



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I05030012

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OIG received an e-mail from an individual¹ who identified himself as a former employee of a company² currently receiving NSF funding. This individual stated that he feared retaliation by the company if his cooperation were to become known because his cooperation would likely result in the termination of other individuals currently employed by the company. The complainant requested, and was granted, confidential source status³ and is referred to as CS-1 in all case related correspondence.

CS-1 stated that during his employment with the company he had observed several instances of contractor waste and wanted to bring it to NSF's attention. CS-1 identified the following incidents of contractor waste and possible mismanagement: 1) Use of improper circuit breakers which failed to protect electrical equipment, 2) Data transmission failures due to lack of cellular coverage due to the company's failure to pre-test the communication equipment prior to deploying it, 3) Excessive travel to sites.

While our subsequent investigation confirmed several of CS-1's allegations, we determined that the justifications the company provided to support the actions taken were rational and within the conditions of the award. We also considered the current status of the project and the fact that all of the sites identified by CS-1 as questionable have been operational for several months and the project is close to being on schedule and slightly under budget to date.

Based on the results of our investigation we find no evidence to support any wrongdoing by the company. We also conclude that the company is performing as required by the award and no further action is required at this time.

Accordingly, this case is closed.

