




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

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

December 13, 2021

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Response to Planned Corrective Actions for Office of Inspector General  
Report No. [21-E-0254](#), *Pandemic Highlights Need for Additional Tribal Drinking  
Water Assistance and Oversight in EPA Regions 9 and 10*, issued September 27, 2021

**FROM:** Sean W. O'Donnell 

**TO:** Michelle Pirzadeh, Acting Administrator  
Region 10

Thank you for your November 24, 2021 memorandum, which outlines the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's revised planned corrective actions and estimated completion dates for the four unresolved recommendations addressed to you in the subject Office of Inspector General report. Recommendation 8 was previously resolved. Based on the information and supporting documentation provided, we agree that the revised planned corrective actions meet the intent of Recommendations 6, 7, 9, and 10.

For Recommendation 6, Region 10 committed to implementing a strategy that includes outreach, training, guidance, and technical and financial assistance to tribal drinking water systems to improve their resilience.

For Recommendation 7, Region 10 agreed with the OIG's final report recommendation to develop and implement a strategy to help the direct implementation of the tribal drinking water program, including resuming sanitary surveys and inspections in a manner that considers the restrictions of each tribe due to the coronavirus pandemic.

For Recommendation 9, Region 10 committed to implementing lessons learned and, specifically, incorporating data management and ensuring the continuity of drinking water program activities, including data management and network connectivity.

For Recommendation 10, Region 10 committed to completing a workforce analysis to address staff workload and the skills needed for direct implementation of the tribal drinking water program.

We consider these recommendations resolved with corrective actions pending. You should track implementation of the corrective actions in the Agency's audit tracking system until all actions are completed.

We will post this memorandum on our public website at [www.epa.gov/oig](http://www.epa.gov/oig).

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