

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

**Justification and Approval
Under
Simplified Acquisition Procedures (SAP)
For Restricting Competition under FAR 13.106-1(b)(1) "Single Source"**

1. Contracting Activity:

Department of Veterans Affairs, Network Contracting Officer (NCO) 20 for Region 1 Office of Information and Technology (OI&T), Vancouver WA.

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

This procurement under PR # 644-13-4-7790-0367 is a bridge contract for the continuation of local telecommunication services at VA facilities in Prescott and Roseburg OR and Walla Walla WA, where in accordance with FAR 6.001(a), acquisitions conducted under FAR 13 for SAP are exempt from the requirements of FAR Part 6, but still require a justification using the format of FAR 6.303-2, IAW the VHA SOP for Other Than Full And Open Competition dated 3-22-2011. The estimated three month service price is \$67,500.00.

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

Voice and data telecommunications services for VA facilities in Texas from July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013.

4. Statutory Authority Permitting Restriction in Competition:

The statutory authority for restricting competition under SAP, or Single Sourcing, for acquisitions under \$150,000 or Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SAT) is 41 U.S.C. 253(c), as implemented by FAR 13.106-1(b)(1). The specific reason for restricting competition is an "Urgent and Compelling" requirement for these services, the emergent need to continue telecom services at VA facilities that rely on them for patient care. There is not enough time to conduct a proper full open-market competition before the current contract expires. A full and open competitive RFQ will be issued in the coming months to eliminate the need for a second bridge contract.

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 work is an urgent requirement as the existing telephone service contract period of performance will expire on June 30, 2013. A temporary bridge contract must be established to prevent the cessation of local telecom services at the VA facilities in Texas. Our incumbent contractor, Southwestern Bell Telephone LP, dba AT&T Texas, is the only source that can meet all of the requirements associated with our urgent need to ensure we have uninterrupted services for this bridge contract period.

6. Description of Efforts Made to Ensure that Offers are Solicited from As Many Potential Sources as Deemed Practicable IAW FAR 13.104:

Under normal circumstances this procurement would fall under usual requirements for open-market competition and be open to bidding by any and all eligible contractors. However, the urgent, critical need for uninterrupted services precludes procurement for this bridge requirement from any source other than the incumbent.

7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable – IAW FAR 13.106-3:

The price reasonableness has been established as fair and reasonable in comparison with previous purchases (VA644-S22049) for telecommunication services and is in the best interest of the Government.

8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or Statement of Reasons Market Research was not Conducted (FAR 10):

A limited amount of market research was conducted, due to the urgency of the requirement. A search for other potential suppliers was completed on GSA Advantage! The results of market research indicated the service is commercially available to meet the Government's need.

9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Restriction of Competition:

No other facts to report.

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

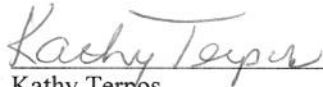
FedBizOpps Posting: The requirement will not be synopsisized in accordance with 5.202(a)(2), in that this acquisition is being conducted under unusual and compelling urgency and the Government would be seriously injured if the agency complies with the time periods specified in 5.203.

11. Statement of 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:

The proposed contract is for three months, which allows the VA VISN 20 Network Contracting Activity enough time to compete the requirement. There is a plan to re-compete for the telecommunications service for a 1 (one) year base, plus 4 (four) option years. The requirement has been identified and the acquisition planning will commence following the award of this bridge contract. A pre-solicitation synopsis will be posted in accordance with FAR 5.201 for the new extended contract.

12. Requirements Certification - IAW FAR 6.303-2(c):

I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a bonafide 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.



Kathy Terpos
Program Manager

07/10/2013

Date

13. Approvals IAW VHA SOP 3.22.11:

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

Trisha A.
Stevens 645327

Digitally signed by Trisha A. Stevens 645327
DN: cn=Trisha A. Stevens 645327, o=VA, ou=Veterans Affairs, email=trisha.stevens@va.gov, c=US
Date: 2013.07.10 15:11:46 -0700

07/10/2013

Trisha Stevens
Contract Specialist
NCO 20 Acquisitions IT Team

Date

- b. **NCM/PCM/DESIGNEE:** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and recommend approval for other than full and open competition.

7/10/2013

Jonathan Santangelo
NCO 20 Specialized Team Manager

Date