CALIFORNIA TECHNOLOGY AGENCY TECHNOLOGY LETTER

DATE ISSUED:

SUBJECT:

TELECOMMUNICATION PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY

Communicate the establishment of Technology Agency authority over telecommunication procurements

BACKGROUND

Assembly Bill 2408 (Chapter 404, Statutes of 2010) amended Public Contract Code Section 12120, as follows:

"All contracts for the acquisition of telecommunications services and all contracts for the acquisition of telecommunications goods, whether by lease or purchase, shall be made by, or under the supervision of, the California Technology Agency."

With this authorization, the Technology Agency is now responsible for conducting telecommunication procurements, while the Department of General Services (DGS) remains the primary authority responsible for conducting all other procurements.

PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this Technology Letter (TL) is to communicate the Technology Agency's authority over telecommunication procurements and establish the timing of the transition of telecommunication procurements from DGS to the Technology Agency.

On February 1, 2012, the Technology Agency became responsible for telecommunication procurements, which include California Multiple Award Schedules, Leveraged Procurement Agreements, and statewide telecommunication agreements.

PROCESS

In order to provide uninterrupted service to the state, DGS, under the authority of Technology Agency, will continue conducting telecommunication procurements until this responsibility transitions fully to the Technology Agency. Complete transition of all telecommunication procurements to the Technology Agency will occur in coordination with DGS, as follows:

- For procurements in which DGS has been actively involved prior to February 1, 2012, DGS will retain responsibility, complete the procurement, and then work with the Technology Agency to transition future activities.
- Current agency¹ telecommunication procurement delegations remain unchanged. For those delegations expiring in calendar year 2012, the expiration dates for the telecommunication portion of their Information Technology delegations are hereby extended until December 31, 2012. The Technology Agency will be issuing additional guidance on telecommunication delegations in the near future.
- All non-competitively bid (NCB) telecommunication procurements will be submitted to the Technology Agency for review and approval.

REFERENCES:

Public Contract Code Section 12120

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When capitalized, the term "Agency" refers to one of the state's super Agencies such as the State and Consumer Services Agency or the Health and Human Services Agency. When used in lower case, the term "agency" refers to any office, department, board, bureau, commission or other organizational entity within state government. Within this TL, "agency" and "department" may be used interchangeably.

• The Public Safety Communications Office within the Technology Agency, will review and approve public safety radio and related electronic equipment purchases in accordance with SAM 4530 and GC 8592.5 for Project 25 Standard.

There is no change to current procurement policy and procedures. Agencies and departments should refer to <u>State Contracting Manual Volume 3</u> for policy and procedures. Where DGS is referenced, replace with Technology Agency for telecommunication procurements.

The Technology Agency is in the process of creating volume 4 of the State Contracting Manual (SCM) to specifically address telecommunication procurements.

QUESTIONS

Questions should be directed to Russ Guarna, Deputy Director, Office of Telecommunications Procurement, <u>Russ.Guarna@state.ca.gov</u>.

SIGNATURE

/s/

Carlos Ramos, Secretary California Technology Agency