



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

March 16, 2020

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Evaluation:
EPA's Oversight of Special Local Need Registrations Under the Federal Insecticide,
Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
Project No. OA&E-FY20-0123

FROM: Jeffrey Harris, Director
Toxics, Chemical Management, and Pollution Prevention Directorate
Office of Audit and Evaluation

TO: Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Assistant Administrator
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to begin an evaluation regarding the EPA's oversight of Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Section 24(c) special local need registrations. This evaluation is included in our *Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Plan*.

The OIG's objective is to determine whether management controls within the 24(c) registration program effectively promote the EPA's goals of risk reduction and pollution prevention. The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters and selected regions, as needed. The evaluation will be conducted using *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. The anticipated benefits of this evaluation include greater assurance that adequate controls are in place to promote the EPA's goal of risk reduction and pollution prevention.

We will contact you to arrange a mutually agreeable time to discuss our objectives. We would also be particularly interested in any areas of concern that you may have. We will answer any of your 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.

To expedite our evaluation, please be ready to provide the following information at the entrance conference:

- Information on how the EPA collects and tracks 24(c) registration applications.
- Status of the EPA's proposed 24(c) monitoring program.

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

resolve the situation if an agency employee or contractor refuses to provide requested materials 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*.

I will supervise the evaluation, and the Project Manager will be Laretta Joseph. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 566-0831 or harris.jeffrey@epa.gov or to Laretta Joseph at (212) 637-3049 or joseph.lauretta@epa.gov.

cc: Henry Darwin, Assistant Deputy Administrator
Doug Benevento, Associate Deputy Administrator
Amanda Gunasekara, Chief of Staff
Kevin DeBell, Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
David Fischer, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Richard P. Keigwin, Jr., Director, Office of Pesticide Programs
Janet Weiner, Audit Follow-Up Coordinator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Andrew LeBlanc, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
Corry Schiermeyer, Associate Administrator for Public Affairs
Regional Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1–10
Sean W. O'Donnell, Inspector General
Charles J. Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General
Edward S. Shields, Associate Deputy Inspector General
Eric Hanger, Deputy Counsel to the Inspector General
Christine El-Zoghbi, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Helina Wong, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations
Stephanie Wright, Acting Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Management
Richard Eyermann, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Rashmi Bartlett, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Kathlene Butler, Acting Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
Jeffrey Lagda, Acting Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs
Tia Elbaum, Congressional and Media Liaison, Office of Inspector General