

Proposed Rule: Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases

Under the proposed Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) rule, owners or operators of facilities that contain food processing operations (as defined below) and that emit 25,000 metric tons of GHGs per year or more (expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents) from stationary combustion, miscellaneous use of carbonates, and other source categories (see information sheet on General Provisions) would report emissions from all source categories located at the facility for which emission calculation methods are defined in the rule. Owners or operators would collect emission data; calculate GHG emissions; and follow the specified procedures for quality assurance, missing data, recordkeeping, and reporting.

How Is This Source Category Defined?

Under the proposal, food processing consists of facilities that prepare raw ingredients for consumption by animals or humans. Food processing facilities transform raw ingredients into food, transform food into other forms for consumption by humans or animals, or transform food for further processing by the food processing industry.

What GHGs Would Be Reported?

The proposal calls for food processing facilities to report the following emissions:

- Carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O) emissions from each stationary combustion unit.
- CH₄ emissions for each onsite landfill.
- CH₄ emissions for each onsite wastewater treatment system.

The information sheets on general stationary fuel combustion sources, landfills, and industrial wastewater treatment systems summarize the proposal for calculating and reporting emissions from these source categories.

In addition, each facility would report GHG emissions for any other source categories for which calculation methods are provided in other subparts of the rule.

How Would GHG Emissions Be Calculated?

Under the proposal, owners or operators would calculate emissions as follows:

- For each stationary combustion unit, follow the procedures in 40 CFR part 98, subpart C (General Stationary Fuel Combustion Sources).
- For each onsite landfill, follow the procedures in 40 CFR part 98, subpart HH (Landfills).
- For each onsite wastewater treatment system, follow the procedures in 40 CFR part 98, subpart II (Wastewater Treatment).

What Information Would Be Reported?

In addition to the information required by the General Provisions at 40 CFR 98.3(c), the proposal calls for food processing facilities to meet the reporting requirements in the following subparts, as applicable:

- Subpart C
- Subpart HH
- Subpart II

For More Information

This series of information sheets is intended to assist reporting facilities/owners in understanding key provisions of the proposed rule. However, these information sheets are not intended to be a substitution for the rule. Visit EPA's Web site (www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html) for more information, including the proposed preamble and rule and additional information sheets on specific industries, or go to www.regulations.gov to access the rulemaking docket (EPA-HQ OAR-2008-0508). For questions that cannot be answered through the Web site or docket, call 1-877-GHG-1188.