IX. OTHER FEATURES

INFORMATION ON USE OF NON-FEDERAL PARTIES

This GPRA performance report was written and prepared solely by NSF staff.

Non-Federal external sources of information we used in preparing this report include:

- Reports from awardees demonstrating results.
- Reports prepared by evaluators – Committees of Visitors (COV) and Advisory Committees – in assessing our programs for progress in achieving Outcome Goals.
- Reports prepared by a consulting firm to assess the procedures we use to collect, process, maintain, and report performance goals and measures.
- Reports from facilities managers on construction/upgrade costs and schedules and on operational reliability.

Specific examples:

Highlights or sources of examples shown as results may be provided by Principal Investigators who received support from NSF.

We use external committees to assess the progress of our programs toward qualitative goal achievement. External evaluators provide us with reports of programs, and provide feedback to us on a report template we prepare. Examples are COV and Advisory Committee reports that provide an independent external assessment of NSF's performance.

We engaged an independent third-party IBM Business Consulting Services to conduct a review of data and information used in performance reporting. IBM Business Consulting Services reviewed NSF's performance data and information pertaining to selected outcome goals, management goals, and investment process goals. This additional independent review helped to eliminate potential reporting bias that can develop in self-assessments. It also provides assurance of the credibility of performance reporting information and results.

BUDGET INFORMATION:

NSF obligated $4.8 billion in FY 2002. Administrative support for the Foundation was approximately 5% of the total NSF budget.

CLASSIFIED APPENDICES NOT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

None to report.

ANALYSIS OF TAX EXPENDITURES

None to report.

WAIVERS OF ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

None to report.