

ACTION: Proposed additions to procurement List.

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

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: March 18, 1996.

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 commodity and services 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 commodity and services to the Government.
2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodity and services.
3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodity 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 commodity and services 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 commodity and services have been proposed for

addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Commodity

Stamp, Custom, Pre-inked
7520-01-381-8027
(Requirements for the GSA Customer Supply Centers)
NPA: The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.,
Seattle, Washington

Services

Janitorial/Custodial, Building 151, Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey
NPA: Occupational Training Center of Morris County, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey
Janitorial/Custodial, Serrenti Memorial USARC, Scranton, Pennsylvania
NPA: Allied Health Care Services, Scranton, Pennsylvania
Linen Management, Basewide, Fort Hood, Texas
NPA: Goodwill Contract Services, Inc., Waco, Texas

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 96-3597 Filed 2-15-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-33-P

Procurement List Addition

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

ACTION: Addition to the procurement list.

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 18, 1996.

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 October 20, 1995, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notice (60 F.R. 5421) of proposed addition to the Procurement List.

Comments were received from a company which was the contractor for the service at the time it was proposed for addition to the Procurement List. This company's contract for the service, which lasted for five years, expired October 31, 1995. The company stated that a month previously it had unexpectedly lost another Government janitorial contract which represented the majority of the company's revenues at that time. As a result of losing these two contracts, the income of this family-

owned company was substantially reduced and, in the opinion of the company's accountant, its ability to meet its financial obligations was severely impaired. The company, which claimed it had performed its contract well, also noted that Government janitorial business opportunities generally are declining, and the Committee's program has taken many of those remaining, such as the janitorial requirement for the rest of the installation where the contract at issue was performed. Accordingly, the company believes that addition of this service to the Procurement List would have a severe adverse impact on the company.

The service has been provided since the end of the commenting company's contract by the nonprofit agency which will perform the service under the Committee's program. The service has been performed under two small purchase contracts, for the periods November-December 1995 and January-February 1996, respectively. The current contract was awarded after the nonprofit agency won a competition with the commenting company and another bidder.

The Committee is required to consider impact of an addition to the Procurement List on the *current* contractor for the commodity or service being added. The commenting company is not the current contractor because it did not receive the contract, when it had the opportunity to do so through the most recent competitive bidding process.

Because no one is guaranteed a contract under the competitive bidding system, a company which is not the current contractor is only losing the opportunity to bid on future contracts because of an addition to the Procurement List. The Committee does not consider losing this opportunity to be severe adverse impact.

The Committee also does not agree with the company's assessment of its performance on its contract to perform this service. Contrary to what the company claimed, the Government contracting office for the service informed the Committee that the company's performance was bad enough that contracting personnel would not have recommended a subsequent contract award to the company for the service.

The originally proposed fair market price for the service under the Committee's program has been reduced to reflect the nonprofit agency's award price for the current contract. The nonprofit agency informed the Committee that one reason the reduced

fair market price is acceptable to the nonprofit agency is that the earlier price included a charge to restore the buildings from the condition the commenting company's poor performance had left them in. This restoration was completed during the nonprofit agency's first contract for the service.

Addition of this service to the Procurement List will guarantee the creation of jobs for people with severe disabilities, who have an unemployment rate far above people without severe disabilities. The Committee believes that this outweighs the possible loss of employment by the commenting company's owners and employees, as they are more likely to find other employment than people with severe disabilities would be, even considering the state of the market for janitorial service. After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the service, fair market price, and impact of the addition on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the service listed below is 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 service to the Government.
2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the service.
3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the 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 service proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following service is hereby added to the Procurement List: Janitorial/Custodial DITCO Buildings 3600, 3178 and 3179 Scott Air Force Base, Illinois

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. 96-3596 Filed 2-15-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

El Paso Natural Gas Co.; Notice of Application

[Docket No. CP96-173-000]

February 12, 1996.

Take notice that on February 6, 1996, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso), P.O. Box 1492, El Paso, Texas 79978, filed in Docket No. CP96-173-000 an application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act for permission and approval to abandon a transportation service for Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America, which was authorized in Docket No. CP78-239, *et al.*, all as more fully set forth in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

El Paso proposes to abandon the transportation service because it is no longer needed and has terminated on own its terms on May 1, 1989.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before March 4, 1996, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of

the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed abandonment are required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for El Paso to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-3532 Filed 2-15-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP96-165-000]

Florida Gas Transmission Co.; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

February 12, 1996.

Take notice that on January 31, 1996, Florida Gas Transmission Company (FGT), 1400 Smith Street, Houston, Texas 77002, filed, in the above docket, a request pursuant to §§ 157.205 and 157.212 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205 and 157.212), for authorization to construct and operate a new delivery point and realign natural gas volumes under its blanket authority issued in Docket No. CP82-553-000 pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, FGT proposes to construct and operate a delivery point near its existing 20-inch and 26-inch mainlines in Indian River County, Florida to serve City Gas Company of Florida, a Division of NUI Corporation (City Gas) under two firm transportation service agreements pursuant to FGT's FERC Rate Schedules FTS-1 and FTS-2. FGT also proposes to realign Maximum Daily Quantities and Maximum Daily Transportation Quantities to the proposed delivery point from the Cutler Ridge and St. Lucie Divisions.

FGT states that its tariff allows additional delivery points and the realignment of gas volumes. FGT also states that its gas deliveries to City Gas would remain within the currently authorized levels and have no disadvantageous impact on FGT's other existing customers.

FGT states that City Gas would reimburse it for all costs directly and indirectly incurred by FGT for the