



# At a Glance

## Why We Did This Review

The purpose of this evaluation was to determine whether U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 implemented agreed to actions in response to our May 2010 report concerning improvements needed at the CTS Superfund site located in Asheville, North Carolina.

## Background

In response to a congressional request, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued in May 2010 a final report to EPA Region 4 with 10 recommendations to improve aspects of environmental sampling and community involvement at the site. Region 4 agreed to take action on all the final report recommendations and certified in November 2010 that the recommendations were complete.

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

The full report is at:  
[www.epa.gov/oig/reports/2012/20120321-12-P-0362.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/oig/reports/2012/20120321-12-P-0362.pdf)

## ***EPA Has Implemented Corrective Actions to Improve Conditions at Asheville, North Carolina Superfund Site***

### What We Found

Region 4 took actions to implement all recommendations made in EPA OIG Report No. 10-P-0130, *EPA Activities Provide Limited Assurance of the Extent of Contamination and Risk at a North Carolina Hazardous Waste Site*, May 17, 2010. The region completed 8 of the 10 recommendations. Further actions are needed to complete 2 OIG recommendations. Specifically:

- The region modified letters to residents communicating well water sampling results by including a supplemental fact sheet in the letters. However, the sheet does not conform to Region 4 standard operating procedures created in October 2010.
- The region revised the site's Community Involvement Plan in April 2010. However, the plan did not include a specific communication strategy. Additionally, the plan does not reflect the site's current National Priorities List status and recent site activities.

Three additional issues came to our attention during this review:

- The region did not have controls in place to ensure the site's public informational repository is being kept up to date and maintained.
- The region did not complete a report on a removal action pilot study, nor provide a fact sheet to the community on the results as planned.
- The region did not timely bill responsible parties approximately \$175,000 in federal government costs incurred at the site. The billing lapse was an oversight, which has since been corrected.

### What We Recommend

We recommend that the Region 4 Administrator implement the following actions:

- Revise an information sheet on the results of private well sampling.
- Revise the Community Involvement Plan.
- Create and maintain an index for the site informational repository.
- Complete the final report on the removal action pilot study and fact sheet for the community on the results of the study.

Region 4 provided a corrective action plan with milestone dates to address all of the report recommendations.