

DECISION

**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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FILE: B-213428.2**DATE:** January 13, 1984**MATTER OF:** Diesel Energy Systems Co.**DIGEST:**

Protester's allegation that manufacturer of parts would not agree to supply the parts directly to prospective bidders is a private matter between the parties not for consideration by GAO.

Diesel Energy Systems Co. (DESCO) protests the proposed award of a contract under invitation for bids (IFB) No. DACA78-83-B-0005 issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Middle East Division, Winchester, Virginia, for Peace Vector II engines.

DESCO alleges that Waukesa, the engine manufacturer, refused to quote a price to DESCO for the engines and, instead, referred DESCO to a distributor. DESCO contends that, because of Waukesa's unwillingness to sell directly, DESCO was put at a competitive disadvantage and forced to bid a higher price than it otherwise would have been able to bid.

Essentially, DESCO is protesting a matter that concerns the business practices of a private company. Since the protest involves a dispute between private parties, it is not appropriate for consideration under our Bid Protest Procedures (4 C.F.R. § 20 (1983)) and must be dismissed. See LaPoint Industries, Inc., B-204594, December 24, 1981, 81-2 CPD 495.

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