



September 4, 2007

Mr. Dave Keck
Administrator, Public Works Department
San Juan County
305 South Oliver Drive
Aztec, New Mexico 87410

FHWA
SEP 06 2007
NM DIVISION
6 SEP 07

Re: On-Call Engineering Services
Task Order No. 3 - Improvements to CR7950

Dear Dave:

Since 2003, URS has been working for the Intermountain Region of the National Park Service (NPS) under an IDIQ (Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity) contract to provide architectural and engineering services. The contract allows the NPS to initiate task order assignments with URS for work at NPS facilities in a six-state region that includes New Mexico. We were recently requested by the NPS to initiate work on a project at Chaco Culture National Historic Park (CCNHP) involving architectural and mechanical renovations of the park's visitor center building. The scope of work includes an evaluation of structural, electrical, and mechanical (HVAC) systems, and likely development of contract documents for construction work on these systems at the visitor center.

Given our involvement in the CR7950 project being undertaken for San Juan County, URS management felt it appropriate to consider whether involvement in the visitor center project at the park would constitute a conflict of interest for URS. Earlier today, we convened an internal meeting of URS Albuquerque Office management personnel, and management staff representing the San Juan County CR7950 project and the NPS IDIQ contract to evaluate conflict-of-interest issues. Based on our review of the circumstances, we find the following:

- URS did not pursue, competitively or otherwise, the NPS IDIQ assignment at CCNHP. Rather, the NPS approached URS with the work as a new IDIQ assignment.
- The scope of work for the visitor center project does not involve any increase in building size or capacity, and will therefore not have any appreciable effect on park visitation or operation of CR7950.
- The NPS recognizes need for architectural, structural, and mechanical renovations of the park's visitor center with or without possible future improvements to CR7950.
- The forthcoming NPS assignment would not involve any managerial, professional, or technical staff of URS assigned to the San Juan County project.

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On the basis of these findings, we do not believe that simultaneous work on the San Juan County and NPS assignments constitutes a conflict of interest for URS. Therefore, we do not believe there is reason to withdraw from the San Juan County project, or recuse ourselves from the forthcoming NPS IDIQ assignment. If you or others at San Juan County have concerns regarding our intended actions, please advise and we will reevaluate the situation through discussion with County staff. By copy of this letter, we offer the same opportunity for discussion and reevaluation to the New Mexico Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

We are aware that our involvement on both projects may undergo close scrutiny by individuals and organizations specifically opposed to CR7950 improvements. However, we do not believe the work scopes are sufficiently related (or are, in fact, related at all) for the physical improvements associated with one project to have any effect on the other. Further, we find no reason to believe that our work on either project would materially affect the professional judgment exercised by URS staff on the other.

Sincerely,
URS Corporation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin M. Mentz", is written over the typed name.

Kevin M. Mentz, PE
Project Manager

cc: Greg Heitmann, FHWA
John McElroy, NMDOT D5
Jens Deichmann, URS
Richard Pena, URS