



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



Press Statement

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Inspector General
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Statement of EPA Inspector General Sean O'Donnell on House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations Hearing

Today's hearing shines a light on the very real risks of financial waste, fraud, and abuse in massive supplemental appropriations like the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act and underscores the importance of Inspector General oversight of these historic investments. The work my office has done to date to oversee the EPA's implementation of IIJA funds illustrates the proactive and comprehensive approach Inspectors General can take to improve efficiency and deter fraud in government programs when they receive dedicated oversight funding. Conversely, the lack of such funding in the IRA, combined with years of stagnant budgets, has left us unable to provide commensurate oversight of IRA funding. Adequately funding Inspectors General is critical to protecting precious taxpayer dollars, increasing the likelihood that appropriated funds will achieve their intended purpose, and ensuring the integrity of government agencies.

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The OIG is an independent office within the EPA that performs audits, evaluations, and investigations of the EPA and the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, and their contractors. For more information, visit [our website](#) and follow the OIG on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Anyone with knowledge of potential waste, fraud, and abuse relating to EPA operations and programs is encouraged to report it to the [OIG Hotline](#) at 1-888-546-8740 or OIG_Hotline@epa.gov.