Section M

Evaluation Criteria for the AN/TMQ-53 Tactical Meteorological Observing System (TMOS) Contractor Logistics Support (CLS)

04 June 2026

Solicitation Number: FA2330-26-R-B006

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Revision History

Revision Number (Rev01, Rev02, etc.)	Date	Description	Sections Affected/Author
Original	06 May 2026		
Rev01	20 May 2026	Revised after Legal Review for Business Clearance	M1.e.: “Solicitation” M3.a.4: 0003 Travel
Rev02	04 June 2026	Revised after Policy Review for Business Clearance	M2.c.1: “Transition Plan” M2.c.2: “Program Management Plan (PMP)” M2.c.4: “Systems Engineering”

Contents

M1 SOURCE SELECTION **4**

M1.A. BASIS FOR CONTRACT AWARD **4**
M1.B. NUMBER OF CONTRACTS TO BE AWARDED **4**
M1.C. COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE FROM USE OF GFP **4**
M1.D. NEGOTIATION **4**
M1.E. SOLICITATION REQUIREMENTS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS **4**

M2 EVALUATION FACTORS **5**

M2.A. EVALUATION FACTORS **5**
M2.B. EVALUATION METHODOLOGY **5**
M2.C. FACTOR I – TECHNICAL CAPABILITY **5**
M2.c.1 Transition Plan 6
M2.c.2 Program Management Plan (PMP) 6
M2.c.3 Lightning Detector Replacement Plan 6
M2.c.4 Systems Engineering 7
M2.c.5 Staffing Plan 7

M3 FACTOR II – PRICE **7**

M3.A EVALUATION CRITERIA **7**
M3.a.1 Completeness 7
M3.a.2 Reasonableness 7
M3.a.3 Balance 8
M3.a.4 Total Evaluated Price (TEP) 8

M1 Source Selection

M1.a. Basis for Contract Award

This is a Lowest Price Technically Acceptable (LPTA) source selection conducted in accordance with Revolutionary Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Overhaul (RFO) 15.103-2, Lowest Price Technically Acceptable Source Selection Process, as supplemented by the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (R-DFARS), DoD Source Selection Procedures, 20 August 2020 and R-DFARS Procedures, Guidance, and Information (PGI) 215. These regulations are available electronically at the Acquisition.Gov website (https://www.acquisition.gov/). The Government will select the proposal with the lowest evaluated price from among those meeting or exceeding the requirements for acceptability. A contract may be awarded to the offeror who is deemed responsible in accordance with RFO Part 9.1, as supplemented, whose proposal conforms to the solicitation's requirements (to include all stated terms, conditions, representations, certifications, and all other information required by Section L of this solicitation) and is judged, based on the evaluation factors to represent the lowest price technically acceptable proposal.

M1.b. Number of Contracts to be Awarded

The Government intends to award one Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) Contractor Logistic Support (CLS) contract for the AN/TMQ-53 Tactical Meteorological Observing System (TMOS) Program. However, the Government reserves the right not to award a contract at all, depending on the quality of the proposals, prices submitted, and the availability of funds.

M1.c. Competitive Advantage from Use of GFP

Use of Government property not already identified as part of this RFP is not authorized. The actual amount of Government Furnished Property (GFP) available at contract award is dynamic; therefore, the GFP list provided at the time of award may differ slightly depending on usage of existing GFP between solicitation and award time frame.

M1.d. Negotiation

It is the Government's intent to award without negotiation; therefore, it is imperative that offerors submit their best terms initially. However, if during the evaluation period it is determined to be in the best interest of the Government to negotiate, offeror responses to Evaluation Notices (ENs) and the Final Proposal Revision (FPR) will be considered in making the source selection decision. If the offeror's proposal has been evaluated as acceptable at the time negotiations are closed, any changes or exceptions in the FPR are subject to evaluation and may introduce risk that the offeror's proposal be determined unacceptable and ineligible for award.

M1.e. Solicitation Requirements, Terms and Conditions

Offerors are required to meet all solicitation requirements, such as terms and conditions, representations and certifications, and technical requirements, in addition to those identified as factors. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the solicitation may result in the

offeror being ineligible for award. Offerors must clearly identify any exception to the solicitation terms and conditions and must provide complete supporting rationale. The Government reserves the right to determine any such exceptions unacceptable.

M2 Evaluation Factors

M2.a. Evaluation Factors

The following evaluation factors will be used to evaluate each proposal. The Government will evaluate proposals for acceptability but will not rank the proposals by the non-price factors.

Factor 1: Technical Capability

- Transition Plan
- Program Management Plan (PMP)
- Lightning Detector Replacement Plan
- Systems Engineering
- Staffing Plan

Factor 2: Price

M2.b. Evaluation Methodology

With the LPTA Source Selection Process, technical tradeoffs will not be made and no additional credit will be given for exceeding acceptability.

ENs may be submitted during the evaluation period if it is determined to be in the best interest of the Government. However, each offeror's initial proposal should include best terms as there may not be an opportunity to revise proposals and the Government may elect not to request additional clarifications from the offeror(s) prior to making its final determination.

If the Offeror's proposal is determined to be outside the competitive range, or otherwise eliminated from the competition at any point of the evaluation period, notification shall be submitted to unsuccessful offeror(s).

M2.c. Factor I – Technical Capability

The Government's technical evaluation team shall evaluate the technical proposals on an acceptable or unacceptable basis, assigning one of the ratings described below (Table M1) for each section. All measures of merit listed below in M2 must be rated as acceptable in order to receive an acceptable rating for the Technical Capability Factor. Only those proposals determined to be technically acceptable, either initially or as a result of negotiation, will be considered for award. However, the offeror is reminded that the Government reserves the right to award this effort based on the initial proposal, as received, without negotiations.

Table M1 Technically Acceptable/Unacceptable Ratings

Rating	Description
Acceptable	Proposal meets the requirements of the solicitation
Unacceptable	Proposal does not meet the requirements of the solicitation.

The proposals shall be evaluated on the following technical areas:

M2.c.1 Transition Plan

This criteria evaluates the offeror's detailed and comprehensive phase-in Transition Plan in accordance with the PWS, Section 5.1. The offeror's Technical Proposal shall include a Transition Plan with a narrative discussion describing the offeror's transition phase-in approach and ability to achieve full operational sustainment by the end of the 45-day phase-in period without impact on system operations.

Measure of Merit:

To receive an acceptable rating, the offeror's proposed Transition Plan must adequately demonstrate a sound approach to accomplishing the following tasks within the 45-day transition time:

1. Establish material and logistics support, including overseas shipping arrangements;
2. Execute any required sub-contract agreements;
3. Obtain Integrated Maintenance Data System (IMDS) or equivalent system training to train employees that will staff the Contractor's helpdesk (training will be provided by the Government);
4. Receive Common Access Cards (CAC)/applicable identification from nearest military base;
5. Transition all GFP within 15 duty days after contract award;
6. Perform and verify a complete inventory of the GFP in the Enterprise Logistics Management System (ELMS) to reflect possession of the assets within 48 hours of receipt at their facility;
7. Develop a spares plan and for purchasing sensors from Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) as required and an OEM membership agreement to support all fielded systems; and
8. Coordinate all transition phase-in matters associated with the Contractor's take-over of the CLS maintenance and logistics functions to enable the Contractor's personnel to perform the requirements specified in the contract.

M2.c.2 Program Management Plan (PMP)

The offeror's proposed PMP shall be evaluated to ensure that PWS Section 6.1 criteria is met.

Measure of Merit:

To receive an acceptable rating, the offeror's proposed Program Management Plan must adequately demonstrate a sound approach to accomplishing the following tasks:

1. Establish a management process to ensure high quality sustainment support services throughout the term of this contract (e.g., spares, repairs, transportation/shipping, risk mitigation)
2. Apply Operations Security (OPSEC) in their management of the TMQ-53 CLS program IAW S 10-701 Operations Security, the TMQ-53 CLS OPSEC Plan, Security Classification Guide (SCG), and the program's Critical Information List
3. Provide OPSEC and Cybersecurity (CS) training
4. Provide evidence of compliance with NIST 800-171 IAW R-DFARS 204.7025

5. Interface with other TMQ-53 Contractor(s), vendors, and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) as needed to provide system parts
6. Not divulge any information regarding files, data, reports, processing activities/functions, user IDs, passwords, or other knowledge that may be gained, to anyone who is not authorized to have access to such information
7. Develop, implement, and maintain a risk management process to manage technical risks (e.g., performance, requirements stability/traceability, externally imposed requirements) and management risks (e.g., cost, schedule, staffing)
8. Describe processes for the following: identification of risks, proactive planning for risks, assessing risks, monitoring of risks to identify deviations from planned events, management of risk (including implementation of mitigation actions), and reporting
9. Use established risk management processes to manage, mitigate, and report risks in areas where the Contractor is responsible for management activities

M2.c.3 Lightning Detector Replacement Plan

This criteria evaluates the offeror's detailed and comprehensive lightning detector replacement solution.

Measure of Merit:

This criteria is met when the offeror has provided a viable technical solution for a lightning detector, detailing the following:

1. Systems Engineering & Integration: Outline end-to-end systems engineering process for integrating the lightning detector, from initial design review to final acceptance testing. This includes identifying obsolescence issues and detailing a process to replace the obsolete equipment and its capabilities for communication, data format, configuration, and physical setup;
2. Modification & ECP Process: Detail the specific hardware (e.g., new bracket design) and software (e.g., new data driver, UI changes) modifications required. Describe how you would formally document these changes and manage them through an Engineering Change Proposal (ECP) for Government approval;
3. Security: Provide a detailed plan for securely integrating the lightning detector and ensuring the integrity of its data stream in compliance with DoW network security requirements;
4. Deficiency Reporting & Resolution: Explain the formal process to initiate and manage a Deficiency Report (DR). Describe the diagnostic steps to find the root cause and the process for developing, testing, and presenting potential solutions to the Government for this complex hardware/software interaction issue.

M2.c.4 Systems Engineering

This criteria evaluates the Offeror's detailed and comprehensive Systems Engineering solution, including configuration management (PWS section 8.3.1), system security artifacts and the Risk Management Framework (RMF) (PWS section 9.2), and maintaining and updating Technical Orders (TOs) in compliance with Air Force standards (PWS section 10).

Measure of Merit:

To receive an acceptable rating, the offeror must demonstrate a sound approach to accomplishing the following tasks:

1. Establish and maintain a configuration management program and status accounting of the AN/TMQ-53 hardware and documentation for all items. Provide input on possible modifications, upgrades, and enhancements to the systems, along with the impacts to operations, maintenance, and documentation (TOs, training, security, etc.). Provide updates to the Configuration Management Plan upon changes to the configuration of the system.
2. Ensure that the TMQ-53 systems are managed IAW the Department of Defense Risk Management Framework (RMF). Assist the Government with all processes and artifacts required to obtain an Air Force Authority to Operate (ATO)/Authority to Connect (ATC), Assess Only, Army ATO, and Army ATC to include theater unique requirements by preparing required documentation and artifacts IAW applicable system security Assessment and Approval processes and AF ISSM or Authorizing Official (AO) guidance. Analyze the security safeguards of the hardware components every 30 days to ensure that appropriate security measures are implemented for each applicable environment.
3. Prepare and update a comprehensive system security package as required for reaccreditation. Assist the AF PM, Information System Security Officer (ISSO), and ISSM with government eMASS database entries. This includes answering applicable security Controls, uploading supporting artifacts and summaries of test results.
4. Maintain and update the existing AN/TMQ-53 TO as directed by the AF PM and IAW the process as defined in TO 00-5-3 AF Technical Order Lifecycle Management, and CDRL A009 with attachment, TM 86-01. Provide adequate, safe and accurate TOs which conform to Government requirements. Maintain TOs by preparing emergency, urgent, and routine changes/revisions or supplements and source data updates to incorporate corrections, equipment configuration changes, and maintenance and operational concept changes IAW TO 00-5-3.

M2.c.5 Staffing Plan

This criteria evaluates the offeror's detailed Staffing Plan to ensure it is sufficient to support the requirements of the PWS in sections 5.1, 6.1, 6.2, and Table 3-1 Services Summary.

Measure of Merit:

This criteria is met when:

1. The proposed team organization and written rationale demonstrate the ability to feasibly and effectively meet the requirements of the PWS.
2. The proposed key personnel skill levels, education, and experience with CLS services,

specifically related to weather systems, demonstrate the ability to feasibly and effectively meet the requirements of the PWS.

M3 Factor II – Price

M3.a Evaluation Criteria

The pricing criteria used for evaluation are: (1) Completeness, (2) Price reasonableness, (3) Balance and (4) Total Evaluated Price (TEP). Offerors whose price is determined to be incomplete, unreasonable, or unbalanced will not be considered for award.

M3.a.1 Completeness

The Government will review the pricing submissions for completeness and compliance with the RFP, notably Section L. Incomplete price submissions will not be evaluated, and the proposal will be eliminated from the competition.

M3.a.2 Reasonableness

The offeror's price proposal will be evaluated using one or more of the techniques defined in RFO 15.404-1 – Proposal Analysis Techniques. Based on the level of interest for this requirement, it is anticipated that adequate price competition will satisfy the criteria for price reasonableness. The proposed prices will be evaluated for reasonableness. For a price to be reasonable, it will represent a price to the Government that a prudent person would pay when consideration is given to prices in the market.

M3.a.3 Balance

Offerors are cautioned against submitting an offer that contains unbalanced unit Contract Line Item Number (CLIN) pricing. Unbalanced pricing exists when, despite an acceptable TEP, the price of one or more line items is significantly overstated or understated as indicated by the application of analysis techniques such as those defined by RFO Part 15.404-6. Per RFO 15.404-6(b)(2), if the Government determines that the lack of balance poses an unacceptable risk to the Government, the proposal will be eliminated from the competition.

M3.a.4 Total Evaluated Price (TEP)

A TEP will be calculated and used to rank all technically acceptable offers. The TEP will be the summation of all Firm-Fixed Priced (FFP) CLINs, including the options. The calculation method of each CLIN total is discussed below. The Government will use the TEP for evaluation purposes only; the TEP is not representative of the actual contract value.

0001 Transition Phase-In: FFP

The Government will include the offeror's proposed price for this CLIN 0001 in the TEP.

0002 Transition Phase-Out: FFP

The Government will include the offeror's proposed price for this CLIN 0002 in the TEP.

0003 Travel: FFP

The Government will use a "plug" number for this CLIN. The "plug" number will be the same for all offerors as determined by the Independent Government Cost Estimate (IGCE).

0004 Contractor Logistics Support: FFP

The Government will evaluate the price for CLIN 0004 by multiplying the offeror-proposed monthly price for each Contract Year (CY) (including the option years) in the Pricing Workbook

times the months in the year, twelve (12) months. This will be calculated the same for each Contract Year. Then, the total for each Contract Year will be added together, resulting in an extended total for the entire period of performance of the contract.

0005 Spares/Repairs: FFP

The Government will evaluate the price for CLIN 0005 by multiplying the unit price for every spare part on the Spare Parts List in the Pricing Workbook by the Best Estimated Quantity (BEQ) for each unit. The extended price for each spare part will then be summed together, resulting in the total evaluated price of the CLIN.

0006 Special Projects: FFP

The contractor shall provide a fully burdened labor rate for each labor category listed in the Pricing Workbook in accordance with the Labor Category Descriptions provided. The Government will evaluate this CLIN price by multiplying each proposed labor category rate times the BEQ labor hours and then add all of the extended amounts together for a TEP.

0007 CDRLs/DATA: NSP

Since this CLIN is Not Separately Priced (NSP) it will not be included in the TEP.

0008 Shipping: FFP

The Government will use a “plug” number for this CLIN. The “plug” number will be the same for all offerors as determined by the IGCE.

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