

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

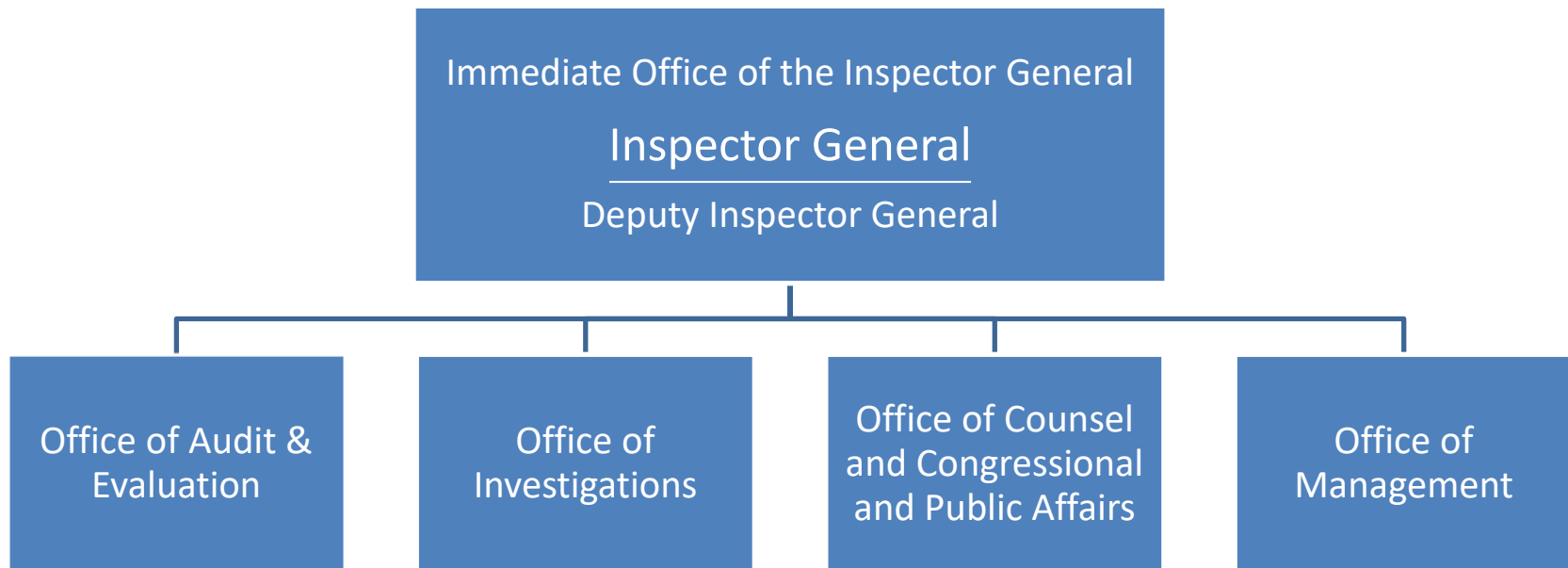
Office of Inspector General (OIG)

OIG Office of Audit & Evaluation Update

Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies

2019 Fall Business Meeting

OIG Organization



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

@EPAoig
www.epa.gov/oig

Recent Reports

More Effective Compliance Testing

- ❑ Our audit of 3 found numerous supporting documents
- ❑ We recommend the consistency well as to procedures
- ❑ We recommend guidance for controls to verify testing and results



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Improving air quality

More Effective EPA Oversight Is Needed for Particulate Matter Emissions Compliance Testing

Report No. 19-P-0251

July 30, 2019



Particulate Matter Emissions

emissions in Washington state
methods and inadequate

implement a plan for improving
delegated agencies, as
lack test report reviews.

state's requirements and
need to develop internal
effective oversight of stack



Recent Reports

EPA Effectively Screens Air Emissions Data from Continuous Monitoring Systems but Could Enhance Verification of System Performance; June 27, 2019

- ❑ The EPA's automatic screening process did not identify all data quality issues as intended and could have led to incorrect compliance determinations.
- ❑ EPA and state and tribal air agencies should take steps to verify that CEMS facilities subject to the screening process are properly calibrated and maintained. In addition, EPA should consider conducting more frequent field audits.



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Improving Air Quality

EPA Effectively Screens Air Emissions Data from Continuous Monitoring Systems but Could Enhance Verification of System Performance

Report No. 19-P-0207

June 27, 2019



Continuous Monitoring System

MS data worked as the reported data

field audits to
Out of over 1,000
the EPA conducted
end of June 2018.
did not conduct



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Recent Reports

EPA Demonstrates Effective Controls for Its On-Road Heavy-Duty Vehicle Compliance Program; Further Improvements Could Be Made June 3, 2019

- ❑ The EPA's interim compliance program provides a reasonable assurance of compliance with the law in most instances of non-compliance. However, some instances of non-compliance have significant impacts on the environment.
- ❑ We identified several areas for improvement in the interim compliance program, including developing performance-based assessments and strengthening the EPA's enforcement program.



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

*Improving air quality
Compliance with the law*

EPA Demonstrates Effective Controls for Its On-Road Heavy-Duty Vehicle Compliance Program; Further Improvements Could Be Made

Report No. 19-P-0168

June 3, 2019



Heavy-Duty Vehicle Compliance Program Provide Assurance of Compliance; Further Improvements Could Be Made;

...nce program provide assurance of compliance. Past instances of non-compliance, which result in emissions of pollutants, which can have significant impacts on human health and the environment.

...hened, such as strengthening the program, conducting risk assessments, and for coordinating with other agencies.



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Ongoing Air work

- ❑ Air Monitoring Response to Hurricane Harvey
- ❑ Indian Country New Source Review Program
- ❑ Landfill Emissions
- ❑ Actions to Address Elevated Cancer Risks from Air Toxics Emissions from Point Sources



OA&E Air Contacts

James Hatfield, Director

- Hatfield.Jim@epa.gov
- 919-541-1030

Renee McGhee-Lenart, Project Manager

- McGhee-Lenart.Renee@epa.gov
- 913-551-7534

Erica Hauck, Project Manager

- Hauck.Erica@epa.gov
- 303-312-6629

Gabby Fekete, Project Manager

- Fekete.Gabrielle@epa.gov
- 919-541-3537



OIG Management Alert: Certain Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Data Disclosed to the Public Are Inaccurate

- Objective: Reviewing impact of late reported data on EPA's Annual TRI National Analysis
- Public not receiving complete and timely information about environmental conditions



TRI Chemicals Cause:

- Cancer or other chronic human health effects.
- Significant adverse acute human health effects.
- Significant adverse environmental effects.



TRI Data is Important

- Supports informed decision-making by public and private sectors
- Used worldwide
- Used for research by governments, academics and human health researchers



Reporting Requirements

- By July 1 each year, U.S. facilities report on releases
- By October 10, EPA takes snapshot of the data and uses for TRI National Analysis, which shows trends in releases waste management practices, and pollution prevention activities.
- For our report, “late reported” if facilities report after October 10.



What We Found

We identified

- discrepancies between total pounds of chemicals released for 2013-2017 as reported on the publicly available database, and the total pounds EPA provided to us separately

EPA identified

- the publicly available database did not include the POTW release amounts



Why Should You care?

- Community members living near facilities, world-wide researchers, or anyone that queries data who relies on the data isn't getting information on chemicals that may significantly impact human health and the environment.



Recommendations and Actions

- We recommended that EPA correct the discrepancies and disclose the degree to which the errors impact the public reporting. EPA indicated it has completed both actions.
- OIG is verifying completed actions as part of continuing work. A final report is anticipated Winter 2019.



OPE Land Cleanup and Waste Management Contacts

Tina Lovingood, Director
Lovingood.Tina@epa.gov
202-566-2906

Dwayne Crawford, Project Manager

- Crawford.Dwayne@epa.gov
- 202-566-2894

Steve Hanna, Project Manager

- Hanna.Steve@epa.gov
- 415-947-4527

Pat Milligan, Project Manager

- Milligan.Patrick@epa.gov
- 215-814-2326

Jill Trynosky, Project Manager

- Trynosky.Jill@epa.gov
- 202-566-2718



OA&E Contacts

Kevin Christensen

- Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
- Christensen.Kevin@epa.gov
- 202-566-0829

Christine El-Zoghbi, PhD

- Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation
- El-Zoghbi.Christine@epa.gov
- 202-566-2063



OIG Information

For information and access to all OIG reports

- ❑ <https://www.epa.gov/office-inspector-general/oig-reports>

To report complaints of fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement in EPA programs and operations to the OIG Hotline

- ❑ OIG_Hotline@epa.gov
- ❑ Toll-Free: 1-888-546-8740
- ❑ Washington DC: 202-566-2476
- ❑ Fax: 202-566-2599

