



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

October 21, 2020

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Evaluation:
EPA's Implementation of the Endocrine Disruption Screening Program
Project No. OE-FY20-0379

FROM: Jeffrey Harris, Director
Toxics, Chemical Management, and Pollution Prevention Directorate
Office of Evaluation

TO: Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Assistant Administrator
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to begin an evaluation regarding the EPA's efforts to test all active pesticides for human endocrine disruption activity. This evaluation is included in the OIG's [Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Plan](#). This evaluation also addresses the following top management challenge for the Agency, as identified in our [EPA's FYs 2020–2021 Top Management Challenges](#) report, issued July 21, 2020: complying with internal control (data quality).

The OIG's two objectives for this evaluation are to evaluate the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention's:

1. Progress in implementing Section 408(p)(3)(A) of the Food Quality Protection Act, which requires the EPA to test all active pesticides for human endocrine disruption activity.
2. Compliance with Section 408(p)(6) of the Food Quality Protection Act, which requires the EPA to take action—for example, conduct an endocrine disruption risk assessment—if testing for a pesticide shows that it disrupts the human endocrine system.

The OIG plans to conduct work within the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. 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 benefit of this evaluation is improved EPA operational efficiency in protecting human health from endocrine disruption.

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:

- Summary explanation of the EPA's plan for and progress in testing all active pesticide ingredients for endocrine disruption.
- Total number of pesticide active ingredients with current EPA registrations.
- Lists of pesticide active ingredients that:
 - Have completed Tier I endocrine disruptor screening.
 - Are pending Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program orders and data call-in notices for Tier I endocrine disruptor screening.
 - Have completed Tier II endocrine disruptor screening.
 - Are pending Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program orders and data call-in notices for Tier II endocrine disruptor screening.

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 evaluation, and the project manager will be Laretta Joseph. Any information related to the project should be addressed to Laretta Joseph at (212) 637-3049 or joseph.laretta@epa.gov or to me at (202) 566-0831 or harris.jeffrey@epa.gov.

cc: Henry Darwin, Assistant Deputy Administrator
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