



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

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

April 3, 2020

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Notification of Evaluation:
EPA's Registration Decisions for Uses of Dicamba on
Dicamba-Tolerant Cotton and Soybean
Project No. OA&E-FY20-0122

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 subject topic. This evaluation is included in our *Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Plan*.

The OIG's objective is to determine whether EPA policies and procedures were effective in addressing stakeholder risks in the EPA's Dicamba pesticide registration decisions in 2016 and 2018. The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters. 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 the EPA has adequate controls in place to promote its goal of ensuring pesticides are reviewed for their potential risks to human health and the environment.

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.

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 Chad Kincheloe. Any information related to the project should be addressed to me at (202) 821-7759 or harris.jeffrey@epa.gov or to Chad Kincheloe at (312) 886-6530 or kincheloe.chad@epa.gov.

cc: Henry Darwin, Assistant Deputy Administrator
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