

State of California  
Seismic Safety Commission

Memo

To: Kathleen Yates

From: Richard McCarthy  
Seismic Safety Commission  
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Date: 7/5/13

Subject: **Non-Competitive Bid Requests to Partner with the Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Foundation**

The California Seismic Safety Commission is pleased to submit to the Department of General Services Office of Legal Services two non-competitive bid projects that leverage the resources of the Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Foundation. Total request for the two projects is \$621K.

GEM and its transparent OpenQuake Platform are unique. With its 25+ partnering companies, countries/regions and international organizations, GEM is developing a global, state of the art and dynamic earthquake risk model. By pooling data, knowledge and people, GEM acts as an international forum for collaboration and exchange, and leverages the knowledge of leading experts for the benefit of society.

The Seismic Safety Commission intends to partner with GEM in developing two products that will reduce the seismic risk to the citizens of California and the built environment:

**Earthquake Recovery Modeling (\$440K):** This project benefits Californians by measuring how specific policy decisions could hasten recovery of the building stock after future earthquakes.

**Impact of Assumptions on Earthquake Model Results (\$181K):** This project benefits Californians with increased post-quake resilience, because added transparency to earthquake models can lead to better preparedness.

The Commission supports GEM's long term goals of developing better building codes and construction, land use planning for sustainable development, improved emergency response, protection of critical infrastructure, and greater access to insurance.

Finally, partnering with GEM will allow California to learn from the rest of the world on cost-effective projects/policies that may apply here. California will truly gain a global perspective on new on innovative ways to reduce the earthquake risk to its citizens.

More details about GEM can be found on its website: [www.globalearthquakemodel.org](http://www.globalearthquakemodel.org). A detailed review of GEM's website will demonstrate its uniqueness. No other organization matches GEM's capabilities.

Thank you for considering the Commission's request. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.