



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
Office of the Auditor General
Post Office Box 245
Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands 96960

Telephone:
Auditor General 625-3192
Staff 625-3390
Facsimile 625-5135

March 23, 2010

Ms. Deborah Barker-Manase
General Manager
National Environmental Protection Authority

Dear Ms. Barker-Manase:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the National Environmental Protection Authority Fund (EPA) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2008, (on which we have issued our report dated March 23, 2010) in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, we considered EPA's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of EPA's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of EPA's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting. However, in connection with our audit, we identified, and included in the attached Appendix I, deficiencies related to EPA's internal control over financial reporting and other matters as of September 30, 2008 that we wish to bring to your attention.

We have also issued a separate report to the Board of Directors, also dated March 23, 2010, on our consideration of EPA's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreement and other matters.

The definition of a deficiency is also set forth in the attached Appendix I.

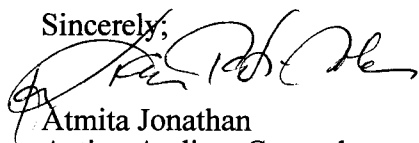
As description of the responsibility of management for establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting and of the objectives of and inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, is set forth in the attached Appendix II and should be read in conjunction with this report.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management, and others within the organization and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We will be pleased to discuss the attached comments with you and, if desired, to assist you in implementing any of the suggestions.

We wish to thank the staff and management of EPA for their cooperation and assistance during the course of this audit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Atmita Jonathan', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Atmita Jonathan
Acting Auditor-General

SECTION I- DEFICIENCIES

We identified and have included below, deficiencies involving EPA's internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2008 that we wish to bring to your attention:

(1) Permits

During our examination, we noted that revenues were not adequately supported. Management was unable to provide permit issued for fees collected. We recommend that management ensure that revenues earned are properly supported.

(2) Revenue/Receipts

During our examination, we noted cash receipts (CR #s 2928 to 2931) in the amount of \$80 and (CR #s 2969 to 2971) in the amount of \$60 were not deposited in a timely manner. We recommend that management adhere to established policies and procedures regarding cash receipts to ensure that cash receipts are deposited in a timely manner.

(3) Journal Entry

During the year ended September 30, 2008, journal entry (GJ08-018) regarding Ebeye cash receipts were recorded to the general ledger without adequate supporting documents. We recommend that management ensure all journal entries are adequately supported.

SECTION II – DEFINITIONS

The definition of a deficiency that is established in AU 325, Communicating Internal Control Related Matters Identified in an Audit, is as follows:

A deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatement on a timely basis. A deficiency in design exists when (a) a control necessary to meet the control objective is missing or (b) an existing control is not properly designed so that, even if the control operates as designed, the control objective would not be met. A deficiency in operation exists when (a) a properly designed control does not operate as designed, or (b) the person performing the control does not possess the necessary authority or competence to perform the control effectively.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR, AND THE OBJECTIVES AND LIMITATIONS OF, INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

The following comments concerning management's responsibility for internal control over financial reporting and the objectives and inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting are adapted from auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management's Responsibility

EPA's management is responsible for the overall accuracy of the financial statements and their conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. In this regard, management is also responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting.

Objectives of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Internal control over financial reporting is a process affected by those charged with governance, management, and other personnel and designed to provide reasonable assurance about the achievement of the entity's objectives with regard to reliability of financial reporting, effectiveness and efficiency of operations, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Internal control over the safeguarding of assets against unauthorized acquisition use, or disposition may include controls related to financial reporting and operations objectives. Generally, controls that are relevant to an audit of financial statements are those that pertain to the entity's objective of reliable financial reporting (i.e. the preparation of reliable financial statements that are fairly presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles).

Inherent Limitations of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risks that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.