



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

March 21, 2014

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification: National Pesticide Information Center Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Enforcement Referrals
Project No. OPE-FY14-0035

FROM: Jeffrey Harris, Director
Toxics, Chemical Management and Pollution Prevention Evaluations
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Jim Jones, Assistant Administrator
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) is starting preliminary research on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) oversight of the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) program. The OIG's preliminary research objective is to determine how effective NPIC is at reporting enforcement and compliance incidents to the appropriate State Lead Agencies (SLAs). The anticipated benefit of this project is to ensure the consistent and effective communication of reported incidents that could lead to enforcement actions between NPIC and SLAs. This project is included in the OIG's fiscal year 2014 Annual Plan.

The purpose of this memorandum is to confirm our mutual understanding on the objective and scope for the evaluation, and the responsibilities of the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) and the OIG during the project. We plan to perform work within OCSPP, at the grantee, and contact state stakeholders as appropriate. We will conduct the project using applicable *Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards*.

We will contact you through your Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Eric Burman, to arrange a mutually agreeable time to meet and discuss our objectives, the purpose of the preliminary research phase of our project, and any areas of concern that you may have. We will answer any questions you or your designees may have 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 will provide updates on a regular basis to agreed-upon OCSPP contacts.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact me at (202) 566-0831 or harris.jeffrey@epa.gov; or Jee Kim, Project Manager, at (202) 566-2912 or kim.jee@epa.gov.

cc: Louise P. Wise, Deputy Assistant Administrator, OCSPP
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