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Rachel Laurie Riddle
Chief Examiner

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State Departments, Boards, and Commissions
Alabama County Commissions
Alabama Municipalities
City and County Boards of Education

To Whom It May Concern,

In accordance with Section 39-2-2(e)(2), *Ala. Code 1975*, as amended by Act No. 2023-497, the Department has reviewed the competitive bidding process used by The Interlocal Purchasing System ("TIPS"), a national, governmental purchasing cooperative, for the contracts awarded as of the date of this letter. The Department did not identify any matters that were contrary to proper purchasing procedures or routine governmental procurement practices. Each contract was awarded by a Texas Region Education Service Center pursuant to the competitive bid laws in the State of Texas.

Based on the Department's review, the competitive bid process used by TIPS is approved for use through **December 31, 2026**. This approval authorizes the purchase of air conditioning or heating units and systems from an Alabama vendor who has been granted approved vendor status as part of the following contract award:

- TIPS Comprehensive HVAC Contract #25010501

*****This approval does not authorize installation, labor, or services related thereto, which must be bid in compliance with Title 39.**

Prior to utilizing TIPS, each governmental entity must verify that the air conditioning or heating units and systems to be purchased are either not at the time available on the state purchasing program or are available at a price equal to or less than that on the state purchase program. See Section 39-2-2(e)(2)a.2, *Ala. Code 1975*. Further, upon request, the vendor is required to provide the governmental entity with a report of sales made during the previous 12-month period. See Section 39-2-2(e)(2)a.4, *Ala. Code 1975*.

Should the Department receive notice that TIPS, its awarding authorities, or its awarded vendors are allowing Alabama governmental entities to make unauthorized purchases or other unlawful business transactions, TIPS's competitive bid process approval will subject to immediate revocation by the Department.

If the Department can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Rachel Laurie Riddle
CHIEF EXAMINER

RLR/lbm