




OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

July 16, 2024

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification:
Evaluation of the Use of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funds for Drinking
Water Security Projects
Project No. OSRE-FY24-0105

FROM: Lindsay Clarke Brubaker, Director 
Environmental Infrastructure Oversight Directorate
Office of Special Review and Evaluation

TO: Bruno Pigott, Acting Assistant Administrator for Water

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General plans to begin an evaluation on the use of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funds for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund projects designed to strengthen the water sector's systems against physical and cyber threats and hazards. This evaluation addresses the following fiscal year 2024 [top management challenge](#) for the Agency: overseeing, protecting, and investing in water and wastewater systems.

Our objective is to determine the extent to which Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act supplemental funds are used for projects that improve resilience to physical and cyber threats and hazards. We plan to conduct work in the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water within the Office of Water and in selected EPA regional offices, as necessary. We will conduct the evaluation using *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. The anticipated benefits of this evaluation include an improved ability to focus support on the most needed areas to achieve long-term and sustainable delivery of safe drinking water.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objective. At that time, we can discuss any concerns that you may have and answer any questions about the evaluation process, reporting procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the evaluation. Throughout the evaluation, we will provide updates on a regular basis.

We respectfully note that the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, authorizes the OIG to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete our objectives. Similarly, EPA Manual 6500, *Functions and Activities of the Office of Inspector General* (1994), requires that each EPA employee cooperate with and fully disclose information to the OIG. Additionally, Administrator Michael

S. Regan, in a June 17, 2024 email to EPA employees, stated that “it is the duty of all EPA personnel to cooperate fully with the OIG and to provide information the office needs to fulfill its oversight responsibilities.” He also indicated that the “OIG’s independent oversight of our agency makes it an indispensable partner in our efforts to protect public health and the environment.” If an Agency employee or contractor refuses to provide requested materials to the OIG or otherwise fails to cooperate with the OIG, we will request that you immediately resolve the situation. Consistent with the Inspector General Act, we may report unresolved access matters to the administrator and to Congress.

We will post this memorandum on our public website at www.epaoig.gov. Anyone with knowledge of potential fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement related to this evaluation should contact the OIG Hotline at (888) 546-8740 or via an electronic form on the “OIG Hotline” [webpage](#).

cc: Janet McCabe, Deputy Administrator
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Wesley J. Carpenter, Deputy Chief of Staff for Management, Office of the Administrator
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