



## **EPA Environmental Information Quality Management Plan Standard:**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of Mission Support, Office of Enterprise Information Programs, Enterprise Quality Management Division has revised the *EPA Requirements for Quality Management Plans (EPA QA/R-2, March 2001)* and re-issued as the Agency’s Environmental Information Quality Management Plan (QMP) Standard. The directive was signed by the Chief Information Officer and Deputy Assistant Administrator for Environmental Information on January 17, 2023. The new directive has been posted on the Quality Internet [website](#) and the Information Technology/Information Management (IT/IM) Directives [website](#). Now that the directive is updated, we will rescind *EPA QA/R-2; EPA Guidance for Developing Quality Systems for Environmental Programs (EPA QA/G-1, November 2002)*; and *EPA Guidance for Developing a Training Program for Quality Systems (EPA QA/G-10 December 2000)*.

The directive defines the minimum requirements for QMPs for all EPA organizations performing environmental information operations and non-EPA organizations performing environmental information operations on behalf of EPA.

The QMP describes an organization’s Quality Program. It also documents how the organization structures its Quality Program including descriptions of its internal quality procedures for implementing and assessing the effectiveness of the program; criteria for and areas of application; and roles, responsibilities, and authorities. The QMP also documents all technical activities to be performed and how the program will integrate quality assurance (QA), quality control, and QA Project Plans into all its environmental information operations.

All EPA Regional and National Program Environmental Offices participated in the development of the QMP Standard. Additionally, thirty-six states and twenty-three tribal organizations participated in the development of the QMP Standard.

### **Background:**

The Agency has a five-year requirement to review, revise, reissue, or rescind its IT/IM directives.

The Agency’s QMP Standard supports the implementation of EPA’s *Environmental Information Quality Policy and Procedure, Scientific Integrity Policy*; and is consistent with the current American Society for Quality/American National Standards Institute E4:2014 (R2019), *Quality management systems for environmental information and technology programs—Requirements with guidance for use*.

The EQMD prepared communication materials and training for implementation of the new directive and will provide training for the Agency QA Managers in a “Train the Trainer” format, which will allow for them to then train others.

Point of Contact: Linda Himmelbauer, [himmelbauer.linda@epa.gov](mailto:himmelbauer.linda@epa.gov)