



Association of Canadian Search, Employment & Staffing Services
Association nationale des entreprises en recrutement et placement de personnel

June 30, 2006

Richard Goodfellow, Manager
Public Works and Government Services Canada
Project Delivery Services Division - ZL
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By facsimile: (819) 956-2675, email: richard.goodfellow@pwgsc.gc.ca and by hand

Dear Mr. Goodfellow:

Re: Proposed Changes to Temporary Help Services (THS) Procurement in new standing offer EN578-060156/A

On Thursday, June 22, 2006, we met with you to discuss the outline of the direction Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) intends to take for the future provision of Temporary Help Services (THS) to the Government of Canada.

We were shocked at the radical change introduced at our meeting with departmental officials on Tuesday, June 20, 2006. You indicated at our meeting on June 22nd that you would be willing to listen to our alternative proposals. We were also advised that the bid would be released in 2-3 weeks. This morning, before even the two-week period has expired, we see a new bid has appeared.

Significant changes to the standing offer procedure of the kind recommended should not proceed without reasonable time for consultation and engagement of the affected parties. No such time has been afforded. Worse still, an effort to engage senior departmental officials (February 20th correspondence to ADM Bennett, copy attached) met with no written response whatsoever.

We regard this course of conduct by PWGSC as bad faith. It hampers our ability to participate in a process of fundamental importance to our industry, temporary workers and the economic well-being of our region. This was made all the more evident at the June 22nd meeting when the claim was made by officials that they didn't have sufficient time to consult. Frankly, that suggestion was outrageous.

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We are alerting your Minister of our concerns by copy of this letter, and through direct correspondence. We are aware of the Minister's - and the Department's - well-founded enthusiasm for procurement reform, and we applaud it. However, the proposed changes to the THS standing offer are not sound elements of that reform agenda.

We have attached a listing of our concerns in respect to the proposed changes. This does not reflect a review of the new bid, but we felt it important to register our concerns immediately. We would be happy to discuss the materials in the attached annex at your earliest convenience. In the meantime, we are pursuing every avenue to protect our interests in addition to those of our direct employees, temporary workers, and our region.

Yours respectfully,
ORIGINAL SIGNED

Mary McIninch, B.A, LL.B
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CC

The Honourable Michael Fortier, Minister
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