



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

September 21, 2020

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Audit:
Follow-Up Audit of OIG Report No. 17-P-0368, *Improved Management of the Brownfields Revolving Loan Program Is Required to Maximize Cleanups*, issued August 23, 2017
Project No. OA-FY21-0002

FROM: John Trefry, Director
Forensic Directorate
Office of Audit

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Trefry", is placed over the typed name in the "FROM:" field.

TO: Peter Wright, Assistant Administrator
Office of Land and Emergency Management

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to begin a follow-up audit regarding the EPA's management of the Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program. This audit is self-initiated and addresses the following top management challenges for the Agency, as identified in our [EPA's FYs 2020–2021 Top Management Challenges](#) report, issued July 21, 2020:

- Complying with internal control (risk assessments, data quality, and policies and procedures).
- Overseeing states implementing EPA programs.

The OIG's objective is to determine whether the corrective actions taken by the EPA effectively addressed the identified program deficiencies in OIG Report No. [17-P-0368](#), *Improved Management of the Brownfields Revolving Loan Program Is Required to Maximize Cleanups*, issued August 23, 2017. The OIG plans to conduct work within the Office of Land and Emergency Management and select EPA regions. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our audit. The anticipated benefit of this audit is improved EPA operational efficiency in protecting human health and the environment.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objective. 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 audit. Throughout the audit, we will provide updates on a regular basis.

To expedite our audit, please be ready to provide the following information at the entrance conference:

- Closeout Agreement Template that was attached to the Office of Land and Emergency Management's June 21, 2018 memorandum titled *Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Closeout Agreement Process*, which was issued to the EPA regions.
- Updates to the October 1998 *Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Administrative Manual*, if applicable.

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 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*.

I will supervise the audit, and the project manager will be Angela Bennett. Any information related to the project should be addressed to Angela Bennett at (404) 562-9844 or bennett.angela@epa.gov or to me at (202) 566-2474 or trefry.john@epa.gov.

cc: Henry Darwin, Assistant Deputy Administrator
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