



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

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

March 15, 2021

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Response to Corrective Actions for Office of Inspector General Report No. [20-P-0331](#), *EPA's Lack of Oversight Resulted in Serious Issues Related to an Office of Water Contract, Including Potential Misallocation of Funds*, issued September 25, 2020

FROM: Sean W. O'Donnell 

TO: Radhika Fox, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Water

Thank you for your January 14, 2021 memorandum, which outlines the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's corrective actions and completion dates for Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 in the subject Office of Inspector General report. For Recommendation 1 the final report language required the Office of Water to:

Reconcile all allocation of funds for Contract No. EP-C-16-001's appropriation accounts, individual work assignment funds, and document control numbers; promptly reimburse the Office of Water, regions, and states, as appropriate; and recoup any funds misallocated.

After resolution meetings with the Office of Water, the Office offered an alternative corrective action: to reconcile appropriation accounts and document control numbers. The OIG agreed to this alternative corrective action. Subsequently, the Office of Water provided documentation to meet the terms of that alternative corrective action. Therefore, we consider the recommendation completed. However, we plan to review the accuracy of this reconciliation in our current ongoing evaluation of this contract and could make additional recommendations based on the results of that review.

For Recommendation 2, this recommendation was originally issued to the Office of Mission Support but was subsequently reassigned to the Office of Water. The OIG agreed with this reassignment of the recommendation and determined that the Agency met the intent of the recommendation.

For recommendation 3, the Agency provided supporting documentation to meet the intent of the recommendation. Recommendation 4, which was issued to the Office of Water, was previously completed. Recommendations 5 and 6, which were issued to the Office of Mission Support, were previously resolved.

Based on your memorandum and supporting documents, the Office of Inspector General has concluded that the Office of Water's corrective actions for Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 meet the intent of our recommendations. We consider these recommendations complete.

We will post this memorandum on our public website at www.epa.gov/oig.

cc: Benita Best-Wong, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water
John Goodin, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water
Andrew Sawyers, Director, Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water
Tiffany Crawford, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Water
Mitchell Hauser, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Mission Support
Andrew LeBlanc, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
José Kercado, Backup Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
Charles J. Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General
Edward S. Shields, Associate Deputy Inspector General
Katherine Trimble, Assistant Inspector General for Audit
Rashmi Bartlett, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation
Christine El-Zoghbi, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation
James Hatfield, Associate Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit
Richard J. Eyermann, Director, Mission Support Directorate, Office of Audit, Office
of Inspector General
Khadija E. Walker, Director, Contracts and Assistance Agreements, Office of Inspector General