



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20416

JUN 9 2009

Ms. Debra E. Sonderman
Director
Office of Acquisition and Property
Management and Senior Procurement Executive
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Sonderman:

This is in response to your request for approval of a blanket waiver to compete construction requirements below the competitive threshold under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. These construction projects will be performed nationwide.

Firm-fixed price contracts are anticipated. The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sector codes for construction, 236, 237 and 238 are applicable. The applicable dollar threshold is in excess of \$12.5M. The number of construction projects to be awarded is not known. The period of performance is effective immediately upon offer and acceptance of these requirements into the 8(a) Business Development (BD) Program by the respective district office.

Your request for a blanket waiver is being approved pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has reserved this authority solely "for contracts funded by the Recovery Act, for competition for construction and information technology services below the competition thresholds."

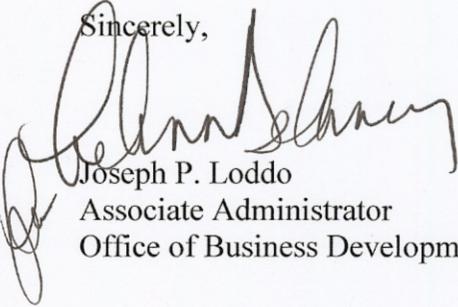
As stated, the U.S. Department of the Interior intends to award several 8(a) construction projects throughout the United States. As such, the procuring agency's contracting officer should forward the offer letter to the district office serving the geographical area in which the work is to be performed. That SBA district office will provide an acceptance letter. While the competition threshold for this requirement is being waived under the authority of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, 8(a) construction requirements are to be competed only among those participants having a bona fide place of business within the geographical boundaries of the competitive area. A copy of this letter should be included in the offering package when you submit your offer letter to the respective district office.

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Should you have any further questions regarding this procurement, please contact Carol L. Thompson, Director, Office of Management and Technical Assistance at 202-619-1624.

Thank you for your continued support of the 8(a) Business Development Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph P. Loddo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "L".

Joseph P. Loddo
Associate Administrator
Office of Business Development