

Guidance for Reporting Year to Year Increases and Decreases in Facility Emissions for California's Mandatory Greenhouse Reporting Regulation

This document provides guidance on how a facility operator will report year-to-year increases or decreases in total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of more than five percent as compared to the previous data year for the 2014 reporting period, and onward.

Why am I required to report this information?

The California Regulation for the Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (MRR) was amended in 2013, requiring facilities to report "year-to-year emission increases or decreases" as specified within section 95104(f) of the regulation. For reference, a complete copy of the regulation is available here:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reporting/ghg-rep/regulation/mrr-regulation.htm>

Who must provide this information?

- Beginning with 2013 data reported in 2014, the reporting requirements apply only to facilities and only those that are subject to the Cap-and-Trade regulation, as identified in sections 95101(a)(1)(A)-(B) of the MRR.
- Fuel and carbon dioxide suppliers identified in section 95101(c) and electric power entities specified in section 95101(d) are not required to report. Facilities subject to abbreviated reporting provisions are not required to report this information.

What is required to be reported?

- The facility operator must indicate if there have been increases or decreases in total facility-wide greenhouse gas emissions of more than five percent, as compared to the previous data year.
- Facilities are required to identify the reason(s) and cause of the increase or decrease in greenhouse gas emissions, as defined in section 95104(f)(2). These include:

The reason(s) for the greenhouse gas emission increase or decrease might be any, or a combination of the following items:

- Change in production.
 - Changes in facility operations in order to comply with cap-and-trade, other air pollution regulations, or other regulations not related to air pollution or greenhouse gas control activities.
 - Any changes in efficiency due to process or material changes, addition of control equipment, other efficiency measures.
 - Other.
- If reported emissions changes are due to the Cap-and-Trade regulation, reporters are required to provide a brief narrative description of how the Cap-and-Trade regulation caused the greenhouse gas emissions change, along with a brief description of any changes in local air district permit status.

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- The requirements take effect in 2014 for reporting 2013 data. Therefore, 2013 data reports should identify increases or decreases based on a comparison of 2013 data to 2012 data.
- Reporting of year to year emission increases or decreases are based on changes for the total facility-wide emissions each year. Changes related to individual equipment or processes are not reported.
- For petroleum and natural gas systems, increases or decreases are to be based on the complete basin-wide total emissions that are reported under a single ARB facility identifier in the Cal e-GGRT reporting system.
- Information provided pursuant to sections 95104(f)(1)-(4) is not subject to the MRR third-party verification requirements.

What will ARB do with the greenhouse gas emissions change data?

The information collected through this requirement will be used by the Cap-and-Trade Adaptive Management Monitoring Program during ongoing monitoring, reviews, and evaluations for potential localized air quality impacts in disadvantaged communities.