



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

November 8, 2018

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
EPA Oversight of the States' Managed Pollinator Protection Plans
Project No. OA&E-FY19-0029

FROM: Jeffrey Harris, Director
Toxics, Chemical Management and Pollution Prevention Directorate
Office of Audit and Evaluation

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

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research on the Office of Pesticides support of states' Managed Pollinator Protection Plans. This project is based on the OIG's internal planning process.

The OIG's objective is to evaluate how the EPA is overseeing states' Managed Pollinator Protection Plans designed to reduce pesticide exposure to bees. The OIG plans to conduct work at headquarters and selected regions as necessary. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project include reduced risks to bees and other pollinators through improvements in the management of states' Managed Pollinator Protection Plans.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objective 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 and/or meetings with your designated point of contact.

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 objective. 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*.

As we are working to schedule the initial meeting, we would request that the Office of Pesticide Programs provide a current list of primary contacts for each state and the status of each state's Managed Pollinator Protection Plan. This information should be sent to Chad Kincheloe, Project Manager, at kincheloe.chad@epa.gov.

Any questions related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-0831 or harris.jeffrey@epa.gov, or Chad Kincheloe at (312) 886-6530 or kincheloe.chad@epa.gov.

cc: Henry Darwin, Acting Deputy Administrator
Ryan Jackson, Chief of Staff
Michael Molina, Special Advisor, Office of the Administrator
Nancy Beck, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Erik Baptist, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Louise Wise, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Rick P. Keigwin Jr., Director, Office of Pesticide Programs, Office of Chemical Safety and
Pollution Prevention
Janet Weiner, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Bob Trent, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
Nancy Grantham, Principal Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Affairs
Regional Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1–10
Charles J. Sheehan, Acting Inspector General
Edward Shields, Acting Deputy Inspector General
Alan Larsen, Counsel to the Inspector General
Kevin Christensen, Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Allan Williams, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Investigations
James Nussbaumer, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Management
Christine El-Zoghbi, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Richard Eyermann, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Jennifer Kaplan, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs
Jeffrey Lagda, Congressional and Media Liaison, Office of Inspector General
Tia Elbaum, Congressional and Media Liaison, Office of Inspector General