October 1, 2013

Procurement Division

To: All Grant and Cooperative Agreement Recipients

From: NSSC Grant Officer

Subject: Federal Government Shutdown due to Absence of Appropriations, NASA Grants and Cooperative Agreements

As of October 1, 2013, there are no longer appropriations for Federal Agencies, including NASA. As a result, all NASA installations are forced to shut down with limited exemptions for specifically excepted activities.

If your institution’s grant or cooperative agreement requires access to a NASA installation or participation from NASA personnel in order to perform the instrument’s stated research, training, or educational objectives, the guidance in paragraph (a) below is applicable to your institution. If your institution’s grant or cooperative agreement does not require access to a NASA installation or participation of NASA personnel in order to perform the instrument’s stated research, training, or educational objectives, the guidance in paragraph (b) below is applicable to your institution.
(a) We have reviewed the work currently being performed under your grant or cooperative agreement, specifically that work being performed on-site at a NASA installation, and have determined that work -- not to be a specifically excepted activity. Therefore, this work cannot be performed while the NASA installation is shut down and must be suspended unless the work can be successfully performed at an off-site location (non-NASA installation) and without the participation of NASA personnel.

(b) Since your grant or cooperative agreement does not require access to a NASA installation or participation of NASA personnel in order to perform the instrument’s stated research, training, or educational objectives, you are to continue to perform work under your grant or cooperative agreement as long as you have available funding. Special Condition §1260.53 Incremental Funding of your grant or cooperative agreement specifies the total amount of funding that has been allotted to your grant or cooperative agreement.

You are also reminded that the Agency is not obligated to reimburse your institution for the expenditure of amounts in excess of the total funds allotted to your grant or cooperative agreement. Your institution is not authorized to continue performance beyond that period covered by the allotted funding and is cautioned to closely manage all available funding, as additional funding will not be provided while the Agency is without appropriations. Any work performed during this time period should be carefully planned, taking into account that NASA technical and administrative personnel will not be available to support those activities during the Government shutdown.

For availability of incurred cost payment through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Payment Management System, please check the HHS Division of Payment Management website at: www.dpm.psc.gov.

The direction is this letter is in effect until you are notified differently by a NASA Grant Officer. That is not expected to happen until appropriations again become available for the Federal Government and this Agency. Once Federal appropriations again become available, NASA installations will reopen and Government oversight and administrative personnel will resume their normal duties. Funding, if deemed necessary, can be added to your grant or cooperative agreement at that time.

/signed by
Monique Sullivan
Grant Officer