

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

256-009

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):

10 Watt solar powered (2021/10) Data logger “enviLog Midi” radio transmission, 12V (22013) and Connection module for Redox and pH electrodes (4611) plus Software Wireless for Datalogger enviLog (220233) and Radio receiver for PC/Notebook (220227) with Outdoor covering case 400 x 600 (2174/46) and Mast clamps (2174/MB) for continuous measurements of soil redox potential and pH using Redox electrodes according to Mansfeldt (461/30), pH electrodes (465) with Sensor protection sleeves (465H), and Ag/AgCl-Reference for field studies (4621). Including pre-shipment Laboratory set-up and function test – Data logger system (9016) and System documentation (9015).

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:

These items will help MWRRI meet the requirements of a current and relevant USDA-NRCS project with the goal of recirculating irrigation tailwater in rice production fields and continuously measuring soil redox potential and pH across multiple states. They are the only solar powered data logger and connection module setup to continuously monitor soil redox potential and pH that can meet project requirements.

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

EcoTech Umwelt-Messsysteme GmbH is the company selling the items listed. EcoTech is the only company with the ability to provide these required items because they are the only company that manufactures these items to provide an outdoor setup that is solar powered and can continuously measure and log data from soil redox and pH electrodes in agricultural fields.

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

The estimated cost of these items is projected/estimated to be \$64,993.41 when converted to US Dollars , \$47,747.95 in Euros . This is considered to be a reasonable price because no other company manufactures these tools for this particular experimental design.

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:

EcoTech is the only source from which we can acquire a system to continuously measure soil redox potential and pH in agricultural fields with a solar powered, data logging unit equipped with connection modules and soil redox and pH probes because the connection module (article no. 4611) and data logger (article no. 22013) was developed by ecoTech for operation with redox electrodes 461/30. The redox electrodes according to Mansfeldt (461/30) have been developed, produced and sold by ecoTech. Extensive research had been performed to find a company to produce such tools, however ecoTech was the only provider.

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:

Jennifer Mayfield, CPPO
Director of Procurement & Contracts
jmayfield@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.