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### 5333.103 Protests to the Agency

(d)(4) When an agency protest is denied, an offeror may request an independent review by the SCO.

(h) The contracting officer must prepare the protest file following an agency protest (including a protest of a non-appropriated funds procurement) regardless of the level at which the protest is filed. The contracting officer must request guidance from [SAF/AQC](mailto:SAF.AQ.SAF-AQC.Workflow@us.af.mil) for any protest likely to generate significant Congressional interest. The decision to deny a protest must be made at a level no lower than that at which the protest was filed. Protests may be sustained at any level in the review process, with the concurrence of the cognizant legal office.

See [AFMC PGI 5333.103](AFMC_PGI_5333_103.dita#AFFARS_pgi_5333_topic_8).

See [AFICC PGI 5333.103](AFICC_PGI_5333_103.dita#AFFARS_pgi_5333_topic_4) .