

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

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

November 7, 2013

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Preliminary Research to Evaluate the Results of EPA's Drinking

Water State Revolving Fund Projects

Project No. OPE-FY14-0009

FROM: Carolyn Copper, Assistant Inspector General

Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Nancy K. Stoner, Acting Assistant Administrator

Office of Water

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) is beginning preliminary research on November 12, 2013, into the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). This evaluation is included in our fiscal year 2014 annual plan.

The purpose of this memorandum is to confirm our mutual understandings on the objectives and scope for the subject evaluation, as well as responsibilities of the Office of Water and the OIG during the project.

The OIG's preliminary research objective is to determine how the EPA and states demonstrate that completed DWSRF projects met project and program goals and contributed to improved drinking water quality and public health. We plan to perform work within the DWSRF program and the EPA regions and states under this program. We will conduct the project using applicable *Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards*.

We will contact your audit liaisons to arrange a kickoff meeting at a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives and the purpose of the preliminary research phase of the project. We will answer any questions that you 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. At the kickoff meeting, we will also be interested in hearing about any of your concerns.

If you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 566-0829 or <u>carolyn.copper@epa.gov</u>; or the Product Line Director, Dan Engelberg, at (202) 566-0830 or <u>engelberg.dan@epa.gov</u>. We will provide updates on a regular basis to agreed-upon contacts from your offices.

cc: Michael H. Shapiro, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Water Peter Grevatt, Director, Office of Groundwater and Drinking Water, Office of Water Eric Bissonette, Acting Deputy Director, Office of Groundwater and Drinking Water, Office of Water

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