



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

OFFICE OF  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

August 9, 2016

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Project Notification:  
Evaluation of EPA's Use of the Chemical Safety for Sustainability Strategic Research  
Action Plan Products  
Project No. OPE-FY16-0029

**FROM:** Jeffrey K. 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

Thomas Burke, Deputy Assistant Administrator and EPA Science Advisor  
Office of Research and Development

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research to evaluate the agency's use of the Office of Research and Development's Chemical Safety for Sustainability Strategic Research Action Plan 2012–2016. This project is included in the OIG's Annual Plan for fiscal year 2016.

Our objective is to evaluate whether the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSP) effectively incorporates products developed by the strategic research action plan (e.g., dashboards and the enhanced ToxCast™) into meeting OCSP's priority settings, toxicity testing, and risk assessment needs. During the preliminary research phase, we will focus on the completion and utility of the plan's actions and products, specifically Theme 7 (dashboards). The OIG plans to conduct initial work at EPA headquarters. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project are to ensure that products and tools set forth in the Chemical Safety for Sustainability Strategic Research Action Plan 2012–2016 are being fully used to accomplish the EPA's mission to manage risks from chemicals.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives and the purpose of the preliminary research phase of our project. We would also be particularly interested in any areas of concern that you may have. 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. Throughout the project, we will provide monthly updates via scheduled teleconference calls with your designated officials.

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.

I will supervise the project, and the Project Manager will be Jerri Dorsey. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-0831 or [harris.jeffrey@epa.gov](mailto:harris.jeffrey@epa.gov); or to Jerri Dorsey at (919) 541-3601 or [dorsey.jerri@epa.gov](mailto:dorsey.jerri@epa.gov).

cc: Louise Wise, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
Janet Weiner, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
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