

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Justification and Approval (J&A)
For
Other Than Full and Open Competition (>\$150K)

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 15

The St. Louis Center for Engineering & Occupational Safety and Health (CEOSH) has requested a service contract for the Practice Greenhealth Subscription Service.
2237: 657-16-4-8635-0324

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

Provide Membership and Subscription to Health Care related environmental and green initiative resources to engineering, emergency management and occupational safety and health staff working in the VA healthcare system. This will be a firm-fixed price contract, Base Plus four (4) Options, estimated value of Base plus all options \$394,400.00.

Name of Proposed Contractor: PRACTICE GREENHEALTH
Street Address: 12355 SUNRISE VALLEY DR STE 680
City, State, Zip: RESTON, VA 20191-3458

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

This is a justification for soliciting one source, Practice GreenHealth, for the services required. The action required is to provide membership VA-wide, from the period of September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017, with 4 option years, to include:

- Direct expert consulting in the implementation of sustainable programs, including assessment, data collection, benchmarking and goal setting, including system-wide customized training for VHA facilities and personnel
- Webinar subscriptions for training seminars in both the Environmental Initiatives and Green building Series; to include after the event viewing access to webinar recordings
- Subscription to members-only publications: Greenhealth Magazine and Washington Update
- Access to members-only online tools and resources, including the Green Team Guide and Eco-Check List
- Access to the Healthcare Clean Energy Exchange
- Discounts on registration fees to the annual CleanMed Conference
- Eligibility for Environmental Excellence Awards
- Web-based access and capacity for all potential VA users (about 160 locations).
- Multi-account access (users with VA.gov email addresses)
- Compatibility with VA intranet access protocols and systems
- A minimum annual updating of reference data and information
- The application shall reside on the vendor's systems and be accessible to VA through the World Wide Web. The vendor must demonstrate it maintains high availability servers and full network redundancy to ensure the highest levels of availability and reliability.

Base Year and four (4) Option Years: Membership/Subscription Period: September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2021.

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

- (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):

- This multitude of services can only be provided from the original source as this is a follow-on requirement for the continued provision of highly specialized services.
- Nationally, the VHA is utilizing the Practice Greenhealth awards program as the primary method to recognize our facilities for initiatives and exceeding sustainability goals.
- Over one-third of VHA facilities have been awarded Environmental Excellence Awards, earning overall VHA-wide system awards. Additionally, to successfully monitor our waste reduction efforts and diversion rates, the VHA procured services through FY17 from Practice GreenHealth to utilize their hospital specific waste tracking system called the GreenHealth Tracker.
- Our current partnership with Practice GreenHealth was instrumental in obtaining access to an economical and customizable electronic waste tracking system that is now the premier tool for obtaining data at all VHA facilities and providing reports to meet OMB requirements in federal agency data submissions.
- Maintaining this partnership will ensure we can continue to utilize this and other Environmental Management System tools available with this corporate subscription.
- Practice GreenHealth is the only firm capable of providing the services described in Section III above without the Veteran's Health Administration experiencing substantial duplication of cost that could not be expected to be recovered through competition and unacceptable delays in fulfilling its requirements.

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

Only one responsible sources: 10 USC 2304(c) (1). No other vendor provides this service.

- Practice Greenhealth is the only source that provides the products and services that are required. Research for other equivalent services has been on-going during the current subscription to this service, but this has proven to be the only source that targets all the products and services to the hospital industry.

- Additionally, to successfully monitor our waste reduction efforts and diversion rates, the VHA procured services through FY17 from Practice GreenHealth to utilize their hospital specific waste tracking system called the GreenHealth Tracker.
- Our current partnership with Practice GreenHealth was instrumental in obtaining access to an economical and customizable electronic waste tracking system that is now the premier tool for obtaining data at all VHA facilities and providing reports to meet OMB requirements in federal agency data submissions.
- Maintaining this partnership will ensure we can continue to utilize this and other EMS tools available with this corporate subscription.

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

- All facilities are mandated to use the GreenHealth Tracker waste management system and the majority utilize the other Practice GreenHealth services to assist in developing sustainable practices at their facilities. The VHA is utilizing the Practice Greenhealth awards program as the primary method to recognize our facilities for initiatives and exceeding sustainability goals.
- A VHA-wide subscription to the partnership program will allow all VAMCs to continue to utilize these services, maintain our access to the waste tracking system, at a 50% discounted group rate, and allow VHA cost savings of approximately \$78,000 over the cost of individual subscriptions at each medical center.

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

- Market research was conducted, but after a review of environmental professional associations that may offer training and support services, memberships, awards programs, and access to add on products/modules, such as the awards and waste tracking programs that the VHA currently use. The only source that provided the required services that are specifically tailored for the healthcare industry is Practice GreenHealth.
- A Sources Sought (VA255-16-Q-0706) was posted to FedBizOpps.gov in an attempt to seek SDVOSB's and VOSB's on 07/20/2016 with a response due NLT 07/27/2016. The Sources Sought resulted in zero (0) responses from SDVOB's, VOSB's or any other SB concern.

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

- The services being request has been solicited and awarded for the CEOSH, STL (VA255-P-1830). The services requested were award to the Practice Greenhealth as a base plus four (4) as a Sole Source in accordance FAR 6.302-1: Only one responsible source and no other supplies or service will satisfy agency requirements.

10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition: N/A

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: No actions are planned for follow-on competitive acquisition actions through the course of this contract, including the option years. The sole source effort is required to meet the required services

Chapter VI: Other Than Full and Open Competition (OFOC) SOP
Attachment 3: Request for Sole Source Justification Format >\$150K

that support the national data collection efforts in an on-going program and VHA environmental awards program.

- 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.

_____	<u>7/27/2016</u>
Howrey G. Ferguson	Date
Acting Deputy Director	
Chief, Safety & Health Technical Services	
VHA Center for Engineering & Occupational Safety and Health (10NA11)	

13. Approvals in accordance with the [VHAPM, Volume 6, Chapter VI: OFOC SOP](#).

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

_____	<u>07/27/2016</u>
Name: Frank Novello	Date
Title: Contract Specialist	
Facility: NCO 15	

- b. **Director of Contracting /Designee (Required over\$150K but not exceeding \$700K):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

_____	<u>07/27/2016</u>
Name: Roy Dean Harrison	Date
Title: Branch Chief, Division I, General Services	
Facility: NCO 15 Contracting	