



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

OFFICE OF  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

July 12, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** New assignment notification

**FROM:** Carolyn Copper /s/  
Acting Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation

**TO:** Karl Brooks  
Region 7 Regional Administrator

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify you that the Office of Inspector General (OIG) plans to conduct a review of the process followed by EPA Region 7 in the handling of site-related contamination at the Cherryvale, Kansas National Zinc Company site (CERCLIS ID# KSD980406698). This assignment is in response to a hotline complaint. We plan to address the following question:

- Did EPA's 2002 Removal Action and oversight activities at the National Zinc Company site in Cherryvale, Kansas fully identify and address site-related and unsafe heavy metal contamination?

We plan to review documents, analyze data, and interview managers and staff from EPA's Region 7 to obtain information to address the above question, which is subject to change as we conduct our work. At agreed-upon intervals, our team will update your staff on the status of our preliminary research review.

We will contact your audit liaison, Kathy Finazzo to arrange our kick-off meeting, interviews, and document reviews. We plan to begin immediately and visit Region 7 the week of August 6, 2012. At the kick-off meeting we will address any questions you may have about the OIG hotline process and reporting procedures.

Please do not hesitate to contact Chad Kincheloe at (312) 886-6530 or [kincheloe.chad@epa.gov](mailto:kincheloe.chad@epa.gov), or Jill Trynosky at (202) 566-2718 or [trynosky.jill@epa.gov](mailto:trynosky.jill@epa.gov) if you, or your staff, has any questions.

cc: Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator, OSWER  
Mark Hague, Acting Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 7  
Cecilia Tapia, Superfund Division Director, Region 7  
Robert Jackson, Deputy Superfund Division Director, Region 7  
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