6.202 Establishing or maintaining alternative sources.

(a) Agencies *may* exclude a particular source from a contract action in order to establish or maintain an alternative source or sources for the *supplies* or services being acquired if the *agency head* determines that to do so would-

(1) Increase or maintain competition and likely result in reduced overall costs for the *acquisition*, or for any anticipated *acquisition*;

(2) Be in the interest of *national defense* in having a facility (or a producer, manufacturer, or other supplier) available for furnishing the *supplies* or services in case of a national *emergency* or industrial mobilization;

(3) Be in the interest of *national defense* in establishing or maintaining an essential engineering, research, or development capability to be provided by an educational or other nonprofit institution or a federally funded research and development center;

(4) Ensure the continuous availability of a reliable source of *supplies* or services;

(5) Satisfy projected needs based on a history of high demand; or

(6) Satisfy a critical need for medical, safety, or *emergency supplies*.

(b)

(1) Every proposed contract action under the authority of paragraph (a) of this section *shall* be supported by a determination and findings (D&F) (see subpart 1.7) signed by the *head of the agency* or designee. This D&F *shall* not be made on a class basis.

(2) Technical and requirements personnel are responsible for providing all necessary data to support their recommendation to exclude a particular source.

(3) When the authority in paragraph (a)(1) of this section is cited, the findings *shall* include a description of the estimated reduction in overall costs and how the estimate was derived.

Parent topic: Subpart 6.2 - Full and Open Competition After Exclusion of Sources