



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

March 31, 2017

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
Protecting Children's Health from Asbestos Exposure in Schools
Project No. OPE-FY17-0012

FROM: Eric Lewis, Director /s/
Special Program Reviews
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: 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 on the EPA's efforts to protect children's health from asbestos exposure in schools. Our objective is to determine whether the EPA is performing sufficient compliance inspections of schools to reduce asbestos exposure. This project is a discretionary assignment included in the OIG's fiscal year 2017 annual plan.

The OIG plans to contact staff in the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. We will also contact other EPA offices as needed. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project are improved human health, safety and the environment.

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 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, as agreed upon at the kickoff 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 will be supervised by me and the Project Manager will be Hilda Canes Garduño. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-2664 or lewis.eric@epa.gov, or Hilda Canes Garduño at (202) 566-2893 or canes-garduno.hilda@epa.gov.

cc: David Cozad, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Mark Badalamente, Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Ruth Etzel, Director, Office of Children's Health Protection
Benita Deane, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
George Hull, Acting Associate Administrator for Public Affairs
Julia Valentine, Acting Director, Office of Media Relations, Office of Public Affairs
Gwendolyn Spriggs, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
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