



SECTION 16945

VEGETATION CONTROL PROGRAM -- GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

PART 1. GENERAL

1.1 SUPERVISION OF WORK

CONTRACTOR shall provide and maintain continually on the Site of the Work during its progress and until its completion, adequate and competent supervision of all operations for and in connection with the Work being performed under this Agreement, either personally or by a duly authorized supervisor or other representative. The supervisor or other representative of CONTRACTOR on the Work, and who has charge thereof, shall be fully authorized to act for CONTRACTOR and to receive and communicate with OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative about whatever orders as may be given for the proper performance of the Work, or notice in correction therewith. Whenever CONTRACTOR is not present on any part of the Work where it may be desired to give directions, orders may be given by OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative to, and shall be received and obeyed by, the supervisor or foreman who may have charge of the particular part of the Work in reference to which such orders are given. **CONTRACTOR shall equip each supervisor with a cellular telephone. If CONTRACTOR's supervisor is managing more than one crew then the supervisor must be able to communicate with each crew by internal means of communication or be able to deliver messages to a crew within a reasonable amount of time but not more than thirty (30) minutes.**

CONTRACTOR's supervisor shall notify OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative of the Work location for each crew on a daily basis.

CONTRACTOR shall provide three (3) weeks notice prior to the initiation of tree pruning activities on each circuit so that OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative may notify its customers in advance of the start of the Work. If CONTRACTOR is awarded multiple circuits, OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative shall determine the order in which the circuits will be completed.

- 1.1a General foremen and supervisors are required to attend an orientation meeting with the OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative. When CONTRACTOR first begins work on the KUB system, all crew members must attend an orientation meeting with the OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative. When new crew members are added to the system throughout the year, it is the responsibility of the General foreman and/or supervisor to provide training to ensure work is completed in compliance with KUB contract specifications.



CONTRACTOR shall provide a minimum of three (3) weeks notice prior to a new foreman or supervisor beginning work on the system to allow time for an orientation meeting to be scheduled.

- 1.1b CONTRACTOR's supervisor or general foreman shall attend quarterly meetings with the OWNER to discuss progress and performance of the work.

1.2 CONTRACTOR HEADQUARTERS AND IDENTIFICATION

CONTRACTOR is not required to establish a local office/headquarters, however, OWNER requires CONTRACTOR have a manned telephone (answering service) (local or 1-800 number) during regular work hours and some type of answering device must be maintained for after hour calls. CONTRACTOR shall bear all expenses associated with said phones. This telephone number will be available to customers in the Circuit Area and CONTRACTOR shall return all phone calls to customers during working hours no later than the following day.

All trucks and other vehicles used by CONTRACTOR to perform the Work shall bear CONTRACTOR's company name and the telephone number for the manned telephone or answering service described above. All vehicles shall be clearly identified with company insignia and CONTRACTOR's name designating the vehicles as the property of CONTRACTOR.

If CONTRACTOR does not have a sticker with the said telephone number available for each vehicle, CONTRACTOR shall notify OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative a minimum of five (5) business days prior to the vehicle being used on the system. CONTRACTOR shall provide a valid telephone number and OWNER shall provide a "Utility Contractor" sticker bearing the said number. The "Utility Contractor" sticker shall be placed on the vehicle prior to the vehicle being used for work on the system and shall remain on the vehicle as long as the vehicle is performing work under this contract. The CONTRACTOR vehicle must also display CONTRACTOR's name and insignia as described above.

PART 2. MATERIALS

Not Used

PART 3. EXECUTION

3.1 WORKING HOURS

CONTRACTOR shall utilize reasonable working hours when working around residences, churches, places of business, etc. CONTRACTOR shall apply to OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative in writing for approval to work outside of normal KUB working times which are Monday-Friday 7:00AM-5:00PM or on OWNER designated holidays. Holidays observed by OWNER are: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and the following day, and Christmas Day.

CONTRACTOR shall abide by all local ordinances regarding restrictions on working hours. This should particularly include the City noise ordinance, which limits working hours to 7:00AM and 6:00PM Monday through Friday unless there is an emergency.

Prior to the start of each day, CONTRACTOR shall keep OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative informed and updated as to their work schedule and location of each crew.

3.2 SAFETY

CONTRACTOR shall adhere to all safety issues that were addressed in Section 00700 of Bid Package:

- Section 700, 6.13(A) – Safety and Protection
- Section 700, 6.13(B) – Safety and Protection
- Section 700, 6.14 – Safety Representative
- Section 700, 6.15 – Hazard Communication Programs
- Section 700, 6.16 – Emergencies.

3.3 CUSTOMER SERVICE/QUALITY CONTROL

At the OWNER'S sole discretion, a work manifest detailing work to be performed by property address or location will be provided to the CONTRACTOR and all work must be completed as described in the manifest. Manifest requirements will not exceed contract specifications, but may require scheduling work in cooperation with customers and/or the OWNER or RESIDENT PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE. The manifest will also identify sites where customer service specifications may include but not be limited to requiring advance customer notice, having a KUB representative present for completion of work, partial or no overhang removal for "Special Status Trees," leaving trees less than six (6) inches in diameter in the ROW, and/or pruning low-growing or slow-growing tree species for less than the standard minimum clearance distance.

Contractor shall place KUB "Tree Pruning Notice" door hangers at single-family residences along the Circuit one week in advance of trimming on those properties. CONTRACTOR must ensure one person on each crew is fluent in English and he or she must be available at all times and at all worksites to courteously and adequately address any inquiries from the customer regarding tree pruning activities. This designated person

shall wear a lime green safety vest with the words “Customer Contact” on the back. OWNER will provide the vest, and/or at OWNER or OWNER’s Resident Project Representative’s discretion, provide other item(s) to identify this individual. Crews observed to not have the required “Customer Contact” available may, at a minimum, be dismissed from work for the rest of the day.

When work needs to be performed in backlots, the crew’s “Customer Contact” is required to knock on the customer’s door and notify them. If the customer is not at home, the crew may proceed with the work, however, trucks and other heavy equipment shall not be taken onto customers’ properties without permission. CONTRACTOR shall utilize the ROW to gain access to all properties where practical. Any other access to the ROW shall be arranged between the contractor and the respective property owner, including railroad and TDOT access. All fences must be maintained during the course of work and all gates will be left as found (open/closed) while gaining access to the ROW.

Brush, wood, and debris shall be handled in such a manner as to avoid obstructing roads, paths, or waterways, except as may be required during emergencies, as defined by OWNER or OWNER’s Resident Project Representative. All worksites shall be cleared daily and left free of brush, wood, debris and litter. **It shall be the financial and physical responsibility of CONTRACTOR to daily dispose of all wood and wood products resulting from pruning and removal process.** If for reasons beyond the control of CONTRACTOR, they find they are unable to remove such brush, wood, debris, and litter from customer(s) premises that day, CONTRACTOR shall request approval from OWNER or OWNER’s Resident Project Representative to remove debris at a later date and notify customer(s), providing a date of when the worksite will be cleared. If customer(s) is unavailable for such notification, CONTRACTOR shall leave a KUB door hanger containing notification of when worksite will be cleared. Chips may be disposed of with the property owner in rural areas if CONTRACTOR obtains the written permission of the property owner. Brush is to be chipped unless CONTRACTOR obtains written permission of the property owner. All brush must be removed from all worksites within City of Knoxville. CONTRACTOR shall have written permission on file with OWNER to leave any wood within City of Knoxville.

CONTRACTOR shall use extreme care when cutting brush or trees that are close to or touching wires and shall prevent breaking the wire or slapping two wires together or in any other way disrupting service. If any damage to wires or interruption to service occurs, CONTRACTOR shall notify KUB’s System Operations Dispatcher (865-558-2600) or OWNER’s Resident Project Representative immediately. If OWNER determines that the damage is the result of CONTRACTOR negligence, CONTRACTOR shall pay to repair the damage and all other losses associated with CONTRACTOR’s actions including lost revenue if requested by OWNER.

CONTRACTOR shall prevent damages to customers’ properties by following proper procedures, including, but not limited to, the use of ropes when necessary to prevent limbs from falling and damaging service drops, landscaping, fences, outbuildings, and

other property and operating vehicles without damaging property, including lawns. If property damage occurs, CONTRACTOR shall notify OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative and customer(s), and provide a date for repairing the damage. If customer(s) is not available for notification, CONTRACTOR shall leave a KUB door hanger containing notification of the damage, CONTRACTOR's name and telephone number, and a date for repairs. CONTRACTOR shall adhere to requirements listed in Section 01560, WORK IN EASEMENTS AND RIGHT-OF-WAYS.

CONTRACTOR shall secure the maximum clearance with good economy, in compliance with Tree Line USA guidelines, and with due regard to the rights and interests of property owners and the public. **When adequate clearance cannot be obtained because of property owner objections, OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative shall be notified immediately**, and special effort shall be made to secure a minimal amount of temporary clearance. OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative will make every effort to resolve such refusals in a timely manner. If such refusals are not resolved while CONTRACTOR is still working on the specific circuit involved, then any return trip for additional trimming will be paid for by OWNER at the hourly rate in the Contract. Such additional payment is solely dependent on CONTRACTOR's supervisor making the required notification concerning the initial refusal.

OWNER will make an initial notification to all customers prior to CONTRACTOR beginning Work on a specific circuit. Any request for additional work outside the requirements of the Contract Documents will be coordinated by OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative. This shall include a customer's request for a replacement tree or the removal of trees outside the limits of the right-of-way.

CONTRACTOR or any CONTRACTOR employees shall not solicit additional tree pruning work during the course of performing such circuit work for OWNER. Any soliciting by CONTRACTOR shall be performed by employees who are not crew members or supervisory employees engaged in the pruning of said circuit and shall be conducted totally separate from the Work being performed for OWNER.

3.4 MAINTENANCE OF WORK SCHEDULE

CONTRACTOR shall submit to OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative a progress schedule as required by Section 2.05, paragraph C of the General Conditions (00700). This is further supported in SUPPLEMENTARY CONDITIONS (00800) Section H.2). OWNER may evaluate CONTRACTOR's progress at midpoint of the submitted schedule for the completion of the circuit and such evaluation will be based on the overall percentage of the Work that has been completed. If OWNER determines that CONTRACTOR is behind schedule and makes subsequent notification thereof, CONTRACTOR shall take whatever action necessary to meet the timelines identified on CONTRACTOR's initially submitted schedule.

3.5 EVALUATIONS AND COMPLETION

OWNER or OWNER's representative will evaluate CONTRACTOR performance for each Circuit based on summary of inspection reports, which include but is not limited to evaluation components such as pruning techniques, worksite clean-up, quantity of work, quality of work, customer communication, responsiveness to problems and their resolution, and effectiveness in completing work without rework. Crew evaluations shall be performed for work in progress and post audits will be performed for completed work. CONTRACTOR shall receive copies of rework manifests and inspection summaries.

CONTRACTOR shall submit a "Request for Post Audit" to OWNER as line sections or "Packs" are completed. Upon receiving a "Request for Post Audit," OWNER will complete a Post Audit (inspection) of CONTRACTOR's performance for the designated area. It is the sole responsibility of CONTRACTOR to ensure all work has been completed before it is submitted as complete. It is the intent of OWNER that CONTRACTOR does not utilize the inspection/audit to assist him in determining what he lacks to trim. If the inspection/audit reveals significant noncompliance, the Post Audit will be stopped and the CONTRACTOR will be required to review the circuit area and correct deficiencies before a formal Post Audit will be completed.

CONTRACTOR shall complete rework within thirty (30) business days upon notification from OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative. CONTRACTOR shall notify OWNER when rework is complete and OWNER will audit rework. If upon notification from CONTRACTOR, OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative determines that areas have still not been completed satisfactorily, CONTRACTOR the actual cost of labor, transportation, and overhead shall be deducted from payment to the CONTRACTOR. OWNER may elect to use other resources to correct deficiencies and bill CONTRACTOR. OWNER may use past CONTRACTOR performance in evaluating future CONTRACTOR bids.

Failure to comply with contract requirements will include, but not be limited to negative inspection reports, required rework by CONTRACTOR, utilizing another CONTRACTOR to satisfactorily complete rework with original CONTRACTOR being billed for the cost, and/or if multiple instances occur, crews being removed from OWNER's system or cancellation of contract. For work not done in accordance with contract specifications, an equitable deduction from the contract price may be made by agreement between CONTRACTOR and OWNER. OWNER reserves the right to deduct the unit cost for tree trimming for trees pruned improperly. CONTRACTOR shall have thirty business days upon notification of OWNER to satisfactorily complete rework.

3.6 PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS

OWNER expects CONTRACTOR's work force to be fully trained and thoroughly familiar with all aspects of electrical utility tree trimming and lateral pruning. Before CONTRACTOR crew begins work on the OWNER's system, CONTRACTOR must present OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative with a detailed list of personnel by crew, by name and experience, and identify specific training they have received on electrical safety and lateral pruning. Training documentation shall include the title of the training, the instructor's name, and the printed names and signatures of employees who completed the training. CONTRACTOR shall also provide OWNER with a list of herbicide certifications and/or licenses for all employees who will be applying herbicide. As new personnel or crews are added, CONTRACTOR must continue to follow these procedures.

At OWNER or OWNER's Resident Project Representative's request, CONTRACTOR must immediately bring in an experienced trainer to eliminate any deficiencies that are noted in his crew operations. This could include but is not limited to training in lateral pruning and all aspects of utility tree trimming.

A. Line Clearance Personnel

CONTRACTOR shall only assign qualified line clearance arborist or line clearance arborist trainee to perform line clearance work in accordance with ANSI Z133.1, 29CFR 1910.331 – 335, 29 CFR 1910.268 or CFR 1910.269.

B. Qualified Line-Clearance Arborist

An individual who, through related training and on-the-job experience, is familiar with the equipment and hazards in line clearance and has demonstrated the ability to perform the special techniques involved.

C. Qualified Line-Clearance Arborist Trainee

An individual undergoing line-clearance training and who, in the course of such training, is familiar with the hazards and equipment involved in line clearance and has demonstrated ability in the performance of the special techniques involved. This individual shall be under the direct supervision of a qualified line-clearance arborist.

3.7 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

All work along streams, creeks, rivers (i.e., riparian zones), or in wetlands shall be performed in accordance with local, state, or federal regulations and in compliance with Best Management Practices. Crossing of streams or wetlands with vehicles or equipment must be avoided if there is a practical alternative that can be used. The crossing of streams or wetlands is allowable provided all federal, state and local regulatory



requirements are met, all appropriate permits are obtained, and the OWNER is notified prior to the crossing. CONTRACTOR is required to repair all disturbance or damages to riparian areas or wetlands, using Best Management Practices approved by the OWNER.

END OF SECTION

[HOME](#)