

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

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

January 5, 2021

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Response to Planned Corrective Actions for Office of Inspector General

Report No. 20-E-0332, EPA Has Sufficiently Managed Emergency Responses During

the Pandemic but Needs to Procure More Supplies and Clarify Guidance,

issued September 28, 2020

FROM: Sean W. O'Donnell

TO: Peter C. Wright, Assistant Administrator

Office of Land and Emergency Management

Thank you for your November 19, 2020 memorandum, which outlines the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed alternatives, planned corrective actions, and estimated completion dates for the three unresolved recommendations issued in the subject Office of Inspector General report. The report contains four recommendations, and Recommendation 2 was previously resolved.

We agree that the Office of Land and Emergency Management's proposed alternative recommendations for Recommendations 1, 3, and 4 address most of our initial concerns with OLEM's initial response, which are listed as "OIG Comment" in your November 19, 2020 memorandum. Lastly, after further discussion, OLEM suggested changing the date for OLEM's proposed corrective action for Recommendation 3 from "within 6 months of post-pandemic return to normal operations" to June 30, 2022. We accept this revision to the corrective action for Recommendation 3. Therefore, all recommendations for the subject report are now considered resolved. You should track implementation of the corrective actions in the Agency's audit tracking system until all actions are completed.

If your or your staff have any questions, please contact Rashmi Bartlett, acting assistant inspector general for Evaluation, at (202) 566-1363 or bartlett.rekha@epa.gov; or Christina Lovingood, director of the OIG's Land Cleanup and Waste Management Directorate, at (202) 566-2906 or lovingood.tina@epa.gov.

cc: Barry Breen, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Land and Emergency Management Steven Cook, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Land and Emergency Management Kecia Thornton, Audit Follow-up Coordinator, Office of Land and Emergency Management Andrew LeBlanc, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator José Kercado, Backup Agency Follow-Up Coordinator Charles J. Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General Edward S. Shields, Associate Deputy Inspector General Katherine Trimble, Assistant Inspector General for Audit Rashmi Bartlett, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation

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