

USM SSP 23_004 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchases of the following:

540 lbs of aerospace HexTow® IM7/12K (Standard)(5000) carbon fiber

RFx: 3150004473

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 August 17th, 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, August 17th, 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 23_004"

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:

08.03.22

08.10.22

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 23_004

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:

540 lbs of aerospace HexTow® IM7/12K (Standard)(5000) carbon fiber

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

HexTow® IM7/12K (5000) carbon fiber is the standard fiber for the composites industry. Carbon fiber is a highly engineered material with specific mechanical properties which control the composite mechanical properties. IM7 is used to standardize all ongoing projects with NASA, the US Army and the US Air Force research which is sponsored in our facilities. As we advance the polymer performance, it is critical we use IM7 as the carbon fiber reinforcement in the composite materials to quantify the polymer contribution. Hexcel is the only manufacturer of HexTow® IM7/12K (5000) carbon fiber.

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

Hexcel Corporation is the developer and sole manufacturer of HexTow® IM7/12K carbon fiber material.

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

Quantity 540lbs @ \$42 per lb which is the known price for HexTow® IM7/12K (5000) carbon fiber. Total Cost of \$22,680 for 540 lbs plus freight. Hexcel is the only vendor of this highly specialized carbon fiber, and the \$42 per lb price is the best and only price for which this fiber is available.

The University of Southern Mississippi
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5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

USM PI Wiggins and personnel have long-standing historical relations in the composites industry with global leaders and confirm HexTow® IM7/12K (5000) carbon fiber is the industry standard for which all advanced composite material research and development is benchmarked against. Hexcel is the only vendor of this highly specialized carbon fiber, and the \$42/lbs price is the best and only price for which this fiber is available.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	08.03.22
2nd scheduled	08.10.22

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 –USM SSP 23_004"

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.

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