## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General

21-E-0071 February 9, 2021

# At a Glance

#### Why We Did This Evaluation

This evaluation was performed to assess the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board's compliance with performance measures outlined in the fiscal year 2020 inspector general reporting instructions for the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014.

The SB & Company LLC was contracted to perform this evaluation under the direction and oversight of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Inspector General.

The FY 2020 IG FISMA Reporting Metrics outlines and provides potential ratings for security function areas to help federal agencies manage cybersecurity risks.

## This report addresses the following:

 Preserve the public trust by maintaining and improving organizational excellence.

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List of OIG reports.

### CSB's Information Security Program Is Not Consistently Implemented; Improvements Are Needed to Address Four Weaknesses

### **What We Found**

The SB & Company assessed the effectiveness of the CSB's information security program at "Level 2, Defined." A Level 2 designation means that the CSB's policies, procedures, and strategies are formalized and

The CSB has not consistently implemented its information security program's policies, procedures, and strategies.

documented but not consistently implemented. While the CSB has policies, procedures, and strategies in place for information security, the SB & Company identified the following four weaknesses:

- The CSB did not have a governance structure to facilitate an organizationwide risk-management monitoring and reporting process.
- The CSB did not have a documented process that defines requirements for remediating flaws, including using a plan of actions and milestones to monitor the required remediation from initiation to resolution.
- The CSB did not have processes to provide privacy awareness training to all users and specialized training for individuals who support information security- or technology-related areas.
- The CSB discontinued information recovery testing and off-site backup storage during the coronavirus pandemic—that is, the SARS-CoV-2 virus and resultant COVID-19 disease. These issues were initially identified in OIG Report No. <u>21-E-0016</u>, CSB Discontinued Information Recovery Testing and Off-Site Backup Storage During the Coronavirus Pandemic, issued November 18, 2020.

Appendix A contains the results of the FISMA assessment.

### **Recommendations and Planned Corrective Actions**

The SB & Company made five recommendations to the CSB. The CSB agreed with the recommendations and provided acceptable corrective actions. Corrective action is pending for Recommendations 1 and 2 and completed for Recommendations 3, 4, and 5.