USM SSP 22_009 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchases of the following:

RFx: 3150004086: Automated Droplet Generator

http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Bid

Comments/objections will be received as required per Section 31-7-13 (C) of the Mississippi Code until 8:00 a.m. (Central Time) on February 23rd, 2022.

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 written notice, by 8:00 AM CST, February 23rd, 2022.

to:

Steve Ballew
Director of Procurement & Contracts 118 College Dr. Box 5003 Hattiesburg, MS 39406
bids@usm.edu
Phone: 601-266-4131

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection – USM SSP 22_009"

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, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM 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 USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

Run Dates:

02.08.22

02.15.22

The University of Southern Mississippi

Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

SSP 22_009

The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. **Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure:**

The University of Southern Mississippi is requesting purchase of a BioRad AutoDG Automated Droplet Generator. The automated instrument is an accessory item which works in conjunction with an existing BioRad QX200 Droplet Digital PCR (polymerase chain reaction) system. The AutoDG uses oil and target samples to create nano-sized droplets containing individual PCR reactions, which are then amplified and analyzed with the QX200 system. The instrument is capable of performing up to 96 reactions in a single run lasting approximately 40 minutes. The BioRad AutoDG will be housed in the Mississippi INBRE Imaging Core Facility in Johnson Science Tower.

2. **Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:**

Mississippi INBRE Imaging Core Facility users have several specific needs for current and future research projects, including gene expression and copy number variant analysis, mutation detection, and low target detection. These assays can be run on the existing BioRad QX200 platform, however the current manual droplet generation workflow decreases productivity and increases potential sources of error. Addition of the AutoDG robot to the droplet digital PCR system will increase throughput exponentially, as well as reduce hands-on time and potential user error in these sensitive assays. The BioRad AutoDG Automated Droplet Generator has several unique features only available in this system which can satisfy the needs of users. The instrument can generate droplet reactions for 96 samples in a single run of approximately 40 minutes. The automation allowed by the instrument will speed up data collection and analysis for core users. The AutoDG can partition each 20uL reaction in to 20,000 nanoliter sized droplets, with each droplet approximately 120um in diameter. The number, volume, and size are ideal for analysis on the QX200 housed in the imaging facility. Further, droplets generated on the AutoDG system allow for recovery of DNA after analysis. Researchers using the instrument can then use their analyzed samples for other downstream applications. The increased throughput and decreased error potential provided by the BioRad AutoDG are needed for ongoing and future research projects and are only available from this vendor.

3. **Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:**

The BioRad AutoDG Automated Droplet Generator fully integrates into the existing BioRad QX200 droplet digital PRC system housed in the Imaging Core Facility at USM. The robot is made by the original manufacturer of the system to be a modular component of the platform. No other vendor offers an automated instrument which generates reaction droplets compatible with the QX200 technology.

The University of Southern Mississippi

Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

SSP 22_009

4. **Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:**

The cost of this instrument is comparable to automated robots for other digital PCR platforms, as well as other automated liquid handling robots with similar features.

5. **Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:**

A 15% discount off the instrument's listed price was negotiated.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	**02.08.22**
2nd scheduled	**02.15.22**

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:

Steve Ballew

Director of Procurement & Contracts

steve.ballew@usm.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, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM 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.

The University of Southern Mississippi

Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

SSP 22_009

If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.