

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



Office of Inspector General
Washington, DC 20546-0001

December 7, 2009

Ms. Margarita Scheffel, Chief Financial Officer
California Association for Research in Astronomy DBA W.M. Keck Observatory
65-1120 Mamalahoa Highway
Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

SUBJECT: Final Memorandum on Initial Review of KPMG LLP Audit Report on
California Association for Research in Astronomy DBA W.M. Keck
Observatory for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2008
(Report No. ML-10-002; Assignment No. D-09-002-00)

Dear Ms. Scheffel:

As the Federal oversight agency for the single audits of the California Association for Research in Astronomy (CARA) DBA W.M. Keck Observatory, we performed an initial review of the reporting package of the single audit for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008. The single audit is required by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations." The audit firm of KPMG LLP performed the audit. We used the "Uniform Guide for Initial Review of A-133 Audit Reports," published by the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency, to determine whether the reporting package contained the required reports, schedules, and statements. We did not examine the related audit documentation to evaluate the adequacy of the audit work performed.

Based on our review of the reporting package for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008, we determined that the audit report substantially met the reporting standards of the Government Accountability Office's "Government Auditing Standards" and OMB A-133 reporting requirements.

We are sending this letter to the auditors and to officials at other Federal agencies with direct expenditures listed on your Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards to inform them of the results of our review. If you or your staff would like to meet with us to further discuss this review, please contact Mr. Mark Jenson, Financial Statement Audits Director, at 202-358-0629 or mark.jenson@nasa.gov.

Sincerely,

(signed) Mark Jenson for

Debra D. Pettitt
Acting Assistant Inspector General for Auditing

cc:
Assistant Administrator for Procurement
KPMG LLP
National Single Audit Coordinators:
National Science Foundation
Department of Homeland Security