



Office of Inspector General
United States Department of State

External Peer Review Report

December 6, 2022

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Department of Energy

This required external peer review was conducted in accordance with the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) Inspection and Evaluation Committee guidance as contained in the *CIGIE Guide for Conducting External Peer Reviews of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General*, December 2021. The peer review was conducted from October 3 through December 5, 2022.

Department of State, Office of Inspector General (State OIG) assessed the extent to which Department of Energy, Office of Inspector General, Office of Inspections, Intelligence Oversight, and Special Projects (OIIS) complied with the CIGIE *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, December 2020 (Blue Book). This assessment included a review of OIIS's internal policies and procedures documented in the OIIS Inspections Manual, May 2022, implementing the Blue Book standards. It also included a review of selected inspection and evaluation reports issued between December 7, 2021, and April 15, 2022, to determine whether the reports complied with the Blue Book standards and OIIS's internal policies and procedures. The Enclosure provides the scope and methodology of the review.

Overall Conclusion

State OIG determined that OIIS's policies and procedures were generally consistent with the Blue Book standards. Of the four reports reviewed, all four generally complied with the Blue Book standards.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Diana R. Shaw". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Diana R. Shaw
Senior Official Performing the Duties of Inspector General

Enclosure

Scope and Methodology

Department of State, Office of Inspector General (State OIG) selected the following four reports for review. State OIG selected fiscal year 2022 reports issued under Department of Energy, Office of Inspector General, Office of Inspections, Intelligence Oversight, and Special Projects (OIS) subject to the CIGIE *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, December 2020 (Blue Book). It excluded reports that were done by the Office of Audits since that office does not plan to conduct any Blue Book work in the future.

1. Allegations of Quality Assurance Irregularities in the National Spherical Torus Experiment Upgrade Recovery Project, December 2021, DOE-OIG-22-13
2. Allegation of Unauthorized Derivative Classifier Reviewing Documents, January 2022, DOE-OIG-22-25
3. Allegation Regarding Contractor Misrepresentation on Occupational Safety and Health Administration Documentation, February 2022, DOE-OIG-22-27
4. Fire Protection Concerns at the Waste Isolation Plant, April 2022, DOE-OIG-22-29

State OIG conducted the review remotely. We conducted an entrance conference on October 3, 2022. OIS provided copies of project files and any requested documentation. State OIG continued to communicate with OIS representatives. For one reviewed report, State OIG virtually met with the inspection team members. Conducting the peer review remotely did not impact State OIG's ability to complete all the required peer review steps and reach conclusions on OIS's adherence to the Blue Book. We concluded the peer review with an exit conference on November 18, 2022.