



OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR
GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

STRATEGIC PLAN

FISCAL YEARS 2014 – 2019

*“Strengthening the integrity,
economy, and efficiency of the
Department’s programs and
operations.”*



INTRODUCTION

The *Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended*, established an independent statutory Inspector General at the Department of Energy (Department) that is responsible for:

- Conducting independent and objective audits, investigations, and other reviews;
- Promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration of Department programs;
- Preventing and detecting fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement related to Department programs and operations; and
- Informing the Secretary and Congress about problems and deficiencies in Department programs and operations and the need for corrective action.

The Inspector General has authority to inquire into all Department programs and activities as well as the related activities of persons or parties associated with Department grants, contracts, or other agreements. As part of its independent status, the Inspector General provides the Secretary with an impartial set of "eyes and ears" to evaluate management practices. As a fact-finding organization for high profile, controversial matters, the Inspector General is able to apprehend those attempting to defraud the Government and protect the interest of the U.S. taxpayer.

VISION

To be a highly effective organization that promotes positive change.

MISSION

To strengthen the integrity, economy and efficiency of the Department's programs and operations.

ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Office of Inspector General is headquartered in the Washington, DC and has 12 field offices located throughout the country. The organization is responsible for conducting audits, inspections and investigations and for receiving and acting upon allegations received through the Office of Inspector General Hotline.

AUDITS are conducted on Department programs and operations. Efforts are concentrated on providing reliable and credible financial and performance information to senior management, Congress and the U.S. taxpayer. A risk-based process is used to identify areas for audit coverage based on known or emerging risks and the greatest vulnerabilities. This process ensures comprehensive coverage over Department organizations, programs and operations while meeting the Department's evolving needs. Audit resources are also directed toward meeting statutory audit responsibilities in the financial and information technology areas.

INSPECTIONS focus on allegations received from the Office of Inspector General Hotline, special inquiries raised by Congress or senior Department officials, and performance issues. Efforts are concentrated on management reform within the Department by evaluating and providing recommendations to improve program performance. The Inspection function is designed to promptly address concerns and allegations received during the course of the year. Inspection priorities are based on the significance of the issue and the potential impact on Department programs and operations.

INVESTIGATIONS address alleged violations of law that impact Department programs, operations, facilities and personnel. Priority is given to investigations of suspected violations of criminal and civil statutes, as well as serious administrative misconduct. Investigations are also used to identify opportunities for improving the economy and efficiency of Department programs and operations by identifying recommendations for positive change. Investigators work closely with Department of Justice prosecutors and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement organizations.

ALLEGATIONS are received through the Office of Inspector General Hotline. The Hotline facilitates the reporting and resolution of allegations involving Department programs and activities. Allegations are received from Department employees, contractors and the general public. In addition, whistleblower disclosures made by employees and contractors help root out fraud, waste, and abuse, and protect public health and safety. The Office of Inspector General Whistleblower Ombudsman educates Department employees about prohibitions on retaliation for whistle blowing, as well as employees' rights and remedies if anyone retaliates against them for making a whistleblower disclosure.

More information about the Office of Inspector General work can be found at:
<http://energy.gov/ig/office-inspector-general>.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND MEASURES

GOAL 1

Provide independent, accurate, timely, and balanced information to the Department, Congress and other key stakeholders in order to promote economy and efficiency in Department programs and operations.

MEASURES

- ⇒ Percentage of reports issued with recommendations/suggestions
- ⇒ Percentage of recommendations accepted
- ⇒ Percentage of final reports issued within 60 days of receipt of management comments

GOAL 2

Work with the Department, prosecutors and others to hold recipients and overseers of Department funds accountable for actions that result in fraud, waste and/or abuse.

MEASURES

- ⇒ Number of fraud awareness briefings conducted to educate and inform Department employees, contractors, and fund recipients
- ⇒ Average number of days to issue an Investigative Report to Management
- ⇒ Percentage of cases presented for prosecutorial consideration that are accepted for further action
- ⇒ Hotline complaints are referred to responsible entities in a timely manner following a disposition decision

GOAL 3

Build and maintain an efficient and effective organization that fulfills its mission and maintains a highly qualified diverse workforce.

MEASURES

- ⇒ Percentage of employee performance progress reviews conducted within prescribed timeframes
- ⇒ Percentage of Individual Development Plans established within prescribed timeframes
- ⇒ Percentage of employees completing mandatory training within prescribed timeframes
- ⇒ A positive return for each tax dollar invested in OIG activities