

Suppliers of Industrial Greenhouse Gases



Proposed Rule: Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases

Under the proposed Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) rule, suppliers of industrial GHGs or nitrous oxide (N₂O) that meet the applicability requirements of the rule (see information sheet on General Provisions) would report GHG emissions associated with the complete release of the gases that they produce, import, export, transform, or destroy. Suppliers of industrial GHGs would collect data on their products; calculate the potential GHG emissions associated with these products; and follow the specified procedures for ensuring data quality, amending missing data, and meeting recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

Facilities producing industrial GHGs should review the requirements of 40 CFR part 98, subpart L (Fluorinated GHG Production) to determine if they also would report emissions from fluorinated GHG production.

How Is This Source Category Defined?

Under the proposal, suppliers of industrial GHGs consist of the following:

- Owners or operators of facilities producing any fluorinated GHG or nitrous oxide, except those that produce only HFC-23 generated as a byproduct during HCFC-22 production.
- Bulk importers of fluorinated GHGs or (N₂O), if the total combined imports of industrial GHGs and carbon dioxide (CO₂) exceed 25,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) per year.
- Bulk exporters of fluorinated GHGs or N₂O, if the total combined exports of industrial GHGs and CO₂ exceed 25,000 tons CO₂e per year.

What GHGs Would Be Reported?

The proposal calls for suppliers of industrial GHGs to report the amount of N₂O and each fluorinated GHG produced, imported, exported, transformed, or destroyed during the calendar year, as well as the GHG emissions from the complete release of those gases. Importers and exporters of CO₂ would calculate and report annual GHG emissions of CO₂ according to 40 CFR part 98, subpart PP.

How Would GHG Emissions Be Calculated?

Under the proposal, suppliers would use the following methods to estimate annual GHG flows:

- Mass of each fluorinated GHG or N₂O produced would be determined by daily measurements of gas production, less the mass of that GHG added to the process upstream (i.e., where used GHGs are added back to the production process for reclamation).
- Mass of each fluorinated GHG transformed would be determined by daily measurements of the gas fed to the transformation process less measurements of the unreacted fluorinated GHG that is permanently removed from the process.
- Mass of each fluorinated GHG destroyed would be determined by daily measurements of the mass of fluorinated GHG fed to the destruction device and a measurement of the destruction efficiency.

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 each annual report to include the following information for production facilities, importers, and exporters:

Production Facilities:

Production facilities would report the following information in metric tons for N₂O and each fluorinated GHG:

- Total mass produced, transformed, or destroyed.
- Total mass sent to another facility for transformation or destruction, and contact information of the facility receiving these industrial gases.
- Total mass of each reactant fed into the production process.
- Total mass of each non-GHG reactant and byproduct permanently removed from the process.
- Mass of used product added back into the production process (reclaimed).

Production facilities that destroy fluorinated GHGs would also report:

- Results of the annual fluorinated GHG concentration measurements at the outlet of the destruction device including:
 - Flow rate at the inlet and outlet of the destruction device
 - Mass fraction of each GHG at the outlet
 - Emission rate of each GHG

Production facilities that destroy fluorinated GHGs would also prepare a one-time report that contains the following information:

- Destruction efficiency (DE) of each destruction unit.
- Test methods used to determine DE and record the mass of GHG destroyed.
- Chemical identity of the fluorinated GHG(s) used in the performance test conducted to determine DE.
- All federal or state regulations applicable to the destruction process.
- If any process changes are made that would have affected unit destruction efficiency or the methods used to record mass destroyed, a revised report would be required to be submitted within 60 days of the change.

Importers:

Bulk importers of fluorinated GHGs or N₂O would report the following information at the corporate level (excluding transshipments and heels):

- Total mass in metric tons imported in bulk, date, port of entry, country from which imported, commodity code of the shipped gas, and importer number for the shipment.
- Total mass in metric tons of gas sold or transferred for use in processes resulting in the transformation or destruction of the chemical, and contact information of receiving facilities.

Exporters:

Bulk exporters of fluorinated GHGs or N₂O would report the following information at the corporate level (excluding transshipments and heels):

- Total mass in metric tons exported in bulk, shipping date and port from which the gases were exported from the United States or its territories, countries to which the gases were exported, commodity code of the gases shipped, and exporter's Employee Identification Number.
- Total mass in metric tons of chemical exported, by chemical, and contact information of the exporter and recipient

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.