

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
ARLINGTON, VA 22230



Office of
Inspector General

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 15, 1995
FROM: [REDACTED] Special Agent
VIA: [REDACTED] Special Agent-in-Charge
Investigations Section
SUBJECT: Prospective Review of Possible Duplicate Funding
at [REDACTED]
TO: Case No. I94010002

On January 29, 1994, we initiated an investigative file on [REDACTED] Inc., a small business which had received seven awards from NSF under the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. Through prospective review of SBIR firms and awards, we had discovered the possible submission of substantially similar SBIR proposals and final reports by [REDACTED] to various Federal agencies.

Our initial review found that [REDACTED] submitted a phase I SBIR proposal to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) on January 10, 1991, entitled, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A substantially similar proposal was submitted to NSF on June 14, 1991, entitled [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Both proposals were awarded, and similar final reports were submitted to DARPA and NSF in 1992. However, the NSF proposal declared the prior DARPA proposal as current support, and the significant differences in the respective final reports did not support a charge of duplicate funding. Nonetheless, because of the substantial similarities between the two, we requested further Moltech award documentation from the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The file has remained active pending review of this documentation.

Upon their receipt, we reviewed for possible duplication the following additional [REDACTED] proposals and final reports:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Award Title</u>
DARPA	92-060	[REDACTED]
HHS	DK42379-02	[REDACTED] (Phase I & II)
DOE	15166	[REDACTED] (Phase I & II)
NSF	9060503	[REDACTED] (Phase I)
NSF	9208591	[REDACTED] (Phase II)
NSF	8960426	[REDACTED] (Phase I)
NSF	9022225	[REDACTED] (Phase II)

We found no substantial duplication or other irregularities concerning these awards. Further investigation in this case is not warranted.

This case is closed.