

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
PROVIDENCE, SC.

SUPERIOR COURT

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.)
)
AECOM TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC.,)
)
AETNA BRIDGE COMPANY,)
)
ARIES SUPPORT SERVICES INC.,)
)
BARLETTA HEAVY DIVISION, INC.)
)
BARLETTA/AETNA I-195 WASHINGTON)
)
BRIDGE NORTH PHASE 2 JV,)
)
COLLINS ENGINEERS, INC.,)
)
COMMONWEALTH ENGINEERS &)
)
CONSULTANTS, INC.,)
)
JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP, INC.)
)
MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL, INC.,)
)
PRIME AE GROUP, INC.,)
)
STEERE ENGINEERING, INC.,)
)
TRANSYSSTEMS CORPORATION, and)
)
VANASSE HANGEN BRUSTLIN, INC.,)
)
Defendants.)

C.A. No. PC-2024-04526

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Now come the Plaintiff and the Defendants (together, the “Parties”), by and through their respective counsel, and pursuant to Section XVIII of the Scheduling Order entered on July 30, 2025 (the “Scheduling Order”), hereby submit this Joint Status Report in advance of the monthly conference scheduled for June 9, 2026:

I. The Plaintiff’s Update.

The Plaintiff (the “State”), has continued to respond to written discovery, produce documents, and, as necessary, exchange correspondence and participate in meet-and-confer conferences regarding the State’s affirmative discovery requests and discovery requests propounded by some of the Defendants. These efforts include, among other things, attempting to

agree upon search terms with Defendant AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (“AECOM”); communicating with Defendant Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. concerning search terms; and continuing to supplement the State’s production of documents to requests served by Defendant Barletta/Aetna I-195 Washington Bridge North Phase 2 JV (the “JV”). To date, the State has produced 921,821 pages of documents to the Defendants.

In addition, as the State previously reported to the Court in advance of the April 15, 2026 conference, the State maintains that the respective answers provided by AECOM and the JV remain deficient and incomplete. Despite exchanging correspondence regarding those deficiencies with AECOM and the JV, and the Court’s recent Decision providing guidance on the completeness of answers required in this case consistent with Rule 33 of the Superior Court Rules of Civil Procedure, neither defendant has supplemented its respective answers to the State’s interrogatories. Absent a successful meet-and-confer with each of those parties, the State anticipates the need to engage in motion practice this month.

Moreover, the State has noticed its first deposition—that is, the deposition of Defendant Aries Support Services Inc. (“Aries”)—which is scheduled to commence on July 9, 2026. That deposition will be conducted remotely, although Aries and the State will ensure that the witness for Aries is available, in person, for examination at a mutually agreed upon location in Providence.

Finally, the State has recently notified the Defendants of its intent to voluntarily dismiss, without prejudice, Defendant Commonwealth Engineers & Consultants, Inc. (“Commonwealth”). Although the majority of the Defendants have, through their respective counsel, provided their assent to sign the proposed stipulation of dismissal of Commonwealth consistent with Rule 41(a)(1)(B) of the Superior Court Rules of Civil Procedure, two defendants—Michael Baker International, Inc. (“MBI”) and Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (“VHB”)—have not yet done so.

If MBI or VHB opt to withhold their assent from, or otherwise object to, that proposed stipulation, the State will have to file a motion, consistent with Rule 41(a)(2).

II. The Defendants' Update.

On behalf of the JV:

1. The State's Non-Compliance with the Court's May 4, 2026 Order.

The State has not complied with the Court's May 4, 2026 Order granting the JV's Third Motion to Compel. That Order required the State to respond to Requests Nos. 7 and 8 as written within twenty (20) days of the date of the Order. Because the twentieth day fell on a holiday weekend, the State's responses were due on May 26, 2026. As of the date of this Joint Status Report, the State has not served compliant responses in accordance with the Court's Order. Although the State has transmitted unverified, non-compliant responses by email, it has not formally served fully verified responses pursuant to the Court's Order.

2. Recent Developments in the State's Production.

The State recently made a substantial supplemental production consisting of nearly 250,000 pages of documents. This follows the State's prior productions totaling approximately 676,000 pages. Of particular note, this latest production includes nearly 71,000 .MSG email files, whereas all prior productions combined contained approximately 26,000 .MSG files. In other words, the State's most recent production alone contains nearly three times the number of email files previously produced and represents an increase of more than 170% over the total number of .MSG files produced to date. This extremely large production, served at this late stage of discovery, significantly expands the volume of materials requiring review and raises substantial questions regarding the timing, scope, and completeness of the State's prior productions, which have been ongoing for more than eight months. The timing of this production is prejudicial to the JV, as it

imposes a substantial additional review burden near the close of discovery (September 2026) and limits the JV's ability to assess the materials, investigate newly disclosed information, and pursue any necessary follow-up discovery, including depositions.

3. Ripe Motion to Compel Regarding Requests for Production Nos. 53 and 54.

The parties are at an impasse regarding the JV's Requests for Production Nos. 53 and 54. Following a meet-and-confer on May 14, 2026, the parties agreed that these issues are ripe for motion practice. Requests Nos. 53 and 54 seek communications involving Deputy Chief of Staff T. Joseph Almond and Governor Daniel J. McKee relating to the Washington Bridge. To date, the JV has received only a handful of documents, limited to a narrow period of time, and the State has refused to supplement or produce additional responsive materials, or provide any substantive explanation for the dearth of information after receipt of the JV's deficiency letter on this issue. The State has also promised a supplemental privilege log, which also has not been received. The JV therefore anticipates having to file another motion to compel targeted to these requests.

4. Issues Currently Being Escalated That May Require Court Intervention.

In its April 2026 responses to the JV's Fourth Set of Requests for Production, the State asserted objections and declined to produce documents in several areas that remain under discussion between the parties. Among other issues being escalated, the State has categorically refused to produce documents concerning other bridge structures in its inventory relating to inspection, maintenance, and structural deficiencies. The JV raised these issues with the State, and the parties have since met and conferred. Following that conferral, the State agreed to provide the names and roles of persons relevant to certain of the JV's requests in an effort to facilitate the identification and production of responsive records. The JV is still awaiting that information, as well as the production of other documents implicated by the other unresolved issues it has raised

with the State. If the State does not promptly provide the agreed-upon information and move forward with production and supplementation on these issues, Court intervention may be necessary.

5. The JV's Response to the State's Deficiency Letter. The State waited nearly five months after the JV served its discovery responses on October 28, 2025, before raising any issue by letter dated March 17, 2026. Upon receipt of the State's letter, the JV promptly proposed specific conferral dates and times; the State did not respond until more than a week later, after the proposed conferral window had passed, and offered new dates. The JV agreed the same day to the State's proposed date and time. The JV then responded in detail by letter dated April 6, 2026, addressing the State's purported deficiencies and setting forth its positions. The State responded on April 8. Its letter largely restated its original March 17 position without meaningfully engaging with the JV's positions, and then cancelled the parties' scheduled meet and confer without proposing a new date. The JV followed up again by letter dated April 15, 2026, which walked the State through its production methodology, including date ranges, custodian identification, and the search terms applied. The JV's April 6 and April 15 letters remain unanswered in substance, and the State has not meaningfully attempted to confer with the JV regarding the issues raised therein.

On behalf of AECOM Technical Services, Inc. ("AECOM"):

1. Deficiencies in the State's Answers to AECOM's Interrogatories.

The State and AECOM remain at an impasse concerning the State's Answers to AECOM's First Set of Interrogatories, as previously detailed in the Parties' February 27, 2026 Joint Status Report. Accordingly and unfortunately, AECOM intends to file a motion to compel regarding the State's Answers to AECOM's First Set of Interrogatories.

The State recently served Answers to AECOM's Second Set of Interrogatories. AECOM is in the process of evaluating those responses and anticipates serving a deficiency notice concerning certain responses that it contends are incomplete or otherwise deficient. AECOM remains hopeful that those issues can be resolved without court intervention.

2. Ongoing Issues with ESI Search Parameters for the Parties' Respective Email Collections.

The State and AECOM also remain at an impasse concerning ESI search parameters for the parties' respective email collections. AECOM served a detailed proposal on January 6, 2026, addressing custodians, date ranges, and search terms for both AECOM's and the State's respective email ESI, and the parties have since exchanged multiple letters and participated in several meet-and-confer conferences.

a. AECOM's Email ESI Collection.

With respect to AECOM's email ESI collection, AECOM has proposed custodians and date ranges grounded in time-charge data and documented project involvement for each individual custodian. The State seeks uniform start and end dates (March 2013 through August 2024) for all custodians irrespective of when they were actually involved with the bridge, as well as additional irrelevant custodians, which AECOM contends are disproportionate and untethered to the issues in dispute or to each custodian's involvement with the Bridge. The State has declined to meaningfully engage with or account for the time-charge data underlying AECOM's proposal, and the parties therefore remain at impasse regarding custodians and date ranges.

The parties also remain at an impasse regarding the scope and form of the State's proposed email ESI search terms. Since the last Status Conference, the State has provided amended proposed search terms. Several of those terms remain overly broad; however, in an effort to move the process

forward, AECOM has agreed to run a search-term hit report and to confer with the State after receipt of that report. That process is on-going at present.

b. The State's Email ESI Collection.

With respect to the State's email ESI collection, the parties have resolved certain issues; however, they remain at an impasse regarding the State's proposed end date and the State's refusal to collect and produce email from John Igliazzi. On May 20, 2026, the State represented that it was still considering AECOM's request to collect Mr. Igliazzi's emails, but has yet to provide a final answer. Mr. Igliazzi is the RIDOT Chief of Staff and his participation in the underlying dispute is key to AECOM's discovery and case/defense development. With respect to the end date, the State seeks to cut off its email collection in April 2024 (while insisting that AECOM's collection extend through August 2024), notwithstanding the State's allegations of ongoing damages that include the cost of demolition, replacement, and evaluation/monitoring activities related to the Washington Bridge that extend beyond the State's proposed cutoff date to present.

3. Issues with the State's Document Production.

AECOM continues to review the State's rolling document productions and has identified ongoing concerns regarding both the completeness of the State's custodian-level email production and the apparent absence or underproduction of significant categories of responsive documents. Although the State recently made a substantial supplemental production (as discussed by the JV, *supra*), questions remain as to whether the State has collected and produced emails from all agreed custodians and whether key categories of documents have been produced in a reasonably timely manner.

Of particular concern, approximately 84% of the State's total document production was made during April and May 2026, despite the fact that AECOM served its First Request for

Production of Documents in June 2025 and fact discovery is currently scheduled to close on September 17, 2026. This production timing significantly compresses the period available for the parties to assess collection adequacy, evaluate completeness, conduct follow-up written discovery, and prepare for fact depositions. This prejudices AECOM and AECOM (and the other defendants) request that the Court extend the discovery deadlines in this case.

4. The State's Allegations Regarding Alleged Deficiencies in AECOM's Discovery Responses.

The State asserts that AECOM's interrogatory responses remain "deficient and incomplete." That assertion ignores the undisputed procedural history and the almost total lack of action on the State's part. The State waited more than four (4) months after AECOM served its written discovery responses in October 2025 before issuing a claimed deficiency letter, dated March 6, 2026. AECOM responded in detail by letter dated March 18, 2026, addressing each purported deficiency, explaining why the State's positions were unfounded or inaccurate, and confirming that AECOM's responses comply with the Rhode Island Superior Court Rules of Civil Procedure.

Since serving its March 18, 2026 response, AECOM has not received any reply from the State, nor has the State requested a meet-and-confer or proposed any process to narrow or resolve the issues raised. Accordingly, AECOM assumes that the State is satisfied with AECOM's response and underlying discovery responses, and, despite its statement herein to the contrary, this is a closed matter.

5. Upcoming Inspection and Testing of Bridge Materials Preserved by the State

AECOM is also coordinating with the State to schedule the inspection and testing of certain samples of the bridge that have been preserved. Due to the State's delayed responses, it has taken

a significant amount of time to obtain a list of the materials available for testing and the location of such testing.

On behalf of VANASSE HANGEN BRUSTLIN, INC (“VHB”):

VHB believes it is prudent to discuss the realism of the existing schedule order and specifically the fact discovery deadline.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 5th day of June, 2026, I electronically filed and served this document through the electronic filing system on counsel of record. The document is available for viewing and/or downloading from the Rhode Island Judiciary's electronic filing system.

/s/ Edward D. Pare III