



**THIS IS NOT
AN ORDER**

REQUEST FOR BIDS/PROPOSALS COVERSHEET
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
Procurement and Contract Services
118 College Drive #5003, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39406-0001

Date: _____

Bid- SSP 25-014

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI is considering the purchase of the following item(s). We ask that you submit your bid and retain one copy for your files. Right is reserved to accept or reject any part of your bid. Your quotation will be given consideration if received in Bond Hall, Room 214 on or before:

February 21, 2025 2:00 p.m. CDT

Buyer: Millissa Stork

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

TERMS - Bidder should state terms of sale. Our terms are 2% ten days, net 45 days.

These terms will apply per Mississippi law.

AWARDING CONTRACT - Cash terms will not be used as a basis for awarding

contracts; however, the University will accept cash discounts when earned.

NOTE: If you cannot quote on the exact material shown, please indicate any exception giving brand name and complete specifications of any alternate. If additional space is required, use a separate sheet or letter of transmittal.

ITEM	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL NET PRICE
		<p>DESCRIPTION</p> <p>Bid- SSP 25-014</p> <p>Proposed Sole Source Purchase</p> <p>for Li-Cor Equipment</p> <p>RFx 3150006113</p> <p>PROPOSAL MUST BE RETURNED TO THE UNIVERSITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS. RFP NUMBER AND DATE OF BID OPENING MUST BE SHOWN ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE ENVELOPE IF USING THAT METHOD.</p>		

We quote you as above-F.O.B. The University of Southern Mississippi. Shipment can be made in _____ days from receipt of order. DATE _____ TERMS _____
Return quotation to Procurement Services at above address.

Signature Required _____

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 25-014

The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure:

Qty 70	LI-7810 CH4/CO2/H2O Trace Gas Analyzer High precision CH4 measurements for atmospheric monitoring. Accurate CO2 and H2O measurements suitable for other applications. Please see performance specifications for more details. Includes AC Power Supply, 2 Lithium Ion Batteries, Manual and Ethernet Cable.
Qty 70	9982-011 Trace Gas Soil Cable Assembly, 2 m 2-meter cable assembly. Connects Smart Chamber 8200-01S or Multiplexer LI-8250 with Li-COR Trace Gas Analyzer LI-78XY.
Qty 70	900-19016 Soil Moisture/Temperature Probe, 1m Soil moisture, temperature, and electrical conductivity probe with SDI-12 connection cable to connect to the 8200-01S, 8200-104/C and 6800-09 chambers. Features a 1-meter cable and weather-resistant M12 connector.
Qty 70	9968-242 Auxiliary Power Cable DC power connector to bare leads to power LI-7810/LI-7815/7820/7825/LI-6800 with external power source, e.g. deep-cycle marine battery.
Qty 70	LI-8250 8-Port Multiplexer The 8-port Multiplexer is the hub of multiplexed soil gas flux systems. It can integrate with LI-COR gas analyzers, non-LI-COR gas analyzers, and even multiple analyzers at once. Featuring a built-in web server, Wi-Fi, and numerous Ethernet ports, the multiplexer can be configured from most computers, smartphones, and tablets. It has sealed cable connections for 8 chambers, RS-485 communication with chambers, and a digital processor. Includes DC power cable, indoor power supply (not for use outdoors), and a spares kit.
Qty 70	8200-104 20-cm Long-Term Chamber The 8200-104 Long-Term Chamber with opaque bowl features a patented pressure equilibration vent, air temperature thermistor, three connectors for SDI-12 HydraProbes, and RS-485 digital communication with the LI-8250 Multiplexer. Each chamber includes two soil collars, a gasket kit, and a spares kit.
Qty 70	8200-104C 20-cm Clear Long Term Chamber The 8200-104C Clear Long-Term Chamber is for net carbon exchange measurements. It features a patented pressure equilibration vent, air temperature thermistor, three connectors for SDI-12 HydraProbes, and RS-485 digital communication with the LI-8250 Multiplexer. Each chamber includes two soil collars, a gasket kit, and a spares kit.
Qty 70	9982-056 MUX Chamber Cable/Tubing 15M Assembly Chamber Cable Assembly, 15 m
Qty 70	7810-NIA-5 5 Year - All inclusive Service Agreement for New Purchases of the LI-7810. Includes 2 calibration 5 Year - All inclusive Service Agreement for New Purchases of the LI-7810. Includes 2 calibration
Qty 70	8250-NIA-5 5 Year - All inclusive Service Agreement for New Purchases of the LI-8250. Includes 2 calibration 5 Year - All inclusive Service Agreement for New Purchases of the LI-8250. Includes 2 calibration
Qty 120	LI-5350A Apollo Dissolved Inorganic Carbon (DIC) Analyzer with LI-850 (AS-C5) (MULTI) Apollo Dissolved Inorganic Carbon (DIC) Analyzer with LI-850 (AS-C5) (MULTI)
Qty 120	LI-5800A Apollo Total Alkalinity Titrator (AS-ALK3) Apollo Total Alkalinity Titrator (AS-ALK3)

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2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:

DIC Analyzer

For the DIC analyzer, the LI-5350A DIC Analyzer with LI-850, manufactured by LI-COR Environmental, is the only commonly accepted instrument capable of working reliably in both fresh and saline waters. Designed by the esteemed scientist Dr. Wei-Jun Cai, this instrument achieves a precision of 0.15% and requires only 0.2 to 1.5 ml of sample per measurement, with an analysis time of approximately 3.5 minutes. No other instrument on the market offers comparable precision, efficiency, or sample size requirements.

TA Titrator

The Apollo Total Alkalinity Titrator AS-ALK3/LI-5800A, also designed by Dr. Cai and now produced by LI-COR Environmental, is the most automated and precise titrator available. With an accuracy of $\pm 0.1\%$ for an alkalinity of $\sim 2300 \mu\text{mol/L}$, it requires only 20–25 ml of sample and completes measurements within 7–10 minutes.

Trace Gas Analysis System

The four-chamber $\text{CH}_4/\text{CO}_2/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Trace Gas Analysis System includes a trace gas analyzer, a multiplexer, and four long-term chambers. LI-COR Environmental's LI-7810 trace gas analyzer is the preferred choice as it is portable, reliable, and compatible with the company's smart chambers. In comparison, while Picarro previously offered the GasScouter G4301, the discontinuation of this model poses challenges for future maintenance. Moreover, using LI-COR's analyzer and multiplexer together ensures seamless integration, smoother operation, and ease of data analysis.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:

The instruments from LI-COR Environmental are widely regarded as the industry standard in the field of carbonate chemistry. Their use ensures data consistency and comparability with other research groups, which is critical for collaborative scientific investigations. Additionally, I have extensive experience operating these instruments, which eliminates the need for additional training for myself and my students, further reducing costs.

4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

I (PI, Songjie He) have been in contact with LI-COR regarding these instruments since November 2024. The latest quote has been updated to reflect the highest possible discount. Additionally, the prices listed in the quote are similar to those in the quote I received a couple of years ago when making similar purchases for a Louisiana State University lab. Furthermore, the prices are reasonable based on communications with researchers in similar fields.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

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The latest quote is the fifth version of the quote from LI-COR. Since November 6, 2024, I (PI, Songjie He) have had one Zoom meeting, three phone calls, and numerous email exchanges with an LI-COR representative. The highest possible discount has been included in the latest quote.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	02/02/2025
2nd scheduled	02/09/2025

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Millissa Stork
Procurement Coordinator
703 East Beach Drive, Ocean Springs, MS 39564
Millissa.stork@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

USM SSP 25-014 Notice of Proposed Sole Source purchase of Li-Cor Scientific Equipment.

http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Bid

RFx: 3150006113

Comments/objections will be received as required per Section 31-7-13 (C) of the Mississippi Code until 2:00 p.m. (Central Time) on February 21, 2025.

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Millissa Stork
Procurement Coordinator
703 East Beach Dr. Ocean Springs, MS 39564
Phone: 228-818-8001

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection USM SSP 25-014"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

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RUN DATES 02/02/2025 AND 02/09/2025.