

**JUSTIFICATION FOR SINGLE SOURCE AWARDS IAW FAR 13.106-1  
(OVER MICRO-PURCHASE THRESHOLD(\$3.5K) BUT NOT EXCEEDING THE SAT (\$150K))**

IAW FAR13.104, COs must promote competition to the maximum extent practicable to obtain supplies and services from the source whose offer is the most advantageous to the Government, considering the administrative cost of the purchase. When competition is not practicable, IAW FAR13.106-1(b), COs solicit from a single source for purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold. COs may solicit from one source if the CO determines that the circumstances of the contract action deem only one source reasonably available (e.g., urgency, exclusive licensing agreements, brand-name or industrial mobilization). IAW FAR13.106-3(b)(3), COs are required to include additional statements **explaining the absence of competition** (see 13.106-1 for brand name purchases) if only one source is solicited and the acquisition does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (does not apply to an acquisition of utility services available from only one source) or supporting the award decision if other than price-related factors were considered in selecting the supplier. This template when completed can be used to document single source awards IAW FAR13.106-3(b)(3). Note: Statements such as "only known source" or "only source which can meet the required delivery date" are inadequate to support a sole source purchase.

**1. ACQUISITION PLAN ACTION ID:**  
VA240C-17-AP-0019

**1A. PROJECT/TASK  
No.**

**1B. ESTIMATED AMOUNT:**  
\$20,000.00

**2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES OR SERVICES REQUIRED AND THE INTENDED USE:**

The SAO Central Region intends to award a firm fixed price purchase order for a three (3) month acquisition beginning May 01, 2017 through August 31, 2017 for medical gases for Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Iron Mountain Range VAMC located in VISN 12. A regional contract is in the process of being awarded and should be awarded by May 10, 2017. However, Iron Mountain VAMC will not have a contract in place to use for the dates between when their current purchase order expires and the new long term contract will be awarded. The Government will reserve the right to termination for convenience once the new long term contract has been awarded.

**3. UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS THAT LIMIT AVAILABILITY TO ONLY ONE SOURCE, WITH THE REASON NO OTHER SUPPLIES OR SERVICES CAN BE USED:**

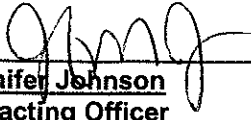
The Iron Mountain Range VAMC requires the delivery of specific medical gases and associated products. Specific medical gas descriptions included but are not limited to Oxygen, Argon, Helium, Nitrous Oxide, Nitrogen Gases, Carbon Dioxide and Liquid Nitrogen. This requirement will also include all cylinder rentals for these gases. The estimated value of this requirement is \$20,000.

It is clinically imperative that the use of medical gases continue in the interim until the long term contract is awarded. Iron Mountain Range VAMC employs the use of medical gases in routine and emergency instances and on a daily basis. If medical gases are not provided on a continual basis it can drastically affect critical patient care. Airgas LLC has the capabilities to provide Iron Mountain Range requirements seamlessly without disruption in service and /or supplies. Airgas has distribution centers established within the Iron Mountain Range catchment area and is currently providing medical gases for this medical center. Switching for three (3) months while awaiting the award of the long term contract would result significant delays in the performance of the purchase order due to the length of time it takes for the Government to transition from one contractor to another. This is because of the mixture of both government owned and contractor owned medical gas cylinders and the audits required in the transition.

**4. DESCRIPTION OF MARKET RESEARCH CONDUCTED AND RESULTS OR STATEMENT WHY IT WAS NOT CONDUCTED:**

Market research conducted in 2017 for the long term contract was utilized in this purchase order for market research purposes. Current pricing and proposal pricing will be used to determine fair and reasonable pricing. The contracting officer also intends to negotiate with the contractor for additional discounts.

**5. Contracting Officer's Certification:** *Purchase is approved in accordance with FAR13.106-1(b). I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. Note: COs are required to make a determination of price reasonableness IAW FAR 13.106-3. See the Commercial Supply and Service SOP for Price Reasonableness templates.*

Signature:   
Name: Jennifer Johnson  
Title: Contracting Officer

Date: 7/10/2017

NCO: Service Area Office (SAO) Central for VISN 12