



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

OFFICE OF  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

November 21, 2022

Steve Owens  
Interim Executive Authority and Board Member  
U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board  
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 910  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Owens:

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board plans to begin an audit of the CSB's reporting of improper payments during fiscal year 2022. This audit is required by the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 and is included in the OIG's [oversight plan](#) for fiscal year 2022. The project number for this audit is OA-FY23-0039.

The OIG's objective is to determine whether the CSB complied with the Payment Integrity Information Act in fiscal year 2022. Applicable generally accepted government auditing standards will be used in conducting our audit. The anticipated benefits of this audit are to ensure compliance with mandated reporting requirements; foster improvement in improper payment rates; and identify risks of fraud, waste, and abuse or gaps in internal controls.

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 auditing 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 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 immediately resolve the situation if a CSB 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 in the *Semiannual Report to Congress*.

We will post this letter on our public website at [www.epa.gov/oig](http://www.epa.gov/oig). Anyone with knowledge of potential fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement related to this audit should contact the OIG's hotline at (888) 546-8740 or via an electronic form on the "OIG Hotline" [webpage](#).

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Khadija', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Khadija Walker, Director  
Business Operations Directorate  
Office of Audit

cc: Dr. Sylvia Johnson, Board Member  
Michele Bouziane, Acting General Counsel, CSB  
Sabrina Morris, Acting Director of Administration, CSB  
Stephen Klejst, Executive Director of Investigations and Recommendations, CSB  
Andrew Staddon, Chief Information Officer, CSB  
David LaCerte, Senior Advisor and Executive Counsel, CSB  
Sean W. O'Donnell, Inspector General  
Nicole N. Murley, Acting Deputy Inspector General  
Benjamin May, Counsel to the Inspector General  
Kellie J. Walker, Chief of Staff, Office of Inspector General  
Katherine Trimble, Assistant Inspector General for Audit  
Paul H. Bergstrand, Assistant Inspector General for Special Review and Evaluation  
Jason Abend, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations  
Tom Collick, Deputy Counsel to the Inspector General  
Erin Barnes-Weaver, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation  
Sandra John, Acting Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit  
Marcus Gullett, Acting Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit  
James Hatfield, Special Advisor, Office of Audit, Office of Inspector General  
Susan Barvenik, Associate Deputy Counsel to the Inspector General  
Jennifer Kaplan, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Congressional and Public Affairs  
Lori Hoffman, Congressional and Media Liaison, Office of Inspector General