



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

OFFICE OF  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

June 26, 2019

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Project Notification:  
EPA Border 2020 Program  
Project No. OA&E-FY19-0245

**FROM:** Jeffrey K. Harris, Director  
Toxics, Chemical Management and Pollution Prevention Directorate  
Office of Audit and Evaluation

**TO:** W.C. "Chad" McIntosh, Assistant Administrator  
Office of International and Tribal Affairs

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research on the Office of International and Tribal Affairs' Border 2020 Program controls implemented in response to the 2008 OIG Report No. [08-P-0245](#), *Border 2012 Program Needs to Improve Program Management to Ensure Results*. Specifically, we will evaluate the processes that oversee Border 2020 program activities and the achievement of stated environmental goals.

The OIG's objective is to determine whether EPA Border 2020 management controls are sufficient for verifying that program activities are completed, linked to the accomplishment of program objectives, and demonstrate progress toward achieving the program's environmental and public health goals and objectives. The OIG plans to conduct work at headquarters and appropriate regional offices. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project are reduced environmental and public health risks to residents along the U.S.-Mexico border.

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 via email and/or meetings with your designated point of contact.

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*.

Any questions related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-0831 or [harris.jeffrey@epa.gov](mailto:harris.jeffrey@epa.gov); or Laretta Joseph, Project Manager, at (212) 637-3049 or [joseph.lauretta@epa.gov](mailto:joseph.lauretta@epa.gov).

cc: Henry Darwin, Associate Deputy Administrator and Chief of Operations  
Ryan Jackson, Chief of Staff  
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