

## 3.501-2 General.

(a) *Buying-in* may decrease competition or result in poor contract performance. The *contracting officer* must take appropriate action to ensure *buying-in* losses are not recovered by the contractor through the *pricing* of-

(1) Change orders; or

(2) Follow-on contracts subject to cost analysis.

(b) The Government *should* minimize the opportunity for *buying-in* by seeking a price commitment covering as much of the entire program concerned as is practical by using-

(1) Multiyear *contracting*, with a requirement in the *solicitation* that a price be submitted only for the total multi-year quantity; or

(2) Priced *options* for additional quantities that, together with the firm contract quantity, equal the program requirements (see [subpart 17.2](#)).

(c) Other safeguards are available to the *contracting officer* to preclude recovery of *buying-in* losses (*e.g.*, amortization of nonrecurring costs (see [15.408](#), [Table 15-1](#), paragraph A, column (2) under "Formats for Submission of *Line Item* Summaries") and treatment of unreasonable price quotations (see [15.405](#)).

**Parent topic:** [3.501 Buying-in](#).