

EXHIBIT F
DBE SPECIAL PROVISIONS

See attached Exhibit 6 to the Contract.

EXHIBIT 6

DBE SPECIAL PROVISIONS
FOR NON-TRADITIONAL CONTRACTS

000---____

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise in Federal-Aid Construction
for Non-Traditional Contracts**

Description. The purpose of this Special Provision is to carry out the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) policy of ensuring nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT assisted contracts and creating a level playing field on which firms owned and controlled by individuals who are determined to be socially and economically disadvantaged can compete fairly for DOT assisted contracts. If the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal for this Agreement is greater than zero, Article A, "Disadvantaged Business Enterprise in Federal-Aid Construction", of this Special Provision shall apply to this Agreement. If there is no DBE goal, Article B, "Race-Neutral DBE Participation", of this Special Provision shall apply to this Agreement.

**Article A. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise in Federal-Aid Construction
for Non-Traditional Contracts**

1. Policy. In the performance of this Agreement Developer shall comply with 49 CFR Part 26, the Department's DBE Program, and 43 Texas Administration Code (TAC), Chapter 9, Sections 9.200 – 9.242, as amended. For a conflict between the language of this Special Provision and 49 CFR Part 26, the Department's DBE Program, or 43 Texas Administration Code, Chapter 9, Sections 9.200 – 9.242, as amended, 49 CFR Part 26, the Department's DBE Program, or 43 TAC, Chapter 9, Sections 9.200 – 9.242 as applicable, shall control.

- a.** Developer, its Contractor and subcontractors must meet the DBE goal set out in the Agreement by obtaining commitments from eligible DBEs or Developer must show acceptable evidence of Good Faith Efforts to meet the DBE goal.

- b.** The Developer shall solicit DBEs through reasonable and available means.

c. The Developer, Contractor, sub-recipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The Developer shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by Developer to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this Agreement, that may result in the termination of this Agreement or such other remedy as the recipient deems appropriate.

d. The Developer will include this Special Provision in all Contracts entered into by Developer. The Developer will also require any Contractor to include this Special Provision in any Contract that the Contractor enters into under this Agreement.

e. By signing this Agreement Developer certifies that the DBE goal as stated in the Agreement will be met by obtaining commitments from eligible DBEs or that Developer will provide acceptable evidence of good faith effort to meet the commitment within the time frame set out below.

2. Definitions. The definition for terms used in this Provision can be found in Exhibit 1 of this Agreement, 49 CFR, Part 26 or 43 TAC §9.202, Definitions. Terms not defined in Exhibit 1 of this Agreement, 49 CFR, Part 26, or 43 TAC §9.202 will for the purpose of this Special Provision be defined by the term's common usage.

3. Developer's Responsibilities. These requirements must be satisfied by Developer. Failure of Developer to meet these requirements may result in the issuance of Sanctions by the Department.

a. The Developer shall, in consultation with the Department, develop and submit a DBE Performance Plan describing the methods to be employed for achieving TxDOT's DBE participation goals for the Agreement, including Developer's exercise of good faith efforts. The selected Developer's DBE Performance Plan is subject to TxDOT review, comment and approval prior to execution of the Agreement. Each DBE Performance Plan must at a minimum include the following: specific categories of services and work anticipated for DBE participation on the project; schedule for submission of DBE commitment agreements based on Developer's initial project schedule; good faith efforts performed to date; good faith efforts that will be exercised by Developer following execution of the Agreement to achieve the DBE participation goal for the project; and the name, qualifications, responsibilities and contact information for the DBE liaison officer. The Developer shall also submit the completed Non-Traditional Contract form for the applicable type of commitment for each DBE that will be used to satisfy the DBE goal, to the extent known at the date of submission of the DBE Performance Plan. The DBE Performance Plan must be submitted to the Department not later than 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day, excluding national holidays, after

the conditional award of this Agreement. The DBE Performance Plan is subject to review, comment and approval by the Department prior to and as a condition of execution of the Agreement.

b. Should Developer to whom the Agreement is conditionally awarded refuse, neglect or fail to submit an acceptable DBE Performance Plan, the proposal guaranty filed with the bid shall become the property of the state, not as a penalty, but as liquidated damages to the Department.

c. The Developer shall designate a DBE liaison officer who will administer Developer's DBE program and who will be responsible for all aspects of Developer's DBE program including maintaining all records and all reporting and correspondence with the Department on DBE issues.

d. A Developer who cannot meet the Agreement goal, in whole or in part, shall make adequate good faith efforts to obtain DBE participation as so stated and defined in 49 CFR Part 26, Appendix A.

e. The Developer and Contractors shall not terminate a DBE without written consent of the Department. The Developer must comply with 49 CFR §26 and 43 TAC §9.229, DBE Substitution and Termination, prior to terminating or substituting a DBE. This includes written notification to the DBE and the Department and providing the DBE five days in which to respond to Developer's or Contractor's reasons for the termination. The Department will not consent to the termination or substitution if Developer or Contractor cannot demonstrate that the provisions of 49 CFR §26.53 and 43 TAC §9.229, DBE Substitutions and Terminations, have been followed. Terminating a DBE without Department approval is a violation of this Special Provision and can lead to Sanctions.

f. If the Department approves the termination of the DBE Contractor, Developer or Contractor shall make a good faith effort to replace the terminated DBE Contractor with another DBE, to the extent needed to meet the Agreement goal. The Developer shall submit the applicable Non-Traditional Contract commitment form for the substitute DBE firm(s). The Developer may not be allowed to count work on those items being substituted toward the DBE goal prior to approval of the substitution from the Department.

4. Eligibility of DBEs.

a. The Department maintains the Texas Unified Certification Program DBE Directory containing the names of firms that have been certified to be eligible to participate as DBE's on DOT financially assisted contracts. This Directory is available from the Department's OCR Office. An update of the Directory can be found on the Internet at <http://www.txdot.gov>.

b. Only DBE firms certified at the time the commitments are submitted are eligible to be included in the information furnished by Developer as required under this Special Provision.

c. For purposes of the DBE goal on this project, DBEs are only allowed to perform work in the categories of work for which they are certified.

d. Only DBE firms certified at the time of execution of a Contract or subcontract are eligible for DBE goal participation.

5. Determination of DBE Participation.

When a DBE participates in a Contract, only the values of the work actually performed by the DBE, as detailed in 49 CFR §26.55, 43 TAC §9.231, Computing Work Performed by a DBE, 43 TAC §9.232, Commercially Useful Function, 43 TAC §9.233, Commercially Useful Function by DBE Trucking Firm, and 43 TAC §9.234, Counting Materials or Supplies Provided by DBE Manufacturer or Regular Dealer, shall be counted by Developer toward the DBE goal.

6. Records and Reports.

a. The Developer shall submit monthly reports, after work begins, on payments to all Contractors both DBE and non-DBE. These reports will be due within 15 days after the end of each calendar month. These reports will be required until all DBE Contracting or material supply activity is completed.

b. The Developer shall submit a final summary report of DBE payments upon completion of the project. The Developer will not receive final payment until this final report has been received and approved by the Department. If the DBE goal requirement is not met, documentation supporting Good Faith Efforts must be submitted.

c. The Department may verify the amounts being reported as paid to DBEs by requesting copies of cancelled checks paid to DBEs on a random basis. Cancelled checks and invoices should reference the Department's project number.

d. Negative reports are required when no activity has occurred in a monthly period.

e. The Developer shall provide copies of Contracts or agreements and other documentation upon request.

f. The Developer must provide a certification of prompt payment, the Prompt Payment Certification Form 2177, to certify that all Contractors and Suppliers were paid from the previous month's payments and retainage was released for those whose work is complete. A completed Prompt Payment Certification Form 2177 must be submitted each month and the month following the month when final acceptance occurred at the end of the project.

g. A copy of all reports submitted to the department and all supporting documentation must be retained for a period of 3 years following completion of the Contract work, and shall be available at reasonable times and places for inspection by authorized representatives of the Department or the DOT.

7. Compliance of Developer.

a. To ensure that DBE requirements of this DOT assisted contract are complied with, the Department will monitor Developer's efforts to involve DBEs during the performance of this Agreement. This will be accomplished by a review of monthly reports submitted to the Department by Developer indicating Developer's progress in achieving the DBE contract goal, and by compliance reviews conducted on the project site by the Department.

b. The Developer shall receive credit toward the DBE goal based on actual payments to the DBE Contractor. The Developer shall notify the Department if Developer withholds or reduces payment to any DBE Contractor. The Developer shall submit an affidavit detailing the DBE Contract payments prior to receiving final payment for this Agreement.

c. The Developer's failure to comply with the requirements of this Special Provision shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement. In such a case, the Department reserves the right to terminate this Agreement or seek sanctions under 43 TAC §9.237, Determination of Noncompliance; Sanctions.

Article B. Race-Neutral Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation. It is the policy of the DOT that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) as defined in 49 CFR Part 26 Subpart A, be given the opportunity to compete fairly for Contracts and subcontracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds and that a maximum feasible portion of the Department's overall DBE goal be met using race-neutral means. Consequently, if there is no DBE goal, the DBE requirements of 49 CFR Part 26, apply to this Contract as follows:

1. The Contractor will offer DBEs as defined in 49 CFR Part 26, Subpart A, the opportunity to compete fairly for Contracts and Subcontractors financed in whole or in part with Federal funds. Race-Neutral DBE and non-DBE HUB participation on projects with no DBE goal shall be reported to the Department each month and at project completion. Payments to DBEs reported on Form SMS.4903 are subject to the requirements of Article A.5, "Determination of DBE Participation."

2. The Contractor, sub-recipient or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. The Contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts. Failure by the Contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this Contract, which may result in the termination of this Contract or such other remedy as the recipient deems appropriate.