

JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION
(JOFOC)

Authority: FAR 6.302-1 only one responsible source and no other supplies or services will satisfy agency requirements.

Agency: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mail Code 2803R
Washington, DC 20460

Description: This is an award to continue use of QWEST Government Services, Inc. Sonet Ring for Telecommunications within the Washington DC Metropolitan Area.

Period of Performance: 01 February 2011 thru September 30, 2011

Estimated Contract Value: [REDACTED]

Proposed Contractor: QWEST GOVERNMENT SERVICES, INC.

Justification:

This document recommends that EPA keeps in place for the next eight (8) months Qwest Government Services for the continued maintenance and use of Qwest's SONET Ring that includes OC48 Ring and Local access to PRI.

EPA's Headquarters (HQ) occupies space in multiple buildings in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area. Telecommunications services, including voice, video and data are shared among headquarters locations via an OC-48 SONET Ring provisioned by QWEST Communications, under a contractual agreement with Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), EPA's primary IT infrastructure support contractor. The locations connected to the SONET Ring, hereafter referred to as the HQ Metropolitan Area Network (MAN), are as follows:

1) Federal Triangle Complex –

The Federal Triangle Complex includes Ariel Rios North and South, EPA East, EPA West, and portions of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, with EPA owned Gig-E connectivity provided via dark fiber between buildings. **SONET connections terminate only in Ariel Rios North and EPA West.**

2) Potomac Yard, Arlington, VA –

This location, due to connectivity limitations at the time of installation, does not have a direct connection to the QWEST SONET Ring. However, it becomes part of the HQ

MAN via a cross connect of Potomac Yard's EPL circuit with the QWEST SONET Ring.

3) 1310 L Street, NW

Direct Connection to the SONET

4) Woodward & Lothrop Building

Direct Connection to the SONET

5) Metropolitan Square (MSQ)

Currently this location has a Direct Connection to the SONET

The need for this connection ceases on 9/30/2010.

The Qwest SONET ring provides not only data connectivity, but transports Voice over IP (VoIP) traffic among Headquarters sites. The transition to EPA's new network, WAN 2010, is a major Agency-wide deployment, involving 114 sites, including all locations supported by the SONET ring. In order to support Agency Internet connectivity the Managed Trusted Internet Protocol Service (MTIPS) Infrastructure will need to be built.

The magnitude of change being introduced to the Agency's telecommunications infrastructure warrants careful management of risk to help ensure continuous operations. It is within the parameters of risk management that the EPA elects to sequence the transition of the network to first complete all non-Headquarters connectivity, ensuring steady state operations at sites prior to undertaking the SONET conversion. Given approximately 12,000 telephone numbers that would need to be ported from the existing carrier to the new provider, the process could take several months. PRI's currently provide voice service and would need to be replaced with either PRI's or SIP trunking technology. The Agency has elected to incorporate SIP trunking as its VoIP solution; however this offering is not yet available under the Networkx Contract vehicle, creating a delay in implementation.

EPA has elected to extend the provisioning of the existing SONET connectivity for a period of 9 months. This is being advertised as a sole source given the disruption and high risk to critical voice communications within headquarters.

Contractor Qualifications:

Qwest Government Services, Inc. is qualified to perform the continue telecommunications services for EPA Washington DC Metropolitan Area until such time as the voice, video and data lines can be transferred to the Network 2010 Vendor. The new architecture for the Agency is being designed and deployed throughout the U.S. the transition of these services will happen in a planned and phased approach. The Agency anticipated that all 28,000 lines will be transferred between June 2011 and September 2011.

Efforts to solicit from other sources:

No other sources were solicited as this requirement is temporary for the transition of current circuits and OC48 Ring to the new competitively award Network Contract.

Reasonableness of Cost:

Qwest Government Services, Inc. submitted a cost proposal that is reasonable and continues the maintenance and management of the OC48 Ring and Local PRI at the current rate. Transition of these circuits to any other vendors is cost prohibited as this service is only temporary until all 28,000 lines within the Washington DC Metropolitan Area can be transferred to the competitively awarded Network Vendor.

Other Factors: None

Action:

There is only one source for this requirement. In accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulations Subpart 6.302-1 the justification for other than full and open competition must be approved by the Contracting Officer

I certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief


Sandra C. Caesar
Contracting Officer

2/28/11
Date

 @CTing
TOM SHERIDAN
David Updike
Office of Environment Information
Office of Technology Operations and Planning
National Computer Center

2/28/2011
Date