



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

July 20, 2015

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
Follow-up Review of EPA's Classification of National Security Information
Project No. OPE-FY15-0057

FROM: Eric Lewis, Director /s/
Special Program Reviews
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Karl Brooks, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Administration and Resources Management

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research on the Office of Administration and Resources Management actions taken to improve policies and procedures related to the classification of national security information. This project is a mandatory assignment included in the OIG's fiscal year 2015 annual plan.

As required by Section 6(b)(2)(B) of the Reducing Over-Classification Act (P.L. 111-258), the OIG's objective is to review progress made pursuant to the results of the first evaluation required by the Act. These results were documented in the following OIG reports:

- 11-P-0722, *EPA Should Prepare and Distribute Security Classification Guides*, dated September 29, 2011.
- 12-P-0543, *EPA's National Security Information Program Could Be Improved*, dated June 18, 2012.
- 14-P-0017, *EPA Does Not Adequately Follow National Security Information Classification Standards*, dated November 15, 2013.

The OIG plans to contact staff in the Office of Administration and Resources Management, the Office of Homeland Security, and the Office of Research and Development. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The work may also be coordinated with other Inspectors General who are required to carry out this evaluation, as well as with the Information Security Oversight Office, National Archives and Records Administration. The anticipated benefits of this project are to ensure that the EPA is effectively administering its classification policies and procedures, and not misclassifying material.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives and the purpose of the preliminary research phase of our project. We would also be particularly interested in any areas of concern that you may have. We will answer any of your questions about the project process, reporting

procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the course of the project. Throughout the project we will provide updates on a regular basis, as agreed upon at the kickoff meeting.

We respectfully note that the OIG is authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978 to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete its objectives. We will request your resolution if an agency employee or contractor refuses to provide requested records to the OIG, or otherwise fails to cooperate with the OIG. We may report unresolved access matters to the Administrator and include the incident in the Semiannual Report to Congress.

Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-2664 or lewis.eric@epa.gov; or to the Project Manager, Hilda Canes Garduño, at (202) 566-2893 or canes-garduno.hilda@epa.gov.

cc: Vaughn Noga, Director, Office of Administration, Office of Administration and Resources Management
Tami Franklin, Director, Security Management Division, Office of Administration and Resources Management
Kelly Glazier, Deputy Director, Security Management Division, Office of Administration and Resources Management
Jon Ross, Chief, Personnel Security Branch, Office of Administration and Resources Management
Diane Lasher, NSI Program Team Leader, Office of Administration and Resources Management
Sam Wiggins, Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Homeland Security
Lek Kadeli, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Research and Development
Gregory Sayles, Acting Center Director, National Homeland Security Research Center, Office of Research and Development
Kenneth Stone, Security Specialist, National Homeland Security Research Center, Office of Research and Development
David Bloom, Agency Follow-Up Official (the CFO)
Nic Grzegozewski, Agency Audit Follow-Up Coordinator
Glen Cuscino, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of the Administrator
Brandon McDowell, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Administration and Resources Management
Heather Cursio, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Research and Development
Arthur A. Elkins Jr., Inspector General
Charles Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General
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Alan Larsen, Counsel to the Inspector General
Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit
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