

TO: Montana State Library Commission

FROM: Bob Cooper, Director of Statewide Library Resources

DATE: June 15, 2007

RE: Statewide Periodical Database contract recommendation

Over the past two months the Request For Proposal RFP07-1456P STATEWIDE PERIODICAL DATABASE SUBSCRIPTION has undergone a thorough review by an evaluation committee composed of members of the Network Advisory Council. This RFP process was monitored by Penny Moon, State Procurement Officer, to ensure compliance with state procurement policy. From an initial field of four respondents, EBSCO and Thomson Gale were determined to be the highest scoring responses. In accord with State procurement guidelines, these two respondents were provided an opportunity to submit Best and Final Offers.

The evaluation committee met via conference call on Wednesday, June 13, 2007 to review and evaluate these Best and Final Offer responses. This meeting resulted in final scores being assigned as follows:

EBSCO	220.0 points
Thomson Gale	229.5 points

Based on the outcome of this official process, the Network Advisory Council recommends that the Montana State Library Commission authorize the State Library to enter into contract negotiations with Thomson Gale to provide Montana libraries with a two-year periodical database subscription covering the period from September 1, 2007 until August 31, 2009. The total amount of funds to be assigned to this contract as detailed in the RFP is \$575,000. State Librarian Darlene Staffeldt supports the Council's recommendation and requests that the Commission authorize the State Library to pursue the required contract with Thomson Gale. Ms. Staffeldt acknowledges the many hours of hard work this RFP process required on the part of the Network Advisory Council and thanks the Council members for their efforts.