



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

July 19, 2013

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Preliminary Research on EPA's Decision Making Process to Release Information Under the Freedom of Information Act

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

TO: Renee Wynn, Acting Assistant Administrator and Chief Information Officer
Office of Environmental Information

The Office of Inspector General plans to begin preliminary research on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's process for deciding to release information requested under the Freedom of Information Act. Our objective is to determine how EPA offices and regions decide what information to release under the FOIA program.

During preliminary research, we plan to interview managers and staff from Regions 4 and 6 and at EPA headquarters. We plan to review FOIA databases and how the EPA addressed FOIA requests.

We will contact your audit liaison within 2 weeks to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives and the purpose 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 audit 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 or your staff have any questions, please contact the director for this assignment, Patrick Gilbride, at (303) 312-6969 or gilbride.patrick@epa.gov; or the project manager, Randy Holthaus, at (214) 665-6620 or holthaus.randy@epa.gov.

cc: Bob Perciasepe, Acting Administrator
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