The Social Security Administration's Implementation and Compliance with Energy Conservation Policies
A-15-13-32104

SOCIAL SECURITY
ADMINISTRATION

OIG

Objectives

To determine (1) whether the Social Security Administration (SSA) met all requirements set forth in climate-change legislation and (2) how SSA implemented the requirements.

Background

On January 24, 2007, the President signed Executive Order (EO) 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management*. The EO requires that Federal agencies lead by example in advancing the nation's energy security and environmental performance by achieving several goals. The President signed EO 13514, *Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance*, on October 5, 2009 to enhance EO 13423.

SSA is responsible for reporting energy performance for 18 buildings delegated to it by the General Services Administration. SSA is not responsible for energy improvements of non-delegated buildings.

In a February 25, 2013 letter, the Bicameral Task Force on Climate Change requested our assistance in determining whether SSA is taking the necessary steps to confront the growing threat of climate change.

Our Conclusions

Although we did not validate all the supporting documentation provided by the Agency, based on the Office of Management and Budget's review and approval of the Agency performance, we believe SSA is meeting all the requirements set forth in various pieces of climate-change legislation. Although SSA appears to be on track to reach all the goals set forth in the applicable legislation, SSA should continue to work with General Services Administration and the Office of Management and Budget to improve its energy efficiency. We also noted that the Agency's performance results for the various energy measures included both data from the 18 delegated buildings as well as Agency-wide data. The Agency should consider defining in the Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan what data are used for each measure.