U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General

20-P-0010 October 23, 2019

At a Glance

Why We Did This Project

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted this audit to determine whether the EPA, in its emergency response to Hurricane Harvey, effectively managed the Disaster Relief Funding received from the Federal **Emergency Management Agency** (FEMA). We also sought to determine whether the EPA implemented necessary and agreed-to corrective actions and intended program improvements resulting from prior OIG report recommendations.

Hurricane Harvey struck primarily Texas and Louisiana in late August 2017. FEMA tasked the EPA to support Hurricane Harvey disaster relief efforts. In all, 251 EPA staff from headquarters and the regions completed 281 deployments—for a total of 3,585 days—in support of the EPA's response efforts. The EPA spent over \$11 million in FEMA Disaster Relief Funding for the Hurricane Harvey response.

This report addresses the following:

Operating efficiently and effectively.

Address inquiries to our public affairs office at (202) 566-2391 or OIG WEBCOMMENTS@epa.gov.

List of OIG reports.

EPA Adequately Managed Hurricane Harvey Funding Received from FEMA

What We Found

We found that the EPA effectively managed its Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief Funding. We did not identify any significant issues in the EPA's contracting, logistics or resource acquisition processes. Prior to our audit, the agency had already identified strengths and areas for improvement and had implemented corrective

The EPA had policies and procedures in place for efficient and effective management of over \$11 million in FEMA Disaster Relief Funding for the Hurricane Harvey response.

actions in response to the OIG's recommendations in its 2006, 2008 and 2014 reports regarding its emergency responses. We did not identify any significant issues during this audit and make no recommendations.