

## **Final Rule: 2013 Revisions to the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule and Confidentiality Determinations for New or Substantially Revised Data Elements**

### **ACTION**

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is finalizing amendments to the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP). The final amendments consist of three parts: amendments related to global warming potentials (GWPs), other amendments largely based on feedback from stakeholders, and confidentiality determinations for new or revised data elements.
- The final changes will improve the GHGRP by clarifying compliance obligations, improving consistency of the data collected, and ensuring that data collected through the GHGRP is representative of industry and comparable to the annual U.S. Greenhouse Gas Inventory (Inventory).
- This rule will be effective January 1, 2014. The amendments will affect reports for the 2013 reporting year (submitted to EPA by March 2014) with the exception of amendments related to reporters who are newly required to report to the GHGRP due to changes to GWPs. These reporters are required to begin collecting data on January 1, 2014 for the 2014 reporting year.

### **AMENDMENTS RELATED TO GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIALS**

- EPA is finalizing amendments to Table A-1 of Subpart A, General Provisions, to reflect revised GWPs of some greenhouse gases that have been published in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report (AR4).
- This will improve the accuracy of the GHGRP emission totals and ensure compatibility with the Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks submission to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which will begin using the updated GWPs for 2015 submissions.
- The final GWP amendments will moderately change (in most cases increase) the emission totals for existing reporters of gases with revised GWPs, primarily methane and fluorinated GHGs. The amendments will increase the number of facilities required to report under the GHGRP by about 180.

### **OTHER AMENDMENTS**

- Subparts with other amendments include the following subparts:

Subpart A (General Provisions)	Subpart FF (Underground Coal Mines)
Subpart C (Stationary Combustion)	Subpart HH (Municipal Solid Waste Landfills)
Subpart E (Adipic Acid Production)	Subpart II (Industrial Wastewater Treatment)
Subpart G (Ammonia Manufacturing)	Subpart LL (Suppliers of Coal-based Liquid Fuels)
Subpart H (Cement Production)	Subpart MM (Suppliers of Petroleum Products)
Subpart I (Electronics Manufacturing)	Subpart NN (Suppliers of Natural Gas and Natural Gas Liquids)
Subpart K (Ferroalloy Production)	Subpart PP (Suppliers of Carbon Dioxide)
Subpart L (Fluorinated Gas Production)	Subpart QQ (Importers and Exporters of Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases Contained in Pre-Charged Equipment or Closed-Cell Foams)
Subpart N (Glass Production)	Subpart RR (Geologic Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide)
Subpart O (HFC-22 Production and HFC-23 Destruction)	Subpart SS (Electrical Equipment Manufacture or Refurbishment)
Subpart P (Hydrogen Production)	Subpart TT (Industrial Waste Landfills)
Subpart Q (Iron and Steel Production)	Subpart UU (Injection of Carbon Dioxide)
Subpart S (Lime Manufacturing)	
Subpart V (Nitric Acid Production)	
Subpart W (Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems)	
Subpart X (Petrochemical Production)	
Subpart Y (Petroleum Refineries)	
Subpart Z (Phosphoric Acid Production)	
Subpart AA (Pulp and Paper Manufacturing)	
Subpart BB (Silicon Carbide Production)	
Subpart DD (Electrical Transmission and Distribution Equipment Use)	

- The final amendments are largely based on feedback from stakeholders during program implementation. Examples include:
  - Amending monitoring and quality assurance provisions to provide flexibility for certain facilities;
  - Clarifying data reporting requirements for certain facilities; and
  - Correcting inconsistencies in greenhouse gas monitoring, calculation, and reporting requirements.

## CONFIDENTIALITY DETERMINATIONS

- In this action, EPA is finalizing confidentiality determinations for the final new or substantially revised data elements other than inputs to emissions equations. EPA followed the same methodology for categorizing data elements as in previous GHGRP CBI related rules.
- For a list of these data elements along with the corresponding final confidentiality determinations, see the memorandum “Final Data Category Assignments and Confidentiality Determinations for 2013 Revisions to the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule,” which may be found at <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/CBI.html>.

## MORE INFORMATION

- For more information on the GHGRP and a prepublication version of this action please visit our Web site at: [www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html)