



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

November 24, 2014

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Project Notification:
Evaluation of EPA Oversight of Disaster Debris Management
Project No. OPE-FY15-0012

FROM: Christina Lovingood, Director /s/
Land Cleanup and Waste Management Issues
Office of Program Evaluation

TO: Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to begin preliminary research on EPA's oversight of disaster debris management in December 2014. This project is included in our fiscal year 2015 annual plan.

The OIG's objective is to determine whether the EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) has controls in place to ensure the long-term safety of landfills used to dispose of disaster debris. The OIG plans to conduct work at OSWER and selected EPA regions and authorized states. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our project. The anticipated benefits of this project are reduced human exposure and environmental contamination, and reduced potential Superfund liability and cleanup costs.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives 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 email updates to agreed-upon contacts on a regular basis

We respectfully note that the OIG is authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978 to have timely access to personnel and all materials necessary to complete its objectives. We will request your resolution 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.

The project will be supervised by me, and the Project Manager will be Steve Hanna. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-2906 or lovingood.tina@epa.gov, or Steve Hanna at (415) 947-4527 or hanna.steve@epa.gov.

cc: Barry Breen, Deputy Assistant Administrator, OSWER
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