

Response to Question 4: Statement Regarding Government Contract

The IRIS/PASSCAL Facility is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), contract number EAR-0552316, "IRIS Cornerstone Facilities for Seismology and Earth Sciences". This is a 5-year cooperative project between the NSF and IRIS, which have been working together on various aspects of this project for more than 20 years.

The IRIS/PASSCAL Instrument Facility maintains and ships to the field seismic instrumentation for research use by Principal Investigators funded by NSF, US Departments of Energy and Defense (DoE and DoD). The instrumentation is used to explore the nature of earthquakes and the internal structure of the Earth. Each seismometer package includes a GPS receiver to provide accurate timing of the reception of seismic signals. The main purpose of the IRIS/PASSCAL instrumentation facility is to test and maintain the seismic systems before and after each temporary field deployment. This testing is conducted indoors. The use of a GPS re-transmitter aids in the testing of the seismic instrumentation. See Response to Question 6 for additional details.