



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

February 20, 2013

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification Memorandum for OIG's Evaluation of EPA's Response to Erroneous Laboratory Data (Project No. OPE-FY12-0023)

FROM: Carolyn Copper, Assistant Inspector General
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Malcolm D. Jackson, Assistant Administrator and Chief Information Officer
Office of Environmental Information

The EPA Office of Inspector General (OIG) plans to begin fieldwork with modified objectives from our August 14, 2012, memo on EPA's response to erroneous laboratory data. This project is included in our annual plan. The acting product line director and the project manager for this project will be Jerri Dorsey and Jee Kim, respectively.

The purpose of this memorandum is to confirm our mutual understandings on the objectives and scope for the evaluation of EPA's response to erroneous laboratory data, as well as the responsibilities of the Office of Environmental Information and the OIG during the project.

The OIG's objective is to determine the use of procedures by EPA, states and other federal agencies to manage the communication of and appropriate action on laboratory data determined to be fraudulent. The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters and regional offices. This project will be conducted using applicable generally accepted government auditing standards. The anticipated benefits of this project are improved controls and processes for acting on and communicating fraudulent laboratory data to end users, which could improve human health and environmental protection.

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

We will contact your audit liaisons to arrange a meeting within the next few weeks. During our meeting we will verify points of contact in each office, brief you on our results to date, and discuss any related issues. If you have any questions, please contact Jerri Dorsey, acting product line director for cross media issues, at (919) 541-3601 or dorsey.jerri@epa.gov; or Jee Kim, project manager, at (202) 566-2912, or kim.jee@epa.gov.

cc: Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Regional Administrators, Regions 1–10
Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1–10
Elizabeth Braziel, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Environmental Information
Gwendolyn Spriggs, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Arthur A. Elkins Jr., Inspector General
Charles Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General
Patricia Hill, Assistant Inspector General for Mission Systems
Melissa Heist, Assistant Inspector General for Audit
Eileen McMahon, Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs
Patrick Sullivan, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations
Alan Larsen, Counsel to the Inspector General
Jeffrey Harris, Acting Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation
Jerri Dorsey, Acting Director for Program Evaluation, Cross Media Issues, OIG
Jee Kim, Project Manager, Cross Media Issues, OIG