

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Division of 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 Division of Procurement Services website (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW				
Department Office/Division/Program:		Office of the Public Advocate		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Barry J. Hobbins		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:				
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 10,000.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	CT20190919000000000944
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	September 19, 2019	Proposed End Date:	September 30, 2020
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	September 29, 2019	Effective Date:	April 13, 2020
	Previous End Date:	September 30, 2020	New End Date:	
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:	
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:	
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Agnes Gormley, Harpswell, ME		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Consulting services for continued implementation of non-wires alternatives coordinator (NWAC) function.		

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

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
Please respond to ALL of the following:
1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

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PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Pursuant to newly enacted legislation (P.L. 2019 ch.298) the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) is required to implement a process of including non-wires alternatives into the distribution and transmission planning process through the hiring of a non-wires alternatives coordinator. This process of including consideration of non-wires alternatives into planning is complex and the result of years of litigation resolved finally by Legislative action. When fully implemented the consideration of non-wires alternatives will result in significant savings for Maine ratepayers.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II.

The implementation the NWAC requires specialized knowledge of complex issues and procedures. It requires detailed familiarity with both local distribution and regional transmission planning. The OPA attorneys do not have the same level of expertise in these areas as does Ms. Gormley. Ms. Gormley's participation in all prior NWA cases before the PUC and her involvement in the drafting and successful enactment of the Legislation which sets forth how the NWA Coordinator will work with Maine utilities, make her uniquely qualified for the task of implementing the process.

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

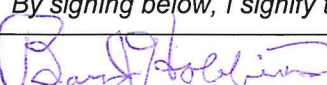
Based upon Ms. Gormley's prior earnings for her work in these areas, the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) has concluded that the rate we have negotiated with Ms. Gormley is fair and reasonable.

Ms. Gormley's effective hourly rate (\$100/hour) will be substantially below the going market rate of electric industry consultants.

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

The Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) is always seeking out new consultants. Nevertheless, when it comes to the expertise in planning and in cases before the Maine PUC, the OPA will continue to be in a position where it must hire that consulting expertise from the outside.

PART IV: APPROVALS

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	<i>By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.</i>		
			
Printed Name:	Barry J. Hobbins	Date:	3/25/2020
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small> <i>Kathy Paquette</i>		
Printed Name:	<small>41C2BA36FAF44CD...</small> Kathy Paquette	Date:	3/27/2020