DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification for Single Source Awards IAW FAR 13.106-1
For
Over Micro-Purchase Threshold but Not Exceeding the SAT ($150K)

Acquisition Plan Action ID:_VA263-17-AP-8828_____

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 23, Minneapolis VA Contracting. 2237#618-18-3-6970-0001
2. **Brief Description of Supplies/ Services required and the intended use/Estimated Amount:**
   ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION PANEL
   The project will include the installation of Cutler-Hammer electrical distribution panelboards as specified in the drawings and project specifications.
3. **Unique characteristics that limit availability to only one source, with the reason no other supplies or services can be used:**
   Our intent is to match the existing electrical distribution panels in the medical center and our out-buildings. The medical center currently has approximately 700 electrical distribution panels and another 100 in the out-buildings that are the Cutler-Hammer brand. The medical center electrical staff stocks parts for the Cutler-Hammer brand. The intent of this sole source is to provide new electrical panels that match our building standard and avoid stocking parts for other brands of electrical distribution panels. Stocking one manufacturer's breakers provides a cost savings due to not having to stock as many brands of electrical breakers. In addition, the Cutler-Hammer brand of electrical distribution equipment allows the electrical staff to respond to these electrical panels in an emergency without having to decide which brand of panel needs to be repaired and avoid the electricians from having to locate several brands of parts during emergency repairs. The emergency repair of these panels could result in patient safety during a malfunction if the correct repair parts are not available for installation.

   Description of market research conducted and results or statement why it was not conducted:

   No market research was conducted because no other panel boards will meet the needs of our facility. The VA electrical shop currently maintains the existing distribution panels. Adding a new brand of distribution panel would cause additional training for VA staff, maintenance time, cost to stock parts and is a potential safety issue for patients. Market research was conducted during the initial construction of the medical center. Multiple vendors were researched and given the opportunity to bid. Inquiries have been made to other vendors as to whether or not their panelboards are compatible, and they are not

4. **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.*

Allen D. Brown 428157

Digitally signed by Allen D. Brown 428157
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Date: 2017.10.25 09:25:29 -05'00'

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Date