

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval

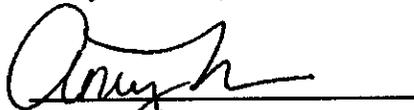
For

Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 4, James E VanZandt VA Medical Center, located at 2907 Pleasant Valley Blvd, Altoona, PA 16602.
This is a "Justification for Other Than Full and Open Competition" for the natural gas distribution utility service provided to the Medical Center.
2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:** A new firm-fixed price contract will be awarded for natural gas distribution utility services provided to the James E VanZandt VA Medical Center. Peoples Natural Gas, 625 Liberty Avenue, Suite 395, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, is the only company that is able to provide these services because Peoples Natural Gas owns the lines and other equipment used to delivery natural gas to end-use consumers in this Altoona, Pennsylvania area.
3. **Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:** The services to be acquired are natural gas distribution utility services, the estimated value is \$8000 per month for 10 months, for a total estimated value of \$80,000. The period of performance will be April 2012 through January 31, 2013, to match the distribution purchase order with the GSA contract for the natural gas generation utility service.
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;
5. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):** Peoples Natural Gas, 625 Liberty Avenue, Suite 395, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, is the only company that is able to provide these services because Peoples Natural Gas owns the lines and other equipment used to delivery natural gas to end-use consumers in this Altoona, Pennsylvania area.
6. **Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:** The Contracting Officer performed market research by reviewing the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission state website to confirm that Peoples Natural Gas (http://www.puc.state.pa.us/naturalgas/naturalgas_index.aspx) was the sole natural gas distributor to zip code 16602. The website confirmed that Peoples Natural Gas was the only company able to provide the distribution portion of this utility service.
7. **Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:** The contracting officer has determined that the anticipated cost will be considered fair and reasonable because the rates for the natural gas distribution utility service are regulated by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. The PPUC is a Commission governed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

SOP Other Than Full and Open Competition
Original Date (3/22/2011)

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 to determine if sources capable of satisfying the agency's requirements exist and it was determined that commercial items are available that they will satisfy the agency's needs. No other electric utility companies provide natural gas distribution utility services to the James E VanZandt VA Medical Center because Peoples Natural Gas owns the lines and other equipment used to deliver natural gas to end-use consumers in the Altoona, Pennsylvania, area.
9. **Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:** Not Applicable.
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:** Market research will be conducted when this contract expires to foster competition for future acquisitions of the services being acquired.
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.


 Amy Musselman
 Program Support Assistant, Facilities Service
 James E VanZandt VA Medical Center

4/16/12
 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.


 Jennifer Hoover
 Contracting Officer
 James E VanZandt VA Medical Center

4/16/2012
 Date

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


 David Staudt
 Network Contract Manager
 VISN 4

18 APR 12
 Date