Dear Assistance Agreement Recipient or Fellowship Recipient:

This is to inform you that with the passage of an appropriation act, the shutdown guidance I issued to you dated October 1, 2013 is no longer in effect, and EPA is taking the steps necessary to resume normal assistance agreement/fellowship agreement operations.

ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS

Payments

If you are using the ASAP payment system and were unable to access the funds during the shutdown period, EPA is in the process of entering your grant authorization into ASAP so you can make draw downs. Similarly, if you are using the Automated Clearinghouse Payment system, or are being paid on a reimbursement basis, EPA is resuming making payments as appropriate.

Reimbursement for Program Costs and Salaries of Furloughed Employees

If, due to the unavailability of EPA grant funds during the shutdown period, you continued work and paid for assistance agreement costs with your own funds, or had to furlough employees, you may be entitled to reimbursement for the costs or compensation for the employee salaries. For more information, please contact your designated Project Officer and Grants Specialist.

Pre-Award Costs

If, due to the shutdown, your award was delayed, and you incurred pre-award costs, you should file a request for pre-award costs with your designated Project Officer and Grants Specialist. They will evaluate your request in accordance with applicable EPA regulations and Office of Management and Budget cost principles.

Stop Work Costs

If you stopped work during the shutdown period and incurred allowable costs due to the work stoppage, you should present documentation for those costs to your designated Project Officer and Grant Specialist. They will evaluate your request in accordance with applicable EPA regulations and Office of Management and Budget cost principles.
Senior Environmental Employment Act (SEE) Program Cooperative Agreements

If you are a recipient of a SEE Program cooperative agreement, you may use funds from your agreement to pay enrollees for the shutdown period.

Recipients that Administer Fellowship Programs

If you administer fellowship programs that place fellows into EPA offices for learning/professional development opportunities, you may contact your designated Project Officer to arrange for fellow access to EPA facilities. Also, you may use funds under your agreement to pay fellows stipends covering the shutdown period.

FELLOWSHIP AGREEMENTS (40 C.F.R. Part 46)

EPA will resume payments of tuition and stipends in accordance with the budget line-items contained in your fellowship agreement, including tuition/stipend payments to cover the shutdown period.

OVERSIGHT

EPA personnel are now available to provide oversight of all assistance and fellowship agreements. You should contact your designated Project Officer as soon as possible to discuss the status of your agreement.

Sincerely,

Howard F. Corcoran
Director, Office of Grants and Debarment