

February 11, 2000

The Honorable Charles S. Robb  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Robb:

I am responding to your January 21, 2000, letter to Dennis Rathbun, Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, in which you request that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission review concerns expressed by your constituent, Mr. Matthew Custer, President, FMF Corporation, relating to the NRC's "Focused Source Selection" procedures under solicitation number HR72399 entitled, "Development and Implementation of Agency-Wide Wellness Program and Operation of Headquarters Employee Health and Fitness Centers (Wellness Program)." As requested, we have enclosed a copy of Mr. Custer's January 19, 2000, letter with this response.

FMF Corporation is a small business and currently operates the NRC headquarters fitness center under NRC Contract No. NRC-38-98-282. NRC is consolidating all health, physical fitness and occupational safety and health services under one agency-wide program. This will enable NRC to develop and implement a complete, integrated health and wellness program that will provide comparable health care to all NRC employees, including those at NRC's regional locations.

NRC consulted with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in developing our acquisition strategy to procure these services using full and open competitive procedures, and including 25% mandatory small business subcontracting in the solicitation. The SBA concurred in our decision. (Please see the enclosed letter, NRC to SBA dated September 28, 1999.)

The Office of Federal Procurement Policy granted NRC authority to conduct a pilot program using "Focused Source Selection" procedures. This approach involves a streamlined process for identifying competitive sources, followed by a proposal development and evaluation effort involving the three most promising sources. Public notice of this streamlined procurement procedure was published in the March 22, 1999, issue of the Federal Register.

On January 12, 2000, we posted our requirement for "Development and Implementation of Agency-Wide Wellness Program and Operation of Headquarters Employee Health and Fitness Centers (Wellness Program)" in the Commerce Business Daily (CBD) and on NRC's "Focused Source Selection" website. The notice invites all interested firms to comment on NRC's draft Statement of Work and to submit capability statements for NRC's review. NRC will evaluate each offeror's corporate experience and past performance as well as the corporate experience and past performance of any proposed subcontractor and teaming partners.

We appreciate the concern expressed by Mr. Custer with respect to the time available for small businesses to explore subcontract opportunities. To address this concern, we have extended the due date for submission of capability statements to February 17, 2000. In addition, we have posted a list of firms that have expressed an interest in this requirement on the NRC "Focused Source Selection" website and in the CBD. This additional time and information will provide the small business community with an opportunity to explore possible subcontracts and teaming arrangements with other interested firms.

I trust this reply responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

***/RA/ by Frank Miraglia Acting For/***

William D. Travers  
Executive Director for Operations

Enclosures: As stated

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William D. Travers  
Executive Director for Operations

Enclosures: As stated

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\* See previous concurrence

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