

To: Potential Offerors

The Forest Service and the Department of Interior intend to issue solicitations for the following equipment in 2009 to obtain resources for preseason incident agreements. Rather than the agencies setting the price, this method requires vendors to compete by providing a price, as well as personnel and equipment information for consideration. In order to receive an agreement for these categories of equipment, vendors must respond to the solicitations when they are issued. Only one award nationally will be made for any piece of equipment within a category per contractor. The agreements that are issued will be for a period of 3 years. There **will not** be another opportunity to sign up these types of equipment until the end of the three year period.

Equipment to be solicited includes:

1. Dozers/Excavators w/Transports
2. Transports
3. Portable Toilets/Portable Handwashing Stations
4. Potable Water Trucks/Gray Water Trucks/Trailer Mounted Handwashing Stations

Standard specifications are being developed in an effort to increase consistency. The solicitations will only be available electronically; they will not be mailed out hardcopy. It is expected that solicitations will be issued on a geographic basis next fall/winter. They will be available at the following website (<http://www.fedbizopps.gov>), so please visit this website to become familiar with it.

These solicitations will be posted in late March, 2008 in draft form on the above website for interested vendors to view and provide comment. The process for commenting will be provided with the draft solicitation when it is posted. Vendors wishing to review the draft solicitations are encouraged to monitor this website.

To be considered for an award, vendors must maintain a current registration in the Contractor Central Registration system (<http://www.ccr.gov/>). This registration must be updated annually.

For additional information please contact Debby Wesselius, 406-329-3333.