THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents May 14, 2009

ACTION REQUEST

Subject:

Research Agreement between the University of Michigan

and LimnoTech, Inc.

Action Requested: Authorization to enter into Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Division of Research, Development and Administration while reviewing the Proposal Approval Form. This then triggered a review by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed by this Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

This proposed research agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Dr. Peter Adriaens is an employee of the University of Michigan ("University") and a part-time staff member at LimnoTech, Inc. ("Company"). The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the executive officers and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote of the Regents.

Background:

Dr. Adriaens is a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and a Professor of Natural Resources and Environment. He is also a part-time employee at the Company. The Company specializes in water quality and environmental protection and restoration matters. The Company seeks to enter into a research agreement with the University for a project entitled "Lake Michigan Modeling." The work involves extracting and combining data from model outputs of Lake Michigan water temperature during a range of years. The Lake Michigan Modeling project Principle Investigator will be Dr. Glenn Allen Burton, Director of the Cooperative Institute for Limnology and Ecosystem Research ("CILER"). Dr. Burton has no financial or management interest in the Company and Dr. Adriaens has no involvement with the proposed project.

Agreement Terms:

The University will enter into an Agreement with the Company for off-campus research to be performed at the Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab for a period of five (5) months. The amount of the contract is \$8,000. The University will use standard sponsored project accounting procedures in administering the project. The budget has been reviewed and approved by an authorized representative of each department and school/college where the project is to be performed.

Impact of the Agreement:

The Agreement will enable research to be performed that will further the use and application of Lake Michigan meteorological data and hydrodynamic models.

Recommendation:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. In light of the disclosure made in this document and our finding that the agreement was negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I <u>recommend</u> that the Board of Regents approve of the University's entering into this research agreement with LimnoTech, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen K. Forrest

Vice President for Research

May 2009