



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

OFFICE OF  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

December 19, 2013

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Notification of Preliminary Research to Evaluate EPA's Use of and Adherence to Quality Management Policies in Chemical Risk Assessments  
Project No. OPE-FY14-0012

**FROM:** Jeffrey Harris, Product Line Director  
Office of Program Evaluation

**TO:** Jim Jones, Assistant Administrator  
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) is starting preliminary research on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) use of and adherence to quality management policies in chemical risk assessments. Our objective is to determine to what extent the EPA's Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics' Risk Assessment Division uses and implements relevant quality management policies during chemical risk assessments. The anticipated benefit of this project is to ensure chemical risk assessment quality assurance controls and processes are in place and followed. In addition, the OIG's work may validate the quality of environmental data produced by the EPA and utilized by the general public. We will conduct the project using applicable *Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards*.

We will contact your audit liaison, Janet Weiner, to arrange a mutually agreeable time 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 me at (202)566-0831 or [harris.jeffrey@epa.gov](mailto:harris.jeffrey@epa.gov); or Loretta Joseph, the Project Manager, at (212) 637-3049 or [joseph.loretta@epa.gov](mailto:joseph.loretta@epa.gov). We will provide updates on a regular basis to the Director of the Risk Assessment Division and to any other agreed-upon contacts from your office.

cc: Wendy Cleland-Hamnett, Director, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics  
Barbara Cunningham, Deputy Director, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics  
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