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DECISION



Kenn B. ...
**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20548

FILE: B-190275

DATE: October 12, 1977

MATTER OF: Ingersoll Rand Company

DIGEST:

Protest of procurement action by St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation will not be considered since Corporation is wholly owned Government corporation and has broad authority to determine character and manner of its expenditures.

Ingersoll Rand Company (Ingersoll) protests the award of a contract under invitation for bids (IFB) 25188, issued by the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (Corporation), United States Department of Transportation. It is Ingersoll's belief that the low bid received is nonresponsive and that Ingersoll should be awarded the contract since it was the lowest responsive responsible bidder.

The Corporation is defined by the Government Corporation Contract Act, 31 U.S.C. § 846 (1970), as a wholly owned Government corporation. The Corporation is authorized by statute, 33 U.S.C. § 984 (a)(9) (1970), to:

"* * * determine the character of and the necessity for its obligations and expenditures, and the manner in which they shall be incurred, allowed and paid, subject to provisions of law specifically applicable to Government corporations * * *" (Emphasis supplied.)

This broad authority is similar to that found in many Government corporation charters.

In view of that broad authority, we have consistently declined to consider protests involving procurements conducted pursuant to that authority. See, e.g., Delta Switchboard Company, B-182891, January 3, 1975, 75-1 CPD 5; DeVonne Armstrong Company, B-182653, January 16, 1975, 75-1 CPD 28; Murray and Tregurt a Division of Mathewson Corporation, B-182606, December 4, 1974, 74-2 CPD 311.

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Accordingly, the protest is dismissed.

Paul G. Dembling
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General Counsel