

This J&A will also be available at the following address:
http://www.usgs.gov/contracts/acq_opp/public_notices.html

*Figure 2
Part 404, Chapter 3
Limited Source Justification for FSS Award*

JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL

LIMITED SOURCE JUSTIFICATION FOR FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULE (FSS) AWARD (FAR 8.4)

1. Contracting Agency and Activity. The Department of the Interior, United States Geological Survey, Office of Acquisition and Grants (OAG), Sacramento plans to contract by means other than full and open competition. This document sets forth the justification and approval for award of a Federal Supply Schedule order on a limited source basis as required by FAR 8.405-6.

2. Nature of Action Being Approved. The OAG, Sacramento plans to award a new delivery order under a Federal Supply Schedule contract for a Dell Equallogic High Capacity Storage Network. The proposed awardee is Dell of Texas, Dell Marketing L.P.

3. Description of Supplies or Services. The Nevada Water Science Center is in need of replacing its Storage Area Network (SAN) as soon as possible because it has reached full capacity. Almost four months ago, the Nevada Water Science Center attempted to purchase a new Dell Equallogic via' a lease option. We were told this would not work, that we would need to purchase outright. These four months have exceeded the time frame that we needed the equipment in house. For this reason, it is critical that we get this equipment delivered and provisioned as soon as possible. The Nevada Water Science Center needs storage as soon as possible. If this procurement is not done as requested, all our efforts, and scientists data is at risk, possibly losing millions of dollars of data. For these reasons, the USGS mission will be critically injured if expedient measures are not pursued for this procurement.

The supplies required to meet the agency's requirement (Nevada Water Science Center) are as follows: Dell Equallogic High Capacity Storage Area Network containing two PS65000E High Capacity, High Density, 7.2K SATA Drives, four PowerConnect 6248, 48GbE Port Manage Switches, and two PVTL4000, 4U, LTO5 tape drives. This also includes on-site installation, training, and support initial provisioning.

4. Estimated Dollar Value. The estimated dollar value of the action being approved is: \$ [REDACTED].

5. Statutory Authority. The proposed action may be awarded on a sole source basis under the authority of U.S.C. , Title 40 – Public Buildings, Property, and Works, Subtitle I – Federal Property and Administrative Services, Chapter 5 – Property Management, Subchapter I – Procurement and Warehousing, Sec. 501(b)(1)(A).

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

Dell blade system only supports Dell servers. Our current server infrastructure is Dell, and therefore we cannot have a variance. The new SANS must be compatible with the current SANS that is being replaced, along with the need for one vendor to support the solution. Dell blades have a proprietary form factor. While the components are all standards based, the connection mechanisms of the blades and chassis they fit into are unique to each OEM. Therefore, no other vendor's blades will fit into a Dell blade chassis, nor will Dell blades fit into another vendor's chassis. Only Dell blades will work with current and proposed Dell blades systems.

Dell SANS supports SAS, SSD, and SATA drives. Additionally Dell SANS is scalable to multiple petabytes without data migration.

Additionally, the proposed solution is packaged to provide seamless support for the entire environment and each component has been fully tested and qualified to work in conjunction with one another. Entire solution covers servers, storage, and connectivity. Dell provides one call support for the entire solution. Mixing vendors in the solution could potentially cause instability and create support issues in the event of a problem. The Dell solution combined with the ability to support every component in the solution eliminates “finger pointing” that could arise in a mixed vendor system.

The Solution includes enterprise level SAN features including replication, snapshots, volume copies, management, reporting, automated performance tuning and optimization, full integration with virtual software like VMWare at no additional cost for licensing. Other solutions require separate licensing.

No other vendor is known that can provide such support as requested above.

7. Other Information. NONE.

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

FedBizOpps posting is not required for an FSS RFQ, and an Ebuy RFQ through GSA Advantage is suggested in order to obtain additional market research and encourage potential quotes from other FSS competitive sources.

The requirement for a synopsis is waived based upon FAR 5.202(a) (11) and in accordance with FAR 8.404(a).

9. Actions to Overcome Barriers to Competition.

This procurement is expected to be a one-time requirement, the action to increase future competition is not required because there are no planned acquisitions for or related to this requirement, and none are likely to develop.

10. Recommendation and Certification from Program Office

Based on the above, I recommend this acquisition be conducted on a limited source basis. I certify that technical data which form a basis for this justification, that are the responsibility of technical or requirements personnel are complete and accurate.

SIGNATURE REDACTED

J. Wade Hood
Supervisory IT Specialist

Date

11. Certifications and Approval from the Contracting Officer:

a. I hereby determine that any proposed cost to the Government will be evaluated for price reasonableness, and realism and the proposed order shall represent the best value to the Government consistent with FAR 8.404(d). GSA has already determined the prices of supplies under schedule contracts to be fair and reasonable. Therefore, ordering activities are not required to make a separate determination of fair and reasonable pricing with the exception for price evaluation. By placing an order against a schedule I conclude that the proposed order will represent the best value and result in the lowest overall cost alternative to meet the Government's needs.

b. This justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

12. Approvals

Approved IAW, FAR 8.404(d)

SIGNATURE REDACTED _____
Cheryl Fitch, Contracting Officer
WR Branch of Acquisition and Grants

Date

IAW DIAPR 2008-10, Approved by:

SIGNATURE REDACTED _____
Nancy V. Miller
Chief, Branch of Acquisition & Grants
OAG Sacramento, USGS

Date