

USM SSP 23_030 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase of Thermomechanical Analyzer (TMA) with modulated capabilities.

http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Bid

RFx: 3150004975

Comments/objections will be received as required per Section 31-7-13 (C) of the Mississippi Code until 8:00 a.m. (Central Time) on May 22, 2023.

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Steve Ballew

Director of Procurement & Contracts 118 College Dr. Box 5003 Hattiesburg, MS 39406

bids@usm.edu

Phone: 601-266-4131

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection USM SSP 23_030"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

Run Dates: 5/8, 5/15

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 23_030

The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure:

Thermomechanical Analyzer (TMA) with modulated capabilities

2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:

I require an instrument that can do modulated TMA at a force of up to 2N with a frequency of up to 2Hz. The equipment must have a cooling accessory to get a temperature range of -70 °C to 400 °C that does not require liquid nitrogen. I must be able to use multiple points for calibration. I must be able to utilize various fixtures due to the nature of our business, we need a broad range of capabilities. I would also need this instruments to be able to open or import historical data, and interface with other current equipment, which are all 0.001 or .ua files as well as the ability for the software to operate DSC, DMA and TGA as well for overlaying of data.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can

provide the required commodity:

For TMA, other vendors include Shimadzu, Netzch, Perkin Elmer and Mettler Toledo. Shimadzu, Perkin Elmer, and Netzch do not appear have modulated TMA. Mettler does not go to as high of a frequency for modulated TMA, and cannot get as high of a force either. Perkin, Shimadzu, Netzch and Mettler do not appear to have a cooling accessory, they require LN₂ for cooling. I cannot use an LN₂ accessory, as there is no LN₂ generator in this building and it is dangerous and costly to transport. I have found no evidence that these instruments can interface with historical data or previously purchased equipment.

4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

With the academic discount, ~\$70,000 is similar to other instruments of this kind.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

I have scoured other vendor's websites and specification sheets. None can be verified to meet all of the needs I have mentioned above.

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Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	5/8/2023
2nd scheduled	5/15/2023

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Director of Procurement & Contracts

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