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Toxic Release Inventory: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General Project Notification Addressing Identification of Unregulated Facilities

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The Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") Office of Inspector General ("OIG") issued a March 11th project notification titled: *Identification of Unregulated Facilities Using Toxic Release Inventory Data*. See Project No. OPE-FY16-0021.

OIG states that it plans to begin preliminary research on the identification of unregulated facilities using data from the Toxic Release Inventory ("TRI").

The TRI is a publicly available database that contains information on toxic chemical releases and other waste management activities reported annually to EPA by certain covered industry groups as well as federal facilities. The TRI was established pursuant to the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 and was subsequently expanded by the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990. Facilities in certain industries which manufacture, process, or use significant amounts of toxic chemicals, are required to report on their releases of these chemicals on an annual basis.

OIG states that the questions to be addressed include:

- Have TRI facilities meeting Risk Management Plan criteria filed these plans with the EPA for all chemicals?
- Have TRI facilities identified as surface water dischargers received the required permits from the EPA or the delegated state?
- Have RMP filers and surface water dischargers subject to TRI reporting filed TRI reports?

Click here to download a copy project notification.