



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** June 17, 2020

**TO:** USAID/Management/Office of Acquisition and Assistance/Cost Audit and Support Division, Acting Supervisory Auditor, Eleanor C. Jefferson

**FROM:** Director of External Financial Audits Division (IG/A/EFA), David A. McNeil /s/

**SUBJECT:** Examination of Costs Claimed for Nexant, Inc. for Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2015 (3-000-20-043-I)

This memorandum transmits the final report on Nexant, Inc. on in-scope awards and subawards for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2015. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Office of Acquisition and Assistance, Cost, Audit, and Support Division contracted with the independent certified public accounting firm of Kearney & Company, P.C. to conduct the examination. The audit firm stated that it performed its examination in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in generally accepted government auditing standards. The audit firm is responsible for the enclosed report and the conclusions expressed in it. We do not express an opinion on whether costs claimed on in-scope awards and subawards for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2015 are allowable, allocable and reasonable in accordance with award terms; Part 31 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR); Agency for International Development Acquisition Regulation (AIDAR); Department of State Standardized Regulation (DSSR); and 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, as applicable.<sup>1</sup>

The examination's objective was to express an opinion on whether the costs claimed by Nexant, Inc. on in-scope awards and subawards for each of the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2015 are allowable, allocable, and reasonable in accordance with award terms; Part 31 of the FAR; AIDAR; DSSR; and 2 CFR 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, as applicable. To answer the examination's objective,

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<sup>1</sup> We reviewed the audit firm's report for conformity with professional reporting standards. Our desk reviews are typically performed to identify any items needing clarification or issues requiring management attention. Desk reviews are limited to review of the audit report itself and excludes review of the auditor's supporting working papers; they are not designed to enable us to directly evaluate the quality of the audit performed.

Kearney & Company, P.C. designed its testing procedures to evaluate the internal control environment surrounding Nexant, Inc's subcontract management process and to verify that Nexant, Inc. had adequate controls in place for monitoring subcontractor costs. Its examination included the reconciliation of the adjusted total costs booked to date and the cumulative amount billed, by award or subaward and reporting any over/under-billings. The audit firm examined USAID incurred costs of \$28,324,401 for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2015.

Kearney & Company, P.C. expressed an unmodified opinion that costs claimed by Nexant, Inc. on in-scope awards and subawards for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2015 are allowable, allocable, and reasonable in accordance with award terms; Part 31 of the FAR; AIDAR; DSSR; and 2 CFR 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, as applicable. The audit firm questioned USAID direct questioned costs of \$15,138 (unsupported). In addition, the audit firm questioned \$54,177 in General and Administrative pool costs. Since the questioned direct costs did not meet the \$25,000 threshold for making a recommendation, we are not making a recommendation. Nevertheless, we suggest USAID/Management/Office of Acquisition and Assistance, Cost Audit and Support determine the allowability of the \$15,138 in unsupported questioned costs. The audit firm did not identify any findings.

We appreciate the assistance extended during the engagement.

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