

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSN 223-20

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):

Kjeltec 8400/8460 Sampler system with DT 220 Digester. This system analyzes for crude protein (Kjeldahl N).

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

This is used to analyze for crude protein (Kjeldahl N). There is not another crude protein analyzer system that comes with an auto sampler which allows for this many samples to be completed in this short a time frame. This system allows for 80 to 120 samples per day. Other systems are not comparable as they are limited to completing analysis on 15 to 25 (or less) samples per day. The MSU Nutrition Lab analyzes an average of approximately 1,000 samples annually, most of which are collected in the summer months. This is the only system that can process the number of samples needed within the time frame that research commonly takes place.

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

Foss North America, Inc. This company is the only one which manufactures equipment that can rapidly complete Kjeldahl N.

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

Approximately \$122,238 for the entire system. With this system, it is estimated to save labor costs of approximately \$25,000/year. The previous unit lasted 25 years, so a labor saving of approximately \$625,000 for the life expectancy of this system.

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:

Attempted to work with Fisher Scientific, and they could not find a vendor. Searched online for other sources and was not able to identify any other source.

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.

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