



December 29, 2020

The Honorable Christy Goldsmith Romero  
Special Inspector General  
Office of the Special Inspector General  
for the Troubled Asset Relief Program  
1801 L Street, NW, 4th Floor  
Washington, DC 20220

The Offices of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Commerce and Tennessee Valley Authority (Review Team) conducted this required external peer review of the Office of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP) 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 July 24, 2020, through December 29, 2020.

The Review Team assessed the extent to which SIGTARP met the seven required CIGIE *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation (Blue Book)* standards. Specifically: Quality Control; Planning; Data Collection and Analysis; Evidence; Records Maintenance; Reporting; and Follow-Up. This assessment included a review of the SIGTARP internal policies and procedures document *SIGTARP Evaluations Policies and Procedures Manual* (January 2017). It also included a review of selected evaluation reports that were issued between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020, to determine whether the reports complied with the covered *Blue Book* standards and the *SIGTARP Evaluations Policies and Procedures Manual* internal policies and procedures.

The Review Team determined that the SIGTARP's policies and procedures generally met the seven *Blue Book* standards addressed in the external peer review. Of the two reports reviewed, both generally met the *Blue Book* standards and complied with *SIGTARP Evaluations Policies and Procedures Manual* internal policies and procedures.

We have issued a letter of comment, scope, and methodology (see enclosure 1) that sets forth specific observations, suggestions, and best practices identified during the peer review. There were no findings of noncompliance and/or recommendations. SIGTARP's complete response, dated December 15, 2020, is included within this final report as enclosure 2.

Sincerely,

  
Peggy E. Gustafson  
Inspector General

Enclosures