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New OMB Report Shows Government-Wide Progress in Competitive Sourcing Initiative More Agencies Moving on Competitions, Including National Park Service

Washington, D.C. – The Administration is making important progress in implementing the practice of Competitive Sourcing, says a new OMB report released today. The report shows the Administration's commitment to the long-term success of public-private competition as a resource management tool for improving performance and decreasing costs to taxpayers.

"We continue to make good progress in Competitive Sourcing. Agencies are moving forward with tailor-made plans that fit their missions, and more competitions are being held in a fair and open manner. We are confident that the savings and service benefits expected from this effort will soon follow," said Clay Johnson, Deputy Director of Management for OMB.

The report includes competition plans of agencies covered by the President's Management Agenda (PMA). These plans have been customized around each agency's mission and workforce mix. The report also includes a side-by-side comparison of the old A-76 and the improved A-76.

Case Study Shows National Park Service Progress in Competitive Sourcing:

The National Park Service's (NPS) successful application of new streamlined competition procedures are expected to yield significant cost savings for the provision of archaeological services at the Southeastern Archeological Center in Tallahassee, Florida. Under the old rules for a streamlined competition, agencies could bid only their existing organization. By contrast, the new rules permit – and, in fact, encourage – agencies to become more efficient. Taking advantage of this opportunity, NPS' in-house team reorganized itself into a most efficient organization (MEO) and eliminated seasonal and temporary positions. After comparing personnel costs, material and supply costs, overhead costs, and other costs of in-house performance to the cost of private sector performance, the agency's contracting officer determined that the MEO represented the most cost-effective option. As required by the new Circular, NPS will track actual savings to ensure benefits are realized.

Background:

- Competitive sourcing is one of the five initiatives in the PMA, a plan to reform the federal government by making it
 citizen-centered, results-oriented, and market-based. Competitions are held in which the costs and overall value of
 services are compared among private sector and federal government providers. It does not matter who wins the
 desired outcome is the delivery of better services at the best value for the American taxpayer.
- The government currently spends hundreds of billions of dollars each year on commercial services provided by 850,000 government employees. These services include everything from engineering, laundry, computer support, custodial services, fee collection at National Parks, eyeglass-making, landscaping, as well as other activities commonly available in the private marketplace.
- Independent studies by the General Accounting Office (GAO) and the Center for Naval Analyses show that holding these competitions saves taxpayers an average of 30 percent.
- Studies show when the private sector does win a public-private competition, a small, women-owned or minority-owned business wins 60 percent of the time.

To read the full report, go to www.whitehouse.gov/omb/procurement/comp_sourc_addendum.pdf. For additional information, please contact OMB Communications at 202-395-7254.