JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION (JOFOC)
(In accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.3 – Other than Full and Open Competition)

1. **This document is a justification for other than full and open competition prepared by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Headquarters (HQ):**

   The procuring agency is the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the contracting activity is NASA Headquarters (HQ), Washington, DC.

2. **The nature and/or description of the action being approved:**

   This justification provides the rationale for using other than full and open competition to award a extension to Contract NNH10CC97C with Smart Global Solutions, JV LLC (SGS) for increasing the maximum ordering value of the Sponsored Research and Education Support Services (SRESS) contract by [redacted] resulting in a maximum ordering value of [redacted] and extending the ordering period for six months through January 31, 2016.

3. **Description of the supplies or services required, including an estimated value:**

   The current SRESS contract supports NASA's Headquarters Mission Directorates; Office of Education; other Headquarters offices and the NASA Centers by providing the following services:

   - planning, developing, and announcing electronic solicitations to the research community;
   - receiving and safe-guarding electronic proposals submitted by the research community;
   - planning & staging proposal review events;
   - communicating with proposers pre- and post-review;
   - tracking proposal workflows through the peer-review life cycle;
   - reporting statistics about the proposal pool;
   - organizing, scheduling, and staging proposal reviews in the form of face-to-face meetings;
   - making collaboration tools available to panelists;
   - providing documentation and transcription services;
   - arranging meeting venues as well as panelist and reviewer travel;
   - managing, operating, and maintaining the NSPIRES system (the agency's single solicitation, proposal, and peer-review decision support system);
   - ingesting data from grants.gov and SAMS; and
   - providing data to TechPort (an electronic tool operated by the Office of the Chief Technologist).

The maximum contract value required to fund anticipated performance requirements until a follow-on contract can be competitively awarded is estimated at [redacted] for a period of six months through January 31, 2016.

4. **Statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition:**

The statutory authority permitting other than full and open completion is 10 U.S.C. 2304(c)(1), as implemented by Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.302-1(a)(2)(iii)(B), "Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements".

5. **A demonstration that the proposed contractor's unique qualifications or the nature of the acquisition requires use of the authority cited:**

The rationale supporting the use of 10 U.S.C. 2304(c)(1) is that NASA Headquarters is committed to providing critical support for a wide range of NASA's Headquarters projects and missions as described in item 3 above. Conducting a competitive procurement for these support services would conflict with the ongoing competition for a successor NRESS contract and would jeopardize current and ongoing SEB activities, which in turn could cause significant additional cost to NASA. If NASA should attempt to procure these services from any other source during this interim period the delay due to the competitive selection process, combined with the time required to orient the source's management team, establish appropriate staffing levels, and set schedules would cause unacceptable delays in fulfilling NASA's mission. The interim procurement of these vital services from another source also would jeopardize numerous ongoing agency research solicitations and create significant additional costs to the Government.

6. **Description of the efforts made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as practicable, including whether a notice was or will be publicized as required by Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 5.2:**

A notice to the NASA Acquisition Internet Service (NAIS) and Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOpps) was published on March 31, 2015, in accordance with FAR Subpart 5.2. This posting informed potential sources of NASA HQ's intent to award this sole-source modification to Smart Global Solutions, JV LLC, and provided potential sources with the opportunity to be considered based on their qualifications and capability statements due by April 14, 2015. The results of this synopsis are contained in Section 10 below.

7. **A determination by the contracting officer that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable:**

Smart Global Solutions, JV LLC shall be required to submit a proposal to be evaluated and negotiated by Government. The proposed costs will be evaluated by the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) and the Contracting Officer (CO) to determine that the direct labor rates, direct labor hours, skill mix, other direct costs, indirect costs, and fee(s)

are fair and reasonable. The COR and CO may utilize existing contract data to assist in determining cost reasonableness. This may also include support from external organizations such as the Defense Contract Audit Agency, as needed.

8. **Description of the market research conducted, and the results, or a statement of the reasons market research was not conducted:**

   Market research was not conducted for this increase to the maximum ordering limitation and extension; however it has been conducted for the follow-on NRESS procurement activity.

9. **Other facts supporting the use of other than full and open competition:**

   None.

10. **Sources, if any, that expressed an interest, in writing, in the acquisition:**

    As stated above in Section 6, in accordance with the requirements of FAR Subpart 5.2, a notice of NASA HQ's intent to award this sole-source action was synopsized on the NAIS and FedBizOpps websites. The synopsis notified all interested sources that this requirement will be issued on a sole-source basis and provided them an opportunity to submit their interest and capabilities to the Contracting Officer within 15 days of the synopsis publication. No responses were received upon the expiration of the synopsis.

11. **The actions the Agency may take to remove or overcome any barriers to competition before any subsequent acquisition for the supplies or services required:**

    The Agency will continue to examine the market in the future for alternative solutions or new sources before executing any subsequent acquisitions for the same requirements.

JOFOC Signature Page for the SRESS Contract

TECHNICAL DIRECTORATE: I certify that the facts presented in this justification are accurate and complete.

[redacted]
Signature

4/15/2015
Date

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

[redacted]
Signature

4/15/2015
Date

PROCUREMENT OFFICER:
(CONCURRENCE)

[redacted]
Signature

4/30/15
Date

HQ COMPETITION
ADVOCATE:
(APPROVAL)

[redacted]
Signature

5/4/15
Date