



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

OFFICE OF  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

May 5, 2017

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Project Notification:  
Effectiveness of EPA's Oversight of State Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Programs  
in Achieving Emission Reductions  
Project No. OPE-FY17-0018

**FROM:** James L. Hatfield, Director, Air Evaluations *James L. Hatfield*  
Office of Program Evaluation

**TO:** Sarah Dunham, Acting Assistant Administrator  
Office of Air and Radiation

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research to determine whether EPA oversight has ensured that vehicle inspection and maintenance programs are effective and efficient in reducing vehicle emissions in enhanced inspection and maintenance areas. This project is not part of the OIG's fiscal year 2017 Annual Plan.

The OIG expects its work to focus on divisions in the Office of Transportation and Air Quality within the EPA's Office of Air and Radiation. The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters and regions, and at selected state and local agencies. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used to conduct our project. This evaluation should provide value to both the states and the EPA by reviewing implementation and reporting on inspection and maintenance program results.

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 this 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.

I will supervise the project, and the Project Manager will be Gabby Fekete. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (919) 541-1030 or [hatfield.jim@epa.gov](mailto:hatfield.jim@epa.gov), or Gabby Fekete at (919) 541-3537 or [fekete.gabrielle@epa.gov](mailto:fekete.gabrielle@epa.gov).

cc: Ryan Jackson, Chief of Staff

Elizabeth Shaw, Career Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation

Joseph Goffman, Associate Assistant Administrator and Senior Counsel, Office of Air and Radiation

Christopher Grundler, Director, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Office of Air and Radiation

Marc Vincent, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Air and Radiation

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

Regional Administrators, Regions 1–10

Regional Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1–10

Arthur A. Elkins Jr., Inspector General

Charles Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General

Alan Larsen, Counsel to the Inspector General

Carolyn Copper, Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation

Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit

Patrick Sullivan, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations

Edward Shields, Acting Deputy Director, Office of Management, Office of Inspector General

Christine El-Zoghbi, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation

Jennifer Kaplan, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs

Jeffrey Lagda, Congressional and Media Liaison, Office of Inspector General

Tia Elbaum, Congressional and Media Liaison, Office of Inspector General