

U.S. Department of Energy
Environmental Management Consolidated Business Center
Justification for Other than Full and Open Competition

(1) Identification of Agency and the Contracting Activity:

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Environmental Management (EM), through the Environmental Management's Consolidated Business Center (EMCBC).

(2) Nature and Description of Action Being Approved:

EM requires a contractor that can provide access to a software platform that will aid in the communications needs at DOE EM Headquarters (HQ). The DOE/EMCBC will procure two, one-year subscriptions from theEDGE for its proprietary consolidated software platform. This will allow real-time, 24/7 access to:

- a) theEDGE Annual Congressional Budget Tracker,
- b) Congressional legislation impacting DOE,
- c) Industry intelligence,
- d) A personal dashboard to track opportunities,
- e) Access to prime contracting opportunities from across the DOE Complex,
- f) Access to subcontracting opportunities from across the DOE Complex,
- g) Business News impacting DOE Sites and Contractors,
- h) Major DOE Prime Contractors information,
- i) Industry Events affecting DOE, and
- j) Advisory and Oversight Board information and updates.

(3) Description of the Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs and Estimated Value:

TheEdge subscription includes news coverage of issues impacting EM and other parts of the department, including coverage of stakeholder engagements, policy development and procurements and acquisitions. It also regularly engages EM with media queries and publishes information that EM provides in response. Continued access enables EM Communications to better engage with the news site and stay informed of actions impacting the mission. The insight received from the subscription is commensurate with the price of the subscription.

(4) Statutory Authority Permitting Other Than Full and Open Competition:

The statutory authority to noncompetitively award this contract is found in FAR Part 6.302-1, Only one responsible source is available, and no other supplies or services will satisfy agency requirements.

(5) Contractor's Unique Qualifications:

theEDGE is a woman-owned small business company, which created and maintains a real-time application software that delivers access to all DOE contracting business. The software pulls information from across the DOE complex and shares intelligence and business news with its subscribers.

(6) Description of efforts to ensure offers are solicited and whether a notice will be publicized.

A notice was publicized as required by FAR Subpart 5.1 on February 15, 2022. No other sources will be solicited for this acquisition.

(7) Determination that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable.

The cost will be fair and reasonable as it is based on previous purchases of the same subscription purchase since 2018.

(8) Statement of Reason Why Market Research Was Not Conducted.

Market research was not conducted due to the demonstrated unique capabilities of theEDGE to provide this unique service to support communications at the EM-HQ office.

(9) Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition

This contract is necessary for real-time access to information for the EM-HQ organization. All other facts have been documented.

(10) Listing of the Sources, if any, that Expressed an Interest in the Acquisition

A Notice of Intent to Sole Source was posted on the EMCBC webpage www.emcbc.doe.gov for informational purposes only. The DOE is not seeking interested parties at this time.

(11) Statement of the Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition Before any Subsequent Acquisition for the Supplies or Services Required

The agency will reconsider whether it is prudent to seek competition of future acquisitions for these services.

(12) Contracting Officer Certification

In accordance with FAR 6.303-2(b)(12) the Contracting Officer certifies that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Carin P. Boyd, Contracting Officer

Date