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Protest Dismissal

Matter of: Chmura Economics & Analytics

File No.: 2026-223A

Posting Date: July 14, 2026

Contracting Entity: University of South Carolina

Solicitation No.: GS-RFP-260025-01

Description: Academic Program, Labor Market, and Alumni Outcomes Analytics Tools

DIGEST

The Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) dismisses the protest as moot where the award has been cancelled per Regulation 19-445.2085C. Chmura Economics & Analytics' protest is attached as Exhibit A.

AUTHORITY

The CPO conducted an administrative review pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 11-35-4210. This decision is based on materials in the procurement file and applicable law and precedents.

BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION

On October 16, 2025, the University of South Carolina (University) issued a solicitation for proposals to provide “a comprehensive suite of labor market and data solutions to assess existing and potential new academic programs” for the Office of Academic Planning and Decision Support. [Exhibit B] On May 22, 2026, after receipt and evaluation of proposals, the University posted a notice of intent to award a contract to Economic Modeling, LLC, dba Lightcast. On May 28, after timely filing a notice of intent to protest, Chmura Economics & Analytics, an actual offeror, timely protested.

Dismissal of Protest - 2

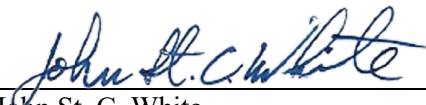
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After the protest was filed, the University determined that it needed to expand the solicitation from a specific-department solution to an enterprise-wide solicitation including all campuses. The University realized it would need to collaborate with all campuses to define their requirements. Based on this, the University requested that the CPO cancel the solicitation. On July 13, 2026, the CPO granted the University's request rendering Chmura's protest moot. See CPO File 2026-223B.

DECISION

For the foregoing reason, the CPO dismisses the protest of Chmura.



John St. C. White
Chief Procurement Officer

Columbia, South Carolina

STATEMENT OF RIGHT TO FURTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Protest Appeal Notice (Revised July 2025)

The South Carolina Procurement Code, in Section 11-35-4210, subsection 6, states:

(6) Finality of Decision. A decision pursuant to subsection (4) is final and conclusive, unless fraudulent or unless a person adversely affected by the decision requests a further administrative review by the Procurement Review Panel pursuant to Section 11-35-4410(1) within ten days of posting of the decision in accordance with subsection (5). The request for review must be directed to the appropriate chief procurement officer, who shall forward the request to the panel or to the Procurement Review Panel, and must be in writing, setting forth the reasons for disagreement with the decision of the appropriate chief procurement officer. The person also may request a hearing before the Procurement Review Panel. The appropriate chief procurement officer and an affected governmental body shall have the opportunity to participate fully in a later review or appeal, administrative or judicial.

Copies of the Panel's decisions and other additional information regarding the protest process is available on the internet at the following web site: <http://procurement.sc.gov>

FILING FEE: Pursuant to Proviso 111.1 of the 2025 General Appropriations Act, "[r]equests for administrative review before the South Carolina Procurement Review Panel shall be accompanied by a filing fee of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00), payable to the SC Procurement Review Panel. The panel is authorized to charge the party requesting an administrative review under the South Carolina Code Sections 11-35-4210(6), 11-35-4220(5), 11-35-4230(6) and/or 11-35-4410...Withdrawal of an appeal will result in the filing fee being forfeited to the panel. If a party desiring to file an appeal is unable to pay the filing fee because of financial hardship, the party shall submit a completed Request for Filing Fee Waiver form at the same time the request for review is filed. *[The Request for Filing Fee Waiver form is attached to this Decision.]* If the filing fee is not waived, the party must pay the filing fee within fifteen days of the date of receipt of the order denying waiver of the filing fee. Requests for administrative review will not be accepted unless accompanied by the filing fee or a completed Request for Filing Fee Waiver form at the time of filing." PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO THE "SC PROCUREMENT REVIEW PANEL."

LEGAL REPRESENTATION: In order to prosecute an appeal before the Panel, business entities organized and registered as corporations, limited liability companies, and limited partnerships must be represented by a lawyer. Failure to obtain counsel will result in dismissal of your appeal. *Protest of Lighting Services*, Case No. 2002-10 (Proc. Rev. Panel Nov. 6, 2002) and *Protest of The Kardon Corporation*, Case No. 2002-13 (Proc. Rev. Panel Jan. 31, 2003); and *Protest of PC&C J&Hs, LLC*, Case No. 2012-1 (Proc. Rev. Panel April 2, 2012). However, individuals and those operating as an individual doing business under a trade name may proceed without counsel, if desired.

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**South Carolina Procurement Review Panel
Request for Filing Fee Waiver
1205 Pendleton Street, Suite 366, Columbia, SC 29201**

Name of Requestor

Address

City

State

Zip

Business Phone

1. What is your/your company's monthly income? _____

2. What are your/your company's monthly expenses? _____

3. List any other circumstances which you think affect your/your company's ability to pay the filing fee:

To the best of my knowledge, the information above is true and accurate. I have made no attempt to misrepresent my/my company's financial condition. I hereby request that the filing fee for requesting administrative review be waived.

Sworn to before me this

_____ day of _____, 20_____

Notary Public of South Carolina

Requestor/Appellant

My Commission expires: _____

For official use only: _____ Fee Waived _____ Waiver Denied

Chairman or Vice Chairman, SC Procurement Review Panel

This _____ day of _____, 20_____
Columbia, South Carolina

NOTE: If your filing fee request is denied, you will be expected to pay the filing fee within fifteen (15) days of the date of receipt of the order denying the waiver.