



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

March 7, 2014

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: New Assignment Notification: EPA's Efforts to Incorporate Environmental Justice Into Clean Air Act Inspections for Air Toxics
Project No. OPE-FY14-0017

FROM: Rick Beusse, Director /s/
Air Issues, Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify you that the Office of Inspector General (OIG) plans to begin the preliminary research phase of an evaluation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) efforts to incorporate environmental justice into Clean Air Act (CAA) inspections for air toxics. This project is included in our fiscal year 2014 annual plan. We plan to address the following objective:

- Determine whether the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) and EPA regions have targeted overburdened communities, or communities with disproportionate impacts, for CAA inspections for air toxics.

During the preliminary research phase, we plan to obtain information to address the above question, which is subject to change as we conduct our work. We plan to review documents, analyze data, and interview managers and staff from OECA and selected EPA regions. We also plan to interview representatives of environmental and other stakeholder groups, including the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice and the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, a federal advisory committee to the EPA. At agreed-upon periods, our team will meet with your staff to discuss the status of our preliminary research phase.

We will contact your audit liaison to arrange a mutually agreeable time for a kickoff meeting to discuss the assignment objective and our planned work. We will also answer any questions you or your staff may have about the evaluation process and reporting procedures.

Prior to or at our kickoff meeting, we request that you provide us with key policies, procedures and guidance regarding the agency's efforts to incorporate environmental justice into air toxics inspections, including:

- OECA National Enforcement Initiatives, and internal OECA guidance relating to these initiatives since fiscal year 2009.

- OECA guidance for incorporating environmental justice into CAA Section 112 air toxics inspections, including guidance on air toxics inspection targeting for environmental justice.
- OECA Office of Environmental Justice recommendations on air compliance and enforcement efforts since fiscal year 2009.
- OECA CAA Section 112 air toxics inspections and recordkeeping guidance.
- OECA performance goals and measures for incorporating environmental justice in CAA Section 112 air toxics inspections, including regional commitments.

If you or your staff have any questions in the meantime, please contact me at (919) 541-5747 or beusse.rick@epa.gov; or Erica Hauck, Project Manager, at (303) 312-6629 or hauck.eric@epa.gov.

cc: Lawrence Starfield, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, OECA
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