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Subject: Comments on A-76

Attached are comments from the Centralized Servicing Center of Rural Development Mission Area of the Department of Agriculture.

- Comments on OMB Circular No.doc

Comments on OMB Circular No. A-76 (Revised)

Effective Date: The effective date of January 1, 2003 for all solicitations issued after on or after that date makes it very difficult for agencies to make target dates of September 2003 for competitive sourcing activities that have already started. Suggest studies that are already underway be "Grandfathered".

Public Announcement (start date): How is the Public Announcement to be conveyed to state and local government officials and congressional members. Do all parties have to be provided the information at the same time, and if not what determined the official start date (date of notification to first group or date of notification to final group notified)?

Page B-15 5.a. To maintain currency of the PWS the What is the is the mechanism to be used by the Agency Tender if they win the competition to comply with changes in priority or additional work during the performance period which impact the currency of the PWS. For a private sector contract a contract modification would be negotiated and issued by the CO does this also apply to changes for the Agency Tender?

Page D-5 C.1. Public Reimbursable Sources – Can any agency submit under this requirement if they perform a commercial activity?

Additional Comment:

High Performing Organization: The Commercial Activities Panel Report on Improving the Sourcing Decisions of the Government recommended that high performing organizations be encouraged throughout the federal government. Will there be any method of applying for an exemption to the A-76 process for high performing organizations or has the administration decided not to pursue this recommendation at this time.