

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## **CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM**

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We investigated a small business¹ which received an NSF Phase I Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) award² but had its Phase II proposal³ declined based on an unfavorable new awardee review by the responsible NSF financial division. The unfavorable review was based upon concerns regarding the financial viability of the small businesses and the state of its accounting system. We reviewed the Phase I award to determine whether the award met SBIR rules regarding primary employment of the PI⁴ and whether there were any misstatements in the proposal or project report regarding award work. We also assessed whether the Phase I award overlapped with other federal awards made to the small business. Our investigation found no evidence of fraud or other misconduct in either the Phase I proposal or in the performance of the work and the expenditure of NSF funds.

This case is *closed* with no further action taken.