

Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act Bulletin 015

Update: Conditions of deadline extensions for submission of emission reports and verification statements

Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting Regulation

Overview

This bulletin provides information on recent amendment (OIC#658) to the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting Regulation ('the Regulation' or 'GGERR'), which prescribes the conditions under which the Director under GGIRCA may grant extensions for submission of emission reports and verification statements.

Reporting operations, regulated operations, verification bodies and accreditation bodies should ensure they understand the new requirements and provide notice of concerns or issues to the attention of the Compliance Unit for Industrial Reporting and Control at GHGRegulator@gov.bc.ca.

Deadline for Emission Reports

An operator of a reporting operation and/or a regulated operation (Operator) must submit an emission report by May 31, in accordance with GGERR 13(1).

If a verification site visit cannot be conducted virtually in accordance with the Regulation, a reporting operation may apply to the Director to request a deadline extension for the verification statement only if conducting an in person site visit before the deadline could result in harm to the safety of a person, in accordance with GGERR 13(3).

Request Deadline Extension for Verification Statements

If an Operator determines in consultation with the verification body responsible for verification of its Emission Report that this condition applies, the Operator may submit a request for a deadline extension for the verification statement to the Director under GGIRCA.

Requests must be submitted by the Operation Representative to the Director under GGIRCA at GHGRegulator@gov.bc.ca and must include:

1. a summary of reasons for requiring a deadline extension beyond May 31;
2. an appended note from the verification body responsible for verification of the emission report stating a rationale for:
 - why the required site visit(s) may not be conducted virtually, and
 - if applicable, why conducting the required site visit(s) at the premises of the operation before May 31 could result in harm to the safety of a person;

3. a suggested timeline for submission of the verification statement, if known; and,
4. contact information (name, email and daytime phone number) for the Operator Representative and the verification body.

The Director or an Inspector under GGIRCA may request additional information to support the determination of the appropriate deadline for the verification statement. Be advised that it may take up to ten business days for applications to be processed and for operators and verification bodies to be notified of the outcome. If the application is not processed and approved by the May 31 deadline, the operator may be out of compliance for failing to submit a verification statement. If an extension is not granted, the May 31 deadline applies.

Regulation is Determinative

The above is not legal advice and is provided as an aid in understanding the Regulation. Operators are responsible for reviewing the Regulation to ensure compliance with it.