

11/6/07 Revision

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11/8/07
OK'd by
John Collins



BROOKHAVEN
NATIONAL LABORATORY

SmallBiz Newsletter

Vol. 6

November 2007 – First Quarter



Happy Thanksgiving!!!!!!!!!!!!

WE DID IT!!!!!!!!!!!!

SB Category	DOE Goals	Actuals	Diff.
SB	41.30%	53.85%	12.55%
SDB	6.30%	6.47%	.17%
WOB	5.80%	12.27%	6.47%
HUB	2.20%	3.45%	1.25%
SDVOB	1.30%	1.34%	.04%

We had an **OUTSTANDING** year and exceeded **ALL** of our small business goals.

Thank you very much for a job well done!!!

Highlight of the Quarter:

We met all our goals for FY07!!!!!!!!

More \$'s for Small Business R&D.

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program may double their funding.

The SBIR program is designed to move R & D projects into the commercial marketplace. The National Research Council of the National Academies reported that nearly half of the SBIR-funded R&D projects have reached the commercial market. This is one of the things our Technology Transfer Dept. is involved in.

The report recommended increasing the standard size of Phase I grants to \$150,000, from the current \$100,000, and raising Phase II awards to \$1M, from the current \$500,000-\$800,000.

What this means is, if you know of a small R&D company – let them know that the thresholds are expected to change.

(Per: Set-Aside Alert Vol. 15. No. 16, 8/10/07.

Interesting Stuff:

The Small Business Contracting Program Improvements Act, H.R. 3867, was approved on Oct 18th with a 21-4 vote. House Small Business Committee Chairwoman, Chairwoman Nydia Velazquez, D-NY, proposed most of the changes and wants the program to start immediately.

Women's Set-Aside

The bill orders immediate implementation of the set-aside program for woman-owned businesses. This program was signed into law in Dec. 2000, but never implemented.

After seven years of delays, Congress may force the SBA's hand on this program. This means the program probably won't be up and running until Oct. 2008, the beginning of the federal government's fiscal year.

The set aside states that in industries where women are found to be "substantially underrepresented", all woman-owned firms will qualify for set-asides.

Note: These changes apply to the federal procurement staff and not us. For it to apply to us, we must receive a change to our prime contract allowing it.

Sole-Source Contracts & SDVOB

The bill would increase the limits on sole source awards to \$5.1M up from \$3M and \$5.5M up from \$5M for manufacturing.

The bill would eliminate the "rule of two" for SDVOB companies; they could receive sole source awards without regard to whether a second SDVOB business is capable of doing the work. That brings SDVOB's firms to parity with 8(a) firms – "at the top of the list for receiving federal contracts." Velazquez said.

Note: These changes apply to the federal procurement staff and not us. For it to apply to us, we must receive a change to our prime contract allowing it.

8(a) Program

8(a) - the net-worth ceiling for owners of **NEW** 8(a) business has been increased to \$550,000, from \$250,000. It abolishes the current \$750,000 net worth limit for business owners to remain in the 8(a) program. No new limit was set.

The bill also extends the length of a company's participation in the 8(a) program to ten (10) years, rather than the present nine (9) years.

Note: These changes apply to the federal procurement staff and not us. For it to apply to us, we must receive a change to our prime contract allowing it.

HUB-Zone Program

The bill places new restrictions on HUBZone firms. Contracting Officers (CO) would no longer be required to set aside an award if two HUBZone firms were able to do the work; instead, the CO "may" set it aside.

The bill requires SBA to conduct a site visit to a HUBZone firm before it receives its second set-

aside contract. SBA will audit the firms HUBZone eligibility.

It also restricts HUBZone construction firms to work within 150 miles of their home offices.

Note: These changes apply to the federal procurement staff and not us. For it to apply to us, we must receive a change to our prime contract allowing it.

Across the board

This bill gives any small business the right to protest an award in any category. For example, an 8(a) company could protest a HUBZone award, and vice versa.

It will be interesting to see what happens.

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(Per Email dtd 11/6/07, Freda H. Hopper, SBPM DOE-Oak Ridge).

PPM Outstanding Highlight:

We met all our goals for FY07!!!!!! YEA !!!!!

Tell Jill Corner

Tell me what you would like to see in **YOUR** newsletter. What type of information will help you do your job better? I'll research it for you.

Any question's call me on x3173 or email me at clough@bnbl.gov
Jill Clough-Johnston, SBLO