



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

February 24, 2021

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Audit Cancellation:
EPA's Administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act Program
Project No. [OA&E-FY19-0292](#)

FROM: Leah Nikaidoh, for
John Trefry, Director
Forensic Directorate
Office of Audit

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leah Nikaidoh", is positioned to the right of the "FROM:" field.

TO: Donna Vizian, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Mission Support

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is canceling the subject audit. The objective of this OIG-initiated audit was to determine whether the EPA is effectively managing its Federal Employees' Compensation Act program to ensure that it pays only valid claims for continuation of benefits and that adequate case management exists.

During the entrance conference for this audit, which was held on August 29, 2019, the Office of Mission Support requested that we suspend the audit until January 2020 to accommodate both its year-end work and its efforts to respond to other audits. We formally suspended the audit on December 4, 2019. On January 14, 2020, we notified the Office of Mission Support that we were resuming the audit. On April 2, 2020, the Office of Mission Support again requested that we suspend the audit for the duration of the coronavirus pandemic plus at least two months to allow its staff to resettle after returning to regular business operations. We suspended the audit once again on April 3, 2020.

At this late point, due to our since-intervening new priorities—such as OIG's focus on the impacts of the pandemic on agency programs and operations—we will not resume the audit and are therefore canceling it. The preliminary research we conducted did not constitute an audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards, and no report will be issued to the EPA.

We will post this memorandum on our public website at www.epa.gov/oig.

cc: Dan Utech, Chief of Staff
Wesley J. Carpenter, Deputy Chief of Staff
Avi Garbow, Special Advisor to the Administrator

Lynnann Hitchens, Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Administration and Resources
Management, Office of Mission Support
Dan Coogan, Acting Director, Office of Resources and Business Operations, Office of
Mission Support
Mara Kamen, Director, Office of Human Resources, Office of Mission Support
Andrew LeBlanc, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
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Lindsay Hamilton, Associate Administrator for Public Affairs
Lance McCluney, Director, Office of Administrative and Executive Services, Office of
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