

Blount, Will

From: Carter, Aaron
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 1:46 PM
To: Blount, Will
Subject: FW: Here you go Aaron...

From: Nondorf, Roger
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 1:39 PM
To: Carter, Aaron
Subject: Here you go Aaron...



Starcom21 Opening
Statement 01...

Roger A. Nondorf
Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Illinois Department of Central Management Services
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 4-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601
Chicago Telephone: (312) 814-6604
E-mail: roger.nondorf@illinois.gov

PPB Meeting – January 13, 2011

Opening remarks regarding the PPB's interest in the Starcom21 Sole Source procurement

My name is Roger Nondorf and I serve as the Deputy Chief Operating Officer for the Illinois Department of Central Management Services.

I have prepared a brief summary statement for the Board, and with the Chairman's permission, I would be happy to share that statement and then answer any general questions members of the Board may have.

The Starcom21 radio system is an important public safety tool for the state of Illinois. It provides a statewide platform for the daily operations of state agencies, federal agencies and for local units of government to communicate seamlessly throughout the state for both routine and emergency operations, as well as for interoperability needs. The network provides the 2-way radio communication needs of over 6000 state agency subscribers as well as 8500 public safety and public service subscribers from various governmental and non-governmental entities. It also provides emergency communication capability for over 3300 subscribers to enable an enhanced interoperable response to disaster and emergency situations that may and do occur in the State.

In accordance with requirements under the Illinois Procurement Code, a sole source procurement was publicly posted on the Illinois Procurement Bulletin on September 10th, 2010 (reference number 22020110) for both network services and for an equipment component (primarily radios) associated with the system.

Shortly thereafter it was identified that errors had occurred within the Sole Source Justification Form that was attached to the posting. One question was inadvertently not answered, and a mechanical failure – a misfeed; occurred when the Justification Form was scanned. This mechanical error cut off one of the pages. As a result, an incomplete justification was mistakenly posted.

The hearing occurred on September 28th, 2010.

Following the hearing, and in agreement with the CPO, CMS formed a Sole Source Hearing Advisory Panel comprised of two subject matter experts, a procurement attorney, and a contract attorney familiar with the contract, to review the various aspects of this sole source, to supply diligence to determine its merits, and to consider and recommend go forward actions to both the agency and to the CPO.

The Panel's findings were delivered to both Director Sledge and Matt Brown as CPO on December 17th.

The findings of the Committee have been discussed between the agency and the CPO. Both the agency and the CPO have agreed to proceed in a manner in accordance with the Committee's recommendations.

These recommendations are as follows:

1. To proceed with a revised sole source procurement to provide the network service, management and administration associated with the use of the Starcom21 Network.
2. To issue a competitive solicitation for the Starcom21 equipment with associated warranty, repair, replacement, maintenance, repair and training for use on the Starcom21 network.

One misconception that has existed - The written and oral testimony provided through the public process has inferred that the vendor held an exclusive right to sell both equipment and associated services. This is incorrect. The vendor does not and did not have an exclusive contract for this equipment and these services.

Should a sole source contract for the network services ultimately be finalized, the vendor will not have an exclusive contract for this equipment and these services

Next steps include:

1. The CPO rejecting the former and flawed sole source posting
2. The agency completing a revision to the former sole source Justification Form to reflect the Panel's findings and recommendations, and lastly,
3. With the CPO's agreement and approval, posting a revised sole source, and proceeding in accordance with the sole source process as defined under the Procurement Code and in accordance with the associated practices defined for a sole source as a procurement approach by the Executive Ethics Commission.

This completes my opening remarks and I would be happy to answer any general questions the Board may have.