

[REDACTED]  
From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2008 3:46 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: NGA's Determination to Conduct Business with IBM  
Attachments: Determination\_to\_Conduct\_Business\_with\_IBM.pdf



Determination\_to\_C  
onduct\_Busin... [REDACTED]

After speaking with [REDACTED] today, he identified you as the GSA Suspension/Debarment Officer and the point of contact to send written notice of determinations made to conduct business with a contractor that is debarred or suspended from procurement programs. In accordance with FAR 9.405 and DFARS 209.405 the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) Head of the Agency for Procurement and Contracting Matters made the determination to conduct business with International Business Machines (IBM). A scanned copy of the determination is attached for your convenience and will be followed with a hard copy sent via the U.S. mail. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this determination please contact [REDACTED], Procurement Analyst.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]  
Procurement Analyst  
NGA  
12310 Sunrise Valley Dr.  
Reston VA, 20191-3449  
[REDACTED]

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION,  
OFFICE OF ACQUISITION POLICY

SUBJECT: (U) Compelling Reason to Conduct Business with International  
Business Machines Corporation

REFERENCE: a. (U) 10 U.S.C. 2393  
b. (U) FAR 9.405 Effect of listing  
c. (U) DFARS 209.405 Effect of listing

1. (U) As the delegated Head of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) for all matters dealing with procurement and contracting, and in accordance with DFARS 209.405 (a)(ii) "urgency requires contracting with a debarred or suspended contractor", I am providing the following determination.

2. (U) International Business Machines (IBM) currently hosts approximately 8 terabytes of world-wide geospatial intelligence, including extensive Middle East and U.S. locations, in support of contingency operations. The web hosting services have been sized and configured to provide a capability vital to the United States' ability to respond to disasters and homeland security incidents. This data is utilized by law enforcement, Homeland Security and the Department of Defense and includes input from both satellite and airborne sensors.

3. (U) Since the web-hosting services provided by IBM are configured for contingency operations, a loss of the IBM web hosting services would prevent timely support to disaster recoveries or homeland security incidents. With the unpredictability of natural disasters or terrorist incidents, a loss of these services for any duration would severely impact the United States' ability to respond to a national emergency.

4. (U) As an example, Homeland Security Officials supporting the Katrina recovery efforts requested support so that New Orleans residents could view the condition of their homes online. This significantly reduced the hazards to people who otherwise attempted to view their home on the ground. Additionally, during the 2007 California Fires, U-2 aerial imagery was made available to fire fighters and officials for use in managing the fire fighting response and resultant damage in the fires aftermath.

5. (U) As a result, NGA considers the IBM web hosting services to be vital to the nation's ability to respond to contingency operations. Given the unpredictable need for time critical response to disasters, particularly during the upcoming hurricane season, NGA cannot afford any lapse in services.

6. The current contract expires on April 6, 2008. IBM was selected to receive the follow-on award to commence 7 April 2008. It is impracticable to re-solicit this effort within the limited timeframe while ensuring mission continuity. Accordingly, there is no realistic alternative to contracting with the suspended contractor.

7. For the aforementioned reasons, it is hereby determined that urgency requires NGA to continue the web hosting services provided by IBM Federal Systems Company through December of 2008

  
SHARON R. PARISH  
Head of the Agency  
for Procurement and Contracting Matters