



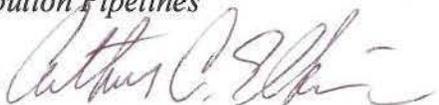
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 10 2015

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Corrective Action Plan for EPA OIG Report No. 14-P-0324,
*Improvements Needed in EPA Efforts to Address Methane Emissions From
Natural Gas Distribution Pipelines*

FROM: Arthur A. Elkins Jr. 

TO: Janet McCabe, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation

We have reviewed your October 10, 2014, response to the subject report. We also obtained additional information and clarification from staff in the Office of Air and Radiation, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) planned steps, announced on January 14, 2015, to implement the White House's methane strategy. Based on the initial response and the additional information we obtained on the agency's plans to address methane emissions from the natural gas industry, we accept the agency's corrective action plan for Recommendations 3, 4 and 5, and have closed those recommendations in our audit tracking system. Corrective actions for all other recommendations were agreed upon when we issued the report. Please update the EPA's Management Audit Tracking System as you complete the planned corrective actions. Also, please notify my staff if there is a significant change in the agreed-to corrective actions.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Carolyn Copper, Assistant Inspector General for Program Evaluation, at (202) 566-0829 or copper.carolyn@epa.gov; or Jim Hatfield, acting Director for Air Evaluations, at (919) 541-1030 or hatfield.jim@epa.gov.

cc: David Bloom, Agency Follow-Up Official (Acting Chief Financial Officer)
Deborah Rutherford, Agency Audit Follow-Up Coordinator
Nic Grzegozewski, Agency Audit Follow-Up Coordinator
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Charles Sheehan, Deputy Inspector General
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Jim Hatfield, Acting Director for Air Evaluations, Office of Program Evaluation
Erica Hauck, Project Manager, Office of Program Evaluation