

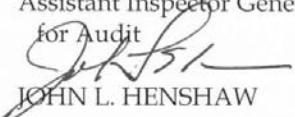
U.S. Department of Labor

Assistant Secretary for
Occupational Safety and Health
Washington, D.C. 20210



MAR 18 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR: ELLIOT P. LEWIS
Assistant Inspector General
for Audit

FROM: 
JOHN L. HENSHAW

SUBJECT: Report No. 05-04-003-10-001
Complaint on Susan Harwood Grant Award to Solid
Waste Associations of North America

This memorandum is in response to your March 8, 2004 memorandum transmitting the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) draft Report Number 05-04-003-10-001, Complaint on Susan Harwood Grant Award to Solid Waste Associations of North America (SWANA).

We are pleased that the OIG's inquiry affirmed the legitimacy of this grant award and afforded us the opportunity to work with your staff in clarifying the grantee's activities. OSHA is in agreement with the two recommendations made by the OIG. With respect to the recommendation concerning the possibility that "ineligible" SWANA members might have been served under the grant, OSHA intends to determine the total student population that received benefits under the program. In line with your recommendation, the agency will consider appropriate cost adjustments deemed necessary by any significant controllable and inordinate participation.

OSHA also agrees with the OIG's second recommendation regarding grant eligibility. As OSHA expands its compliance assistance activities, the agency is committed to reviewing grant eligibility requirements and ensuring that the intended audience is properly identified. OSHA will then develop procedures to ensure that grant recipients serve individuals who are eligible under the grant regulations.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the draft. If you have any questions about this response, please coordinate them through Robert Poogach at (202) 693-2407.