

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

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

9/19/16

MEMORANDUM

- SUBJECT: Project Notification: EPA Oversight of Delegated State Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Programs Project No. OPE-FY16-0033
- **FROM:** Tina Lovingood, Director /s/ Land Cleanup and Waste Management Evaluations Office of Program Evaluation
- TO: Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator Office of Land and Emergency Management

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research on the EPA's oversight of authorized state hazardous waste programs that fall under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Our review will include the Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery (ORCR) within the Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM). This project is included in the OIG's Annual Plan for fiscal year 2016.

During preliminary research, our objective is to determine what oversight the EPA provides to ensure that states implement new RCRA regulations. The OIG plans to conduct work at ORCR and selected EPA regions. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project are improved oversight and efficiency of delegated state programs.

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 email updates to an agreed-upon point of contact.

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 Steve Hanna. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-2906 or <u>lovingood.tina@epa.gov</u>, or to Steve Hanna at (415) 947-4527 or hanna.steve@epa.gov.

cc: Barry N. Breen, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, OLEM Nitin Natarajan, Deputy Assistant Administrator, OLEM Barnes Johnson, Director, Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery, OLEM Kathleen Salyer, Deputy Director, Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery, OLEM Sonya Sasseville, Director, Program Implementation and Information Division. Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery, OLEM Kecia Thornton, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, OLEM Nic Grzegozewski, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator Frank Benenati, Associate Administrator for Public Affairs Melissa Harrison, Press Secretary, Office of Public Affairs Arthur A. Elkins Jr., Inspector General Charles Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General Alan Larsen, Counsel to the Inspector General Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit Carolyn Copper, Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation Patrick Sullivan, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Edward Shields, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Management 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, Office of Inspector General Regional Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1–10