JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION (JOFOC)
Eaton TPS Battery Installation to Support the Radar Operations Center

Identification Number: Requisition# 142082-26-0185

1. Identification of the agency and contracting activity.

The NOAA Acquisition and Grants Office (AGO) Eastern Acquisition Division (EAD), proposes to enter into a contract on the basis of other than full and open competition in support of the National Weather Service (NWS), Office of Observations, Radar Operations Center (ROC).

2. The nature and/or description of the action being approved.

NOAA intends to award an indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract for a new brand name specific requirement for Eaton 93PM 50KW Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) for Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD) Sites. This requirement will be set-aside for small business competition, but require all small businesses to quote the above-mentioned specific brand (Eaton 93PM 50KW UPS).

3. A description of the supplies or services required to meet the agency's needs (including the estimated value).

The NOAA NWS operates 158 NEXRAD across the country. These radars depend on electrical power to operate. The electrical power generally comes from the commercial power grid. The power grid is susceptible to power fluctuations due to a variety of factors including weather and other customers. The current Transition Power Source (TPS) is a four-wire, three-phase, dual conversion, and 50KVA uninterruptible power supply that supplies clean power to the Weather Surveillance Radar (WSR-88D) NEXRAD radar. The TPS also supplies the power to the radar while transitioning between utility and generator power during a power outage. The TPS also conditions power to prevent damaging NEXRAD equipment during power surges and brownouts.

The TPS is composed of three different parts: the UPS, the battery cabinet, and the maintenance bypass switch. The NEXRAD has two different versions of the TPS. One version has a maintenance bypass switch on the wall and the other has the maintenance bypass switch as a "side car" attached to the UPS. The side car is a large cabinet with approximately 40-car-sized batteries housed inside it for power. Both versions of the current TPS use a Supervisory Contact Module (SCM) that interfaces the UPS to the building alarms. These alarms include hydrogen detection, and 80-degree and 90-degree Fahrenheit temperature signals.

The current TPS for the WSR-88 NEXRAD needs to be replaced due to obsolescence. The current TPS is 20 years old and is no longer manufactured, sold, or maintained by the original manufacturer. A replacement for the TPS is needed in order to keep the NEXRAD operational during storms, power surges and outages.

This is a brand name justification for establishing a single-award IDIQ for the Eaton 93PM 50KW UPS including the installation. The IDIQ will have a five-year ordering period, with an estimated total value of $17,536,713.33. The IGCE is based on three CLINs: 0001 - Eaton TPS Installation without the Maintenance Bypass, 0002 - Eaton TPS Installation with Maintenance Bypass, and 0003 - Eaton TPS with Maintenance Bypass without Installation. The IGCE is firm-fixed price (FFP) and assumes the first two CLINs will be approximately [redacted] per installation. The CLIN without an installation is estimated at [redacted]. Thus, deducing that the installation portion (that is captured in the entirety of the FFP) is approximately [redacted]. Approximately 83.7% up to potentially 85.2% of this acquisition will be the brand name portion of the requirement.

4. An identification of the statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition.

The statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition is 41 U.S.C. 3304(a)(1) as implemented by the RFO Subsection 6.103-1 entitled, Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements. Specifically, that no other supplies or services will satisfy this requirement other than the Eaton 93PM 50KW UPS battery.

5. A statement demonstrating the unique qualifications of the proposed contractor or the nature of the action requiring the use of the authority.

Brand Name - (FAR) Subpart 6.103-1 entitled, Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements –

The NEXRAD system has a minimum set of essential performance and physical requirements for its replacement TPS/UPS that must be met to ensure mission-critical, uninterrupted radar operations. The Eaton 93PM 50KW UPS is the only unit that was found to satisfy all of these non-negotiable requirements, as determined by a comprehensive Business Case Analysis (BCA). The Eaton 93PM is uniquely qualified because it is the only model that operates within the confined space the TPS is housed in, and meets the strict clearance requirements of the existing NEXRAD Transitional Power Management System (TMPS) shelter. Furthermore, it meets the demanding altitude requirements necessary for deployment across all NEXRAD sites, ensuring reliable operation without performance degradation. For power redundancy, it supports both internal and external battery configurations, which is a critical necessity for sustaining radar operations during extended power outages or surges. Finally, it features a modular design with Line Replaceable Units (LRUs) above the component level, essential for rapid, efficient field maintenance and minimal mission downtime. Due to the failure of all other evaluated models to meet one or more of these essential physical and operational criteria, the Eaton 93PM 50KW UPS is the sole product capable of satisfying the agency's minimum needs.

The ROC conducted market research prior to this acquisition where thirty-six manufacturers of UPS/TPS were initially evaluated. Of these manufacturers, only ten manufacturers made a UPS that met the basic power requirements of 3 phase 50KW. Of these ten manufacturers, only the Eaton 93PM met all of the requirements. The 93PM was the only model that would operate within the confines of the NEXRAD TMPS shelter and meet the altitude and internal and external battery requirements.

The Mitsubishi 1100A Diamond Plus was also considered as the TPS replacement. The unit met the altitude and the clearance requirement. The unit did not meet the requirement to support both internal and external batteries. This deficiency eliminated the 1100A from consideration.

The Schneider Electric/APC Symmetra PK 50KW was also a potential candidate. The unit did support both internal and external batteries, but the unit fell short of the altitude and clearance requirements causing it to be eliminated.

The Toshiba 4400 series met many of the requirements. This unit had the capability to support both internal and external batteries and met the clearance requirements. The unit did not meet the altitude requirements. This unit did not have a modular design. The Line replaceable unit (LRU) was at the component level.

6. A description of efforts made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as possible, including whether a notice was or will be publicized as required by FAR Part 5 and, if not, which exception under FAR Part 5 applies.

A Sources Sought notice was posted to SAM.gov on November 4, 2025 and closed on November 28, 2025. Ten vendors responded expressing interest. The Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) evaluated each vendor's response and deemed that six vendors were capable sources that would allow us to set this requirement aside for small business concerns. A further breakdown of vendors and their socioeconomic status is listed below in section 9.

This solicitation will be publicized via a solicitation notice on SAM.gov per RFO 5.201 Solicitation notice. Additionally, a redacted version of this justification will be posted on SAM.gov with the solicitation.

7. Determination by the contracting officer that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable.

The Contracting Officer determines that the anticipated price(s) will be fair and reasonable based on a comparison to the Independent Government Cost Estimate (IGCE) and comparison to the historically accepted reasonable prices (1305M224C0047 and 1305M225C0016). Additionally, market research confirms adequate competition exists that should help secure additional discounts that will further assist in determining fair and reasonable pricing. Prior to award of the proposed contract, price information shall be obtained from the vendors and a price analysis will be performed and documented to sufficiently determine that the cost to the Government of the proposed acquisition will be fair and reasonable.

8. A description of the market research conducted (see FAR Part 10) and the results or a statement of the reason market research was not conducted.

Market research was conducted by the EAD to identify available sources and to evaluate the availability of the marketplace to meet the requirement as follows:

Mandatory sources like Federal Prison Industries and Ability One were all searched with no successful results. Market research primarily consisted of responses to a sources sought notice posted on November 4, 2025.

Based on the results of market research and the COR's evaluation of the responses to the Government's source sought notice, the Government determined that a small business set-aside presents the best opportunity for the Government to find a vendor that has the overall best capabilities to fulfill this requirement. Although there are 8(a) vendors that may be able to meet the Government's TPS UPS battery requirement, the Government determined that a small business set-aside was in the Government's best interest in order to maximize competition among the most capable vendors. Furthermore, the NOAA Small Business Office agreed with this strategy in order to maximize competition.

9. Any other facts supporting the use of other than full and open competition.

The abovementioned TPS Business Case Analysis has been attached to this document/email as supporting information. All facts have been documented in this justification. There are no additional facts to be reported in this section.

10. A listing of any sources that expressed a written interest in the acquisition.

A Sources Sought notice was posted to SAM.gov on November 4, 2025 and closed on November 28, 2025. Ten vendors responded expressing interest: EOLA Power (SB), Federon (SB), Shoppa (SB), Seneca Federal (tribal 8(a)), Kaiva (tribal 8(a)), Logical Resources Group (SDVOSB), Middle Canyon Electric (8(a)), MHK Technologies (EDWOSB), Eaton (LB) and TSS (WOSB). The COR reviewed their responses in order to determine if their capabilities were acceptable. Our determination is that six vendors' capabilities are satisfactory (Eaton, MHK Technologies, EOLA Power, Federon, Seneca Federal, and Middle Canyon Electric).

11. A statement of any actions the agency may take to remove or overcome any barriers to competition, if subsequent acquisitions are anticipated.

The Government will continue to conduct thorough market research to gauge the marketplace capabilities for future requirements. The Government will seek competition for future acquisitions for these services and supplies.

11. CERTIFICATION

The JOFOC has been prepared and certified by:

Technical/Requirements Personnel:

I certify that the above narrative is accurate and contains complete data necessary to support the recommendation for other than full and open competition. I further certify that the narrative verifies the Government's minimum needs or schedule requirements and any rationale used to justify other than full and open competition procedures.

BUIE.TAMMY.KAYE.1365867670 Digitally signed by BUIE.TAMMY.KAYE.1365867670 Date: 2026.03.11 09:45:22 -05'00'

03/11/2026

Tammy Buie
Contracting Officer Representative

Date

Contracting Officer:

I certify that the data supporting the recommended use of other than full and open competition is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

BUUM.KEVIN.JAMES.1383881834 Digitally signed by BUUM.KEVIN.JAMES.1383881834 Date: 2026.03.11 09:53:00 -05'00'

3/11/2026

Kevin Buum
Contracting Officer

Date

12. REVIEW and CONCURRENCE

Review:

Office of General Counsel

ANNETTE HALLBERG Digitally signed by ANNETTE HALLBERG Date: 2026.03.11 11:01:57 -04'00'

Annette Hallberg
Attorney-Advisor

Date

Concur:

Head of Contracting Office

CLARK.EMILY.LOUISE.1376820781 Digitally signed by CLARK.EMILY.LOUISE.1376820781 Date: 2026.04.02 12:37:42 -04'00'

4/2/2026

Emily L. Clark
Director, Eastern Acquisition Division

Date

13. Approval:

NOAA Competition Advocate

SHARMA.BINITA.1380799193 Digitally signed by SHARMA.BINITA.1380799193 Date: 2026.04.07 16:02:06 -04'00'

Binita Sharma
NOAA Competition Advocate

Date