

AIA Document 310 - 2010 Bid Bond

CONTRACTOR (Name, legal status and address):

SURETY (Name, legal status and principal place of business):

Choctaw Construction Services, LLC
P.O. Box 187
Katy, TX 77492

Merchants National Bonding, Inc.
P.O. Box 14498
Des Moines, IA 50306-3498

OWNER (Name, legal status and address):

Lake Providence Port Commission
409 Port Road
Lake Providence, LA 71254

Bond Amount: **Five Percent of the Greatest Amount Bid (5% GAB)**

PROJECT: (Name, location or address, and Project number, if any):

Multi-modal Freight Corridor Improvements (SEAEDD) Track Rehabilitation, East Carroll Parish, LA

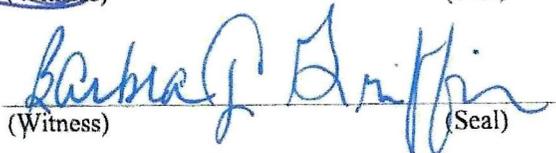
The Contractor and Surety are bound to the Owner in the amount set forth above, for the payment of which the Contractor and Surety bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, jointly and severally, as provided herein. The conditions of this Bond are such that if the Owner accepts the bid of the Contractor within the time specified in the bid documents, or within such time period as may be agreed to by the Owner and Contractor, and the Contractor either (1) enters in to a contract with the Owner in accordance with the terms of such bid, and gives such bond or bonds as may be specified in the bidding or Contract Documents, with a surety admitted in the jurisdiction of the Project and otherwise acceptable to the Owner, for the faithful performance of such Contract and for the prompt payment of labor and material furnished in the prosecution thereof; or (2) pays to the Owner the difference, not to exceed the amount of this Bond, between the amount specified in said bid and such larger amount for which the Owner may in good faith contract with another party to perform the work covered by said bid, then this obligation shall be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect. The Surety hereby waives any notice of an agreement between the Owner and Contractor to extend the time in which the Owner may accept the bid. Waiver of notice by the Surety shall not apply to any extension exceeding ninety (90) days in the aggregate beyond the time for acceptance of bids specified in the bid documents, and the Owner and Contractor shall obtain the Surety's consent for an extension beyond ninety (90) days.

If this Bond is issued in connection with a subcontractor's bid to a Contractor, the term Contractor in this Bond shall be deemed to be Subcontractor and the term Owner shall be deemed by the Contractor.

When this Bond has been furnished to comply with a statutory or other legal requirement in the location of the Project, any provision in this Bond conflicting with said statutory or legal requirement shall be deemed deleted here from and provisions conforming to such statutory or other legal requirement shall be deemed incorporated herein. When so furnished, the intent is that this Bond shall be construed as a statutory bond and not as a common law bond.

Signed and sealed this **11th** day of **April, 2024**

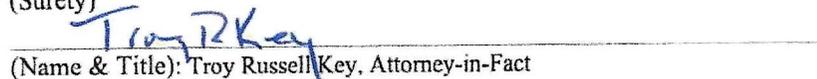

(Witness) (Seal)


(Witness) (Seal)

Choctaw Construction Services, LLC
(Principal) (Seal)


(Name & Title): , Secretary

Merchants National Bonding, Inc.
(Surety)


(Name & Title): Troy Russell Key, Attorney-in-Fact

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY™

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know All Persons By These Presents, that MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., both being corporations of the State of Iowa, d/b/a Merchants National Indemnity Company (in California only) (herein collectively called the "Companies") do hereby make, constitute and appoint, individually,

Allyson W Dean; Ana Owens; Andrea Rose Crawford; Betty J Reeh; Bryan Kelly Moore; Colin E Conly; Debra Lee Moon; Elizabeth Ortiz; Emily Allison Mikeska; Faith Ann Hilty; John R Ward; John William Newby; Michael Donald Hendrickson; Monica Ruby Veazey; Patrick Thomas Coyle; Sandra Lee Roney; Thomas Douglas Moore; Troy Russell Key

their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, to sign its name as surety(ies) and to execute, seal and acknowledge any and all bonds, undertakings, contracts and other written instruments in the nature thereof, on behalf of the Companies in their business of guaranteeing the fidelity of persons, guaranteeing the performance of contracts and executing or guaranteeing bonds and undertakings required or permitted in any actions or proceedings allowed by law.

This Power-of-Attorney is granted and is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by authority of the following By-Laws adopted by the Board of Directors of Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual) on April 23, 2011 and amended August 14, 2015 and adopted by the Board of Directors of Merchants National Bonding, Inc., on October 16, 2015.

"The President, Secretary, Treasurer, or any Assistant Treasurer or any Assistant Secretary or any Vice President shall have power and authority to appoint Attorneys-in-Fact, and to authorize them to execute on behalf of the Company, and attach the seal of the Company thereto, bonds and undertakings, recognizances, contracts of indemnity and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof."

"The signature of any authorized officer and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile or electronic transmission to any Power of Attorney or Certification thereof authorizing the execution and delivery of any bond, undertaking, recognizance, or other suretyship obligations of the Company, and such signature and seal when so used shall have the same force and effect as though manually fixed."

In connection with obligations in favor of the Florida Department of Transportation only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact includes any and all consents for the release of retained percentages and/or final estimates on engineering and construction contracts required by the State of Florida Department of Transportation. It is fully understood that consenting to the State of Florida Department of Transportation making payment of the final estimate to the Contractor and/or its assignee, shall not relieve this surety company of any of its obligations under its bond.

In connection with obligations in favor of the Kentucky Department of Highways only, it is agreed that the power and authority hereby given to the Attorney-in-Fact cannot be modified or revoked unless prior written personal notice of such intent has been given to the Commissioner-Department of Highways of the Commonwealth of Kentucky at least thirty (30) days prior to the modification or revocation.

In Witness Whereof, the Companies have caused this instrument to be signed and sealed this 3rd day of February, 2024.

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL)
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.
d/b/a MERCHANTS NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY

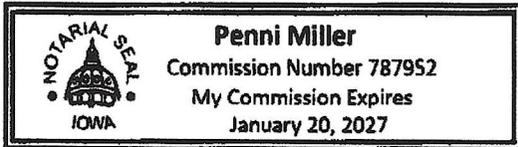
By

Larry Taylor
President



STATE OF IOWA
COUNTY OF DALLAS ss.

On this 3rd day of February 2024, before me appeared Larry Taylor, to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn did say that he is President of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.; and that the seals affixed to the foregoing instrument are the Corporate Seals of the Companies; and that the said instrument was signed and sealed in behalf of the Companies by authority of their respective Boards of Directors.

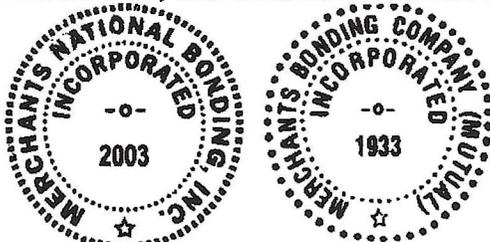


(Expiration of notary's commission does not invalidate this instrument)

[Signature]
Notary Public

I, William Warner, Jr., Secretary of MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) and MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC., do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the POWER-OF-ATTORNEY executed by said Companies, which is still in full force and effect and has not been amended or revoked.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Companies on this 11th day of April, 2024.



William Warner Jr.
Secretary

MERCHANTS
BONDING COMPANY.

MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY (MUTUAL) • MERCHANTS NATIONAL BONDING, INC.
P.O. Box 14498 • DES MOINES, IOWA 50306-3498 • (800) 678-8171 • (515) 243-3854 FAX

Please send all notices of claim on this bond to:

Merchants Bonding Company (Mutual) / Merchants National Bonding, Inc.

P.O. Box 14498

Des Moines, Iowa 50306-3498

(515) 243-8171

(800) 678-8171

Physical Address: 6700 Westown Parkway, West Des Moines, Iowa 50266