

**[M&O Authorization for a Contract Competition]**

**AUTHORIZATION TO CONTINUE OPERATION OF  
THE [insert the name of the laboratory/site/facility]  
UNDER A MANAGEMENT AND OPERATING CONTRACT**

The [insert the name of the laboratory/site/facility] is currently managed and operated by [insert the name of the contractor] for the Department of Energy under a Management and Operating (M&O) contract as defined in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 17.6. The current contract and the determination authorizing the M&O form of contract expire on [insert the expiration date]. [In one or two sentences, briefly describe the laboratory/site/facility mission].

A new contract is currently being procured by the DOE [insert DOE office name], under Request for Proposals (RFP) number [insert RFP number]. The resultant contract from this competitive RFP will include a base period of [insert number of years] years with a [option or award term]/select appropriate clause clause that allows the contract to be extended for up to an additional [insert number of years] years. It is anticipated that the new contract will be in place by [insert date].

The continued operation of [insert the name of the laboratory/site/facility] will require the type of contractual arrangement that, by both its purpose and special relationship it creates between the government and the contractor, is characterized as an M&O contract as defined in FAR 17.601. As set forth in FAR 17.602(a), the Head of an Agency may determine in writing to authorize contracting officers to enter into, or renew, M&O contracts in accordance with the agency's statutory authority, or the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984, and the agency's regulations governing such contracts.

As Head of the Agency, as defined in FAR 2.101, I hereby authorize the continued use of a management and operating contract arrangement for the operation of [insert the name of the laboratory/site/facility] during the period of [insert the starting date] through [insert the end date].

**[Note: In accordance with DEAR 970.1706-1, the total term of an M&O contract cannot exceed ten (10) years.]**

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[insert the Secretary of Energy's name]  
Secretary of Energy

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date