

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
245-88

Mississippi State University anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Commodity or commodities to be purchased (make, model, description):

Conversion of a John Deere 9930 basket cotton picker to a bag type picker. The conversion is a modification that does not have a model number. It requires fabrication of a platform, safety rails, and a cotton lint diverter.

2. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s), how is it unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

This conversion was previously made to the same type of cotton picker in Tennessee by extension cotton specialist Tyson Raper. It is the only other picker that exists with this modification. He fully recommended that I make this improvement to mine to increase efficiency during harvest and to ensure safety to the crew while performing harvesting duties. After 4 seasons, Dr. Raper has no improvements to be made to the design and is fully happy with the picker the way that it is. The steel fabrication company in Tennessee is the only company with the blueprints and drawing to get this project completed properly.

3. Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):

Martin's Fab, Jackson, TN. As previously mentioned, this company is the only source with the blueprints and plans to effectively make the conversion to the cotton picker.

4. Estimated cost of item(s) and an explanation why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:

\$10,500. This is a reasonable cost to make this modification. Large equipment modifications are expensive, and this is an extensive change to the existing machine. My crew has removed the basket already, which further reduced the overall cost. Also, this picker will be light enough to haul from field to field with my heavy-duty truck compared to hiring a third-party hauler.

5. Explanation of the efforts taken by the department to determine this is the only source and the efforts used to obtain the best possible price:

Our department is unable to recommend another source to make this specific modification to the John Deere 9930 picker.

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Jennifer Mayfield, CPPO

Director of Procurement & Contracts

jmayfield@procurement.msstate.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, MSU determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MSU will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If MSU determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then MSU will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. MSU will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.