

Utility Privatization of Electrical Distribution System at Soldiers System Center, Natick,  
Massachusetts

PART: U.S. GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENTS

SUBPART: SERVICES

CLASSCOD: S--Utilities and Housekeeping Services--Potential Sources Sought

OFFADD: Defense Energy Support Center, 8725 John J. Kingman Rd., Room 3830,  
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-6222

SUBJECT: S--SOURCES SOUGHT FOR PRIVATIZATION OF ELECTRICAL  
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AT NATICK MASSACHUSETTS

POC: Benita Jackson, Contract Specialist, (703) 767-9404, Defense Energy Support  
Center, (DESC-EA).

DESC: The Defense Energy Support Center (DESC), in conjunction with the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (ACSIM), Army Material Command and, Soldier Systems Center, Natick, Massachusetts, seeks to identify responsible potential sources and obtain information in regards to possible privatization of utility systems in accordance with 10 USC 2688, "Utility Systems: Conveyance Authority" for Utility Privatization of the Electrical Distribution System at Natick, Massachusetts. The potential privatization action will include transfer of ownership, operation and maintenance, and the obligation to serve. The Army will not transfer ownership of land or any land lease interest for Soldier System Center, Natick, and will grant easements and leases, with concurrence of the underlying leaseholder where applicable, for access to land associated with each utility system.

OBJECTIVE: Should privatization occur, the ownership of the entire electrical distribution system and equipment to include, all capital investments, operation, maintenance and repair responsibilities, shall transfer to a publicly or privately owned utility provider. All responsibility for maintaining reliable service, including such items as environmental compliance, operation, maintenance, major systems renovation, construction, equipment, manpower and overhead shall be the responsibility of the new owner. Utility services under the potential contract will not include electrical supply. Therefore the owner of the distribution network and equipment need not also generate or resell electric power to Soldier System Center, Natick.

**INSTALLATION AND UTILITY SYSTEM DESCRIPTION:**

Note: (1). All technical data and information listed below is to be considered either an estimated quantity or an approximate order of magnitude. This data was developed using data provided by the Soldier System Center, Directorate of Installation Services and DESC is not responsible for the accuracy of the information at each site-specific

installation. Companies responding to this notice of interest are responsible for verification of all inventory data.

(2). Companies responding to this notice of interest should respond to interest in the entire scope of the requirement.

Soldier System Center is located in Natick, Massachusetts.

Installation Description: The U.S. Army Soldier System Center, Natick is a compact military Installation situated on approximately 78 acres located on the eastern shore of Lake Cochituate, approximately 17 miles southwest of Boston, adjacent to the Town of Natick, Massachusetts. The primary missions are to support various DoD organizations conducting research, development and testing activities to assure acceptable equipment and technologies for U.S. Army personnel.

Description of Facilities: The utility systems consist of approximately the following electrical distribution system:

- a. Distribution Lines:
  - Overhead Electrical Distribution Lines: There are approximately 5,242 linear feet (0.9928 circuit miles which is a little less than 1.0 circuit-miles) of overhead primary and secondary distribution line.
  - Underground Electrical Distribution Lines: There are approximately 17,130 linear feet (3.24 circuit-miles) of underground primary and secondary distribution line.
- b. Substations and Switching Stations:
  - One 13.8 kV distribution substation (Station 328).
- c. Transformers: There are 27 pad-type transformers located within the facility.

PROCESS: This request is to gather information from interested parties and is an essential step in determining market interest for the privatization of the electrical distribution system at Soldier System Center, Natick. In order to minimize costs both to potentially interested parties and the government, this notice is issued to determine market interest and feasibility as well as determining marketing strategies for privatizing the utility systems. Should insufficient credible interest be identified for a privatization action, it is highly likely that no formal solicitation will be issued. Should interest be determined sufficient, a formal Request for Proposals (RFP) may be forthcoming. Interested parties should provide a statement of interest on company letterhead. The statement of interest must not exceed a total length of 15 pages. The statement shall include as a minimum, the following information: (1) capability and experience in the ownership, operation and maintenance of similar systems; (2) financial capability to

purchase, upgrade, expand, operate and maintain utility systems; (3) conceptual rate plan (i.e., will charges for utility service be made from existing rates or from rates developed specifically for service at the individual installation(s); (4) discussion of your conceptual basis for a proposed purchase price (capitalized earnings value, replacement cost new less depreciation, original cost less depreciation, or other); (5) understanding of the federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations and familiarity and experience with environmental compliance procedures and regulations for the state of Massachusetts and US Environmental Protection Agency Regions; (6) Company point of contact and e-mail address.

**SITE VISIT AND DATA:** Neither a site visit nor the provision of additional data on the utility systems is considered necessary for the preparation and submittal of statement of interest. If a site visit and the provision of additional data are later determined necessary, notification will be provided by way of an amendment to this announcement.

**DUE DATE:** Statements of interest must be submitted to Defense Energy Support Center (DESC-EA) by March 31, 2003 by 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Sources may address responses to: Defense Energy Support Center, 8725 John J. Kingman Rd., Room 3830, ATTN: Benita Jackson, DESC-EA, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-6222.

**LINK DESC:** For future Privatization solicitation information

**LINKURL:** <http://www.desc.dla.mil/DCM/DCMPage.asp?pageid=246>

**EMAIL DESC:** For additional information or clarification

**EMAIL ADD:** [Benita.Jackson@dla.mil](mailto:Benita.Jackson@dla.mil)