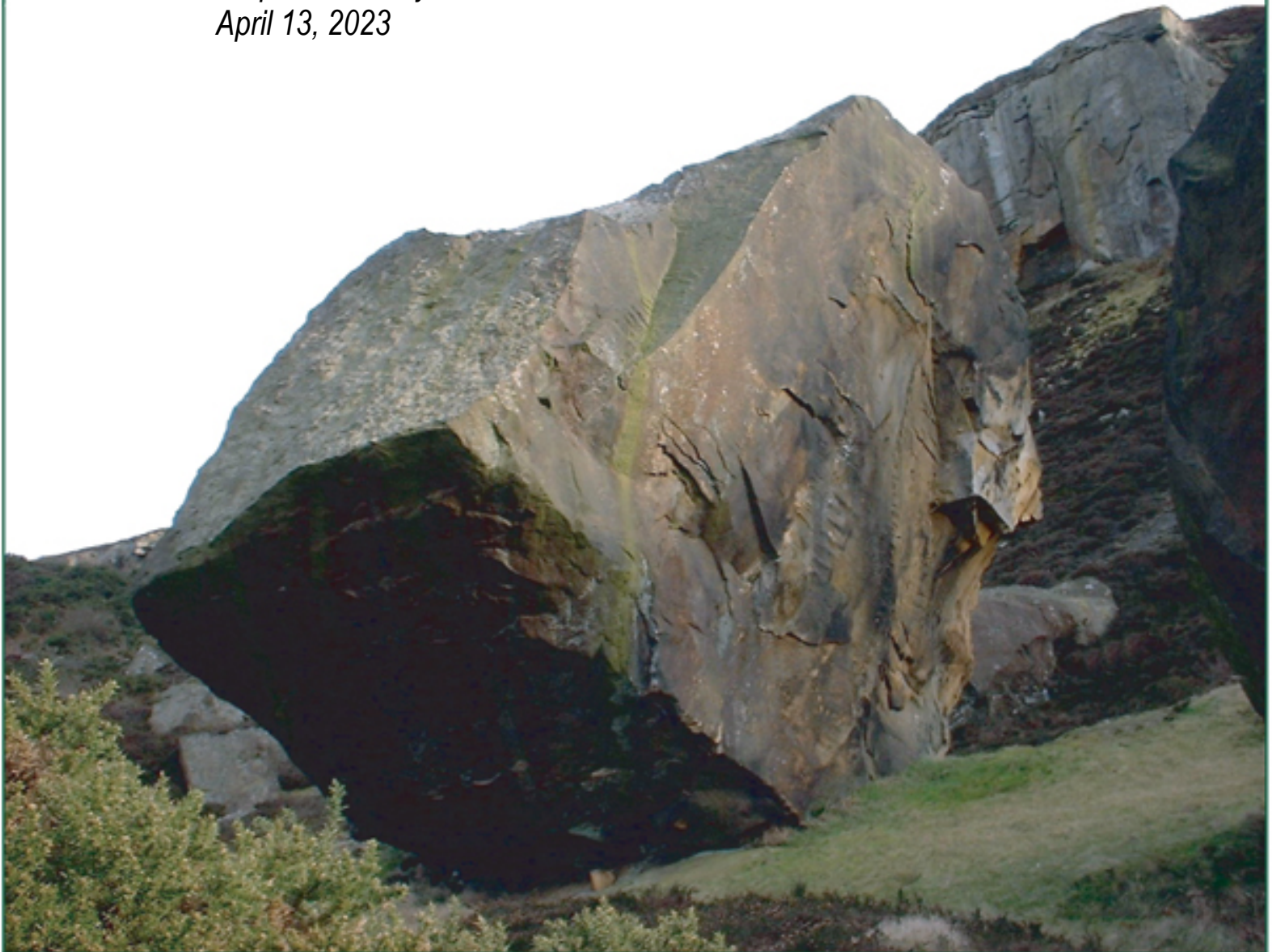




Proposal to Perform Subsurface Exploration  
and Geotechnical Engineering Evaluation

**New Firing Range Building  
Cartersville, Georgia  
Geo-Hydro Proposal Number 231571.P0**

*Prepared for City of Cartersville  
April 13, 2023*



Mr. Freddy Morgan  
City of Cartersville  
P.O. Box 1390  
1 North Erwin Street  
Cartersville, Georgia 30120

April 13, 2023

**Proposal to Perform Subsurface Exploration  
and Geotechnical Engineering Evaluation  
New Firing Range Building  
Cartersville, Georgia  
Geo-Hydro Proposal Number 231571.P0**

Dear Mr. Morgan:

Geo-Hydro Engineers, Inc. appreciates the opportunity to present this proposal to provide geotechnical engineering services for the above referenced project. Our understanding of the project is based on our email correspondence with you.

We understand that a new pre-engineered metal building and garage are in the planning stage for the City of Cartersville Firing Range in Bartow County, Georgia. The site plan excerpt below illustrates the general building and garage footprint in yellow. You have indicated that the building will serve as meeting/training space and will house the firing range controls, and the garage will house a SWAT Bearcat and other vehicles/equipment.

The area of the planned construction is currently open and grassed/paved. We have assumed that site grading will involve only the excavation necessary to construct shallow foundations, and up to 5 feet of mass excavation or structural fill to shape the site and achieve proper drainage.

An outline of the exploration is provided in the following section.





## SCOPE OF SERVICES

- 1) We will contact Georgia 811 for location of underground utilities. Also, we ask that you provide any available information regarding the location of underground utilities in the project area. Geo-Hydro will not be responsible for damage to unmarked underground utilities. Please see the attached *Underground Utilities Fact Sheet* for more information. If requested, we can engage a private utility locator to sweep the boring locations. The cost of a private utility locator is provided separately in the *Cost Information* section.
- 2) We will perform five machine-drilled test borings within the pre-engineered metal building/garage footprint. The final boring locations will be adjusted based on potential utility conflicts, overhead obstructions, and other access considerations. Standard penetration testing will be performed in accordance with ASTM D1586 in each boring extending to a planned depth of 20 feet or the depth of auger refusal, whichever occurs first. Our lump sum fee allows for a total of **100** feet of soil test boring only.
- 3) We will obtain groundwater readings at the time of the drilling operation. The borings will be backfilled with soil cuttings after the final groundwater check and patched with asphalt where appropriate.
- 4) Samples from the field operation will be physically examined, and a visual classification will be assigned in accordance with the Unified Soil Classification System.
- 5) Test boring records will be prepared which provide standard penetration resistances, soil descriptions, and groundwater conditions. Significant soil strata will be delineated, and partially weathered rock or auger refusal will be identified where encountered.

## Engineering Report

We will prepare an engineering report outlining the results of the exploration. We will present evaluations and recommendations concerning the following: site preparation, general foundation recommendations, groundwater elevations and their effect on the proposed construction, and remedial measures necessary to deal with soft or loose soils if they are encountered. More specifically, the report will present the following major sections:

- 1) Project Information: Our understanding of the proposed construction will be presented.
- 2) Exploratory Procedures: The report will describe the methods of subsurface exploration and laboratory testing.
- 3) Site and Subsurface Description: An overview of site conditions will be presented, general geologic conditions for the site will be discussed, and a detailed discussion of the subsurface soil and groundwater conditions will be presented.

- 4) Evaluations and Recommendations: Based upon the field exploration, laboratory testing, and our experience with similar site and subsoil conditions, we will present recommendations for several geotechnical aspects of the project as follows:
- Site Preparation: We will present recommendations for methods of site preparation and any remedial measures that may be necessary. These remedial measures may include methods of dewatering the site, densification of soft and loose surficial soils, etc.
  - Groundwater: We will provide recommendations for control of groundwater during construction and on a permanent basis, if necessary.
  - Excavation Characteristics: We will discuss the anticipated methods necessary to achieve excavation of subsurface materials based on the results of the borings.
  - Reuse of Excavated Materials as Structural Fill: We will discuss the suitability of excavated materials for reuse as structural fill based on visual soil classifications.
  - Structural Fill: We will provide recommendations for achieving high density structural fill.
  - Earth Slopes: We will present general recommendations for temporary construction slopes and permanent earth slopes.
  - Earth Pressure: We will provide recommendations for the calculation of design earth pressure on foundation/retaining walls. Recommendations will include equivalent fluid pressures for design purposes.
  - Foundation Design: We will provide recommendations for foundation design. We will evaluate whether a shallow foundation system is feasible. If intermediate foundations (aggregate piers) are required, we will provide preliminary design recommendations. Additional exploration may be required to develop design recommendations for aggregate piers, piles, or drilled shafts.
  - Seismic Design: We will provide a *Site Class* (International Building Code), mapped spectral response accelerations ( $S_s$ ,  $S_1$ ), and design spectral response accelerations ( $S_{DS}$ ,  $S_{D1}$ ).
  - Slab-on-Grade Design: We will provide design recommendations for slab-on-grade construction, including a suggested modulus of subgrade reaction.
  - Construction Materials Testing: We will recommend construction materials testing methods for site preparation, foundation excavations, structural fill, etc.
- 5) Appendix: The Appendix will contain test boring records, a test boring plan, laboratory test results, etc.

**COST INFORMATION**

Based on the Scope of Services outlined above, we will charge the following fees:

Task	Lump Sum Fee
Geotechnical Exploration and Report	\$5,400
Optional Services	Lump Sum Fee
Private Utility Locator Service	\$600

In the event that additional work is required, we will notify you prior to commencing any additional work. The fee for additional work will be negotiated.

We will backfill the borings with soil cuttings after completion and clean up the work areas. Our work may result in some rutting of the ground surface or damage to vegetation. If landscape or cosmetic repairs are necessary, we will hire a landscaping subcontractor. Landscape repair work will be charged at our cost plus 15 percent.

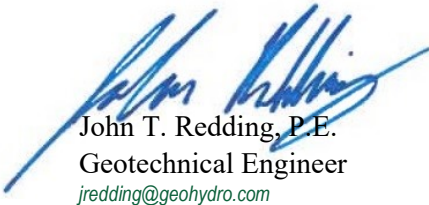
Our backfilled boreholes may present a tripping hazard after completion. We will make reasonable efforts to reduce the ground disturbance caused by the subsurface exploration, but periodic maintenance by the owner to relevel the ground may be necessary after completion of our work. Geo-Hydro will not be responsible for damage to persons or property related to ongoing settlement of the boreholes after completion of our work.

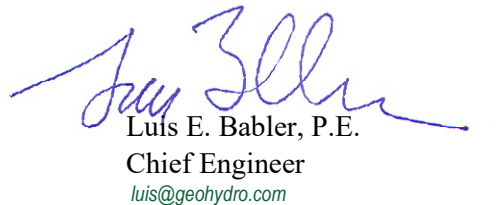
\* \* \* \* \*

We are pleased to submit this proposal and look forward to the opportunity of working on this project. If this proposal is acceptable, we ask that you execute the attached agreement and return the original to us. If you have any questions concerning this proposal or any of our services, please contact us.

Sincerely,

GEO-HYDRO ENGINEERS, INC.

  
John T. Redding, P.E.  
Geotechnical Engineer  
jredding@geohydro.com

  
Luis E. Babler, P.E.  
Chief Engineer  
luis@geohydro.com

JTR/LEB/231571.P0 - New Firing Range Building - Bartow County leb

**AGREEMENT**

Project Name:   New Firing Range Building  

Project Location:   Cartersville, Georgia  

Proposal Number:   231571.P0   Date:   April 13, 2023  

The Client, as identified and defined below, engages Geo-Hydro Engineers, Inc. to provide the services on the Project as detailed in the proposal previously provided to the Client, the terms of which are incorporated herein and made a part of this Agreement. The general terms and conditions on the following pages are likewise incorporated herein and are explicitly made part of this Agreement.

This Agreement is entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ between

Geo-Hydro Engineers, Inc. (“Consultant”) and \_\_\_\_\_ (“Client”).

**GEO-HYDRO ENGINEERS, INC.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Firm Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name and title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of City Clerk (attesting to Mayor’s Signature)

Please complete information in box

Billing Entity Name _____	
Individual to Receive Invoices _____	
Email address _____	Phone No. _____
Street Address _____	
City and State: _____	



# TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

## A. STANDARD OF CARE.

Services under this contract will be performed by Consultant in accordance with that degree of care and skill ordinarily exercised under similar conditions by members of Consultant's profession practicing in the same locality.

## B. CERTIFICATION.

Consultant may employ sampling procedures during the course of the work. Client acknowledges that such procedures indicate actual conditions only at the precise locations and elevations from which samples were taken. Client further acknowledges that, in accordance with the generally accepted construction practice, Consultant shall make certain inferences based on the results of sampling and any related testing to form a professional opinion of conditions in areas beyond those from which samples were taken. Client acknowledges that despite proper implementation of sampling and testing procedures, and despite proper interpretation of their results, Consultant cannot guarantee the existence or absence of conditions which it may infer to exist. Client further acknowledges and agrees that Client shall not cause any resolution of a dispute, including, but not limited to, payment or settlement, contingent upon Consultant's certification of certain conditions, without first receiving Consultant's written certification regarding those conditions.

## C. WARRANTIES.

EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY SET FORTH HEREIN, CONSULTANT MAKES NO WARRANTIES, GUARANTEES, OR REPRESENTATIONS OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WITH RESPECT TO CONSULTANT'S WRITTEN REPORTS, FINDINGS, OPINIONS, OR SERVICES PROVIDED HEREUNDER, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

## D. EXISTING CONDITIONS.

Client agrees that subsurface explorations and geotechnical or environmental engineering evaluations are subject to naturally occurring and/or man-made soil and other conditions which cannot always be discovered or anticipated and that a potential exists for such phenomena to impact the Project in ways for which Consultant cannot be responsible. Client shall disclose, at least 7 days before any scheduled inspections by Consultant, the presence and location of all known man-made or naturally occurring objects which could be affected by or affect field tests or borings to be performed by Consultant.

Client acknowledges and agrees that Consultant has neither created nor contributed to the creation or existence of any irritant, pollutant, or hazardous, radioactive, toxic, otherwise dangerous or harmful substance that may exist at the site, or dangerous conditions resulting therefrom. Client further acknowledges that Consultant's sole role is to provide a service intended to benefit Client and that Consultant is performing no function at or association with the site that would classify Consultant as a generator, disposer, treater, storer, coordinator, handler, or transporter of hazardous materials.

### (i) SAMPLING OR TEST LOCATION.

Unless otherwise stated, the fees in this proposal do not include costs associated with surveying of the site for the accurate horizontal and vertical locations of tests. Field tests described in a report or shown on sketches are based upon information furnished by others or estimates made in the field by Consultant's representatives. Such dimensions, depths or elevations should be considered as approximations unless otherwise stated.

### (ii) HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES.

Client agrees to advise Consultant, in writing, of any hazardous substances on or near the site within 24 hours after Client learns about the presence of such hazardous substances. In the event that test samples obtained contain substances hazardous to health, safety, or the environment, these samples shall remain the property of the Client. Likewise, any equipment which becomes contaminated and cannot be reasonably decontaminated shall become the property and responsibility of Client. Such samples or equipment will be delivered to Client. Client agrees to pay transportation costs for samples and equipment and the fair market value of such contaminated equipment upon request. Exploratory activities may expose soil and/or ground water considered to be hazardous by local and/or state and/or federal agencies. Consultant agrees to contain such materials in a manner approved by Consultant both during and at the completion of Consultant's field activities. Client understands and agrees that Client, and not Consultant, is responsible for the storage or disposal of hazardous materials or suspected hazardous materials brought to the surface during Consultant's exploratory activities.

### (iii) DISCOVERY OF UNANTICIPATED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

Hazardous materials may exist at a site where there is no reason to believe they could or should be present. Client agrees that the discovery of unanticipated hazardous materials constitutes a changed condition mandating a renegotiation of the scope of work or termination of services. Client also agrees that the discovery of unanticipated hazardous materials could make it necessary for Consultant to take immediate measures to protect human health, safety, or the environment. Consultant agrees to notify Client as soon as practically possible should unanticipated hazardous materials or suspected hazardous materials be encountered. Client encourages Consultant to take any and all measures that in Consultant's professional opinion are justified to preserve and protect the health and safety of Consultant's personnel, and Client agrees to compensate Consultant for the additional cost of such work. In addition, Client waives any claim against Consultant, and agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold Consultant harmless from any claim or liability for injury, loss or perceived loss arising from Consultant's encountering of unanticipated hazardous materials or suspected hazardous materials. Client acknowledges that discovery of hazardous materials or suspected hazardous materials may lead to a temporary or permanent diminution of property value, and/or may cause delays in or otherwise affect completion of the real estate transaction Client now contemplates.

## E. AQUIFER CONTAMINATION.

Subsurface sampling may result in unavoidable contamination of certain subsurface areas, as when a probe or boring device moves through a contaminated area, linking it to an aquifer, underground stream, or other hydrous body not previously contaminated and capable of spreading hazardous materials off-site. Because nothing can be done to eliminate the risk of such an occurrence, and when subsurface sampling is a part of the work which Consultant will perform on Client's behalf, Client hereby waives any claim against Company, and agrees to defend, indemnify and hold Consultant harmless from any claim or liability for injury or loss which may arise as a result of alleged cross-contamination caused by sampling. Client further agrees to compensate Consultant for any time spent or expenses incurred by Consultant in defense of such claim, including, but not limited to, any attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by Consultant, in accordance with Consultant's prevailing fee schedule and expense reimbursement policy.

## F. SAMPLES, DATA AND RECORDS.

Consultant shall be the sole owner of any and all data gathered by Consultants or reports prepared by Consultant. No entity or individual, other than Consultant, its representatives, or Client, may use or rely upon any data collected by Consultant or reports prepared by Consultant. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, Consultant and Client do not intend the benefits of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, the samples, data, and records created by Consultant, to inure to any third party, and nothing contained herein shall be construed as creating any right, claim or

cause of action in favor of any such third party, against either Consultant or Client. Samples, data and records are subject to Georgia Open Records Law.

Routine test specimens will be discarded immediately upon completion of tests. Consultant shall retain drilling samples of soil or rock for a period of ninety (90) days following submission of Consultant's report to Client. If Client requests a longer period of storage, Consultant will retain test specimens or drilling samples for an agreed upon time period and fee. Records relating to services hereunder shall be maintained by Consultant for at least three (3) years following completion of Consultant's services.

**G. ENTRY.**

Client shall provide Consultant, its representatives, and equipment with right of entry on to the Project site. Consultant will endeavor to minimize damage to the land upon which the project is located, however Consultant shall not be under any duty or responsibility whatsoever to restore the Project site to its condition prior to performance of any tests or borings unless a separate agreement to do so is acknowledged in writing with Client. Unless otherwise indicated, Consultant's scope of service contains no provision for backfilling boreholes, test pits, or other exploration holes created to facilitate testing. Client hereby acknowledges that, unless some other arrangement is made in writing between Client and Consultant, Consultant cannot be held liable for any injuries or damages that may occur for Consultant's failure to perform services not included in the Proposal or this Agreement. Client further acknowledges that testing operations may result in damage to certain landscaping or improvements, due to the tests themselves, disposal of cuttings or ground water, movement of equipment, or due to other cause(s) that can commonly occur and are outside Consultant's control. Consultant will attempt to avoid causing damage, but Client understands and acknowledges that Consultant cannot guarantee damage will not occur and, accordingly, Client agrees to waive any claim against Consultant and to hold harmless, indemnify, and defend Consultant for any claim alleging injury or damage as a consequence of unfilled exploration holes on the site or any other disturbance to natural conditions of or any improvements on the site. Any costs of such restoration shall be added to our compensation pursuant to an agreed-upon price and terms set forth in a separate written agreement entered into between Consultant and Client.

**H. FIELD MONITORING AND TESTING.**

Whenever Consultant's personnel make on-site observations of materials and/or services provided by a contractor engaged by Client (the "Contractor"), Client agrees that Consultant is not responsible for the Contractor's means, methods, techniques, sequences or procedures of construction. Client acknowledges and agrees that the field services provided by Consultant shall not relieve the Contractor of his responsibilities for performing the work in accordance with the plans and specifications. The words "monitoring," "supervision," "inspection," or "control" mean the periodic observation of the work and the conducting of tests by Consultant to verify substantial compliance with the plans, specifications, and design concepts for the Project. Continuous or full-time monitoring does not mean that our personnel are observing placement of all materials or that we assume any responsibility or liability for placing or directing placement of materials.

**I. SAFETY.**

During the provision of observations or monitoring services at the job site during construction, Client agrees that in accordance with the generally accepted construction practice, the contractor will be solely and completely responsible for working conditions on the job site, including safety of all persons and property during the performance of the work and compliance with OSHA regulations. These requirements will apply continuously and are not limited to normal working hours. Any monitoring of the contractor's procedures conducted by

Consultant does not include review of the adequacy of the contractor's safety measures in, on, adjacent to, or near the construction site.

**J. FREEDOM TO REPORT.**

It is contemplated that, during the course of this engagement, Consultant may be required to report on the past or current performance of others engaged or being considered for engagement directly or indirectly by Client and to render opinions and advice in that regard. Those about whom reports and opinions are rendered may, as a consequence, initiate claims of libel or slander against Consultant and its present or former principals, officers, shareholders, directors, agents, representatives, consultants, successors, insurers, and attorneys (the "Consultant Representatives"). To help create an atmosphere in which Consultant's personnel feel free to express themselves candidly, Client agrees (1) to waive any claim against the Consultant Representatives and (2) to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Consultant Representatives from any claim or liability for injury or loss allegedly arising from professional opinions rendered by Consultant to Client or Client's agents, including, but not limited to, claims for slander or libel. Client further agrees to compensate the Consultant Representatives for any time spent or expenses incurred by the Consultant Representatives in defense of any such claim, in accordance with Consultant prevailing fee schedule and expense reimbursement policy. Client acknowledges that Client and/or Consultant may be required by local, state, and/or federal statute and/or regulations to report the discovery of hazardous materials to a government agency, and that Consultant, when practical, will do so only after notifying Client. Client waives any cause of action, claim, suit, or demand associated with Consultant's compliance with its duties to report as required by local, state, and/or federal laws and regulations.

**K. PAYMENT.**

Client agrees to pay Consultant in full for all services provided by Consultant to Client. Time is of the essence regarding payment of Consultant's invoices. Client's obligation to pay Consultant is not dependent upon Client's ability to obtain financing, approval of any governmental or regulatory agency, or upon Client's successful completion of the Project. Consultant reserves the right to submit progress invoices to Client on a monthly basis and a final invoice upon completion of Consultant's work. Each invoice is due and payable to Consultant, by Client, immediately upon presentation. All amounts due to Consultant and not paid within thirty (30) days of the presentation of the invoice shall bear interest at the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum (or the maximum permissible rate allowed by law) until paid in full.

If any obligation of Client hereunder is collected by legal proceeding, including, but not limited to, a demand letter, lawsuit, arbitration, and/or mediation, Client shall pay to Consultant, in addition to the amount due, all Costs of Collection (as defined below), including, but not limited to, fifteen percent (15%) of the total amount due by Client to Consultant as reasonable attorney's fees as well as all costs incurred by Consultant if the legal proceeding does not result in a lawsuit or arbitration proceeding, and thirty percent (30%) of the total amount due by Client to Consultant as reasonable attorneys' fees as well as all court costs incurred by Consultant if the legal proceeding results in a lawsuit or arbitration proceeding. "Costs of collection" shall include, but are not limited to, the hourly cost to Consultant for employee's time expended in collection efforts.

**L. TERMINATION.**

In the event that Client requests termination of the work prior to completion, Consultant reserves the right to complete such analysis and records as are necessary to place Consultant's files in order and to complete a report on the work performed to date. Client acknowledges and agrees that the amount of damages that Consultant will sustain in the event Client terminates this Agreement prior to Consultant's completion of its work required by the proposal and this Agreement will be uncertain or difficult to ascertain. As such, Client agrees that in the event Client terminates this Agreement prior to Consultant's completion of the work required by the proposal and this Agreement, Client shall be liable to Consultant for liquidated damages in the amount equal to thirty percent (30%) of all charges incurred as of the date of Client's termination of the Agreement (the "Liquidated Damages"). Client



acknowledges and agrees that the foregoing Liquidated Damages do not represent a penalty, but rather, represent a good faith pre-estimation by the parties of the damages that would be incurred by Consultant.

**M. PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY.**

Client agrees that the liability of Consultant and its principals, officers, shareholders, directors, agents, representatives, consultants, successors, insurers, and attorneys, to Client due to any negligent professional acts, errors or omissions, or breach of contract will be limited to an aggregate of \$500,000.00.

Consultant does not assume any responsibilities, duties, or obligations of Client or any other entity or individual. Consultant's performance shall not be considered to reduce, eliminate, abridge, or abrogate, any responsibilities, duties, or obligations of any other party. Consultant is not responsible for the design or construction of the project or the failure of any party to perform in accordance with the plans and specifications for the Projects or any of Consultant's recommendations or instructions.

**N. INDEMNIFICATION.**

The Consultant agrees, to the fullest extent permitted by law, to indemnify and hold harmless the Client, its officers, directors and employees (collectively, Client) against all damages, liabilities, or costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees and defense costs, to the extent caused by the Consultant's negligent performance of professional services under this Agreement and that of its subconsultants or anyone for whom the Consultant is legally liable.

**O. CONFIDENTIALITY.**

Consultant agrees to keep confidential and not to disclose to any person or entity, other than Consultant's principals and employees, any data or information not previously known to and generated by Consultant or furnished to Consultant and marked CONFIDENTIAL by Client ("Confidential Information"). These provisions shall not apply to information in whatever form that is in the public domain, nor shall it restrict Consultant from giving notices required by law or complying with an order to provide information or data when such order is issued by a court, administrative agency, arbitrator, or other legitimate authority, or if disclosure is reasonably necessary for Consultant to defend itself from any legal action or claim. City of Cartersville agreements are subject to Georgia Open Records Law.

**P. NON-CIRCUMVENTION. (DELETED)**

**Q. GOVERNING LAW; VENUE.**

The validity of this Agreement and any of its terms or provisions, as well as the rights and duties of the parties to this Agreement, shall be governed and construed by the laws of the State of Georgia, and Venue shall lie in the State of Georgia, Bartow County, for all causes of action under this Agreement.

**R. SEVERANCE; SURVIVAL.**

If any provision of this Agreement is held to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable under any present or future law, and if the rights or obligations of any party hereto under this Agreement will not be materially and adversely affected thereby, (a) such provision will be fully severable, (b) this Agreement will be construed and enforced as if such illegal, invalid, or unenforceable provision had never comprised a part hereof, (c) the remaining provisions of this Agreement will remain in full force and effect and will not be affected by the illegal, invalid, or unenforceable provision or by its severance here from and (d) in lieu of such illegal, invalid or unenforceable provision, there will be added automatically as a part of this Agreement a legal, valid, and enforceable provision as similar in terms to such illegal, invalid, or unenforceable provision as may be possible.

**S. EXECUTION.**

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be an original, but all of which shall together constitute one document. In the event one or more of the parties intends to sign and deliver this Agreement by facsimile transmission, ".pdf", or "jpeg," each party agrees that the delivery of the Agreement by facsimile, ".pdf", or "jpeg" shall have the same force and effect as delivery of original signatures, and each party may use such facsimile, ".pdf", or "jpeg" signatures as evidence of the execution and delivery of the Agreement by all parties to the same extent that an original signature could be used.

**T. REPRESENTATIONS.**

Client represents and warrants that it has full authority to enter into this Agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated herein, and that this Agreement is not in conflict with any other Agreement to which Client is a party or by which it may be bound.

**U. MISCELLANEOUS.**

This instrument constitutes the entire agreement of the parties. There are no terms or conditions except those set forth herein. This Agreement may not be modified, altered, or amended except in a subsequent written instrument executed by each of the parties which refers to this Agreement and specifies the amendment made. No waiver of any breach of this Agreement shall be deemed or considered a waiver of any other or subsequent breach. Paragraph headings are used to facilitate reference to the various provisions and do not affect the meaning or construction of any provision. This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Georgia.

## Underground Utilities Fact Sheet

Geo-Hydro's work often includes drilling below the ground surface to evaluate subsurface materials. One of our biggest concerns is that we may accidentally encounter underground utilities which may create a safety hazard for our personnel and others or result in a loss of service. Location of underground utilities prior to our work is important to all parties. Unfortunately, location of underground utilities is a difficult task, and accurate location of underground utilities is often not possible.

Geo-Hydro is required by Georgia law to contact the Utilities Protection Center (UPC) prior to drilling. The UPC requires at least 72 hours prior notification. The UPC contacts member utilities, and the member utilities dispatch utility locators. Normally the utility locators will not locate underground utilities on private property, and will only locate utilities from the main service line to the property owner's meter. It is not uncommon for utility locators to improperly locate underground utilities for a variety of reasons.

Geo-Hydro requires that the property owner provide clearly marked locations on the ground of any underground utilities in the work area. If necessary, Geo-Hydro can refer the owner to companies that provide underground utility location services. Alternatively, Geo-Hydro can hire the utility location company and pass this cost through to our client.

Private underground utility location companies do not guarantee that they have located all underground utilities or that underground utilities have been accurately located. In fact, some underground utilities (e.g., irrigation lines, non-metallic lines, etc.) simply cannot be located using non-destructive techniques.

Geo-Hydro will make reasonable efforts to avoid damaging underground utilities that are clearly marked in the field. Due to the uncertainties of locating underground utilities, Geo-Hydro cannot be responsible for damage to unmarked underground utilities. Since Geo-Hydro's work is being performed for the benefit of its client, the client must accept the risk that Geo-Hydro's work could result in damage to underground utilities. As such, it is ordinarily the responsibility of Geo-Hydro's client to accept the responsibility for repairing damage to unmarked underground utilities unless that responsibility has clearly been transferred to another party.