



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20416

October 15, 2008

Mr. Ted T. Lin  
President  
Lin Engineering, Inc.  
1990 Russell Ave.  
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Tracking #: 7006-0100-0000-3339-3317

Dear Lin:

Thank you for your application submitted to SBA's Office of Small Disadvantage Business (SDB) Certification & Eligibility.

Firms seeking to be SDB certified by SBA may certify themselves to be SDBs for federal prime contracts and federal subcontracts pursuant to an Interim Final Rule published in the Federal Register on Friday, October 3, 2008. The regulatory change allows firms to self-represent their status for subcontracting purposes without first receiving any SDB Certification. The rule also recognizes that the benefits of being an SDB for federal prime contracts has been greatly diminished over the past years, and shifts the responsibility of identifying firms as SDBs for federal prime contracts to those limited agencies that have authority and choose to use SDB price evaluation adjustments.

As a result of this change, and the fact the above referenced rule removes SBA from the SDB certification process, we are returning the enclosed application you submitted to SBA. Your firm may self-represent its status as an SDB and the firm does not have to submit any application to SBA for SDB certification.

The regulatory change was effective October 3, 2008, and was published in the Federal Register the same day. You may locate it at Vol 73, No.193 p.57490. Please also note that the October 3, 2008 regulatory change supersedes the September 23, 2008 Federal Register notice Vol 73, No.185 p.54881. To find this information on the web go to the URL address, <http://www.gpoaccess.gov>. Click on "2008 (Volume 73) only." Select quick search, and type in "page 57490" and/or "page 54881" respectively, then hit submit.

We note that the rule further mentions that other than its list of certified 8(a) firms, SBA will no longer maintain a list of certified SDB firms. As such, any references to such a list will be eliminated.

The 8(a) Business Development Program is not affected by this rule. Firms may continue to apply on-line for 8(a) Certification. Please note that the criteria for 8(a) certification differs from the criteria for SDB certification, as outlined in the eligibility requirements. Please review the 8(a) eligibility criteria and instructions (<http://training.sba.gov:8000/assessment>) **before** you apply for SBA's 8(a) program.

If you have further questions, please send an E-mail with your query or question to [sdbstatuscheck@sba.gov](mailto:sdbstatuscheck@sba.gov).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leo M. Sanchez", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Leo M. Sanchez  
(A) Director  
Office of Certification and Eligibility  
Business Development