




UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

February 2, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Notification of Evaluation:  
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Agencies' Perspectives on Their Capacity to  
Manage Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funds  
Project No. OSRE-FY23-0043

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

**TO:** Radhika Fox, Assistant Administrator  
Office of Water

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to begin an evaluation of Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, or DWSRF, agencies' perspectives on their capacity to manage Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, or IIJA, funds. This evaluation is part of the OIG's [\*Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Oversight Plan\*](#). This evaluation also addresses the following fiscal year 2023 [top management challenges](#) for the Agency: managing increased investment in infrastructure.

Our objectives are to identify (1) DWSRF agencies' perspectives on their capacity to manage IIJA funds and (2) obstacles that DWSRF agencies' administrators believe limit their capacity to manage IIJA funds. We plan to conduct work within the Office of Water and with DWSRF agencies across all regions. The evaluation will be conducted 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 identifying possible risks or challenges facing DWSRF agencies' capacity to manage IIJA funds. Such risks and challenges could adversely impact the DWSRF agencies' ability to effectively manage and implement federal grants. Given the billions in additional funding that will flow to DWSRF agencies pursuant to the IIJA, it is important that the EPA understands their current and future capacity to administer and manage the funds. Further, it is important for the EPA to know whether it could provide additional technical assistance or administrative support. This knowledge would enable the EPA to focus its support in the most needed areas.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives. We would also be particularly interested in any areas of concern that you may have. We will answer any of your 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. To expedite our evaluation, before or at the entrance conference, please be ready to provide an updated list of all DWSRF program directors and administrators from the states and Puerto Rico.

We respectfully note that the OIG is authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete its 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. Also, Administrator Michael S. Regan, in an April 28, 2021, email message to EPA employees, conveyed his “expectation that EPA personnel provide OIG timely access to records or other information” and observed that “full cooperation with the OIG is in the best interest of the public we serve.” We will request that you immediately resolve the situation if an Agency employee or contractor refuses to provide requested materials to the OIG or otherwise fails to cooperate with the OIG. We may report unresolved access matters to the administrator and include the incident in the *Semiannual Report to Congress*.

We will post this memorandum on our public website at [www.epa.gov/oig](http://www.epa.gov/oig). 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](#).

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