

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Department as of September 30, 2017 and 2016, and its net cost of operations, changes in net position, and budgetary resources for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, Combining Statement of Budgetary Resources, Condition of Heritage Assets, and Deferred Maintenance and Repairs (hereinafter referred to as "required supplementary information") be presented to supplement the consolidated financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the consolidated financial statements, is required by OMB Circular A-136, "Financial Reporting Requirements," and the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board, which consider the information to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the consolidated financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of making inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the consolidated financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audits of the consolidated financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

As of November 15, 2017, the Department did not include Management Assurances in the Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require be presented to supplement the consolidated financial statements. Such missing information, although not part of the consolidated financial statements, is required by OMB Circular A-136 and the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board, which considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the consolidated financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Other Information

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Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements as a whole. The information in the Introduction, the Message from the Comptroller, the Other Information Section, and Appendices as listed in the Table of Contents of the