



August 3, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Barry E. Berkowitz
Senior Procurement Executive and
Director of Acquisition Management
Office of Acquisition Management

FROM: Andrew Katsaros
Principal Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

SUBJECT: Audit of NOS Sole-Source Contract Regarding Gulf Oil Spill

We are initiating an audit of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, Office of Response and Restoration's use of sole-source contracting in its response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill that began on April 20, 2010, in the Gulf of Mexico. The primary objective of this audit is to determine whether the Department's Office of Acquisition Management effectively evaluated the acquisition risk and properly documented the justification of awarding a sole-source contract with Industrial Economics, Inc.

We have scheduled an entrance conference with your organization on August 6, 2015, at which time we will discuss our objectives in more detail. If you have any questions regarding this audit, please contact Richard L. Bachman, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, at (202) 482-2877 or Ken Stagner, Denver Regional Inspector General for Audits, at (303) 312-7650. We thank you in advance for your cooperation during this audit.