



# At a Glance

*Catalyst for Improving the Environment*

## Why We Did This Review

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Inspector General, conducted this audit to identify vulnerabilities associated with the Agency's network devices located in EPA's National Health & Environment Effects Research Laboratory (NHEERL) Western Ecology Division building, and provide the results to the appropriate EPA officials who can then promptly remediate and/or document planned actions to resolve the identified vulnerabilities. This audit was conducted in support of the annual audit of EPA's compliance with the Federal Information Security Management Act.

For further information, contact our Office of Congressional, Public Affairs and Management at (202) 566-2391.

## ***Results of Technical Network Vulnerability Assessment: EPA's National Health & Environment Effects Research Laboratory, Western Ecology Division***

### **What We Found**

Vulnerability testing of EPA's NHEERL Western Ecology Division network conducted in March 2011 identified Internet Protocol addresses with numerous **high-risk** and **medium-risk** vulnerabilities. The Office of Inspector General met with EPA information security personnel to discuss the findings. If not resolved, these vulnerabilities could expose EPA's assets to unauthorized access and potentially harm the Agency's network.

### **What We Recommend**

We recommend that the Senior Information Official, Office of Research and Development, and Director, Enterprise Desktop Solutions Division, Office of Environmental Information:

- Provide the Office of Inspector General a status update for all identified high-risk and medium-risk vulnerability findings contained in this report.
- Create plans of action and milestones in the Agency's Automated Security Self-Evaluation and Remediation Tracking system for all vulnerabilities that cannot be corrected within 30 days of this report.
- Perform a technical vulnerability assessment test of assigned network resources within 60 days to confirm completion of remediation activities.

The full report is not available to the public due to the sensitive nature of its technical findings.