

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from the Barbara Williams, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 720-9734.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of Rural Housing Service, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of Rural Housing Service's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Barbara Williams, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0743, Washington, DC 20250-0743. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 16, 1997.

Jan E. Shadburn,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 97-25528 Filed 9-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List commodities and a service to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: October 27, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3461.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the commodities and service listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and service to the Government.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and service.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and service to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities and service proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited.

Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following commodities and service have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Commodities

Case, Radio Set

5895-00-889-3856

NPA: Border TM Industries, Inc., El Paso, Texas

Illuminator/Corrector Stx and Refills

7520-01-386-2407

7520-01-386-2441

7510-01-390-0704

7510-01-390-0705

7510-01-390-0708

7510-01-390-0709

NPA: San Antonio Lighthouse, San Antonio, Texas

Belt Extender, Equipment

8465-00-NIB-0033

8465-00-NIB-0034

(Requirements for the U.S. Army Natick Research & Development Center, Natick, MA)
NPA: Mississippi Industries for the Blind, Jackson, Mississippi

Service

Janitorial/Custodial, Eisenhower Library Complex, 200 S.E. 4th Street, Abilene, Kansas

NPA: Occupational Center of Central Kansas, Salina, Kansas

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 97-25608 Filed 9-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 27, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3461.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 16, June 6, 20, July 7 and August 8, 1997, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (62 F.R. 27011, 31065, 33585, 26256 and 42745) of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

The Following Comments Pertain to Paper, Perforator, Desk

Comments were received from the current contractor for the perforator. The contractor claimed that addition of the perforator to the Procurement List would have a severe adverse impact on the company's sales, as it is part of the company's core business, and would require closing a dedicated production line, with consequent layoffs and loss of use of equipment.

The contractor's Government business includes two perforators, only one of which is being added to the Procurement List. The percentage of the contractor's total sales which this

perforator represents is below the level which the Committee normally considers to constitute severe adverse impact. The contractor will continue to have the opportunity to produce the other perforator for the Government, so the equipment and workers on its dedicated production line will not be idle.

Addition of this perforator to the Procurement List will create employment for several persons with severe disabilities. These persons as a group have a very high unemployment rate, so it is likely that any of the contractor's workers who may be displaced by the Committee's action will have a better chance of finding other work than these persons with severe disabilities.

The Following Comments Pertain to Linen Management Service, Norfolk, Virginia

Comments were received from the current contractor for this service. The contractor claimed that the proposed addition to the Procurement List does not meet the Committee's regulatory requirements on contractor impact and nonprofit agency capability, and cited court decisions on these points.

The contractor claimed that the proposed addition will have a severe adverse impact on the sales of the local plant which is performing the service. However, the Committee's regulation on contractor impact requires the Committee to look at the entire corporate structure of a contractor, including parent and affiliated companies, in making a determination. This addition to the Procurement List represents a very small percentage of the total sales of the corporate structure of this contractor, which is a very large business, even when the impact of other Procurement List additions on the contractor and its long record as a contractor for this service are taken into account.

The contractor also claimed that the addition would require it to discharge a number of workers and would result in a loss in annualized projected revenue. The number of workers and the anticipated loss far exceeds the number of jobs the service is expected to create for people with severe disabilities, and the anticipated revenue loss is well above the annual contract value for the service. Accordingly, the Committee does not believe the contractor's figures to be credible. Any actual loss suffered by the contractor in these areas is outweighed by the creation of jobs for people with severe disabilities, who experience very high unemployment rates.

The contractor cited a 1970 court decision to the effect that the Committee's program was not intended to have any impact on commercial businesses. That decision construed an earlier version of the Committee's statute. The statute was substantially amended in 1971, and the same court in a 1978 decision noted the legislative intent of the new statute was to allow impact on commercial entities. The contractor impact for this Procurement List addition is far below the figure allowed by that court decision.

The contractor also claimed that the nonprofit agency could not be deemed capable of providing the service in compliance with strict requirements applicable to it, such as local water quality and discharge standards. The contractor cited another court decision which requires the Committee to have evidence that the particular nonprofit agency has the capability to provide the service, rather than relying on generalized statements about the capability of people with severe disabilities. The nonprofit agency is currently successfully providing the same service to another Federal installation in the same area, and the Government contracting activity which is responsible for the service now being added to the Procurement List has informed the Committee that it has inspected the nonprofit agency and found it capable of providing this service. After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the commodities and services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the commodities and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and services to the Government.
2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and services.
3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following commodities and services are hereby added to the Procurement List:

Commodities

Office and Miscellaneous Supplies
(Requirements for Lackland Air Force Base, Texas)

Cross "Solo" Pen and Refill

7520-01-424-4846

7520-01-424-4881

7520-01-424-4860

7520-01-424-4848

7520-01-424-4871

7510-01-425-6802

Perforator, Paper, Desk

7520-00-224-7589

Services

Janitorial/Custodial, Plains High School/
Visitor Center, Jimmy Carter National
Historic Site, Plains, Georgia

Laundry Service, Evans U.S. Army
Community Hospital, (all general
laundry excluding uniforms), Fort
Carson, Colorado

Linen Management Service, Fleet and
Industrial Supply Center, (standard
grade linen), Norfolk, Virginia

This action does not affect current contracts awarded prior to the effective date of this addition or options that may be exercised under those contracts.

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 97-25609 Filed 9-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 72-97]

Foreign-Trade Zone 32—Miami, Florida Application for Foreign-Trade Subzone Status; Hewlett-Packard Company (Computer and Related Electronic Products) Miami, FL

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Greater Miami Foreign-Trade Zone Inc., grantee of FTZ 32, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the manufacturing and distribution facilities (computers, printers, measurement devices, medical products and related products) of the Hewlett-Packard Company (Hewlett-Packard), located in Miami, Florida. The application was submitted pursuant to the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the