



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

August 20, 2019

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
Post-Closure Care at Hazardous Waste Units Closed with Waste in Place
Project No. OA&E-FY19-0323

FROM: Tina Lovingood, Director
Land Cleanup and Waste Management Directorate
Office of Audit and Evaluation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christina Loveland", is written over the "FROM:" field.

TO: Peter Wright, 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 fieldwork regarding the EPA's oversight of hazardous waste units closed with waste in place. This project is self-initiated.

Our objective is to evaluate the EPA's oversight of hazardous waste units closed with waste in place to verify continued protection of human health and the environment. The OIG plans to conduct work at the Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery, within the Office of Land and Emergency Management, and at selected EPA regions and states. The anticipated benefits of this project are the assurance of continued protection of the public from exposure to hazardous substances, and the identification of potential unfunded public liabilities, so that the EPA can appropriately plan for future resource requirements and share these with the public.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objective. 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 monthly email updates to an agreed-upon 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*.

I will supervise the project, and the Project Manager will be Steve Hanna. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-2906 or lovingood.tina@epa.gov, or Steve Hanna at (415) 947-4527 or hanna.steve@epa.gov.

cc: Henry Darwin, Acting Deputy Administrator
Ryan Jackson, Chief of Staff
Michael Molina, Deputy Chief of Staff
Kevin DeBell, Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Barry Breen, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Land and Emergency Management
Barnes Johnson, Director, Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery,
Office of Land and Emergency Management
Kathleen Salyer, Deputy Director, Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery,
Office of Land and Emergency Management
Susan Bodine, Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Larry Starfield, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Annette Morant, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
Corry Schiermeyer, Associate Administrator for Public Affairs
Kecia Thornton, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Land and Emergency Management
Gwendolyn Spriggs, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Regional Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1–10
Charles J. Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General
Edward Shields, Associate Deputy Inspector General
Eric Hanger, Deputy Counsel to the Inspector General
Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Helina Wong, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations
Stephanie Wright, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Management
Richard Eyermann, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Christine El-Zoghbi, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Rekha “Rashmi” Bartlett, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and 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