

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
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Case Close-out- Dr [REDACTED]

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OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 31, 2000
To: File #00010001
From: [REDACTED]
Through: [REDACTED], Assistant Inspector General for Investigations
Re: Case Close-out- [REDACTED]

Background

We received an allegation from a confidential source that Dr. [REDACTED] had failed to spend industrial funds which were used to obtain matching funding from NSF. The source also alleged that the industrial funds which had been used to obtain NSF funding had been provided by the federal government, and therefore should not have been allowed as a match for the NSF funds.

Investigation

On January 4, 2000, I spoke to [REDACTED], Program Manager for the Physics Department. He stated that he was aware that the industrial funds had been provided by [REDACTED], which is funded by the Department of Energy. When [REDACTED] checked the propriety of this arrangement with [REDACTED], he was told that the decision to fund Dr. [REDACTED] was at his discretion. [REDACTED] made note of this in the file and decided to fund the matching amount.

[REDACTED] also stated that he had discussed the issue that the [REDACTED] funds had not yet been used with [REDACTED] from the business office at the [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] indicated that [REDACTED] wished to either return the \$37,500.00 in matching funds provided by NSF, or to find industrial support which would enable Dr. [REDACTED] to keep the NSF funds legitimately. [REDACTED] told her that either option was acceptable to him.

Dr. [REDACTED] has requested a no-cost extension which would enable him to spend the money provided by [REDACTED] as well as the NSF matching funds.

Findings

There is no evidence that Dr. [REDACTED] made any attempt to obtain NSF matching funds through false pretenses. He disclosed the fact that the [REDACTED] funding was provided by the Department of Energy, and this was deemed acceptable by NSF. In addition, he has requested a no-cost extension which would enable him to spend the remaining funds. This case is closed.