

EPA plans to institute mandatory national GHG registry

March 11 -- Large businesses across the United States could begin reporting their annual greenhouse gas emissions to the federal government within the next two years under a proposal unveiled by EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson.

Jackson unveiled agency plans on March 10 for instituting a mandatory national greenhouse gas registry that would require about 13,000 facilities nationwide to tell the EPA how much carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases they emit each year. The reporting system, which would exclude smaller businesses that are not major emitters, would account for 85% to 90% of all emissions, according to agency estimates.

The registry is a major step toward creating a cap-and-trade program for greenhouse gas emissions, according to supporters of the measure.

Additional information on the EPA's proposal greenhouse gas registry rule is available online at www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html.

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