



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

February 6, 2017

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
Review of an EPA and North Carolina Response to a Violation of the Asbestos National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) at the Old Davis Hospital in Statesville, North Carolina
Project No. OPE-FY17-0010

FROM: Eric Lewis, Director /s/
Special Program Reviews
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Anne Heard, Acting Regional Administrator
Region 4

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin field work to determine whether EPA Region 4 and the state of North Carolina followed appropriate procedures in addressing claims of an improper asbestos demolition at the Old Davis Hospital in Statesville, North Carolina. This project is included in the OIG's Annual Plan for fiscal year 2017.

The OIG plans to conduct work at Region 4. We may also contact other EPA, state, or local offices, to be determined later. To conduct our work, we are requesting that Region 4 identify its points of contact for this review. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project are improvements in the protection of human health from asbestos exposure that can cause mesothelioma, lung cancer and asbestosis.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives and the purpose 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 updates on a regular basis.

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 Dwayne Crawford. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-2664 or lewis.eric@epa.gov, or to Dwayne Crawford at (202) 566-2894 or crawford.dwayne@epa.gov.

cc: Ken Lapiere, Acting Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 4
Beverly Banister, Director, Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, Region 4
Franklin Hill, Director, Superfund Division, Region 4
Scott Gordon, Director, Office of Enforcement Coordination, Region 4
Denise Tennessee, Director, Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability, Region 4
Benita Deane, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
George Hull, Acting Associate Administrator for Public Affairs
Monica Lee, Press Secretary, Office of Public Affairs
Kathie Johnson, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Region 4
Regional Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1–10
Arthur A. Elkins Jr., Inspector General
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