

Table 1. Pollutant Emission Programs with Key Reporting Requirements.

| | Toxic Release Inventory (TRI): U.S. | European Pollutant Release & Transfer Register (European PRTR): European Union | National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI): Canada | National Pollutant Inventory (NPI): Australia |
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| Date Effective | October 17, 1986 | January 18, 2006 | March 31, 2000 | July 1, 1998 |
| Authorizing Legislation/Decision | Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act | Council Decision 2006/61/EC of December 2, 2005 | Part 3, Section 46 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 | National Environment Protection Measure |
| Parameters Monitored | Pollutant releases to air, water and land and transfers of waste | Pollutant releases to air, water and land and transfers of waste | Pollutant releases to air, water and land and transfers of waste | Pollutant releases to air, water and land and transfers of waste |
| Chemicals Required to Report | 581 individually listed chemicals and 30 chemical categories | 91 pollutants | 347 substances | 93 toxic substances |
| Number of Facilities Reporting | 21,996 in 2007 | 12,000 in 2004 | 8,500 in 2007 | 4,116 in 2007 |
| Pollutant Emissions Collection & Reporting Responsibilities | <p>EPA and the states are required to annually collect data on releases and transfers of certain toxic chemicals from industrial facilities.</p> <p>EPA is required to establish and maintain in a computer database a national toxic chemical inventory based on data submitted accessible to the public.</p> | <p>Member states are required to annually report the pollutant emission information obtained from each facility and then report the information collected to the Commission of the European Communities.</p> <p>The European Commission is required to make this data publicly accessible on the internet.</p> | <p>Owners and operators of facilities are required to annually report data on pollutant emissions and transfers to Environment Canada.</p> <p>The Canadian Minister of the Environment is required to publish the pollutant release information submitted.</p> | <p>Participating states or territories are required to annually collect emission and transfer data and supporting data from occupiers of reporting facilities and develop or cause to be developed, aggregated emission and transfer data and provide this data to the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The Commonwealth is required to ensure that information is available for free</p> |

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| | | | | to the public via the Internet, libraries and/or community organizations. |
| Information Verification Procedure | No explicit provisions | Every 3 years, the European Commission is required to evaluate the reporting process focusing on the evaluation of the data collection and reporting process. | Following the annual reporting deadline, Environment Canada staff members review reported data for suspected inaccuracies. | The Commonwealth is authorized to require the assessment of the integrity of reported emissions and each participating state or territory is authorized to conduct assessments of integrity of reporting emission and transfer data. |