

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

SS 069

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

Commodity or commodities to be purchased (manufacturer, model, description):

Jasper Canyon Research Inc. zircon water table separator system

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:

Our lab requiring this unit is a geoscience geochronology (age-dating) research lab based around the minerals zircon, apatite, titanite and rutile. The JCR table is specifically designed for zircon (and other) separation, similar to other tables, but the JCR has smaller capture grooves which are more closely spaced which results in a smaller overall machine. The table is also designed to work quickly in separating up to 20 kg of material in as little as an hour when other tables take much longer to process less material and would delay our research projects. This JCR table will allow the lab to process up to 10 individual samples each day. In addition, the unit is designed to run unattended which will allow for other work to be completed simultaneously. The table is designed for easy cleaning to limit cross-contamination between samples which would ruin analyses conducted during our research projects. Unlike other tables, the unit does not require a special room/area or other special efforts to control the messy spillage of sample material and water which is common with this type of procedure. Lastly, the JCR is specifically designed as an integrated system to efficiently recover zircon for geoscience research. Unlike other tables, it was not designed to recover gold. The JCR does not need the additional expensive custom modifications most labs do to other tables that they want to use for zircon recovery and research such as FMC automated sample feeder, custom-built sample collection system, custom-built iron debris removal mechanism, and other items.

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

Jasper Canyon Research, Inc. is the sole manufacturer and distributor of the table we need to purchase. The JCR table is a new technology that improves on the old concentrating table technology (Wilfley & Gemini).

Why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

While the desired table is slightly more expensive (by less than \$2,000) than other separator tables, it will not require drastic modification to the lab room in which it will be installed including modifications necessary to the building for drainage, an FMC automated sample feeder, custom-built sample collection system, and custom-built iron debris removal. As the lab in question is in Brevard Hall where modifications would not be possible, a new method had to be developed. Also, the JCR unit does not need the expensive custom modifications most labs do to other tables that they want to use for zircon.

Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

The department was in contact with the vendor and attempted to gain an academic discount on the JCR table. Given that the table is already designed specifically for academic purposes, there was not any further discount. However, the vendor is going to tailor the new table specifically to the needs of the department.

Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties:

Interested parties who have reason to believe that the item(s) above should not be certified as a sole source should provide information in the following format for UM to use in determining whether or not to proceed with awarding the Sole Source purchase.

1.1 Interested Party Information**1.1.1 Contact Name, Phone Number, Address and email address****1.1.2 Company Website URL, if applicable****1.2 Objection to Sole Source Certification****1.2.1 Interested parties must present specific objections to the Sole Source certification using the criteria listed above.****1.2.2 A statement regarding the Interested Party's capabilities as related to this Sole Source Certification Request.****1.3 Comments will be accepted at any time prior to Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 3:00 pm (Central Time) to Katherine Jones at kajones4@olemiss.edu (with Cc: to purchase@olemiss.edu) at The University of Mississippi Procurement Services Department, 164 Jeanette Phillips Drive, PO Box 1848, University, Mississippi 38677. Responses may be delivered by hand, via regular mail, overnight delivery, or e-mail. The envelope or email should reference the sole source number. UM WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES. It is solely the responsibility of the**

Interested Parties that responses reach UM on time. Interested Parties may contact Katherine Jones to verify the receipt of their Responses. Responses received after the deadline will be rejected.

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

If UM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then UM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board for approval to purchase.