




OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

July 8, 2024

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification:
Inquiry into EPA's Use of Artificial Intelligence
OSAR-FY24-G-0095

FROM: Sean W. O'Donnell, Inspector General 

TO: Kimberly Patrick, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator

The Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is initiating an inquiry into the Agency's use of artificial intelligence per Executive Order 13960, *Promoting the Use of Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence in the Federal Government*; Executive Order 14110, *Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence*; and the Office of Management and Budget's Memorandum M-24-10, *Advancing Governance, Innovation, and Risk Management for Agency Use of Artificial Intelligence*. As part of this inquiry, we will conduct interviews, gather data, and analyze the information for adherence to regulations, policies, and procedures. We may contact individuals, officials, and managers across the EPA's regional and program offices.

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. 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." We will request that you immediately 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*.

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 inquiry should contact the OIG's Hotline at (888) 546-8740 or via an electronic form on the "OIG Hotline" [webpage](#).

Questions about this topic should be directed to the OIG's public affairs office at (202) 566-2391.

cc: Janet McCabe, Deputy Administrator
Dan Utech, Chief of Staff, Office of the Administrator
Wesley J. Carpenter, Deputy Chief of Staff for Management, Office of the Administrator
Andrew Schreyer, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Mission Support
Vaughn Noga, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Environmental Information and Chief Information Officer, Office of Mission Support
Dan Coogan, Acting Director, Office of Resources and Business Operations, Office of Mission Support
Richard Allen, Chief Data Officer, Office of Digital Services and Technical Architecture, Office of Mission Support
Tonya Manning, Director and Chief Information Security Officer, Office of Information Security and Policy, Office of Mission Support
Susan Perkins, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
Andrew LeBlanc, Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
José Kercado, Backup Agency Follow-Up Coordinator
Lance McCluney, Director, Office of Administrative and Executive Services, Office of the Administrator
Regional Audit Follow-Up Coordinators, Regions 1–10
Sean W. O'Donnell, Inspector General
Nicole N. Murley, Deputy Inspector General