

DECISION



M. Alkon
PL II
14554
**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20548

FILE: B-199604

DATE: August 12, 1980

MATTER OF: The Montana Energy and MHD Research and
Development Institute, Inc.

DIGEST:

E "Protest" concerning deadline for
submission of ^{grant} applications for
grant funding is dismissed since
GAO generally does not consider
complaints concerning award of
grants.

The Montana Energy and MHD Research and Development Institute, Inc. (Montana Energy), "protests" the award of grants under Project No. 08-1040152-00 by the United States Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency. Montana Energy claims that the advertisement for the project, published in the Commerce Business Daily, was ambiguous and caused it to miss the deadline for receipt of applications. As a result, the protester believes it has been unfairly prevented from participating in the program and requests that the project be both readvertised and reopened.)

Our Office, pursuant to our statutory obligation and authority under 31 U.S.C. § 53 (1976) to investigate the receipt, disbursement, and application of funds, reviews complaints of prospective contractors concerning the propriety of contract awards made by grantees. See 40 Fed. Reg. 42406 (1975). However, we generally do not review complaints concerning the award of the grants themselves. Burgos & Associates, Inc., B-195839, February 25, 1980, 80-1 CPD 155; Hugh J. Dolan and William S. Green, B-188355, February 23, 1977, 77-1 CPD 136.

Consequently, this "protest" is dismissed.

Larry R. Van Cleave
for **Milton J. Socolar**
General Counsel

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