



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

May 29, 2025

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification:
Lessons Learned from Prior Oversight Related to the EPA's Rulemaking
Project No. OSRE-FY25-0070

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

TO: Travis Voyles, Assistant Deputy Administrator

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General plans to begin a review of previously published federal oversight reports related to EPA rulemaking. Our objective is to describe the lessons we identify from select EPA OIG and U.S. Government Accountability Office reports to help inform the EPA's future rulemaking efforts. We will conduct our review using *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

We will contact the audit liaisons in the relevant program offices to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objective. At that time, we can answer any questions about our review process, reporting procedures, and methods used to gather and analyze data. Throughout our review, 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. Anyone with knowledge of potential fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement related to this review should contact the OIG Hotline at (888) 546-8740 or via an electronic form on the "OIG Hotline" [webpage](#).

cc: Eric Amidon, Chief of Staff, Office of the Administrator
Wesley J. Carpenter, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Administrator
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