Information on Specified Source Emission Factors
For Imported Electricity

Regulation for the Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

ARB has identified an error in Workbook 1, which is used to support reporting of emissions associated with imported electricity under the Regulation for the Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (MRR). For most specified sources, MRR requires the specified source emission factor to be calculated using greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data reported to US EPA. The Workbook 1 spreadsheet made available by ARB to support the 2013 emissions reporting included specified source emission factors used in the statewide inventory which are based on Energy Information Administration (EIA) emission data rather than US EPA emission data. ARB is updating the spreadsheet to include the correct specified source emission factors based on US EPA data as required by MRR.

The error impacts approximately 30 reporters who reported electricity imports into California for 2013. ARB has already notified these reporters of the need to revise their emissions data reports using revised Workbook 1. If you have not been directly contacted by ARB on this issue, no further action is required on your part.

Cap-and-Trade Regulation and First Annual Compliance Event Fall 2014

The total net change for 2013 emissions is an increase of approximately 50,000 metric tons CO₂e. This net change represents less than 0.1 percent of the 2013 allowance budget.

For some reporters, reported emissions may decrease and for others they may increase due to the revised specified source emission factors in Workbook 1. ARB will work with affected reporters to ensure they understand how this change may impact compliance obligations for the first compliance surrender event on November 3, 2014.

In order to ensure that these corrections do not unfairly burden any market participant, ARB will implement a phase-in approach for entities that incur a higher compliance obligation than was initially estimated due to the corrections to the specified source emission factors. Affected entities will have 5 years to make up the increase in compliance obligation due to the corrections.

The revisions to the specified source emission factors will ensure accurate reported data under MRR and the environmental integrity of the Cap-and-Trade Program.