

## **External Peer Review Report**

January 28, 2022

**To:** Kimberly Howell, Inspector General

Corporation for Public Broadcasting

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 Peer Reviews of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General. The peer review was conducted from October 2021 through January 2022.

The Farm Credit Administration Office of Inspector General (FCA OIG) assessed the extent to which the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Office of Inspector General (CPB OIG) complied with the seven covered Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation (Blue Book) standards, specifically: Quality Control; Planning; Data Collection and Analysis; Evidence; Records Maintenance; Reporting; and Followup. This assessment included a review of the CPB OIG's internal policies and procedures implementing the seven covered Blue Book standards (using the January 2012 version of the Blue Book). It also included a review of selected inspection and evaluation reports issued between September 30, 2020 and September 30, 2021 to determine whether the reports complied with the covered Blue Book standards and CPB OIG's internal policies and procedures.

FCA OIG determined that CPB OIG's policies and procedures were generally consistent with the seven Blue Book standards addressed in the external peer review. Of the two reports reviewed, both generally complied with the seven covered Blue Book standards.

We have issued a Letter of Comment that describes findings that were not considered to sufficiently impact compliance with a covered Blue Book standard.

Wendy Laguarda Inspector General

Farm Credit Administration

Wendy R. Laguardon

**Enclosures** 

## **Enclosure 1: Scope and Methodology**

The FCA OIG Review Team conducted its review in accordance with the CIGIE Guide for Conducting Peer Reviews of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General, December 2020. The Review Team assessed the extent to which CPB OIG's internal policies and procedures addressed the seven Blue Book standards, and the two reports reviewed met the seven Blue Book standards.

The Review Team assessed Part IV, Inspections and Evaluations, of CPB OIG's internal policies and procedures, which were updated on August 19, 2021.

The Review Team selected two of five reports issued by CPB OIG during the period of September 30, 2020 and September 30, 2021. Specifically, the following reports were selected for review:

- 1. Evaluation of KIYU-AM Compliance with Selected Communications Act and Transparency Requirements as of March 25, 2021, Report No. ECR 21041-2108, July 13, 2021; and
- 2. Evaluation of WVMR-AM Compliance with Selected Communications Act and Transparency Requirements as of March 22, 2021, ECR 21031-2107, May 20, 2021.

The Review Team conducted the peer review remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Review team held a video conference with the Deputy Inspector General and gained access to necessary project files and documents electronically provided by the CPB OIG.

Conducting the peer review remotely did not impact the Review Team's ability to complete all the required peer review steps and reach conclusions on CPB OIG's adherence to the seven covered Blue Book standards. There were no limitations on or impairments to the Review Team's independence in conducting the review.

## **Enclosure 2: Reviewed Organization Comments to Draft Peer Review Report**



Office of the Inspector General

January 20, 2022

Wendy Laguarda Inspector General Office of Inspector General Farm Credit Administration 1501 Farm Credit Drive McLean, VA 22102-5090

Dear Ms. Laguarda,

We have reviewed the draft peer review report and agree with your overall conclusions that our policies and procedures were generally consistent with the seven covered Council of the Inspectors General Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation (Blue Book) standards, specifically: Quality Control, Planning, Data Collection and Analysis, Evidence, Records Maintenance, Reporting, and Follow-up. We also agree that the two reports reviewed generally complied with seven covered Blue Book standards. We also reviewed your letter of comment and provided a separate response.

I would like to thank you and the peer review team for your professionalism in conducting the peer review. Ms. Cerne and Mr. Coccaro conducted their work in an efficient and effective manner. We appreciate their efforts and the opportunity to improve our internal processes.

Sincerely,

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Kimberly A. Howell Inspector General

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