

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:		Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry/Quality Assurance & Regulations	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Celeste Poulin	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 6,000.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	2019053*3620
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:		Proposed End Date:
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	6/3/2019	Effective Date:
	Previous End Date:	6/30/2021	New End Date:
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Vista Analytical Laboratory, Inc., El Dorado Hills, CA	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Perform laboratory testing for presence of PFC chemicals in dairy products.	

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

Perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) have been used in a wide variety of manufacturing processes and consumer goods since the 1950's. PFCs have been associated with many health concerns including developmental, carcinogenic, hepatic, and immune system impacts. These compounds are common in sludge that was spread on farms and fields throughout Maine. They have been measured in soil at several locati including dairy farms. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Drinking Water Program are currently pursuing drinking and groundwater testing throughout Maine.

As these results return, the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources (DACF) is being alerted to farms, some licensed dairy producers, that have unsafe amounts of these chemicals in their soil and water supply. It is imperative that DACF has the ability to test for a particular PFC compound in milk destined for the general food supply. DACF began this process by testing Maine's current retail milk supply. Now, testing will continue on a farm-by-farm basis.

Notably, Governor Mills created a Task Force that is charged with studying the effects of these chemicals in Maine, and DACF is an active member of that effort. Having robust and recent test results regarding the state's milk supply is crucial to this.

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

After contacting all laboratories approved for testing by the DEP, DACF has determined that Vista Analytical Laboratory is the only laboratory that provides test results within the reporting detection limit (RL) deemed safe and acceptable by the Dairy Program.

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

A total of five laboratories were contacted. Three responded as able to complete the testing. Rates and turnaround time were comparable for all.

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

As PFCs become a more widely recognized concern, DACF anticipates having more testing resources available with proven track records.

PART IV: APPROVALS

Signature of requesting

By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.

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Department's Commissioner (or designee):	<i>A. C. Caudin</i>		
Printed Name:	<i>Aimee Carlton</i>	Date:	<i>4/9/2020</i>
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<i>Kathy Paquette</i> <small>41C2BA36FAF44CB...</small>		
Printed Name:	kathy Paquette	Date:	4/9/2020