

contract dollars awarded for architect-engineer services. This notice announces modifications to GSA's solicitation practices under the demonstration program based on a review of the agency's performance during the period from October 1, 1994 to September 30, 1995. Modifications to solicitation practices are outlined in the Supplementary Information section below and apply to solicitations issued on or after January 1, 1996.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Wisnowski, Office of GSA Acquisition Policy, (202) 501-1224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Procurements of construction or trash/garbage collection with an estimated value of \$25,000 or less will be reserved for emerging small business concerns in accordance with the procedures outlined in the interim policy directive issued by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (58 FR 13513, March 11, 1993).

Procurements of construction or trash/garbage collection with an estimated value that exceeds \$25,000 by GSA contracting activities will be made in accordance with the following procedures:

Construction Services in Groups 15, 16, and 17

Procurements for all construction services (except solicitations issued by GSA contracting activities in Regions 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 10 in SIC Group 15, shall be conducted on an unrestricted basis.

Procurements for construction services in SIC Group 15 issued by GSA contracting activities in Regions 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 10 shall be set aside for small business when there is a reasonable expectation of obtaining competition from two or more small businesses. If no expectation exists, the procurements will be conducted on an unrestricted basis.

Region 3 encompasses the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia, Maryland (except Montgomery and Prince Georges counties), and Virginia (except the city of Alexandria and the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William).

Region 4 encompasses the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Region 5 encompasses the states of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

Region 6 encompasses the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska.

Region 8 encompasses the states of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

Region 9 encompasses the states of Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada.

Region 10 encompasses the states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

Trash/Garbage Collection Services in PSC S205

Procurements for trash/garbage collection services in PSC S205 will be conducted on an unrestricted basis.

Architect-Engineer Services (All PSC Codes Under the Demonstration Program)

Procurements for all architect-engineer services (except procurements issued by contracting activities in GSA Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, and the National Capital Region) shall be conducted on an unrestricted basis.

Procurements for architect-engineer services issued by contracting activities in Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, and the National Capital Region shall be set aside for small business when there is a reasonable expectation of obtaining competition from two or more small businesses. If no expectation exists, the procurements may be conducted on an unrestricted basis.

Region 2 encompasses the states of New Jersey, New York, and the territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Region 3 encompasses the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia, Maryland (except Montgomery and Prince Georges counties), and Virginia (except the city of Alexandria and the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William).

Region 4 encompasses the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Region 5 encompasses the states of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

Region 9 encompasses the states of Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada.

The National Capital Region encompasses the District of Columbia, Montgomery and Prince Georges counties in Maryland, and the city of Alexandria and the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William in Virginia

Non-Nuclear Ship Repair

GSA does not procure non-nuclear ship repairs.

Dated: December 4, 1995.

Ida M. Ustad,

Associate Administrator for Acquisition Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

General Notice and Delegation of Authority To Review Decisions Issued by Administrative Law Judges in Certain Medicare Claims; Solicitation of Comments on Existing Procedures for These Appeals

SUMMARY: The publication of this notice and delegation of authority is to advise the public that the Department of Health and Human Services' Departmental Appeals Board has been given jurisdiction to review the decisions of Administrative Law Judges with respect to entitlement to coverage and claims for benefits under Medicare Part A, Hospital Insurance, and Medicare Part B, Supplementary Medical Insurance. It also gives notice of mailing and e-mail addresses to provide opportunities for interested parties to make suggestions for improvements in the current appeals procedures for these cases.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Glide B. Morrisson (202) 690-7043, (telephone) (202) 690-5863 (FAX).

Since the inception of the Medicare program, Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) from the Social Security Administration (SSA) have decided requests for ALJ hearings filed by or on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries concerning requests for payment under Part A of Medicare. In section 9341 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-509, Congress extended similar administrative review rights concerning requests for payment under Medicare Part B for services furnished on or after January 1, 1987. As a result, SSA's ALJs now conduct hearings concerning Medicare claims brought under both Parts A and B. Beneficiaries and other parties dissatisfied with an ALJ decision on either Part A or Part B claim may request that SSA's Appeals Council review the ALJ's decision. The Appeals Council also reviews ALJ hearing decisions concerning an individual's entitlement to hospital insurance (Part A) and supplementary medical insurance (Part B).

On August 15, 1994, the Social Security Independence and Program