

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

IAN 23 2020

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Planned Corrective Actions for Office of Inspector General Report

No. 19-P-0267, EPA Exceeded the Deregulatory Goals of Executive Order 13771,

Issued August 9, 2019

FROM:

Charles J. Sheehan, Acting Inspector General

TO:

Doug Benevento, Associate Deputy Administrator

Thank you for your October 23, 2019, response to the subject report. The report was issued with two recommendations that were both unresolved. Your response adequately addressed our recommendations.

In our report, we recommended that the Deputy Administrator:

- 1. Amend guidance for the Regulatory Reform Task Force to specify:
 - a. The frequency of meetings.
 - b. The public dissemination of progress reports and regulatory and deregulatory recommendations.
 - c. The frequency and means of stakeholder outreach.
- 2. Establish or identify an accessible portal that can provide up-to-date information on both the EPA's deregulatory and regulatory actions taken under Executive Order 13771.

Your response to our first recommendation stated that the Chair of the Regulatory Reform Task Force committed to sending—by the second quarter of fiscal year 2020 and to the members of the task force—a message that addresses the issues identified in the recommendation. Based on the fact that the existing Executive Order 13771 guidance from the Administrator was provided via email, we find that the proposed corrective action satisfies the recommendation, and we consider the recommendation resolved.

In regard to our second recommendation, your response stated that the agency will establish—by the second quarter of fiscal year 2020—a new webpage that lists final regulatory actions as they are completed. The agency already created a webpage that contains information on Executive Order 13771 deregulatory actions. The new webpage will allow the public to better track Executive Order 13771 final regulatory actions. Therefore, we find that the proposed corrective action satisfies the recommendation, and we consider the recommendation resolved.

You should track implementation of EPA corrective actions in the agency's Management Audit Tracking System until all actions are completed.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation, at (202) 566-1007 or christensen.kevin@epa.gov; or Jeffrey Harris, Director, Toxics, Chemical Management and Pollution Prevention Directorate, at (202) 566-0831 or harris.jeffrey@epa.gov.

cc: Michael Benton, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of the Administrator
Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Richard Eyermann, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Christine El-Zoghbi, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Rashmi Bartlett, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Jeffrey Harris, Director, Toxics, Chemical Management and Pollution Prevention Directorate,
Office of Inspector General