

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

May 22, 2014

MEMORANDUM

- SUBJECT: New Assignment Notification: Evaluation of Enforcement Decree Compliance for Selected Clean Air Act Sources Project No. OPE-FY14-0016
- FROM:Rick Beusse, Director/s/Air Issues, Office of Program Evaluation
- **TO:**Cynthia Giles, Assistant AdministratorOffice of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify you that the Office of Inspector General (OIG) plans to begin the preliminary research phase of an evaluation of enforcement decree compliance for selected Clean Air Act (CAA) sources. This project is included in our fiscal year 2014 annual plan. We plan to address the following objective:

• Determine whether the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has ensured that selected facilities with CAA violations are complying with key terms of their enforcement agreements (e.g., consent decrees).

During the preliminary research phase, we plan to review documents, analyze data, and interview managers and staff from the EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) and selected EPA regions. We will provide updates on a regular basis to agreed-upon contacts from your offices.

We will contact your audit liaison to arrange a mutually agreeable time for a kickoff meeting to discuss the assignment objective and our planned work. We will also answer any questions about the evaluation process and reporting procedures.

Prior to our kickoff meeting, we request that you provide us with copies of or links to the following materials:

• OECA policies, procedures, guidance and protocols pertaining to the monitoring of CAA consent decrees since 2006.

- OECA policies, procedures and guidance for regional, state and local agency periodic reporting on their monitoring of CAA consent decrees; particularly, CAA consent decrees with compliance schedules more than 12 months from the date of settlement.
- OECA policies, procedures and guidance for facilities operating under a CAA consent decree to periodically report their progress in meeting the terms and conditions of the consent decree to EPA and/or the appropriate state or local agency.

If you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (919) 541-5747 or <u>beusse.rick@epa.gov</u>; or Renee McGhee-Lenart, Project Manager, at (913) 551-7534 or <u>mcghee-lenart.renee@epa.gov</u>.

cc: Lawrence Starfield, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, OECA Gwendolyn Spriggs, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, OECA Regional Administrators, Regions 1-10 Regional Audit Liaisons, Regions 1-10 Arthur A. Elkins Jr., Inspector General Charles Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General Alan Larsen, Counsel to the Inspector General Carolyn Copper, Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation Kevin Christensen, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Audit 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 Renee McGhee-Lenart, Project Manager, Air Issues, OIG Bao Chuong, Air Issues, OIG Dan Howard, Air Issues, OIG Alicia Mariscal, Air Issues, OIG