

Mississippi State University Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

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):

Nuclear grade fibrous glass HEPA medium qualified to ASME AG-1 are required with the following model numbers:

- 3398-UF
- 3398V
- 3398V-L2W
- 3398-L2W

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:

Project sponsors have requested an evaluation of performance, aging response, and durability for each available type of ASME AG-1 qualified HEPA filter medium and filter components used in Department of Energy facilities. The specific models of the medium above may only be purchased through the manufacturers as newly manufactured items in order to characterize aging profiles. The filter medium must be newly manufactured and is only purchased through the manufacturer.

Testing of any other filters would not give acceptable data for the funding agency.

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

Alkegen Lydall is the only filter medium manufacturer that manufactures medium with these specific materials that are ASME AG-1 qualified. Furthermore, they are the sole supplier of these specific medium used across the DOE facility.

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

Our quoted price for these items is 11,000.00. This is a reasonable amount compared to other types of ASME AG-1 -qualified HEPA filters.

- Item 1: Rolls of 3398-UF is quoted at \$3,000.00
- Item 2: Rolls of 3398V is quoted at \$3,000.00
- Item 3: Rolls of 3398V-L2W is quoted at \$3,000.00
- Item 4: Rolls of 3398-L2W is quoted at \$3,000.00

There is a credit of \$1,000.00 on the quote from our last purchase of a different media type from this manufacturer. The total price of the purchase would be: \$11,000.00.

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:

Industry contacts across the complex listed the material types used across DOE facilities. The project sponsor requested testing on each type of material used across the complex, and each material manufacturer is the only source for their own qualified AG-1 filter medium with accredited paperwork. An online search was performed with no viable results. Options were discussed with other suppliers, but no vendors of these specific items were found.

Additionally, the funder requested that the items be purchased using NQA-1 processes where able and directly from the manufacturer in order to investigate the aging phenomenon of the materials without extra age or handling before testing.

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.