



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

May 27, 2020

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Project:
EPA's Initial Implementation of CARES Act Section 3610
Project No. OA&E-FY20-0220

FROM: Khadija Walker, Director
Contracts and Assistance Agreements Directorate

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Khadija Walker", is written over the "FROM:" line.

TO: Donna Vizian, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Mission Support

The Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is beginning a project related to the EPA's reimbursement of paid leave for contracting personnel under Section 3610 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. This project is being self-initiated and is part of the OIG's efforts to examine the impact of the coronavirus pandemic—that is, the SARS-CoV-2 virus and resultant COVID-19 disease—on the EPA's programs and operations, regulatory and enforcement missions, and mandated activities, as well as to review measures that the EPA has taken to address the coronavirus pandemic.

The OIG's objective is to determine what guidance the EPA has provided to its contracting personnel and contractors on how it will implement Section 3610 of the CARES Act consistently with the statute. The OIG plans to remotely conduct its work with the Office of Acquisition Solutions, within the Office of Mission Support. This information-gathering project will be conducted under the authority of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended.

We respectfully note that the OIG is authorized by the Inspector General Act to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete its objectives. We will request that you immediately resolve the situation if an Agency employee or contractor refuses to provide requested materials 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*.

Please address any questions or information related to this project to me at (312) 886-3106 or walker.khadija@epa.gov; or Randy Holthaus, project manager, at (214) 665-6620 or holthaus.randy@epa.gov.

cc: Henry Darwin, Assistant Deputy Administrator
Doug Benevento, Associate Deputy Administrator
Mandy Gunasekara, Chief of Staff

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