



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

April 3, 2020

OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Response to Office of Inspector General Report No. OA-FY-18-0065: *EPA Budget Systems Need Improved Oversight of Security Controls Testing*, Report No.20-P-0015, November 1, 2019

FROM: David A. Bloom, Deputy Chief Financial Officer **DAVID BLOOM**
Office of the Chief Financial Officer

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BLOOM
Date: 2020.04.03 13:45:27
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TO: Rudolph M. Brevard, Director
Information Resources Management Directorate
Office of Inspector General

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the issues and recommendations in the subject audit report. Following is a summary of the agency's overall position, its position on the report's open recommendation and the status and the high-level intended corrective action for the open recommendation.

OCFO'S OVERALL POSITION

The OCFO is committed to managing information technology risks and to regularly update policies and procedures to appropriately mitigate vulnerabilities. As discussed in OCFO's response to the draft report, OCFO has updated its processes for obtaining, conducting and documenting timely reviews of security assessment reports for the budget system hosting environment. As stated in our draft response, during the official Continuous Monitoring Assessment for Budget Formulation System, which took place this spring, the OCFO IT Security officials reviewed and documented the Microsoft Azure Cloud control environment where BFS is housed. OCFO has revised its internal IT Systems Governance procedures to include more detailed description of the required reviews. The updates are in the internal review process.

We will continue to work within the Office of Mission Support, Environmental Information security framework to manage common controls, review monthly InfoSec status reports and metrics, and make informed risk evaluation and authorization decisions. Controls identified as common controls, including the common control providers' portions of hybrid controls, are tested by a third-party assessor overseen by OMS. OCFO reviews all available reports and security data points when evaluating risk to OCFO's systems and has incorporated this information into its system authorization process.

OCFO'S RESPONSE TO AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

No.	Recommendation	Assigned to:	High-Level Intended Corrective Action(s)	Completion Date
2	Implement a process for obtaining and conducting the timely review of all security assessment reports for the budget system hosting environments, and document the results of these reviews.	OCFO	OCFO clarified roles, responsibilities and procedures for obtaining and conducting timely reviews of security assessment reports and documenting the results within the OMS EI information security framework. OCFO has updated the initial standard operating procedures and they are in review.	March 3, 2020

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact the OCFO's Audit Follow-up Coordinator, Andrew LeBlanc, at (202) 564-1761 or LeBlanc.Andrew@epa.gov.

Attachment

cc: Carol Terris
Paige Hanson
Maria Williams
Beth Baden
Ruth Soward
Mike Callewaert
Diane Kelty
Jeanne Conklin
Richard Gray
Aileen Atcherson
Andrew LeBlanc
Annette Morant
Donna J. Vizian
David Zeckman
Marilyn Braxton
Vaughn Noga
Jeff Wells
Robert McKinney
Sharon Gonder