

Reporting Requirements for Livestock and Poultry Producers

On Dec. 18, 2008, EPA published a “Final Rule” on reporting emissions from livestock and poultry facilities outlining the following **exemptions** for reporting requirements. The regulations took effect January 20.

1. All agricultural production facilities are **exempt** from reporting under CERCLA (reporting to federal authorities)
2. All small and medium animal feeding operations (size thresholds given below) are **exempt** from reporting under EPCRA (reporting to state and local agencies.)
3. Large CAFO’s (above the size threshold) who signed the “air emissions consent agreement,” paid the voluntary penalty, and have proof of participation do not have to do anything further at this time.

Facilities that do not qualify for any of the above exemptions must make a “good faith estimate” of their ammonia and hydrogen sulfide emissions. If their estimate for either of these compounds is more than 100 lb on the “worst day” (highest emissions) of the year (the Upper Bound,) they must file a “continuous release report” to state and local emergency management agencies.

Number of confined animals that define a “large CAFO”

Livestock	Threshold	Poultry	Threshold
Dairy cows	700 mature animals	Broilers	125,000 birds
Beef Cows/Dairy Heifers	1,000 head	Layers (dry manure)	82,000 hens
Swine	2,500 hd over 55 lb	Layers (wet manure)	30,000 hens
Swine (nursery)	10,000 hd under 55 lb	Turkeys	55,000 birds
Horses	500 hd	Ducks (dry manure)	30,000 birds
Sheep	10,000 hd	Ducks (wet manure)	5,000 birds

Regulations require an oral report followed by a written report (with more detail) within 30 days of the oral report. Reports should be made to the SERC (State Emergency Response Commission) and to the local LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee.) If there is no LEPC for your area, you are only required to report to the SERC. Oral reports can be made by phone or email. Written reports can be made by email or standard mail. (We suggest using documentable mail delivery service.)

For more details on the Final Rule, go to the following site:

<http://www.epa.gov/oem/content/epcra/index.htm>