Mississippi State University  
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

156-54

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):

58 of each of the following

iMet-1-ABxn 403 MHz GPS Radiosonde

100gm Meteorological Balloon

De-reeler for Radiosonde

Parachute for Radiosonde

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

These sondes will be used in the VORTEX-SE research project for which I am a PI. The iMet-1-ABxm radiosonde is the only sonde compatible with our iMet-3150 communication system and InterMet Systems is the only available manufacturer and retailer of these sondes.

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

InterMet Systems

They are the only company manufacturing and selling these sondes.

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

Sondes (58) 11,600.00

Balloons (58) 823.02

De-reeler (58) 290.00

Parachute (58) 1,218.00

Shipping 75.00

These sondes collect the data necessary for the VORTEX-SE research project. We currently own over $5000 of communication equipment (used to collect data from sonde while in flight) and therefore would not find any savings by using another type of sonde.

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:

As a meteorology department we are well aware of the technologies available and many were considered for this grant project. However, given the price of the communication equipment needed, they sondes are the most economical.

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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