

**PROTECTION OF PROPRIETARY INFORMATION  
DURING EVALUATION AND AFTER AWARD**

It is our policy to treat all research proposals as privileged information prior to award and to disclose the proposal contents only for evaluation purposes. Technical evaluation of these proposals normally is made by highly qualified scientists from the Government and leading scientists and other preeminent experts outside the Government to ascertain their merits. If you wish, you may restrict the evaluation of your proposal to only scientists within the Government. To do so may prevent it from receiving an evaluation by those most qualified to evaluate it. Therefore, we ask permission to send your proposal outside the Government, if necessary, to obtain an unrestricted evaluation.

All reviewers are made aware that proposals sent to them for evaluation shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed in whole or in part for any other purpose without the written permission of the offeror.

You should be aware that despite all precautions, we can protect the confidentiality of proprietary information contained in proposals only to the extent that it is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA; 5 U.S.C. 552). Generally, Exemption 4 of the FOIA [5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4)] will protect from release information submitted to the Government that constitutes either (1) a trade secret or (2) commercial or financial information which is privileged or confidential. Any such proprietary information contained in your proposal should be marked in accordance with FAR 15.608.

Please complete the following statement indicating your proposal treatment preference during the evaluation phase and, should an award be made afterwards.

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE PREFERENCE

----- in submitting proposal titled -----  
 (Organization)  
 ----- with -----  
 (Name)

as Principal Investigator/Project Director requires the following procedure be used during its evaluation:

( ) Permission is hereby granted to evaluate this proposal in accordance with its normal procedures which may include evaluation by reviewers  both within and outside the Government.

( ) Restrict the evaluation of the above proposal to Government reviewers only.

To reduce administrative requirements, you may complete the following information by checking the appropriate blocks:

If this proposal results in a contract or grant, the offeror grants the authority to release the following portion of its proposal in response to requests under the Freedom of Information Act, only after such award, without prior contact with the offeror.

Cover Page	Yes	No	Statement of Work	Yes	No
Project Abstract	Yes	No	Biographical Sketch	Yes	No
Technical Proposal	Yes	No	Cost Proposal/Budget	Yes	No
Current & Pending Support	Yes	No	Bibliography	Yes	No

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 Date Signature of person authorized to sign for organization

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 Date Signature of Principal Investigator/Project Director