General Programmatic Terms and Conditions for the Earth Sciences Research at the National Science Foundation - Southern California Earthquake Center, (NSF 04-613)

1. **Key Personnel:** Except for the Principal Investigator(s) (PIs) or Co-PIs identified in this award, requests to make any changes to personnel, organizations, and/or partnerships specifically named in the proposal, that have been approved as part of this award, shall be submitted in writing to the cognizant NSF Program Official for approval prior to any changes taking effect. Requests for prior approval of changes to the PI(s) must be submitted through FastLane for review by the cognizant NSF Program Official and approval by an NSF Grants Officer.

2. **Project Description:** The overall mission of the Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) is to gather new information about earthquakes in southern California, integrate knowledge into a comprehensive and predictive understanding of earthquake phenomena, and communicate this understanding to engineers, emergency managers, government officials, and the general public. SCEC will develop a physics-based understanding of earthquake phenomena in southern California through integrative, multidisciplinary studies of plate-boundary tectonics, history and behavior of active fault systems, fault-zone processes, dynamics of fault ruptures, wave propagation, and strong ground motions. SCEC will encode this understanding in a systems-level model that serves as the basis to address the practical problems of improving seismic hazard analysis, reducing earthquake risk, and communicating results through an effective education and outreach program.

3. **Project Governance and Governing Responsibilities:** The Awardee will ensure that an efficient and effective project governing structure is in place throughout the award period to support all critical or significant project activities.

The SCEC management structure is an interface between the scientific community and funding agencies. This structure is designed to ensure close involvement of the research community in the development of SCEC, to focus scientific talent on common objectives, to encourage broad participation, and to effectively manage SCEC.

SCEC Director – Chair of the Board of Directors, ensures that the purposes of the Center are carried out.

Board of Directors (18 members) – has full power in the management of the affairs of the Center, representing the interests of the research community and the participating members.
Planning Committee – studies strategic problems and opportunities.

Advisory Council – maintains an overview of SCEC operations and advises the Director and Board.

In addition, the SCEC Director and the Board of Directors appoint special advisory committees and ad hoc working groups for specific tasks. It is the role of all appointed committees to develop recommendations for the Board of Directors, which in turn, evaluates and acts upon such recommendations.

4. **Reporting Requirements:** The Awardee will provide ad hoc and regular reports as designated by the NSF cognizant Program Official with content, format, and submission timeline established by the NSF cognizant Program Official. The Awardee will submit all required reports via FastLane using the appropriate reporting category; for any type of report not specifically mentioned in FastLane, the Awardee will use the “Interim Reporting” function to submit reports.

**Reporting requirements (in addition to those required by the general FATC):**

1) An Annual Program Plan and Budget for the next fiscal year, due November 15 of each year, describing plans, activities, and requested funding allocations to SCEC and its subawardees for the next year of support. The Annual Progress Report and the Annual Program Plan and Budget will serve, in part, as the basis for SCEC’s request for the next year's support and will be subject to review and approval by the NSF Program Officer.

2) Summary of research accomplishments, future research plans, discussion of major changes in research direction/pace, and up to 5 color photographs with brief descriptors that illustrate the Center's research achievements made during the past 12 months.

3) A financial report containing the following information:
   a. budget explanation by major research areas and major function for the reporting year and the next year;
   b. 4-column table (use form 1030 budget categories) containing the current Center budget, actual expenditures, projected estimates to end of the current funding period, and total expenditures (actual plus projected costs);
   c. a statement of funds estimated to remain unobligated at the end of the current support period, and a budget plan (NSF Form 1030) for the use of carryover funds exceeding 10% of the current increment.

4) Summary of outreach activities including education and other sectors.

5) Discussion of management and planning system-organizational chart for Center personnel, list of membership of all advisory committees, including affiliation, and a Director's narrative of operational aspects of major Center issues.
6) Succinct summary of international contacts/visits including purpose, results, and agreements.
7) Written summaries of the external advisory committee meetings.
8) List of awards/prizes and name of recipients.
9) Report on subaward monitoring.

5. **Awardee Support of Ongoing Management and Oversight:** The Awardee will ensure full commitment and cooperation among the governing structure components, and all project staff during all ongoing NSF project management and oversight activities. The Awardee will ensure availability of all key institutional partners during any desk or on-site review as well as timely access to all project documentation.

**Routine management and oversight activities of SCEC:**

1) 1-2 meetings per year of the SCEC Board of Directors and Planning Committee Annual Membership Meeting of the Center.