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To: David C. Childs A-76comments/OMB/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: A-76 revision

Dear Sirs:

As a Surveying and Mapping Firm primarily engaged in contract services to various government agencies we strongly support A-76 revision. This initiative as proposed by the Administration will open up jobs to all area of the private sectors, including small businesses. For our company and others it will help eliminate unfair government competition and create new opportunities.

Presently several of our government clients provide the same services that we do at a much higher cost to the tax payer. We have U. S. Army Corps of Engineers contracts that require Hydrographic survey services and a large investment in specialized equipment. The Corps in turn performs these same services with in-house personnel at a much lower production rates and very much higher overhead. Geospatial activities such as surveying, mapping, charting, and geodesy are all commercial activities offered by my firm. This initiative calls for and we strongly support moving all of these activities to the private sector.

Not only are we in unfair direct competition with government personnel for agency projects but also in some cases the agency actively markets their services to other Federal agencies, and to state and local government in direct competition with us. Because of this we particularly support the provisions that eliminate Unfair Competition under Agency-to-Agency arrangements.

The Circular is not clear as to whether the public-private standard competitions under A-76 for architecture, engineering, surveying and mapping services will be in compliance with the Brooks Act's qualifications based selection (QBS) process, as required in 40 United State Code, section 541-544 and part 36 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). To protect the integrity of the Brooks act we strongly urge this be addressed.

We feel that the administration is pushing the country in the right direction with this initiative that will save the tax payers money, promote private business and in turn raise the tax base. It can only lead to a win win situation.

Thank you,
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