

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

SS 011

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):

WINK Vibracore Drill system, model #150712

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:

One of our University departments has a need for drilling equipment for both teaching and research purposes that has the following capabilities and characteristics:

- Collect sediment cores onshore (through sediments not saturated with water) and offshore (e.g. flooded wetlands or shallow lakes)
- Collect sediment cores minimally disturbed by drilling action
- Install small-diameter permanent piezometers
- Drill through unsaturated sediment
- Drill to a depth of 50 feet
- Does not require drilling fluids
- Portable and can be carried by no more than two people into areas inaccessible by vehicle (e.g. wooded wetland)

Vibratory coring is the only drilling technique that can meet these criteria. Traditional vibratory coring equipment, however, is not portable and is designed for offshore applications requiring boat or ship mounted systems. More recently developed portable vibratory coring equipment that has been designed for onshore application will operate only at shallow depths (typically less than 20 feet).

The WINK vibracorer is unique in size and capability. It is hand portable and can drill to a depth of 50 feet or more. The vibration frequency of the WINK is adjustable, allowing the operator to tune into the natural frequency of the strata being sampled, control the rate of penetration and collect consistent, intact samples. It uses conventional drill rods in standard B, N, and H sizes, with the N and H sizes being large enough to allow installation of small-diameter permanent piezometers.

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

The WINK Vibracore Drill Company is the sole source of the WINK Vibracore Drill system. There is no other company that manufactures or distributes this specific type of equipment. Based on discussions with colleagues experienced in soil core collection techniques and the vibratory coring method, internet research, and a review of vendors of vibratory coring equipment, only the WINK Vibracore Drill Company offers the equipment that meets our needs as described in the section above.

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, October 6, 2015 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.