



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

October 7, 2015

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
Evaluation of Structural Fumigation Treatment Incidents
OIG Project No. OPE-FY16-0004

FROM: Jeffrey Harris, Director
Toxics, Chemical Management and Pollution Prevention Evaluations
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) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research on factors associated with structural fumigation. This project is OIG-initiated and based on publicly reported adverse impacts related to structural fumigation treatments.

The OIG's objectives are to determine the following:

- What is the extent and nature of adverse impacts caused by structural fumigants?
- Are regulatory, program execution (e.g., training, funding, inspections, enforcement, etc.) or other factors associated with adverse impacts?

The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters, selected EPA regional offices and states. We will request data and documents, and interview relevant managers and staff at these locations.

We will contact your audit liaisons to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives and the purpose of the preliminary research phase of our project. We would also be particularly interested in any areas of concern that you may have. We will answer any of your questions 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. Throughout the project, we will provide updates on a regular basis.

We respectfully note that the OIG is authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978 to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete its objectives. We will request your resolution if an agency employee or contractor refuses to provide requested records to the OIG, or

otherwise fails to cooperate with the OIG. We may report unresolved access matters to the Administrator and include the incident in the Semiannual Report to Congress.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact me at (202) 566-0831 or harris.jeffrey@epa.gov; or Jee Kim, Project Manager, at (913) 551-7009 or kim.jee@epa.gov.

cc: Lawrence Starfield, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Louise Wise, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
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