# US Small Business Administration

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## Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Council Rules:

Final Rule Published on July 2, 1999

June 30, 1998: Price Evaluation Adjustment

•(PEA) for SDBs bidding as primes;





•(subcontracting) Evaluation Credit; Monetary Incentive



## New SDB Regulations: Who is Affected?

- A. Small Disadvantaged Businesses (SDBs)
- B. Other Small Businesses (indirectly)
- C. Large Business Prime Contractors



All of the above

#### FAR Subparts 19.11 and 19.12 SDB Procurement Mechanisms

Effective October 1, 1998:

Price evaluation adjustment (PEA) for SDBs bidding as primes.



Effective January 1, 1999:

Source Selection Evaluation Factor for SDB participation.

Effective January 1, 1999:

Monetary incentive upon contract completion for contractors that exceed their SDB target.



#### Price Evaluation Adjustment

Once SBA Certified -

•(or application pending)

Qualified SDBs will receive a price benefit up to 10% on procurements where this approach is mandated by regulation. This policy will be accomplished by adding up to 10% to the price of bids or offers received from non-SDBs.

SBA will expedite applications when a contract award is pending.



#### Price Evaluation Adjustment

## FY 1999-2003

• The Department. of Commerce has determined **the PEA should be 10%** in every 2-digit SIC code (now 3-digit NAICS code) in which it has been authorized.



• In future years, the Department of Commerce may authorize different percentages in each industry ranging from 0 to 10%.





•This mechanism must be used in competitive acquisitions over the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$100,000) where the 3-digit NAICS subsector for the prime contract is one in which the Department of Commerce has authorized the use of this benefit.



#### Main Exceptions:

- 8(a) acquisitions
- Small business and **HUBZone** set-asides
- Where all fair and reasonable offers are accepted (e.g., multiple award schedule contracts.)
- Where price is not a selection factor
   (e.g., architect/engineer acquisitions)

Other Exceptions on the Next Two Slides



#### **DOD** Suspension

#### TERMS:



DOD may not use the PEA if it met its 5% SDB Goal the Previous Fiscal Year. 10



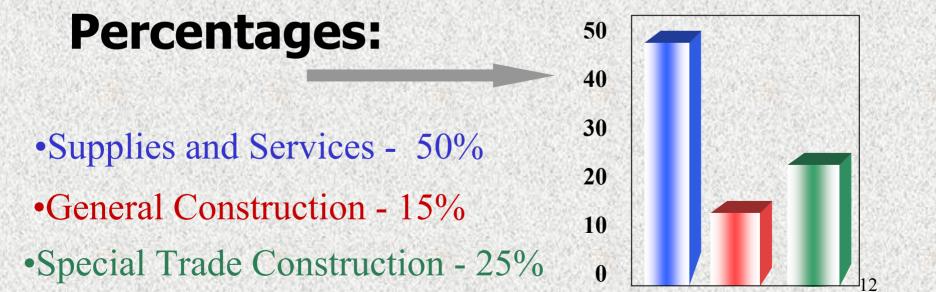
#### Cannot be Used:



•If it causes the award to be made at a price exceeding the fair market price by more than the factor determined by the Department of Commerce - for example, more than 10%.

## Price Evaluation Adjustment

An SDB winning a contract resulting from the PEA is subject to the "limitations in subcontracting" rule and must perform no less than the following percentages of the contract itself. (This rule does not apply to non-manufacturers and dealers.)





#### Price Evaluation Adjustment

List of Authorized Two Digit SIC Codes (must be converted to 3-digit NAICS subsectors)

• Is supposed to be published in the *Federal Register* by OMB at the beginning of each fiscal year.





- •Industries Eligible for Ten Percent Price Evaluation Adjustment can be found on the Internet at:
  - •http://www.arnet.gov/References/sdbadjustments.htm

## SDB Participation Program Evaluation Factor or Subfactor FAR 19.12 and 52.219-24

Offerors submit targets for SDB participation expressed as dollars and percentages of total contract value;

Proposals must identify the three-digit NAICS code (formerly the two-digit SIC code) authorized for each subcontract;

Contracting Officer has discretion on how much weight to put on SDB participation.



## SDB Participation Program Evaluation Factor or Subfactor

**Basic Concept:** The contracting officer awards the highest points to the offeror with the most dollars targeted to SDBs in the authorized 3-digit NAICS subsectors.

More Sophisticated Approach: The contracting officer may consider several other elements.

#### Evaluation Factor for SDB Participation

#### Hypothetical Example - #1

Company	Cost / Price	Past Performance	Technical Approach	SDB Target
	(35 pts.)	(15 pts.)	(35 pts.)	(15 pts.)
ABC	35	10	25	15
HIJ	25	10	35	10
XYZ	30	<b>15</b>	25	05

Each offeror receives a total of 70 points on the first three factors. In this example, the fourth factor, SDB participation, gives ABC the highest total score; thus ABC wins the contract.

#### Evaluation Factor for SDB Participation

#### Hypothetical Example - #2

Company	Cost / Price	Past Performance	Technical Approach	SDB Target
ABC	<b>\$25</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A</b> ****	15%
HIJ	\$30	A	A	21%
XYZ	\$23	A	U	18%

- •These are sample evaluation factors for illustrative purposes.
- •Past performance and technical approach are: A = Acceptable / U= Unacceptable.
- •Unacceptable rating in either eliminates offeror from further consideration.
- •Price and SDB target have equal weight.

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**Evaluation Factor or Subfactor** 

Contracting Officers May Also Consider:



•The extent to which SDBs are specifically identified;

- •The extent of the offeror's commitment to use the SDBs (i.e., more weight afforded to enforceable commitments);
- •The complexity and variety of work SDBs are to perform.

Evaluation Factor or Subfactor

Contracting Officers May Also Consider:



- •The realism of the proposal;
- •Past performance of offerors in complying with SDB subcontracting goals; and
- •The extent of SDB participation in terms of the value of the total acquisition.

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Evaluation Factor or Subfactor

When an evaluation includes a factor giving additional credit to offerors who name the SDBs they plan to use, the contractor must notify the contracting officer of any substitutions of non SDB firms.

Evaluation Factor or Subfactor

- •Applies to competitive, negotiated acquisitions over \$500,000 or \$1,000,000 in construction (exceptions to follow);
- •Allows credit for subcontracts only in the 3-digit NAICS subsectors authorized by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Evaluation Factor or Subfactor

**→** Permits credit for SDBs regardless of whether they are joint venture partners, teaming partners, or subcontractors;

✓ Permits SDBs bidding as prime contractors to elect this benefit instead of the "price evaluation adjustment" (they may not receive both);

#### ALSO:

An SDB waiving the Price Evaluation Adjustment and seeking evaluation credit for SDB participation would receive credit for any work in the targeted NAICS subsectors that it does in-house and/or that it subcontracts to other SDBs.

Evaluation Factor CANNOT Be Used In

- Sealed bidding
- 8(a) acquisitions
- Small business set-asides
- Negotiated acquisitions where the "lowest price, technically acceptable" source selection process is used
- Contracts performed outside the United States

Monetary Subcontracting Incentives

#### Remember:

The contracting officer may (not must) provide a monetary incentive up to 10% to prime contractors that exceed their SDB target in the authorized NAICS subsectors.

**Example:** SDB target is \$1.0 million; the contractor achieves \$1.5 million. The excess is \$500,000; 10 percent of \$500,000 is \$50,000.

#### FAR Council Amendment

Published December 29, 1998, and July 2, 1999

October 1, 1999:

Self-Certification for SDB Subcontractors ended. Firms acting as SDB subcontractors must be SBA certified.

View SDB Regulation Changes

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REFORM

#### Points to Remember

1

An SDB winning a contract as a result of the *Price Evaluation Adjustment* is subject to the "limitations in subcontracting" rule;

An SDB winning a contract as a result of the *Evaluation Factor* has no such restriction;



#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REFORM

#### Points to Remember

3 For the *Evaluation Factor* or *Subfactor*, the Contracting Officer is not limited to 10 percent for SDB Participation.

Example: If there are five Evaluation Factors, including SDB Participation, and if each factor is weighted equally, SDB Participation would then be worth 20 percent of the total evaluation score.



#### Points to Remember

#### Large Business Traditional Subcontracting Plan:

- <u>As of October 1, 1999</u>, prime contractors are no longer allowed to accept self-certification from SDBs -- all SDBs must be certified by SBA;
- This rule applies regardless of whether the prime contractor is seeking benefit for using SDBs or simply tracking dollars for the SF-294 and SF-295 reporting forms.

#### Points to Remember

#### Large Business Traditional Subcontracting Plan:

- •Prime contractors may continue to accept selfcertification from small business and womenowned small business on current contracts;
- •Self-certification continues for small business and women-owned small business because they are not eligible for the new preferences.

#### ADDITIONALLY:

A large business receiving a contract containing one of the SDB participation mechanisms (*Evaluation Factor*/ *Subfactor or Monetary Subcontracting Incentive*) has not one but **two (2)** SDB **targets or goals**:

#### **Two Goals:**



#### Traditional Subcontracting Goal:

•(subcontracts under all NAICS codes count towards the goal)

#### SDB Participation Target Goal:

•(only those subcontracts in the eligible NAICS codes count towards the target)

### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REFORM Points to Remember

- For the Price Evaluation Adjustment, the 3-digit NAICS code for the <u>prime contract</u> must be on the list of eligible NAICS codes;
- For the SDB Participation Program (the Evaluation Factor and the Monetary Subcontracting Incentive), the 3-digit NAICS code of the subcontracts must be on the list.

### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REFORM Points to Remember

- 8(a) firms are always SDBs, but SDBs are not necessarily 8(a) firms;
- PRO-Net (<u>www.sba.gov</u> or <u>www.pro-net.sba.gov</u>) contains separate fields for 8(a) and SDB certification;
  - Either field is searchable
  - •Only SBA can input data into these fields

### New SDB Reporting Requirements for Prime Contractors

- If the contract contains SDB participation targets, the contractor must report on SDB's participation by 3-digit NAICS code at contract completion.
- Optional Form 312 may be used for this purpose or the information may be submitted in the contractor's format.

## New SDB Reporting Requirements for Prime Contractors (continued)

- SF-295 "Summary Subcontract Report" submitted at the end of each year must include a breakout of subcontract awards to SDBs by 3 digit NAICS code.
- Contractors with *commercial plans* (formerly called "Commercial Products Plans") can do this by obtaining a predominant NAICS code from each of their subcontractors.
- <u>Reference</u>: FAR clause 52.219-9(j)(2).

#### FEDERAL PROCUREMENT

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION REFORM

**QUESTION:** How do the new SDB regulations address the concerns of the Supreme Court in the 1995 Adarand case?

View the Adarand Case.



#### **ANSWER:**

By structuring the new procurement mechanisms to work within industry benchmarks for minority participation, the government has met the requirement for "narrow tailoring" — what had previously been missing from Federal procurement programs.

#### **Bottom Line:**



- SDBs now receive the benefit of three new procurement mechanisms (preferences) that should stand up to judicial challenges.
- By requiring all companies claiming disadvantaged status to be certified by the SBA, only those who are truly disadvantaged will receive the benefits.

#### SBA's Key Internet Addresses



- SDB: www.sba.gov/sdb
- SBA's <u>Home Page</u>: www.sba.gov (includes links to PRO-*Net* and SUB-*Net*)
- Government Contracting: www.sba.gov/GC
- HUBZone: www.sba.gov/hubzone
- Women: www.womenbiz.gov

## Thank You!

