Mississippi State University  
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

189-04

Mississippi State University anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Commodity or commodities to be purchased (make, model, description):

* Pasco Scientific, 850 Universal Interface (10 pieces) and 550 Universal Interface (30 pieces). These interfaces are the essential part of our physics lab. We are using same company’s interface from several years but they are old and stop working now. Company is not producing the old one which we are using and need to go with these.

1. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s), how is it unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

* We are not buying totally new item but just upgrading our lab. We have used Pasco interface previously and all our sensor and software are optimized to these interfaces. If we try to buy from other company like “LabQuest interface” we need to buy all new sensors and other equipments so that route is more expensive and we also need a lot of manpower to rewrite our lab manuals and need more time for that. There is no way we can operate our lab in fall with new purchase.

1. Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):

* Pasco Scientific is the company that sells the item we are looking for. We have previously use same product and these are very old and stop working. Pasco Scientific is not selling the same interface so we need to go with these.

1. Estimated cost of item(s) and an explanation why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:

* $24884.0, since our old interfaces having problem and some of them stopped working we need these interface to run our lab.

1. Explanation of the efforts taken by the department to determine this is the only source and the efforts used to obtain the best possible price:

* From few days, I am working on this and looking all other possible options. Since all our previous sensors and instruments are optimized or only work on Pasco interface we do not have any other option left. The only option left is we need to spend more money and buy whole things new from other company like “LabQuest.” This is the only available cheapest and most convenient option at this point. We have already ordered 50 new computer systems which are compatible with Pasco Interface system. If we try other options there might be issues.

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Don Buffum, CPPO  
Director of Procurement & Contracts  
[dbuffum@procurement.msstate.edu](mailto:dbuffum@procurement.msstate.edu)  
**Subject Line must read “Sole Source Objection”**

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, MSU determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MSU will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If MSU determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then MSU will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. MSU will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

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