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October 31, 2022  
File No. 18.P000071.23

Mr. Ross Provenmire  
Town of Boxford  
7A Spofford Road  
Boxford, Massachusetts 01921

Re: Proposal for Environmental Consulting Services  
The Willows at Boxford  
Willow Road  
Boxford, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Provenmire:

In accordance with our recent email correspondence, GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (GZA) is pleased to submit this proposal for environmental consulting services to the Town of Boxford Planning Board (Client) for the Willows at Boxford facility located off Willow Road in Boxford, Massachusetts (Site).

## **BACKGROUND**

The Site is currently in development as a new home “55+” community by Toll Brothers, Inc. GZA understands that as part of project development, horizontal drilling activities were conducted under two existing “farm ponds” for the installation of a water main. During drilling on September 28, 2022, BORE-GEL® drilling fluid was released to the ground surface during a “frac-out” event. According to a *Frac Out Report* prepared by LEC Environmental Consultants, Inc. (LEC) dated October 5, 2022, approximately 1,350 square feet of wetland area and the adjacent pond were impacted by the release of drilling fluid. The Town of Boxford has requested a proposal to assess potential impacts related to the frac-out event.

## **SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Based on our conversations with you and the *Frac Out Report*, we have developed the following scope of services.

### TASK 1 – SAMPLE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

GZA will obtain a sample of virgin BORE-GEL® provided by the horizontal drilling contractor. GZA assumes that the sample can be obtained either at the Site or at the horizontal drilling contractor’s primary location in Andover, Massachusetts. GZA assumes that the Town will facilitate coordination with the contractor to obtain the sample. The sample will be analyzed for MCP 14 metals and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

### TASK 2 – SUMMARY LETTER

GZA will prepare a brief summary letter with a narrative of the sampling/analysis completed, a data summary, and recommendations for additional activities (if any) related to soil or groundwater contamination issues.



**BASIS OF BILLINGS**

Billings for GZA’s professional services will be on a Lump Sum basis as summarized in the following table.

TASK DESCRIPTION	COST
TASK 1 – SAMPLE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS	\$750
TASK 2 – DATA SUMMARY LETTER	\$1,200
<b>ESTIMATED TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,950</b>

This estimate is based on our present judgment as to the level of effort required to provide the services described in the Scope of Work. You will be notified of any condition requiring a change in the budget estimate as soon as the condition becomes evident.

**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

GZA will initiate the project immediately upon receipt of your authorization and we anticipate collecting the sample within one to two weeks of authorization to proceed. The Summary Letter will be submitted to the Client within about two weeks of receipt of laboratory analytical results.

**CONDITIONS OF ENGAGEMENT**

Conditions of engagement are described in the attached Standard Terms and Conditions for Professional Services (08/08 Edition/05-9010)). The Client acknowledges and agrees that the report and the findings in the report shall not, in whole or in part, be disseminated or conveyed to any other party, or used or relied upon by any other party, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of GZA. Reliance upon the report and the findings in the report by any other party, or for any other purpose, shall be at that party’s sole risk and without any liability to GZA.


**ACCEPTANCE**


**This Proposal for Services may be accepted by signing in the appropriate space below and returning one copy to us.** An executed agreement must be received prior to the commencement of work. GZA has presented this Proposal for Services along with the Terms and Conditions (08/08-Edition/05-9010) to constitute the entire agreement between the parties.

This Proposal for Services is valid for a period of thirty days from the date of issue.

Sincerely,

GZA GEOENVIRONMENTAL INC.

  
 Matthew L. Steele  
 Senior Project Manager

  
 Lawrence Feldman  
 Consultant Reviewer

  
 David E. Leone  
 Principal

Attachments: Terms and Conditions (08/08-Edition/05-9010)



This Proposal for Services and Terms and Conditions (08/08-Edition/05-9010) are hereby accepted and executed by a duly authorized signatory, who by execution hereof warrants that he/she has full authority to act for, in the name, and on behalf of the Town of Boxford.

**TOWN OF BOXFORD**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Typed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Process (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### Including Site Investigation, Remediation, Geotechnical, Construction, And Testing

© 2016 by GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.

Client ("You"): Town of Boxford

File No. 18.P000 71.23

Site: The Willows at Boxford, Willow Road, Boxford, MA

**THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS, TOGETHER WITH GZA'S PROPOSAL, MAKE UP THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN GZA AND YOU, CLIENT, NAMED ABOVE. BEFORE SIGNING THE PROPOSAL, BE SURE YOU READ AND UNDERSTAND THE PARAGRAPHS ENTITLED "INDEMNIFICATION" AND "LIMITATION OF REMEDIES" WHICH DEAL WITH THE ALLOCATION OF RISK BETWEEN YOU AND GZA.**

- 1. Services.** GZA will perform the services set forth in its Proposal and any amendments or change orders authorized by you. Any request or direction from you that would require extra work or additional time for performance or would result in an increase in GZA's costs will be the subject of a negotiated amendment or change order.
- 2. Standard of Care; Warranties.**
  - a. GZA will perform the services with the degree of skill and care ordinarily exercised by qualified professionals performing the same type of services at the same time under similar conditions in the same or similar locality.
  - b. GZA warrants that its construction services will be of good quality, free of faults and defects and in conformance with the Proposal.
  - c. **EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS 2a AND 2b, ABOVE, NO WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WARRANTY OF MARKETABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, IS MADE OR INTENDED BY GZA'S PROPOSAL OR BY ANY OF GZA'S ORAL OR WRITTEN REPORTS.**
  - d. GZA assigns to you any manufacturers' warranties of equipment or materials purchased from others, to the extent they are assignable, and your sole recourse will be against the manufacturer. Full risk of loss of materials and equipment will pass to you upon delivery to the Site, and you will be responsible for insuring and otherwise protecting them against theft and damage.
- 3. Payment.**
  - a. Except as otherwise stated in the Proposal, you will compensate GZA for the services at the rates set forth in the applicable Proposal, amendment or change order; reimburse its expenses, which will include a communication fee calculated as a percentage of labor invoiced; and pay any sales or similar taxes thereon.
  - b. Any retainer specified in GZA's Proposal shall be due prior to the start of services and will be applied to the final invoice for services.
  - c. GZA will submit invoices periodically, and payment will be due within 20 days from invoice date. Overdue payments will bear interest at 1½ percent per month or, if lower, the maximum lawful rate. GZA may terminate its services upon 10 days' written notice anytime your payment is overdue on this or any other project and you will pay for all services through termination, plus termination costs. You will reimburse GZA's costs of collecting overdue invoices, including reasonable attorneys' fees.
- 4. Your Responsibilities.**
  - a. Except as otherwise agreed, you will secure the approvals, permits, licenses and consents necessary for performance of the services. If you are the owner or operator of the Site, you will provide GZA with all documents, plans, information concerning underground structures (including but not limited to utilities, conduits, pipes, and tanks), information related to hazardous materials or other environmental or geotechnical conditions at the Site and other information that may be pertinent to the services or, if you are not the owner or operator of the Site, you agree to make reasonable efforts to obtain these same documents and provide them to GZA. Unless otherwise indicated in writing, GZA will be entitled to rely on documents and information you provide.
  - b. If you use the services of a construction manager at the Site, you agree to use best and reasonable efforts to include in your agreement(s) with the construction contractor provisions obligating the latter:
    - (i) to indemnify and hold harmless, to the fullest extent permitted by law, you and GZA, its officers, employees and principals, for or on account of any claims, liabilities, costs and expenses, including attorneys' fees, arising out of or relating to the design or implementation of construction means, methods, procedures, techniques, and sequences of construction, including safety precautions or programs, of the contractor, or any of its subcontractors or any engineer engaged by it;
    - (ii) to name you and GZA as additional insureds under general liability and builder's risk insurance coverages maintained by the contractor, or any of its subcontractors; and



(iii) to require that all of its subcontractors agree and be bound to the obligations set forth in (i) and (ii) above.

c. In the event that you are unable to secure such provisions in the agreement(s) with the construction contractor, you shall promptly notify GZA and GZA shall have the opportunity to negotiate with you reasonable substitute risk allocation and insurance indemnities and protections.

**5. Right of Entry; Site Restoration.** You grant GZA and its subcontractor(s) permission to enter the Site to perform the services. If you do not own the Site, you represent and warrant that the owner has granted permission for GZA to enter the Site and perform the services; you will provide reasonable verification on request; and you will indemnify GZA for any claims by the Site owner related to alleged trespass by GZA or its subcontractors. GZA will exercise reasonable care to limit damage to landscaping, paving, systems and structures at the Site that may occur and you agree to compensate GZA for any restoration it is asked to perform, unless otherwise indicated in the Proposal.

**6. Underground Facilities.** GZA's only responsibility under this Section will be to provide proper notification to the applicable state utility "Call-Before-You-Dig" program. You further agree to assume responsibility for and to defend, indemnify and hold harmless GZA with respect to personal injury and property damages due to GZA's interference with subterranean structures including but not limited to utilities, conduits, pipes, and tanks:

(i) that are not correctly shown on any plans and information you or governmental authorities provide to GZA; or

(ii) that are not correctly marked by the appropriate utility.

**7. Reliance.** The services, information, and other data furnished by you shall be at your expense, and GZA may rely upon all information and data that you furnish, including the accuracy and completeness thereof. You acknowledge that the quality of the services provided by GZA is directly related to the accuracy and completeness of the information and data that you furnish to GZA. **GZA's REPORTS ARE PREPARED FOR AND MADE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR SOLE USE. YOU ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE THAT USE OF OR RELIANCE UPON THE REPORT OR THE FINDINGS IN THE REPORT BY ANY OTHER PARTY, OR FOR ANY OTHER PROJECT OR PURPOSE, SHALL BE AT YOUR OR SUCH OTHER PARTY'S SOLE RISK AND WITHOUT ANY LIABILITY TO GZA.**

**8. Lab Tests and Samples.** GZA is entitled to rely on the results of laboratory tests using generally accepted methodologies. GZA may dispose of samples in accordance with applicable laws 30 days after submitting test results to you unless you request in writing for them to be returned to you or to be held longer, in which case you will compensate GZA for storage and/or shipping beyond 30 days.

**9. GZA Professionals.** GZA employees or consultants may act as licensed, certified or registered professionals (including but not limited to Professional Engineers, Licensed Site or Environmental Professionals, or Certified Industrial Hygienists collectively referred to in this section as "GZA Professionals") whose duties may include the rendering of independent professional opinions. You acknowledge that a federal, state or local agency or other third party may audit the services of GZA or other contractor/consultant(s), which audit may require additional services, even though GZA and such GZA Professionals have each performed such services in accordance with the standard of care set forth herein. You agree to compensate GZA for all services performed in response to such an audit, or to meet additional requirements resulting from such an audit, at the rates set forth in the applicable Proposal, amendment or change order.

**10. Hazardous Materials; GZA "Not a Generator".** Before any hazardous or contaminated materials are removed from the Site, you will sign manifests naming you as the generator of the waste (or, if you are not the generator, you will arrange for the generator to sign). You will select the treatment or disposal facility to which any waste is taken. GZA will not be the generator or owner of, nor will it possess, take title to, or assume legal liability for any hazardous or contaminated materials at or removed from the Site. GZA will not have responsibility for or control of the Site or of operations or activities at the Site other than its own. GZA will not undertake, arrange for or control the handling, treatment, storage, removal, shipment, transportation or disposal of any hazardous or contaminated materials at or removed from the Site, other than any laboratory samples it collects or tests. You agree to defend, indemnify and hold GZA harmless for any costs or liability incurred by GZA in defense of or in payment for any legal actions in which it is alleged that GZA is the owner, generator, treater, storer or disposer of hazardous waste.

**11. Limits on GZA's Responsibility.** GZA will not be responsible for the acts or omissions of contractors or others at the Site, except for its own subcontractors and employees. GZA will not supervise, direct or assume control over or the authority to stop any contractor's work, nor shall GZA's professional activities nor the presence of GZA or its employees and subcontractors be construed to imply that GZA has authority over or responsibility for the means, methods, techniques, sequences or procedures of construction, for work site health or safety precautions or programs, or for any failure of contractors to comply with contracts, plans, specifications or laws. Any opinions by GZA of probable costs of labor, materials, equipment or services to be furnished by others are strictly estimates and are not a guarantee that actual costs will be consistent with the estimates.

**12. Changed Conditions.**

a. You recognize the uncertainties related to environmental and geotechnical services, which often require a phased or exploratory approach, with the need for additional services becoming apparent during the initial services. You also recognize that actual conditions encountered



may vary significantly from those anticipated, that laws and regulations are subject to change, and that the requirements of regulatory authorities are often unpredictable.

- b. If changed or unanticipated conditions or delays make additional services necessary or result in additional costs or time for performance, GZA will notify you and the parties will negotiate appropriate changes to the scope of services, compensation and schedule.
- c. If no agreement can be reached, GZA will be entitled to terminate its services and to be equitably compensated for the services already performed. GZA will not be responsible for delays or failures to perform due to weather, labor disputes, intervention by or inability to get approvals from public authorities, acts or omissions on your part, or any other causes beyond GZA's reasonable control, and you will compensate GZA for any resulting increase in its costs.

**13. Documents and Information.** All documents, data, calculations and work papers prepared or furnished by GZA are instruments of service and will remain GZA's property. Designs, reports, data and other work product delivered to you are for your use only, for the limited purposes disclosed to GZA. Any delayed use, use at another site, use on another project, or use by a third party will be at the user's sole risk, and without any liability to GZA. Any technology, methodology or technical information learned or developed by GZA will remain its property. Provided GZA is not in default under this Agreement, GZA's designs will not be used to complete this project by others, except by written agreement relating to use, liability and compensation.

**14. Electronic Media.** In accepting and utilizing any drawings, reports and data on any form of electronic media generated by GZA, you covenant and agree that all such electronic files are instruments of service of GZA, who shall be deemed the author and shall retain all common law, statutory law and other rights, including copyrights. In the event of a conflict between the signed documents prepared by GZA and electronic files, the signed documents shall govern. You agree not to reuse these electronic files, in whole or in part, for any purpose or project other than the project that is the subject of this Agreement. Any transfer of these electronic files to others or reuse or modifications to such files by you without the prior written consent of GZA will be at the user's sole risk and without any liability to GZA.

**15. Confidentiality; Subpoenas.** Information about this Agreement and GZA's services and information you provide to GZA regarding your business and the Site, other than information available to the public and information acquired from third parties, will be maintained in confidence and will not be disclosed to others without your consent, except as GZA reasonably believes is necessary: (a) to perform its services; (b) to comply with professional standards to protect public health, safety and the environment; and (c) to comply with laws and court orders. GZA will make reasonable efforts to give you prior notice of any disclosure under (b) or (c) above. Information available to the public and information acquired from third parties will not be considered confidential. You will reimburse GZA for responding to any subpoena or governmental inquiry or audit related to the services, at the rates set forth in the applicable Proposal, amendment or change order.

**16. Insurance.** During performance of the services, GZA will maintain workers compensation, commercial general liability, automobile liability, and professional liability/contractor's pollution liability insurance. GZA will furnish you certificates of such insurance on request.

**17. Indemnification.** You agree to hold harmless, indemnify, and defend GZA and its affiliates and subcontractors and their employees, officers, directors and agents (collectively referred to in this paragraph as "GZA") against all claims, suits, fines and penalties, including mandated cleanup costs and attorneys' fees and other costs of settlement and defense, which claims, suits, fines, penalties or costs arise out of or are related to this Agreement or the services, except to the extent they are caused by GZA's negligence or willful misconduct.

**18. Limitation of Remedies.**

- a. To the fullest extent permitted by law and notwithstanding anything else in this Agreement to the contrary, the aggregate liability of GZA and its affiliates and subcontractors and their employees, officers, directors and agents (collectively referred to in this paragraph as "GZA") for all claims arising out of this Agreement or the services is limited to \$50,000 or, if greater, 10% of the compensation received by GZA under this Agreement.
- b. You may elect to increase the limit of liability by paying an additional fee, such fee to be negotiated prior to the execution of this Agreement.
- c. Any claim will be deemed waived unless received by GZA within one year of substantial completion of the services.
- d. GZA will not be liable for lost profits, loss of use of property, delays, or other special, indirect, incidental, consequential, punitive, exemplary, or multiple damages.
- e. GZA will not be liable to you or the Site owner for injuries or deaths suffered by GZA's or its subcontractors' employees.
- f. You will look solely to GZA for your remedy for any claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, including any claim arising out of or relating to alleged negligence or errors or omissions of any GZA principal, officer, employee or agent.

**19. Disputes.**

- a. All disputes between you and GZA shall be subject to non-binding mediation.



- b. Either party may demand mediation by serving a written notice stating the essential nature of the dispute, the amount of time or money claimed, and requiring that the matter be mediated within forty-five (45) days of service of notice.
- c. The mediation shall be administered by the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its most recent Construction Mediation Rules, or by such other person or organization as the parties may agree upon.
- d. No action or suit may be commenced unless mediation has occurred but did not resolve the dispute, or unless a statute of limitation period would expire if suit were not filed prior to such forty-five (45) days after service of notice.

**20. Miscellaneous.**

- a. Massachusetts law shall govern this Agreement.
- b. The above terms and conditions regarding Limitation of Remedies and Indemnification shall survive the completion of the services under this Agreement and the termination of the contract for any cause.
- c. Any amendment to these Terms and Conditions must be in writing and signed by both parties.
- d. Having received these Terms and Conditions, your oral authorization to commence services, your actions, or your use of the Report or Work Product constitutes your acceptance of them.
- e. This Agreement supersedes any contract terms, purchase orders or other documents issued by you.
- f. Neither party may assign or transfer this Agreement or any rights or duties hereunder without the written consent of the other party.
- g. Your failure or the failure of your successors or assigns to receive payment or reimbursement from any other party for any reason whatsoever shall not absolve you, your successors or assigns of any obligation to pay any sum to GZA under this agreement.
- h. These Terms and Conditions shall govern over any inconsistent terms in GZA's Proposal.
- i. The provisions of this Agreement are severable; if any provision is unenforceable it shall be appropriately limited and given effect to the extent it is enforceable.
- j. The covenants and agreements contained in this Agreement shall apply to, inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto and upon their respective successors and assigns.