

GREENHOUSE GASES

A popular subject in the news lately is the global greenhouse effect and climate change. A major focus is the carbon dioxide (CO₂) buildup in the atmosphere from burning of coal, oil, natural gas and other fuels.

There is great interest for businesses to understand and report their greenhouse gas emissions. This is being pushed at the federal, state, and even local level. It is likely that new laws will be passed at all levels of government. The Illinois EPA asked many companies to voluntarily report greenhouse gases on the 2007 Annual Emission Report. Recently, Cook County floated a tax proposal based on carbon air emissions.

A voluntary program, The Climate Registry, is being widely adopted in North America for all business and organizations to quantify and report their emissions of greenhouse gases, or carbon footprint. The organization has just published a standardized procedure for quantifying emissions from businesses. They are now accepting applications from all businesses and organizations to be included in the program.

The Climate Registry is not an EPA sponsored program. The emissions inventory collected may become the basis for an emissions trading program throughout North America. The cost to register a business with less than \$20 million annual revenue is \$600 per year.

Greenhouse Gas Reporting under The Climate Registry covers:

Direct emissions from the facility, primarily due to fuel combustion, equipment leaks, and facility processes. This will also include emissions from company owned vehicles.

Indirect emissions from the purchase of electricity, where the power company is emitting greenhouse gases from the generators.

Emissions from other indirect activities (optional reporting); such as business travel, the production and transportation of purchased goods and raw materials, and the transportation of sold products.

There is an international organization, Carbon Disclosure Project, that is promoted by large institutional investors such as Morgan Stanley and Merrill Lynch. Many large publicly owned companies around the world have signed on to report their emissions under this program. There is an overlap between this international group and the North American based The Climate Registry.

Admiral can assist your company with assessing your greenhouse gas emissions, or with registering your company for The Climate Registry.

Additional information:	The Climate Registry	theclimateregistry.org
	Illinois Climate Advisory Group	epa.state.il.us/air/climatechange/
	Carbon Disclosure Project	cdproject.net

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