

SOLES SOURCE JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL FOR ACQUISITION UNDER THE SIMPLIFIED ACQUISITION THRESHOLD

- 1. Contracting Agency and Activity.** The Department of the Interior, United States Geological Survey, Reston Acquisitions Branch, Reston, VA plans to contract on a sole source basis. This document sets forth the justification and approval as required by FAR 13.106-1 (b)(1) Only One Source Reasonable Available.
- 2. Nature of Action Being Approved.** The USGS Woods Hole Coastal and Marine Science Center requires purchase of three 16plus V2 (SBE16+), Conductivity and Temperature (CT) Recorders, three Underwater Inductive Modems (UIM) sized with *W*' diameter clamp for 3/8" nilspin wire, and three SBE 44 cables from Sea-Bird Electronics, Inc., 13431 NE 20¹ Street, Bellevue, WA 98005.
- 3. Description of Supplies or Services.** USGS scientists conduct studies of sediment and pollutant transport in the coastal ocean that require long-term observations of conductivity (salinity), temperature, and suspended sediment concentrations. The instruments must be self-powered, store data internally, and be capable of sampling temperature, conductivity, and at least one 5-volt sensor every few minutes for a period of up to 12 months. They must have an inductive modem to allow data to be transmitted through a conducting mooring wire.
- 4. Estimated Dollar Value.** The estimated dollar amount for this purchase is \$39,600.48.
- 5. Statutory Authority.** The proposed action may be awarded on a sole source basis in accordance with: (*Only Cite One Authority*) FAR 13.106-1(b)(1) "Only One Source Reasonable Available"
- 6. Rationale Supporting Use of Citation in No. 5.** Compatibility with existing equipment: The USGS Coastal and Marine Geology Program has an inventory of Sea-Bird Electronics temperature-conductivity (TC) recorders. Data processing software has been developed to work specifically with the data format used by these instruments, and collaborators expect data delivered in this format. The USGS also maintains a supply of auxiliary sensors compatible with the Sea-Bird CT recorders, as well as mooring cages designed to hold Seabird CT recorders so they can be safely deployed for long periods of time on a mooring beneath the sea surface. Instruments added to the current inventory must be interchangeable with existing equipment, and compatible with the existing data processing software and mooring hardware
- 7. Other Information.** Compatibility with collaborator's mooring and telemetry systems: These instruments will be deployed as part of the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal and Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS; <http://www.neracoos.org/>), operated by University of Maine. NERACOOS maintains seven instrumented moorings year-round in the Gulf of Maine. The data from underwater instruments are transmitted to a surface buoy through the mooring cable using the Seabird Inductive Modem technology, then from the surface buoy to shore via cell-phone technology. The inductive modem is proprietary to

SeaBird. A cooperative agreement between the USGS and the University will allow USGS instruments to be deployed on the existing moorings, and to send data through the moorings and data system to be archived and displayed in real-time on the Web. The SeaBird inductive modem technology is required to insure compatibility with the existing NERACOOS network

8. The Efforts to Identify Additional Sources Including the Market Research Conducted.

9. Future Plans to Permit Competition.

No other sources are known to possess the unique and essential qualifications outlined in Part 6 of this justification

10. Recommendation Program Office

Based on the above, I recommend this acquisition be conducted on a sole source basis and certify that the above statements are true and correct.





<Program/Project Officer Name> _____ Signature _____ Date _____
 <Title> ELECT. ENGR.

11. Certifications from the Contracting Officer

- a. The contracting officer must include a determination that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable with a short statement for the basis of that determination. Prices will be determined fair and reasonable by comparison with list prices or invoices for similar or like items
- b. This justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

CRISTINA VEGA

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 Date: 2014.07.08 16:20:43 -0400

Cristina Vega, Contracting Officer

Date _____

12. Concurrence by Competition Advocate > \$25,000 (DIAPR 2008-10 Enhancing Competition)

**JENNIFER
KELLEY**

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 Date: 2014.07.09 08:01:15 -0400

Jennifer Farrell, Bureau Competition Advocate

Date _____