



Comptroller General
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

Has further

Decision

Matter of: Precision Metal Products, Inc.

File: B-270312

Date: December 1, 1995

DECISION

Precision Metal Products, Inc. (PMP) protests the rejection of its offer of J85 Stage 1 compressor rotor blades for one line item under request for proposals (RFP) No. N00383-94-R-0228, issued by the Naval Inventory Control Point-Philadelphia for multiple line item purchases. Potential offerors were advised that the government intended to solicit and negotiate with the only approved source for the rotor blades and that in order for other offerors to be considered their rotor blades had to be approved after testing by the appropriate government agency. After consideration of the design data for PMP's rotor blade, it was determined that the blade would have to undergo actual tests for reliability and durability. However, because the tests would cost approximately \$850,000, it was decided that conducting them would not be in the government's best interests, and PMP's offer was rejected. In addition to protesting the rejection, PMP requests that we uphold for future procurements the agency's initial conditional source approval of its rotor blade pending successful completion of the tests.

We dismiss the protest.

Under the bid protest provisions of the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984, 31 U.S.C. §§ 3551-3556, only an "interested party" may protest a federal procurement. That is, a protester must be an actual or prospective supplier whose direct economic interest would be affected by the award of a contract or the failure to award a contract. Section 21.0(a), 60 Fed. Reg. 40,737, 40,739 (Aug. 10, 1995) (to be codified at 4 C.F.R. § 21.0(a)). A protester is not an interested party where it would not be in line for contract award were its protest to be sustained. ECS Composites, Inc., B-235849.2, Jan. 3, 1990, 90-1 CPD ¶ 7. Here, the agency has advised that, notwithstanding the question of the approval of PMP's rotor blade,

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PMP's best and final offer was not low. Since PMP would not be in line for award even were we to sustain its protest, we will not consider any of the issues relating to the protest.

The protest is dismissed

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