



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

June 9, 2021

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Evaluation:
EPA Compliance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act for FY 2021
Project No. OA-FY21-0206

FROM: LaSharn Barnes, Director *LaSharn Barnes*
Information Resources Management Directorate
Office of Audit

TO: Donna Vizian, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Mission Support

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to begin our evaluation of the EPA's compliance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014, including a review of a 2021 hotline allegation related to software management within the Risk Management FISMA domain. This evaluation is statutorily required and is included in our [Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Plan](#).

The OIG's objectives are to (1) conduct an independent evaluation of the EPA's compliance with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security *Fiscal Year 2021 Inspector General FISMA Reporting Metrics* and (2) determine whether the EPA followed its processes to investigate and remove unapproved software from the network.

The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters and regional EPA offices as needed. The evaluation will be conducted using *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. The anticipated benefit of this evaluation is to contribute to the Agency's theme of "Embracing EPA as a High-Performing Organization."

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives. We would also be particularly interested in any areas of concern that you may have. We will answer any of your questions about the evaluation process, reporting procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the evaluation. Throughout the evaluation, we will provide updates on a regular basis.

We respectfully note that the OIG is authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete its objectives. We will request that you resolve the situation if an Agency employee or contractor refuses to provide requested materials to the

OIG or otherwise fails to cooperate with the OIG. We may report unresolved access matters to the administrator and include the incident in the *Semiannual Report to Congress*.

We will post this memorandum on our public website at www.epa.gov/oig.

cc: Janet McCabe, Deputy Administrator
Dan Utech, Chief of Staff, Office of the Administrator
Wesley J. Carpenter, Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Avi Garbow, Special Advisor to the Administrator
Andrew LeBlanc, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
Jose Kercado, Backup Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
Vaughn Noga, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Environmental Information and Chief Information Officer, Office of Mission Support
Mitchell Hauser, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Mission Support
Lindsay Hamilton, Associate Administrator for Public Affairs
Lance McCluney, Director, Office of Administrative and Executive Services, Office of the Administrator
Brian Epley, Director, Office of Information Technology Operations, Office of Mission Support
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Tonya J. Manning, Acting Director, Office of Information Security and Privacy, Office of Mission Support
Michael Hardy, Director, Administrative System Support Staff, Office of Mission Support
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