

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, DC 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 12, 2011

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**AVI BioPharma, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Oregon**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**001-14895**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**93-0797222**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**3450 Monte Villa Parkway, Suite 101**  
**Bothell, WA 98021**  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

**(425) 354-5038**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On October 12, 2011, AVI BioPharma, Inc. (the “Company”) received notice from the U.S. Department of Defense (“DoD”) that the Company’s proposal for the full clinical development of its influenza drug candidate, AVI-7100, for post-exposure prophylaxis did not qualify for a contract award. The DoD previously had informed the Company that its prophylaxis proposal met the technical requirements for acceptance and additional consideration; however, following an integrated assessment of all of the evaluation factors, the DoD determined that the prophylaxis proposal was not within the required competitive range for a contract award.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**AVI BioPharma, Inc.**

By: /s/ Christopher Garabedian  
Christopher Garabedian  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: October 14, 2011