

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

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

DEC 0 6 2017

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Corrective Actions Plan for Office of Inspector General Report No. 17-P-0395, *EPA Needs to Manage Pesticide Funds More Efficiently*, issued September 18, 2017

Arthur A. Elkins Jr. athen C. Elkin FROM:

TO: Charlotte Bertrand, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

Thank you for your memorandum dated November 13, 2017, which includes planned corrective actions for the remaining unresolved recommendations in the subject report. Recommendations 1 and 2 were unresolved when we issued the final report, and a response was therefore required; the third recommendation was resolved at the time we issued the final report.

During a meeting on October 18, 2017, you explained that efforts have already begun to spend down the current balances for both the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act and the Pesticides Registration Improvement Act Funds to within the established target range. In your memorandum, you agreed to develop a spend-down projection and establish a target range for the balance of the funds. Your spend-down projection shows the Pesticides Registration Improvement Act Fund balance being reduced to an acceptable target range.

We accept the agency's planned corrective actions for Recommendations 1 and 2, which are to establish a target range for its Pesticides Reregistration and Expedited Processing Fund and its Pesticide Registration Fund year-end balances, and to develop and implement a plan to reduce excess balances for the two funds within the established target range. We will close the recommendations in the Office of Inspector General tracking system as of the date of this memorandum. You should track implementation of EPA corrective actions in the agency's Management Audit Tracking System until all actions are completed.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation, at (202) 566-1007 or <u>christensen.kevin@epa.gov</u>; or Paul Curtis, Director, Financial Audits, at (202) 566-2523 or <u>curtis.paul@epa.gov</u>.

cc: Bobbie Trent, Agency Audit Follow-Up Coordinator Nancy Beck, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention Louise Wise, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

Oscar Morales, Associate Assistant Administrator for Management, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

Janet Weiner, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention David Bloom, Acting Chief Financial Officer

Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

Richard Eyermann, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit

Paul Curtis, Director, Financial Audits, Office of Inspector General

Demetrios Papakonstantinou, Project Manager, Financial Audits, Office of Inspector General