



Sole Source Application and Determination Form

A sole source determination is not effective until the sole source application for determination has been posted on the Purchasing website for thirty (30) calendar days without protest and is subsequently approved in writing by the Vice President of Administration and Finance.

1. Name of Department: Petroleum Research and Recovery Center (PRRC)
Contact Name: Robert Balch
Phone: 505 716 5414
Email: robert.balch@nmt.edu

2. Name of Prospective Vendor: Grey LLC
Contact Name: Steve Grey
Phone: 505 592-1413
Email: bizardi53@gmail.com
Estimated Cost: \$50,000.00
Duration (for Services or Professional Services – limited to four years): 1 year

3. Purpose/need for purchase and detailed list of items of tangible property, services, or professional services:

Steve Grey is the PRRC Tribal Liaison for the Navajo Nation, Jicarilla Apache Nation, and Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and brings a wealth of contacts and experience to help the PRRC with tribal issues and tribal partnership on projects.

4. Detailed explanation of criteria developed for this purchase:

Steve Grey has been in this role on a number of projects in the past. Due to his experience, Mr. Grey is the PRRC's best chance to gain DoE funding related to tribal partnerships and is currently working with the PRRC on three proposals.

5. Provide a detailed, sufficient explanation of the reasons, qualifications or unique capabilities of the prospective vendor that make that prospective vendor the one source for providing the items of tangible property, services, or professional services:

Mr. Grey has a unique background as a retired engineer from a national lab, a respected tribal member of the Navajo Nation, and has numerous contacts in education, energy and natural resources on the nation.

6. Provide a detailed, sufficient explanation of how the items of tangible property, services, or professional services is/are unique and how this uniqueness is substantially related to the intended purpose of the department/grant:

Mr. Grey's role is based on relationships and trust gained over decades. He would be irreplaceable.

7. Please provide a narrative description department's due diligence in determining a basis for the procurement. Include:
 - a. method used to research and review other available sources (i.e. list of potential vendors from Purchasing, internet, state pricing agreements, purchasing cooperatives)
 - i. Due to Mr. Grey's unique combination of experience with the PRRC and relationship with the Navajo Nation, Jicarilla Apache Nation, and Southern Ute Indian Tribe, finding other available vendors is not realistic.
 - b. list of vendors contacted, the date and method of contact (i.e. email, phone call)
 - i. The PRRC works with others in that region but Mr. Grey has unique skills and experience and the PRRC could find no other to replace him in this role.
 - c. documentation explaining why:
 - i. Alternative vendors cannot provide the required items of tangible property, services, or professional services
 1. As there were no other qualified vendors for comparison.
 - ii. other similar items of tangible property, services, or professional services cannot meet the intended purpose of department/grant:
 1. Mr. Grey is uniquely qualified

I certify that I have performed thorough and diligent research and analysis to determine that Steve Grey is the only source capable of providing the required work as the PRRC has worked with him over numerous proposals and funded contracts in the last few years. This includes ongoing negotiations with Navajo Technical University on an upcoming geothermal and energy proposals, ongoing work to recover the cancelled DOE 4 Corners CarbonSafe project (\$55 million) and water and CO₂ projects in the Four Corners totaling another \$10 million. The amount of training needed to bring someone new up to speed, the setbacks in current work, and the fact that the PRRC has a long history of work with Steve Grey, which ensures trust in his ability to deliver, makes Steve Grey the only logical source for this work.

I understand that violations of the New Mexico Procurement Code (Chapter 13, Article 1 NMSA 1978) can carry severe penalties. I affirm that the information provided in this Sole Source Determination is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name, Title: Robert Balch, Director PRRC



4/23/2026

Review: Purchasing Services: Lisa Majkowski, Director *Lisa Majkowski* 04.29.2026

Website Posting Date: 04/30/2026

Posting Expiration Date: 05/30/2026

Protested (Yes/No):

Approval: Delilah A. Walsh
Vice President of Administration and Finance



29-Apr-2026

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