11F1/2, starting with the requirement on the Start-Up Service Date, or pay all penalties imposed by any Governmental Authority related to Renewable Energy requirements.
- 2. Standard Product:** (See above)
- 3. Green Option:** Competitive Supplier shall identify the technology, vintage, and location of the renewable generators that are the sources of the RECs for the Standard and the Green Option. All such RECs shall be created and recorded in the New England Power Pool Generation Information System or be certified by a third party satisfactory to the City such as Green-e.

Eligible Consumer Opt-Out: Participating Consumers are free to opt-out of the Program. There are no fees, penalties or charges for Participating Consumers to opt-out or terminate service at any time.

Competitive Supplier's Standard Credit Policy: The Competitive Supplier shall not require a credit review for any Participating Consumer, nor shall the Competitive Supplier require any Eligible Consumer to post any security deposit as a condition for participation in the Program. Subject to applicable law, the Competitive Supplier may terminate service to a Participating Consumer and return such consumer to a Basic Service in the event that the Participating Consumer fails to pay to Competitive Supplier amounts past-due greater than sixty (60) days.

Consultant Commission: All prices quoted above include a commission fee equal to \$0.00075 (0.75 mil) of Participating Consumers' actual usage, payable to MassPowerChoice LLC., the City's consultant, for developing, implementing, and administering the Program. The Competitive Supplier shall include this commission fee in the Price for energy and to make the monthly commission payments on behalf of Participating Consumers, and acknowledges this obligation as a material obligation of this Agreement. The Competitive Supplier shall pay the commission fee in monthly installments fifteen (15) business days following the final meter read in any given LDC Read Month. This provision shall be binding upon the Parties and all permitted assigns and other successors-in-interest of the Parties. There shall be no other third-party beneficiaries to this Agreement.

Operational Adder: In addition to the prices quoted above, Competitive Supplier shall collect an Operational Adder (a fee), if so directed by the City. The City shall provide a minimum of 30-day notice to the Competitive Supplier requesting implementation of the Operational Adder, and may do so no more than two times in any 12 month period. The Operational Adder shall be implemented by the Supplier in the bills to Participating Consumers on the first meter read for each Participating Consumer occurring a minimum of 30 days following the City's notice, unless the City establishes a later meter read date in such notice. The Competitive Supplier agrees to include this Operational Adder in the Price for energy and to make the monthly payments to the City on behalf of Participating Consumers, and acknowledges this obligation as a material obligation of this Agreement. The Competitive Supplier shall pay the Operational Adder in monthly installments fifteen (15) business days following the final meter read in any given LDC Read Month. This provision shall be binding

upon the Parties and all permitted assigns and other successors-in-interest of the Parties.

Refresh Mailing Schedule

Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the Competitive Supplier shall mail Opt-Out Notices to customer on the Refresh Mailing list according to the following schedule:

Mailing	Enrolling
December	Jan/Feb
February	Mar/Apr
June	Aug/Sep
October	Nov/Dec

EXHIBIT B - Monthly Report of Sales

In the month following every month of the Agreement, the Competitive Supplier shall provide the following five (5) reports to the Consultant listed in Appendix A, or as otherwise instructed by the City:

- 1) **Master Account List:** This list shall be updated monthly by the Competitive Supplier and shall include Information, as described in Table 1 below, regarding any consumer that ever enrolls in the aggregation and shall be provided no later than 10 Business Days following the close of any LDC Read Month.
 - 2) **Master Opt Out File:** This File shall be updated monthly by the Competitive Supplier and shall include Information, as described in Table 1 below, regarding any consumer that opted out of the aggregation after receiving an Opt-Out Notice but prior to enrollment, as well as any consumer that enrolled in the aggregation and then left the aggregation for any reason, and shall be provided no later than 10 Business Days following the close of any LDC Read Month.
 - 3) **Refresh Mailing List:** This mailing shall be created every month by the Competitive Supplier and shall include the information as described in Table 1 below regarding every consumer listed in the Updated LDC Basic Service File, described in Article 5, excluding only consumers in the Master Opt Out File. This mailing list shall be provided to the City's consultant listed in Appendix A, 3 business days prior to printing the monthly Refresh Mailing.
 - 4) **Monthly Usage Report:** This monthly report shall be prepared by the Competitive Supplier, shall include the data listed in Table 2 below regarding any accounts for which the LDC provided meter read data to the Competitive Supplier since the previous Monthly Usage Report, or with respect to the first such report, data concerning any accounts for which the LDC provided meter read data to the Competitive Supplier since the Service Commencement Date, and shall be provided no later than 10 Business Days following the close of any LDC Read Month.
 - 5) **Monthly Commission Report:** This monthly report shall be prepared by the Competitive Supplier, shall include the data listed in Table 2 below regarding commissions earned for any usage which the LDC provided meter read data to the Competitive Supplier, as described in the relevant Monthly Usage Report, and shall be provided no later than 15 Business Days following the close of any LDC Read Month.
-

Table 1: Data Fields to be included the following three monthly reports:

Master Account List	Master Opt Out List	Refresh Mailing List
Name of Aggregation	Name of Aggregation	Name of Aggregation
LDC Account Number	LDC Account Number	LDC Account Number
Name of Utility	Name of Utility	Name of Utility
Rate Class	Rate Class	Rate Class
Customer Name	Customer Name	Customer Name
Name Code	Name Code	Name Code
Service Street and number	Service Street and number	Service Street and number
Service City	Service City	Service City
Service State	Service State	Service State
Service Zip Code	Service Zip Code	Service Zip Code
Mailing Street and number	Mailing Street and number	Mailing Street and number
Mailing City	Mailing City	Mailing City
Mailing State	Mailing State	Mailing State
Mailing Zip Code	Mailing Zip Code	Mailing Zip Code
Opt-Out Notice Mailing Date	Opt-Out Notice Mailing Date	Opt-Out Notice Mailing Date
Acct Status (Active/Inactive)	Acct Status (Active/Inactive)	
Acct Start date	Acct Start date (if ever enrolled)	
Acct End date (if Inactive)	Acct End date (if ever enrolled)	
Tax Exempt (Yes/No)	Opt Out Method (return card, by phone, moved, by utility initiative, or other)	
Read Cycle	Opt Out Date	
Load Zone		
Opt In Date (if applicable)		

Table 2: Data Fields to be included the following two monthly reports:

Monthly Usage Report	Monthly Commission Report
Name of Aggregation	Name of Aggregation
LDC Account Number	LDC Account Number
Name of Utility	Name of Utility
Rate Class	Rate Class
Customer Name	Customer Name
Name Code	Name Code
Service Street and number	Service Street and number
Service City	Service City
Service State	Service State
Service Zip Code	Service Zip Code
Read Cycle	Read Cycle
LDC Read Month	LDC Read Month
Account Status (Active/Inactive)	Account Status (Active/Inactive)
Account Start date	Account Start date
Account End date	Account End date
Usage From Date	Usage From Date
Usage To date	Usage To date
Usage (kWh)	Usage (kWh)

ICAP (kW)	ICAP (kW)
Load Zone	Load Zone
Product (Standard / Green / Other)	Commission rate (\$/kWh)
Price	Commission paid (\$/ Month)

EXHIBIT C - Customer Service Policy and Practices

The detailed terms of service are more fully described in the Agreement executed on May 23, 2023, which is posted and available on the Direct Energy web site at the following link: www.directenergy.com/aggregations. Competitive Supplier shall provide a copy of this Agreement to any participating Consumer that requests a copy.

It is the Policy of the Competitive Supplier to provide responsive customer service to all Participating Consumers and Eligible Consumers in accordance with the following:

- 1) Provide for Customer services that are reasonably accessible to all consumers during normal working hours and that allow consumers to transact business they may have with the Competitive Supplier; such customer service to include availability of Bilingual (Spanish) customer service representative; online customer chat line; customer emails responded to within one business day.
 - 2) Provide a toll-free telephone number that will be established by Competitive Supplier and be available for consumers to contact Competitive Supplier during normal business hours (8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time or Eastern Daylight Saving Time, as applicable, Monday through Friday, and 8:00 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time or Eastern Daylight Saving Time, as applicable, on Saturday) to resolve concerns, answer questions and transact business with respect to the service received from Competitive Supplier.
 - 3) Process all customer transactions, including opt-ins, opt-outs, and election of optional products, within five (5) business days.
 - 4) Include the offer to resolve any dispute with any consumer pursuant to the dispute resolution procedures described in 220 CMR 25.02 (4), or MGL c 164 (1) (F) (2).
 - 5) All Participating Consumers will have the right to opt out of the Program at any time without fee, charge or penalty. Participating Consumers who opt out will have the right to return to the Program at a price that reflects market prices at the time of their return.
 - 6) Competitive Supplier will assign a senior Customer Service Team representative, as described in Exhibit D, to be primary contact for the City of Worcester
-

EXHIBIT D – Service Contacts

As required by Section 7.3, the City may contact the following representatives of the Competitive Supplier with requests for information or clarification at the telephone numbers and or email addresses listed below:

Name	Tom Prisk
Title	Manager, Business Development
Office Address	910 Louisiana Street, STE B200, Houston TX 77002
Telephone	281-800-6142
Email	tom.prisk@nrg.com

Name	Staci Carpenter
Title	Retail Operations Supervisor
Office Address	PO Box 180 Tulsa, OK 74101
Telephone	918-727-2444
Email	staci.carpenter@nrg.com

These Service Contacts may be updated from time to time without the need for an amendment of this Agreement.

EXHIBIT E – Worcester Aggregation Plan (not incorporated by reference)


**SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE
OF
DIRECT ENERGY SERVICES, LLC**

I hereby certify that I am the duly appointed, qualified and acting Secretary of Direct Energy Services, LLC (the "**Company**"), a limited liability company formed and existing under the laws of the state of Delaware, and that:

The individuals set forth below are duly appointed to the offices of the Company as indicated and are authorized to act and execute documents on behalf of the Company, subject to applicable internal policies and guidelines:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
Elizabeth R. Killinger	President
A. Louis Teuscher	Vice President

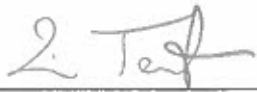
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this certificate this 23rd day of May, 2023.


Paolo Berard
Secretary of the Company

TAX CERTIFICATION

DATE: May 23, 2023

Pursuant to Mass. G.L. c. 62C, Section 49A, I certify under the penalties of perjury that I, to my best knowledge and belief, have complied with all laws of the commonwealth relating to taxes, reporting of employees and contractors, and withholding and remitting child support.

Signature: 
Louis Teuscher, VP Tax

Direct Energy Services, LLC
Company Name

Address: 910 Louisiana Street, Suite B200
Houston, TX 77002

Tel No. _____

20-1340064

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
OR
FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER