

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

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

May 25, 2023

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Evaluation:

Review of the EPA's Trusted Workforce Enhanced Personnel Security Program

Implementation

Project No. OSRE-FY23-0076

FROM: Steve Hanna, Acting Director

Programs, Offices, and Centers Oversight Directorate

Office of Special Review and Evaluation

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Date: 2023.05.25

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TO: Kimberly Patrick, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator

Office of Mission Support

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General plans to begin a mandated evaluation of the EPA's enhanced personnel security program. This evaluation is necessary for the OIG to comply with the mandated review requirement of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Pub. L. 114-113) as codified at 5 U.S.C. § 11001.

Our objective is to determine the EPA's progress in implementing a fair and effective enhanced personnel security program in accordance with the Director of National Intelligence's performance standards. We plan to conduct work with the Office of Administration's Security Management Division within the Office of Mission Support. We will conduct the review using *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. The anticipated benefit of this evaluation is greater assurance that all practices and controls are in place to mitigate the risk posed by personnel who potentially represent a threat to national security.

We will contact you 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 review process, reporting procedures, methods used to gather and analyze data, and what we should expect of each other during the evaluation. Throughout the review, 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. 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. Also, Administrator Michael S. Regan, in an April 28, 2021 email message to EPA employees conveyed his "expectation that EPA personnel provide OIG timely access to records or other information" and observed that "full cooperation with the OIG is in the best interest of the public we serve." 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 IG 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" webpage.

cc: Janet McCabe, Deputy Administrator

Dan Utech, Chief of Staff, Office of the Administrator

Jon Monger, Assistant Deputy Administrator

Wesley J. Carpenter, Deputy Chief of Staff for Management, Office of the Administrator

Andrew Schreyer, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Mission Support

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