

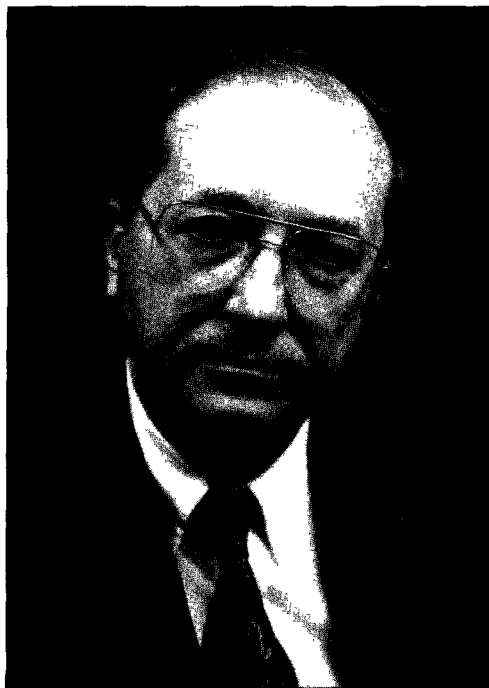
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Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to the Congress

**April 1, 1994 through
September 30, 1994**

Foreword



During this semiannual reporting period, the EPA Office of Inspector General has been a leader among the Inspector General community in implementing the recommendations of the National Performance Review (NPR). I was one of the Inspectors General who participated through the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency in the creation of the "Inspectors General Vision Statement," which states how the IG's can best carry out their duties in harmony with the spirit of the NPR. We are continuing to demonstrate that leadership through changes in our work with the Agency and initiatives to streamline our organization.

Our relationship with Agency managers and staff has been further strengthened by our work in support of the Agency's strategic themes, and by focusing attention on the underlying causes of some of the most severe problems which have affected the Agency for years. In particular, we have worked on cooperative projects with Agency managers to improve the integrity of scientific and financial information, and Superfund accounting. We believe that the Agency is generally taking appropriate corrective action in response to our work, especially in the areas of contract management and Superfund administrative initiatives. However, as presented in this report, areas still remain requiring continued Agency attention as will many new areas we are just beginning to explore, such as the use of cooperative agreements, grants and subcontractors.

We have ambitiously applied the concepts of reinvention in the OIG by restructuring our organization and work processes for greater staff empowerment, operational efficiency and diversity. In fiscal 1994, the EPA OIG implemented a policy supporting our Affirmative Action Plan resulting in minorities and women accounting for 75 percent of all new hires and promotions, and 76 percent in grades 13 to 15.

I am encouraged that a new organizational culture, along with cooperative efforts between the Office of Inspector General and Agency management will be the foundation for continuing improvement in EPA.


John C. Martin
Inspector General

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