



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

March 30, 2017

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
Review of Atlanta Combined Sewer Overflow Consent Decree
Project No. OPE-FY17-0014

FROM: Kathlene Butler, Director, Water Evaluations /s/
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Anne Heard, Acting Regional Administrator
Region 4

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin a review of EPA Region 4's oversight of the Atlanta combined sewer overflow consent decree. We are conducting this work as a result of a congressional request.

The OIG's objectives are to determine whether the city of Atlanta is complying with the requirements of the 1998 combined sewer overflow consent decree; and to evaluate EPA Region 4 internal controls for overseeing Atlanta's combined sewer overflow consent decree compliance. The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA Region 4. We may also visit state and local sites as needed. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project are improved operational efficiency and improved reliability of program results.

We will contact your audit follow-up coordinator 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 can agree on the form and frequency of those updates at our first meeting.

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.

The project manager for this assignment will be Tim Roach. If you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (404) 562-9736 or butler.kathlene@epa.gov, or contact Tim Roach at (312) 886-3026 or roach.tim@epa.gov.

cc: Ken Lapierre, Acting Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 4
Mary Walker, Director, Office of Water Protection Division, Region 4
Scott Gordon, Director, Office of Enforcement Coordination, Region 4
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