The “Build America, Buy America Act” requires that the U.S. National Science Foundation make a proposed waiver available for a 15-day public comment period before a waiver is issued. NSF will consider comments it received during the 15-day period when it evaluates a waiver request.

SUBMIT A COMMENT

NSF posts all of its Build America, Buy America waiver requests on the NSF Waiver Requests page. When a waiver request is posted, the public has 15 days to review the waiver and submit comments. NSF will consider all comments received during the 15-day comment period in its evaluation of a waiver request; comments received after this period will be considered to the extent practicable.

To submit a comment on a waiver, go to the NSF Waiver Requests page and find the waiver number for the waiver on which you would like to comment. Every waiver listed on the page will have a status showing where it is in the review process. Waivers that are eligible for comments will be identified as “received–open for comments.” If you send comments on waivers in any other status, NSF will not review them.

Send your comment to NSF via email to BABAcomment@nsf.gov, and add the waiver’s number and its non-federal entity name in the email subject line. If you do not include the correct waiver number and non-federal entity name in the subject line, NSF cannot guarantee your comment will be recorded correctly. You will receive an automatic email response letting you know that your comment was received. If you do not receive this confirmation email, NSF has not received your comment. NSF may reach out to you for more details or information in its review of your comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT USE

NSF will review all comments submitted for each waiver request, and use the information provided in deciding whether to approve each waiver. NSF will summarize and include all public comments when it submits its waiver package to the Made in America Office at the Office of Management and Budget. OMB will make the final decision to approve or disapprove a waiver request. No public comments will be shared outside of NSF and no comments in the summary to OMB will be made public.