

# EPA GREENHOUSE GAS RULES REQUIRE AIR EMISSIONS EVALUATIONS/REPORTING

## GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION MONITORING

EPA has issued the Final Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases Rule. The rule requires reporting of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from large sources and suppliers in the United States. The rule is effective December 29, 2009.

Facilities that emit 25,000 metric tons or more per year of GHG emissions are required to submit annual reports to EPA for 2010 beginning in 2011. The gases covered by the proposed rule are carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and some fluorinated gases.

At this time, limits for GHG emissions have not been established. EPA says that the rule is intended to collect emissions data to “provide a better understanding of where GHGs are coming from and will guide development of the best possible policies and programs to reduce emissions.”



Michigan industries which may be affected by the rule include:

1. Stationary fuel combustion sources (includes commercial and industrial buildings such as hospitals, colleges, universities, which have an aggre-

gate maximum rated heat input capacity from boilers/ turbines, engines, incinerators, and process heaters in excess of 30 mmBtu/hr).

2. Electrical generation
3. Cement production
4. Ferroalloy production
5. Glass production
6. Hydrogen, iron, steel, lead, lime, nitric acid production
7. Petrochemical production
8. Petroleum refineries
9. Pulp and paper production
10. Silicon carbide production
11. Manure management at animal production facilities
12. Suppliers of coal based liquid fuels, petroleum products, natural gas products

The new reporting regulations do not limit or restrict greenhouse gas emissions; however, it would appear that the reporting requirement is a precursor to future federal regulation either via cap and trade system or a carbon tax.

For assistance in evaluating your greenhouse gas emissions and a determination of whether you are subject to the greenhouse gas emissions reporting in 2011 please contact our office.

For more information visit: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html>

## CONSTRUCTION SITE STORMWATER DISCHARGES

On December 1, 2009, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published limits on stormwater discharges from construction sites that require sampling and monitoring of runoff. The regulation is effective on February 1, 2010.

All construction sites will be required to implement erosion and sediment controls and pollution prevention measures. This should not have any immediate affect on soil erosion control permitting in Michigan.

However, after August 1, 2011, all sites that disturb 20 or more acres of land at one time are required to sample stormwater discharges and monitor its turbidity. A limitation of 280 NTU (nephelometric turbidity units) will be in effect for any stormwater discharge from the site. After February 2, 2014 the limitation applies to all construction sites disturbing 10 or more acres of land at one time.



For more information, visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/guide/>



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### **MDEQ Schedules SARA Title III—Tier Two Workshops**

MDEQ announced that they have scheduled half-day workshops in various locations during January. These workshops will instruct participants in report completion and submission of the 2010 Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA Title III), also known as the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.

### **MDEQ Schedules Introduction to 2010 MAERS Workshops**

MDEQ is also scheduling workshops to introduce the new web-based Michigan Air Emissions Reporting Systems (MAERS) reports. These workshops are designed to help businesses report their 2009 air emissions. The workshops will be held in January and February.

Contact the MDEQ's Emergency Assistance Center about either of these workshops at 800-662-9278 or e-mail: [deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov](mailto:deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov) for more information.

Gosling Czubak Engineering Sciences' team of certified professional geologists, professional engineers and environmental scientists is well versed in environmental requirements. Contact Jeff Simsa, C.P.G., at Gosling Czubak (800) 968-1062 for more information.

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