



January 26, 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR: WAYNE D. PALMER  
Assistant Secretary  
for Mine Safety and Health

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laura B. Nicolosi".

FROM: LAURA B. NICOLOSI  
Assistant Inspector General  
for Audit

SUBJECT: Audit of MSHA's Grant Programs,  
Project No. 03-P25-001-06-001

Please be advised the Office of Inspector General is initiating an audit focused on Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) grant programs. Our objective is to evaluate MSHA's design and execution of its State and Brookwood-Sago grant programs and to determine whether internal controls are in place to help ensure programmatic success. We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference to discuss the audit's objective, scope, and methodology.

We plan to begin work in January 2026 after the entrance conference and would appreciate your notifying appropriate agency officials of our plans.

If you have questions, please contact Steve Sovich, Audit Director, at (215) 446-3701 or [sovich.stephen@oig.dol.gov](mailto:sovich.stephen@oig.dol.gov).

cc: Monique Spruill  
Audit Liaison, MSHA

James P. McHugh  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, MSHA

Melanie Calhoun  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations, MSHA