



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

September 23, 2019

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Audit:
EPA's Safer Choice Program
Project No. OA&E-FY19-0324

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

TO: Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Assistant Administrator
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin fieldwork on the EPA's Safer Choice program. This project is based on the OIG's internal planning process.

The OIG's objectives are to identify and assess controls the EPA has in place to verify that the Safer Choice program meets its goals and achieves quality standards through its product qualification, renewal and required audit process. Safer Choice is a voluntary labeling program that helps consumers and commercial buyers find chemical-based products that are safer for human health and the environment. The OIG plans to conduct work at headquarters and at various third-party assessor and auditor locations. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our audit. The anticipated benefits of this audit are reducing the use of chemicals of concern and empowering consumers to protect their health.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives. We would also be particularly interested in any areas of concern that you may have. We will answer any of your questions about the audit process, reporting procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the course of the audit. Throughout the audit, 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*.

I will supervise the audit and the Project Manager will be Jee Kim. Any information related to the project should be address to me at (202) 566-0831 or harris.jeffrey@epa.gov; or Jee Kim at (202) 566-1429 or kim.jee@epa.gov.

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