




**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

April 7, 2025

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Notification:  
Evaluation of the Status of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act-Funded  
Brownfield Site Cleanups  
Project No. OSRE-FY25-0052

**FROM:** Gabby Fekete, Director  
Programs, Offices, and Centers Oversight Directorate  
Office of Special Review and Evaluation 

**TO:** Barry Breen, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator performing delegated duties as  
the Assistant Administrator  
Office of Land and Emergency Management

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General plans to begin an evaluation of the status of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act-funded brownfield site cleanups. Our objective is to determine whether American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grants for cleaning up brownfield sites achieved the Brownfields Program intent of cleaning up and reusing these sites. We plan to conduct work within the Office of Land and Emergency Management and all the EPA regions. We will conduct the evaluation using *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

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 Lee Zeldin, in a February 7, 2025 email to EPA employees, said that “the OIG requires information and assistance from EPA managers and staff on a regular basis” and outlined his expectation that EPA employees “report waste, fraud, and abuse to the OIG.” He explained that this “responsibility to report appropriate activity to the OIG is one of the most important and successful means the OIG has for

identifying and stopping wrongdoing” and that review and oversight enable the Agency to be more effective in achieving its mission. 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](http://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: Chad McIntosh, Acting Deputy Administrator  
Travis Voyles, Assistant Deputy Administrator  
Eric Amidon, Chief of Staff, Office of the Administrator  
Wesley J. Carpenter, Deputy Chief of Staff for Management, Office of the Administrator  
Steven Cook, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Land and Emergency Management  
Mark Sanborn, Regional Administrator, Region 1  
Michael Martucci, Regional Administrator, Region 2  
Catherine Libertz, Acting Regional Administrator, Region 3  
Kevin McOmber, Regional Administrator, Region 4  
Cheryl Newton, Acting Administrator, Region 5  
Scott Mason IV, Regional Administrator, Region 6  
Jim Macy, Regional Administrator, Region 7  
Cyrus Western, Regional Administrator, Region 8  
Josh F.W. Cook, Regional Administrator, Region 9  
Emma Pokon, Regional Administrator, Region 10  
Susan Perkins, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator  
Andrew LeBlanc, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator  
José Kercado, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator  
Molly Vaseliou, Associate Administrator for Public Affairs  
Terrance Jackson, Director, Office of Administrative and Executive Services, Office of  
the Administrator  
Audit Follow-Up Coordinators  
Nicole N. Murley, Acting Inspector General  
Erica Kavanagh, Associate Deputy Inspector General performing the duties of the Deputy Inspector  
General  
Paul H. Bergstrand, Assistant Inspector General for Special Review and Evaluation