

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. Requesting Award of a noncompetitive purchase to YSI Incorporated for complete data collection system.

3. Description of Supplies or Services. The Texas Water Science Center – Gulf Coast Program Office is the requiring program office in this acquisition. In order to meet program development goals with current and potential cooperators, the Gulf Coast Program Office requires a single, integrated monitoring system for the collection of select constituents in coastal and estuarine environments. This system must be made of materials capable of operating for long term deployments with minimal fouling in coastal environments. The system must be capable of collecting water temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen concentration, turbidity, pH, chlorophyll and blue-green algae concentrations and wave/tide characteristics including significant and maximum wave height, wave period, and tidal elevations. The system must be capable of transmitting this information of the GOESS network for near real-time retrieval of data. Additionally, because the system is to be located on a offshore platform, the system should be capable for cable-free communication so data a calibration can be acquired from boat.

4. Estimated Dollar Value. \$22,805.00

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. The proposed contractor is the only available source capable of meeting the objectives for this integrated system. The contractor manufactures all required equipment and has the technical ability to integrate the water quality instruments with wave/tide instruments into a single monitoring platform. The instruments being used solely meet the requirements by a combination of the following:

- The water quality instruments are constructed of titanium and/or copper significantly reducing the degradation of collected data in coastal environments
- The instrument has built-in Bluetooth wireless technology for cable-free communications when calibrating, communicating and downloading data.
- The instrument is the only one with a total algae sensor capable of measuring both chlorophyll and blue-green algae in a single probe eliminating the need for multiple probes and instruments.
- The contractor has the data collection (SmartGuard) platform and technical ability to combine water quality instruments and wave/tide instruments into a single integrated system able to be sent in a GOESS transmission.

Additionally, the office has spare parts and water quality probes from this manufacturer making operation and maintenance of the equipment in the field less costly without the need for additional infrastructure support.

7. Other Information. YSI is the only known authorized dealer for YSI manufactured equipment. No other manufacturer can offer equipment that meets both the measurement requirements and the integration requirements of the existing infrastructure. YSI is the proprietary manufacturer of the equipment and they possess the technical knowledge and patents covering the intricate designs of the instruments and any accessory items associated with that instrument. The government requests to sole source this requirement to YSI as it will provide a continuity of equipment and standardization of repair parts to an existing infrastructure.

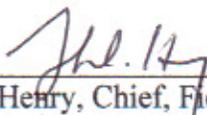
8. The Efforts to Identify Additional Sources Including the Market Research Conducted.

No other companies were contacted as no other can integrate with YSI equipment in the existing system.

9. Future Plans to Permit Competition. To promote competition, HIF continually tests new devices as they become available on the market. HIF encourages vendors to develop and submit products that meet USGS requirements.

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.



Frank Henry, Chief, Field Service Section

7-24-13
Date

11. Certifications from the Contracting Officer

- a. The anticipated cost to the Government is fair and reasonable based on public price list and/or invoice of same items provided to other companies or agencies.
- b. This justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

David P Ouellette, Contracting Officer

Date