

TITLE 45
LEGISLATIVE RULE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY

SERIES 42
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS INVENTORY PROGRAM

§45-42-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- This rule establishes a greenhouse gas emissions inventory program in West Virginia which:

1.1.a. Requires the reporting and inventory of greenhouse gas emissions by stationary sources which emit more than a *de minimis* amount of greenhouse gases on an annual basis;

1.1.b. Inventories greenhouse gas emissions from stationary, area, mobile and biogenic sources, and accounts for reductions and sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions;

1.1.c. Provides for a periodic compilation of a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and a determination whether West Virginia is a net sink or emitter of greenhouse gases;

1.1.d. Provides for development of a registry to record voluntary reductions of greenhouse gas emissions; and

1.1.e. Provides for a determination whether the reduction and sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions can be developed as an asset for economic development.

1.2. Authority. -- W.Va. Code §22-5-19.

1.3. Filing Date. – April 23, 2008.

1.4. Effective Date. -- June 1, 2008.

§45-42-2. Definitions.

2.1. “Air pollutants” means solids, liquids, or

gases which, if discharged into the air, may result in statutory air pollution.

2.2. “Air pollution” or “statutory air pollution” means and is limited to the discharge into the air by the act of man substances (liquid, solid, gaseous, organic or inorganic) in a locality, manner and amount as to be injurious to human health or welfare, animal or plant life, or property, or which would interfere with the enjoyment of life or property.

2.3. “Anthropogenic” means a direct result of human activities or the result of natural processes that have been influenced by human activities.

2.4. “Area source” means, for purposes of this rule, a collection of similar sources of air pollutants within a geographic area. Area sources collectively represent individual sources that are small and numerous, and that typically have not been inventoried as a stationary or mobile source.

2.5. “Biogenic” means a naturally occurring biological source or process that is not significantly affected by human actions or activity.

2.6. “Capture” means the collection of greenhouse gas emissions from a stationary source.

2.7. “*De minimis*” means emissions from a stationary source that are equal to or less than ten thousand tons per year for carbon dioxide, four hundred seventy-six tons per year for methane, thirty-two and six tenths tons per year for nitrous oxide, eight hundred fifty-five thousandths tons per year for hydrofluorocarbons, one and nine

hundredths tons per year for perfluorocarbons and forty-two hundredths tons per year for sulfur hexafluoride.

2.8. “Emission” means the release, escape or discharge of regulated air pollutants or greenhouse gases into the air.

2.9. “Greenhouse gas” means the gaseous compounds: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆).

2.10. “Mobile source” means a variety of onroad and nonroad vehicles, engines, locomotives, marine vessels, airplanes and other equipment that generate air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions, and that move or can be moved from place to place.

2.11. “Regulated air pollutant” means, for purposes of this rule, any air pollutant regulated under rules promulgated by the Secretary pursuant to W.Va. Code §22-5-4.

2.12. “Reservoir” means a geological site where a greenhouse gas is securely stored.

2.13. “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection or such other person to whom the Secretary has delegated authority or duties pursuant to W.Va. Code §§22-1-6 or 22-1-8.

2.14. “Sequestration” means the physical process by which emissions of a greenhouse gas are directly captured for storage in a reservoir, or the biologic process by which a greenhouse gas is indirectly removed from the atmosphere for storage in a sink.

2.15. “Sink” means any process, activity or mechanism which removes a greenhouse gas from the atmosphere. Forests are considered sinks because they remove carbon dioxide through photosynthesis.

2.16. “Source” means, for purposes of this

rule, any process or activity which releases a greenhouse gas into the air.

2.17. “Stationary source” means any building, structure, facility, installation, stationary process or process equipment which emits or may emit any regulated air pollutant or greenhouse gas.

2.18. “Ton” means a short ton, or 2000 pounds.

2.19. Other words and phrases used in this rule, unless otherwise indicated, shall have the meaning ascribed to them in W.Va. Code §22-5-1 et seq.

§45-42-3. Applicability.

3.1. Any stationary source that emits one or more greenhouse gases on an annual basis greater than the *de minimis* amounts listed in the table below, and reports emissions of regulated air pollutants pursuant to the emissions inventory requirements of the Secretary under rule or W.Va. Code §22-5-4(a)(14), shall be an affected source required to report emissions of all greenhouse gases emitted above *de minimis* amounts to the Secretary under section 4:

Greenhouse Gas Compound	tons/year
carbon dioxide	10,000
methane	476
nitrous oxide	32.6
hydrofluorocarbons	0.855
perfluorocarbons	1.09
sulfur hexafluoride	0.42

3.2. Stationary sources which are regulated by the Secretary under W.Va. Code §22-3-1 et seq. and do not report emissions of regulated air pollutants pursuant to the emissions inventory requirements under W.Va. Code §22-5-4(a)(14) are not required to, but may voluntarily report

their greenhouse gas emissions under section 4.

§45-42-4. Reporting Requirements.

4.1. In accordance with a reporting cycle provided by the Secretary, affected sources shall report to the Secretary the quantity of all greenhouse gases emitted above *de minimis* amounts in the years specified by the Secretary.

4.2. Affected sources shall only be required to report annual quantities of anthropogenic non-mobile source greenhouse gases emitted at the stationary source, and shall not be required to report biogenic emissions of greenhouse gases.

4.3. The Secretary shall determine the form and format of the information reported by affected sources under subsection 4.1 to ensure that the information is consistent as possible with developing regional, national, or international greenhouse gas emissions programs.

4.4. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 4.3, to satisfy the greenhouse gas emission reporting requirements under this section, affected sources may submit greenhouse gas emissions inventory information from documented greenhouse gas inventories such as those provided to the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Leaders Program, Chicago Climate Exchange Registry, the International Organization for Standardization and the SF₆ Emissions Reduction Partnership for Electric Power Systems. Greenhouse gas emissions inventory information from other widely recognized and verified greenhouse gas emissions inventory programs may be submitted by affected sources under this subsection, but shall be subject to approval by the Secretary on a case-by-case basis.

4.5. Reports of greenhouse gas emissions submitted to the Secretary under this section shall be signed by a responsible official and shall include the following certification statement: "I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the data transmitted to the West Virginia Department of

Environmental Protection is true, accurate, and complete, based upon information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry."

4.6. Greenhouse gases reported under this section are not subject to fees under 45CSR30, unless the greenhouse gases are otherwise regulated by the Secretary.

§45-42-5. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory.

5.1. The Secretary shall periodically compile an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions to:

5.1.a. Characterize the relative contributions of greenhouse gas emissions from stationary, area, mobile and biogenic sources in West Virginia; and

5.1.b. Determine the extent to which greenhouse gas emissions are offset by the rate of sequestration, and whether West Virginia is a net sink or emitter of greenhouse gases.

5.2. The greenhouse gas emissions inventory shall include the emissions from stationary sources reported under section 4, and other relevant information regarding significant emissions, reductions, and sequestration of greenhouse gases from stationary, area, mobile and biogenic sources requested by the Secretary under subsections 5.3 and 5.4.

5.3. To inventory greenhouse gas emissions reductions, the Secretary shall consult with the citizenry and other entities such as industry trade groups that have information relating to greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and sequestration. Upon request of the Secretary, such entities may provide relevant information relating to greenhouse gas emissions reductions, capture and sequestration.

5.4. The Secretary shall enter into interagency agreements with the Department of Agriculture, the Division of Forestry, Marshall University, West Virginia University, West

Virginia Geological and Economic Survey, and the Department of Transportation, and at the Secretary's request, those agencies shall provide:

5.4.a. Relevant information relating to greenhouse gas emissions from area, mobile and biogenic sources;

5.4.b. Relevant information relating to greenhouse gas emissions reductions and sequestration; and

5.4.c. Any assistance the Secretary may request during the development of the greenhouse gas emissions inventory.

5.5. The Secretary shall determine the form and format of the information submitted by the entities under subsections 5.3 and 5.4 to ensure that the information is consistent as possible with developing regional, national, or international greenhouse gas emissions programs.

§45-42-6. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Registry Program.

6.1. The Secretary shall develop a registry for the recordation of voluntary reductions of greenhouse gas emissions.

6.2. The greenhouse gas emissions registry program shall be as consistent as possible with developing regional, national, or international programs designed to monitor, quantify and register reductions in greenhouse gas emissions with respect to:

6.2.a. Development of criteria, based on a set of standardized emissions accounting, reporting and verification protocols, to determine baseline emissions and quantification of voluntary reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases;

6.2.b. Public recognition of such voluntary emissions reductions;

6.2.c. Consideration of voluntary greenhouse gas emission reductions when

determining baselines and reduction requirements under future federal greenhouse gas emission reduction programs; and

6.2.d. The ability of sources to participate in future greenhouse gas emission trading programs.

§45-42-7. Economic Development Potential.

7.1. Using information obtained, gathered or developed under this rule, the Secretary will determine whether the reduction and sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions can be developed as an asset for economic development in West Virginia.

§45-42-8. Inconsistency Between Rules.

8.1. In the event of any inconsistency between this rule and any other rule of the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, the inconsistency shall be resolved by the determination of the Secretary and the determination shall be based upon the application of the more stringent provision, term, condition, method or rule.