

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 Hobbins, Public Advocate			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		MWC Rate Case Biddeford/Saco: 2021-00053			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 23,800.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	20210331000000002619		
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	4/07/2021	Proposed End Date:	6/30/2023	
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:		Larry W. Holloway, P.E. Ozawkie, KS			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Expert witness services relating to engineering consulting to assist the Office of the Public Advocate with litigating a utility rate case (Docket 2021-00053) with the Maine Public Utilities Commission by the Maine Water Company.			

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
	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
X	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

In order to litigate a request by Maine Water Company for increases to its rates attributable to capital investment in a water treatment plant for the Biddeford/Saco water system, the OPA requires an expert witness to assist the Office of the Public Advocate by providing engineering analysis on the engineering design, size and components of the water treatment facility and analysis of the costs of the water treatment facility in Docket No. 2021-00053 of the Public Utilities Commission.

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

The Public Utilities Commission has scheduled the initial case conference for April 8, 2021 and discovery is due April 16th. Therefore, we need this consultant to begin working on this case asap.

The selected vendor has experience reviewing and evaluating utility resource plans, capital projects, and project management. His extensive utility industry experience allows the Office of the Public Advocate to facilitate the necessary discovery and investigation in this proceeding. This vendor recently completed a like review in an electric utility case for the Office and for the State of Kentucky that demonstrate the expertise and experience needed to perform the required tasks in this matter.

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

The proposed pricing is similar to the cost that the Office of the Public Advocate estimated for the purposes of the RFP process. This vendor's hourly rate compares favorably to other expert witness consultants that the Office has engaged in similar cases.



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

The OPA anticipates primarily using competitive solicitation processes to select vendors to assist in future similar proceedings. In this instance, the recent request for proposal through competitive solicitation resulted in no proposals being submitted. The need to retain the consultant quickly supported the use of a single source contract.

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PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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>		
		Digitally signed by Barry J. Hobbins Date: 2021.04.02 08:37:34 -04'00'	
Printed Name:	Barry J. Hobbins	Date:	4-1-2021
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by: 		
Printed Name:	E5DB92AC0F8D490... Sue H. Garcia	Date:	4/2/2021