

Climate Protection Program EITE Rulemaking Glossary

This glossary is intended to provide an accessible overview of common terms used in the Climate Protection Program. These informal definitions are meant to provide additional context for parties interested in participating in the Climate Protection Program EITE rulemaking.

The following terms are provided for informational purposes only. See Oregon Administrative Rules chapter 340, division 273 for the Climate Protection Program rules. Official terminology specific to any program developed and adopted by the Environmental Quality Commission will be defined in Oregon Administrative Rules.

Air contamination source

Is any source at, from, or by reason of which there is emitted into the atmosphere any air contaminant, regardless of who the person may be who owns or operates the building, premises or other property in, at or on which such source is located, or the facility, equipment or other property by which the emission is caused or from which the emission comes. Includes, without limitation, stationary sources, fuel suppliers, in-state fuel producers, and local distribution companies.

Benchmark

A starting reference number for greenhouse gas emissions level or intensity per unit of output used to evaluate covered entities' emissions performance and to inform the distribution of compliance instruments to emissions-intensive, trade-exposed and direct natural gas sources.

Biomass-derived fuels

Fuels derived from biomass. Includes, without limitation, biomethane, biodiesel, renewable diesel, renewable propane, woody biomass, and ethanol.

Cap

The total number of compliance instruments generated by the Department of Environmental Quality for each calendar year.

Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e): The unit used to measure and compare emissions from various greenhouse gases, based on their global warming potential.

Climate Protection Program (CPP) permit

A permit issued to a covered entity according to division 273.

Combustion emissions

Generally emissions from burning natural gas or other fuels to create energy for equipment such as boilers, heaters, or dryers.

Community climate investment (CCI) eligible projects

Projects undertaken by a CCI entity that reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions as described in OAR 340-273-0900(2)(a).

Community climate investment (CCI) entity

A nonprofit organization or organizations approved by DEQ operating under a written agreement with DEQ consistent with OAR 340-273-0920 to implement projects supported by community climate investment funds.

Community climate investment (CCI) credit

An instrument issued by DEQ to track a covered entity's payment of community climate investment funds, which may be used in lieu of a compliance instrument, as provided and limited in division 273.

Community climate investment (CCI) funds

Funds contributed by a covered entity to a community climate investment entity to support implementation of approved projects, including any accrued interest while being held by a CCI entity or subcontractor.

Compliance instrument

An instrument issued by DEQ that authorizes the emission of one metric ton CO₂e of greenhouse gases.

Compliance obligation

The total quantity of covered emissions from a covered fuel supplier, rounded down to the nearest metric ton of CO₂e.

Compliance period

The timeframe during which an entity must track emissions and at the end of which present compliance instruments or community climate investment credits, subject to limitations, equal to covered emissions that occurred within that timeframe. In this program, the first compliance period is three consecutive calendar years (2025-2027). Each subsequent compliance period is two consecutive calendar years. A new compliance period begins with the calendar year following the last calendar year of the preceding compliance period.

Covered direct natural gas (DNG) source

An air contamination source described in OAR 340-273-0110(6).

Covered EITE source

An air contamination source described in OAR 340-273-0110(5).

Covered emissions

Greenhouse gas emissions described in OAR 340-273-0110(3)(b), (4)(b), (5)(b), and (6)(b) for which covered entities may be subject to program requirements.

Covered entity

An air contamination source subject to the requirements of this division. Includes covered fuel suppliers, covered EITE sources, and covered DNG sources.

Covered fuel supplier

An air contamination source that is one or more of the following:

- (a) A fuel supplier or in-state producer as described in OAR 340-273-0110(3); or
- (b) A local distribution company as described in OAR 340-273-0110(4).

Covered fuels suppliers include natural gas utilities and liquid fuels and propane suppliers that meet or exceed a specified covered emissions threshold.

Designated representative

The person responsible for certifying, signing, and submitting required registrations, reports, or forms on behalf of a covered entity. For Title V sources, this is the responsible official consistent with OAR 340-218-0040(5).

Deviation

The quantified difference between a regulated entity's actual greenhouse gas emissions (or emissions-related metric) and a reference value such as a regulatory limit, emissions cap, benchmark, or permitted level.

Direct natural gas (DNG) source

A stationary source that uses natural gas distributed by an entity other than a local distribution company that meets or exceeds a covered emissions threshold.

Emissions-intensive, trade-exposed (EITE) source

A stationary source engaged in a sector described in OAR 340-273-9000 Table 7 that meets or exceeds a specified covered emissions threshold.

EITE (general use)

While the program currently has 36 EITE sources and one DNG source, the term “EITE” often encompasses both of these types of sources in discussions even if the DNG source is not separately called out. Official proposals will explicitly name both.

Environmental justice communities

Communities of color, communities experiencing lower-incomes, communities experiencing health inequities, tribal, rural, remote, coastal, and infrastructure-limited communities, as well as groups historically underrepresented in public processes and disproportionately impacted by environmental and health hazards, including seniors, youth and persons with disabilities.

Global warming potential

The amount of heat a greenhouse gas will absorb over time, compared to carbon dioxide.

Leakage

The relocation of greenhouse gas emissions and businesses from Oregon to places without comparable emissions-reduction programs.

Modification

A physical change, operational change, or change in method of calculation or reporting at a regulated source that results in, or could reasonably result in, a change to greenhouse gas emissions or compliance obligations under the program.

Nominal electric generating capacity

The maximum net electric power output of an energy facility based on the average temperature, barometric pressure and relative humidity at the site during the times of the year when the facility is intended to operate.

Process emissions

Generally, emissions integral to an industrial manufacturing process, usually from chemical reactions and unrelated to energy consumption. Includes emissions such as f-gases in the semiconductor industry, or carbon dioxide released during calcination in cement production.

Reduction schedule

In this context, reduction schedules specify the rate of decrease in the number of compliance instruments per unit of output distributed each year by DEQ.

Shut down

The permanent cessation of all operations of a covered entity, including decommissioning and cancellation of air permits. Limited continued operation (e.g., heaters for decommissioning) may still occur as necessary.

Threshold

The amount of covered emissions above which an entity is a covered entity in the program and below which an entity is not a covered entity in the program. The threshold may be different for different sectors.

Non-discrimination statement

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