

Mississippi State University

Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

190-43

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

1. Commodity or commodities to be purchased (make, model, description):

A custom Hybrid Design Services (HDS) Battery Pack system (model: 1005400 Battery Pack ECOCAR) that incorporates Samsung 20S cells in a n 8P96S format, giving a nominal pack voltage of 345 Volts, with a continuous discharge limit of 80 Amps, with a 1.5 kWh energy rating.

2. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s) and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

The MSU EcoCAR Mobility Challenge team is participating in a competition in which we are redesigning a 2019 Chevrolet Blazer as a hybrid electric vehicle. The competition organizers sponsored the development of this battery pack for use by teams. Since it is designed as a custom unit to fit into the available space in the Blazer, it is uniquely qualified to serve our purposes.

3. Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):

Hybrid Design Services, Inc. has designed the unit as a custom battery pack to meet the competition requirements, and has agreed to produce it and deliver it by January of 2020. Any other company would take longer than that at this point, and would not have the benefit of working with the teams in the competition to design an equivalent unit.

4. Estimated cost of item(s) and an explanation why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:

\$19,750 plus shipping costs is a reasonable cost, based on the fact that this is a custom unit and is only going to be produced in limited quantities. Another available unit that is mass produced, but only provides about a third of the energy capacity of the HDS system would cost \$5,500. Since the requested unit is a custom unit for very limited production, the \$19,750 is a reasonable cost.

5. Explanation of the efforts taken by the department to determine this is the only source and the efforts used to obtain the best possible price:

The U.S. Department of Energy is the competition sponsor, and they have worked with HDS to get this system developed at a reasonable price. Our team did a separate search, trying to identify any other vendors that could provide an off-the-shelf unit that would be equivalent, and were unable to do so. Any available system that would be equivalent would not be designed to fit the space available, or if it fit the space available, would not provide the performance required for our application.

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:

Don Buffum, CPPO

Director of Procurement & Contracts

dbuffum@procurement.msstate.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, MSU determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MSU 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 MSU determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then MSU will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. MSU will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.