



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
 STATE OF MAINE

PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

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 intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW			
Department Office/Division/Program:		Maine Office of the Public Advocate	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		William S. Harwood, Public Advocate	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		Docket No. 2023-00038, CMP Request for Annual Compliance Filing – Storm restoration costs	
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 50,000.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	20231026000000001222
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	11/6/2023	Proposed End Date: 10/31/2024
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:		Larkin & Associates PLLC Livonia, MI	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Provide technical expert consulting services for OPA in supporting appropriate amount of storm restoration costs to be recovered.	

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 purpose of this contract is to provide consulting services to assist, advise and support OPA's recommendations regarding the appropriate amount of storm restoration costs to be recovered associating to the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on-going proceeding, Docket No. 2023-00038 (CMP Request for Approval of Annual Compliance Filing).

The Provider shall work closely with the OPA to identify specific needs as they relate to proceedings and processes. This may include, but is not limited to, performing technical review of filings, providing advice, and assisting in litigation in proceeding, making discovery requests and review discovery responses, and preparing comments/testimony.

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

Due to the extent of the issues to be reviewed (Company's filing and supporting workpapers and conduct sample testing of supporting storm cost documentation) as part of the PUC's current proceeding, and the short timeline given, PUC Technical Conference is scheduled for November 15, 2023, an expert consultant is needed to begin immediately.

The selected vendor has unique expert experience and has over 40 years of experience on a national and state level reviewing utility storm costs.

The OPA is authorized by statute (35-A M.R.S. ch. 17 §1702, §1706) to represent the interests of the ratepayers of Maine's regulated utilities before state and federal agencies and courts; and may employ expert witnesses and pay appropriate compensation and expenses to employ the witnesses.

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

The vendor's hourly rate compares favorably to other expert witness consultants that the Office has engaged in similar cases/matters.

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

The Office of the Public Advocate routinely puts contracts for expert consulting services for proceedings before the Maine PUC out to bid through the competitive RFP solicitation process. In this instance, the experience of the vendor and its prior work in this matter, the reasonable price offered by the vendor, the lack of availability of other vendors contracted by the OPA, and the need to retain the consultant quickly supported the use of a single source contract in this instance.

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

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

No – If No, proceed to Part V.

PART V: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	<i>William Harwood</i>	
	William Harwood (Oct 26, 2023 16:13 EDT)	
Typed Name:	William S. Harwood, Public Advocate	Date: 10/26/2023
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by: <i>Kathy Paquette</i>	
Typed Name:	<small>41C2BA38FAF44CD</small> Kathy Paquette	Date: 10/31/2023







2023-10-26_PJF_SoleSource CT20231026-1222_CMP Storm Cost

Final Audit Report

2023-10-26

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