



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

January 20, 2015

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
EPA Progress on Meeting Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Statutory Mandate
for Minimum Frequency of Inspections at Hazardous Waste Disposal Facilities
Project No. OPE-FY15-0018

FROM: Christina Lovingood, Director /s/
Land Cleanup and Waste Management Evaluations
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research on EPA's progress in meeting minimum inspection requirements under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) at treatment, storage and disposal facilities (TSDFs). This project is included in our fiscal year 2015 annual plan.

Our objective is to determine whether the EPA is ensuring that inspections are performed at the statutorily required frequency for TSDFs. The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters and in selected EPA regions. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project are ensuring public health and the environment are protected by verifying that the EPA is inspecting TSDFs at the frequency mandated by RCRA.

We will work with your Audit Follow-Up Coordinators to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives and the purpose of the preliminary research phase of our project. We will answer any of your questions about the project process, reporting procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the course of the project. We would also be particularly interested in any areas of concern that you may have. Throughout the project, we will provide updates on a regular basis, as agreed upon at this meeting.

We respectfully note that the OIG is authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978 to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete its objectives. We will request your resolution if an agency employee or contractor refuses to provide requested records 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.

The project will be supervised by me and the Project Manager, Chad Kincheloe. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact me at (202) 566-2906 or lovingood.tina@epa.gov, or Chad Kincheloe at (312) 886-6530 or kincheloe.chad@epa.gov.

cc: Lawrence Starfield, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Gwendolyn Spriggs, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Barry Breen, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
Kecia Thornton, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
Arthur A. Elkins Jr., Inspector General
Charles Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General
Aracely Nunez-Mattocks, Chief of Staff, OIG
Alan Larsen, Counsel to the Inspector General
Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit
Carolyn Copper, Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation
Patricia Hill, Assistant Inspector General for Mission Systems
Patrick Sullivan, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations
Christine El-Zoghbi, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation
Jennifer Kaplan, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs
Jeffrey Lagda, Congressional and Media Liaison, OIG