

Semiannual Report to Congress:

October 1, 2024–March 31, 2025

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Index of Inspector General Act Semiannual Reporting Requirements

Requirement	Subject	Addressed in
Section 5(a)(1)	Description of significant problems, abuses, and deficiencies relating to programs and operations and associated reports and recommendations for corrective action	Section 2.1
Section 5(a)(2)	Identification of each recommendation made before the reporting period for which corrective action has not been completed and potential cost savings associated with the recommendation	Section 1.3 and Appendix 3
Section 5(a)(3)	Summary of significant investigations closed during the reporting period	Section 2.2
Section 5(a)(4)	Identification of the total number of convictions during the reporting period resulting from investigations	Section 3.1
Section 5(a)(5)	A list identifying each audit, inspection, or evaluation report issuing during the reporting period; along with the total value of questioned costs (to include unsupported costs); total value of recommendations that funds to put to better use; and whether a management decision had been made by the end of the reporting period	Appendix 1
Section 5(a)(6)	Information regarding any management decision made during the reporting period with respect to an audit, inspection or evaluation report issued during a previous reporting period	Appendix 2
Section 5(a)(7)	Information described under section 804(b) of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996	Section 1.3
Section 5(a)(8–10)	Information with respect to peer reviews conducted	Appendix 5
Section 5(a)(11–12)	Statistics on investigative reports, referrals, prosecutions, and indictments	Section 3.1
Section 5(a)(13)	Information with respect to substantiated investigations involving senior government employees	Section 2.2 and Appendix 4
Section 5(a)(14)	Information with respect to instances of whistleblower retaliation	Section 2.3
Section 5(a)(15)	Detailed description of any establishment attempts to interfere with OIG independence; summary of each report made to the agency head under Inspector General Act section 6(c)(2)	Section 2.3
Section 5(a)(16)	Detailed description of closed audits, inspections, and evaluations, as well as of closed investigations involving senior employees, not disclosed to the public	Section 2.1 and Appendix 4

Source: Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended.

Abbreviations

C.F.R.	Code of Federal Regulations
CSB	U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FY	Fiscal Year
GS	General Schedule
IIJA	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
IRA	Inflation Reduction Act
OIG	Office of Inspector General
PFAS	Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances
Pub. L.	Public Law
U.S.C.	United States Code

Cover Image

From top to bottom: Image of three yellow school buses, representing our oversight of the Clean School Bus Program; image of an EPA OIG special agent in uniform during an arrest and search of a premise, representing our Office of Investigations' fraud fighting efforts; and image of a red "Water" main cover, representing our oversight of water infrastructure funds, projects, and requirements. (EPA OIG image, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Homeland Security Investigations image, and EPA OIG image)

Are you aware of fraud, waste, or abuse in an EPA or CSB program?

EPA Inspector General Hotline

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2431T)
Washington, D.C. 20460
(888) 546-8740
OIG.Hotline@epa.gov

Learn more about our [OIG Hotline](#).

EPA Office of Inspector General

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2410T)
Washington, D.C. 20460
(202) 566-2391
www.epaoig.gov

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Send us your [Project Suggestions](#).

Message to Congress

I am pleased to present the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report to Congress for the period of October 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. This report highlights our unwavering commitment to preventing and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse and promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in EPA and U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board programs and operations.



Nicole N. Murley

Protecting Taxpayer Dollars. During this semiannual period, we safeguarded taxpayer dollars by identifying nearly \$2 billion in potential monetary impact in the EPA's operations. For example, in October, we issued an evaluation report identifying that the EPA used inaccurate and unverified data to determine its allocation of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, or IIJA, funding for lead service line replacements in fiscal years 2023 and 2024. This led to nearly \$1 billion in funding being misallocated or at risk of being misallocated. In addition, an audit report outlined the EPA's failure to ensure that Clean School Bus funding was properly allocated and accounted for, identifying more than \$800 million that the EPA was not properly monitoring. This finding created concerns regarding the accuracy and reliability of the Agency's recording of Clean School Bus Program funds and was also highlighted by two material weaknesses identified in our audit of the EPA's consolidated financial statements for fiscal years 2024 and 2023 (restated). Meanwhile, another audit identified that inconsistent grants management led to approximately \$20 million in unawarded funds in the EPA's Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program—dollars that could potentially be put to better use.



Fighting Fraud. We continued to ramp up our fraud-fighting efforts throughout the reporting period by leveraging data-driven and innovative methods to root out misconduct and mismanagement in EPA operations—especially in programs receiving funding from the IIJA and Inflation Reduction Act, or IRA. These efforts proved successful. Overall, our investigative work resulted in two dozen criminal charges; helped secure three criminal convictions related to fraud in EPA operations; and resulted in \$357,161 in fines, penalties, and restitutions. In addition to fraud detection, another critical part of our mission is fraud prevention. We alerted the Agency to key vulnerabilities in the cybersecurity of large drinking water facilities serving millions of Americans that, if exploited, could degrade functionality, cause loss of service, or facilitate theft of information. Additionally, we continued our proactive outreach to EPA staff and other stakeholders who will manage, receive, or oversee EPA funds to raise awareness of fraud prevention and mitigation strategies and highlight the OIG Hotline as a means for reporting suspected wrongdoing or mismanagement. During this reporting period alone, we provided 62 fraud awareness briefings to more than 1,800 stakeholders across the country.

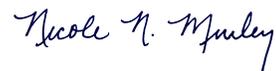
Improving Efficiency and Effectiveness. We issued several reports that underscored the need for stronger internal controls and clearer guidance to improve the Agency’s overall efficiency and effectiveness. One report found that poor data management was limiting EPA oversight of state-run Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs, warning that incomplete or inconsistently stored data could compromise the Agency’s ability to track subrecipients and contractors effectively. In another report, we pointed to a lack of finalized information technology security policies and procedures, highlighting deficiencies that could leave EPA systems more vulnerable to cyberthreats and out of step with federal requirements. We also flagged the need to clarify and improve EPA guidance for implementing the Build America, Buy America Act requirements in IIJA projects, as well as for provisions for addressing emerging contaminants. All in all, we provided the Agency 45 recommendations during this reporting period, leading to key policy changes, costs avoided, and money saved.

Providing IIJA and IRA Oversight. The IIJA and IRA provided the EPA more than \$100 billion in supplemental funding for programs aimed at improving public and environmental health. Our IIJA work, which is funded with dedicated IIJA oversight dollars, has uncovered longstanding systemic issues that are now surfacing in the EPA’s IIJA programs. In just three years, we have already provided a return of nearly \$40 in monetary impact for every \$1 of IIJA oversight funding spent. However, the IRA did not include dedicated funding for OIG oversight, limiting the level of impact and oversight we can provide. We nevertheless believe oversight in this space is critical and are redirecting core resources to investigate an increasing volume of OIG Hotline complaints alleging potential fraud, waste, or abuse in IRA programs and to initiate audit and evaluation work. This reporting period, we launched two IRA oversight projects—an audit of an EPA contractor funded with IRA and IIJA dollars and an audit of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund’s Solar for All Program.

Continuing Our Mission. As we move forward into the second half of fiscal year 2025 and beyond, we recognize that many changes are taking place that could affect both the Agency’s staffing and programs. As these changes take root, we will assess their impacts as part of our annual oversight work. We will also continue providing objective oversight on issues with broad importance to the Agency, Congress, and the

public. Our upcoming reports will dive into key issues such as water infrastructure, lead-based paint, grants management, workforce planning, and the Agency's deployment of ASPECT flight technology during the train derailment emergency in East Palestine, Ohio.

In closing, I am incredibly proud of the dedication and hard work of our team. The accomplishments of this office are the direct result of our auditors, evaluators, investigators, attorneys, and professional staff working together with purpose and integrity. Together, we will continue our mission to deliver effective oversight to help the Agency achieve meaningful, lasting improvements and ensure that the American taxpayers receive the greatest value from their investment in EPA programs.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole N. Murley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicole N. Murley
Acting Inspector General

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Section 1: Overview



1.1 About the EPA, the CSB, and the OIG

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is to protect human health and the environment. According to the EPA’s website, to carry out its mission, the Agency develops and enforces regulations, provides grants, researches environmental issues, sponsors partnerships, educates people about the environment, and publishes information about its activities.

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board is an independent federal agency that investigates chemical incidents to determine the cause or probable cause. According to the CSB website, the agency’s mission is “to drive chemical safety excellence through independent investigations to protect communities, workers, and the environment.”

The EPA Office of Inspector General

The EPA Office of Inspector General’s mission is to prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse and to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in Agency programs and operations. Our office was created pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. §§ 401–424. Since 2004, Congress has designated the EPA inspector general to also serve as the CSB inspector general. As such, in accordance with the Inspector General Act, we keep the EPA, CSB, and Congress “fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to the administration” of EPA and CSB programs and operations, as well as about “the necessity for and progress of corrective action.”

Our Vision

Engaged oversight professionals inspiring innovation.

Our Mission

To drive change by fighting fraud, promoting ethical conduct, and recommending improvement in the environmental space.

Our Goals

1. Be an employer of choice within the oversight community.
2. Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of our oversight and business processes.
3. Deliver high-impact oversight results.

Our People

Our staff consists of auditors, program analysts, investigators, social scientists, and other professionals. With strategic locations throughout the United States, we can quickly begin oversight in response to environmental emergencies and can ensure continuity of operations.

1.2 OIG Strategic Planning

The OIG’s strategic planning documents guide us as we design and execute audits, evaluations, inspections, and investigations. When determining which audits, evaluations, inspections, and investigations to undertake, we consider how our oversight work supports the EPA’s and the CSB’s mission-related efforts. Some of our work is required by law, some is discretionary, and some follows up on the corrective actions that the EPA and CSB have implemented to verify their responsiveness to prior OIG recommendations. In this semiannual report, we identify what aspect of the Agency’s mission each report addresses (); whether the work was statutorily mandated (); and whether we provide supplemental materials for each report, such as a video or podcast (.

The OIG’s Fiscal Year 2024–2028 Strategic Plan

Report No. [24-N-0059](#) | Updated February 21, 2025

During this semiannual period, we updated our *EPA OIG Strategic Plan 2024–2028*, which documents our five-year vision and our mission, along with three strategic goals and related objectives that focus on (1) our people, (2) our processes, and (3) our products. Developed with input from our component offices, this strategic plan outlines a unified direction for our office and clear expectations for success as we work toward our strategic goals of delivering impactful oversight results, improving our effectiveness and efficiency, and becoming an employer of choice.

Office of Investigations Overview and Investigative Priorities

Report No. [24-N-0016](#) | Issued January 17, 2024 | 

Our *Investigative Priorities* document describes the primary areas of focus for our Office of Investigations. We identified four investigative priorities for fiscal year 2024: environmental infrastructure, grant fraud, program fraud, and laboratory fraud. These priorities are subject to change as new challenges and risks evolve and emerge. To identify these investigative priorities, we considered the missions of the EPA and the CSB; the budgetary priorities set forth by Congress; observations from previous investigative work; emerging vulnerabilities in the drinking water and wastewater sectors; and projects being planned or funded through the American Rescue Plan Act; the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, or IIJA; and the Inflation Reduction Act, or IRA.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Oversight Plan—Year Four

Under Development

The IIJA, Pub. L. 117-58 (2021), provides the EPA with approximately \$60 billion for infrastructure related purposes, including geographic programs, state and tribal assistance grants targeting clean water initiatives, brownfields, Superfund, pollution prevention, and recycling. We have received IIJA funds that will allow us to perform dedicated oversight of the EPA’s execution of IIJA programming for over ten years. We are developing our Year Four oversight plan, which will guide our audits, evaluations, and oversight engagements so that we provide effective oversight of EPA programs receiving or impacted by IIJA funds. Each spring, we also produce an IIJA Progress Report that highlights our efforts to implement our IIJA Oversight Plan.

1.3 Analysis of Unimplemented Recommendations

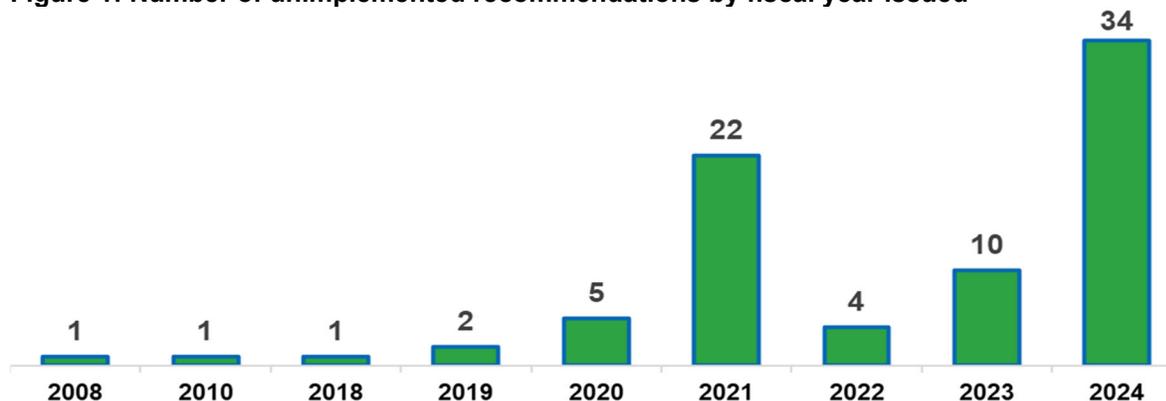
OIG audits and evaluations provide recommendations to improve EPA or CSB programs and operations. The EPA, the CSB, and the public benefit from the implementation of these recommendations, which address a range of human health, environmental, and administrative and business operations issues. Before issuing a final report that contains recommendations, the OIG distributes a draft report to the EPA or the CSB, identifying a lead official for each recommendation included in the report. The lead officials can then respond to the draft report findings and recommendations. For the final report, which is posted on the OIG’s website, the OIG analyzes the responses received and indicates whether each recommendation is:

- **Unresolved.** The EPA or the CSB disagrees with the recommendation or did not provide a formal, complete written response to the recommendation, or the OIG disagrees that the Agency’s proposed corrective actions are responsive to the recommendation.
- **Resolved.** The EPA or the CSB and the OIG agree upon the recommendation and proposed corrective actions, but the corrective actions have not yet been completed. These recommendations are also called open recommendations and are considered unimplemented, regardless of whether their expected due dates are in the past or the future. [Appendix 3](#) lists the unimplemented recommendations issued prior to this semiannual reporting period.
- **Completed.** The EPA or the CSB and the OIG agree upon the recommendation and proposed corrective actions, and the EPA or the CSB has fully completed them. These recommendations are also called closed recommendations.

Section 5(a)(2) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, as amended by the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, requires that we identify each recommendation described in previous semiannual reports for which corrective action has not been completed, including the potential cost savings associated with the recommendation.¹ Potential cost savings as used in this report means the total of questioned costs plus funds to be put to better use. For this semiannual report, we analyzed actions taken by the EPA and the CSB regarding recommendations described in past reports, and we identified those that remained unimplemented as of March 31, 2025: 80 for the EPA and zero for the CSB. Figure 1 shows when these unimplemented recommendations were originally issued to the EPA. As shown in Table 1, the potential cost savings of the 80 recommendations issued to the EPA are over \$43 million.

¹ Effective December 27, 2022, the Inspector General Act of 1978 was reorganized and codified as 5 U.S.C. §§ 401–424; the requirements for the semiannual report to Congress appear in 5 U.S.C. § 405. Section 5273 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, however, amended the semiannual reporting requirements as they had appeared in section 5 of the Inspector General Act prior to the codification. These revisions are not yet codified in 5 U.S.C. § 405 and instead appear in the statutory notes as amendments not shown in the text. Accordingly, citations to particular semiannual reporting requirements will reflect the specific subsection of section 5 of the Inspector General Act and a general parallel citation to 5 U.S.C. § 405.

Figure 1: Number of unimplemented recommendations by fiscal year issued



Source: OIG analysis of OIG reports issued before the current reporting period. (EPA OIG image)

Table 1: EPA and CSB unimplemented recommendations

Agency	Number of unimplemented recommendations	Potential cost savings associated with unimplemented recommendations (\$)
EPA	80	43,324,000.00
CSB	0	0.00
Total	80	43,324,000.00

Source: OIG analysis of OIG final reports, EPA response memorandums, inspector general responses, and the EPA’s Enterprise Audit Management System. (EPA OIG table)

Table 2 breaks down the 80 unimplemented recommendations issued to the EPA according to their potential health, environmental, and business benefits and their associated potential cost savings if the EPA implements the recommendations. [Appendix 3](#) includes the full text of the unimplemented recommendations, including the potential cost savings for each recommendation.

Table 2: EPA unimplemented recommendations

Category	Number of unimplemented recommendations	Potential cost savings associated with unimplemented recommendations (\$)
Administrative and Business Operations	16	10,124,000.00
Human Health and Environmental Issues	64	33,200,000.00
Total	80	43,324,000.00

Source: OIG analysis of OIG final reports, EPA response memorandums, inspector general responses, and the EPA’s Enterprise Audit Management System. (EPA OIG table)

Section 5(a)(7) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires that we provide information described under section 804(b) of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996. In our audit of the Agency’s FYs 2024 and 2023 (Restated) Consolidated Financial Statements, we determined that the “results of our tests did not disclose any instances of noncompliance with [Federal Financial Management Improvement Act] requirements, including where the Agency’s financial management systems did not substantially comply with the applicable federal accounting standard.” Similarly, the audit of the 2024 and 2023 CSB financial statements were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, there is no information or outstanding corrective actions to report with respect to the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996.

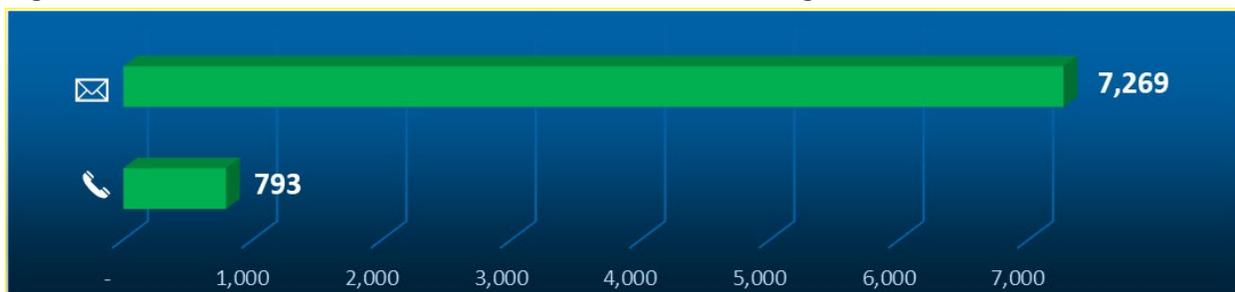
1.4 The OIG Hotline

The Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 420, requires each OIG to maintain a direct link on the homepage of its website for individuals to report fraud, waste, and abuse. Individuals may also report complaints to the EPA OIG via telephone, email, and postal mail. We refer to these means of receiving information collectively as the “OIG Hotline.” The purpose of the hotline is to receive complaints, including whistleblower disclosures, of fraud, waste, or abuse in EPA and CSB programs and operations, including mismanagement or violations of laws, rules, or regulations by Agency employees or program participants. The OIG also encourages people to use the hotline to submit suggestions for assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of Agency programs. Anyone may submit complaints and suggestions, including EPA and CSB employees, participants in EPA and CSB programs, Congress, organizations, and the public. As a result of these contacts, the OIG may conduct audits, evaluations, inspections, and investigations.

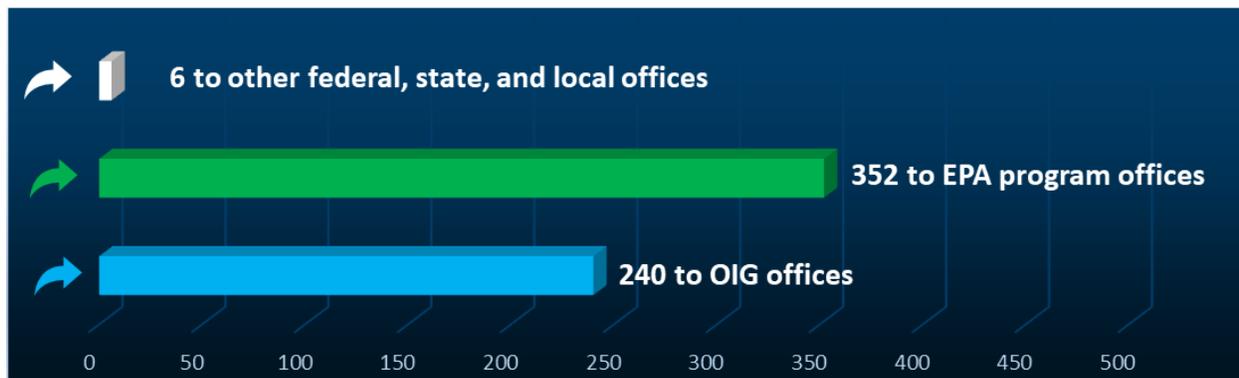
Hotline Statistics

The figures below detail the number and types of contacts that the hotline received and referred for review by OIG investigation, audit, and evaluation staff; EPA program offices; and other government agencies during this semiannual period. In this semiannual period, the OIG made 598 referrals from the 8,062 contacts we received. A contact can be referred to more than one entity. We refer contacts related to an agency program or operation but unrelated to potential fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement to the appropriate EPA or CSB office. As applicable, we attempt to refer contacts unrelated to the EPA or the CSB to the appropriate government agency. More information about our hotline operations can be found on our [website](#). Figures 2 through 4 provide a breakdown of the OIG's referrals and contacts made this semiannual period.

Figure 2: Hotline contacts received from October 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025



Source: OIG Hotline data. (EPA OIG image)

Figure 3: Hotline referrals made from October 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025

Source: OIG Hotline data. (EPA OIG image)

Figure 4: Hotline referrals by category from October 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025

Source: OIG Hotline data. (EPA OIG image)

Hotline Confidentiality

Individuals who contact the hotline are not required to identify themselves and may request anonymity or confidentiality when submitting allegations. However, the OIG encourages those who report allegations to identify themselves so that they can be contacted if the OIG has additional questions. Pursuant to the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 407, the OIG will not disclose the identity of an EPA or CSB employee who provides a complaint or certain information to our office, including whistleblower disclosures, unless that employee consents or the inspector general determines that such disclosure is unavoidable during an investigation. As a matter of policy, the OIG will provide comparable protection to employees of contractors, grantees, and others who make a complaint or provide information to the OIG and request confidentiality. Also pursuant to the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 420, the OIG will not

disclose the identity of an individual who provides information via the OIG’s online complaint form unless the individual consents or the inspector general determines that such disclosure is unavoidable during an investigation. This protection applies to anyone submitting information via the online complaint form, regardless of whether the individual is an EPA or CSB employee. Individuals concerned about confidentiality or anonymity with regard to electronic communication may submit allegations by telephone or regular mail.

To report potential fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement, contact the OIG Hotline:

Online

Hotline complaint [form](#)

Email

OIG.Hotline@epa.gov

Phone

(888) 546-8740

Mail

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Inspector General
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Mail Code: 2410T
Washington, D.C. 20460



WHISTLE BLOWING



Want to talk about it?

To reach the EPA whistleblower protection coordinator, contact:

Email

whistleblower_protection@epa.gov

Phone

(202) 566-1513

1.5 Scientific Integrity and Misconduct

Scientific integrity at the EPA helps ensure that the science conducted, communicated, and used across the Agency is of the highest quality. Scientific integrity is crucial because it safeguards science to ensure that it is objective and rigorous.

The EPA issued its first *Scientific Integrity Policy* in February 2012 and an updated [Scientific Integrity Policy](#) in January 2025. The policy sets the expectation that EPA employees will represent their contributions to scientific work fairly and will neither accept nor assume unauthorized or unwarranted credit for another’s accomplishments. The policy further requires that employees design, conduct, manage, evaluate, and report scientific research honestly and thoroughly. It also sets the expectation that all EPA employees will report any allegations of losses of scientific integrity. The EPA’s Scientific Integrity Program consists of the EPA’s scientific integrity official, deputy scientific integrity officials from each of the EPA’s program and regional offices, and program staff who support implementing the *Scientific Integrity Policy*.

“The agency has a longstanding commitment to scientific integrity. The EPA’s ability to pursue its mission to protect human health and the environment depends upon the integrity of the science upon which it relies. The EPA’s Scientific Integrity Policy does not bind decision-makers to particular policy outcomes but rather lays out processes and practices to ensure that the best available science is presented to agency decision-makers and informs the agency’s work. The environmental policies, decisions, guidance, and regulations that impact the lives of people living in the United States every day must be grounded in robust, independent, high-quality science.”

—[Scientific Integrity Policy](#) Section II

The OIG has a critical role in protecting the Agency’s adherence to scientific integrity. As an independent office, the OIG can receive complaints of mismanagement, misconduct, abuse of authority, or censorship, including those related to “scientific misconduct” or “research misconduct.” Such misconduct includes fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research or reporting research results. Through its statutory mandate, the OIG can investigate these allegations. Also, the OIG may refer scientific integrity allegations that it receives to the scientific integrity official. The scientific integrity official and OIG staff meet every two weeks to discuss the status of cases, as appropriate, as well as other scientific integrity-related issues.

To facilitate transparency, we continue our practice, started in our *Semiannual Report to Congress* in the fall of 2020, of providing a summary of scientific integrity oversight at the Agency. The following subsections report the status of scientific integrity allegations received by the scientific integrity official and scientific misconduct allegations received by the OIG.

Scientific Integrity Allegations and Advice Queries Received by the Scientific Integrity Official

The EPA's Scientific Integrity Program engages with Agency staff who raise potential scientific integrity concerns through two mechanisms: (1) advice and assistance to provide early intervention for the purpose of preventing lapses in scientific integrity and (2) a procedure for reporting and adjudicating allegations.

This semiannual period, the scientific integrity official reported that the Scientific Integrity Program received four new allegations and 14 new advice queries. Also, during this semiannual period, 15 allegations were closed or resolved. As of March 31, there were three open allegations from this semiannual reporting period and 13 open allegations from prior reporting periods.

Scientific Misconduct Allegations Received and Investigated by the OIG

At the beginning of the semiannual period, the OIG had 12 open cases involving potential scientific misconduct. The OIG received three complaints with allegations involving potential scientific misconduct from Agency employees and other sources during this semiannual period and opened three new investigations. As of March 31, 2025, three investigations were closed. The OIG had no relevant results of investigation that it conducted or oversaw to report to the Agency for a determination of appropriate action.

EPA Order [3120.5](#) contains the Agency's policy and procedures for addressing research misconduct, including the requirement for EPA employees to immediately report to the OIG any allegation of research misconduct that involves:

- Public health or safety being at risk.
- Agency resources or interests being threatened.
- Circumstances in which research activities should be suspended.
- Reasonable indication of possible violations of civil or criminal law.
- Federal action being required to protect the interests of those involved in an investigation.
- A research entity's belief that an inquiry or investigation may be made public prematurely, so that appropriate steps can be taken to safeguard evidence and protect the rights of those involved.
- Circumstances in which the research community or public should be informed.

Additionally, EPA Manual 6500, *Functions and Activities of the Office of Inspector General*, states, "[e]ach employee is responsible for promptly reporting indications of wrongdoing or irregularity to the OIG and for cooperating and providing assistance during any audit or investigation." [Coordination procedures](#) between the scientific integrity official and the OIG, which specify how the OIG and the Agency will work together to share information and investigate research misconduct, state that upon receiving a research

misconduct allegation, the scientific integrity official will refer the allegation to the OIG Hotline. Likewise, if the OIG receives an allegation of research misconduct, OIG staff will contact the scientific integrity official to discuss the allegation, as appropriate. As noted above, the scientific integrity official and OIG staff also meet every two weeks to discuss the status of cases, as appropriate, as well as other scientific integrity-related issues.

In FY 2022, the OIG initiated discussions with the Agency to revise the coordination procedures between the OIG and the Agency's Scientific Integrity Program related to information sharing on scientific integrity. Despite years of negotiation, the Agency continues to resist the OIG's proposed language addressing allegations of interference and censorship by senior Agency employees, as well as allegations of other employee misconduct. We have several concerns with changes the Agency proposed to the OIG's revised coordination procedures. In July 2024, we provided the Agency with a written overview of these concerns and requested a meeting to discuss the matter. In January 2025, we met with Office of Research and Development leadership to discuss the OIG's concerns. As of the end of this semiannual reporting period, the Office of Research and Development had not provided any proposal for addressing the OIG's concerns. Revised coordination procedures are essential to clarify the OIG's access rights and to ensure that scientific integrity concerns, as well as allegations of other wrongdoing, are routed to the proper office and addressed in the most efficient and effective manner.

At the beginning of FY 2023, the OIG began issuing monthly information requests to the Agency's Scientific Integrity Program to ensure that the OIG is receiving all relevant information on potential scientific integrity concerns. In January 2024, the Agency agreed to provide this information to the OIG without the need for a formal information request for a period of six months while the OIG and the Agency work to finalize the revised coordination procedures. As of the end of the reporting period, the Agency has continued to provide this information monthly.

1.6 Inspector General Testimony

During this semiannual reporting period, Acting Inspector General Nicole N. Murley testified before one congressional committee regarding the OIG’s oversight work.

February 26, 2025: Testimony before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, Committee on Energy and Commerce, U.S. House of Representatives

As one of four witnesses at this hearing, Acting Inspector General Murley testified regarding the OIG’s oversight of over \$100 billion in funding provided to the EPA under the IRA and the IIJA. She explained the OIG’s oversight mission and discussed long-standing challenges that the OIG has observed in EPA programs and operations. She pointed to systemic internal control issues that the OIG has flagged, such



Acting Inspector General Nicole N. Murley testifying before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, House Committee on Energy and Commerce, on February 26, 2025. (EPA OIG image)

as weak data quality, insufficient verification processes, and failure to monitor grantee spending. These issues, she testified, have “shown up in new and costly ways in the EPA’s IIJA programs” and are very likely affecting EPA IRA programs as well. As examples, she highlighted the OIG’s oversight work relating to the state revolving funds and the Clean School Bus Program, which identified how inaccurate data, inconsistent guidance, missing state audit reports, and ineffective rebate programs led to unacceptable risks of waste, fraud, and abuse for billions of taxpayer dollars.

**Section 2:
Work Accomplished During the
Semiannual Period**



2.1 Oversight Work

Summaries of the reports that we issued during the semiannual period, along with the associated recommendations, are detailed below. Section 5(a)(1) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires “a description of significant problems, abuses, and deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations of the establishment” as well as the related reports and recommendations for corrective action. Section 5(a)(16)(A) of the Act requires that we provide a detailed description of closed audits, inspections, and evaluations not previously disclosed to the public; we do not have any such instances to report.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

The IIJA was signed into law on November 15, 2021. Overall, the IIJA appropriates approximately \$60 billion to the EPA for FY 2022 through 2026, most of which is available until expended. The IIJA also provides for OIG oversight of these funds. To keep the public apprised of our IIJA oversight work, we maintain a [webpage](#), “EPA OIG Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Oversight.” The webpage features our EPA IIJA spending dashboard, links to our *IIJA Oversight Plan* and *IIJA Progress Reports*, and lists our ongoing and completed infrastructure oversight work.

IIJA Investigative Work

Table 3 highlights the IIJA investigative work that we undertook this semiannual reporting period.

Table 3: IIJA-related investigative activity

Investigative activity	Number of cases
Cases open as of October 1, 2024	4
Cases opened during period	4
Cases closed during period	3
Cases open as of March 31, 2025	5

Source: OIG investigations. (EPA OIG table)

IIJA Audit and Evaluation Work

Inadequate Execution of the 7th DWINSA Lead Service Line Questionnaire Led to Flawed Data Being Used to Allot Lead Service Line Replacement Funds

Report No. [25-E-0002](#) | Issued October 21, 2024 | 

 Ensuring clean and safe water

The design and execution of the 7th Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment did not result in allotments of IIJA lead service line funds that accurately reflected the lead-service-line-replacement needs in each state. The survey’s lead service line questionnaire lacked the rigorous internal controls needed to ensure data quality and reliability, and the EPA had a minimal data verification process for the questionnaire responses. As a result, the EPA inaccurately projected the

number of lead service lines in both states whose data we reviewed (Florida and Texas), leading to \$343.73 million of questionable allotments to those two states for FY 2023. For its allotments of FY 2024 IJIA lead service line funds, the EPA corrected Texas’s data errors, but it based Florida’s allotment on data that did not align with our findings, leading to an additional \$200.03 million in questioned costs. Furthermore, if the EPA does not address these data issues before it allots Florida’s FYs 2025 and 2026 IJIA lead service line funds, that would result in \$400.06 million of funds that could be put to better use in states whose replacement needs merit greater allotment percentages. All told, we identified \$943.82 million in questioned costs and funds that could be put to better use. Flawed data and questioned allotments for Texas and Florida alone carry financial implications for the entire country, as an inflated projection for just one state means that fewer IJIA funds are available to other states.



Utility employees working on a lead service line. (EPA image)

Health impacts of lead

Life stage	Effects
Children	Behavior and learning problems. Lower IQ and hyperactivity. Slowed growth. Hearing problems. Anemia.
Pregnant Women	Reduced growth of the fetus. Premature birth.
Adults	Cardiovascular effects. Increased blood pressure and incidence of hypertension. Decreased kidney function. Reproductive problems in both men and women.

Source: OIG summary of information in the EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water’s *Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water*. (EPA OIG table)

Recommendations issued to the assistant administrator for Water

No.	Recommendation
1	Develop a process to identify unreliable lead service line data obtained from both the 7th Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment and future lead service line data collection efforts.
2	Based on the process from Recommendation 1, identify actions necessary to address unreliable lead service line data and determine whether further data updates are needed to inform Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act lead service line allotments for fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026. This should include identifying opportunities to adjust Texas’s fiscal year 2023 allotment and assessing whether Florida’s fiscal year 2024 allotment is appropriate for fiscal years 2025 and 2026.
3	If updates are necessary and appropriate based on the determination from Recommendation 2, adjust the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act lead service line allotments for fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2026 so that the allotted funds are commensurate with the lead-service-line-replacement needs of each state.

Management Implication Report: Poor Data Management Hinders Oversight of State Clean and Drinking Water Revolving Fund Programs

Report No. [25-N-0002](#) | Issued October 28, 2024

According to an OIG survey, states are not uniformly collecting and storing their Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund subrecipient and contractor data in structured machine-readable formats, nor are they using data analytics to detect or prevent procurement fraud or bid rigging. Storing data in unstructured formats, such as scanned PDFs, makes it difficult to perform automated data analytical reviews, which means that both the EPA and OIG must employ more resources to oversee the state revolving funds. While we did not issue any recommendations in this report, we suggested that the EPA explore how to ensure that states and subrecipients are collecting and storing federal award-related information in open and machine-readable formats.

The EPA Should Improve Monitoring of 2022 Clean School Bus Rebate Recipients' Use of Funds and Deployment of Buses and Infrastructure

Report No. [25-P-0007](#) | Issued December 4, 2024 | 

 Improving air quality; operating efficiently and effectively

The EPA did not monitor bus deployment status and recipient use of over \$836 million of 2022 Clean School Bus Program rebates, despite stating it would do so in the *2022 Clean School Bus (CSB) Rebates Program Guide*. As of June 2024,² only 6.1 percent of the schools that received rebates in 2022 had completed their rebate closeouts. Fifty-nine percent of schools we reviewed were in the process of installing the infrastructure necessary to operate the new clean buses. Additionally, the EPA did not provide guidance to recipients on how funds should be managed. Contrary to multiple OIG briefings on strategies to reduce fraud risk, the EPA allowed recipients to keep CSB funds in accounts with other funds or earn interest on rebate funds while they wait to pay the final invoices, which increased the risk of program funds and interest earned being used for other purposes.



Electric bus temporary charging station.
Source: EPA OIG photo.

Recommendations issued to the assistant administrator for Air and Radiation

No.	Recommendation
1	Develop and implement guidance for Clean School Bus Program personnel on reviewing Clean School Bus rebate recipients' use and management of rebate funds.
2	Establish clear guidelines for Clean School Bus rebate recipients to adhere to regarding the management of rebate funds.

² Project closeout materials were due by October 31, 2024.

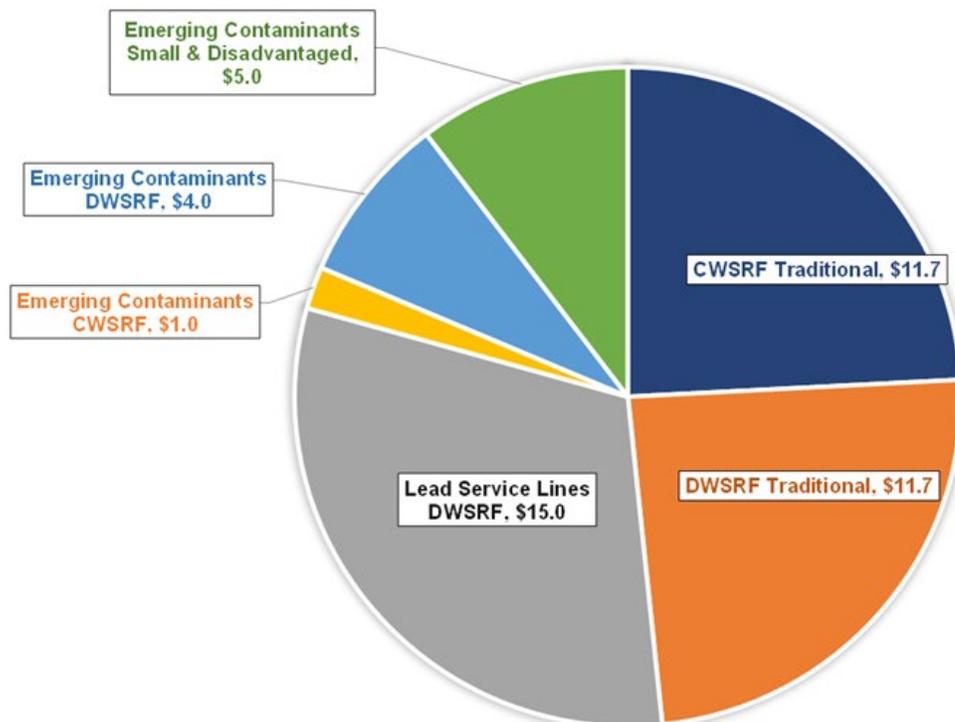
EPA Guidance Addresses Implementation Requirements for Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Emerging Contaminants Funding, but Clarification Is Needed Before More States Spend Funds

Report No. [25-P-0015](#) | Issued February 12, 2025

Ensuring clean and safe water

EPA guidance to state agency officials for use of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for emergency contaminants generally addresses IJIA emerging contaminants provisions. These provisions include focusing on projects that address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, which are commonly known as PFAS. However, guidance does not detail allowable ranking and funding levels of non-PFAS projects. Further, the EPA guidance does not adequately describe how to process transfers between the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. Without adequate guidance, states may inconsistently process transfers between their state revolving funds.

EPA IJIA water infrastructure funding in billions



Notes: CWSRF = Clean Water State Revolving Fund. DWSRF = Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.
 Source: OIG analysis of the EPA’s “FACT SHEET: EPA & The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law” webpage.
 (EPA OIG adaptation of EPA image)

Recommendations issued to the assistant administrator for Water

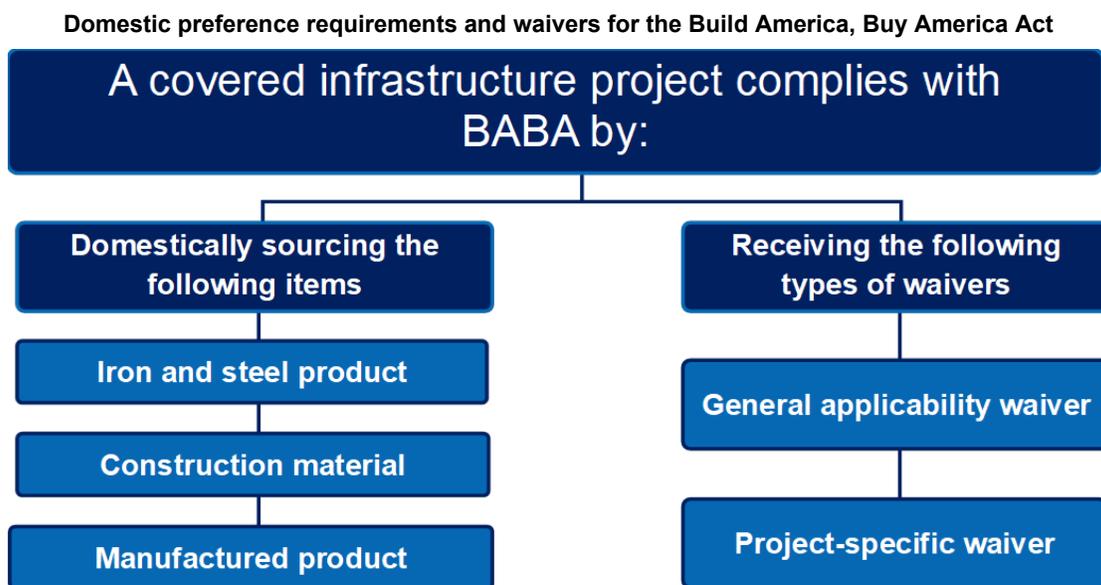
No.	Recommendation
1	Provide clarification to state agency staff on their discretion to prioritize non-per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances over per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances projects, based on the most serious risk to human health.
2	Provide supplemental guidance to the EPA regions and the state revolving fund managers on processing transfers between the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Clean Water State Revolving Fund involving Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funds to address emerging contaminants.
3	Provide additional training on the supplemental guidance to EPA regional and state agency staff in a timely manner.

Evaluation of the EPA Office of Water’s Guidance to State Revolving Fund Programs for Implementing the Build America, Buy America Act Requirements

Report No. [25-E-0016](#) | Issued February 19, 2025 | 

 Ensuring clean and safe water

While the Office of Water issued two memorandums on implementing the Build America, Buy America Act requirements, its guidance related to manufactured products, documenting compliance, the consequences for noncompliance, using current waivers, and applying for new waivers was not sufficient. Rather than issuing additional guidance to address these gaps, the Office of Water waited for the Office of Management and Budget to update its guidance for federal agencies. Without additional guidance, state revolving fund program administrators and manufacturers had concerns about complying with the Act’s requirements. After the Office of Management and Budget updated its guidance, the Office of Water shared related information with its stakeholders during a presentation. However, the Office of Water did not incorporate this information into its guidance. Insufficient guidance can hinder water infrastructure project planning and implementation and may delay the use of IJJA funds for such projects.



Note: BABA = Build America, Buy America Act.
Source: OIG analysis of the IJJA BABA requirements. (EPA OIG image)

Recommendations issued to the assistant administrator for Water

No.	Recommendation
1	Develop and issue guidance that clarifies how to determine whether an item should be classified as a manufactured product and how to determine the cost of manufactured product components. The guidance should include other resources, such as job aids, examples, or flow charts.
2	Develop and issue guidance for documenting compliance with the Build America, Buy America Act requirements. The guidance should provide more detail on the potential consequences for noncompliance and include real-world scenarios and other job aids or resources.
3	Develop and issue guidance that explains how the adjustment period waiver impacts multiyear projects.
4	Develop and issue clarifying guidance on the Build America, Buy America Act waiver request and determination process. The guidance should include job aids.

Evaluation of Institutional Control Documentation in the Superfund Enterprise Management System on IIJA-Funded Sites

Report No. [25-E-0020](#) | Issued March 19, 2025

Cleaning up and revitalizing land; operating efficiently and effectively

Institutional controls are a key part of many long-term cleanup actions taken to prevent or minimize the release or spread of hazardous substances at a Superfund site. However, EPA staff do not consistently populate institutional control data in the Superfund Enterprise Management System, and the system upgrade is unlikely to improve this documentation. Of the 70 Superfund sites we reviewed, 29 sites had implemented institutional controls, 52 sites had planned institutional controls, 15 sites had a combination of both, and four sites had neither. However, just over half of the sites with implemented institutional controls and over three quarters of the sites with planned institutional controls did not have any institutional control data in the system’s module designed to hold such data. These numbers are notable because the Superfund sites with missing implemented or planned institutional control data have been allocated a total of approximately \$483 million and \$956 million in IIJA funds, respectively. Without complete and accurate data in the Superfund Enterprise Management System, the EPA cannot effectively use the system for programwide oversight, reporting, or meaningful decision-making regarding institutional controls.

Types of institutional controls

Proprietary controls: Controls that prohibit or restrict use of or activities on private property. They are made with the agreement of the property owner and an enforcement authority. Examples include restrictive covenants and easements.

Governmental controls: Restrictions that a governmental entity imposes on resource or land use. Examples include zoning, building codes, and groundwater-use regulations or restrictions.

Informational devices: Information and notifications provided to local communities, site users, or other interested persons that indicate that residual contamination remains on site. Examples include state registries of contaminated sites, deed notices, tracking systems, fish- and shellfish-consumption advisories, and signage.

Enforcement and permit tools controls: Legal tools that limit site activities or require performance of specific activities. Examples include federal facility agreements and consent decrees.

4 of 10 regions receiving approximately \$663 million in IIJA funds do not update the “Institutional Controls” module.



Recommendations issued to the assistant administrator for Land and Emergency Management

No.	Recommendation
1	Distribute guidance to regions regarding the purpose, use, and maintenance of institutional control data in the Superfund Enterprise Management System 2.0 “Institutional Controls” module.
2	Develop a process to ensure that the Superfund Enterprise Management System 2.0 “Institutional Controls” module data remain current and up to date.
3	Direct the regions to conduct a timely review of the information in the “Institutional Controls” module for all Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act-funded Superfund sites to ensure that the data are complete and accurate.
4	Require the regions to enter data into the Superfund Enterprise Management System 2.0 “Institutional Controls” module during their five-year reviews.
5	Update Superfund Enterprise Management System 2.0 so that users can track planned institutional controls at Superfund sites or identify another mechanism that enables users to report on the status of planned or implemented institutional controls at Superfund sites programwide.

Human Health and Environmental Issues

The EPA Left \$20 Million Unawarded in the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program

Report No. [25-P-0014](#) | Issued February 10, 2025

 Ensuring clean and safe water

The EPA did not consistently manage its Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program in accordance with some applicable laws, regulations, policies, and guidance. The EPA had not awarded approximately \$20 million of approximately \$110 million allocated to states within the program for FY 2020 through FY 2022, as of January 10, 2024. In addition, the EPA failed to meet its statutory requirement to submit a report to Congress, provided insufficient justification on required merit review worksheets, and allowed a cost share to be imposed on a grant that should have been exempt because the community to benefit was financially distressed.



Wastewater outfall, Fourmile Creek, Iowa.
Source: U.S. Geological Survey.

Recommendations issued to the assistant administrator for Water

No.	Recommendation
1	Update the implementation guidance for the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program to include procedures to award and reallocate funds in a timely manner, and work with regions to accelerate the award of program funds.
2	Improve program reporting in the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completing the required report to Congress. Populating established data storage platforms with information to facilitate reporting on the program, such as that required by Congress. Establishing controls to ensure that in the future regions post all program grant files, including annual and final reports, to the appropriate established electronic mechanism. Updating the program implementation guidance to include electronic document storage requirements.
3	Implement control steps to ensure that grant applications for the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program are adequately reviewed. This may include updating guidance provided to the regions; establishing procedures for verifying cost-share requirements; and holding regular, program-specific collaborative meetings between headquarters and regional program personnel.
4	Examine Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program grants awarded prior to the EPA's issuance of guidance in November 2022, to determine whether grants align with the nonfederal cost-share flexibilities described in the guidance, and amend grants, if appropriate.

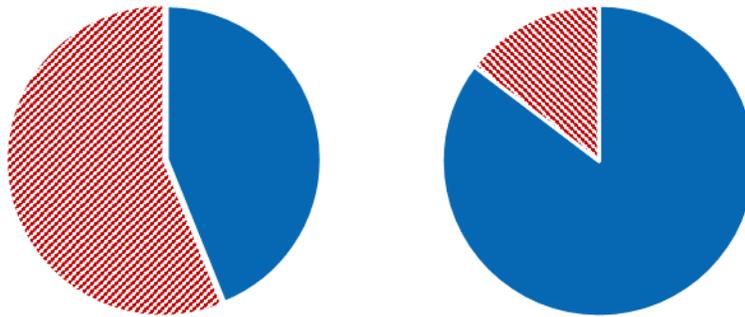
Recommendations issued to the regional administrator for Region 7

No.	Recommendation
5	Amend the grant to Nebraska (SO-97792201-0) to remove the cost-share requirement in order to comply with the cost-share requirement imposed by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the flexibility described in the EPA's November 2022 guidance memorandum, Amendments to the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program and Allocation of Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Funding.

Accessing Superfund Five-Year Reviews Listed in the EPA’s Annual Reports to Congress

Report No. [25-N-0022](#) | Issued March 26, 2025

Five-year reviews for 56 percent of federal facility Superfund sites and 15 percent of nonfederal facility Superfund sites listed in the EPA’s 2021, 2022, and 2023 Superfund five-year review reports to Congress are not publicly available, despite the EPA stating in those annual reports that the reviews can be found on its “Search for Superfund Five-Year Reviews” webpage. A five-year review provides critical information to the public on the effectiveness of the remedy being implemented at the site and whether that remedy is or will be protective of human health and the environment. We did not issue any recommendations in this report.



From left to right: 56 percent of federal facility and 15 percent of nonfederal facility five-year reviews are not publicly available.

Business Practices and Accountability

Independent Audit of the EPA's Fiscal Years 2024 and 2023 (Restated) Consolidated Financial Statements

Report No. [25-F-0010](#) | Issued November 15, 2024 |  

 Operating efficiently and effectively

We rendered an unmodified opinion on the EPA's consolidated financial statements for FYs 2024 and 2023 (restated), meaning that they were fairly presented and free of material misstatement. We noted three material weaknesses and one significant deficiency resulting in over \$989 million in potential monetary benefits. The material weaknesses were that the EPA did not have adequate internal controls in place to record 2022 Clean School Bus Rebates Program funds, the EPA did not develop an adequate process for the Clean School Bus Rebates Program accrual calculation, and the EPA significantly understated Superfund State Contract accrual revenue. The significant deficiency was related to the EPA's inventory management process. We also reported instances of noncompliance with provisions of Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-123, Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-136, and Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards 1.

Recommendations issued to the chief financial officer

No.	Recommendation
1	Develop guidance, including an Office of the Chief Financial Officer checklist, to review, evaluate, and determine the accounting treatment and financial management considerations for new and modified programs.
2	Develop and implement a methodology for calculating Clean School Bus Rebates Program accrual calculations.
3	Return to the original methodology involving the calculation of the Superfund State Contract accrual to recognize the revenue amount of \$115,272,077.64.
8	Develop and implement an assessment process to assess and improve internal controls over operations, reporting, and compliance.
9	Develop a governance structure to implement risk management and internal processes, including a process to define risk appetite.
10	Develop and implement a plan to complete annual risk profiles to identify risks arising from Agency programs and operations.
11	Update the accounting model for the Clean School Bus Rebates Program to comply with federal reporting requirements.
12	Develop guidance on recording the payments for the Clean School Bus Rebates Program in the EPA's accounting system.
13	Reconcile the advances and expenses quarterly for the Clean School Bus Rebates Program.

Recommendations issued to the assistant administrator for Mission Support

No.	Recommendation
4	In conjunction with the chief financial officer, develop and implement a standardized intake process for receipt of personal property, including application of property decals, as provided in EPA Manual 4832, Personal Property Manual.
5	In conjunction with the chief financial officer, develop and implement a process for capitalized personal property accountability records to include control logs or other similar accounting mechanisms, to be properly reconciled quarterly with the financial control accounts.
6	In conjunction with the chief financial officer, reconcile the \$5,454,962.57 worth of personal property held as rejected in EPA's accounting system.
7	In conjunction with the chief financial officer, reconcile the \$40,610,646.43 that was recorded in construction in-progress in the proper account.

Independent Audit of the EPA’s Fiscal Years 2022 and 2021 (Restated) Toxic Substances Control Act Service Fee Fund Financial Statements

Report No. [25-F-0017](#) | Issued February 26, 2025 | 

 Operating efficiently and effectively

The OIG rendered a qualified opinion on the EPA’s FYs 2022 and 2021 Toxic Substances Control Act Service Fee Fund financial statements, meaning that, except for material errors in expenses and income from other appropriations and earned and unearned revenue, the statements were fairly presented. We noted two material weaknesses: the EPA materially understated Toxic Substances Control Act income and expenses from other appropriations, and the EPA materially misstated Toxic Substances Control Act earned and unearned revenue. We noted one significant deficiency: the EPA needs to improve its financial statement preparation process. We noted one instance of noncompliance with laws and regulations: the EPA did not publish an annual chemical risk evaluation plan for calendar year 2022.

Recommendations issued to the chief financial officer

No.	Recommendation
1	Correct the calculation in the Toxic Substances Control Act FY22-08A on-top adjustment to accurately capture the amounts for financial statement line items “Income from Other Appropriations” and “Expenses from Other Appropriations.”
2	Provide training to appropriate staff on the standard operating procedures for calculating the income and expenses from other appropriations on-top adjustment.
3	Correct the earned revenue and unearned revenue balances in the fiscal year 2022 Toxic Substances Control Act Service Fee Fund financial statements.
4	Develop and implement accounting models to properly record and track Toxic Substances Control Act Service Fee Fund earned revenue- and unearned revenue-related activity.
5	Develop and implement a plan to strengthen and improve the preparation and management review of the financial statements.
6	Correct the errors in the fiscal year 2022 Toxic Substances Control Act Service Fee Fund financial statements.

Recommendation issued to the assistant administrator for Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

No.	Recommendation
7	Develop and implement a plan to publish chemical risk evaluation plans at the beginning of each calendar year, as required by the Toxic Substances Control Act.

Independent Audit of the EPA’s Fiscal Years 2023 and 2022 Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Fund Financial Statements

Report No. [25-F-0018](#) | Issued March 5, 2025 | 

 Operating efficiently and effectively

The OIG rendered an unmodified opinion on the EPA’s FYs 2023 and 2022 Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Fund financial statements, meaning that the statements were fairly presented and free of material misstatement. We did not identify any matters that we consider to be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in the fund. We did not identify any instances of noncompliance with laws and regulations in the fund. We did not issue any recommendations in this report.

Independent Audit of the EPA’s Fiscal Years 2023 and 2022 (Restated) Pesticides Reregistration and Expedited Processing Fund Financial Statements

Report No. [25-F-0019](#) | Issued March 12, 2025 | 

 Operating efficiently and effectively

We rendered an unmodified opinion on the EPA’s FYs 2023 and 2022 (restated) Pesticides Reregistration and Expedited Processing Fund—also known as the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Fund, financial statements—meaning that the statements were fairly presented and free of material misstatement. However, we noted one material weakness: The EPA materially misstated the on-top adjustment involving the fund’s income and expenses from other appropriations by over \$3 million because EPA personnel captured certain amounts that should not have been part of the calculation for the on-top adjustment. We did not identify any instances of noncompliance with any applicable laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements. In addition, the Agency complied with the statutory performance measures.

Recommendations issued to the chief financial officer

No.	Recommendation
1	Correct the calculation in the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act 23-06A on-top adjustment to accurately capture the amounts for footnote 9, “Income and Expenses from Other Appropriations (Restated).”
2	Develop and implement standard operating procedures for calculating Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Fund income and expenses from other appropriations.

OIG Report to the Office of Management and Budget on the EPA’s and CSB’s Implementation of Recommendations Related to Purchase and Travel Card Programs

Report No. [25-N-0012](#) | Issued January 30, 2025 | 

In FY 2024, we did not perform a purchase or travel card program audit, review, or assessment for the EPA or the CSB. Also, we reported that as of January 30, 2025, the EPA and the CSB did not have any outstanding recommendations related to travel and purchase card programs. We did not issue any recommendations in this report.

OIG Report to the Office of Management and Budget on the EPA’s Semiannual Report on Purchase Card Violations

Report No. [25-N-0013](#) | Issued January 30, 2025 | 

The EPA reported no government purchase card violations from April 2024 to September 2024. We confirmed that no information inconsistent with the EPA’s report came to our attention, and we did not receive any allegations of misuse of the government purchase card. We did not issue any recommendations in this report.

U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

The CSB Complied with Improper Payment Requirements in Fiscal Year 2023

Report No. [25-P-0001](#) | Issued October 16, 2024 | 

The CSB complied with improper payment requirements in FY 2023. The CSB's combined outlays for all programs totaled \$8.988 million. The CSB performed a risk assessment that revealed no unknown payments and a gross improper payment totaling \$23,651, or 0.26 percent of total outlays, in the following expense categories: payroll, lodging taxes, sales taxes, and purchases. We did not issue any recommendations in this report.

U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board Fiscal Years 2024 and 2023 Financial Statement Audit

Report No. [25-F-0011](#) | Issued November 15, 2024 | 

 Create and maintain an engaged, high-performing workforce

Allmond & Company rendered an unmodified opinion on the CSB's FYs 2024 and 2023 financial statements, meaning that the statements were fairly presented and free of material misstatements. Allmond & Company identified one instance of noncompliance for FY 2024 that the CSB did not formally report: an Antideficiency Act violation related to improper treatment of its office lease obligation.

Recommendation issued to CSB management

No.	Recommendation
1	Report the Antideficiency Act violation involving the office lease agreement to the President, Congress, and the Comptroller General.

2.2 Investigative Work

Section 5(a)(3) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires a summary of significant investigations that were closed during the reporting period. We also report investigations that have not yet been officially closed but in which there has been significant activity, including convictions or guilty pleas, during the reporting period. Section 5(a)(13) of the Inspector General Act requires that we report on each investigation involving a senior government employee in which allegations of misconduct were substantiated.

Closed Significant Investigations

State Revolving Funds Returned to Georgia City That Fell Victim to a Business Email Compromise Scheme

On January 10, 2024, the OIG received information that a city in Georgia was the victim of a business email compromise scheme, which in March 2023 had caused a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan payment of almost \$225,000 to be misdirected from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority to an unknown and suspected fraudulent bank account. The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund is an EPA-administered financial assistance program to help water systems and states achieve the health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act by providing low interest loans for drinking water infrastructure projects. Working in conjunction with the U.S. Attorney's Office and the associated banking entities, the OIG was able to administratively freeze the suspected fraudulent account and returned the full amount of funds back to the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority in July 2024. The investigation was closed in October 2024.

Individual from New York Ordered to Pay Increased Restitution for Unlawful Sale of Unregistered Pesticide Wipes

On September 11, 2024, an individual from Brooklyn, New York, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York to one year of probation and 100 hours of community service and was ordered to pay \$67,447 in restitution and a \$9,500 fine for violating the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. On April 17, 2024, the individual pleaded guilty to one count of the unlawful sale of unregistered and misbranded pesticide and paid \$100,000 in forfeiture. According to the individual's plea agreement, from July 2020 through April 2022, the individual used fraudulent representations to sell more than 22 million unregistered pesticide wipes for a profit of more than \$1.2 million. On December 19, 2024, the court issued an amended judgement that raised the restitution to \$104,650.60.

This was a joint investigation with the EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

Colorado Nonprofit Program Director and Contracting Company Owner Sentenced and Debarred for Money Laundering

On October 31, 2024, a Colorado individual was sentenced in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico to two years of supervised release and ordered to pay restitution of \$242,210, jointly and severally with the codefendant, after pleading guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud and money laundering. The individual was the program director of a nonprofit organization, which was funded by federal agencies, including the EPA and the U.S. Department of the Interior, and whose goal was to

protect and restore wildlife, natural resources, and ecosystems in the American West. The program director manipulated the codefendant, who was the owner of a contracting company, into participating in the scheme. On October 3, 2024, the codefendant pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud; was sentenced to three years of probation; and was ordered to pay restitution of \$242,210, jointly and severally. From February 2015 through April 2019, the program director and the codefendant conspired to inflate hours billed and created fraudulent invoices, which the nonprofit organization paid with federal grant funds. As part of the scheme, the codefendant provided the program director with pre-signed blank checks, which the program director used to pay another company under the director's control. On March 12, 2025, the EPA Suspension and Debarment Official debarred the nonprofit program director and the company under the program director's control for ten years. On that same day, the codefendant and the contracting company were debarred for five years.

This was a joint investigation with the Department of the Interior OIG.

Open Significant Investigations

Former Production Manager for North Carolina Chemical Processing Company Pleaded Guilty to Knowingly Discharging Pollutants into the Cape Fear River

On January 14, 2025, a former production manager for a chemical processing company pleaded guilty in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina to knowingly discharging chemical pollutants into the Cape Fear River, in violation of the Clean Water Act. While employed at the chemical processing company's main facility, which is located next to the Cape Fear River in Navassa, North Carolina, the former production manager oversaw movement of the company's pollutants and various waste products. Five to six times per year from 2020 to 2024, the former production manager released approximately 2,500 gallons of liquid wastewater from a tank via a hose into the Cape Fear River. The former production manager is scheduled to be sentenced in 2025 after this semiannual reporting period.

This is a joint investigation with the EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

Thirteen Individuals Charged with Creating Shell Businesses to Fraudulently Obtain Money from Government Agencies, Organizations, and Companies

On December 5, 2024, and December 12, 2024, 11 defendants were charged in superseding indictments in the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland with conspiracy to commit money laundering, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h). These individuals are expected to be sentenced in 2025 after this semiannual reporting period, along with two other individuals who pleaded guilty in the same court on July 29, 2024, and September 16, 2024, to the same charges.

According to the indictments, the defendants allegedly created and used limited liability companies and other shell businesses to open bank accounts for the purpose of receiving money that they fraudulently obtained from government agencies, organizations, and companies, including an environmental trust overseen by the EPA, an urban redevelopment program, a medical center, a transportation-and-logistics company, a school district, a college, a county government, and other victims. The defendants deceived the victims into sending money to them by, for example, providing the victims with false bank account

information for legitimate vendor payments or with false wire transfer information for legitimate transactions. The defendants and their coconspirators then allegedly concealed and disguised the nature and source of the money through cash withdrawals, cashier's check purchases, debit card transactions, and transfers to other bank accounts controlled by the coconspirators.

This is a joint investigation with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Homeland Security Investigations, the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division, and the U.S. Department of Defense OIG Defense Criminal Investigative Service.

Montana Property Manager and Company Pleaded Guilty to Charges Related to Lead-Based Paint Disclosures and Mitigation at Fort Harrison Veteran Housing

On November 5, 2024, a Montana real estate agent and property manager pleaded guilty in the U.S. District Court for the District of Montana to one count of knowing endangerment for failing to provide required lead-based paint disclosures from September 2019 through September 2021 to veterans residing in housing at Fort Harrison in Helena, Montana. As a result, the veterans and their families were exposed to significant levels of lead. Additionally, a hazardous-material-mitigation company based in Kalispell, Montana, pleaded guilty to filing false requests for payment to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for abatement of lead paint. Specifically, the company submitted eleven subcontractor requisitions for payment claiming that it had performed lead-based paint work when it had not. These requisitions were submitted through other companies to the Department of Veterans Affairs and paid for with federal funds. Sentencing for both the property manager and the company is scheduled for 2025 after this semiannual reporting period.

This is a joint investigation with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development OIG, Department of Veterans Affairs OIG, and the EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

Two North Carolina Individuals Sentenced for Conducting Fraudulent Vehicle Inspections

On March 26, 2025, a North Carolina individual pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina to knowingly, intentionally, and fraudulently conspiring with others to conduct fraudulent vehicle inspections in violation of the Clean Air Act. On November 7, 2024, another coconspirator, a North Carolina businessperson, was sentenced in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina to a \$40,000 fine and three years of probation, with the first year of probation under home confinement and 15 days of intermittent confinement following home detention. The businessperson pleaded guilty to conspiring to violate the Clean Air Act and making false statements in connection with conducting fraudulent inspections of almost 15,000 vehicles over a five-year period. Specifically, from about January 2018 to August 2023, the businessperson procured or renewed inspections for these vehicles, changing the counties of registration to counties that do not require vehicle emissions testing. The businessperson and others profited from this scheme and artifice by charging the vehicle owners well more than the typical cost of a bona fide vehicle registration.

This is a joint investigation with the EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

Two New Jersey Businesspersons Arrested for Allegedly Submitting Payment Applications for Lead Service Line Replacement Work That Was Not Performed

On October 3, 2024, the chief executive officer and the foreperson of a company based in Newark, New Jersey, were arrested and charged in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey with

conspiracy to commit wire fraud related to the Newark Lead Service Line Replacement Program. In 2016, high levels of lead were found in the drinking water of some Newark schools. From 2017 to 2019, periodic testing of Newark’s drinking water by the EPA and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection showed lead levels that were among the highest of any major U.S. city. In March 2019, Newark announced plans to replace approximately 18,000 lead service lines and hired contractors, including the company at issue, to conduct the work. The chief executive officer, foreperson, and others allegedly intentionally failed to replace the lead service lines as stipulated under the terms of the relevant contracts, but they still submitted payment applications to Newark that falsely represented completion of the work. The charge of conspiracy to commit wire fraud is punishable by a maximum potential penalty of 20 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000, twice the gross profits, or twice the gross loss suffered by the victims of the offense, whichever is greatest.

This is a joint investigation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the EPA Criminal Investigation Division, and the U.S. Department of Labor OIG.

Management Implication Reports

Management Implication Report: Cybersecurity Concerns Related to Drinking Water Systems

Report No. [25-N-0004](#) | Issued November 13, 2024

We identified cybersecurity vulnerabilities in 1,062 U.S. drinking water systems that serve over 193 million people, with 97 systems that serve approximately 26.6 million people having either critical or high-risk cybersecurity vulnerabilities. Another 211 of these systems, which service over 82.7 million people, were identified as having medium or low cybersecurity vulnerabilities specifically because they have externally visible open portals. If malicious actors exploited these vulnerabilities, they could degrade functionality, cause loss or denial of service, and facilitate the theft of customer or proprietary information. Additionally, we identified weaknesses in reporting and coordinating responses to potential cybersecurity incidents at these water systems. We made no recommendations in this report but notified the EPA of our concerns so that it could take whatever steps it deemed necessary.

Charlotte Water

Charlotte Water serves over 890,000 people across six counties near Charlotte, North Carolina, and has an economic output of \$48.5 billion from water-dependent industries.* We estimate that a water service disruption across all Charlotte Water facilities could potentially cost at least \$132 million in lost revenue per day. Depending on the extent and location of damages, replacement costs for all facilities could exceed \$5 billion.†

California State Water Project

The California State Water Project serves over 27 million individuals, or more than two-thirds of California’s population, and “supports an economy with a gross domestic product surpassing \$2.25 trillion.” ‡ We estimate that a state-wide water service disruption could potentially cost at least \$61 billion in lost revenue per day.

* Charlotte Water, *Economic Impact of Charlotte Water on the Regional Economy* (2023).

† Charlotte Water, *2023 Annual Report: A Year of Flowing Progress* (2023).

‡ State of California Department of Water Resources, *The Economy of the State Water Project: Clean, Reliable, and Affordable Water for California* (2023).

Senior Employee Investigations

The Administrative Investigations Directorate conducts administrative investigations of allegations of misconduct by senior Agency employees. Senior Agency employees include an officer or employee in the executive branch, including a special government employee as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 202, who occupies a position classified at or above the General Schedule 15 level or, in the case of positions not under the General Schedule, for which the rate of basic pay is equal to or greater than 120 percent of the minimum rate of basic pay payable for a GS-15 employee. Senior government employees include members of the Senior Executive Service; political appointees; and scientific, professional, and senior-level positions.

Former Political Appointee Did Not Violate Conflict-of-Interest Law

A former EPA political appointee allegedly failed to recuse from particular matters affecting the financial interests of a nonprofit entity and failed to file the required notification form in a timely manner when seeking and negotiating for employment with the nonprofit entity. We investigated whether this conduct violated the federal conflict-of-interest statute, 18 U.S.C. § 208; the Ethics in Government Act, as amended by the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act, Pub. L. 112-105, section 17; and the federal false-statements statute, 18 U.S.C. § 1001. We determined that the nonprofit entity did not have a financial interest in issues being determined by the EPA and that the notification form was filed accurately and in a timely manner. As a result, the allegations were not substantiated.

Report of Investigation—Employee Integrity

A report of investigation documents the facts and findings of an OIG investigation and generally involves an employee integrity matter. When either the OIG Office of Investigations or the OIG Administrative Investigations Directorate issues a report of investigation that has at least one supported allegation, it will generally request that the entity receiving the report—whether it is an office within the EPA, the CSB, or the OIG—notify the OIG within 60 days regarding the administrative action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter. When the Administrative Investigations Directorate issues a report of investigation pursuant to 41 U.S.C. § 4712, the entity receiving the report is statutorily required to take a specified action or deny relief within 30 days. This section provides information on how many reports of investigation with at least one supported allegation were issued to the EPA, the CSB, or the OIG, as well as how many of those reports of investigation did not receive a response within the 60- or 30-day period.

For this reporting period, we issued five reports of investigation to the EPA. We did not receive any responses outside the applicable 60-day or 30-day response periods, though the relevant response period had not elapsed for the five reports as of the end of the reporting period.

2.3 Instances of Whistleblower Retaliation and Interference with Independence

Whistleblower Retaliation

Section 5(a)(14) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires a detailed description of any instances of whistleblower retaliation noted by the OIG. This requirement includes reporting information about any officials found to have engaged in retaliation and the consequences the EPA or the CSB imposed to hold such officials accountable. We did not have any reportable instances of whistleblower retaliation this semiannual period.

Interference with Independence

Section 5(a)(15) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires a detailed description of any attempt by the EPA or the CSB to interfere with the independence of the OIG, including “budget constraints designed to limit the capabilities” of the OIG and incidents in which the EPA or the CSB “has resisted or objected to oversight activities of the [OIG] or restricted or significantly delayed access to information.” We did not have any reportable instances of interference with independence this semiannual period.

Section 3: Statistical Data



3.1 Summary of Investigative Results

Section 5(a)(4) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires a listing of the total convictions for the reporting period that resulted from investigations, and section 5(a)(11) of the Act requires statistical tables identifying the total number of investigative reports, the total number of people referred for criminal prosecution during the reporting period, and the total number of indictments and criminal informations during the reporting period that resulted from prior referrals to prosecuting authorities. Section 5(a)(12) of the Act requires a description of the metrics used for developing the data for the statistical tables required by section 5(a)(11). We also provide additional statistical information relating to the results of our investigative work, including cases and complaints opened, and the results of criminal, civil, and administrative actions.

Table 4: Summary of investigative activity

Investigative activity	Number
Cases open as of October 1, 2024*	160
Cases opened during period	44
Cases closed during period	53
Cases open as of March 31, 2025*	151
Preliminary inquiries open as of September 30, 2024	75
Preliminary inquiries opened during period	85
Preliminary inquiries closed during period	72
Preliminary inquiries open as of March 31, 2025	88

Source: OIG analysis of OIG investigative activity. (EPA OIG table)

* These cases include data from the Office of Investigations and the Administrative Investigations Directorate.

Table 5: Results of criminal and civil actions

Criminal and civil actions	EPA OIG only	Joint*	Total
Criminal indictments, informations, or complaints [†]	0	17	17
Convictions [‡]	0	3	3
Civil judgments, settlements, or filings	1	0	1
Criminal fines and recoveries	0	\$357,160.60	\$357,160.60
Civil recoveries	0	0	0
Prison time	0	15 days	15 days
Prison time suspended	0	0	0
Home detention	0	1 year	1 year
Probation	0	8 years	8 years
Community service	0	0	0

Source: OIG analysis of OIG investigative activity. (EPA OIG table)

* With one or more other federal agencies.

† Sealed indictments are not included in this category; however, previously sealed indictments that were unsealed during this reporting period are included, regardless of when the indictment occurred. Superseding indictments are also included.

‡ The “convictions” category comprises finalized convictions with completed sentencings that were filed during the reporting period.

Table 6: Administrative actions

Administrative actions	EPA OIG only	Joint*	Total
Suspensions	0	0	0
Debarments	0	4	4
Other administrative actions*	20	0	20
Total	20	4	24

Note: This table includes data from the Office of Investigations and the Administrative Investigations Directorate.

Source: OIG analysis of OIG investigative activity. (EPA OIG table)

* With one or more other federal agencies.

Table 7: Administrative recoveries and cost savings

Administrative recoveries or cost savings	EPA OIG only (\$)	Joint*	Total (\$)
Administrative recoveries [†]	32,558.00	0	32,558.00
Cost savings	9,188,785.20	0	9,188,785.20

Note: This table includes data from the Office of Investigations and the Administrative Investigations Directorate.

Source: OIG analysis of OIG investigative activity. (EPA OIG table)

* With one or more other federal agencies.

[†] Administrative recoveries include restitutions, reimbursements, fines, recoveries, repayments, and the dollar values of recovered government equipment.

Table 8: Summary of investigative reports issued and referrals for prosecution

Investigative activity	Number
Number of investigative reports issued	5
Number of persons referred to Department of Justice for criminal prosecution	7
Number of persons referred to state and local authorities for criminal prosecution	1
Number of criminal indictments and informations resulting from any prior referrals to prosecutive authorities	17

Note: Investigative reports comprise final, interim, and supplemental reports of investigation and referral memorandums. To calculate the number of referrals, we counted corporate entities as persons.

Source: OIG analysis of OIG investigative activity. (EPA OIG table)

Table 9: Subjects of employee integrity investigations

Investigation status	Political appointee*	SES*	GS-15*	GS-14 and below*†	Total*†
Pending as of September 30, 2024	5	12	15	16	48
Open	0	1	0	12	13
Closed	3	4	3	7	17
Pending as of March 31, 2025	2	9	12	21	44

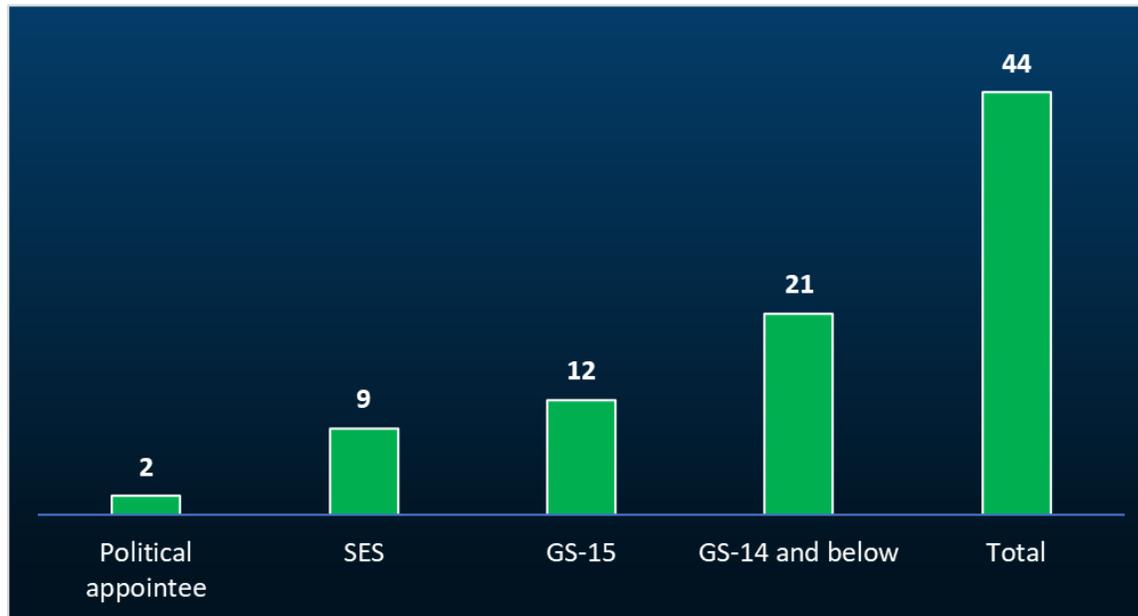
Notes: This table includes data from the Office of Investigations and the Administrative Investigations Directorate. SES stands for Senior Executive Service. Employee integrity investigations involve allegations of criminal activity or serious misconduct by Agency employees that could threaten the credibility of the Agency; the validity of executive decisions; the security of personnel or business information entrusted to the Agency; or financial loss to the Agency, such as abuse of government bank cards or theft of Agency funds.

Source: OIG analysis of OIG investigative activity. (EPA OIG table)

* Includes investigations for cases related to individuals who may also be former employees.

† Includes investigations for cases related to individuals who are compensated under other federal pay plans.

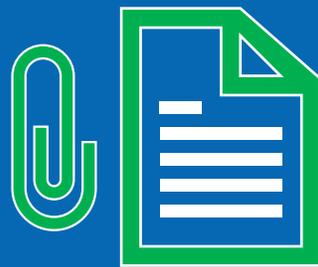
Figure 5: Subjects of employee integrity investigations by grade



Note: Numbers of pending investigations as of March 31, 2025. Includes investigations for cases related to individuals who may also be former employees and to individuals who are compensated under other federal pay plans.

Source: OIG analysis of OIG investigative activity. (EPA OIG image)

Appendixes



Appendix 1: Reports Issued

Section 5(a)(5) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires a listing of each audit, inspection, or evaluation report issued by the OIG during the reporting period. For each report, where applicable, the Act also requires identification of the dollar value of questioned costs, including unsupported costs, and the dollar value of recommendations that funds be put to better use, including whether a management decision had been made by the end of the reporting period. For more information on a report, please visit our [website](#).

Table A.1: Overview of evaluations, financial audits, performance audits, and projects

Evaluation or audit type	Number of reports issued	Questioned costs (\$)	Unsupported costs (\$)	Funds put to better use (\$)
Evaluations in accordance with the quality standards for inspection and evaluation. See Table A.2.	3	543,763,000.00	0.00	400,058,000.00
Financial audits in accordance with the generally accepted government auditing standards. See Table A.3.	5	0.00	0.00	0.00
Performance audits in accordance with the generally accepted government auditing standards. See Table A.4.	4	0.00	0.00	20,238,000.00
Project conducted in accordance with guidance other than the generally accepted government auditing standards or the quality standards for inspection and evaluation. See Table A.5.	3	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	15	543,763,000.00	0.00	420,296,000.00

Source: OIG analysis of OIG reports. (EPA OIG table)

Table A.2: Evaluations in accordance with the quality standards for inspection and evaluation

Report number	Report title	Report issuance date	Questioned costs (\$)	Unsupported costs (\$)	Funds put to better use (\$)	Management decision*
25-E-0002	<i>Inadequate Execution of the 7th DWINSA Lead Service Line Questionnaire Led to Flawed Data Being Used to Allot Lead Service Line Replacement Funds</i>	10/21/24	543,763,000.00	0.00	400,058,000.00	Yes
25-E-0016	<i>Evaluation of the EPA Office of Water’s Guidance to State Revolving Fund Programs for Implementing the Build America, Buy America Act Requirements</i>	2/19/25	0.00	0.00	0.00	Some

Appendix 1

Report number	Report title	Report issuance date	Questioned costs (\$)	Unsupported costs (\$)	Funds put to better use (\$)	Management decision*
25-E-0020	<i>Evaluation of Institutional Control Documentation in the Superfund Enterprise Management System on IJJA--Funded Sites</i>	3/19/25	0.00	0.00	0.00	Some
Total	3 Reports Issued	—	543,763,000.00	0.00	400,058,000.00	—

Source: OIG analysis of OIG reports that are in accordance with the quality standards for inspection and evaluation. (EPA OIG table)

* “Yes” indicates that there was a management decision made regarding all recommendations in the report. “Some” indicates that a management decision was made for some but not all recommendations in the report.

Table A.3: Financial audits in accordance with the generally accepted government auditing standards

Report number	Report title	Report issuance date	Questioned costs (\$)	Unsupported costs (\$)	Funds put to better use (\$)	Management decision*
25-F-0010	<i>Independent Audit of the EPA’s Fiscal Years 2024 and 2023 (Restated) Consolidated Financial Statements</i>	11/15/24	0.00	0.00	0.00	Yes
25-F-0011	<i>U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board Fiscal Years 2024 and 2023 Financial Statement Audit</i>	11/15/24	0.00	0.00	0.00	Yes
25-F-0017	<i>Independent Audit of the EPA’s Fiscal Years 2022 and 2021 (Restated) Toxic Substances Control Act Service Fee Fund Financial Statements</i>	2/26/25	0.00	0.00	0.00	Yes
25-F-0018	<i>Independent Audit of the EPA’s Fiscal Years 2023 and 2022 Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Fund Financial Statements</i>	3/5/25	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
25-F-0019	<i>Independent Audit of the EPA’s Fiscal Years 2023 and 2022 (Restated) Pesticides Reregistration and Expedited Processing Fund Financial Statements</i>	3/12/25	0.00	0.00	0.00	Yes
Total	5 Reports Issued	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—

Source: OIG analysis of OIG reports that are in accordance with the generally accepted government auditing standards. (EPA OIG table)

* “Yes” indicates that there was a management decision made regarding all recommendations in the report. “N/A” indicates that the report did not have any recommendations requiring a management decision.

Appendix 1

Table A.4: Performance audits in accordance with the generally accepted government auditing standards

Report number	Report title	Report issuance date	Questioned costs (\$)	Unsupported costs (\$)	Funds put to better use (\$)	Management decision*
25-P-0001	<i>The CSB Complied with Improper Payment Requirements in Fiscal Year 2023</i>	10/16/24	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
25-P-0007	<i>The EPA Should Improve Monitoring of 2022 Clean School Bus Rebate Recipients' Use of Funds and Deployment of Buses and Infrastructure</i>	12/4/24	0.00	0.00	0.00	Yes
25-P-0014	<i>The EPA Left \$20 Million Unawarded in the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program</i>	2/10/25	0.00	0.00	20,238,000.00	Some
25-P-0015	<i>EPA Guidance Addresses Implementation Requirements for Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Emerging Contaminants Funding, but Clarification Is Needed Before More States Spend Funds</i>	2/12/25	0.00	0.00	0.00	Some
Total	4 Reports Issued	—	0.00	0.00	20,238,000.00	—

Source: OIG analysis of OIG reports that are in accordance with the generally accepted government auditing standards. (EPA OIG table)

* “Yes” indicates that there was a management decision made regarding all recommendations in the report. “N/A” indicates that the report did not have any recommendations requiring a management decision. “Some” indicates that a management decision was made for some but not all recommendations in the report.

Table A.5: Projects in accordance with guidance other than the generally accepted government auditing standards or the quality standards for inspection and evaluation

Report number	Report title	Report issuance date	Questioned costs (\$)	Unsupported costs (\$)	Funds put to better use (\$)	Management decision*
25-N-0012	<i>OIG Report to the Office of Management and Budget on the EPA's and CSB's Implementation of Recommendations Related to Purchase and Travel Card Programs</i>	1/30/25	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
25-N-0013	<i>OIG Report to the Office of Management and Budget on the EPA's Semi-Annual Report on Purchase Card Violations</i>	1/30/25	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
24-N-0022	<i>Assessing Superfund Five-Year Reviews Listed in the EPA's Annual Reports to Congress</i>	3/26/25	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Total	3 Reports Issued	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—

Source: OIG analysis of OIG reports that are not in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards or the quality standards for inspection and evaluation. (EPA OIG table)

* “N/A” indicates that the report did not have any recommendations requiring a management decision.

Appendix 2: Management Decisions Relating to Reports Issued During Previous Reporting Periods

Section 5(a)(6) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires information regarding “any management decision made during the reporting period with respect to any audit, inspection, or evaluation issued during a previous reporting period.” For more information on a report, please visit our [website](#).

Table A.6: Management decisions on prior unresolved recommendations in this semiannual period

Report	Prior unresolved recommendations	Action office or official	Management decision	Decision date
<p>Report No. 24-E-0055, <i>State Program Deficiencies and Inadequate EPA Oversight of State Enforcement Contributed to the Drinking Water Crisis in Jackson, Mississippi</i>, issued August 12, 2024</p>	<p>1. Assess the Mississippi State Department of Health sanitary survey program to verify that it has appropriate rules, mechanisms, and authorities to ensure that public water systems take necessary steps to address significant deficiencies outlined in sanitary survey reports, per 40 C.F.R. § 142.16.</p> <p>4. Verify that the Mississippi State Department of Health has procedures in place to ensure that water systems report compliance monitoring data to the state pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 141.90, to include verifying that the Mississippi Public Health Laboratory has appropriate procedures in place.</p> <p>5. Train Mississippi State Department of Health personnel on using and entering data into the Safe Drinking Water Information System/State Version software.</p> <p>6. Evaluate whether the Mississippi State Department of Health is implementing procedures for the enforcement of federal and state drinking water regulations. If the Mississippi State Department of Health is not implementing enforcement procedures as required by Safe Drinking Water Act section 1413, consider whether procedures for rescinding state primacy for water systems should be initiated.</p>	<p>Regional Administrator for Region 4</p>	<p>The Agency provided a response on October 4, 2024, which outlined the EPA’s planned corrective actions for Recommendations 1, 4, 5, and 6. Based on the information and supporting documentation provided, the OIG agrees that the planned corrective actions meet the intent of Recommendation 5 and, as of November 12, 2024, considers Recommendation 5 to be resolved. The OIG did not agree with the planned corrective actions for Recommendations 1, 4, and 6.</p> <p>The Agency provided an additional response on January 14, 2025, which outlined the EPA’s updated planned corrective actions for Recommendations 1,4, and 6. Based on the information and supporting documentation provided, the OIG agrees that the planned corrective actions meet the intent of Recommendations 1, 4, and 6 and, as of February 18, 2025, considers all recommendations for this report to be resolved.</p>	<p>10/4/24 1/14/25</p>

Appendix 2

Report	Prior unresolved recommendations	Action office or official	Management decision	Decision date
Report No. 24-E-0050, <i>The EPA Needs to Improve Internal Controls for Selecting Recipients of Clean School Bus Program Funds</i> , issued July 31, 2024	<p>2. Require future Clean School Bus Program rebate and grant applicants to provide sufficient documentation to support their applications, including documentation that their existing school buses are eligible for replacement and that replacement school buses will provide bus service for five years.</p> <p>3. Update the standard operating procedures and trainings for Clean School Bus Program application reviewers. The standard operating procedures and trainings should address confirming, before the EPA awards funds, the eligibility of applicants and their school buses, including that their existing school buses are eligible for replacement and that replacement school buses will provide bus service for five years.</p> <p>4. Establish procedures to verify that, if an applicant is requesting Clean School Bus Program funds to replace existing school buses with zero-emission school buses, zero-emission school buses are suitable for the applicant's school district.</p>	Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation	The Agency provided a response on October 15, 2024, which outlined the EPA's planned corrective actions for Recommendations 2, 3, and 4. Based on the information provided, the OIG does not agree that the planned corrective actions meet the intent of Recommendations 2, 3, and 4 and, as of November 22, 2024, considers the recommendations to be unresolved.	10/15/24
Report No. 23-E-0013, <i>The EPA's January 2021 PFBS Toxicity Assessment Did Not Uphold the Agency's Commitments to Scientific Integrity and Information Quality</i> , issued March 7, 2023	5. Update the EPA's Scientific Integrity Policy to require that the OIG be immediately notified of scientific integrity concerns, including advice queries and allegations, that relate to political interference or that assert risks to human health or the environment.	Assistant Administrator for Research and Development	The Agency provided a response on December 13, 2024, which outlined the EPA's planned corrective actions for Recommendation 5. The OIG agrees that the corrective actions meet the intent of Recommendation 5 and, as of January 7, 2025, considers all recommendations for this report to be resolved.	12/13/24

Source: OIG summary of the Agency's management decisions during the reporting period. (EPA OIG table)

Appendix 3: Reports with Corrective Action Not Completed

Section 5(a)(2) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires information regarding “an identification of each recommendation made before the reporting period, for which corrective action has not been completed, including the potential cost savings associated with the recommendation.” We define potential cost savings to be the sum of questioned costs plus funds to be put to better use.

This appendix contains tables with unimplemented recommendations that the OIG issued to the EPA in 33 reports from 2008 to September 30, 2024. There are 80 unimplemented recommendations for the EPA, with potential cost savings of over \$43 million. There are zero unimplemented recommendations for the CSB.

Below is a list of the EPA offices and regions responsible for the recommendations in the following tables. While a recommendation may be listed as unimplemented, the Agency may be on track to complete agreed upon corrective actions by the planned due date.

Responsible EPA Offices and Officials

OAR	Office of Air and Radiation
OCFO	Office of the Chief Financial Officer
OCSPP	Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
OECA	Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
OLEM	Office of Land and Emergency Management
OMS	Office of Mission Support
ORD	Office of Research and Development
OW	Office of Water
Region 2	
Region 3	
Region 4	
Region 5	
Region 6	
Region 9	
Science Advisor	

EPA Reports with Unimplemented Recommendations

Table A.7: EPA reports with unimplemented recommendations by report category

Report category	Number of unimplemented recommendations	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)
Administrative and business operations. See Table A.8.	16	10,124.00
Human health and environmental issues. See Table A.9.	64	33,200.00
Total	80	43,324.00

Source: OIG analysis of OIG final reports, EPA response memorandums, inspector general responses, and the EPA’s Enterprise Audit Management System. (EPA OIG table)

Table A.8 provides the full text of recommendations issued to the EPA prior to this semiannual period that remain unimplemented. The table also includes the EPA’s planned corrective action completion dates as of the report issuance date and any subsequent revisions the EPA made to those planned completion dates. The table reflects the status of recommendations as of March 31, 2025. For more information on a report, please visit our [website](#).

Table A.8: EPA administrative and business operations reports with unimplemented recommendations

Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
Report 24-N-0069, <i>Most States Did Not Provide Some Required Fee Information in the Intended Use Plan or Annual Report for Their Clean Water State Revolving Funds</i> , issued September 30, 2024	OW	1. Ensure that states report fee information in their intended use plans and annual reports as required per the Guidance on Fees Charged by States to Recipients of Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program Assistance, 70 Fed. Reg. 61,039 (Oct. 20, 2005), and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grant conditions.	9/30/25	—	—
Report 24-P-0043, <i>Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grants Documented Most Achievements, but the EPA Could Improve Monitoring and Reporting</i> , issued June 3, 2024	Region 5	4. Submit the annual reports for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to Congress as required by the Clean Water Act.	12/31/25	—	—

Appendix 3

Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA's planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA's revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
Report 24-N-0037, <i>The EPA Does Not Always Track the Use of Build America, Buy America Act Waivers for Infrastructure Projects</i> , issued May 8, 2024	OMS	1. Develop and implement a method to track all Build America, Buy America Act waiver use across EPA-funded infrastructure projects.	3/8/24 [†]	—	—
Report 24-P-0028, <i>The EPA Should Improve Annual Reviews to Protect Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Grants to Clean Water State Revolving Funds</i> , issued March 14, 2024	OW	1. Implement procedures to ensure consistent Office of Water oversight of the annual review process in all regions and states, including reviewing checklists and all program evaluation reports and tracking recommendations made by the regions.	12/31/25	—	—
Report 24-E-0020, <i>The EPA's Enhanced Personnel Security Program Is on Track, but Challenges to Full Implementation Remain</i> , issued February 8, 2024	OMS	1. Develop a plan for how the Personnel Security Branch will achieve the capacity necessary to meet the requirements of full Trusted Workforce 2.0 implementation.	3/30/25	9/30/25	—
Report 24-F-0009, <i>Audit of the EPA's Fiscal Years 2023 and 2022 (Restated) Consolidated Financial Statements</i> , issued November 15, 2023	OCFO	4. Develop a plan to improve the Office of the Chief Financial Officer processes for headquarters program offices and regional offices to deobligate unneeded funds in a timely manner by the end of the fiscal year, as required.	7/1/24	10/31/24, 4/1/25, 7/1/25	9,995.00
Report No. 22-P-0033, <i>Brownfields Program-Income Monitoring Deficiencies Persist Because the EPA Did Not Complete All Certified Corrective Actions</i> , issued March 31, 2022	OLEM	1. Develop a policy and implement procedures to reduce the balances of available program income and establish a time frame for recipients to use or return the funds to the EPA. 5. Expand existing guidance to include a deadline for post-closeout annual report submission.	Rec. 1: Unresolved Rec. 5: Unresolved	Rec. 1: 9/30/27 Rec. 5: 9/30/27	—

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
<p>Report No. 21-P-0042, <i>EPA Needs to Substantially Improve Oversight of Its Military Leave Processes to Prevent Improper Payments</i>, issued December 28, 2020</p>	<p>OMS OCFO</p>	<p>3. OMS and OCFO: Establish and implement internal controls that will allow the Agency to monitor compliance with applicable laws, federal guidance, and Agency policies, including periodic internal audits of all military leave, to verify that (a) charges by reservists are correct and supported and (b) appropriate reservist differential and military offset payroll audit calculations are being requested and performed.</p> <p>4. OMS and OCFO: Require reservists to correct and supervisors to approve military leave time charging errors in PeoplePlus that have been identified during the audit or as part of the Agency’s actions related to Recommendations 5 and 6.</p> <p>5. OMS and OCFO: Recover the approximately \$11,000 in military pay related to unsupported 5 U.S.C. § 6323(a) military leave charges, unless the Agency can obtain documentation to substantiate the validity of the reservists’ military leave.</p> <p>6. OMS and OCFO: Submit documentation for the reservists’ military leave related to the approximately \$118,000 charged under 5 U.S.C. § 6323(b) to the EPA’s payroll provider so that it may perform payroll audit calculations and recover any military offsets that may be due.</p> <p>7. OMS and OCFO: Identify the population of reservists who took unpaid military leave pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 5538 and determine whether those reservists are entitled to receive a reservist differential. Based on the results of this determination, take appropriate steps to request that the EPA’s payroll provider perform payroll audit calculations to identify and pay the amounts that may be due to reservists.</p>	<p>Rec. 3: 6/30/22 Rec. 4: 9/30/21 Rec. 5: 8/31/21 Rec. 6: 8/31/21 Rec. 7: 2/28/22 Rec. 8: 2/28/22 Rec. 9: 12/1/21</p>	<p>Rec. 3: 7/29/22, 6/3/27, 10/1/24,‡ 7/31/25, 10/31/25, 1/30/26 Rec. 4: 3/31/22, 7/29/22, 9/3/26, 10/1/26 Rec. 5: 12/15/21, 12/30/22, 8/31/26, 11/30/26 Rec. 6: 12/15/21, 12/30/22, 8/31/26, 11/30/26 Rec. 7: 9/30/22, 12/31/26, 4/1/27 Rec. 8: 12/30/22, 2/28/27, 5/31/27 Rec. 9: 12/1/22, 12/1/24, 12/1/27</p>	<p>Rec. 5: 11.00 Rec. 6: 118.00</p>

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
		<p>8. OMS and OCFO: For the time periods outside of the scope of our audit (pre-January 2017 and post-June 2019), identify the population of reservists who charged military leave under 5 U.S.C. § 6323(b) or 6323(c) and determine whether military offset was paid by the reservists. If not, review reservists’ military documentation to determine whether payroll audit calculations are required. If required, request that the EPA’s payroll provider perform payroll audit calculations to identify and recover military offsets that may be due from the reservists under 5 U.S.C. §§ 6323 and 5519.</p> <p>9. OCFO: Report all amounts of improper payments resulting from paid military leave for inclusion in the annual Agency Financial Report, as required by the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019.</p>			
Report No. 19-P-0195, <i>Pesticide Registration Fee, Vulnerability Mitigation and Database Security Controls for EPA’s FIFRA and PRIA Systems Need Improvement</i> , issued June 21, 2019	OCSP	2. Complete the actions and milestones identified in the Office of Pesticide Programs’ <i>PRIA Maintenance Fee Risk Assessment</i> document and associated plan regarding the fee payment and refund posting processes.	12/31/20	12/31/22, 6/30/23, 1/31/24, 12/31/25	—

Note: An em dash (—) indicates that the column header does not apply to the report. For example, an em dash in the “revised planned completion dates” column means that there have been no revisions to the planned completion date as of March 31, 2025, and an em dash in the “potential cost savings” column means that no potential cost savings were identified. *Unresolved* means that at the time a recommendation was issued in an OIG final report, the OIG and the Agency had not agreed on corrective actions or a planned completion date, but a date in the “revised planned completion dates” column means the matter was later resolved.

Source: OIG analysis of OIG final reports, EPA response memorandums, and inspector general responses as well as the Agency’s Enterprise Audit Management System. (EPA OIG)

* *Potential cost savings* is defined as questioned costs plus funds to be put to better use.

† The OIG and OMS are in discussions about the status of the corrective action for this recommendation.

‡ The Agency revised the planned completion date; the new date was earlier than the previous revised planned completion date.

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Table A.9: EPA human health and environmental issues reports with unimplemented recommendations

Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA's planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA's revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
Report 24-E-0066, <i>The EPA Needs to Improve the Verification of Land-Use Controls at Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Corrective Action Facilities</i> , issued September 23, 2024	OLEM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide guidance to EPA regions and authorized states on methods that they can use to verify land-use control status, such as reporting or onsite assessments. 2. Define the minimum frequency for region and state verification that landuse controls remain operational—for example, verification every one, three, or five years. 3. Update RCRAInfo to capture data on the operational status of land-use controls. This could be achieved by establishing national event codes for land-use control activities in RCRAInfo—for example, using Region 3's event codes as nationally defined event codes. 4. Provide training to help regions and authorized states input and maintain land-use control data in RCRAInfo. 5. Implement mechanisms to monitor land-use control status at the national level, such as annual reports from RCRAInfo that identify land-use controls that have not been verified at the minimum frequency to ensure they remain operational. 	Rec. 1: 12/31/25 Rec. 2: 12/31/25 Rec. 3: 12/31/25 Rec. 4: 6/30/26 Rec. 5: 6/30/26	—	—
Report 24-E-0055, <i>State Program Deficiencies and Inadequate EPA Oversight of State Enforcement Contributed to the Drinking Water Crisis in Jackson, Mississippi</i> , issued August 12, 2024	OW Region 4 OECA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Region 4: Assess the Mississippi State Department of Health sanitary survey program to verify that it has appropriate rules, mechanisms, and authorities to ensure that public water systems take necessary steps to address significant deficiencies outlined in sanitary survey reports, per 40 C.F.R. § 142.16. 3. OW: Update the EPA's Guidance Manual for Conducting Sanitary Surveys of Public Water Systems; Surface Water and Ground Water Under the Direct Influence (GWUDI) of Surface Water (April 1999) and the EPA's How to Conduct a Sanitary Survey of Drinking Water Systems (August 2019) to include a sanitary survey checklist and a process for states to alert the EPA of public water systems with systemic issues, such as excessive distribution line breaks and frequent boil 	Rec. 1: Unresolved Rec. 3: 6/30/25 Rec. 4: Unresolved Rec. 5: Unresolved Rec. 6: Unresolved Rec. 7: 6/30/25	Rec. 1: 12/31/26 Rec. 4: 12/31/26 Rec. 5: 9/30/25 Rec. 6: 12/31/26	—

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
		<p>water notices, that individually may not rise to the level of a significant deficiency.</p> <p>4. Region 4: Verify that the Mississippi State Department of Health has procedures in place to ensure that water systems report compliance monitoring data to the state pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 141.90, to include verifying that the Mississippi Public Health Laboratory has appropriate procedures in place.</p> <p>5. Region 4: Train Mississippi State Department of Health personnel on using and entering data into the Safe Drinking Water Information System/State Version software.</p> <p>6. Region 4: Evaluate whether the Mississippi State Department of Health is implementing procedures for the enforcement of federal and state drinking water regulations. If the Mississippi State Department of Health is not implementing enforcement procedures as required by Safe Drinking Water Act section 1413, consider whether procedures for rescinding state primacy for water systems should be initiated.</p> <p>7. OW/OECA: Develop guidance on the applicability and use of the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Act section 1442(b) grant authority to address public health in an emergency situation.</p>			
<p>Report 24-P-0049, <i>The EPA Did Not Ensure that Two of the Largest Air Oversight Agencies Identified and Inspected Potentially Significant Sources of Air Pollution</i>, issued July 24, 2024</p>	<p>OECA Region 6 Region 9</p>	<p>1. OECA: Conduct in-depth evaluations to monitor the performance of EPA regional offices’ oversight of delegated agencies’ implementation of the EPA’s <i>Clean Air Act Stationary Source Compliance Monitoring Strategy</i>.</p> <p>2. OECA: Ensure that Region 9 develops a plan to conduct Clean Air Act state reviews of California’s largest air quality management districts every five years, in accordance with the <i>State Review Framework Compliance and Enforcement Program Oversight, SRF Reviewer’s Guide</i>.</p>	<p>Rec. 1: Unresolved Rec. 2: Unresolved Rec. 3: Unresolved Rec. 4: Unresolved Rec. 5: Unresolved Rec. 6: Unresolved Rec. 7: Unresolved Rec. 8: Unresolved Rec. 9: Unresolved</p>	<p>Rec. 1: 10/1/28 Rec. 2: 10/1/25 Rec. 3: 7/1/25 Rec. 4: 4/1/25, 10/1/25 Rec. 5: 10/1/25 Rec. 6: 10/1/25 Rec. 7: 4/1/26 Rec. 8: 10/1/26</p>	<p>—</p>

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
		<p>3. OECA: Formalize a state review framework recommendation resolution process to ensure that the EPA’s senior managers and delegated agencies are accountable for the resolution of state review framework recommendations.</p> <p>4. OECA: In collaboration with the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Air and Radiation, determine to what extent the Clean Air Act authorizes the EPA to require periodic identification and inspection of nonmajor stationary sources such as SM-80s by states, local government agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes, and U.S. territories. Document the EPA’s determination and exercise such authority, if applicable, as the EPA deems appropriate.</p> <p>5. OECA: Clarify Agency policies and guidance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Communicate the EPA’s expectations for the EPA regions and states, local government agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes, and U.S. territories to identify, inspect, report, and verify data for SM-80 sources. b. Communicate steps the EPA will take, if any, to periodically identify and inspect SM-80s if these entities do not meet such expectations. c. Clearly define SM-80 sources. <p>6. OECA: Establish routine training to reinforce EPA guidance and policies regarding delegated Agency requirements and responsibilities to identify and inspect SM-80 sources. Training is to include coordination among EPA regional managers, including division directors, deputy directors, branch chiefs, section chiefs, managers, and staff in the Office of Air and Radiation and the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.</p> <p>7. Region 6: In coordination with the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, determine a complete and accurate list of SM-80 sources in Texas</p>		Rec. 9: 10/1/26	

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
		<p>and ensure that each Clean Air Act Stationary Source Compliance Monitoring Strategy plan includes a list of SM-80s along with an expected inspection date.</p> <p>8. Region 9: In coordination with the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance and the South Coast Air Quality Management District, confirm that California’s South Coast Air Quality Management District’s list of SM-80 sources is complete and accurate and ensure that the district reports SM-80 data in the EPA’s data systems by August 2025.</p> <p>9. Region 9: Collect and review California’s South Coast Air Quality Management District’s Clean Air Act Stationary Source Compliance Monitoring Strategy plan by October 2026 and biennially thereafter and ensure that each plan includes a list of SM-80 sources along with an expected inspection date.</p>			
<p>Report 24-E-0032, <i>The EPA Needs to Improve Institutional Controls at the American Creosote Works Superfund Site in Pensacola, Florida, to Protect Public Health and IJIA-Funded Remediation</i>, issued April 15, 2024</p>	<p>Region 4</p>	<p>3. Identify and work with amenable private property owners within Operable Unit 3 of the American Creosote Works Inc. (Pensacola Plant) Superfund site and appropriate local governments to establish restrictive covenants on contaminated private parcels to prevent the disturbance and removal of impacted soil. Restrictive covenants not only would protect the public but also could protect the \$5.4 million Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act-funded remediation by keeping hard surfaces and foundations in place over unremediated soil.</p>	<p>Unresolved</p>	<p>9/30/27</p>	<p>5,400.00</p>
<p>Report 24-P-0029, <i>Multiple Factors Contributed to the Delay in Constructing Combined Sewer Overflow Tanks at the Gowanus Canal Superfund Site in New York City</i>, issued March 21, 2024</p>	<p>Region 2</p>	<p>1. Closely monitor combined sewer overflow tank construction progress at the Gowanus Canal Superfund site and take immediate action, including enforcement actions if appropriate, if New York City misses any future tank project milestones from the 2021 administrative order.</p> <p>2. Post on the EPA’s public website the milestones from the 2021 administrative order regarding the Gowanus Canal Superfund site, New York City’s progress towards completing these milestones, and any actions taken to ensure the city stays on schedule.</p>	<p>Rec. 1: 3/31/29 Rec. 2: 3/31/29</p>	<p>—</p>	<p>—</p>

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
<p>Report 24-E-0023, <i>The EPA Needs to Determine Whether Seresto Pet Collars Pose an Unreasonable Risk to Pet Health</i>, issued February 29, 2024</p>	<p>OCSPP</p>	<p>2. Implement standard operating procedures on how to conduct domestic animal risk assessments for the active ingredients in pet products to support pesticide registration review decisions.</p> <p>3. Implement a measurable standard to determine when a pet product poses unreasonable adverse effects in pets to support the pesticide registration review decision.</p> <p>5. Establish and implement an additional data requirement for the premarket clinical testing of pet products that is consistent with the Veterinary International Conference on Harmonization Guideline GL9, Good Clinical Practice.</p> <p>6. Assess what incident information is needed from registrants of pet products to determine when the EPA should take mitigation measures or other actions. Require pet product registrants to report that information to the EPA.</p> <p>7. Establish policies and procedures that result in consistent implementation of mitigation measures to address unreasonable adverse effects or conduct additional analysis to determine whether a pet product is causing unreasonable adverse effects.</p>	<p>Rec. 2: 12/12/25 Rec. 3: 12/12/25 Rec. 5: 12/12/25 Rec. 6: 12/12/25 Rec. 7: 12/12/25</p>	<p>—</p>	<p>—</p>
<p>Report No. 23-E-0033, <i>The EPA Needs to Address Increasing Air Pollution at Ports</i>, issued September 21, 2023</p>	<p>OAR</p>	<p>1. Assess the air-monitoring network around ports and in near-port communities and create a plan to enhance the air-monitoring network where any gaps are identified.</p> <p>2. Set quantifiable performance measures for the Ports Initiative, including a plan for identifying the measures’ baselines.</p>	<p>Rec. 1: 9/30/25 Rec. 2: Unresolved</p>	<p>Rec. 2: 9/30/25</p>	<p>—</p>
<p>Report No. 23-P-0032, <i>The EPA Must Improve Controls and Integrate Its Information System to Manage Fraud Potential in the Renewable Fuel Standard Program</i>, issued September 19, 2023</p>	<p>OAR</p>	<p>7. Integrate key applications to reduce staff burden and to allow better oversight of Renewable Identification Number and Renewable Fuel Standard program requirements and engage the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance in the integration process to ensure all inspection and enforcement data needs are addressed in the integrated system.</p>	<p>Rec. 7: 9/30/28 Rec. 8: 12/31/25</p>	<p>—</p>	<p>—</p>

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
		8. Enhance or replace the Data Analysis and Reporting Tool to facilitate external information requests and Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance inspections.			
Report No. 23-P-0030, <i>The EPA Should Enhance Oversight to Ensure that All Refineries Comply with the Benzene Fenceline Monitoring Regulations</i> , issued September 6, 2023	OECA	1. Provide guidance to delegated authorities on what constitutes a violation of the benzene fenceline monitoring regulations to assist the delegated authorities in taking action when a violation may have occurred.	4/1/24	10/1/24, 4/1/25, 10/1/25	—
Report No. 23-E-0013, <i>The EPA’s January 2021 PFBS Toxicity Assessment Did Not Uphold the Agency’s Commitments to Scientific Integrity and Information Quality</i> , issued March 7, 2023	ORD	1. Develop or update existing policies, procedures, or guidance to specify whether and under which applicable circumstances comments expressing scientific disagreement can be provided for a scientific product that has undergone all peer reviews and required developmental steps set forth in applicable actions or project plans. 2. Develop or update existing policies, procedures, or technical documents to specify whether reference dose ranges are acceptable in toxicity assessments. If acceptable, specify circumstances under which reference dose ranges may be applied.	Rec. 1: Unresolved Rec. 2: Unresolved	Rec. 1: 12/31/24, 5/30/25 Rec. 2: 12/31/24, 5/30/25	—
Report No. 23-E-0012, <i>The EPA’s Residential Wood Heater Program Does Not Provide Reasonable Assurance that Heaters Are Properly Tested and Certified Before Reaching Consumers</i> , issued February 28, 2023	OAR	4. Incorporate the EPA’s certification test report expectations set forth in the April 2022 corrective action list into the 2023 revisions to the New Source Performance Standards for residential wood heaters. 5. Develop and adopt an EPA cord wood test method that is supported by data to provide the public reasonable assurance that certified appliances meet emission standards. 6. Establish mechanisms to promote independence between emissions testing labs and third-party certifiers.	Rec. 4: Unresolved Rec. 5: Unresolved Rec. 6: Unresolved	Rec. 4: 11/30/27 Rec. 5: 11/30/27 Rec. 6: 11/30/27	—

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
<p>Report No. 22-E-0053, <i>The EPA Needs to Improve the Transparency of Its Cancer-Assessment Process for Pesticides</i>, issued July 20, 2022</p>	<p>OCSPP</p>	<p>1. Issue guidance on when and how to conduct the kinetically derived maximum dose approach in cancer-risk assessments for pesticides.</p> <p>9. Issue specific criteria requiring external peer review of Office of Pesticide Programs’ risk assessments that use scientifically or technically novel approaches or that are likely to have precedent-setting influence on future risk assessments, in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget’s Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review.</p>	<p>Rec. 1: Unresolved Rec. 9: 6/30/24</p>	<p>Rec. 1: 6/30/24, 7/15/25 Rec. 9: 12/31/24, 1/15/25. 12/31/25</p>	<p>—</p>
<p>Report No. 21-E-0264, <i>EPA Needs an Agencywide Strategic Action Plan to Address Harmful Algal Blooms</i>, issued September 29, 2021</p>	<p>OW</p>	<p>4. Assess and evaluate the available information on human health risks from exposure to cyanotoxins in drinking water and recreational waters to determine whether actions under the Safe Drinking Water Act are warranted.</p>	<p>12/31/22</p>	<p>12/31/25</p>	<p>—</p>
<p>Report No. 21-E-0186, <i>EPA’s Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program Has Made Limited Progress in Assessing Pesticides</i>, issued July 28, 2021</p>	<p>OCSPP</p>	<p>1. Issue Tier 1 test orders for each List 2 chemical or publish an explanation for public comment on why Tier 1 data are no longer needed to characterize a List 2 chemical’s endocrine-disruption activity.</p> <p>2. Determine whether the EPA should incorporate the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program Tier 1 tests (or approved new approach methodologies) into the pesticide registration process as mandatory data requirements under 40 C.F.R. § 158 for all pesticide use patterns.</p> <p>3. Issue List 1–Tier 2 test orders for the 18 pesticides in which additional Tier 2 testing was recommended or publish an explanation for public comment on why Tier 2 data are no longer needed to characterize the endocrine-disruption activity for each of these 18 pesticides.</p> <p>4. Issue for public review and comment both the Environmental Fate and Effects Division’s approach for the reevaluation of List 1–Tier 1 data and the revised List 1–Tier 2 wildlife recommendations.</p>	<p>Rec. 1: 9/30/25 Rec. 2: 9/30/24 Rec. 3: 9/30/24 Rec. 4: 12/31/23</p>	<p>Rec. 1: 12/31/25 Rec. 2: 1/15/25, 12/31/25 Rec. 3: 7/15/26 Rec. 4: 12/31/25</p>	<p>—</p>

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
<p>Report No. 21-P-0175, <i>EPA Should Conduct More Oversight of Synthetic-Minor-Source Permitting to Assure Permits Adhere to EPA Guidance</i>, issued July 8, 2021</p>	<p>OAR</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update Agency guidance on practical enforceability to more clearly describe how the technical accuracy of a permit limit should be supported and documented. In updating such guidance, the Office of Air and Radiation should consult and collaborate with the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, the Office of General Counsel, and the EPA regions. 2. In consultation with the EPA regions, develop and implement an oversight plan to include: (a) an initial review of a sample of synthetic-minor-source permits in different industries that are issued by state, local, and tribal agencies to assess whether the permits adhere to EPA guidance on practical enforceability, including limits that are technically accurate, have appropriate time periods, and include sufficient monitoring, record-keeping, and reporting requirements; (b) a periodic review of a sample of synthetic-minor-source permits to occur, at a minimum, once every five years; and (c) procedures to resolve any permitting deficiencies identified during the initial and periodic reviews. 3. Assess recent EPA studies of enclosed combustion device performance and compliance monitoring and other relevant information during the next statutorily required review of 40 C.F.R. Part 60 Subparts OOOO and OOOOa to determine whether revisions are needed to monitoring, record-keeping, and reporting requirements for enclosed combustion devices to assure continuous compliance with associated limits, and revise the regulatory requirements as appropriate. 4. Revise the Agency’s guidance to communicate its key expectations for synthetic-minor-source permitting to state and local agencies. 5. Identify all state, local, and tribal agencies in which Clean Air Act permit program implementation fails to adhere to the public participation requirements for synthetic-minor-source permit issuance and take 	<p>Rec. 1: 10/31/23 Rec. 2: 10/31/24 Rec. 3: 12/31/24 Rec. 4: 10/31/24 Rec. 5: 12/31/23</p>	<p>Rec. 1: 10/31/24, 12/31/25 Rec. 2: 10/31/25, 12/31/26 Rec.:3: 12/31/26 Rec. 4: 12/31/26 Rec. 5: 10/31/24, 12/31/25</p>	<p>—</p>

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
		appropriate steps to assure the identified states adhere to the public participation requirements.			
Report No. 21-E-0146, <i>EPA Deviated from Typical Procedures in Its 2018 Dicamba Pesticide Registration Decision</i> , issued May 24, 2021	OCSPP	3. Annually conduct and document training for all staff and senior managers and policy makers to affirm the office’s commitment to the <i>Scientific Integrity Policy</i> and principles and to promote a culture of scientific integrity.	3/31/22	3/31/26 [†]	—
Report No. 21-P-0129, <i>EPA Should Conduct New Residual Risk and Technology Reviews for Chloroprene- and Ethylene Oxide-Emitting Source Categories to Protect Human Health</i> , issued May 6, 2021	OAR	2. Conduct new residual risk reviews for Group I polymers and resins that cover neoprene production, synthetic organic chemical manufacturing industry, polyether polyols production, commercial sterilizers, and hospital sterilizers using the new risk values for chloroprene and ethylene oxide and revise the corresponding National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, as needed. 3. Revise National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for chemical manufacturing area sources to regulate ethylene oxide and conduct a residual risk review to ensure that the public is not exposed to unacceptable risks. 4. Conduct overdue technology reviews for Group I polymers and resins that cover neoprene production, synthetic organic chemical manufacturing industry, commercial sterilizers, hospital sterilizers, and chemical manufacturing area sources, which are required to be completed at least every eight years by the Clean Air Act.	Rec. 2: Unresolved Rec. 3: Unresolved Rec. 4: 9/30/24	Rec. 2: 9/30/24, 12/31/25 Rec. 3: 9/30/28 Rec. 4: 12/31/25	—
Report No. 21-P-0122, <i>Improved Review Processes Could Advance EPA Regions 3 and 5 Oversight of State-Issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits</i> , issued April 21, 2021	Region 3	2. Review the modified National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System mining permits issued by West Virginia based on the 2019 revisions to its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program to determine whether the permits contain effluent limits for ionic pollution and other pollutants that are or may be discharged at a level that causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion above any applicable water quality standard, as required by Clean	Unresolved	12/31/22, [‡] 1/31/25, 3/31/25, 9/30/25	—

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Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)*
		Water Act regulations. If a permit lacks required effluent limits, take appropriate action to address such deficiencies.			
Report No. 20-P-0173, <i>Further Efforts Needed to Uphold Scientific Integrity Policy at EPA</i> , issued May 20, 2020	ORD/ Science Advisor	<p>6. In coordination with the assistant administrator for Mission Support, complete the development and implementation of the electronic clearance system for scientific products across the Agency.</p> <p>7. With the assistance of the Scientific Integrity Committee, finalize and release the procedures for addressing and resolving allegations of a violation of the Scientific Integrity Policy, and incorporate the procedures into scientific integrity outreach and training materials.</p> <p>8. With the assistance of the Scientific Integrity Committee, develop and implement a process specifically to address and resolve allegations of Scientific Integrity Policy violations involving high profile issues or senior officials, and specify when this process should be used.</p>	<p>Rec. 6: 6/30/22</p> <p>Rec. 7: 9/30/20</p> <p>Rec. 8: 6/30/21</p>	<p>Rec. 6: 6/30/24, 6/30/26</p> <p>Rec. 7: 4/30/22, 6/30/22, 3/31/23, 6/30/24, 6/30/26</p> <p>Rec. 8: 6/30/22, 3/31/23, 6/30/24, 6/30/26</p>	—
Report No. 20-P-0146, <i>EPA’s Processing Times for New Source Air Permits in Indian Country Have Improved, but Many Still Exceed Regulatory Time Frames</i> , issued April 22, 2020	OAR	<p>1. Implement a system that is accessible to both the EPA and the applicants to track the processing of all tribal-New-Source-Review permits and key permit dates, including application received, application completed, draft permit issued, public comment period (if applicable), and final permit issuance.</p> <p>2. Establish and implement an oversight process to verify that the regions update the tribal-New-Source-Review permit tracking system on a periodic basis with the correct and required information.</p>	<p>Rec. 1: 9/30/21</p> <p>Rec. 2: 3/31/22</p>	<p>Rec. 1: 9/30/22, 9/30/23, 9/30/24, 9/30/25</p> <p>Rec. 2: 9/30/22, 9/30/23, 9/30/24, 9/30/25</p>	—
Report No. 19-P-0207, <i>EPA Effectively Screens Air Emissions Data from Continuous Monitoring Systems but Could Enhance Verification of System Performance</i> , issued June 27, 2019	OAR	<p>1. Develop and implement electronic checks in the EPA’s Emissions Collection and Monitoring Plan System or through an alternative mechanism to retroactively evaluate emissions and quality assurance data in instances where monitoring plan changes are submitted after the emissions and quality assurance data have already been accepted by the EPA.</p>	3/31/25	9/30/25	—

Appendix 3

Report	Action office	Unimplemented recommendations	The EPA’s planned completion date at the time of report issuance	The EPA’s revised planned completion dates	Potential cost savings in thousands (\$)†
Report No. 18-P-0080, <i>EPA Needs to Evaluate the Impact of the Revised Agricultural Worker Protection Standard on Pesticide Exposure Incidents</i> , issued February 15, 2018	OCSPP	1. In coordination with the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, develop and implement a methodology to evaluate the impact of the revised Agricultural Worker Protection Standard on pesticide exposure incidents among target populations.	Unresolved	12/31/22, 12/31/23, 6/28/24, 1/15/25, 7/15/25	—
Report No. 10-P-0224, <i>EPA Should Revise Outdated or Inconsistent EPA-State Clean Water Act Memoranda of Agreement</i> , issued September 14, 2010	OW	2-2. Develop a systematic approach to identify which states have outdated or inconsistent memorandums of agreements; renegotiate and update those Memorandums of Agreements using the Memorandum of Agreements template; and secure the active involvement and final, documented concurrence of headquarters to ensure national consistency.	9/30/17	9/30/20, 9/30/22, 9/30/23, 4/30/25	—
Report No. 08-P-0196, <i>Making Better Use of Stringfellow Superfund Special Accounts</i> , issued July 9, 2008	Region 9	2. Reclassify or transfer to the Trust Fund, as appropriate, \$27.8 million (plus any earned interest less oversight costs) of the Stringfellow special accounts in annual reviews, and at other milestones including the end of fiscal year 2010, when the record of decision is signed and the final settlement is achieved.	12/31/12	9/30/23, 9/30/26	27,800.00

Note: An em dash (—) indicates that the column header does not apply to the report. For example, an em dash in the “revised planned completion dates” column means that there have been no revisions to the planned completion date as of March 31, 2025, and an em dash in the “potential cost savings” column means that no potential cost savings were identified. *Unresolved* means that at the time a recommendation that was issued in an OIG final report, the OIG and the Agency had not agreed on corrective actions or a planned completion date, but a date in the “revised planned completion dates” column means the matter was later resolved.

Source: OIG analysis of OIG final reports, EPA response memorandums, and inspector general responses as well as the Agency’s Enterprise Audit Management System. (EPA OIG)

* *Potential cost savings* is defined as questioned costs plus funds to be put to better use.

† The OCSPP completed this corrective action on February 16, 2022. That was the date the OCSPP held its first annual training series on the office’s commitment to the *Scientific Integrity Policy* and principles and to promote a culture of scientific integrity. March 31, 2026, is the OCSPP’s planned final training date. The OCSPP has completed annual trainings for 2022 and 2023 on time and plans to host annual trainings until 2026 to implement this recommendation.

‡ This date was provided to the OIG by Region 3 in its June 17, 2021 response to the OIG’s final report. The OIG accepted the proposed corrective action and planned completion date for Recommendation 3, while Recommendations 1 and 2 remained unresolved. The OIG and Region 3 corresponded several times about Recommendation 2, including a briefing held by Region 3 on October 25, 2021. In a memorandum dated December 13, 2021, the OIG accepted Region 3’s proposed corrective actions to address Recommendation 2 but did not receive a revised planned completion date. After the OIG accepted the proposed corrective actions for Recommendation 2, Region 3 provided a revised planned completion date, which is reflected above.

Appendix 4: Closed Investigations Involving Senior Employees

Section 5(a)(13) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires that we report on each investigation involving a senior government employee in which allegations of misconduct were substantiated. Section 5(a)(16) of the Act requires a detailed description of the particular circumstances of any investigation conducted by the OIG involving a senior government employee that is closed and was not disclosed to the public. Below are details on each investigation we conducted involving senior employees that were not already reported in the previous sections of this document and that we closed during this semiannual reporting period.

Case Number: 2024-0012-31

An EPA senior executive service and three GS-15 current or former EPA employees allegedly engaged in unapproved outside employment activities that were in direct conflict with their EPA duties and responsibilities. The investigation was inconclusive.

Case Number: 2024-0002-31

Two former EPA political appointees allegedly engaged in ethics violations by failing to report income that they received from their former employer on their Office of Government Ethics Form 278, *Public Financial Disclosure*. A third former EPA senior executive service employee allegedly failed to disclose on the Office of Government Ethics Form 278 a connection to a nonprofit organization. The matters were referred but not prosecuted.

Appendix 5: Peer Reviews Conducted

Section 5(a)(8) of the Inspector General Act, 5 U.S.C. § 405, requires an appendix containing the results of any peer review conducted of the EPA OIG by another OIG during the reporting period or, if no such peer review was conducted, a statement identifying the date of the last peer review conducted of the EPA OIG by another OIG. Section 5(a)(9) of the Act requires a list of any outstanding recommendations from any peer review conducted of the EPA OIG by another OIG that have not been fully implemented. Section 5(a)(10) of the Act requires a list of all peer reviews conducted by the EPA OIG of another OIG during the reporting period, including a list of any recommendations from any previous peer review that remain outstanding.

The EPA OIG did not conduct any peer reviews of another OIG during the reporting period. There were no peer reviews of the EPA OIG by another OIG concluded during the reporting period. Below are details regarding the most recent peer reviews that another OIG conducted of the EPA OIG. There are no outstanding recommendations from these peer reviews.

Audit

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration OIG issued the most recent peer review report on the EPA OIG's audit component on April 15, 2021. The peer review covered the three-year period ending September 30, 2020, and found that the EPA OIG suitably designed and complied with its system of quality control to provide the EPA OIG with reasonable assurance that it performed and reported audit work in conformity with applicable standards in all material respects. The EPA OIG received an external peer review rating of "pass."

Evaluation

The Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction issued the most recent peer review report on the EPA OIG's evaluation component on April 11, 2024. The peer review covered the three-year period ending September 30, 2023, and found that the EPA OIG's policies and procedures for the evaluation operations generally were consistent with the *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, or Blue Book, standards addressed in the external peer review.

Investigation

The Amtrak OIG completed the most recent mandated Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency quality assurance review of our Office of Investigations and issued its related report on August 3, 2023. The Amtrak OIG determined that our system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative operations complied with the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency quality standards and other applicable guidelines and statutes. The Amtrak OIG determined that our safeguards and procedures provided reasonable assurance that we conformed to professional standards in planning, executing, and reporting EPA OIG investigations and using law enforcement powers.

Appendix 6: OIG Contact Information

To report potential fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement, contact the OIG Hotline:

Online
Hotline complaint [form](#)

Phone
(888) 546-8740

Email
OIG.Hotline@epa.gov

For congressional and media inquiries, contact the Office of Congressional and Public Affairs using the information below:

Phone
(202) 566-2391

Email
OIG.PublicAffairs@epa.gov

To submit a general comment or question about the EPA Office of Inspector General, contact us via one of the following methods:

Online
Contact [form](#)

Phone
(202) 250-8800

Mail
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Inspector General
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mail Code: 2410T
Washington, D.C. 20460

To suggest projects or provide input related to our project notifications, contact us via one of the following methods:

Email
OIG.WEBCOMMENTS@epa.gov (Use the subject "Suggestions for Projects")

Phone
(202) 566-2391

Mail
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Inspector General
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mail Code: 2431T
Washington, D.C. 20460



Whistleblower Protection

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The whistleblower protection coordinator's role is to educate Agency employees about prohibitions against retaliation for protected disclosures and the rights and remedies against retaliation. For more information, please visit the OIG's whistleblower protection [webpage](#).

Contact us:



Congressional & Media Inquiries: OIG.PublicAffairs@epa.gov



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