

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

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

September 21, 2020

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Audit:

EPA's Process for Awarding, Overseeing, and Monitoring Loans Made Under the Water

Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act

Project No. OA-FY21-0004

FROM:

John Trefry, Director
Forensic Director Office of Audit

TO: David P. Ross, Assistant Administrator

Office of Water

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to begin the subject audit, which is self-initiated. This audit 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 (policies and procedures).

The OIG's objective is to determine whether the EPA's process for awarding, overseeing, and monitoring loan awards made under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act complies with the statute, regulations, and EPA policy. The OIG plans to conduct work within the Office of Water and select EPA regions. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our audit. The anticipated benefit of this audit is improved EPA operational efficiency in protecting human health and the environment.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objective. We would also be particularly interested in any areas of concern that you may have. We will answer any of your questions about the audit process, reporting procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the audit. Throughout the audit, 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 audit, and the project manager will be Angela Bennett. Any information related to the project should be addressed to Angela Bennett at (404) 562-9844 or bennett.angela@epa.gov or to me at (202) 566-2474 or trefry.john@epa.gov.

cc: Henry Darwin, Assistant Deputy Administrator

Doug Benevento, Associate Deputy Administrator

Mandy Gunasekara, Chief of Staff

Michael Molina, Deputy Chief of Staff/Operations

Wesley J. Carpenter, Acting Deputy Chief of Staff

Anna Wildeman, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water

Dennis Lee Forsgren Jr., Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water

Benita Best-Wong, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water

Charlotte Bertrand, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water

Andrew Sawyers, Director, Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water

Wynne Miller, Deputy Director, Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water

Raffael Stein, Director, Water Infrastructure Division, Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water

Tiffany Crawford, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Water

Andrew LeBlanc, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator

James Hewitt, Associate Administrator for Public Affairs

Lance McCluney, Director, Office of Administrative and Executive Services, Office of the Administrator

Regional Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1–10

Sean W. O'Donnell, Inspector General

Charles J. Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General

Edward S. Shields, Associate Deputy Inspector General

Eric W. Hanger, Deputy Counsel to the Inspector General

Katherine Trimble, Assistant Inspector General for Audit

Kathlene Butler, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation

Helina P. Wong, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations

Stephanie L. Wright, Acting Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Management

Christine El-Zoghbi, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation

Rashmi Bartlett, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit

James Hatfield, Associate Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit

Jennifer Kaplan, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs

Jeffrey Lagda, Congressional and Media Liaison, Office of Inspector General