

New Hampshire Voluntary GHG Emissions Reductions Registry

Enabling Legislation

In New Hampshire, legislation ([SB 159](#)) directing the NH Department of Environmental Services to create a voluntary GHG registry was passed on July 6, 1999.

125-L:3 Rulemaking. The commissioner shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A, relative to:

I. Information, forms, procedures, and applicable thresholds for registering voluntarily achieved reductions of greenhouse gas emissions.

II. Methods and procedures for calculating, estimating, or otherwise quantifying voluntary reductions of greenhouse gas emissions.

III. Methods and procedures for verifying, where necessary, that emissions reductions to be registered have actually been achieved.

IV. Methods and procedures for determining or verifying the ownership of greenhouse gas emissions reductions in order to avoid double-counting such reductions.

V. General supervision and administration of this chapter.

[Full Text of SB 159](#)

Rules and Regulations

Together with a working group consisting of NH companies and other stakeholders, NH DES completed its final rulemaking process in February 2001, which elaborates on the details of the registry.

Summary

Purpose of the Registry

The following excerpt from the enabling legislation best sums up the purpose and intent of the GHG registry in NH:

125-L:2 Registry. In order to help protect the interests of New Hampshire sources and the state's economy under a future federal regulatory scheme relating to greenhouse gas emissions, and to help encourage the voluntary reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by New Hampshire sources, the department shall establish and administer a registry whereby sources of greenhouse gas emissions may record and register early, voluntary greenhouse gas emissions reductions made after 1990. The purpose of this

registry shall be to help sources establish a baseline against which any future federal greenhouse gas emissions reduction requirements may apply.

Reporting Entity

The NH registry is a voluntary program open to any business or entity located in NH that reduces GHGs in state or out of state. The NH registry does not require whole entity reporting. This means that reporters to the program can report reductions and are not required to complete a total evaluation of their company's GHG emissions to be eligible for participation.

Scope of Accounting System

All GHGs are eligible for reporting from the outset of the program but not mandatory for participation. Reductions (in or out of state) achieved from January 1, 1991 and afterward are eligible, with the one stipulation that there is a reporting cut-off date of July 1, 2003 for reductions between 1991-2001.

Inventory Boundary Issues

Does not address boundary issues.

Inventory Quality

The NH program requires the reporting of emissions reductions in terms of mass and rate. See [reporting forms](#) for specific information required in reporting.

Quantification Tools

The general guidelines for the EIA's Voluntary Reporting Program 1605(b) are recommended for use in quantifying GHG emission reductions. The Department has also designed [reporting forms](#) (link to reporting forms and supplemental material) based on the EIA's Voluntary Reporting Program (1605(b)) for companies to use.

Verification

Third party verification - both of the math and through onsite inspection shall be performed either by the owner through a third party contract prior to registration or by DES subsequent to registration.

[Full text of Chapter Env-A 3800 Voluntary Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Registry](#)

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Links

[SB 159](#)

[Chapter Env-A 3800](#)

Reporting Forms

