

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) intends to make a non-competitive award to University of Georgia located in Athens, GA, for obtaining optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) Analysis for 15 samples, to be delivered to the USGS EGPSC at 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 926A, Reston, VA 20192

There is one option period:

Base year: 10/01/2014 – 09/30/2015

Option Period 1: 10/01/2015 – 09/30/2016

University of GA 's OSL lab has the specialized analytical instruments, methodologies and protocols in place to calculate high accuracy dispositional ages from old terrestrial sediments (ranging from 100 years-150 years old), and to deliver them with short turnaround times. The short turnaround is needed to help guide field sampling during the active field season and to minimize the number of samples needed to solve geologic field problems.

In accordance with FAR 5.207, all responsible sources may submit a bid, proposal or quotation which shall be considered by the agency, however, THIS NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. THIS IS NOT A REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS. The Government intends to award this requirement noncompetitively in accordance with FAR 13.106-1(b)(1).

Email responses to [hnair@usgs.gov](mailto:hnair@usgs.gov).

The anticipated NAICS code is 541380. The size standard is \$14.0 million.

The anticipated award date of the contract is 10/01/2014. The anticipated contract will be firm fixed-price. A vendor must be registered at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/> to be awarded the contract.

**SOLE 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.** This is a non-competitive, firm fixed price contract to University of Georgia (Athens) for base year plus one option year. The period of performance of the base period will be October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

**3. Description of Supplies or Services.**

We are purchasing 15 optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) analyses per contract year from the University of Georgia, Department of Geography/ Luminescence Lab, Attn: George Brook, 210 Field Street, Athens, GA 30602, to date geologic sediments of unknown age, but which are known to be older than the effective range of radiocarbon dating. This will enable us to successfully complete several geologic studies we are conducting on the U.S. Atlantic Coastal Plain.

**4. Estimated Dollar Value.** The expected total value for the award \$18,000.00. Yearly price estimate is as follows:

**10/01/2014 through 09/30/2015 \$9,000.00**

**10/01/2015 through 09/30/2016 \$9,000.00**

**5. Statutory Authority.** The proposed action may be awarded on a sole source basis in accordance with: FAR 13.106-1(b)(1) "Only One Source Reasonable Available"

**6. Rationale Supporting Use of Citation in No. 5.**

Brook's lab is uniquely qualified for these analyses because we are in the middle of a multi-year research collaboration with George, who provides our project with OSL analyses of the unconsolidated sediments we are studying. This contract is requested with this particular vendor to ensure continuity of our scientific data, to ensure standardization of our dating protocols and methodology throughout the study, to ensure rapid and effective troubleshooting of any problematic sample results (by using a single protocol and strong scientific controls). Ultimately these controls will ensure the highest possible quality in our scientific results.

**7. Other Information.** Researchers at the USGS have established an ongoing collaboration with the University of Georgia to assist in providing serial OSL age analyses in sediments which are not datable by standard radiometric techniques (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry <sup>14</sup>C). The OSL lab at the University of Georgia has the specialized analytical instruments, methodologies, and protocols in place to calculate high accuracy depositional ages from old terrestrial sediments

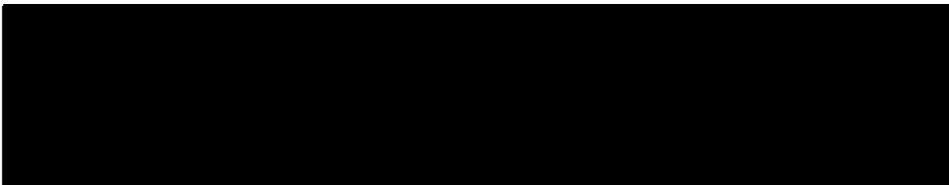
(ranging from 40,000-150,000 years old), and consistently delivers them with short turnaround times. This lab consistently provides analytic results without unacceptable delays (usually only about 3 month turnaround from sample submittal). This enables us to cross-test our results by submitting additional samples if necessary, within the same project year, and allows researchers to complete obligated research products under the agreed annual timelines. This has resulted in important new discoveries regarding the nature of paleoclimate over the past 150,000 years (see item 6, above).

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

**9. Future Plans to Permit Competition.** Based on our present geologic study goals, at this time we anticipate no additional OSL samples will be necessary for this project work beyond our option year.

**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.



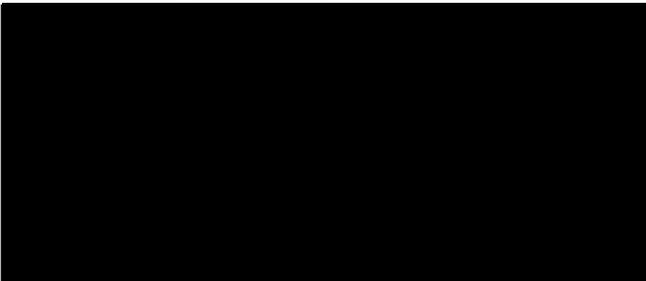
24 Sept 2014  
Date

**11. Certifications from the Contracting Officer**

- a. The contracting officer has determined that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable on the basis of comparison with the price paid for the same purchase previous year with the PO # G11PX00930
- b. This justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Galvin, Contracting Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



The U.S Geological Survey (USGS) considers employee signatures to be Personal Protected Information, and therefore all employee signatures have redacted. By posting this document, the Contracting Officer attests all appropriate signatures have been obtained