



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

December 19, 2025

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification:
Audit of the Voluntary School and Child Care Lead Testing and Reduction Grant Program
Project No. OA-FY26-0030

FROM: Katherine Trimble, Assistant Inspector General 
Office of Audit

TO: Jessica L. Kramer, Assistant Administrator
Office of Water

Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey, Regional Administrator
Region 3

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General plans to begin an audit on the Agency's *Voluntary School and Child Care Lead Testing and Reduction* grant program. This audit aligns with Administrator Lee Zeldin's Pillar 1: *Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American*, detailed in his February 2025 [initiative](#). The project number is OA-FY26-0030.

Our objective is to determine the extent to which the EPA has funded eligible activities and ensured accurate reporting in the *Voluntary School and Child Care Lead Testing and Reduction* grant program. We plan to conduct work in the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water within the Office of Water, EPA Region 3, and states within Region 3.

We will contact your office to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objective. At that time, we can discuss any concerns that you may have and answer any questions about the audit process, reporting procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the audit. Throughout the audit, we will provide updates on a regular basis.

We respectfully note that the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, authorizes the OIG to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete our objectives. Additionally, in an email dated February 7, 2025, to EPA employees, Administrator Lee Zeldin said that "the OIG requires information and assistance from EPA managers and staff on a regular basis" and outlined his expectation that EPA employees "report waste, fraud, and abuse to the OIG." He explained that this "responsibility to report appropriate activity to the OIG is one of the most important and successful means the OIG has for identifying and stopping wrongdoing" and that review and oversight enable the Agency to be more

effective in achieving its mission. If an Agency employee or contractor refuses to provide requested materials to the OIG or otherwise fails to cooperate with the OIG, we will request that you immediately resolve the situation. Consistent with the Inspector General Act, we may report unresolved access matters to the administrator and to Congress.

We will post this memorandum on our public website at www.epa.gov/oig. Anyone with knowledge of potential fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement related to this audit should contact the OIG Hotline at (888) 546-8740 or via an electronic form on the “OIG Hotline” [web page](#).

cc: David Fotouhi, Deputy Administrator
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