



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

February 9, 2017

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
Evaluation of EPA's Management Controls to Implement and Enforce
Pesticide Worker Protection Standards
Project No. OPE-FY17-0008

FROM: Jeffrey Harris, Director
Toxics, Chemical Management and Pollution Prevention Evaluations
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Wendy Cleland-Hamnett, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

Lawrence Starfield, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research to evaluate the adequacy of the EPA's management controls implementing the revised Worker Protection Standards (WPS) requirements designed to reduce pesticide exposure and risks to agricultural workers.

The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters and at any other appropriate sites. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used to conduct our project. The anticipated benefit of this project is a greater understanding of the degree to which controls over the WPS lead to the protection of human health.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives and the purpose of the preliminary research phase of our project. We are also 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 regular teleconference or videoconference updates to the point of contact designated by your office.

To ensure the success and timely completion of this project, please provide pertinent documents describing the relationship between the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention and the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance as it pertains to WPS compliance, as well as any annual planning documents for either office relating to the WPS.

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 our Semiannual Report to Congress.

I will supervise the project, and the Project Manager will be Kalpana Ramakrishnan. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-0831 or harris.jeffrey@epa.gov, or to Kalpana Ramakrishnan at (415) 947-4519 or ramakrishnan.kalpana@epa.gov.

cc: Louise Wise, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Shari Wilson, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Jack Housenger, Director, Office of Pesticide Programs, Office of Chemical Safety and
Pollution Prevention
David Hindin, Director, Office of Compliance, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
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