

January 5, 2018



Mr. Luis Perez Garcia, P.E., CFM
Webb County Engineering Department
1620 Santa Ursula, 2nd Floor
Laredo, Texas 78040

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Email: lperezgarcia@webbcountytx.gov

Re: Proposal for Phase I Environmental Site Assessment
USDA Quarantine and Tick Eradication Facility
Mines Road (FM 1472)
Laredo, Webb County, Texas
Terracon Proposal P90177642A

Dear Mr. Perez Garcia:

Terracon Consultants, Inc. (Terracon) appreciates the opportunity to submit this proposal to the Webb County Engineering Department to conduct a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) of the above-referenced site. The proposed scope of services, schedule and compensation are provided in the following sections.

1.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

The site is an approximately 2.2-acre tract of land located on Mines Road in Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The property is owned by Webb County and is operated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a Cattle Dipping Vat Facility that is part of the state and federal program to control cattle tick fever in South Texas.

Terracon (formerly Drash Consulting Engineers) previously conducted a site inspection and Limited Site Investigation in July 2005 which identified two portions of the subject property that formerly operated as aerial chemical applicator facilities beginning in the mid-1940s. These operations were reportedly discontinued in 1984. The facility also has a concrete lined pit that is used as part of a livestock pesticide eradication operation. It is Terracon's understanding that the pit is (or was) used for storage and possibly disposal of un-treated pesticide waste associated with tick eradication program.

2.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES

The scope of work has been developed to initiate the process of responding to a letter from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) dated September 28, 2017 requesting “the submittal of an Affected Property Assessment Report (ARAR) documenting the assessment of the environmental contamination associated with the cattle dip vat AOC [area of concern] as previously directed” Information that will be obtained by conducting the ESA will be needed to begin the APAR process and to develop an appropriate scope of work for a subsurface investigation that will be required.

2.1 Base Phase I ESA Services

The ESA will be performed consistent with the procedures included in ASTM E1527-13, *Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Assessment Process*. The purpose of this ESA is to assist the client in developing information to identify recognized environmental conditions (RECs - as defined below) in connection with the site as reflected by the scope of this proposal.

ASTM E1527-13 contains a new definition of "migrate/migration," which refers to “the movement of hazardous substances or petroleum products in any form, including, for example, solid and liquid at the surface or subsurface, and vapor in the subsurface.” By including this explicit reference to migration in ASTM E1527-13, the standard clarifies that the potential for vapor migration should be addressed as part of a Phase I ESA and will be considered by Terracon in evaluation of RECs associated with the site. If modifications to the scope of services are required, please contact us to discuss proposal revisions.

REC Definition

Recognized environmental conditions are defined by ASTM E1527-13 as “the presence or likely presence of any hazardous substances or petroleum products in, on, or at a property: 1) due to any release to the environment, 2) under conditions indicative of a release to the environment, or 3) under conditions that pose a material threat of a future release to the environment. *De minimis* conditions are not recognized environmental conditions.”

Physical Setting

The physical setting for the site will be described based on a review of the applicable USGS topographic quadrangle map, USDA soil survey, and selected geologic reference information.

Historical Use Information

A review of selected historical sources, where reasonably ascertainable and readily available, will be conducted in an attempt to document obvious past land use of the site and adjoining properties back to 1940 or when the site was initially developed, whichever is earlier. The following selected references, depending on applicability and likely usefulness, will be reviewed for the site.

- Historical topographic maps
- Aerial photographs (approximate 10 to 15 year intervals)
- City directories (approximate 5 year intervals)
- Fire (Sanborn) insurance maps
- Property tax file information
- Site title search information, if provided by client
- Environmental liens, if provided by client
- Building department records
- Zoning records
- Prior environmental reports, permits and registrations; or geotechnical reports, if provided by the client

Pursuant to ASTM E1527-13, the client should engage a title company or title professional to undertake a review of reasonably ascertainable recorded land title records (or judicial records where appropriate) for environmental liens and activity and use limitations currently recorded against or relating to the site. If the client is unable to provide land title records (or judicial records where appropriate), an abstract firm may be contracted by Terracon to perform a review of land title records (or judicial records where appropriate) for an additional fee. Documentation of environmental liens and activity and use limitations, if recorded, will be provided in the land title records (or judicial records where appropriate). Note, however, unless specifically requested within three days of project commencement, Terracon will rely on the client to provide land title records (or judicial records where appropriate). **If land title records (or judicial records where appropriate) are not provided for review in a timely manner, Terracon may conclude that the absence of records represents a data gap, which must be evaluated and documented in the final report.**

The client and the current owner or their representative will be interviewed to provide information regarding past uses of the site and information pertaining to the use of hazardous substances and petroleum products on the site. Additionally, a reasonable attempt will be made to interview past owners, operators, and occupants of the site to the extent that they are identified within the scope of the ESA and are likely to have material information that is not duplicative of information already obtained through the assessment process.

Regulatory Records Review

Consistent with ASTM E1527-13, outlined below are the following federal, state, and tribal databases, where applicable are typically reviewed for indications of RECs, and the approximate minimum search distance of the review from the nearest property boundary. A database firm will be subcontracted to access governmental records used in this portion of the assessment. Additional federal, state, and local databases may be reviewed if provided by the database firm. Determining the location of unmapped facilities is beyond the scope of this assessment.

Governmental Records	Search Distance
Federal NPL Site List	1.0 mile
Federal NPL (Delisted) Site List	0.5 mile
Federal CERCLIS Site List	0.5 mile
Federal CERCLIS NFRAP Site List	0.5 mile
Federal RCRA Corrective Actions (CORRACTS) TSD Facilities List	1.0 mile
Federal RCRA Non-CORRACTS TSD Facilities List	0.5 mile
Federal RCRA Generators List	Site and Adjoining
Federal Institutional Control/Engineering Control Registries	Site Only
Federal ERNS List	Site Only
State and Tribal-Equivalent NPL Site Lists	1.0 mile
State and Tribal-Equivalent CERCLIS Lists	0.5 mile
State and Tribal Landfill and/or Solid Waste Disposal Site Lists	0.5 mile
State and Tribal Leaking UST Lists	0.5 mile
State and Tribal Registered UST Lists	Site and Adjoining
State and Tribal Institutional Control/Engineering Control Registries	Site Only
State and Tribal VCP Site Lists	0.5 mile
State and Tribal Brownfield Site Lists	0.5 mile

Tribal databases will only be evaluated if the site is located in an area where a recognized tribe has jurisdiction for environmental affairs.

In addition to the database review and if customary practice for the site location, an attempt will be made to review reasonably ascertainable and useful local lists or records such as Brownfield sites, landfill/solid waste disposal sites, registered storage tanks, land records, emergency release reports, and contaminated public wells. A reasonable attempt will also be made to interview at least one staff member of any one of the following types of local government agencies: fire department, health agency, planning department, building department, or environmental department. As an alternative, a written request for information may be submitted to the local agencies.

The scope of work proposed herein includes **up to two hours of regulatory agency file and/or records review, including client-provided reports and files**. If the results of this initial review appear to warrant a more extensive review of applicable regulatory agency files and/or records, a cost estimate will be provided to the client for pre-approval. Review of regulatory files and/or records, when authorized, will be for the purpose of identifying RECs. Please note that all requested files may not be available from regulatory agencies within the client’s requested project schedule.

Site and Adjoining/Surrounding Property Reconnaissance

A field reconnaissance will be conducted to identify RECs associated with the site. The reconnaissance will consist of visual observations of the site from the site boundaries and selected interior portions of the site. The site reconnaissance will include, where applicable, an interview with site personnel who the client has identified as having knowledge of the uses and physical characteristics of the site. Pertinent observations from the site reconnaissance will be documented including:

- Site description
- General site operations
- Aboveground chemical or waste storage
- Visible underground chemical or waste storage, drainage, or collection systems
- Electrical transformers
- Obvious releases of hazardous substances or petroleum products

The adjoining property reconnaissance will consist of visual observations of the adjoining/surrounding properties from the site boundaries and accessible public rights-of-way.

Report Preparation

A PDF-formatted copy of the final report will be submitted that presents the results of this assessment, based upon the scope of services and limitations described herein. The final report will be signed by an environmental professional responsible for the Phase I ESA, and the report will contain an environmental professional statement as required by 40 CFR 312.21(d). Recommendations will be developed as part of the Phase I ESA scope of services.

3.0 COMPENSATION

The fee for providing the proposed Scope of Services as outlined in this proposal will be invoiced on a lump sum basis as follows:

Phase I ESA	\$2,450
Additional Services: TCEQ Correspondences/Follow-up:.....	\$500
Total:	\$2,950

4.0 AUTHORIZATION

If this proposal meets with your approval, work may be initiated by returning an original copy of the attached Agreement for Services. Project initiation may be expedited by sending a copy of the signed Agreement for Services via e-mail or facsimile (210) 641-2124.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this proposal and look forward to working with you on this project. If you have any questions or comments regarding this proposal or require additional services, please give us a call.

Sincerely,

Terracon Consultants, Inc.



James (Jim) R. Major, P.G.
Investigation/Remediation Group Manager



Joseph A. Lambert
Principal

Attachment: Agreement for Services

AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES

This **AGREEMENT** is between Webb County Engineering Dept ("Client") and Terracon Consultants, Inc. ("Consultant") for Services to be provided by Consultant for Client on the USDA Quarantine and Tick Eradication Facility project ("Project"), as described in the Project Information section of Consultant's Proposal dated 01/05/2018 ("Proposal") unless the Project is otherwise described in Exhibit A to this Agreement (which section or Exhibit is incorporated into this Agreement).

- 1. Scope of Services.** The scope of Consultant's services is described in the Scope of Services section of the Proposal ("Services"), unless Services are otherwise described in Exhibit B to this Agreement (which section or exhibit is incorporated into this Agreement). Portions of the Services may be subcontracted. When Consultant subcontracts to other individuals or companies, then consultant will collect from Client on the Subcontractors' behalf. Consultant's Services do not include the investigation or detection of, nor do recommendations in Consultant's reports address the presence or prevention of biological pollutants (e.g., mold, fungi, bacteria, viruses, or their byproducts) or occupant safety issues, such as vulnerability to natural disasters, terrorism, or violence. If Services include purchase of software, Client will execute a separate software license agreement. Consultant's findings, opinions, and recommendations are based solely upon data and information obtained by and furnished to Consultant at the time of the Services.
- 2. Acceptance/ Termination.** Client agrees that execution of this Agreement is a material element of the consideration Consultant requires to execute the Services, and if Services are initiated by Consultant prior to execution of this Agreement as an accommodation for Client at Client's request, both parties shall consider that commencement of Services constitutes formal acceptance of all terms and conditions of this Agreement. Additional terms and conditions may be added or changed only by written amendment to this Agreement signed by both parties. In the event Client uses a purchase order or other form to administer this Agreement, the use of such form shall be for convenience purposes only and any additional or conflicting terms it contains are stricken. This Agreement shall not be assigned by either party without prior written consent of the other party. Either party may terminate this Agreement or the Services upon written notice to the other. In such case, Consultant shall be paid costs incurred and fees earned to the date of termination plus reasonable costs of closing the Project.
- 3. Change Orders.** Client may request changes to the scope of Services by altering or adding to the Services to be performed. If Client so requests, Consultant will return to Client a statement (or supplemental proposal) of the change setting forth an adjustment to the Services and fees for the requested changes. Following Client's review, Client shall provide written acceptance. If Client does not follow these procedures, but instead directs, authorizes, or permits Consultant to perform changed or additional work, the Services are changed accordingly and Consultant will be paid for this work according to the fees stated or its current fee schedule. If project conditions change materially from those observed at the site or described to Consultant at the time of proposal, Consultant is entitled to a change order equitably adjusting its Services and fee.
- 4. Compensation and Terms of Payment.** Client shall pay compensation for the Services performed at the fees stated in the Compensation section of the Proposal unless fees are otherwise stated in Exhibit C to this Agreement (which section or Exhibit is incorporated into this Agreement). If not stated in either, fees will be according to Consultant's current fee schedule. Fee schedules are valid for the calendar year in which they are issued. Fees do not include sales tax. Client will pay applicable sales tax as required by law. Consultant may invoice Client at least monthly and payment is due upon receipt of invoice. Client shall notify Consultant in writing, at the address below, within 15 days of the date of the invoice if Client objects to any portion of the charges on the invoice, and shall promptly pay the undisputed portion. Client shall pay a finance fee of 1.5% per month, but not exceeding the maximum rate allowed by law, for all unpaid amounts 30 days or older. Client agrees to pay all collection-related costs that Consultant incurs, including attorney fees. Consultant may suspend Services for lack of timely payment. It is the responsibility of Client to determine whether federal, state, or local prevailing wage requirements apply and to notify Consultant if prevailing wages apply. If it is later determined that prevailing wages apply, and Consultant was not previously notified by Client, Client agrees to pay the prevailing wage from that point forward, as well as a retroactive payment adjustment to bring previously paid amounts in line with prevailing wages. Client also agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Consultant from any alleged violations made by any governmental agency regulating prevailing wage activity for failing to pay prevailing wages, including the payment of any fines or penalties.
- 5. Third Party Reliance.** This Agreement and the Services provided are for Consultant and Client's sole benefit and exclusive use with no third party beneficiaries intended. Reliance upon the Services and any work product is limited to Client, and is not intended for third parties other than those who have executed Consultant's reliance agreement, subject to the prior approval of Consultant and Client.
- 6. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY. CLIENT AND CONSULTANT HAVE EVALUATED THE RISKS AND REWARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROJECT, INCLUDING CONSULTANT'S FEE RELATIVE TO THE RISKS ASSUMED, AND AGREE TO ALLOCATE CERTAIN OF THE ASSOCIATED RISKS. TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, THE TOTAL AGGREGATE LIABILITY OF CONSULTANT (AND ITS RELATED CORPORATIONS AND EMPLOYEES) TO CLIENT AND THIRD PARTIES GRANTED RELIANCE IS LIMITED TO THE GREATER OF \$10,000 OR CONSULTANT'S FEE, FOR ANY AND ALL INJURIES, DAMAGES, CLAIMS, LOSSES, OR EXPENSES (INCLUDING ATTORNEY AND EXPERT FEES) ARISING OUT OF CONSULTANT'S SERVICES OR THIS AGREEMENT. PRIOR TO ACCEPTANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT AND UPON WRITTEN REQUEST FROM CLIENT, CONSULTANT MAY NEGOTIATE A HIGHER LIMITATION FOR ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION IN THE FORM OF A SURCHARGE TO BE ADDED TO THE AMOUNT STATED IN THE COMPENSATION SECTION OF THE PROPOSAL. THIS LIMITATION SHALL APPLY REGARDLESS OF AVAILABLE PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE, CAUSE(S), OR THE THEORY OF LIABILITY, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE, INDEMNITY, OR OTHER RECOVERY. THIS LIMITATION SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE EXTENT THE DAMAGE IS PAID UNDER CONSULTANT'S COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY POLICY.**
- 7. Indemnity/Statute of Limitations.** Consultant and Client shall indemnify and hold harmless the other and their respective employees from and against legal liability for claims, losses, damages, and expenses to the extent such claims, losses, damages, or expenses are legally determined to be caused by their negligent acts, errors, or omissions. In the event such claims, losses, damages, or expenses are legally determined to be caused by the joint or concurrent negligence of Consultant and Client, they shall be borne by each party in proportion to its own negligence under comparative fault principles. Neither party shall have a duty to defend the other party, and no duty to defend is hereby created by this indemnity provision and such duty is explicitly waived under this Agreement. Causes of action arising out of Consultant's Services or this Agreement regardless of cause(s) or the theory of liability, including negligence, indemnity or other recovery shall be deemed to have accrued and the applicable statute of limitations shall commence to run not later than the date of Consultant's substantial completion of Services on the project.
- 8. Warranty.** Consultant will perform the Services in a manner consistent with that level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by members of the profession currently practicing under similar conditions in the same locale. **EXCEPT FOR THE STANDARD OF CARE PREVIOUSLY STATED, CONSULTANT MAKES NO WARRANTIES OR GUARANTEES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, RELATING TO CONSULTANT'S SERVICES AND CONSULTANT DISCLAIMS ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR WARRANTIES IMPOSED BY LAW, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.**

- 9. Insurance.** Consultant represents that it now carries, and will continue to carry: (i) workers' compensation insurance in accordance with the laws of the states having jurisdiction over Consultant's employees who are engaged in the Services, and employer's liability insurance (\$1,000,000); (ii) commercial general liability insurance (\$1,000,000 occ / \$2,000,000 agg); (iii) automobile liability insurance (\$1,000,000 B.I. and P.D. combined single limit); and (iv) professional liability insurance (\$1,000,000 claim / agg). Certificates of insurance will be provided upon request. Client and Consultant shall waive subrogation against the other party on all general liability and property coverage.
- 10. CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES.** NEITHER PARTY SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER FOR LOSS OF PROFITS OR REVENUE; LOSS OF USE OR OPPORTUNITY; LOSS OF GOOD WILL; COST OF SUBSTITUTE FACILITIES, GOODS, OR SERVICES; COST OF CAPITAL; OR FOR ANY SPECIAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, INDIRECT, PUNITIVE, OR EXEMPLARY DAMAGES.
- 11. Dispute Resolution.** Client shall not be entitled to assert a Claim against Consultant based on any theory of professional negligence unless and until Client has obtained the written opinion from a registered, independent, and reputable engineer, architect, or geologist that Consultant has violated the standard of care applicable to Consultant's performance of the Services. Client shall provide this opinion to Consultant and the parties shall endeavor to resolve the dispute within 30 days, after which Client may pursue its remedies at law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed according to Texas law.
- 12. Subsurface Explorations.** Subsurface conditions throughout the site may vary from those depicted on logs of discrete borings, test pits, or other exploratory services. Client understands Consultant's layout of boring and test locations is approximate and that Consultant may deviate a reasonable distance from those locations. Consultant will take reasonable precautions to reduce damage to the site when performing Services; however, Client accepts that invasive services such as drilling or sampling may damage or alter the site. Site restoration is not provided unless specifically included in the Services.
- 13. Testing and Observations.** Client understands that testing and observation are discrete sampling procedures, and that such procedures indicate conditions only at the depths, locations, and times the procedures were performed. Consultant will provide test results and opinions based on tests and field observations only for the work tested. Client understands that testing and observation are not continuous or exhaustive, and are conducted to reduce - not eliminate - project risk. Client shall cause all tests and inspections of the site, materials, and Services performed by Consultant to be timely and properly scheduled in order for the Services to be performed in accordance with the plans, specifications, contract documents, and Consultant's recommendations. No claims for loss or damage or injury shall be brought against Consultant by Client or any third party unless all tests and inspections have been so performed and Consultant's recommendations have been followed. Unless otherwise stated in the Proposal, Client assumes sole responsibility for determining whether the quantity and the nature of Services ordered by Client is adequate and sufficient for Client's intended purpose. Client is responsible (even if delegated to contractor) for requesting services, and notifying and scheduling Consultant so Consultant can perform these Services. Consultant is not responsible for damages caused by Services not performed due to a failure to request or schedule Consultant's Services. Consultant shall not be responsible for the quality and completeness of Client's contractor's work or their adherence to the project documents, and Consultant's performance of testing and observation services shall not relieve Client's contractor in any way from its responsibility for defects discovered in its work, or create a warranty or guarantee. Consultant will not supervise or direct the work performed by Client's contractor or its subcontractors and is not responsible for their means and methods. The extension of unit prices with quantities to establish a total estimated cost does not guarantee a maximum cost to complete the Services. The quantities, when given, are estimates based on contract documents and schedules made available at the time of the Proposal. Since schedule, performance, production, and charges are directed and/or controlled by others, any quantity extensions must be considered as estimated and not a guarantee of maximum cost.
- 14. Sample Disposition, Affected Materials, and Indemnity.** Samples are consumed in testing or disposed of upon completion of the testing procedures (unless stated otherwise in the Services). Client shall furnish or cause to be furnished to Consultant all documents and information known or available to Client that relate to the identity, location, quantity, nature, or characteristic of any hazardous waste, toxic, radioactive, or contaminated materials ("Affected Materials") at or near the site, and shall immediately transmit new, updated, or revised information as it becomes available. Client agrees that Consultant is not responsible for the disposition of Affected Materials unless specifically provided in the Services, and that Client is responsible for directing such disposition. In no event shall Consultant be required to sign a hazardous waste manifest or take title to any Affected Materials. Client shall have the obligation to make all spill or release notifications to appropriate governmental agencies. The Client agrees that Consultant neither created nor contributed to the creation or existence of any Affected Materials conditions at the site and Consultant shall not be responsible for any claims, losses, or damages allegedly arising out of Consultant's performance of Services hereunder, or for any claims against Consultant as a generator, disposer, or arranger of Affected Materials under federal, state, or local law or ordinance.
- 15. Ownership of Documents.** Work product, such as reports, logs, data, notes, or calculations, prepared by Consultant shall remain Consultant's property. Proprietary concepts, systems, and ideas developed during performance of the Services shall remain the sole property of Consultant. Files shall be maintained in general accordance with Consultant's document retention policies and practices.
- 16. Utilities.** Client shall provide the location and/or arrange for the marking of private utilities and subterranean structures. Consultant shall take reasonable precautions to avoid damage or injury to subterranean structures or utilities. Consultant shall not be responsible for damage to subterranean structures or utilities that are not called to Consultant's attention, are not correctly marked, including by a utility locate service, or are incorrectly shown on the plans furnished to Consultant.
- 17. Site Access and Safety.** Client shall secure all necessary site related approvals, permits, licenses, and consents necessary to commence and complete the Services and will execute any necessary site access agreement. Consultant will be responsible for supervision and site safety measures for its own employees, but shall not be responsible for the supervision or health and safety precautions for any other parties, including Client, Client's contractors, subcontractors, or other parties present at the site.

Consultant: **Terracon Consultants, Inc.**
By:  Date: **1/5/2018**
Name/Title: **Joseph A. Lambert / Principal**
Address: **6911 Blanco Rd**
San Antonio, TX 78216-6164
Phone: **(210) 641-2112** Fax: **(210) 641-2124**
Email: **Joe.Lambert@terracon.com**

Client: **Webb County Engineering Dept**
By: _____ Date: _____
Name/Title: _____
Address: **1620 Santa Ursula - 2nd Floor**
Laredo, TX 78040
Phone: **(956) 523-4054** Fax: _____
Email: _____