



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

May 3, 2018

OIG-CA-18-018

Regina Kearney, Acting Deputy Controller
Office of Management and Budget
Room 260
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Ms. Kearney:

The Department of the Treasury Office of Inspector General is responsible for audits of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council's (Council) programs and activities under Section 1608 of the *Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012*. This authority includes determining whether the Council was in compliance with the *Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010* (IPERA), as amended, for fiscal year 2017.

Based on our review of the results of the Council's fiscal year 2017 financial statement audit and consultation with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), we determined that the Council did not have programs and activities susceptible to significant improper payments in fiscal year 2017. That is, total program and activity expenditures were less than the threshold and reporting requirements for "significant improper payments" specified in Appendix C to OMB Circular No. A-123, *Requirements for Effective Estimation and Remediation of Improper Payments* (OMB M-15-02). Additionally, the Council did not have any OMB-designated high priority programs or other risk susceptible programs. Furthermore, although the total amount of all program and activity payments exceeded \$10 million, the total estimate for improper payments was less than 1.5%. The Council's financial services provider, Bureau of the Fiscal Service, performed a payment recapture audit on behalf of the Council and identified a total dollar value of improper payments of \$320.50, which is a rate of just .0026% of total payments made. The Council also recaptured \$520.50 with no outstanding erroneous or improper payments at the end of the fiscal year.

In addition, we determined that the Council was compliant with all of the applicable requirements set forth in PART II-A. 3) of OMB M-15-02.

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Should you or your staff have questions, you may contact me at (202) 622-1090, or Deborah Harker, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, at 202-927-5400.

Sincerely,

/s/

Eric M. Thorson
Inspector General

cc: Ben Scaggs, Executive Director
Mary Pleffner, Chief Financial Officer