MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification: EPA’s Management of Hurricane Harvey Funding
Project No. OA&E-FY18-0270

FROM: Michael D. Davis, Director, Efficiency Directorate
Office of Audit and Evaluation

TO: See Below

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research in August 2018 of the EPA’s management of Hurricane Harvey funding. This is an OIG-initiated project.

The OIG’s objective is to determine whether the EPA, in its emergency response to Hurricane Harvey, effectively managed the Disaster Relief Funding received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The OIG plans to conduct work with your offices and, as needed, other program and regional offices. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project are to improve EPA business practices and accountability, and improve stewardship and operational efficiency.

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 updates on a regular basis via email or teleconference to your designated point of contact.

To expedite our review, we request that you please provide us with the following information in reference to Hurricane Harvey response and recovery, if available, before or at the kickoff meeting:

- Sources of all funding, type of funding, date and amounts received.
- List of all Hurricane Harvey mission assignments.
- List of all Compass “ORG” codes related to Hurricane Harvey.
• Listing of all expenses related to Hurricane Harvey, such as contracts, purchase orders, purchase cards transactions, grants, etc.
• Listing of all property and equipment acquisitions.

We respectfully note that the OIG is authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete its objectives. We will request that you resolve the situation 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.

The project will be supervised by me and the Project Manager will be Heather Layne. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (513) 487-2363 or davis.michaeld@epa.gov, or Heather Layne at (617) 918-1486 or layne.heather@epa.gov.

Addresees:
Donna J. Vizian, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Administration and Resources Management
Barry N. Breen, Acting Assistant Administrator for Land and Emergency Management
Trey Glenn, Regional Administrator, EPA Region 4
Anne L. Idsal, Regional Administrator, EPA Region 6

cc:
  Ryan Jackson, Chief of Staff
  Henry Darwin, Acting Deputy Administrator
  Michael Molina, Special Advisor, Office of the Administrator
  Reggie Cheatham, Director, Office of Emergency Management, Office of Land and Emergency Management
  Ken Lapierre, Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Administration and Resources Management
  Bob Trent, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
  Nancy Grantham, Principal Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Affairs
  Kimberly Patrick, Director, Office of Acquisition Management, Office of Administration and Resources Management
  Kecia Thornton, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Land and Emergency Management
  Lauren Lemley, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Administration and Resources Management
  Celia Vaughn, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Acquisition Management, Office of Administration and Resources Management
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  Arthur A. Elkins Jr., Inspector General
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