



**Comptroller General  
of the United States**

**Washington, D.C. 20548**

B-232711

December 8, 1988

The Honorable Richard E. Lyng  
The Secretary of Agriculture


Dear Mr. Secretary:

Enclosed is a copy of our decision of today sustaining the protest of Vycor Corporation against the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service's award of a contract to Planprint Company under solicitation No. MSD-88-0302.

While we find that the agency improperly failed to refer the matter of Vycor's responsibility to the Small Business Administration, we are unable to recommend corrective action because performance under the contract has been completed. Nevertheless, since the agency failed to follow the statutory certificate of competency procedures the protester is entitled to recover the costs of preparing its quotation and of filing and pursuing the protest.

Please advise our Office of the action taken on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

*for*   
Comptroller General  
of the United States

Enclosure