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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

March 10, 2014

SUBJECT: Follow-Up Review on OIG Report No. 12-P-0508, *EPA Inaction in Identifying Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals May Result in Unsafe Disposal*
Project No. OPE-FY14-0022

FROM: Eric Lewis, Product Line Director
Special Program Reviews, Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Inspector General (OIG) is starting a follow-up review on the EPA's actions to address the recommendations in the subject report, issued May 25, 2012. Follow-up reviews are included in our fiscal year 2014 annual plan. Our review will focus mainly on the status of corrective actions for two of the three reported recommendations (recommendations 1 and 2). For those recommendations, the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) has documented in the agency's Management Audit Tracking System that the corrective actions have been completed. Our review objectives will be to determine if EPA has established a process to review pharmaceuticals for regulation as hazardous waste and developed an outreach and compliance assistance plan for healthcare facilities managing hazardous waste pharmaceuticals (HWP) in response to recommendations 1 and 2.

The project manager will be Dwayne Crawford and the team members will be Ming Chang (team leader) and Nyquana Manning. We will contact your staff to arrange a mutually agreeable time for a kickoff meeting within 30 days from the date of the issue of this memorandum. During the meeting, we will answer any questions you have about the review process. At or before the meeting, we would like to have the following provided to us in an electronic format:

- Documented results of the identification and review of existing pharmaceuticals to determine whether they qualify for regulation as hazardous material (in response to recommendation 1).

- Documented results of the establishment of a process to review new pharmaceuticals to determine whether they qualify for regulation as hazardous materials (in response to recommendation 2).

- The point of contact information for the individual(s) we would need to meet with to discuss the status of corrective actions for each recommendation.

We will provide routine updates on the status of our review to agreed-upon contacts from your offices. If you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 566-2664 or lewis.eric@ep.gov, or Dwayne E. Crawford at (202) 566-2894 or crawford.dwayne@epa.gov.

cc: Barry Breen, Deputy Assistant Administrator, OSWER
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