The University of Southern Mississippi

Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

SSP 17_008

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: TA Instruments VTI-SA+ Vapor Sorption Analyzer

2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency: Prospective instruments were reviewed in the scientific literature and TA Instruments was selected based on prior experience with their products and the precision and quality of their instruments. Additionally, the TA Instruments VTI-SA+ is unique and meets performance characteristics not matched by other manufactures.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity: TA Instruments does not sell through distributors

4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable: The price is reasonable given the substantial academic discount offered and our experience with TA Instruments for performance and reliability with the use of their instruments over the last 15 years.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity: A 20% academic discount was provided by the vendor.

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<th>Advertisement Schedule</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>1st scheduled</td>
<td>November 20, 2016</td>
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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 by **December 8, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.** notice to:

Steve Ballew  
Director of Procurement & Contracts  
Steve.ballew@usm.edu  

**Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"**

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.