



PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Office of State Procurement Services.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please provide the requested information in the white spaces below. All responses (except signatures) must be typed; no hand-written forms will be accepted. See the guidance document posted with this form on the Procurement Services intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW			
Department Office/Division/Program:	Environmental Protection / Bureau of Air Quality / Division of Air Quality Assessment / Ambient Air Monitoring		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:	Stacy Knapp		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 78,883.50	Advantage CT / RQS #:	06A 20240106*1685
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	10/1/2024	Proposed End Date: 9/30/2025
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:		Effective Date:
	Previous End Date:		New End Date:
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:	Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, Madison, WI		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:	Analytical and monitoring site support services for atmospheric deposition samples		

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION			
Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A. Competitive Process	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. Grant
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	H. State Statute/Agency Directed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/>	I. Federal Agency Directed
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Willing and Qualified
<input type="checkbox"/>	E. Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	K. Client Choice
<input type="checkbox"/>	F. University Cooperative Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	L. Other Authorization

Please respond to ALL of the questions in the following sections.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

The continued precipitation chemistry and mercury analyses of wet deposition samples are critical to maintaining a scientifically and statistically valid data base for determining and assessing long-term trends in atmospheric sulfates, nitrates and mercury deposition to the Maine environment. The high-quality data produced by these monitoring networks is needed by both federal and state policy makers to assess the need for regulatory programs to control and reduce emissions of sulfur, nitrogen, and mercury to the atmosphere, and to judge the effectiveness of any such adopted regional or federal control programs. Scientists and other users researching a vast array of impacts and effects on a variety of ecosystems, who require long-term trend datasets, depend on the data generated by this monitoring network.

These are ongoing annual analytical services which we are now contracting on a federal fiscal year basis. The impact of a delay or postponement in the continued analyses of these samples would: 1) interject a confounding level of uncertainty about interpreting and understanding any future changes observed in precipitation chemistry and mercury deposition levels, 2) jeopardize the ability to determine the success or failure of current regulatory emission control strategies and programs designed to decrease the environmental impacts of sulfur, nitrogen and mercury deposition, and 3) represent a significant loss of valuable and important environmental data routinely used by scientists, researchers and natural resource managers across the state, as well as nationally, in on-going studies and programs.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the RFP number, if applicable.

DEP's deposition monitoring sites have been part of the National Atmospheric Deposition Program's (NADP) National Trends Network (NTN) and the Mercury Deposition Network (MDN) since 1979 and 1996, respectively. These are nationwide long-term deposition monitoring networks, which provide a national framework for collecting and disseminating quality assured deposition data that has been collected and analyzed following a common set of protocols in order to ensure consistency and comparability in the measurements and in the data. Consistency and comparability in the analytical data are also achieved by having all samples collected within a network analyzed by a single, common laboratory such as the NADP Analytical Laboratory (NAL) for NTN samples and MDN samples. A benefit of using a national laboratory for this purpose provides economies of scale because of the large volume of samples it analyzes, which it can do at a much less expensive rate than any Maine / state-based effort analyzing just our own samples could. There are no other labs that I am aware of that provide this unique suite of analytical services and monitoring support.

NADP's analytical laboratory services are specifically designed to match the requirements of the NADP's NTN and MDN sampling and analytical protocols, as detailed in their Quality Assurance Project Plans for various components of those programs. In order to have one's deposition monitoring sites considered as belonging to the NADP NTN or MDN network, the samples must be analyzed by the NAL, so using another laboratory's analytical services is simply not an option. As mentioned previously, the value and benefit to DEP of its sites belonging to these networks is the consistency and comparability of the data generated by all of its sites, providing for direct "apples to apples" comparisons with data from other states' sites.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.

NADP reviews its networks' per sample costs periodically and provides for stakeholder input. Because of our level of site sponsorship participation, we have a seat and a vote on the Budget Advisory Committee, which oversees this process.

4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.

As mentioned previously, contracting with some other outside laboratory for the analyses of our precipitation samples would negate all of the other positive and beneficial aspects of being part of the NTN and MDN national networks.

PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

Yes, MJRP funds (023) – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

Yes, ARPA funds (025) – If Yes, please be aware of the requirements from awarding federal agencies.

No – If No, proceed to Part V.

PART V: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI); CONTRACT WITH THE STATE

Maine law contains Conflict of Interest statutes directed to State Departments, State Officers, and Employees Generally under MRS [Title 5, §18](#) and [§18-A](#), in harmony with MRS [Title 17, §3104](#).

The requesting department signatory understands and acknowledges Maine's Conflict of Interest statutes.

PART VI: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting
Department's Commissioner
(or designee):



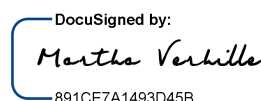
Typed Name:

Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner

Date:

Jan 23, 2025

Signature of DAFS
Procurement Official:

DocuSigned by:

891CE7A1493D45B...

Typed Name:

Martha Verhille

Date:

2/12/2025