

**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA**

**PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS**

As in force at 20 March 2013

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# NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

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As in force at 20 March 2013.

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## PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS

### Regulations under the *Procurement Act*

#### 1 Citation

These Regulations may be cited as the *Procurement Regulations*.

#### 2 Definitions

In these Regulations:

***across government contract*** means a whole of government or common use period contract established for supplies used commonly across Agencies.

***Agency Minister***, for an Accountable Officer, means the Minister administering the Agency of the Accountable Officer.

***certificate of exemption*** means a certificate of exemption issued under regulation 8.

***order*** means an order issued under regulation 9.

***public quote*** means a quote submitted as the result of a public invitation for the submission of quotes.

***public tender*** means a tender submitted as the result of a public invitation for the submission of tenders.

***select tender*** means a tender for which the request for tender is made available to only a limited and select list of suppliers.

***tier one, tier two, tier three, tier four, tier five*** or ***tier six***, for supplies, means supplies with an estimated total value within the range specified in the definition of ***Tier One, Tier Two, Tier Three, Tier Four, Tier Five*** or ***Tier Six*** respectively in the procurement directions.

#### 3 Requisitions for supplies

- (1) A person shall requisition supplies for the Territory on a form approved by the Accountable Officer.

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- (2) A requisition under subregulation (1) shall be approved by the Accountable Officer.
  - (3) Before the Accountable Officer approves a requisition under subregulation (2), the requisition shall be endorsed as to the availability of funds sufficient to procure the supplies specified in the requisition.

#### **4 Requirements for tier one, tier two and tier three supplies**

- (1) Subject to these Regulations, before an amount is expended on a tier one, tier two or tier three supply, the Accountable Officer must:
  - (a) for a tier one supply – obtain at least 1 written quote; or
  - (b) for a tier two supply – obtain written quotes from at least 3 established suppliers; or
  - (c) for a tier three supply – obtain public quotes.
- (2) If the Accountable Officer is satisfied it is not practicable to comply with subregulation (1)(b) or (c), the Accountable Officer may invite the number of written quotes the Officer considers it is practicable to obtain.
- (3) However, the Accountable Officer may invite written quotes for a tier three supply only with the approval of a Procurement Review Board.
- (4) The Accountable Officer must record in writing the reason for acting under subregulation (2).
- (5) An Accountable Officer must, if required by a Procurement Review Board, give the Board full details of any contract arranged as the result of a quote for a tier one, tier two or tier three supply.

#### **5 Requirements for tier four, tier five and tier six supplies**

- (1) Before incurring expenditure on tier four, tier five or tier six supplies, the Accountable Officer must invite tenders for the supplies.
- (2) The tenders must be public tenders unless a certificate of exemption under regulation 8 authorises otherwise.
- (3) A Procurement Review Board is not required to approve select tenders or public tenders for a tier four supply.
- (4) The Accountable Officer must, if required by a Procurement Review Board, give the Board full details of any contract arranged as a result of a public tender for a tier four supply.

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## 6 Procurement Review Board

- (1) A Procurement Review Board established under section 6 of the Act shall consist of not less than 3 members appointed by the Minister.
- (2) The Minister may appoint a member of a Procurement Review Board to be the Chairman of the Board.
- (3) An appointment under subregulation (1) or (2) may be by reference to a particular statutory office or an office under the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act* and, where such an appointment is made, a person holding for the time being or from time to time that office or performing the duties of that office shall be the member or the Chairman, as the case may be, accordingly.
- (4) An appointment:
  - (a) under subregulation (1) may allow the member to nominate another person, being a person of a class that is specified in the instrument of appointment, to be a member in the place of the member; or
  - (b) under subregulation (2) may allow the Chairman to nominate another person, being a person of a class that is specified in the Chairman's instrument of appointment, to be the Chairman in the place of the Chairman,  
  
and a person so nominated shall be the member or the Chairman, as the case may be, accordingly, for the period for which the person was nominated.
- (5) At a meeting of a Procurement Review Board 3 members shall constitute a quorum.
- (6) Except to the extent specified in an instrument of appointment under subregulation (1) or (2), the procedures of the Procurement Review Board shall be as determined by the Chairman.
- (7) The functions of a Procurement Review Board are, subject to section 11 of the Act:
  - (a) to give its approval to invite written quotes for tier three supplies where it thinks appropriate; and
  - (aa) to review all proposed procurement activity for tier four, tier five and tier six supplies; and
  - (b) to review all tenders and public tender recommendations for tier five and tier six supplies referred to it; and

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- (ba) to give its approval for the acceptance of tenders and public tender recommendations where it thinks appropriate or as directed by the Minister; and
  - (c) to review all requests for exemption from the requirement to publicly invite tenders; and
  - (ca) to give its approval for the requests for exemption where it thinks appropriate; and
  - (d) to review all recommendations for prequalifying and preselecting suppliers; and
  - (g) to approve the obtaining of supplies under an existing contract between a supplier and the Commonwealth, a State or another Territory of the Commonwealth; and
  - (h) to determine the eligibility of suppliers to enter into contracts with the Territory.
- (8) A Procurement Review Board has such powers as are necessary to enable it to carry out its functions.

## **7 Government contracts**

- (1) If supplies are available to the Territory under an across government contract, the supplies must be obtained under the contract unless the Accountable Officer otherwise directs.
- (2) Where supplies are available to the Territory under an existing contract between a supplier and the Commonwealth, a State or another Territory of the Commonwealth, the supplies may be obtained subject to Procurement Review Board approval.

## **8 Certificate of exemption**

- (1) The Minister may issue a certificate of exemption for specified supplies or supplies of a specified class, irrespective of the value of the supplies.
- (2) An Accountable Officer may issue a certificate of exemption for supplies:
  - (a) with the approval of the Procurement Review Board; and
  - (b) for tier four, tier five and tier six supplies – with the approval of the Agency Minister.

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**9 Orders**

An order for supplies shall:

- (a) be in the form approved by the Accountable Officer;
- (b) be signed by the Accountable Officer; and
- (c) contain details of the supplies specified in the requisition made under regulation 3.

**10 Details of certain contracts to be published**

- (1) The Accountable Officer must publish details of a contract for a supply on the Territory Government website..
- (2) However, publication is not required if:
  - (a) the supply is a tier one supply; or
  - (b) the supply is provided by the Territory, Commonwealth or a State or another Territory; or
  - (c) the supply is obtained under an existing contract; or
  - (d) the Minister is satisfied publication is contrary to the public interest.

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**ENDNOTES**

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**KEY**

Key to abbreviations

amd = amended	od = order
app = appendix	om = omitted
bl = by-law	pt = Part
ch = Chapter	r = regulation/rule
cl = clause	rem = remainder
div = Division	renum = renumbered
exp = expires/expired	rep = repealed
f = forms	s = section
<i>Gaz</i> = <i>Gazette</i>	sch = Schedule
hdg = heading	sdiv = Subdivision
ins = inserted	SL = Subordinate Legislation
lt = long title	sub = substituted
nc = not commenced	

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**LIST OF LEGISLATION*****Procurement Regulations (SL No. 15, 1995)***

Notified	10 May 1992
Commenced	10 May 1992

***Amendments of Procurement Regulations (SL No. 24, 2000)***

Notified	21 June 2000
Commenced	21 June 2000

***Amendments of Procurement Regulations (SL No. 40, 2001)***

Notified	8 August 2001
Commenced	8 August 2001

***Procurement Amendment Regulations 2006 (SL No. 9, 2006)***

Notified	1 March 2006
Commenced	1 March 2006 (r 3)

***Procurement Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2006 (SL No. 32, 2006)***

Notified	18 October 2006
Commenced	18 October 2006

***Procurement Amendment Regulations 2007 (SL No. 34, 2007)***

Notified	31 October 2007
Commenced	31 October 2007

***Procurement Amendment (Quotes for Supplies) Regulations 2009 (SL No. 7, 2009)***

Notified	30 March 2009
Commenced	30 March 2009

***Procurement Amendment Regulations 2012 (SL No. 26, 2012)***

Notified	28 June 2012
Commenced	1 July 2012 (r 2)

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***Procurement Amendment Regulations 2013 (SL No. 4, 2013)***

Notified 20 March 2013  
Commenced 20 March 2013

**3 LIST OF AMENDMENTS**

- r 2 amd No. 40, 2001, r 1; No. 9, 2006, r 4; No. 7, 2009, r 3; No. 26, 2012, r 4  
r 4 sub No. 24, 2000, r 1  
amd No. 9, 2006, r 5; No. 32, 2006, r 3  
sub No. 7, 2009, r 4  
amd No. 26, 2012, r 5  
r 5 sub No. 9, 2006, r 6  
amd No. 32, 2006, r 4  
sub No. 34, 2007, r 3  
amd No. 7, 2009, r 5; No. 26, 2012, r 6  
r 6 amd No. 40, 2001, r 2; No. 9, 2006, r 7; No. 26, 2012, r 7  
r 7 amd No. 9, 2006, r 8  
r 8 amd No. 24, 2000, r 2  
sub No. 9, 2006, r 9  
amd No. 32, 2006, r 5  
sub No. 34, 2007, r 4  
amd No. 7, 2009, r 6; No. 26, 2012, r 8  
r 10 amd No. 9, 2006, r 10  
sub No. 7, 2009, r 7  
amd No. 4, 2013, r 3