



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

October 24, 2018

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
Communication of Human Health Risks Posed by Sites in the
Office of Land and Emergency Management's Programs
Project No. OA&E-FY19-0031

FROM: Christina Lovingood, Director /s/
Land Cleanup and Waste Management Directorate
Office of Audit and Evaluation

TO: Barry N. Breen, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Land and Emergency Management

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research on the communication of human health risks posed by sites in the Office of Land and Emergency Management's programs. This project was internally generated.

Our project objective will address whether the EPA is communicating sampling results or other indicators of human health risk at select EPA-led sites in Office of Land and Emergency Management programs in a manner that allows the impacted communities to avoid exposure to harmful contaminants or substances. The OIG plans to conduct work in the Office of Land and Emergency Management and the EPA regions. Our project will involve the analysis of data and communications at select EPA-led sites, to be determined at a later date. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The potential returns on investment for this project include recommendations that may result in reduced exposure to harmful contaminants or substances and in enhanced communication with the public.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objective 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 project. Throughout the project, we will provide updates on a regular basis to established contacts in the offices where our audit work will occur.

To ensure the success and timely completion of this project, please provide your input on regions, stakeholders and any experts you recommend we contact during our preliminary research.

We respectfully note that the OIG is authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete its objectives. We will request

that you resolve the situation 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 Jill Trynosky. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-2906 or lovingood.tina@epa.gov, or Jill Trynosky at (202) 566-2718 or trynosky.jill@epa.gov.

cc: Henry Darwin, Acting Deputy Administrator
Ryan Jackson, Chief of Staff
Michael Molina, Special Advisor, Office of the Administrator
Nigel Simon, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Land and Emergency Management
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