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The EPA Office of Inspector General Identifies that the EPA Needs to Improve Its Reporting in USAspending.gov

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General today issued a [report](#) identifying that the EPA’s initial reporting of its fiscal year 2022 spending in USAspending.gov was not complete and accurate. The Agency underreported its award-level obligations by \$1.2 billion and underreported its award-level outlays by \$5.8 billion.

This occurred because the EPA Office of the Chief Financial Officer did not follow its own information technology configuration management procedures and either failed to implement or incorrectly implemented necessary changes to the system that facilitates the Agency’s USAspending.gov reporting. In addition, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer lacked procedures to detect errors and to confirm the completeness and accuracy of the data that it reported.

As a result of this audit, the EPA corrected its fiscal year 2022 reporting in USAspending.gov and made the necessary configuration changes to improve the accuracy and completeness of its future reporting. However, the lack of complete and accurate reporting initially misinformed taxpayers about the EPA’s spending, and policymakers who relied on the data may not have been able to effectively track federal spending.

“Taxpayers should be able to rely on USAspending.gov for complete and accurate information on how their tax dollars are spent,” said Inspector General Sean W. O’Donnell. “Transparency in Agency spending promotes accountability in, and demonstrates responsibility by, the EPA to the taxpayers who paid the bill and the policymakers who allocated the funds.”

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About the EPA OIG

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. For more information, visit [our website](#) and follow the OIG on [X](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#). 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 (888) 546-8740 or OIG.Hotline@epa.gov.