

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Justification and Approval
For
Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 15, VA Medical Center, Marion, IL. This Justification for Other Than Full and Open Competition is to procure Wired Telecommunication Services for the VA Medical Center, Marion, IL. Reference 2237: 657-12-1-4203-0001

2. Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed: This action is to re-procure Wired Telecommunication Services from Frontier North, 8001 West Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46804-4141 using the authority in FAR 6.302-1. A firm-fixed price contract is contemplated for a Base Period of one year expected to begin October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012. The estimated annual price is \$140,800.

3. Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs: The telecommunications provider or Local Exchange Provider (LEC) supplies services through the following forms of transmission: ISDN-PRI and BRI circuits, T-1 voice circuit, POTS (plain old telephone), DSL (Digital Subscriber Lines), E911 (Enhanced 911 services), CAMA trunks, Centrex systems, Central Office Trunks or Business Lines. Dial tone or telecommunication services is the power generated by local central office which generates the electrical signal needed to provide telecommunications services to the telephone equipment within the facilities. Services are provided 24/7.

4. Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition: 41 USC §253(c),(1) as implemented by FAR 6.302.

- (X) (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): Frontier North is the independent Local Exchange Provider (LEC) of local phone service as well as long distance calls originating or terminating in the business area of Marion, IL. The provision of telecommunication services from Frontier North is critical in order to provide service to the veteran patient population and to sustain medical center operations. In the event of an emergency Frontier North will provide a 24 hour emergency number in order to report troubles affecting the service and will dispatch as soon as possible to determine and repair circuit trouble.

6. Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable: In accordance with FAR Part 5, this requirement will be synopsisized indicating the Government's intent to negotiate sole source with Frontier North.

7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable: The nature of this service is non-competitive and as such the only basis to determine fair and reasonable price is past history. The contracting officer, after review and consultation with appropriate technical personnel, will insure that the price paid for telecommunication services is fair and reasonable. Award will be made on the basis of price and past performance. Negotiation of reasonable price for services will be documented for the contract file. In accordance with FAR 15.403-1, this is a commercial service and cost and pricing data is not required.


8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted: Due to geographical restrictions this procurement does not lend itself to competitive opportunities.

9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition: Frontier North is acknowledged for its experience with the VA Medical Center Marion and all facilities included in its healthcare system and is the facility's current Local Exchange Carrier (LEC). Servers are not provided in the Networx contract for multiple locations in the Marion Healthcare System.

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: Due to geographical restrictions this procurement does not lend itself to competitive opportunities for the planned duration of the resulting contract. No further action is contemplated.

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.

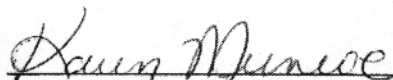


STEVE POOLE
IT SPECIALIST
VA MEDICAL CENTER, ST. LOUIS, MO

9-20-2011
Date

13. Approvals in accordance with FAR 6.304

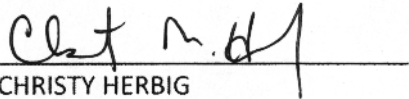
a. Contracting Officer's Certification: (required) I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.



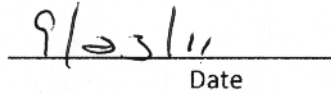
KAREN MUNROE
CONTRACTING OFFICER
VISN 15

9/20/2011
Date

b. **VISN/PCA QA:** I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. *This signature may be the VISN NCM/PCM if the Contracting Officer and Contracting Supervisor is the same individual.

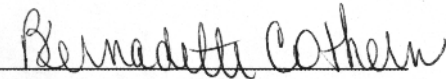


CHRISTY HERBIG
QUALITY ASSURANCE COMPLIANCE MANAGER
VISN 15

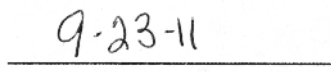


Date

c. **NCM/PCM :** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.



BERNADETTE COTHERN
NETWORK CONTRACT MANAGER
VISN 15



Date