

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval

For

Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 08, Orlando Medical Center, NCO8, SAO East.
Purchase Request: 675-15-1-6540-0046
Estimated Amount \$103,348

2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:**

This is a request for other than full and open competition for the procurement of point of use water filters for the Orlando Lake Nona VA Medical Center. The proposed contractor is Nalco Chemical Co. These filters are manufactured by the Pall Company. Pall only sells these filters thru their distributor, Nalco Chemical. The filters must be procured immediately which will reduce the potential risk of Legionnaire spores.

3. **Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:**

The system installed at the Central Energy Plant (CEP) has failed on several occasions thus causing positive test results of Legionella in the potable water supply at the CLC and putting at risk the residents, visitors and personnel assigned to not only the CLC but to the entire Orlando Lake Nona Medical Center facility. The actions taken to provide a safe source of potable water to all facilities include the hyper-chlorination of the water supply. After the hyper-chlorination was completed last week, the vendor recommended that filters be used as a further precautionary measure. They suggested we contact the Pittsburgh VA on their safety precautions taken for water quality.

Description of filters:

PALL-Aquasafe water filters and quick connect fitting to existing piping fittings. Estimated quantity is for a 60 day period.

Manufacturer: PALL Corporation. PALL only distributes these filters to Nalco Chemical. Filter features:

A protective barrier against waterborne contaminants including legionella spp. and Pseudomonas spp. Validated double layered sterilizing grade filtration with integral pre-filter.

Enhanced bacteriostatic efficiency of 99.99% for Pseudomonas aeruginosa

Increased media area for longer life

Quick connectors on inlet and outlet ports

Fully recyclable materials and compatible with common systemic heat and chemical disinfection

Reference: American Standard Test Method F838-05

4. **Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:**

- ☐ (1) Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;
- ☒ (2) Unusual and Compelling Urgency per FAR 6.302-2;
- ☐ (3) Industrial Mobilization, Engineering, Developmental or Research Capability or Expert Services per FAR 6.302-3;
- ☐ (4) International Agreement per FAR 6.302-4
- ☐ (5) Authorized or Required by Statute FAR 6.302-5;
- ☐ (6) National Security per FAR 6.302-6;
- ☐ (7) Public Interest per FAR 6.302-7;

5. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):**

Pall-Aquasafe in-line water filters protects for up to 31 day use. They provide filtered water to maintain stringent water quality in applications such as equipment reprocessing and rising, for ice machines and water dispensers. The doubled layered sterilizing grade Supor membrane is rated and validated at 0.2 microns, and protects against waterborne particulates and pathogens such as Legionella and Pseudomonas spp.

To minimize the risk of inadvertent cross-contamination and retrograde contamination, the filter housing material utilizes silver technology as an enhanced, non-leaching bacteriostatic additive.

Case study done from Pittsburgh Pa. VA can be found in the contract file.

6. **Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:**

Nalco corporation is the only company PALL will sell to.

7. **Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:**

Vendor is providing historical invoices from three other VA's which will be used for price comparison resulting in a fair and reasonable price.

8. **Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted**

No filters on the market that can be used to disinfect the water to 0.2 micron from biologicals with quick connect type fittings.

9. **Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:**

PALL filters already being utilized at other VA hospitals

10. **Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:**

None

11. **A Statement of the Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition before Making subsequent acquisitions for the supplies or services required:**

It is unknown if further filters will be needed after this period.

12. **Requirements Certification:** I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a Bona Fide Need of the Department of Veterans Affairs and that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in the justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.



Name James Jameson
Title HVAC Foreman
Facility Orlando Veterans Affairs

10/10/14
Date

13. **Approvals in accordance with FAR 6.304**

- a. **Contracting Officer's Certification (required):** I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Anita Leitch
Contracting Officer
Orlando VAMC

Date

- b. **NCM/PCM (Required \$3K and above):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

Dan Pontoriero -
Product Line Supervisor
Orlando VAMC

Date