In response to the above-referenced Notice of Covered Action, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission received three whistleblower award claims. Pursuant to Section 21F of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) and Rule 21F-10 promulgated thereunder, the Claims Review Staff has evaluated the claims in accordance with the criteria set forth in Rules 21F-1 through 21F-18. The Claims Review Staff sets forth its Preliminary Determination as follows.
The Claims Review Staff has preliminarily determined to recommend that the Commission deny an award to Claimant 3.

Claimant 3 did not provide information that led to the successful enforcement of the Covered Action within the meaning of Section 21F(b)(1) of the Exchange Act and Rules 21F-3(a)(3) and 21F-4(c) thereunder because any information Claimant 3 provided did not: (1) cause the Commission to (i) commence an examination, (ii) open or reopen an investigation, or (iii) inquire into different conduct as part of a current Commission examination or investigation under Rule 21F-4(c)(1) of the Exchange Act; or (2) significantly contribute to the success of a Commission judicial or administrative enforcement action under Rule 21F-4(c)(2) of the Exchange Act.
In reaching this preliminary determination, we note that the record reflects that the investigation was opened based on information received from a source other than Claimant 3. By the time Claimant 3’s tip was forwarded to the staff, the staff had already identified the parties and was already aware that investors’ funds were being misused. None of the information provided by Claimant 3 identified any new issues or areas of investigation, and it was not used in, and had no impact on, the Covered Action.

By: Claims Review Staff

Date: August 16, 2021