



United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Office of the General Counsel

B-230898

May 2, 1988

Union Natural Gas Company
16479 Dallas Parkway
Dallas, Texas 75248-2616

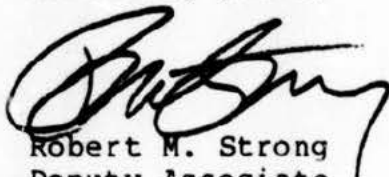
Attn: Mr. Joe Crutchfield

Gentlemen:

We refer to your protest, filed in our Office by letter of March 18, 1988, concerning the Department of the Navy's solicitation to supply natural gas for the Naval Public Works Center, San Diego, and the Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton. While you refer, in your letter, to the solicitation number alternately as N62474-87-B-8520, as -8525, and as -8528, the Navy has informed us that the correct number is -8525. Our Office's reference number is B-230898.

Your basis for protest is that the solicitation's evaluation criteria are unfair. The Navy advises that bids in response to the solicitation were opened on March 3. Accordingly, your protest is untimely under section 21.2(a)(1) of our Bid Protest Regulations, 4 C.F.R. Part 21 (1988), which requires that a protest alleging an apparent solicitation impropriety be filed before bid opening. The protest therefore is dismissed.

Sincerely yours,



Robert M. Strong
Deputy Associate
General Counsel