



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

January 16, 2026

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification:
Evaluation of the EPA's Progress in Fulfilling Infrastructure and Investment and Jobs Act Requirements Related to Water and Wastewater System Cybersecurity
Project No. OSRE-FY26-0034

FROM: Paul H. Bergstrand, Assistant Inspector General
Office of Special Review and Evaluation

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

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General plans to begin a self-initiated evaluation. Our objective is to determine the EPA's progress in fulfilling Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, or IIJA, requirements related to protecting critical water and wastewater systems from cybersecurity threats. We plan to conduct work within the EPA Office of Water. We will conduct the evaluation using *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

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

We will also send a separate request for documentation. To expedite our evaluation, please provide the requested information as soon as possible. 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. Similarly, EPA Manual 6500, *Functions and Activities of the Office of Inspector General* (1994), requires that each EPA employee cooperate with and fully disclose information to the OIG. Additionally, Administrator Lee Zeldin, in a February 7, 2025 email to EPA employees, 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 enables 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 evaluation 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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