




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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

November 21, 2019

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Evaluation:
Follow-up Evaluation of OIG [Report No.18-P-0071](#), *EPA Has Not Reported to Congress on BEACH Act Progress as Statutorily Required or Fully Documented Budget Decisions*, issued January 18, 2018
Project No. OA&E-FY20-0062

FROM: Kathlene Butler, Director
Water Directorate
Office of Audit and Evaluation 

TO: David P. Ross, Assistant Administrator
Office of Water

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin an evaluation of EPA's 2018 BEACH Act mandated report to Congress. This evaluation is a discretionary, self-initiated assignment by the OIG. This project is included in the OIG Annual Plan.

The OIG's objective for this evaluation is to determine whether EPA's implementation of a key recommendation in the OIG [Report No. 18-P-0071](#), *EPA Has Not Reported to Congress on BEACH Act Progress as Statutorily Required or Fully Documented Budget Decisions*, issued January 18, 2018, met the requirements in the BEACH Act. Specifically, the OIG will conduct follow-up work to determine the extent to which the completed corrective action addressed Recommendation 1: "Submit the mandated reports to Congress on progress under the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000."

The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters within the Office of Water and Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations. The evaluation will be conducted using *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. The anticipated benefits of this evaluation are improving EPA business practices and accountability and enhancing responsible stewardship of taxpayers' dollars.

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 evaluation process, reporting procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the evaluation. Throughout the evaluation, we will provide updates on a regular basis.

To expedite our evaluation, please be ready to provide the following information at the entrance conference: Methodology and data sources used to develop *Implementing the BEACH Act of 2000: 2018 Report to Congress*.

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 evaluation and the Project Manager will be Kathryn Hess. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (404) 562-9736 or butler.kathlene@epa.gov, or Kathryn Hess at (617) 918-1487 or hess.kathryn@epa.gov.

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