

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

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

November 06, 2013

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of OIG Preliminary Research on the Adequacy of EPA's Oversight of State

FIFRA Programs Project No. OPE-FY14-4013

FROM: Carolyn Copper, Assistant Inspector General

Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Jim Jones, Assistant Administrator

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) plans to begin preliminary research on the adequacy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) oversight of states' Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) programs. Our objectives are to determine the efficacy of the EPA's oversight of the states implementation of the FIFRA programs, including enforcement of pesticide product compliance and user compliance with FIFRA provisions. The anticipated benefit of this project is to ensure that states are efficiently and effectively assuring industry and user compliance with FIFRA pesticide labeling requirements in order to protect human health and the environment from the potential impact of improper pesticides use, mislabeling of pesticides and distribution of unregistered pesticides.

We plan to perform work within the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance and the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. We will conduct the project using applicable *Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards*.

We will contact your audit liaisons, Gwendolyn Spriggs and Janet Weiner, to arrange a mutually agreeable time within 2 weeks to discuss our objectives, the purpose of our project and 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.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact the OIG Acting Director for Toxics, Chemical Management and Pollution Prevention, Jerri Dorsey, at (919) 541-3601 or dorsey.jerri@epa.gov; or the

Acting Project Manager, Steven Weber, at (617) 918-1465 or <u>weber.steven@epa.gov</u>. We will provide updates on a regular basis to agreed-upon contacts from your offices.

cc: Gwendolyn Spriggs, Audit Follow-up Coordinator, OECA

Janet Weiner, Audit Follow-up Coordinator, OCSPP

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