




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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

June 15, 2020

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Evaluation:
Survey of EPA On-Scene Coordinators and Managers Regarding COVID-19
Project No. OA&E-FY20-0240

FROM: Tina Lovingood, Director 
Land Cleanup and Waste Management Directorate
Office of Audit and Evaluation

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 an evaluation. This evaluation is being initiated to examine the EPA's protection of human health and the environment and protection of EPA on-scene coordinators at emergency responses during the coronavirus pandemic—that is, the SARS-CoV-2 virus and resultant COVID-19 disease.

The OIG's objectives are to determine whether the EPA:

- Has managed resources to provide continued protection of human health and the environment at emergency responses during the coronavirus pandemic.
- Provides sufficient protective measures to on-scene coordinators responding to incidents.

The OIG plans to conduct work at the Office of Land and Emergency Management and all EPA regional offices. The evaluation will be conducted using *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

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.

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 Steve Hanna. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-2906 or lovingood.tina@epa.gov, or Steve Hanna at (415) 947-4527 or hanna.steve@epa.gov.

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