***NOAA'S ACQUISITION & GRANTS OFFICE, EASTERN ACQUISITION DIVISION-NORFOLK, NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE (NOS) NAVIGATION AND RESPONSE BRANCH (NRB) NEGOTIATED, ON A SOLE SOURCE BASIS, UNDER AUTHORITY OF RFO FAR 12.102(a), WITH ULTISAT INC. OUT OF LAUREL, MD FOR STARLINK INTERNET SERVICES.

***THE SOLE SOURCE DETERMINATION IS BASED ON THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION'S (NOAA) REQUIREMENT FOR THE NEED OF STARLINK INTERNET SERVICES. THE STARLINK SERVICES PROVIDED BY ULTISAT INC. ARE HIGHLY SPECIALIZED AND UNIQUE. DURING MARKET RESEARCH THERE WERE 3 OTHER LEO STATELLITE INTERNET PROVIDERS DISCOVERED BUT NONE OF THESE PROVIDERS MEET THE NEEDS OF THE NAVIGATION AND RESPONSE BRANCH. AMAZON LEO, EUTELSAT ONEWEB LEO, AND TELESAT LIGHTSPEED. WHILE AMAZON IS NOT YET COMMERCIALLY AVAILABLE, EUTELSAT AND TELESAT ARE FOREIGN AND PROVIDE MUCH LESS COVERAGE DUE TO FEWER SATELLITES. THE STARLINK PROVIDED BY ULTISAT PROVIDES BETTER COVERAGE DUE TO A MUCH LARGER NUMBER OF SATELLITES WHICH INCREASE CAPACITY, SPEED AND COVERAGE WHILE DECREASING LATENCY.

ULTISAT INC. IS THE ONLY AUTHORIZED GSA CONTRACT HIOLDER WHO CAN PROVIDE STARLINK SATELLITE INTERNET SERVICE.