(c) The Authority may vary the terms and conditions of the guaranty from surety to surety, based upon the Authority's history of experience with that surety and upon any other factor that the Authority considers relevant.

(D) (1) THE AUTHORITY MAY EXECUTE AND PERFORM BID, PERFORMANCE, AND PAYMENT BONDS AS A SURETY FOR THE BENEFIT OF A PRINCIPAL IN CONNECTION WITH ANY CONTRACT WITH THE FEDERAL OR STATE GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN THE STATE, OR A UTILITY REGULATED BY THE STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

(2) THE BONDS:

(I) MAY NOT EXCEED ~~$500,000~~ <u>$250,000</u> EACH; AND

(II) SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE AUTHORITY, BASED ON THE BOND WORTHINESS OF THE PRINCIPAL AS DETERMINED BY THE AUTHORITY ON REVIEW OF AN APPLICATION.

<u>(3) THE LIMIT IN THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY IF THE SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR THE BONDS ARE GRANTS.</u>

[(d)](E) (1) The Authority may not approve a guaranty OR A BOND under this Part VI unless the Authority considers the economic impact of the contract, for which a bond is sought to be guaranteed OR ISSUED, to be substantial.

(2) To determine the economic impact of a contract, the Authority may consider:

(i) The amount of the guaranty obligation;

(ii) The terms of the bond to be guaranteed;

(iii) The number of new jobs that will be created by the contract to be bonded; and

(iv) Any other factor that the Authority considers relevant.

13–234.5.

(a) To qualify for a surety bond OR guaranty under §§ 13–234 through 13–234.5 of this subtitle, a principal shall meet the requirements of this section.

(b) The principal shall satisfy the Authority that:

(1) (i) The principal is of good moral character; or

(ii) If the principal is not an individual, the principal is owned by individuals of good moral character;

(2) As determined from creditors, employers, and other individuals who have personal knowledge of the principal:

(i) The principal has a reputation for financial responsibility; or