



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

July 17, 2012

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: New Project Notification

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

TO: Sam Coleman
Acting Regional Administrator, Region 6

Cynthia Giles
Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify you that the EPA Office of Inspector General is beginning a review of Region 6's enforcement actions against Range Resources. This project is being conducted as a result of a congressional request.

Our objective is to determine whether Region 6's issuance of an emergency order under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act and the region's subsequent enforcement actions conformed to Agency guidelines, regulations, and policy. We will review the region's interactions with the Texas Railroad Commission, other stakeholders, and the withdrawal of the emergency order. We plan to speak with Region 6 and Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) management and staff.

Within a week, we will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives. 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Dan Engelberg at (202) 566-0830 or engelberg.dan@epa.gov, or Kathlene Butler at (404) 562-9736 or butler.kathlene@epa.gov.

cc: Nancy Stoner, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Water
Pam Mazakas, Acting Director, Office of Civil Enforcement, OECA
Mark Pollins, Director, Water Enforcement Division, Office of Civil Enforcement, OECA
Susan Jenkins, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Region 6

Gwendolyn Spriggs, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, OECA
Marilyn Ramos, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Water
Regional Administrators, Regions 1-10
Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1-10
Arthur A. Elkins, Jr., Inspector General
Charles Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General
Eric Hanger, Acting Counsel to the Inspector General
Melissa Heist, Assistant Inspector General for Audit
Patricia Hill, Assistant Inspector General for Mission Systems
Patrick Sullivan, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations
Eileen McMahon, Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs
Nancy Long Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs
Jeffrey Harris, Acting Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation
Dan Engelberg, Director for Program Evaluation, Water and Enforcement Issues, OIG
Kathlene Butler, Project Manager, Water and Enforcement Issues, OIG