



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

December 14, 2020

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Audit:
EPA's Preparedness for Providing Remote Access Services
Project No. OA-FY21-0066

FROM: Rudolph M. Brevard, Director *Rudolph M. Brevard*
Information Resources Management Directorate
Office of Audit

TO: Donna Vizian, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Mission Support

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to begin an audit regarding the EPA's preparedness for providing remote access services. This audit is self-initiated and addresses the following top management challenges for the Agency, as identified in our [EPA's FYs 2020–2021 Top Management Challenges](#) report, issued July 21, 2020: maintaining operations during pandemic and natural disaster responses and complying with key internal control requirements (risk assessments).

The OIG's objectives are to determine whether the EPA planned, developed, and implemented a long-term solution to address remote access concerns when transitioning to the General Services Administration Enterprise Infrastructure Solutions Contract. The OIG plans to conduct work with the Office of Mission Support and selected EPA program offices, as needed. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our audit. The anticipated benefit of this audit is to improve the efficiency of the EPA's network connectivity during periods of increased telework.

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 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 team lead will be Albert Schmidt. Any information related to the audit should be addressed to Albert Schmidt at (202) 566-0363 or schmidt.albert@epa.gov or to me at (202) 566-0893 or brevard.rudy@epa.gov.

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