COUNCIL OF THE INSPECTORS GENERAL ON INTEGRITY AND EFFICIENCY
CIGIE

OVERSIGHT.GOV ENHANCEMENTS
Spending Plan

June/2019

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1. BACKGROUND AND HIGHLIGHTS

Background on Oversight.gov

- In October 2017, the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) launched Oversight.gov. The new web site created a single home for thousands of Inspector General (IG) reports from across the federal government. Since Oversight.gov's launch in October 2017, the number of OIG reports on the web site has increased to more than 11,500. All 71 OIGs that issue public reports are participating.

- Oversight.gov has achieved its initial goal of providing greater transparency and accessibility for the IG community's work on behalf of the taxpayers. OIG reports on Oversight.gov receive over 100,000 web hits per month. Over 1 million OIG reports are accessed each year through the site, and more than 18,000 users currently receive notice through Oversight.gov's Twitter account every time an OIG issues and posts a new report.

- Since the site's launch, several Intelligence Community agencies have used Oversight.gov to issue their first-ever public reports, further enhancing the transparency goals of this project.

- CIGIE has also used Oversight.gov to release several cross-OIG reports, including CIGIE's first-ever, government-wide "Top Management and Performance Challenges" report, which identified government-wide financial and security problems, and OIG recommendations to address them.

- Oversight.gov is providing timely data on the IG community's consolidated results, including up to date totals on the billions of dollars of cost savings that result from OIG audits and investigations. Historically, it has taken CIGIE 12-18 months to prepare similar data.

Improving Oversight.gov and Enhancing its Value for the U.S. Taxpayers

In FY2019, Congress provided CIGIE with $2 million to further enhance the capabilities of Oversight.gov. Pub. L. No. 116-6, § 633. As of June 2019, CIGIE is moving quickly toward design and development of new content and features that will further enhance the site's effectiveness as a transparency tool for Congress, the public, and other key stakeholders.

- By the end of July 2019, two of the five proposed enhancements will likely be completed – the whistleblower protection portal and the IG vacancies dashboard. We expect to complete the three other projects—the IG Open Recommendations Database pilot, the disaster assistance web page, and the CIGIE-hosted IG web sites—during FY2020.

- As we complete the pilot for the Open Recommendations Database, we will move quickly in mid-to-late FY2020 to expand the database to all participating OIGs. This will be the signature accomplishment of the proposed enhancements. It will provide Congress and the public not only with all OIG reports, but the ability to search and sort through a consolidated listing of participating OIGs' open recommendations to improve the functioning of government on issues such as the opioids crisis, counter-terrorism, and drug pricing. We will also seek to identify targeted opportunities to integrate the database with GAO.gov, with the vision of providing Oversight.gov users the benefit of one-stop shopping for federal government oversight reports and recommendations. We note, however, that the lack of an ongoing and predictable funding stream for Oversight.gov represents a significant risk to this project.

- In addition to the expansion of the Open Recommendations Database, CIGIE plans, contingent on the availability of funds, the following additional enhancements beginning during FY2020 that will further improve the site's functionality and effectiveness:

  o Targeted integration with state and local watchdog entities, with the goal of allowing Members of Congress and the public a more comprehensive view of oversight findings and areas of concern within their state and locality;
  o Enhancing the CIGIE whistleblower protection portal to allow CIGIE to securely transfer whistleblower information from Oversight.gov to the appropriate OIG, which will serve to enhance the security of these sensitive transmissions and underscore the OIGs' independence from the agency each oversees;
  o Developing a CIGIE collaboration site to provide OIGs with tools for use in joint reviews, such as file sharing, coauthoring of reports, project calendars, and discussion boards, thereby facilitating one of Congress' primary goals in creating CIGIE in 2008;
  o Enhancing the presentation of OIG Semiannual Report data on Oversight.gov by capturing the community's semiannual reporting data and presenting it to Congress and the public through multi-agency tables, infographics, and downloadable datasets.

Further details on the spending plan for the funds provided in P.L. 116-6 are addressed in detail in this report.

2. PLANNED ENHANCEMENTS

- The following information represents estimates from CIGIE for enhancements to Oversight.gov. CIGIE believes that the appropriation of $2.0 million contained in P.L. 116-6 will be sufficient to develop the features described below. Additional funds, if any, would be used for other enhancements to Oversight.gov, and to operate and maintain the features described below.

FEATURE
OPEN IG RECOMMENDATIONS DATABASE (PILOT) There is currently no single, public repository of information about the status of OIG recommendations issued to agencies. This initiative will establish a dynamic database of open IG recommendations. This database will better inform the Congress and the public about actions that OIGs believe will improve government programs. The "pilot" of this enhancement would result in a proof-of-concept database consisting of information from at least 4-6 OIGs that could be scaled in future years to include information from all OIGs.
CIGIE-HOSTED WEBSITE TEMPLATES FOR IGS Several IGs, including multiple OIGs in the Intelligence Community, have expressed interest in migrating their current websites from their own agencies' servers to Oversight.gov. Such a migration would provide IGs with greater control over the distribution of information about their offices and oversight work, and bolster their independence from their agencies. CIGIE would develop templates for such pages on Oversight.gov, and then offer them to IGs who agree to reimburse CIGIE for future operation and maintenance costs incurred.
WHISTLEBLOWER SITE This initiative will launch a single, cross-agency web-based system for whistleblower disclosures and complaints. CIGIE would build and maintain an online, interactive form on Oversight.gov that will use a question-and-answer user interface to help complainants more efficiently route tips and allegations to the appropriate IG(s), OSC, or another appropriate agency.
DISASTER ASSISTANCE WORKING GROUP SITE This initiative seeks to enhance the Disaster Assistance Working Group page on Oversight.gov. This page would provide taxpayers with immediate access to IG reports and information about the tens of billions of dollars in appropriations to the Disaster Relief Fund and other disaster-related programs in response to events like Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.
IG VACANCIES DASHBOARD This initiative will build an IG Vacancies Dashboard to provide a single point of access to authoritative information about which IG positions are vacant, how long they have been vacant, the status of the nomination and confirmation process for each, and other, similar information.

3. SCHEDULE

- All funded tasks are planned to be completed during FY20 or earlier.
- The schedule below exhibits Implementation and Operations and Maintenance tasks.

PROJECTS & CORE ACTIVITIES	COMPLEXITY (Initial Assessment)	FY2019							FY2020											
		Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
OPEN RECOMMENDATIONS - PILOT	High																			
Implementation			I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I						
Operations & Maintenance															O	O	O	O	O	O
IG WEB TEMPLATE	High																			
Implementation			I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
Operations & Maintenance									O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
WHISTLEBLOWER	Medium																			
Implementation			I	I	I															
Operations & Maintenance						O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DISASTER ASSISTANCE	High																			
Implementation			I	I	I	I	I	I	I											
Operations & Maintenance										O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
IG VACANCIES	Medium																			
Implementation			I	I	I	I	I													
Operations & Maintenance								O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O

Legend:
- Implementation (blue)
- Operations and Maintenance (O&M) (orange)

Note: With respect to the IG Web Templates, CIGIE intends to implement its first template supporting at least one OIG website by the end of FY19. CIGIE will then implement additional OIG websites, and additional templates as necessary, throughout FY2020.

4. SPENDING PLAN: FY19 – FY20 ESTIMATION

- The breakdown below presents an overall perspective of all estimated costs.
- Labor costs are included in the estimations below. The following labor categories have been included: Technical Director, Project Manager, Drupal Developer 1, Drupal Developer 2, Server Administrator, Program Manager.
- Technology and infrastructure costs are also included in the estimations below. The following technology categories will be considered: Servers, Storage, SSL Certificates, Bandwidth, Load balancers, other cloud computing resources.
- All computational resources will be cloud-based, operating on a FedRAMP-certified cloud environment.

	FY2019 APR-SEP COST	FY2019 TOTAL COST	FY2020 OCT-MAR COST	FY2020 APR-SEP COST	FY2020 TOTAL COST	GRAND TOTAL FY19 FY20
IG OPEN RECOM DB - PILOT	$ 326,937.80	$ 326,937.80	$ 328,937.80	$ 244,264.00	$ 573,201.80	$ 900,139.60
IG WEB TEMPLATE	$ 156,366.00	$ 156,366.00	$ 254,958.00	$ 254,958.00	$ 509,916.00	$ 666,282.00
WHISTLEBLOWER	$ 108,131.00	$ 108,131.00	$ 25,376.00	$ 25,376.00	$ 50,752.00	$ 158,883.00
DISASTER ASSISTANCE	$ 51,660.00	$ 51,660.00	$ 22,690.00	$ 16,496.00	$ 39,186.00	$ 90,846.00
IG VACANCIES	$ 51,586.00	$ 51,586.00	$ 20,936.00	$ 20,936.00	$ 41,872.00	$ 93,458.00
TOTAL	$ 694,680.80	$ 694,680.80	$ 652,897.80	$ 562,030.00	$ 1,214,927.80	$ 1,909,608.60

Note: The figures reflected above will be further refined, and budgets developed, as requirements are gathered and finalized. Any remaining funds up to $2 million will be spent in support of the Oversight.gov initiative, consistent with the appropriation provided in P.L. 116-6.