

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS
FOR
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

1. **Authorization**¹

- DC Code § 34-801
- DC Code § 34-804
- 15 DCMR § 3700

2. **Minimum Need**

The Office of the People’s Counsel requests the services of Synapse Energy Economics, Inc., 485 Massachusetts Ave. Suite 2, Cambridge, MA 02138.

3. **Estimated Fair and Reasonable Price**

\$10,000

4. **Facts That Justify a Sole Source Procurement**

A. The District of Columbia Office of the People’s Counsel (“DC OPC” or “Office”) is an independent agency of the District of Columbia government. By law, it is the advocate for consumers of natural gas, electric and telephone services in the District. District of Columbia law designates the Office as a party to all utility-related proceedings before the District of Columbia Public Service Commission (“DC PSC”). The Office also represents the interests of District ratepayers before federal regulatory agencies. The Office is authorized to investigate the operation and valuation of utility companies independently of any pending proceedings.

Synapse Energy conducts the following tasks

- (1) Refine the model and analysis used in producing the study on “Assessing Clean Electricity Paths for Washington, D.C” ;

¹ Procurement authority is vested in the Commission pursuant to § 13(c) (2) of the Residential Real Property Seller Disclosure, Funeral Services Date Charge, and Public service Commission Independent Procurement Authority Act of 1998 (D.C. Law 12-263). The Commission is statutorily exempt from the D.C. procurement rules as set forth in D.C. Official Code § 1-1181 et seq.

DC Code § 34-804, hereby established within the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia, as established by D.C. Code § 34-801, as Office to be known as the “Office of the People’s Counsel.” The Office shall be a party, as of right, in any investigation, valuation, revaluation, or proceeding of any nature by the Public Service Commission of or concerning a public utility operating in the District of Columbia.

15 DCMR § 3700: Public Utilities and Cable Television – Public Service Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure.

- (2) Incorporate new information related to natural gas, proposed solar garden cooperatives legislation and so on that may affect the District's future clean electricity path;
 - (3) Develop specific recommendations that will have the potential to improve the District's' clean energy portfolio;
 - (4) Produce an abridged consumer friendly report on "Assessing Clean Electricity Paths for Washington, D.C";
 - (5) Assist OPC in presenting the results of the study regarding " Clean Electricity Paths for Washington, D.C" to various stakeholders including the Mayor's office;
 - (6) Participate in meeting with OPC staff regarding the contents, limitations and potential changes to the "Clean Electricity Paths for Washington, D.C" report; and
 - (7) Suggest to OPC-DC specific studies that will help identify other strategies or approaches that may have the potential to increase the clean energy mix of the District's energy portfolio.
- B. Synapse Energy Economics is exceptionally well qualified to provide assistance to DC-OPC because it has:
- i) completed the Phase I of the study "Assessing Clean Electricity Paths for Washington, D.C", and this contract is the second phase or continuation of the Phase I of the study;
 - ii) extensive experience evaluating strategies for developing a sustainable energy future at the national, regional, and local levels; and
 - (ii) provided expert advice and technical analysis for a variety of clients regarding renewable energy and energy efficiency policies, program design, and implementation.
- C. It is for the reasons outlined herein that it is recommended that a sole source contract be awarded to Synapse Energy Economics.
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5. **Certification by the Contracting Officer**

I hereby certify that the above facts are accurate and complete.

Frank G. Scott, Jr.
Contracting Officer

Date

DETERMINATION

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the District of Columbia procurement regulations: *DC Law: 34-804; DC Law: 34-801; and 15 DCMR §3700*, I hereby determine that the award of a sole source contract for the services described herein is in the best interest of the District of Columbia Office of the People's Counsel.

Sandra Mattavous-Frye
People's Counsel

Date

DETERMINATION

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the District of Columbia procurement regulations: *DC Law: 34-804; DC Law: 34-801; and 15 DCMR §3700*,

I hereby determine that the award of a sole source contract for the services described herein is in the best interest of the Office of the People's Counsel.