NOTICE:
The entry submission deadline for the OurEcho Challenge USA 2023-2024 has been extended to
11:59 PM ET on April 26, 2024 and certain other subsequent dates have been updated, as currently shown below.

OURECHO CHALLENGE USA 2023-2024
OFFICIAL RULES

NO PURCHASE, PAYMENT, OR DONATION IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE, PAYMENT, OR
DONATION WILL NOT INCREASE CHANCES OF WINNING. INTERNET ACCESS IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE.
VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW.

MANY MAY ENTER, FEW WILL WIN.

1. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The OurEcho Challenge USA 2023-2024 (the “Contest”) sponsored by Aramco Services
Company (the “Sponsor”) and administered by EarthEcho International (the “Administrator”) provides an opportunity for
eligible students age 13-16 (working individually, or in teams of 2-3 students) to identify, investigate, and provide a
potential solution (in the form of a prototype or process) to address a biodiversity issue in their community, in accordance
with these Official Rules and the complete entry requirements and instructions available at www.OurEchoChallenge.org
(the “Website”). A participating Student may be involved with up to three (3) Contest entries (whether participating as an
individual, or as part of a team), so long as each such entry is different and meets all requirements. Entries will be judged
in accordance with the process and judging criteria outlined in Section 9 below. The Students associated with the ten (10)
highest scoring entries will be deemed finalists and will compete for the prizes described in Section 12. See Section 4
below for Contest timing information.

2. ELIGIBILITY: The Contest is offered only within the 50 United States and the District of Columbia (collectively, the
“Eligibility Area”) to students, each of whom must be age 13-16 at the time of entry submission and a legal resident of the
Eligibility Area (each such participant, a “Student”). Employees, officers, and directors of Sponsor, Administrator, and their
respective parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, advertising, and promotion agencies (hereafter referred to as “Contest Parties”,
including any entity involved in the development, administration, or implementation of the Contest), and members of the immediate families (spouses and parents, children, and siblings and their spouses) and persons living in the same household of such individuals are not eligible. For the avoidance of doubt,
children and siblings of employees of any of the Contest Parties are not eligible to participate. Students participating as
team of 2-3 Students may be referred to herein as a “Team”. Any former OurEcho Challenge grant winner must
not re-use their prior winning OurEcho Challenge entry materials to enter this Contest. Any determinations of
eligibility will be made by the Administrator, whose decisions are final and may be made at any time. Void outside the
Eligibility Area and where prohibited.

3. AGREEMENT TO OFFICIAL RULES: By participating in the Contest, each Student (together with Student’s parent(s)
and/or legal guardian(s) (“Parents”) fully and unconditionally agree to the terms of these Official Rules and the decisions of
the Contest Parties, which are final and binding. Students must seek and obtain permission from their Parents before
participating. Receiving a prize/status is contingent upon fulfilling all requirements set forth herein. For the purposes of
these Official Rules, the term “Participant” may hereafter refer to a Student (along with their Parents), or any
potential prize/status recipient. Any Participant may be disqualified in Administrator’s sole discretion if they fail
(or if a Team Member, Parent, or potential prize/status recipient in connection with the same entry fails) to
comply with any of the terms of these Official Rules or with Administrator’s instructions.

4. CONTEST PHASES AND TIMING:

- Entry Period: The Entry Period begins at 12:00 AM Eastern Time (“ET”) on December 4, 2023, and ends at 11:59
  PM ET on April 26, 2024 (the “Entry Period”).
- Judging: On or by May 13, 2024, all eligible entries will be judged by the Administrator’s designated judges in
  accordance with the judging criteria set forth in Section 9 below, to determine ten (10) potential finalist entries.
- Finalist Announcement: The finalists will be announced at the Website in May of 2024.
- Finalist Q&A Session: The Finalist Q&A Session is currently scheduled to occur in a fully virtual format on June
  27, 2024, as more fully described in Section 12 below.
- Winner Announcement: The winners are currently scheduled to be announced at the Website on July 2, 2024.

The Administrator reserves the right to extend the Entry Period and/or change the timing of the subsequent dates, in its
sole discretion. If such changes are made, the new timing will be noted in these Official Rules and at the Website.
5. ENTRY PROCESS:

Students must follow these steps to enter the Contest:

A. First, Students must seek and obtain permission from their Parents before participating;

B. Next, Students must visit www.OurEchoChallenge.org during the Entry Period to review all program details, instructions, and resources;

C. Next, Students must decide if they want to work on their entry as an individual, or as a Team of 2-3 Students. Note:
   a. Students participating as a Team must name one Student as the “Student Team Leader” for the Team, who will be responsible for submitting the Team’s entry at www.OurEchoChallenge.org.
   b. The term “Student/Team” in these Official Rules refers to a Student participating as an individual or a Team of 2-3 Students.
   c. The term “Student/Team Leader” in these Official Rules refers to a Student participating as an individual or the Student Team Leader of a Team of 2-3 Students.

D. Next, the Student/Team will create an original Contest entry in which they identify, investigate, and provide a potential new solution (in the form of a prototype or process) to address a biodiversity issue in their community, in accordance with the Website’s instructions** and the additional entry requirements in Section 6 below. An entry will consist of one or two portions:
   a. The “Written Portion”, which is required, and consists of three parts as follows: [1] Identify what the issue is (150 words or less); [2] Describe how the Student/Team investigated and subsequently identified the issue (300 words or less); and [3] Detail of the Student/Team’s proposed solution/prototype (500 words or less). Note: a separate text box will be included on the Contest entry form, where the Student/Team Leader may include any citations for the Written Portion, without those citations counting toward the Written Portion’s word limits.
   b. The “Visual Portion”, which is optional, must support the Written Portion of the entry in a visual way, and may be uploaded via the entry form in one of the following file formats: .jpg, .pdf, .tif, .png, .ppt, .doc, or .docx (where each such file may not exceed 10MB in file size), or as a link to a YouTube video (all subject to the further instructions and details in Section 6 below).

E. Finally, the Student/Team Leader must complete the official entry form in a single session per entry at www.OurEchoChallenge.org, including the applicable Student/Team’s Written Portion of their entry, the Student/Team’s Visual Portion of their entry (if desired), providing any other required entry information, and submitting the completed entry form so that it is received by Administrator’s server no later than 11:59 PM ET on April 26, 2024. Students may also be required to include the name and email of an adult mentor at the Student/Student Team Lead’s school/organization/home that will agree to serve as a secondary point of contact for the submitted project. Since the Contest entry form must be completed in a single session (i.e., partially completed Contest entry forms cannot be saved for later), it is recommended that Students review the entry form and all Website materials first, then gather the applicable entry materials on their computer prior to the session where the Student/Team Leader completes and submits the Contest entry form. **Such instructions at the Website are made part of these Official Rules and incorporated herein by reference, except that in case of any discrepancy between such instructions and these Official Rules, the terms of these Official Rules shall prevail.

6. ADDITIONAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS: Entries must be completed in English, or include an English translation. Each entry must be original and must meet all requirements. Duplicate entries will be void. A participating Student may be involved with up to three (3) Contest entries (whether participating as an individual or as part of a Team) so long as each such entry is different and meets all requirements. Entries received in excess of this limit will be void. Each Entry must be the original work of the applicable Student/Team. The Sponsor and Administrator are under no obligation to acknowledge, or correspond about entries. Entries will not be returned. While minimal citations or quotes from third-party sources are allowed if properly attributed, copying of another’s work is prohibited. Except for properly attributed citations or quotes, entries should not contain any copyrighted elements other than elements owned by the Student/Team (except that trademarks or logos owned by EarthEcho International are allowed, but are not required to be included in any entry). Trademarks or logos owned by Aramco Services Company or its affiliated companies may be used only after receiving the prior written consent of Aramco Services Company. Entries must not contain inappropriate content, including but not limited to vulgarity, obscenity, lewd, or violent material, or materials which promote hatred or violence. Entries must not defame or invade the privacy or publicity rights of any person, living or deceased, or otherwise infringe upon a person’s personal or proprietary rights. Entries that do not include all required information and do not adhere to the foregoing and following requirements may be considered void and may not be considered in the judging of this Contest. Entries that are deemed by Administrator in their sole discretion to be immoral, obscene, profane, or not in keeping with Administrator’s image will be disqualified.Submitted entry materials must not be encumbered by Participants’ grant of publicity rights to any third party. Entries must not defame, misrepresent or contain disparaging remarks about Sponsor or Administrator, their products and services, or other people, products or companies. Participants must not engage in any violent, dangerous, or illegal behavior in creating an entry. Entries must not violate any law or regulation. Further, any
former OurEcho Challenge grant winner must not re-use their prior winning OurEcho Challenge entry materials to enter this Contest. The Administrator reserves the right in their sole discretion to disqualify any entry at any time which, in their reasonable opinion, is in violation of these Official Rules. Note that: (a) all forms of fraud and plagiarism are strictly prohibited in all materials provided by Participants in the course of their participation in the Contest; (b) any related determinations will be made by Administrator in their sole discretion and may be made at any time; and (c) if such a determination is made after a prize or status has been conferred to a Participant, the Administrator reserves the right to revoke such status and/or demand the return of any such prize (or the value of such prize) from the affected Participant(s).

Note the following additional instructions, requirements, and restrictions, which apply only to the Visual Portion of entries:

- The participating Student(s) associated with a particular entry must be the only identifiable person/people appearing in the Visual Portion of that entry (if any people appear).
- If any Visual Portion of an entry was filmed or photographed by anyone other than a Student/Team member, the Student/Team represents and warrants that such person(s) have granted the Student/Team all rights to the footage/photography, and that the Student/Team can and will give written copies of such permissions to the Administrator upon request.
- Videos must not contain any music or sound effect unless it was either: [a] created and performed by the Student/Team or by someone who has given the Student/Team written permission to use it without restrictions; or [b] in the public domain and performed by the Student/Team or by someone who has given the Student/Team written permission to use the performance without restrictions.
- Video length limit is 120 seconds.
- To submit a video as the Visual Portion of an entry, if desired:
  - First, the Student/Team Leader must create a registered user account at www.youtube.com and agree to all applicable terms at that site. There is no fee or charge to become a registered user of YouTube. YouTube is not a sponsor or endorser of this Contest. Video file size limitation and file format must adhere to YouTube specifications. Further, entries which do not comply with the YouTube Community Guidelines will be disqualified.
  - Next, the Student/Team Leader must access their YouTube account, upload the Student/Team’s video, title the video “OurEcho Challenge Video – [project title]”, set the video’s privacy settings to “Unlisted,” and note the unique URL that YouTube has given the video.
  - Finally, the Student/Team Leader must include the unique YouTube URL on the entry form when completing an entry in accordance with Section 5 above.

7. PARTICIPANT’S REPRESENTATIONS: By creating or submitting an entry, each applicable Student (together with their Parent) represents and warrants that (a) the entry is wholly original except for any materials for which properly cited references are provided, (b) the entry does not otherwise infringe the intellectual property, privacy, publicity rights, or any other legal or moral rights of any third party, (c) they have not granted (and will not grant) publicity rights to any third party for the submitted entry materials, and (d) with the exception of any third-party materials which conform to the requirements of these Official Rules, the applicable Student/Team owns all rights to their entry.

Further, by participating, each Student (together with their Parent): (a) agrees to waive any claim for reimbursement for any equipment or materials necessary to submit an entry, regardless of whether or not their entry was selected for any prize/status; (b) acknowledges that the material that will be submitted as part of the Contest may embody materials, suggestions, or concepts similar to those which have been developed by others or by the Contest Parties and hereby acknowledges that any similarity is purely coincidental and unavoidable in light of the volume of ideas that the Contest Parties routinely use and consider in the course of each of their respective business activities; (c) understands that no Student is entitled to any compensation because of use by the Contest Parties of any materials similar to those in any Student’s entry; (d) hereby waives any right to any claim or liability with respect to the Contest Parties’ use of similar materials; and (e) understands that submitting any element that is copyrighted by another individual (without properly cited references for that element) will result in the Student (together with their Parent) being responsible for any legal action the legal copyright holder might take against the Released Parties (as defined below in Section 15).

8. RIGHTS TO ENTRIES: By participating, each Student (together with their Parent) grants the Administrator and its affiliated companies (the “Companies”) an irrevocable and perpetual, royalty-free, worldwide license, in all media (now known or later developed) to assign, use, publish, edit, adapt, modify, alter, reproduce, distribute, broadcast, display, and create derivative media works of, entry materials and any other submitted creative materials in whole or in part (the “Entry Materials”) for purposes of publicity, with or without using a Student’s name, in any media throughout the world, without limitation, and without additional review, compensation, or approval from the applicable Student/Parent or any other party. By participating, each Student (together with their Parent) forever waives any legal or moral rights in the Entry Materials that may preclude the Companies’ and their assignees’ use of the Entry Materials for publicity, or require such Student/Parent’s permission for the Companies and their assignees to use the Entry Materials for publicity. By participating, each Student (together with their Parent) further agrees not to instigate, support, maintain, or authorize any
action, claim, or lawsuit against the Companies, or any other person/entity, on the grounds that any such use of the Entry Materials by the Companies and their assignees for publicity, or any derivative works created by the Companies and their assignees for publicity, infringe any of such Student/Parent’s rights, including, without limitation, copyrights, or moral rights. Any grant of license herein is only intended to allow the Companies to use the Entry Materials for purposes of publicity, and is not intended to prevent a Student from making commercial (or other) use of the underlying ideas embodied in their entry. Each Student (together with their Parent) further acknowledges that the Companies and their assignees are in no way obligated to broadcast, publish, or use the Entry Materials in any way. Nothing herein shall constitute an employment, joint venture, or partnership relationship between any Student/Parent and the Companies or their assignees. In no way is any Student/Parent to be construed as the agent or to be acting as the agent of the Companies or their assignees.

9. JUDGING CRITERIA AND DETERMINATION OF FINALISTS: On or by May 13, 2024, all eligible entries will be judged by Administrator’s designated judges using the following criteria (the “Judging Criteria”):

**Inspiration:** 33% (i.e. does the entry convey true sincerity and interest in the topic, drawing on personal experiences? Does the entry draw from local community issues or resources?)

**Feasibility:** 34% (i.e. does the entry consider the resources required and the level of complexity surrounding the proposal to answer the question, “Is this DO-able?” Does the entry give proper consideration to timeline, costs, cultural, and social responses, and scalability?)

**Scientific Rigor:** 33% (How well does the entry use evidence and/or scientific research to select the target issue, and ensure the action plan adheres to the scientific method and/or incorporate the engineering design process?)

Administrator’s designated judges may include: EarthEcho Youth Leadership Council member(s), Aramco Services Company scientist(s), EarthEcho International partners, supporters, employees, or Board members, middle school science educator(s), and/or others selected by Administrator in its sole discretion. In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken based on the highest Feasibility score. In the event a tie remains after applying this tiebreaker, an additional tie-breaking judge selected by Administrator will determine the finalist/winner between the tied entries based on the Judging Criteria. The ten (10) entries which score highest will be deemed the potential finalist entries, pending verification of eligibility of the associated Participants and their continued compliance with these Official Rules. Sponsor and Administrator reserve the right in their sole discretion to designate fewer than the stated number of finalist entries if fewer than ten (10) eligible entries of sufficient quality are received. For the avoidance of doubt, a particular Student may participate as a member of more than one Finalist team, subject to overall entry limits. However, if a particular Student submits more than one of the top ten (10) highest scoring entries as an individual, only the highest scoring individual entry by that Student will be named a finalist entry. If any portion of an entry exceeds a stated word or time limit, Sponsor reserves the right in its sole discretion to still consider the entry for judging, but to only include the portion(s) of the entry which fall within the stated limits.

10. PRIZE/STATUS NOTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION: The Student(s) (and their Parent) associated with each potential Finalist entry will be notified in May of 2024 by Administrator by phone and/or e-mail, to verify eligibility and ability to accept the applicable status and to obtain any additional requested contact information. If such Student/Parent is not available or if there is no answer at the time any notification telephone call is made, a phone message will be left (if possible). Any such phone message or e-mail will instruct the Student/Parent to call a specified telephone number or reply by e-mail within three (3) full business days after the time that the notification message was left. Such a Student/Parent must reply as instructed to identify themselves, confirm their eligibility and ability to accept the prize and/or status, and provide any additional requested contact information within such three (3) full business day period, or they (and if participating as part of a Team, their Team) will be disqualified. In Administrator’s sole discretion, such a Student/Parent may only be notified one time as set forth above for attempted prize and/or status notification. Such Students, along with their Parents, and any prize recipients, will subsequently be required to complete a declaration of eligibility, an intellectual property license agreement (only if they or their child have provided any creative content), a liability release, and (where legal) publicity release, and provide any additional information or documentation that may be required by Sponsor/Administrator, within the time period specified in the notification document. Each potential recipient of a prize valued at $600 or more will also be required to return a properly completed IRS W-9 form within the time period specified by Sponsor/Administrator, and such prize recipient may receive an IRS Form 1099 issued for the actual value of prizes received (absent providing Administrator with sufficient Administrator-approved expense receipts, if requested). Further, each potential Finalist Student/Team may be required to provide a revised version of their entry materials that addresses any of Administrator’s concerns (as presented at the time of Finalist notification), which must be provided to Administrator by the date specified in the notification document. Any declaration or other prize/status claim agreements completed by a Student must be co-signed by that Student’s Parent(s). Proof of identity, age, and legal residence may be required to claim a prize/status. Any potential prize and/or status recipient may be disqualified in Administrator’s sole discretion if: (a)
any Participant associated with a potential Finalist/winning entry fails to provide any required information or properly completed documents within the required time period; (b) any Participant associated with a potential finalist/winning entry fails to comply with any of the terms of these Official Rules; or (c) if any prize or prize/status notification is returned as undeliverable, any voice-mail or message left is not timely returned, or any forms sent to potential finalists, winners, or prize recipients are not timely returned as instructed. In the event of disqualification or prize/status forfeiture, at Administrator’s sole discretion, the applicable prize and/or status may be awarded to an alternate potential applicable finalist, winner, or prize recipient selected from among the remaining applicable eligible entries via the means of winner determination described herein, pending verification of eligibility. No responsibility is assumed by the Released Parties (as defined in Section 15 below) for any incorrect or missing postal address, e-mail address, or phone number associated with an entry, or any change of address, e-mail, or phone number of a Participant after submission.

11. FINALIST PROOF-OF-CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT: Each verified Finalist Student/Team will be required to create a “proof of concept” presentation (of ideally 10 minutes or less in length) and a one-minute “vignette” video based on the Student/Team’s entry, to be presented by the Student/Team at the virtual Q&A session (as described further in Section 12 below). Additional instructions for this phase of the Contest will be provided to each potential Finalist Student/Team at the time of Finalist notification, including but not limited to acceptable formats for proof-of-concept presentation, applicable deadlines and expectations, a template, and the criteria by which the proof-of-concept presentations will be judged.

12. FINALIST EVENT, DETERMINATION OF WINNERS, AND PRIZES: Each Finalist Student/Team will work to develop and record a proof-of-concept presentation for judging, which will be submitted to Administrator in the format (and by the deadline) specified in Administrator’s initial communication with confirmed Finalist Student/Teams. Each Finalist Student/Team will then participate in a virtual Q&A session with Administrator’s designated judges (the “Q&A Session”) currently anticipated to occur on June 27, 2024, and the virtual Finalist Event where all Finalist Student’s/Teams’ “vignette” videos will be screened for the public, currently anticipated to occur on July 2, 2024 (however, note that the Q&A Session and Finalist Event dates are subject to change as deemed necessary by Administrator in its sole discretion). Participation in the Q&A Session and Finalist Event are mandatory for all Finalist Students (unless, if participating as a Team, the Team requests and receives approval from Administrator prior to the applicable session, to proceed without one or more Team members). Note also that a Finalist Student’s parent or teacher/mentor may be present during the Q&A Session (but must not assist the Student in answering the judges’ questions), and such parent or teacher/mentor may be required to complete and return a publicity release prior to being present during the Q&A Session. Each Finalist Student’s/Team’s Q&A session will be separate from those of the other Finalist Students/Teams. Each Finalist Student/Team is responsible for providing their own space, computer equipment, and internet connectivity in order to participate in the Q&A Session and Finalist Event. Team members may participate from different physical locations, if desired. Sponsor/Administrator are not responsible for problems with internet connectivity, computers, or other equipment. Administrator reserves the right to disqualify a Finalist Student/Team if they do not participate in the Q&A Session and Finalist Event, or if their language or behavior while participating is not in keeping with Sponsor/Administrator’s images, all as determined by Administrator in its sole discretion. Administrator may use footage from the Q&A Session and Finalist Event for publicity, as further described in Section 20 below. No approximate retail value is ascribed to participation in the Q&A Session or Finalist Event, as they are a required part of participating in the Contest as a Finalist, and are not considered prizes.

Prior to the Finalist Event, each Finalist Student/Team’s proof-of-concept presentation and the Student/Team’s performance at their Q&A Session (these materials together as a whole, for each Finalist Student/Team) will be judged by Administrator’s designated judges in accordance with the following judging criteria (the “Finalist Judging Criteria”):

Inspiration – 20% (How well the Student/Team: (a) communicates a proposed solution to preserve, protect, or repair biodiversity which connects with a local issue in their community; (b) provides rationale for threat/issue selection grounded in personal experience or relationship to stakeholders; and (c) proposes a unique and/or creative solution)

Scientific Rigor – 30% (How well the Student/Team: (a) shows how they used evidence and/or scientific research to select the target issue; (b) communicates step-by-step how they used the scientific method and/or the engineering design process; and (c) clearly demonstrates how they will measure success through data collection.)

Feasibility – 30% (How well the Student/Team: (a) details the time, materials, and costs required to develop a “proof of concept” or full implementation of their solution; (b) details their plan for implementing their solution in the community; and (c) details the long-term scalability of their proposed solution.)

Effective Presentation & Clear Communication – 20% (How well the Student/team: (a) demonstrates a broad understanding of environmental hazards impacting their community or ecosystem; (b) effectively responds to questions about additional impacts to their community and greater ecosystem; (c) clearly communicate the problem, solution, and impacts without extraneous text, animation, etc.; (d) shows they are engaging, well-prepared, and
The highest scoring Finalist Student/Team will be deemed the First Prize winner, the second highest scoring Finalist Student/Team will be deemed the Second Prize winner, and the third highest scoring Finalist Student/Team will be deemed the Third Prize winner, all subject to the applicable Participants’ continued compliance with these Official Rules and Administrator’s instructions. Winners will be announced during the Finalist Event. The First, Second, and Third prizes are more fully described as follows:

One (1) First Prize: a $5,000.00 grant check made payable to the school/organization* associated with the First-Place winning entry, which the school/organization must make available for the applicable Student(s) to use to support the biodiversity initiative described in their winning entry.

One (1) Second Prize: a $2,500.00 grant check made payable to the school/organization* associated with the Second-Place winning entry, which the school/organization must make available for the applicable Student(s) to use to support the biodiversity initiative described in their winning entry.

One (1) Third Prize: a $1,000.00 grant check made payable to the school/organization* associated with the Third-Place winning entry, which the school/organization must make available for the applicable Student(s) to use to support the biodiversity initiative described in their winning entry.

Prior to the issuance of grant checks, the First Prize, Second Prize, and Third Prize winning Student/Teams will be required to submit a budget, plan, and timeline for their use of the project grant funds, which will be subject to review and approval by Administrator in its sole discretion. Winners will also be required to provide periodic (at least quarterly) status updates to Administrator on their progress, as well as a brief final report on the progress and learnings achieved through use of the project grant funds. The final report must be provided no later than one year after the issuance of grant funds. The required format of any such updates and reports and applicable deadlines will be disclosed to all potential Finalists at the time of Finalist notification.

Administrator reserves the right to add additional prizes at any time, in its sole discretion. Further, should Administrator choose to allow the public to share their opinion of certain Contest entries or the performance of Finalists via a voting mechanism of any kind, such voting activity will not affect the determination of the grant recipients in any way.

*If Administrator believes in its sole discretion that the potential award of a grant check to a particular school/organization may violate any regulation, rule, or law (or, if any other issue arises in connection with a particular school/organization that Administrator believes in its sole discretion would prevent it from awarding a grant check to that school/organization, or if Administrator believes in its sole discretion that there is no suitable school/organization associated with a winning entry), then the Administrator reserves the right to either: [a] select an alternate entity to award the grant to, which can fulfill the duties of making the grant funds available for the Team to use to support the biodiversity initiative described in their winning entry; or [b] award the grant directly to the Student/Team Leader (or their Parent) who must provide an IRS W-9 form and agree in writing to use the grant funds to support the biodiversity initiative described in the applicable winning entry. Further, Administrator reserves the right in its sole discretion to split any grants into multiple payments, and to require interim reports and/or receipts in accordance with its instructions, before issuing the next portion of a grant.

13. PEOPLE’S CHOICE VOTING AND TROPHY: Members of the public who are age 13 or older and who reside within the Eligibility Area (the “Voters”) will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite Finalist project via a poll at a voting link which will be available at www.OurEchoChallenge.org beginning at Noon ET on June 11, 2024 and ending at 11:59 PM ET on July 1, 2024 (the “Voting Period”). Voters may visit that link during the Voting Period and follow the poll’s instructions to vote for their favorite Finalist Project. The Finalist Project which receives the highest number of eligible votes will be declared the Contest’s “People’s Choice” Winner and the associated Student/Team will receive one (1) commemorative trophy, pending their continued compliance with these Official Rules and Administrator’s instructions. There is no retail value ascribed to the commemorative trophy. In the event of a tie in the People’s Choice Voting, the Administrator will break the tie using the Finalist Judging Criteria, in its sole discretion. Note that an email address will be collected from each voter during the voting process; however, note that (a) email addresses collected from voters will only be used to enforce voting limits; (b) no emails will be sent to these email addresses in connection with the Contest/Sponsor/Administrator; and (c) all email addresses collected from voters will be securely deleted within five business days after the “People’s Choice” winner has been determined. Voters may change their vote by voting again during the Voting Period; however, note that only the most recent eligible vote associated with a particular email address will be counted. For that reason, there is an effective limit of one (1) vote per person/email address, regardless of the number of times a person completes the poll during the Voting Period using the same email address. Voters may not share the same email address. Votes will be considered valid only if they are submitted in accordance with these Official Rules and the poll’s instructions, while the poll is open. Votes generated by script, macro or other automated means or
any other means intended to impact the integrity of the voting process as determined by Administrator may be void. Votes obtained by any fraudulent or inappropriate means, including, without limitation, offering prizes or other inducements to members of the public, payment for votes or offering to trade votes, as determined by Administrator, in its sole discretion, may result in those votes being void and the associated Finalist being disqualified from receiving the People’s Choice status and trophy.

14. TAXES AND ADDITIONAL PRIZE RESTRICTIONS: All taxes (including without limitation federal, state, and local taxes) in connection with a prize, and the reporting consequence thereof, are the sole responsibility of the prize recipients. Sponsor/Administrator make no representations regarding the tax liability associated with any prize. Any prize details and restrictions not specified will be determined by Administrator in its sole discretion. Prizes may differ from any prizes shown in promotional materials. All other costs and expenses associated with acceptance and use of a prize not specified herein as being awarded are the sole responsibility of the applicable prize recipient. Sponsor/Administrator will not replace any lost, damaged, or stolen prizes. Unless otherwise indicated herein or in any applicable manufacturer’s warranty information, all prizes are awarded as-is and without warranty of any kind, implied or express. If applicable, prize recipients are responsible for registering their prizes in order to obtain manufacturer’s warranty coverage (if any such coverage is available), and for all arrangements/shipping relating to the use of any such warranty coverage. Prizes are not transferable or refundable and must be accepted as awarded. No other substitutions may be made, except by Administrator, who reserves the right to substitute a prize (or component thereof) with another prize (or component thereof) of equal or greater value if the prize is not available for any reason as determined by the Administrator in its sole discretion.

15. GENERAL CONDITIONS: The Contest Parties, YouTube, and Facebook, and all of their respective parent companies, affiliates, and subsidiaries, together with the respective officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, shareholders, successors, and assigns of each (aforementioned individuals and organizations collectively, “Released Parties”) are not responsible for and shall not be liable for: (a) electronic, hardware or software program, network, Internet, or computer malfunctions, failures, or difficulties of any kind, including without limitation, server malfunction or for any human, typographical, printing, or other error relating to or in connection with the Contest, including, without limitation, errors which may occur in the administration of the Contest, processing of entries; the announcement of any prize/status or in any Contest–related materials, (b) failed, incomplete, garbled, or delayed computer transmissions; (c) late, lost, garbled, misdirected, incomplete, stolen, delayed, or misdirected entries or prize/status claims; (d) inaccessibility of any website in whole or in part for any reason; (e) damage to entrants’ or any person's computer, mobile device, or other equipment or the contents thereof; (f) any disputes between any Participant(s); (g) unauthorized third-party use of any entry; or (h) any condition caused by events that may cause the Contest to be disrupted or corrupted. In the event of any conflict between any Contest details contained in these Official Rules and Contest details contained in any Contest advertising materials, the details of the Contest as set forth in these Official Rules shall prevail. In the event that the operation, security, or administration of the Contest is impaired in any way for any reason, including, but not limited to fraudulent, virus, or other technical problem as well as any natural disaster, pandemic, civil disturbance, or governmental action which interferes with the offering the Contest, the Sponsor/Administrator may, in its sole discretion, either: (a) suspend the Contest to address the impairment and then resume the Contest in a manner that best conforms to the spirit of these Official Rules; (b) award the prizes/status according to the Judging Criteria from among the applicable eligible entries received up to the time of the impairment; or (c) proceed in such a manner as may be deemed fair and equitable by Sponsor/Administrator in its sole discretion. Although Sponsor and Administrator attempt to ensure the integrity of the Contest, Released Parties are not responsible for the actions of participants or other individuals in connection with the Contest, including participants’ or other individuals' attempts to circumvent the Official Rules or otherwise interfere with the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of the Contest. Any attempt by any person to obtain more entries than the maximum number permitted, using multiple/different identities or any other methods, including entry automation, macros, or scripts will void all of that person’s entries. Sponsor/Administrator reserve the right, at any time and in their sole discretion, to disqualify and/or deem ineligible to participate in this Contest or any future promotion offered by Sponsor or Administrator, any individual it suspects: (a) to be tampering with the entry process or the operation of the Contest or attempting to defraud Sponsor/Administrator in conjunction with participation in the Contest; (b) to be acting in violation of these Official Rules; (c) to be acting in bad faith or in a disruptive manner, or with the intent to annoy, abuse, threaten, or harass any other person; (d) to have failed to agree to these Official Rules; or (e) to be in violation of these Official Rules. CAUTION: ANY ATTEMPT BY A PARTICIPANT OR ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL TO DELIBERATELY DAMAGE THE CONTEST SITE OR UNDERMINE THE LEGITIMATE OPERATION OF THE CONTEST MAY BE A VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS AND SHOULD SUCH AN ATTEMPT BE MADE, SPONSOR/ADMINISTRATOR RESERVE THE RIGHT TO SEEK DAMAGES FROM ANY SUCH PERSON TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW. The Sponsor's/Administrator's failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. Internet entry must be made by the entrant only at the authorized web site address listed in these Official Rules. When terms such as “may” are used in these Official Rules, the Administrator has sole and absolute discretion. By participating in this Contest, Participants agree to waive any right to claim ambiguity or any deficiency in these Official Rules or the Contest, including but not limited to its administration.
16. RELEASE AND LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY: By participating in the Contest, Participants agree to forever and irrevocably release, discharge, and hold harmless the Released Parties from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of participation in the Contest or receipt or use of any prize/status, including, but not limited to: (a) unauthorized human intervention in the Contest; (b) technical errors related to computers, servers, providers, software, or telephone or network lines/connections; (c) printing errors or any errors made in the advertisement of the Contest; (d) lost, late, postage-due, misdirected, or undeliverable mail; (e) errors in the administration of the Contest or the processing of entries or prize/status claims, or the announcement of prizes/status; (f) injury or damage to persons or property which may be caused, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, from Participant's participation in the Contest or receipt of any prize/status; or (g) any condition caused by events beyond the control of the Released Parties that may cause the Contest to be disrupted or corrupted. Without limiting the foregoing, the Contest, all prizes/status, and all materials are provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including without limitation the implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, and non-infringement (with the exception of manufacturer's warranties if applicable). Released Parties expressly disclaim any responsibility or liability for injury or loss to any person or property resulting from the Contest or relating to the delivery and/or subsequent use or misuse of any prizes awarded.

17. INDEMNITY: By participating in the Contest, each Participant hereby agrees to indemnify and hold the Released Parties harmless from any and all claims, damages, expenses, costs (including reasonable attorneys’ fees) and liabilities (including settlements), brought or asserted by any third party against any of the Released Parties due to or arising out of such Participant's entry, or such Participant's conduct in creating an entry or otherwise in connection with Participant's participation in this Contest, including but not limited to: claims for trademark infringement; copyright infringement; violation of an individual’s right of publicity or right of privacy; or defamation.

18. DISPUTES/CHOICE OF LAW: Except where prohibited, by participating in the Contest, each Participant agrees that: (a) any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Contest, or any prizes/status awarded, or the determination of finalists/winners, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, and exclusively by the applicable court located in the District of Columbia; (b) any and all claims, judgments, and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, including costs associated with entering this Contest but in no event attorneys’ fees or other legal costs; (c) under no circumstances will a Participant be permitted to obtain awards for and each Participant hereby waives all rights to claim punitive, incidental and consequential damages, and any other damages, other than for actual out-of-pocket expenses, and any and all rights to have damages multiplied or otherwise increased; (d) each Participant's remedies are limited to a claim for money damages (if any) and each Participant irrevocably waives any right to seek injunctive or equitable relief; and (e) all Participants hereby consent to the jurisdiction of such courts and waive any defense of inconvenient forum. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation, and enforceability of these Official Rules, or the rights and obligations of Participant and/or Released Parties in connection with the Contest, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the District of Columbia, without regard for conflicts of law doctrine of the District of Columbia or any other jurisdiction, and all proceedings shall take place in the District of Columbia.

19. COLLECTION AND USE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION: By participating in the Contest, Participants agree and consent to Administrator’s collection, use, and retention of their personal information provided in the course of their participation in the Contest, for all purposes related to the Contest (including, without limitation, providing Contest information and updates to entrants, processing and administering entries, sharing an entrant's personal information with Administrator’s service providers, contractors, and prizing partners as necessary to conduct and operate the Contest, communicating with and awarding prizes/status to finalists/winners, making public announcements about finalists/winners, and advertising, promoting, and publicizing the Contest and Administrator’s mission or other promotions). Information submitted in connection with the Contest will be treated in accordance with these Official Rules and Administrator’s Privacy Policy (as may be amended from time to time), located at https://www.earthecho.org/privacy-policy; provided, that in the event of any conflict between these Official Rules and such Privacy Policy, the terms and conditions of these Official Rules shall prevail.

20. PUBLICITY: By participating in the Contest, each Participant grants to Administrator and its affiliated companies the right, except where prohibited by law, to use such Participant’s name, likeness, picture, address (city and state), voice, biographical information, Entry Materials and written or oral statements (collectively, the “Materials”), for advertising and promotional purposes in promoting or publicizing Administrator, its affiliated companies, and the products or services of each, in any and all media without limitation as to time or territory, without additional compensation unless required by law. Further, as a condition of becoming a Finalist: [a] potential Finalists may be required to provide a photograph for purposes of publicity, [b] Finalists and their Parents hereby consent to the Finalist being filmed and photographed during participation in the Finalist Event and during any video production, interview, or promotional event related to the Contest, and [c] Finalists and their Parents agree that any such footage or photographs will also be considered part of the Materials. Participants shall have no right of approval, no claim to compensation, and no claim (including, without limitation, claims based on invasion of privacy, defamation, or right of publicity) arising out of any use, blurring, alteration, or use in composite form of the Materials. Where legal, each Finalist Student and their Parent hereby agree that they will
participate in up to two (2) local interviews or other promotional events scheduled by the Sponsor/Administrator in connection with the Contest. Sponsor/Administrator will make reasonable efforts to accommodate an applicable winning Student’s schedule when planning any such interviews or events.

21. SEVERABILITY/HEADINGS: If any provision of these Official Rules is found to be unlawful, void, or for any reason unenforceable, then that provision shall be deemed severable from these Official Rules and shall not affect the validity and enforceability of any remaining provisions. Headings and captions are used in these Official Rules solely for convenience of reference, and shall not be deemed to affect in any manner the meaning or intent of these Official Rules or any provision hereof.

22. LIST OF FINALISTS AND WINNERS: To receive the name, city, and state of the finalists and winners (anticipated to be available after July 2, 2024), send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: OurEcho Challenge USA 2023-2024 Winner List, PO Box 750, Southbury, CT 06488-0750. Requests must be received by September 30, 2024.

Sponsor: Aramco Services Company, 1667 K Street NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20006
Administrator: EarthEcho International, 2101 L Street NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20037

Any third-party trademarks referenced herein are the property of their respective trademark owners, and do not imply sponsorship or endorsement of this promotion. By participating in the Contest, Participants acknowledge that the Contest is in no way sponsored, endorsed, administered by or associated with YouTube, Meta, Inc., Facebook, Instagram, or other social media platforms used to promote the Contest. Participants should contact Administrator with any questions or comments related to the Contest, and not YouTube, Meta Inc, Facebook, Instagram, other social media platforms used to promote the Contest.