

from a responsible small business concern, the buying team procurement member may cancel the small business set-aside and complete the acquisition on an unrestricted basis utilizing Mid-Range procedures. If the acquisition is a HUBZone set-aside and only one acceptable offer is received, the buying team should proceed with the award in accordance with FAR 19.1305(d). The buying team procurement members shall document in the file the reason for the unrestricted purchase.

(g) Each model contract under a small business MidRange set-aside shall contain the clause at FAR 52.219-6, Notice of Total Small Business Set-Aside.

(h) Each model contract under a HUBZone MidRange set-aside shall contain the clause at FAR 52.219-3, Notice of Total HUBZone Set-Aside.

[63 FR 71604, Dec. 29, 1998, as amended at 64 FR 19927, Apr. 23, 1999]

Subpart 1871.4—Request for Offer (RFO)

1871.400 General.

In MidRange procedures, solicitation of sources shall be accomplished by use of an RFO. The RFO will be solely a solicitation document incorporating only those elements of information required to solicit the offer. Offers will be provided on a model contract furnished with the RFO.

1871.401 Types of RFO'S.

The RFO may be used for all types of procurements to which MidRange is applicable. The distinguishing difference will be the evaluation and award criteria specified in the RFO. This, in turn, will be driven by the buying team's decisions on the extent of discussion required, the amount of non-price factors that will influence the award and the amount of competition available. If the conditions in FAR 6.401(a) are met, the RFO's described in 1871.401-1 and 1871.401-2 shall be used; otherwise, RFO's described in 1871.401-3, 1871.401-4, 1871.401-5, or 1871.401-6 may be used. Once the evaluation and award criteria have been specified in the RFO, the procurement must conform to the procedures applicable to

these criteria, unless changed by formal amendment to the RFO.

1871.401-1 Sealed offers.

(a) Policy. RFO's may specify that award will be made to the low, responsive, responsible offeror providing the most advantageous offer considering only price and price-related factors. This method shall be used when (1) time permits the solicitation, submission, and evaluation of sealed offers; (2) award will be made on the basis of price and other price-related factors; (3) conducting discussions with the offerors is not necessary; and (4) a reasonable expectation of receiving more than one offer exists. The RFO shall be in compliance with the requirements of FAR part 14 relating to Sealed Bidding.

(b) Procedures. (1) The RFO shall request offerors to provide a complete offer by the closing date specified.

(2) In accordance with FAR part 14, offers (whether received by facsimile or sealed envelope delivery) shall be publicly opened at the designated time and place. Interested members of the public will be permitted to attend the opening. Offers shall be abstracted pursuant to FAR part 14 and be available for public inspection. The abstract shall be included in the contract file.

(3) All offers shall be examined for mistakes in accordance with FAR 14.407-1 and 14.407-2. The buying team shall determine that a prospective contractor is responsible and that the prices offered are reasonable (see FAR 14.408-2).

(4) The Government will award a contract to the low, responsive, responsible offeror, whose offer conforms to the RFO and will be most advantageous to the Government, considering only price and the price-related factors included in the solicitation.

(5) When proceeding with an unrestricted acquisition see—

(i) FAR Subpart 19.11 regarding use of the price evaluation adjustment for small disadvantaged business (SDB) concerns; and

(ii) FAR Subpart 19.13 regarding use of the price evaluation preference for HUBZone small business concerns.

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