

**Reviewer Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Certification for Outside Reviewers of  
Proposals/Applications  
Council-Selected Restoration Component and Spill Impact Component Programs**

**1. Confidentiality of Documents and Restriction on Contact**

I, the undersigned Outside Reviewer of an application and/or proposal (“application”) for a Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council)-Selected Restoration Component or Spill Impact Component program under the Resources and Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies Act of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) (33 U.S.C. 1321(t) and note), understand that applications, which include any relevant supporting materials and documentation, are made available to reviewers solely for the purpose of reviewing the application against the published evaluation criteria for the relevant program.

I agree not to discuss the contents of an application outside of discussions with Council Staff (or contractors acting as BAS Supervisor on the behalf of Council Staff) during or after the review process, and to discuss the application with Council Staff (or their contractors) only in the context of, and in accordance with the procedures for, application review. I agree to follow the written instructions provided by Council Staff (or their contractors) for the completion of review forms. I also agree to retain no copies of documents or any portions of documents related to this review.

I further agree not to contact the Council Member or Council Member agency submitting the application (“applicant”) concerning any aspect of the content of an application. Further, I agree not to use any information obtained as a result of my participation as a reviewer for personal or private gain.

**2. Conflicts of Interest**

I, the undersigned Outside Reviewer of an application for a Council-Selected Restoration Component or Spill Impact Component program under the RESTORE Act, hereby certify that I do not have a conflict of interest and that my particular circumstances are not likely to raise the appearance of a conflict of interest, impropriety, or the appearance of impairment of objectivity (collectively, “appearance of a conflict of interest”) with respect to any application I am asked to review or comment on. If, at any time during the award process, I have a conflict of interest or my particular circumstances are likely to create the appearance of a conflict of interest with respect to the application submitted by\_\_

[insert name of applicant Council Member bureau or agency], I shall immediately inform the Council official or Council contractor who oversees review assignments for non-federal personnel (“BAS Supervisor/Contractor”), in writing, of such conflict or appearance of conflict. I shall also inform the Council BAS Supervisor/Contractor in writing if and when I determine, at any time during the evaluation process, that I cannot objectively evaluate this application for any reason.

For purposes of this certification, I recognize that I shall be considered to have a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest with respect to this application if I, my spouse, parent, dependent child or any member of my household:

- a. Serves as an officer, director, trustee, partner, agent, attorney, consultant, contractor, or employee of the applicant Council Member bureau or agency, or any contractor or subrecipient specifically mentioned in this application, or receives the primary source of his or her income from the applicant bureau or agency or any contractor or subrecipient specifically mentioned in this application.
- b. Is negotiating, or has an arrangement concerning, prospective employment or a contracting relationship with the applicant Council Member bureau or agency or any contractor or subrecipient specifically mentioned in this application.

c. Has a financial interest in the Council’s action with respect to the application that would constitute a “financial interest” within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 208. Such “financial interests” arise from, but are not limited to, receipt of salaries paid by the applicant Council Member bureau or agency or any contractor or subrecipient specifically mentioned in this application.

d. Serves, or has served, during the preparation of the application or the pendency of the award process in which the application is being considered, as an officer, director, trustee, partner, agent, attorney, consultant, contractor or employee of or receives the primary source of his or her income from an entity that either (1) has provided assistance in the preparation of the application or otherwise facilitated the submission of the application or (2) has a financial interest in the Council’s action with respect to the application.

I recognize that this certification is a continuing representation, and that it is in effect at all times until I have completed all of the work to be performed by me in connection with this application for the Council RESTORE Act Council-Selected Restoration Component or Spill Impact Component program. By signing below, I attest that:

- My review of the application does not present a real, potential, or apparent conflict of interest, as conflict of interest is defined in this certification;
- If I subsequently become aware of any real, potential, or apparent conflict of interest, I immediately will advise my Council BAS Supervisor/Contractor thereof in writing. I will then refrain from further involvement in the review of this application unless and until my Council BAS Supervisor/Contractor determines that no conflict exists and so advises me in writing; and
- I will maintain the confidentiality of any application I review as specified in this certification.

Printed name of Outside Reviewer		Date signed	
Signature of Outside Reviewer			

Conflict of Interest, Reviewer