

(A) When the fabricator's proposal contains technical data that are not available from another source, and it is not feasible or practicable to define the fabrication requirement in such a way as to avoid the necessity of using the technical data contained in the proposal;

(B) When the fabricator offers unique capabilities that are not available from another source;

(C) When the selection official determines that the proposed hardware contributes so significantly to the value of the investigator's proposal as to be an integral part of it.

(iii) If a producer other than the one proposed by the investigator offers unique capabilities to produce the hardware requirement, NASA may buy the hardware from the qualified fabricator.

(iv) If a NASA employee submits a proposal as a principal investigator, any requirement for hardware necessary to perform the investigation must either be competed by the installation acquisition office or a justification must be written, synopsisized, and approved in accordance with the requirements of FAR and the NASA FAR Supplement.

(4) Determination of the desirability for tentative selection of investigations. This determination involves considerations including:

(i) Assessment of the state of development of the investigative hardware, the cost and schedule for development in relation to the gain in potential benefits at the time of final selection.

(ii) Assurance that there is adequate definition of investigation hardware to allow parallel design of other project hardware.

(iii) Assurance that appropriate management procedures are contained in the project plan for reevaluation and final selection (or rejection) on an appropriate time scale.

(5) Determination of the acceptability of the proposer's management plan, including the proposed hardware development plan, and the necessity, if any, of negotiating modifications to that plan.

(b) In the process of making the determinations described in paragraph (a) (1) of this section, the Program AA

may request additional information or evaluations. In most instances, this information can be provided by the Program Office responsible for the mission, project, or program. However, the Program AA may reconvene the subcommittee or poll the members individually or provide for additional analysis or require additional data from evaluators or proposers as considered necessary to facilitate the Program AA's decision.

1872.503 The selection statement.

Upon completion of deliberations, the responsible Program AA shall issue a selection statement. Ordinarily this statement will, upon request, be releasable to the public. As a minimum, the selection statement should include:

(a) The general and specific evaluation criteria and relative importance used for the selection.

(b) The categorizations provided by the subcommittee and the rationale for accepting or not accepting each Category I proposal and a succinct statement concerning the nonacceptance of all other proposals.

(c) A concise description of each investigation accepted including an indication as to whether the selection is a partial acceptance of a proposal and/or a combination with other investigators.

(d) The role of the Principal Investigator with regard to hardware essential to the investigation and whether the Principal Investigator will be responsible for hardware acquisition and the basis therefor.

(e) An indication of the plan and acquisition using the regular acquisition processes, if the Principal Investigator is not to acquire the hardware.

(f) A statement indicating whether the selection is final or tentative, recognizing the need for better definition of the investigation and its cost.

(g) A statement indicating use of Government-owned space flight hardware and/or support equipment.

1872.504 Notification of proposers.

(a) It is essential that investigators whose proposals have no reasonable chance for selection be so apprised as soon as practicable. The responsible

Program Office will, upon such determination, notify investigators of that fact with the major reason(s) why the proposals were so considered. The notification letter should also inform such investigators that they may obtain a detailed oral debriefing provided they request it in writing.

(b) Letters of notification will be sent to those Principal Investigators selected to participate. This letter should not commit the agency to more than negotiations for the selected investigation, but it should indicate the decision made and contain:

(1) A concise description of the Principal Investigator's investigation as selected, noting substantive changes, if any, from the investigation originally proposed by the Principal Investigator.

(2) The nature of the selection, i.e., whether it should be considered final or tentative requiring additional hardware or cost definition.

(3) A description of the role of the Principal Investigator including the responsibility for the provision of instruments for flight experiments.

(3) Identification of the principal technical and management points to be treated in subsequent negotiations.

(5) Any rights to be granted on use of data, publishing of data, and duration of use of the data.

(6) Where applicable, indication that a foreign selectee's participation in the program will be arranged between the Office of External Relations, and the foreign government agency which endorsed the proposal.

(c) In conjunction with the notification of successful foreign proposers, the Program Office shall forward a letter to the responsible Office of External Relations, addressing the following:

(1) The scientific technological objective of the effort.

(2) The period of time for the effort.

(3) The responsibilities of NASA and of the sponsoring governmental agency; these may include:

(i) Provision and disposition of hardware and software.

(ii) Responsibilities for reporting, reduction and dissemination of data.

(iii) Responsibilities for transportation of hardware.

(4) Any additional information pertinent to the conduct of the experiment.

(d) Using the information provided above, the Office of External Relations will negotiate an agreement with the sponsoring foreign agency.

(e) Notices shall also be sent to those proposers not notified pursuant to paragraphs (a) through (d) of this section, and, as applicable, a copy to the sponsoring foreign government agency. It is important that these remaining proposers be informed at the same time as those selected. Other agency notifications and press release procedures will apply, as appropriate.

[62 FR 4477, Jan. 30, 1997, as amended at 48562, Sept. 7, 1999]

1872.505 Debriefing.

It is the policy to debrief, if requested, unsuccessful proposers of investigations in accordance with FAR 15.5. The following shall be considered in arranging and conducting debriefings:

(a) Debriefing shall be done by an official designated by the responsible Program AA. Any other personnel receiving requests for information concerning the rejection of a proposal shall refer to the designated official.

(b) Debriefing of unsuccessful offerors shall be made at the earliest possible time; debriefing will generally be scheduled subsequent to selection but prior to award of contracts to the successful proposers.

(c) Material discussed in debriefing shall be factual and consonant with the documented findings of several stages of the evaluation process and the selection statement.

(d) The debriefing official shall advise of weak or deficient areas in the proposal, indicate whether those weaknesses were factors in the selection, and advise of the major considerations in selecting the competing successful proposer where appropriate.

(e) The debriefing official shall not discuss other unsuccessful proposals, rankings, votes of members, or attempt to make a point-by-point comparison with successful proposals.

(f) A memorandum of record of the debriefing shall be provided the Chairperson of the Steering Committee.

[62 FR 4477, Jan. 30, 1997, as amended at 63 FR 9967, Feb. 27, 1998]