

	U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Assistance Amendment		GRANT NUMBER (FAIN): 96639701		DATE OF AWARD 07/09/2013	
			MODIFICATION NUMBER: 2 PROGRAM CODE: XP			
			TYPE OF ACTION No Cost Amendment		MAILING DATE 07/09/2013	
			PAYMENT METHOD: ASAP		ACH# 66904	
RECIPIENT TYPE: County			Send Payment Request to: Las Vegas Finance Center			
RECIPIENT: Fort Bend County 301 Jackson Street Richmond, TX 77469 EIN: 74-6001969			PAYEE: Fort Bend County 301 Jackson Street Richmond, TX 77469			
PROJECT MANAGER David C. Dybala, Jr., PE 301 Jackson Street Richmond, TX 77469 E-Mail: david.dybala@jacobs.com Phone: 281.983.2344		EPA PROJECT OFFICER Nasim Jahan 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200, 6WQ-AP Dallas, TX 75202-2733 E-Mail: nasim.jahan@epa.gov Phone: 214-665-7522		EPA GRANT SPECIALIST Jeraldine Englerth Grant Programs Section, 6MD-CG E-Mail: englerth.jeraldine@epa.gov Phone: 214-665-7402		
PROJECT TITLE AND EXPLANATION OF CHANGES Water Dist. System: Serve Ft. Bend Co. Freshwater Supply Dist. 1, City of Arcola Time Extension (Amendment); This amendment extends both the Project and Budget period end dates from 08/31/2013 to 03/31/2014. The City needs 5 additional months to complete the project. - Constructing a drinking water distribution system in the Fort Bend County Freshwater Supply District No.1 and the City of Arcola for delivering treated and safe drinking water from a surface drinking water treatment plant to residents in the Cities of Fresno and Arcola.						
BUDGET PERIOD 10/01/2006 - 03/31/2014		PROJECT PERIOD 10/01/2006 - 03/31/2014		TOTAL BUDGET PERIOD COST \$3,475,455.00		
				TOTAL PROJECT PERIOD COST \$3,475,455.00		
NOTICE OF AWARD						
Based on your Application dated 08/01/2006 including all modifications and amendments, the United States acting by and through the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby awards \$. EPA agrees to cost-share 55.00% of all approved budget period costs incurred, up to and not exceeding total federal funding of \$1,911,500. Recipient's signature is not required on this agreement. The recipient demonstrates its commitment to carry out this award by either: 1) drawing down funds within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date; or 2) not filing a notice of disagreement with the award terms and conditions within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. If the recipient disagrees with the terms and conditions specified in this award, the authorized representative of the recipient must furnish a notice of disagreement to the EPA Award Official within 21 days after the EPA award or amendment mailing date. In case of disagreement, and until the disagreement is resolved, the recipient should not draw down on the funds provided by this award/amendment, and any costs incurred by the recipient are at its own risk. This agreement is subject to applicable EPA statutory provisions. The applicable regulatory provisions are 40 CFR Chapter 1, Subchapter B, and all terms and conditions of this agreement and any attachments.						
ISSUING OFFICE (GRANTS MANAGEMENT OFFICE)			AWARD APPROVAL OFFICE			
ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS Grant Programs Section, 6MD-CG 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202-2733			ORGANIZATION / ADDRESS U.S. EPA, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ) 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202-2733			
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY						
Digital signature applied by EPA Award Official Jerri Englerth - Grants Specialist					DATE 07/09/2013	

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FUNDS	FORMER AWARD	THIS ACTION	AMENDED TOTAL
EPA Amount This Action	\$ 1,911,500	\$	\$ 1,911,500
EPA In-Kind Amount	\$ 0	\$	\$ 0
Unexpended Prior Year Balance	\$ 0	\$	\$ 0
Other Federal Funds	\$ 0	\$	\$ 0
Recipient Contribution	\$ 0	\$	\$ 0
State Contribution	\$ 0	\$	\$ 0
Local Contribution	\$ 0	\$	\$ 0
Other Contribution	\$ 1,563,955	\$	\$ 1,563,955
Allowable Project Cost	\$ 3,475,455	\$ 0	\$ 3,475,455

Assistance Program (CFDA)	Statutory Authority	Regulatory Authority
66.606 - Surveys - Studies - Investigations and Special Purpose Grants	Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2006	40 CFR PART 31

[illegible]

Approved Budget	
Program Element Classification (Construction)	Approved Allowable Budget Period Cost
1. Administration Expense	\$0
2. Preliminary Expense	\$0
3. Land Structure, Right Of Way	\$0
4. Architectural Engineering Basic Fees	\$240,000
5. Other Architectural Engineering Fees	\$120,000
6. Project Inspection Fees	\$120,000
7. Land Development	\$0
8. Relocation Expenses	\$0
9. Relocation Payments to Individuals & Bus.	\$0
10. Demolition and Removal	\$0
11. Construction and Project Improvement	\$2,995,455
12. Equipment	\$0
13. Miscellaneous	\$0
14. Total (Lines 1 thru 13)	\$3,475,455
15. Estimate Income	\$0
16. Net Project Amount (Line 14 minus 15)	\$3,475,455
17. Less: Ineligible Exclusions	\$0
18. Add: Contingencies	\$0
19. Total (Share: Recip <u>45.00%</u> Fed <u>55.00%</u>)	\$3,475,455
20. TOTAL APPROVED ASSISTANCE AMOUNT	\$1,911,500

Administrative Conditions

EXCEPT AS PROVIDED HEREIN, ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE BASIC ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT, INCLUDING PRIOR AMENDMENTS, REMAIN UNCHANGED AND IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE NEW OR CHANGED:

1. Payment Methods:

- a. The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 requires that Federal payments be made by electronic funds transfer. In order to comply with the Act, a recipient must receive payments via one of two electronic methods available to them:

Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP)

The ASAP system is the preferred method of payment for EPA grantees. ASAP enrollment is highly encouraged for organizations that have multiple grants/cooperative agreements and for those with a frequent need to request funds. If your organization uses multiple bank accounts for EPA grants/cooperative agreements, you must enroll in ASAP. If you are interested in receiving funds electronically via ASAP, please complete the ASAP Initiate Enrollment form located at <http://www.epa.gov/ocfo/finservices/forms.htm> and email it to LVFC-grants@epa.gov or fax it to LVFC at 702-798-2423

Under this payment mechanism, the Recipient initiates, via ASAP, an electronic payment request which is approved or rejected based on the amount of available funds authorized by EPA in the Recipient's account. Approved funds are credited to the recipient organization at the financial institution identified on the recipient's ASAP enrollment application. Additional information concerning ASAP and enrollment can be obtained by contacting the EPA Las Vegas Finance Center, at (702) 798-2485, or by visiting www.fms.treas.gov/asap.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

Under this payment mechanism, the EPA Las Vegas Finance Center will obtain your organization's banking information from your System for Award Management (SAM) registration. Upon completion of required Regional training, a Las Vegas Finance Center Representative will send you an email message with your EFT Control Number and payment information. Additional information concerning EFT can be obtained by contacting the EPA Las Vegas Finance Center at (702) 798-2485, or by visiting <http://www.epa.gov/ocfo/finservices/payinfo.htm>

NOTE: If your banking information is not correct or changes at any time prior to the end of your agreement, please update your SAM registration and notify the EPA Las Vegas Finance Center as soon as possible so the new banking information can be retrieved. This is vital to ensure proper and timely deposit of funds.

- b. In accepting this assistance agreement, the recipient agrees to draw cash only as needed for its disbursement. Failure on the part of the recipient to comply with this condition may cause the undisbursed portions of the assistance agreement to be revoked and financing method changed to a reimbursable basis.

2. Payments to Consultants: EPA participation in the salary rate (excluding overhead) paid to individual consultants retained by recipients or by a recipient's contractors or subcontractors shall be limited to the maximum daily rate for a Level IV of the Executive Schedule (formerly GS-18), to be adjusted annually. This limit applies to consultation services of designated individuals with specialized skills who are paid at a daily or hourly rate. As of January 1, 2013, the limit is \$596.00 per day and \$74.50 per hour. This rate does not include transportation and subsistence costs for travel performed (the

recipient will pay these in accordance with their normal travel reimbursement practices).

Subagreements with firms for services which are awarded using the procurement requirements in 40 CFR 30 or 31, as applicable, are not affected by this limitation unless the terms of the contract provide the recipient with responsibility for the selection, direction, and control of the individuals who will be providing services under the contract at an hourly or daily rate of compensation. See 40 CFR 31.36(j) or 30.27(b).

3. Unliquidated Obligations: Pursuant to 40 CFR 31.41(b) and 31.50(b), EPA recipients shall submit an annual Federal Financial Report (SF-425) to EPA no later than 90 calendar days following the end of the reporting quarter.

The following reporting period end dates shall be used for interim reports: 3/31, 6/30, 9/30, or 12/31.

At the end of the project, the recipient must submit a final Federal Financial Report to EPA no later than 90 calendar days after the end of the project period. The form is available on the internet at <http://www.epa.gov/ocfo/finservices/forms.htm> . All FFRs must be submitted to the Las Vegas Finance Center:

US EPA, Las Vegas Finance Center
4220 S. Maryland Pkwy, Bld C, Rm 503
Las Vegas, NV 89119

or by fax to: 702-798-2423

or by email to: lvfc-grants@epa.gov

The LVFC will make adjustments, as necessary, to obligated funds after reviewing and accepting a final Federal Financial Report. Recipients will be notified and instructed by EPA if they must complete any additional forms for the closeout of the assistance agreement.

EPA may take enforcement actions in accordance with 40 CFR 31.43 if the recipient does not comply with this term and condition.

4. Central Contractor Registration and Universal Identifier Requirements:

- A. Requirement for Central Contractor Registration (CCR). Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR 25.110, you as the recipient must maintain the currency of your information in the CCR until you submit the final financial report required under this award or receive the final payment, whichever is later. This requires that you review and update the information at least annually after the initial registration, and more frequently if required by changes in your information or another award term.
- B. Requirement for Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) numbers. If you are authorized to make subawards under this award, you:
1. Must notify potential subrecipients that no entity (see definition in paragraph C of this award term) may receive a subaward from you unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to you.
 2. May not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to you.
- C. Definitions. For purposes of this award term:
1. Central Contractor Registration (CCR) means the Federal repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the System for Award Management (SAM) Internet site (currently at <http://www.sam.gov>).
 2. Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number means the nine-digit number established and assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) to uniquely identify business entities. A DUNS number may be obtained from D&B by telephone (currently 866-705-5711) or the Internet

(currently at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>).

3. Entity, as it is used in this award term, means all of the following, as defined at 2 CFR part 25, subpart C:
 - a. A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;
 - b. A foreign public entity;
 - c. A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;
 - d. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and
 - e. A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.
4. Subaward:
 - a. This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.
 - b. The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see Sec. --210 of the attachment to OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations").
 - c. A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you consider a contract.
5. Subrecipient means an entity that:
 - a. Receives a subaward from you under this award; and
 - b. Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.

5. Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation

a. Reporting of first-tier subawards

1. Applicability: Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, you must report each action that obligates \$25,000 or more in Federal funds that does not include Recovery funds (as defined in section 1512(a)(2) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111-5) for a subaward to an entity (see definitions in paragraph e. of this award term).
2. Where and when to report:
 - i. You must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.1. of this award term to www.fsrs.gov.
 - ii. For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the obligation was made. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2010, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2010.)
3. What to report: You must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at www.fsrs.gov specify.

b. Reporting Total Compensation of Recipient Executives

1. Applicability and what to report: You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if --
 - i. the total Federal funding authorized to date under this award is \$25,000 or more;
 - ii. in the preceding fiscal year, you received—

- (A) 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - iii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>).
2. Where and when to report: You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph b.1. of this award term:
- i. As part of your registration Central Contractor Registration profile at www.sam.gov.
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.
- c. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives
1. Applicability and what to report: Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier subrecipient under this award, you shall report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if --
- i. in the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act (and subawards); and
 - ii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>).
2. Where and when to report: You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph c.1. of this award term:
- i. To the recipient.
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if a subaward is obligated on any date during the month of October of a given year (i.e., between October 1 and 31), you must report any required compensation information of the subrecipient by November 30 of that year.
- d. Exemptions: If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report:

- i. subawards,
 - and
 - ii. the total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.
- e. Definitions: For purposes of this award term:
 - 1. Entity means all of the following, as defined in 2 CFR part 25:
 - i. A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;
 - ii. A foreign public entity;
 - iii. A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;
 - iv. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization;
 - v. A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.
 - 2. Executive means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.
 - 3. Subaward:
 - i. This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.
 - ii. The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see Sec. --.210 of the attachment to OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations").
 - iii. A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.
 - 4. Subrecipient means an entity that:
 - i. Receives a subaward from you (the recipient) under this award; and
 - ii. Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.
 - 5. Total compensation means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information see 17 CFR 229.402(c)(2)):
 - i. *Salary and bonus* .
 - ii. *Awards of stock, stock options, and stock appreciation rights* . Use the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes with respect to the fiscal year in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (Revised 2004) (FAS 123R), Shared Based Payments.
 - iii. *Earnings for services under non-equity incentive plans* . This does not include group life, health, hospitalization or medical reimbursement plans that do not discriminate in favor of executives, and are available generally to all salaried employees.
 - iv. *Change in pension value.* This is the change in present value of defined benefit and actuarial pension plans.
 - v. *Above-market earnings on deferred compensation which is not tax-qualified* .
 - vi. Other compensation, if the aggregate value of all such other compensation (e.g. severance, termination payments, value of life insurance paid on behalf of the employee, perquisites or

property) for the executive exceeds \$10,000.

6. Suspension & Debarment: Recipients shall fully comply with Subpart C of 2 CFR Part 180 entitled, "Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions Doing Business With Other Persons," as implemented and supplemented by 2 CFR Part 1532. Recipient is responsible for ensuring that any lower tier covered transaction, as described in Subpart B of 2 CFR Part 180, entitled "Covered Transactions," includes a term or condition requiring compliance with Subpart C. Recipient is responsible for further requiring the inclusion of a similar term or condition in any subsequent lower tier covered transactions. Recipient acknowledges that failing to disclose the information required under 2 CFR 180.335 may result in the delay or negation of this assistance agreement, or pursuance of legal remedies, including suspension and debarment.

Recipients may access suspension and debarment information at <http://www.sam.gov>. This system allows recipients to perform searches determining whether an entity or individual is excluded from receiving Federal assistance. This term and condition supersedes EPA Form 5700-49, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters."

7. Utilization of Small, Minority and Women's Business Enterprises:

FAIR SHARE OBJECTIVES, 40 CFR, Part 33, Subpart D

A recipient must negotiate with the appropriate EPA award official, or his/her designee, fair share objectives for MBE and WBE (MBE/WBE) participation in procurement under the financial assistance agreements.

Accepting the Fair Share Objectives/Goals of Another Recipient

The dollar amount of this assistance agreement is \$250,000, or more; or the total dollar amount of all of the recipient's non-TAG assistance agreements from EPA in the current fiscal year is \$250,000, or more. The recipient accepts the applicable MBE/WBE fair share objectives/goals negotiated with EPA by the **Texas Water Development Board** as follows:

MBE: CONSTRUCTION 12.94%; SUPPLIES 9.68%; SERVICES 10.84%; EQUIPMENT 7.12%

WBE: CONSTRUCTION 8.72%; SUPPLIES 9.34%; SERVICES 5.72%; EQUIPMENT 5.39%

By signing this financial assistance agreement, the recipient is accepting the fair share objectives/goals stated above and attests to the fact that it is purchasing the same or similar construction, supplies, services and equipment, in the same or similar relevant geographic buying market as Texas Water Development Board.

All other MBE/WBE requirements are unchanged.

8. Civil Rights Obligations:

GENERAL

This term and condition incorporates by reference the signed assurance provided by the recipient's authorized representative on:

- 1) EPA Form 4700-4, "Preaward Compliance Review Report for All Applicants and Recipients Requesting EPA Financial Assistance"; and
- 2) Standard Form 424B or Standard Form 424D, as applicable. These assurances and this term and condition obligate the recipient to comply fully with applicable civil rights statutes and implementing EPA regulations.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

In carrying out this agreement, the recipient must comply with:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including limited English proficiency (LEP), by entities receiving Federal financial assistance.
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities by entities receiving Federal financial assistance; and
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, which prohibits age discrimination by entities receiving Federal financial assistance.

If the recipient is conducting an education program under this agreement, it must also comply with:

- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities operated by entities receiving Federal financial assistance.

If this agreement is funded with financial assistance under the Clean Water Act (CWA), the recipient must also comply with:

- Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in CWA-funded programs or activities.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The recipient agrees to comply with all applicable EPA civil rights regulations, including:

- For Title IX obligations, 40 C.F.R. Part 5; and
- For Title VI, Section 504, Age Discrimination Act, and Section 13 obligations, 40 C.F.R. Part 7.
- As noted on the EPA Form 4700-4 signed by the recipient's authorized representative, these regulations establish specific requirements including maintaining compliance information, establishing grievance procedures, designating a Civil Rights Coordinator and providing notices of non-discrimination.

TITLE VI – LEP, Public Participation and Affirmative Compliance Obligation

- As a recipient of EPA financial assistance, you are required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act to provide meaningful access to LEP individuals. In implementing that requirement, the recipient agrees to use as a guide the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) document entitled "*Guidance to Environmental Protection Agency Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons.*" The guidance can be found at: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2004_register&docid=fr25jn04-79.pdf
- If the recipient is administering permitting programs under this agreement, the recipient agrees to use as a guide OCR's Title VI Public Involvement Guidance for EPA Assistance Recipients Administering Environmental Permitting Programs. The Guidance can be found at: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/06-2691.pdf>.
- In accepting this assistance agreement, the recipient acknowledges it has an affirmative obligation to implement effective Title VI compliance programs and ensure that its actions do not involve discriminatory treatment and do not have discriminatory effects even when facially neutral. The recipient must be prepared to demonstrate to EPA that such compliance programs exist and are being implemented or to otherwise demonstrate how it is meeting its Title VI obligations.

Programmatic Conditions

EXCEPT AS PROVIDED HEREIN, ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE BASIC

ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT, INCLUDING PRIOR AMENDMENTS, REMAIN UNCHANGED AND IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE NEW OR CHANGED:

Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility: Recipients and subrecipients are subject to the program accessibility provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, codified in 40 CFR Part 7, which includes an obligation to provide individuals with disabilities reasonable accommodations and an equal and effective opportunity to benefit from or participate in a program, including those offered through electronic and information technology ("EIT"). In compliance with Section 504, EIT systems or products funded by this award must be designed to meet the diverse needs of users (e.g., U.S. public, recipient personnel) without barriers or diminished function or quality. Systems shall include usability features or functions that accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities, including those who use assistive technology. At this time, the EPA will consider a recipient's websites, interactive tools, and other EIT as being in compliance with Section 504 if such technologies meet standards established under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, codified at 36 CFR Part 1194. While Section 508 does not apply directly to grant recipients, we encourage recipients to follow either the 508 guidelines or other comparable guidelines that concern accessibility to EIT for individuals with disabilities. Recipients may wish to consult the latest Section 508 guidelines issued by the US Access Board or W3C's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0(see <http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/index.htm>).

