

March 11, 2020

# **Dear Agency Transition Sponsor:**

Enterprise Infrastructure Solutions (EIS), the General Services Administration's (GSA's) 15-year, \$50 billion contract vehicle, was designed to help meet agency mission needs by providing customer agencies with secure, resilient, cost-effective, innovative, and high-quality telecommunications solutions. The Federal Government is currently in the middle of the transition from the expiring Networx, Washington Interagency Telecommunications System (WITS) 3, and Regional Local Service Agreement (LSA) contracts to the EIS contracts. This letter provides EIS Agency Transition Sponsors with an update on the actions GSA is taking to help ensure a timely and effective transition of all inventory from these expiring contracts onto EIS.

The expiring Networx, WITS 3, and Regional LSA contracts were originally extended to 2020. As a result of delays in transition to the EIS contracts and requests from agencies, GSA is extending the expiring contracts by an additional three years to May 2023. These extensions allow the necessary time for agencies to complete transition and modernize.

In order for an agency to be eligible to continue using the contracts during the extension period, each agency must agree to meet certain critical milestones or GSA will take steps to limit the use of the extended contracts. GSA is also taking steps to curtail the growth of services on the extended contracts by freezing modifications while deploying resources to process EIS modifications for agencies awaiting solicitation award. Additionally, GSA intends to refocus its direct contractor-provided transition support to agencies.

### **Limiting Use of Extended Contracts**

On March 31, 2020, GSA will begin to limit the use of its extended contracts for agencies that are not making progress towards transition. While the deadline for agencies to award task orders was September 30, 2019, GSA continues to monitor all transition activities that indicate progress, including solicitation release, task order awards, and disconnection of services from the extended contracts.

After March 31, 2020, GSA will disconnect agencies, in phases, to meet the September 30, 2022 milestone for 100% completion of transition. The first phase will include agencies that have been "non-responsive" to transition outreach from GSA. Future phases will be based on each agency's status at that time and the individual circumstances impacting that agency's transition progress, such as protests or pending contract modifications. The Agency Transition Sponsor will receive a notification before any services are disconnected, and there will be an opportunity for appeal.

### **Freezing Modifications on Extended Contracts**

Effective October 1, 2020, GSA will implement controls on its extended Networx, WITS 3, and LSA contracts by freezing all future growth on these vehicles. Specifically, on the Networx (Universal and Enterprise) and WITS 3 contracts, GSA will cease processing all contract modifications for new requirements. This control refers to modifications to the GSA contracts, not to agencies' task orders. For GSA's Full Service Program, including the LSA contracts, GSA

will no longer fulfill any requests for additional services. All new services required by your agency should be provided under the EIS contracts.

GSA understands that in very rare cases, an agency may have a need that requires GSA to modify the extended contracts. To request a modification exception after the October 1, 2020 restriction date, the Agency Transition Sponsor may provide the justification and required time-frame for the new requirement to Mr. Allen Hill, GSA's Executive Director of the Office of Telecommunications Services. The justification should include why the requirement cannot be fulfilled under EIS. GSA will review and adjudicate your exception request.

### **Modifications on EIS Contracts**

As the transition off extended contracts progresses, the quantity of EIS modifications will continue to grow. GSA recognizes that many agencies have released their solicitations to the EIS suppliers and are waiting for contract modifications related to their solicitations to be evaluated and awarded by GSA. GSA is prioritizing modifications needed for agency awards. At the same time, the Networx contracts are on pace to process approximately 2,000 contract modifications in this fiscal year with the same GSA resources. These variables are driving the need to initiate the freeze of modifications on the extended contracts.

## **Contractor-Provided Transition Support**

GSA will refocus direct contractor-provided transition support. As originally planned for October 1, 2020, GSA will no longer provide agencies with support for EIS solicitation development/evaluation and post-award transition through the Transition Ordering Assistance Task Order. Agencies are encouraged to perform this work for Fiscal Year 2021 using other agency contract vehicles or in-house resources. As an alternative, GSA is exploring the means to provide more technical engineering assistance for network, voice, and cloud transition, and will continue to communicate with agencies as the approach develops.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Allen Hill, Executive Director, GSA's Office of Telecommunications Services at <a href="mailto:allen.hill@gsa.gov">allen.hill@gsa.gov</a> or (202) 701-7891.

Sincerely,

William Zielinski

Assistant Commissioner

Information Technology Category, Federal Acquisition Service

cc: Lead Transition Manager and Transition Ordering Contracting Officer