



April 29, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: DAVID G. ZATEZALO
Assistant Secretary
for Mine Safety and Health

Elliot P. Lewis

FROM: ELLIOT P. LEWIS
Assistant Inspector General
for Audit

SUBJECT: Audit of COVID-19 Pandemic Impact on MSHA
Inspections and Investigations

Please be advised we are initiating an audit on the Mine Safety and Health Administration's (MSHA) response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, we will review the pandemic's impact on inspections and investigations and the guidance to mine operators for preventing employee exposures to COVID-19.

We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference so we can discuss the audit's objective, scope, methodology, and timeframes. Due to the urgency of this work, we would like to have an entrance conference the week of May 4, 2020, and plan to begin work immediately after the entrance conference. We would appreciate your notifying appropriate agency officials of our plans.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicholas Christopher, Audit Director, at (312) 353-2176.

cc: Patricia Silvey, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations
Wayne Palmer, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy
Timothy Watkins, Administrator, Mine Safety and Health Enforcement
Syed Hafeez, Director, PEIR