



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF PROGRAM EVALUATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

April 22, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jeffrey R. Holmstead
Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation

FROM: J. Rick Beusse /s/
Director for Program Evaluation, Air Issues

SUBJECT: Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Programs

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of the objectives, scope, and milestones for our *Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance (I&M) Programs* in reducing harmful emissions. The overall objective of this assignment is to determine how well the State I&M programs ensure that poorly performing vehicles are not only identified, but also effectively repaired. Our objectives are to determine:

- How effective enhanced I&M programs in selected areas are in identifying poorly performing vehicles and ensuring that they are adequately repaired and emissions reductions are achieved.
- How has EPA's oversight ensured that enhanced I&M programs in selected areas are achieving program goals in a timely manner.

This evaluation may be performed in phases. During phase one, we plan to use a case study approach to evaluate Region III's oversight of selected States' enhanced I&M programs and perform additional review at selected States in Region III. Based on the results of this evaluation, we will decide whether to perform similar evaluations of other selected I&M programs in the country.

Fieldwork will be conducted at EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Region 3, selected State and local offices, and potentially other EPA regional offices. In addition, we plan to contact outside stakeholders, including academia, environmental, industry, and citizen groups. We plan to issue the draft report by December 9, 2005, and the final report by February 23, 2006.

The Assignment Manager for this evaluation is Patrick Milligan, and the Project Manager is Dan Howard. Should you or your staff have any questions regarding this notification, please contact Pat at (215)814-2326, Dan at (214)665-3160, or me at (919)541-5747.

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