

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

John H. Glenn Research Center
Lewis Field
Cleveland, OH 44135-3191



Reply to Attn of: CHB

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: CHB/Contracting Officer, Research and Space Operations Branch

SUBJECT: Source Selection Statement (SSS) for combination synopsis/solicitation
NNNC13481258Q, Two Advanced Subsonic Combustion Rig Water Coolant
Pumps

Procurement History

This procurement will establish a firm-fixed price, commercial contract for two advanced subsonic combustion rig water coolant pumps. The contract will consist of one basic effort and no option efforts.

The combination synopsis/solicitation for this procurement was issued through the NASA Acquisition Internet Service on 07/29/2013 as a Request for Quote (RFQ). Market research indicated three important considerations: First, more than one organization showed an interest in submitting an offer, demonstrating to NASA that this was suitable for a competitive procurement. Second, the offerors who showed interest were small business vendors offering the manufactured end-item of large businesses. This demonstrated that, in regards to the Nonmanufacturer rule at Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 19, this procurement was not suitable for any type of small business set-aside. Therefore NASA created the RFQ as a full and open competition. Third, market research indicated that this procurement was suitable as a commercial purchase, and therefore both simplified and commercial terms and conditions were used. Prior to the RFQ closing date of 08/12/2013, on 08/05/2013 Berrington Pumps & Systems, Inc. (Berrington) submitted a quote. However the Contracting Officer (CO) rejected the quote for failing to furnish all required information per the RFQ. Berrington resubmitted a quote on 08/07/2013 which was responsive to the RFQ requirements and considered acceptable. No other offers were received by the RFQ closing date of 08/12/2013.

The evaluation team concluded its evaluation of the quote on 08/14/2013 in accordance with the 'Best Value' features set forth in the RFQ. The details of these evaluations are summarized below.

Findings

The RFQ stated that the Government will award a contract whose offer will be most advantageous to the Government with consideration given to the following criteria on a best value basis:

- 1) Price / Cost – The ability of the offeror to provide a fair and reasonable price.
- 2) Technical Merit – The ability of the offeror to successfully meet the required delivery schedule and the Minimum Specifications for all Technical Requirements.
- 3) Past Performance – The information submitted by the offeror, information in the Past Performance Information Retrieval System (PPIRS) and information in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIS).
- 4) Nine ‘Better Value Features’ that are performance goals that go above and beyond what the Government is minimally asking for. These better value features are in descending order (meaning #1 is the most desired, #2 is the second most desired, etc.). Offerors who did *not* provide these better value features would *not* be rated negatively for failing to provide them. However, offerors who did meet or exceed any of the better value features could be rated more favorably than those who do not:
 1. Delivery timeframe of less than 16-weeks after contract award.
 2. On-site installation assistance or oversight, including service representative availability within a day’s notice if needed.
 3. Pump model or variations of the same model that has been on the market for five years or more.
 4. Low point ports on pump casing for draining during long periods of down time.
 5. High point vent port for removing entrained air.
 6. Filtration requirements greater than ten micron.
 7. Pumps that are capable of non-operational periods for up to one year when they are installed.
 8. Minimum recommended service cycle based on proposed model’s historical history.
 9. Pumps manufactured in support of the NASA “Buy-Quiet” goal, emitting noise levels as low as feasibly possible.

Technical and past performance, when combined, are equal to price. Between technical and past performance, technical is more important.

Berrington

The Berrington price is considered reasonable on two accounts. First, the quote was submitted in a full-and-open environment, with any qualified organization being able to submit a quote. Second, the CO conducted a price reasonableness determination per FAR 13.106-3(a)(2), utilizing market research results as a basis for determining price reasonableness when only one quote is received in a simplified procurement. The quote that Berrington submitted was equal to or even lower than other prices that were documented during the market research phase. Therefore even though only one quote was received, using the analysis provided for in the FAR shows the Berrington pump price as fair and reasonable.

Berrington offered two Rotojet model pumps. The technical description of these pumps fully meets all of the minimum technical specifications.

Berrington addressed and met a significant number of the better value features.

Regarding past performance: The CO searched for Berrington records in both of the PPIRS and FAAPIS Government past performance systems, and found no evidence of Berrington past performance. Because of this lack of documented experience, Berrington received a Neutral rating in these specific analyses. However, NASA GRC currently owns several Berrington-provided pumps, and past NASA experience with these pumps has been satisfactory. Therefore Berrington was rated overall satisfactory for past performance.

Source Selection Decision

The Contracting Officer/Source Selection Authority Jeffrey Hoyt was fully briefed on the results of the evaluations by the technical evaluation team.

Based on the information presented, I fully understand the evaluation process and the findings of the evaluation team.

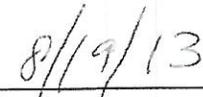
As price was equal in weight to both technical ability and past performance combined, the price of the pumps was a sizeable aspect of overall ratings. The price analysis conducted per FAR 13.106-3(a)(2) convinces me that the quote was fair and reasonable considering it was not higher than any other researched price. I also note that the procurement was conducted in a full and open competition, and that market research indicated NASA anticipated receiving multiple offers. In addition, Berrington's ability to meet all the technical specifications was fully documented. I additionally note that Berrington was able to address and meet several significant and highly-desired better value features. In the area of Past Performance, I note that Berrington has overall satisfactory experience. While no entries were found for Berrington in PPIRS and FAAPIS, NASA technical evaluators familiar with this procurement have first-hand experience of satisfactory current and past Berrington pump experience.

Overall, Berrington provided a strong quote in the areas of price, technical and past performance. Berrington's quote was submitted competitively, providing an affordable, fair, and reasonable price. It meets all minimum technical specifications and even addresses several significant better value features. Additionally, Berrington has satisfactory experience at NASA GRC for similar pumps. Therefore, I hereby select Berrington Pumps & Systems, Inc. to perform the contract requirements as stated in the RFQ for \$232,840.

Concurrence:



Wade Arida
Technical Requester



Date

Approval:



Jeffrey Hoyt
Contracting Officer and Source Selection Official



Date