

DETERMINATION TO SOLICIT FROM A SINGLE SOURCE

PR No: 40331807

Solicitation No.: R17PS01099

Project Name: Purchase of Mini ROV – Teledyne Seabotix vLBV 300

Pursuant to Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 13.106-1(b)(1), for purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold (SAT). Contracting Officers may solicit from only one source if the circumstances of the contract action deem only one source reasonably available (e.g., urgency, exclusive licensing agreements, brand name, or industrial mobilization).

When a single source is identified to provide a portion of the purchase as a Brand-Name, the documentation in paragraph 3. Must state that this determination is only for a portion of the requirement.

1. **Agency and Contracting Activity.** Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region, Acquisitions and Assistance Management Office.
2. **Name and Address of Single Source.** Teledyne Seabotix, 9970 Caroll Canyon Road Suite B, San Diego CA 92131
3. **Description of Supplies/Services and Estimated Price.** The required item is a Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV) the vLBV 300 by Seabotix. The ROV will be used for completing underwater inspections for Safety of Dams Program, inspection requested at facilities, water delivery structures (i.e., canals and siphons) and other underwater inspection where it is deemed unsafe to use divers (i.e. high flows, deeper than 100 feet, limited access to water). The vLBV 300 is an upgrade to the current unit the LC Dive Team operates. The vLBV300 will be able to complete inspections in high flow environments where reducing the flows is not an option due to water and power demand. The vLBV 300 will have the capability to locate structures underwater that are not marked topside. Many of the dams have intake structures that are upstream of the dam that are submerged (not visible from topside like the intake towers at Hoover Dam). Finding a submerged intake structure with the use of a magnet and depth finder can be a cumbersome task and can use up valuable outage time on the structure. The vLBV 300 will be equipped with sonar that can identify submerged intake structures and also navigate the ROV to the structure – greatly reducing the inspection time and limiting the time the intake has to be off. In addition the sonar also allows for completing inspections in limited to zero visibility. Many reservoirs the underwater visibility is only few feet which makes inspections difficult to complete with divers or ROV without sonar. The vLBV 300 is a larger vehicle which allows for large motors and more sensor capability – sonar, grabber arm and additional camera. The larger vehicle does limit the deployment and retrieval options due the increase weight. However, Seabotix has developed a motorized system to deploy and retrieve the vehicle without topside support physically lowering and raising the unit by hand. This greatly improves topside support personnel safety; other ROV manufacturers do offer a retrieval and deployment systems; however, the system is not motorized. Seatbotix has a motorized system. Reclamation would have to either provide a crane and operator or purchase an aftermarket motorized system – adding to the cost of \$10,000. The estimated price of the Seabotix is \$180,000.

4. **Description of Circumstances, including why only one source is reasonably available.**

Based on past experience completing underwater inspections with ROVs, the vLBV300 has the requirements to complete underwater inspections in limited visibility, high flows and limited access to the water. Other vendors offer similar units and are marketed for 'hydro power' inspections however these units lack the power, the sensors and deployment/retrieval system that the vLBV300 has.

5. **Determination of Fair and Reasonable Price.** The \$180,000 estimated price is based on the quotes from four vendors see attached. From the four quotes, Seabotix was the lowest price and met all requirements to complete underwater inspections while providing safe working conditions for topside support personnel.

6. **Description of Market Research.** Market research was performed through attending underwater conference, internet searches and contacting vendors. From all the vendors, Seabotix provides a unit that will enable the LC Regional Dive Team to complete underwater inspections in a high flow and/or limited visibility environment. Seabotix also offers a solution for safe deployment and retrieve of the unit where the water is not readily accessible for example deploying the unit from the inside of the Hoover intake tower. From the floor of the tower to the water line is over 100 feet. When completing market research other vendors did not offer a motorized deployment/retrieval system. Additionally, a Sources Sought was posted on 07/10/2017 to determine if there were ROVs who could potentially meet the Governments requirement and find if they were Small Business, Woman Owned, etc. The results of the Sources Sought did yield six responses. The six evaluated were: Strategic Robotic Solutions, Ocean Innovations, and CaviEnergy (all Small Businesses); and Teledyne Seabotix (Large Business). Two of the responses were from GSA contractors (Anchor Innovations and ADS, Inc., both Small Businesses). The Technical Rep reviewed the responses from the GSA contractors and determined that the literature and/or specs submitted did not meet the Government requirement as they product was for a "Surface power supply" and not the required "User option to select 110 or 240 VAC US input voltage and up to 3000 Watts peak power". The three responses evaluated were: Strategic Robotic Solutions, Ocean Innovations, and CaviEnergy (all Small Businesses). The Technical Rep determined they were not nonresponsive as the ROV product they submitted included only 3 motors and no sonar. Thus, did not meet the Government's minimum requirement.


7.

REQUESTING OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE CERTIFICATION: *All supporting data provided and the contents of this justification are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. (FAR 6.303-2(c)) (All Values) Please remove all signature blocks that do not apply to this action.*

Date: 08/22/2017

Name: Caireen Ulepik

Signature:

X 
Requesting Office Representative

CONTRACTING OFFICER (CO) CERTIFICATION: (\leq \$25K)

Date: 8/22/17

Name: Virginia Toledo

Signature:

X Virginia Toledo 8/22/17
Contracting Officer

CHIEF of the CONTRACTING OFFICE CONCURRENCE (CCO): ($>$ \$25K)

Date: 8/22/17

Name: Beverly K. Nelson

Signature:

X Beverly K. Nelson
Chief of Contracting Office