

## Guidance for Reporting “Best Available” Data

This document provides a list of each of the “best available” methods and data in section 95103(h) required to be reported pursuant to the Regulation for the Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (title 17, California Code of Regulations, section 95100-95158) (reporting regulation or MRR), for 2013 data reported in 2014 and for data reported in future years. The California Air Resources Board (ARB) first approved the mandatory reporting regulation in 2007, with revisions in 2010, 2012, and 2013.<sup>1</sup> The 2013 MRR revisions became effective on January 1, 2014. After each regulatory citation, an explanation is provided about the data being reported as follows.

Section 95103(h) *Reporting in 2014*. For 2013 data reported in 2014, the following applies:

- (1) Reporting entities may use best available methods for reporting and calculating the general requirements in sections 95101(a)(1)(B)(8) [*Add Lead production sector*] and 95101(b)(1)-(2) [*Subject to verification if vented/fugitives >25k*], the information regarding *de minimis* reporting for suppliers in section 95103(i) [*Supplier allowed to report emissions as de minimis*], section 95103(j)(3) [*Biomass vendor information*], section 95104(f) [*If not in Cal e-GGRT do not report the data – no change*], the information regarding mixed fuels in section 95115(c)(1) [*Clarified mixed fuel reporting method is required regardless of whether the fuel was mixed prior to measurement*], the information regarding mixed fuels in section 95115(e) [*Reword intermix*], the information regarding the percentage of aggregated fuel consumption in section 95115(h) [*Heat input changed to fuel usage as a % by unit*], section 95115(k)-(l) [*Natural gas supplier data and pass-through NG data*], and the information regarding fuel characteristic data elements and Table 1 in section 95129(c)(3) [*Default carbon content factors*].

Reporting entities must adhere to the general provisions found in section 95101(a)(3) [*Owner/operator control change only at start of compliance period*], section 95101(h)-(i) [*Cessation of reporting/verification*], section 95103(k)(7)(C) [*PUC calibration option*], section 95103(l) [*Product data exclusion*], section 95103(m) [*Product data method changes must be approved by ARB; monitoring must begin on January 1 of the reporting year*], section 95103(n) [*Notify ARB of change in ownership*], section 95104(d)(4) [*Report different thermal energy data separately*], and section 95105(c) [*GHG Monitoring Plan required for all sources >25k*];

- (2) Abbreviated reporters may use best available methods for reporting and calculating the requirements in sections 95103(a)(1)-(2) [*Report natural gas account number; Unit aggregation allowed; required to indicate fuel for each unit type; electricity generation units reported separately*]. Abbreviated reporters must adhere to the general provisions found in sections 95103(a)(8)-(9) [*Errors must be fixed; if error triggers verification, report must be verified within 90 days*];

---

<sup>1</sup> The regulation is available at [http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reporting/ghg-rep/regulation/mrr\\_regulation.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reporting/ghg-rep/regulation/mrr_regulation.htm).

- (3) Operators of electricity generating facilities may use best available methods for reporting and calculating the requirements for the information regarding legacy contract transition assistance in section 95112(a)[*Must report energy disposition data*], section 95112(a)(4)(C)[*Electricity for cooling energy*], section 95112(a)(5)(C)[*Thermal energy for cooling energy*], section 95112(b)(2)[*Net and gross electricity generation*], the information regarding total thermal output in section 95112(b)(3)[*Total thermal output other than electricity generation*], section 95112(c)[*Add sorbent to title of section*] and section 95112(c)(3)[*Require Part 75 sources with wet flue gas desulfurization to separately report CO2 from sorbent*];
- (4) Facility operators may use best available methods for reporting and calculating covered product data listed in section 95113(l)(3)[*Complexity Weighted Barrel CWB is a covered product for 2013 data*], the information regarding liquid hydrogen sold, on-purpose and by-product hydrogen gas in section 95114(j)[*Additional reporting for hydrogen produced*], section 95115(n)(5)-(18)[*New covered product data, including food products*], the information regarding the tissue produced with water absorption capacity in 95119(d)[*Tissue adjusted for water absorbency factor*], the information regarding lead and lead alloys in section 95124(d)[*Lead covered product data*], the information regarding emulsion in sections 95156(a)(7)-(10)[*Data now includes emulsion of crude*], the information regarding a gas plant that produces less than 25 MMscf per day in section 95156(c)[*Gas plants must report natural gas liquids data*], and section 95156(d)[*Gas plants report associated/waste/natural gas processed*];
- (5) Operators of hydrogen plants who report under sections 95114(e)(1)[*Carbon and hydrogen content of feedstocks*], (g)[*Provision to avoid double-counting emissions*], (i)[*Refineries also have to report Transferred CO2*], (k)[*Report HHV of fuels*], and (l)[*Report flare emissions*] may use best available methods for calculating those reporting requirements. Operators of hydrogen plants who report under section 95114(e)(2)[*Fuel characteristic data for fuels and feedstocks if not using CEMS*] must report using the full requirements of that provision;
- (6) Operators of a lead production facility who report under section 95124 must use best available methods for calculating their emissions. Operators of a lime manufacturing facility may use best available methods to calculate emissions under sections 95117(c)(3)[*Clarify missing data requirements for emissions calculations*] and 95117(e)[*Produced CO2 used on-site*];
- (7) Suppliers of natural gas must adhere to the general provisions found in sections 95122(a)(2)[*Intrastate pipelines delivering directly to customers*] and 95122(d)(2)-(6)[*LDCs and liquid natural gas production facilities report biomethane data*];
- (8) Electric power entities must report 2013 electricity transactions (MWh) and emissions (metric tons of CO<sub>2e</sub>) under the specifications of this article, including the requirement listed in section 95111(a)(5)(E)[*Tagging ACS power*]. The requirement that a seller warrant the sale or resale of specified source power in section

- 95111(a)(4) and the requirement for reporting of asset controlling supplier power in section 95111(a)(5)(B) are effective starting with the reporting of 2014 data in 2015 and later years;
- (9) All reporting entities and verification bodies must follow the requirements in sections 95130 to 95133, including those amendments outlined in sections 95130(a)(1)(D)[*Change in operational control (not ownership) triggers full verification*], 95130(a)(2)[*Verification is low risk if follow ARB COI requirements; 6-year window begins at start of verification work and ends when verification statement is submitted*], 95131(a)(2)(C)[*Add lead production sector*], 95131(b)(8)(D)[*Material misstatement only includes covered emissions and product data*], 95131(b)(8)(F)[*Specifies data required to be checked for conformance*], 95131(b)(9)[*Correctable errors must be fixed; Rounding discrepancies must be documented by verifier*], 95131(b)(12)(B)-(C)[*Correctly substituted missing data is deemed to be accurate; Excluded covered product data is not an omission*], 95131(b)(13)[*Clarification of non-conformance due to missing data*], 95131(b)(14)[*Product data cannot be substituted using missing data; multiple product data verification statements required for refineries*], 95131(c)(1)[*Clarified that multiple product data verification statements are possible*], 95131(c)(3)[*Clarified that multiple product data verification statements are possible*], 95131(c)(4)[*Verification statement always submitted even if petition filed*], 95131(e)[*ARB determines if an identified minor error requires a set-aside*], 95132(b)(1)(A),(C)[*VB must employ 5 full-time staff; Liability insurance*], 95132(d)[*VB may voluntarily withdraw accreditation*], 95133(a)-(c)[*Contractors are also subject to COI review; Clarifies some high COI activities; Verification is low risk if follow ARB COI requirements*];
- (10) Operators for the petroleum and natural gas systems sector subject to sections 95150(a)(2)[*Emulsified crude oil product must be metered*], including the definitional change to an onshore petroleum and natural gas systems facility in section 95102(a)[*Definitions*], 95152(i)(9)[*Report emissions from pipeline main equipment leaks*], 95153(y)(2)(C)-(D)[*Specifies monthly collection of fuel data; Specifies standard volume/mass calculations; Provides option to use quarterly fuel characteristic data for field gas*], 95157(c)(6)[*For completions and workovers, report number and depth of wells*], 95157(c)(18)(B)[*For hydrocarbon liquids from EOR, report dissolved CH<sub>4</sub>*], 95157(c)(19)(H)[*Associated gas now reported in MMBtu instead of MMscf*] must use best available methods for these reporting requirements;
- (11) If a regulatory amendment is not specifically listed above, reporting entities must comply with the amendment for 2014 data reported in 2015. [This means if a 2013 amendment is not listed in §95103(h), the data element is not required to be reported in the 2013 emissions data report.]