

Implementation of the CWS for Steel Manufacturing Electric Arc Furnaces (**Existing**) - Manitoba Implementation Plans

Overview of the Standards:

Canada-wide Standards (CWS) are being established and implemented pursuant to the 1998 Canada-wide Accord on Environmental Harmonization of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) and its Canada-wide Environmental Standards Sub-agreement. At its March 2003 meeting, the Council of Ministers (COM) endorsed Standards for dioxins/furans from steel manufacturing electric arc furnaces. CWS are developed through an intergovernmental process engaging external stakeholders in advisory or consultative roles. Implementation of the standards are the responsibility of each jurisdiction.

There are 10 steel manufacturing facilities with electric arc furnaces (EAF) located across Canada, including 1 in Manitoba, and these release about 11.0 g TEQ/year of dioxins and furans (about 7% of the national total). Steel manufacturing using EAFs is an important recycling activity which contributes to the recovery of steel resources and waste minimization. However, the nature of the process is such that it also results in the formation of dioxins and furans and their subsequent release to the environment. Manitoba currently has one steel manufacturing electric arc furnace that would be addressed by this CWS.

The CWS sets out numeric targets and timeframes for reducing dioxin and furan emissions from existing steel manufacturing EAFs of 150 pg ITEQ/Rm³ by 2006 and 100 pg ITEQ/Rm³ by 2010. Compliance would be verified through annual stack testing of emissions.

General Accountability:

Manitoba currently has one steel manufacturing facility with an EAF, located in Selkirk to the north of Winnipeg. Based on company source testing done to date, the facility currently meets the CWS targets set for 2006 and 2010. Manitoba's overall approach has been to develop and sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Manitoba Conservation and this facility. This MOU includes the requirements of the dioxins/furans CWS to ensure that the facility will still be in compliance with the CWS by the years 2006 and 2010.

In the future if the opportunity and need arise, the CWS requirements may be incorporated into the relevant regulatory instrument. Steel manufacturing EAFs are a part of a 'manufacturing and industrial plant', as defined in Manitoba Regulation 164/88 under the Environment Act and are subject to environmental licencing. If necessary, achievement of the CWS limits, annual testing and other requirements can be included as obligations within the facility licence.

Milestones and Timeframes:

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Manitoba Conservation and the Manitoba facility on July 1, 2004.

Public Role:

In support of licencing under the Manitoba Environment Act, public involvement in the environmental assessment and licencing processes is mandated by the Act. The Act requires public notice of proposals and an opportunity to participate in the review through the submission of comments. Public meetings and hearings may also be convened, as necessary. Additionally, Section 41(2) of the Act also requires that in the formulation or substantive review of regulations, the Minister shall provide opportunity for public consultation and shall seek advice and recommendations. As part of these broader processes, a public role in the implementation of the CWS would be provided.

Access to Information:

Under its Environment Act, Manitoba maintains a number of 'public registries' across the Province where information related to environmental assessment, licencing and other information can be placed and will be publicly accessible. Information related to this CWS would be deposited at the appropriate registry sites as well as at key central locations.

Verifiable Progress:

As a condition of the MOU, the existing facility is required to annually report on its source sampling program and its achievement of the CWS.

Manitoba Conservation
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