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Indiana's Department of Administration has begun to evaluate how they could incorporate green procurement strategies into their bidding process for computer and electronics purchases. The following is an overview of that effort.

State of Indiana Green Computer Purchasing Indiana's Greening the Government Program

The Indiana Greening the Government Program began on Earth Day 1999 by Governor O'Bannon under Executive Order 99-07. It was continued by Governor Kernan under Executive Order 03-27.

The goal of the Indiana Greening the Government Program is to improve the environmental performance of State of Indiana operations. In many cases, changes implemented also improve efficiency and save the state money. Environmentally preferable purchasing, energy efficiency, reuse and recycling are some of Greening Programs' foci.

Indiana Government Computer Purchases

In Fiscal Year 2003-04, the State of Indiana bought over 4,300 computers. In Fiscal Year 2003-04, the state spent \$5.78 million on computer equipment. As a result, Indiana state government ranks in the top 20 of information technology expenditures by all states nationally.

Indiana End-of-Life Computer Facts

- The typical life of a new state computer is 3 years
- Indiana State Surplus handled all old state computers
- Some computers go to "Computers to Schools" donation program
- Remainder are sold through Public Sealed Bid Auctions in bid lots

Purchasing – Threefold Impacts

End-of-life management issues, costs and liability are being addressed up front via strategies in a Quantity Purchase Agreements (QPA). In a QPA, a contract price is established with a specific vendor on a specific item. All who are eligible under the contract can purchase that item at the contract price for the duration of the contract. Some state QPAs can also be used by local political subdivisions (i.e. local governments, schools, universities) and provide an added benefit to them. QPA pricing for home computers is also extended via State Employee Purchase Plan.

How Indiana's Computer Purchasing Works

The state of Indiana develops specification for each product or service that they procure, spelling out precisely what is needed. Including environmental specifications in a Request For Proposals (RFP) spells out the state's needs to prospective vendors. The green

electronics RFP that Indiana recently used, “RFP-4-75 Attachment F,” is available from the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) Computer Procurement Specialist and models the principals developed by the Center for the New American Dream. The RFP provides for lease options to return used equipment to vendor at the end of its life. In addition, it requires that confidential data destruction be accomplished by the vendor without destroying usable equipment. In the bidding process, trade-in values are a plus. As a result of this new program, there will be no end-of-life equipment to manage in-house by the state.

Greening Makes \$ense

- Purchasing with end-of-life in mind reduces future cost and liabilities
- State purchasing can also benefit local political subdivisions and individual state employees
- Anyone can “green” their computer purchases!

Contact Information

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