



TRI Program Update

*Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)
December 2007*

TRI



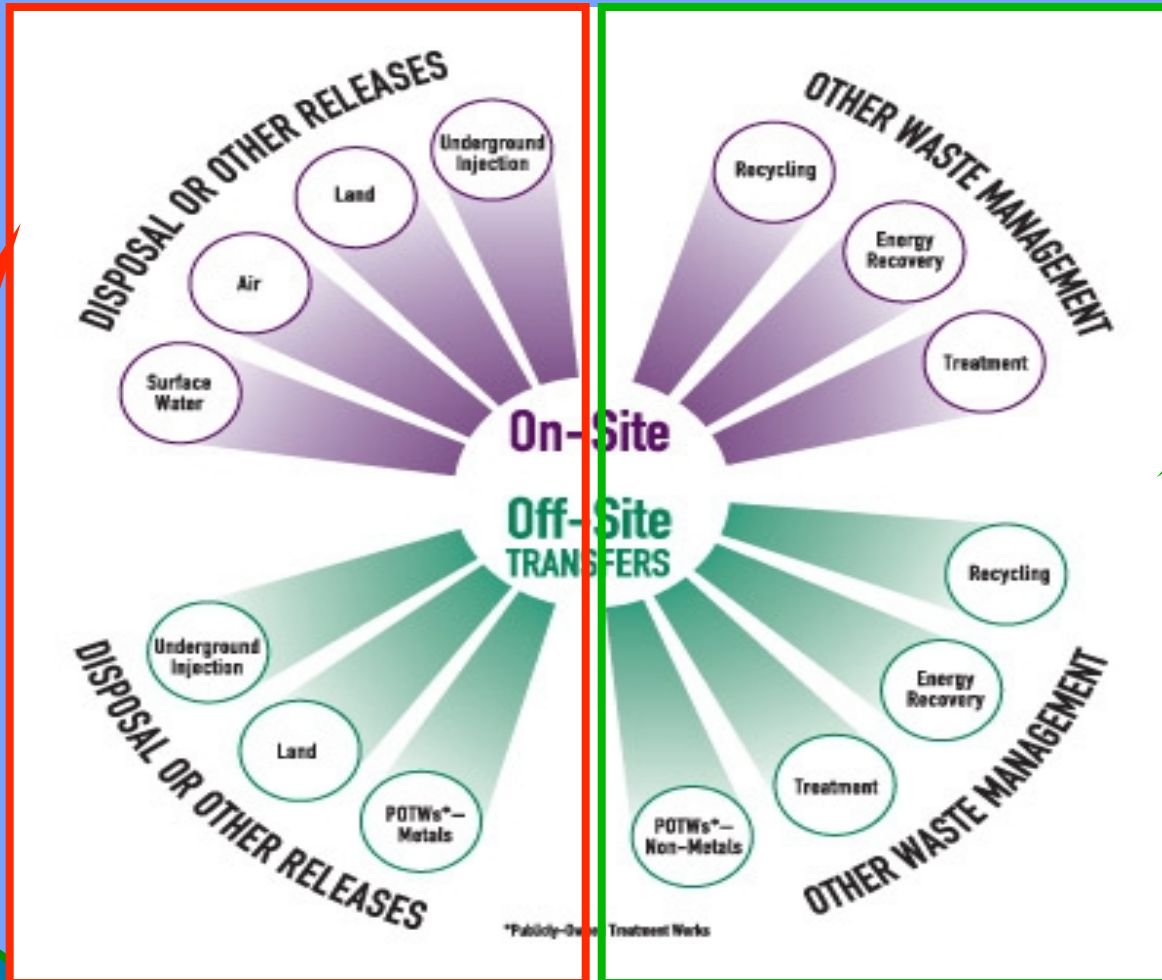
Background - Data Collected in TRI

- *Disposal or Other Releases* -- Facilities are required to report both on- and off-site disposal or other releases of toxic chemicals into the air, water, underground injection wells, and land.
- *Other Waste Management* – Information on the various ways they manage toxic chemicals in wastes, including treatment, energy recovery, recycling, and transfers to other facilities for disposal, treatment, energy recovery.
- *Production-related Waste Managed* -- This is the total quantity of the toxic chemical that was released to the environment or disposed of at the facility (discharged to air, land, and water, and injected underground on-site) or sent off-site for disposal or other release.
- Uses of the toxic chemical by the facility.
- Maximum amount of the toxic chemical on-site at the facility.
- Source reduction activities conducted by the facility.



Information Collected
Under U.S. PRTR

Total Production Related Waste



Total
Disposal
or Other
Releases

Other Waste
Management

One Time
Releases

What are the Benefits of U.S. PRTR Data?

- Provides the public with unprecedented access to information about toxic chemical releases and other waste management activities on a local, state, regional and national level.
- Help the public, government officials and industry:
 - Identify potential concerns and gain a better understanding of potential risks;
 - Identify priorities and opportunities to work with industry and government to reduce toxic chemical disposal or other releases and potential risks associated with them; and
 - Establish reduction targets and measure progress toward reduction goals.
- Data are widely used across EPA programs. For example, the National Partnership for Environmental Priorities, an element of the Resource Conservation Challenge (RCC), uses data to identify facilities that may present pollution prevention opportunities. EPA also uses data in the Risk Screening Environmental Indicator (RSEI) tool, which provides users with additional understanding of chronic human health and potential exposures associated with TRI chemicals.



To see other examples of how U.S. PRTR data are used, see EPA's publication *How are the Toxics Release Inventory Data Used?* (http://www.epa.gov/tri/guide_docs/2003_datausepaper.pdf).

What are the Limitations of the U.S. PRTR data?

- Users of U.S. PRTR should be aware that the data reflect disposal or other releases and other waste management of chemicals, not whether (or to what degree) the public has been exposed to them. Both the toxicity of a chemical and exposure considerations should be taken into account when using the data.
 - TRI chemicals vary widely in toxicity, or their potential to produce toxic effects. Some high-volume releases of less toxic chemicals may appear to be more serious than lower-volume releases of highly toxic chemicals, when just the opposite may be true.
 - The potential for exposure may be greater the longer the chemical remains unchanged in the environment. Sunlight, heat, or microorganisms may or may not decompose the chemical. Smaller releases of a persistent, highly toxic chemical may create a more serious problem than larger releases of a chemical that is rapidly converted to a less toxic form.
- For more detailed information on this subject refer to *Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) and Factors to Consider When Using TRI Data* (<http://www.epa.gov/tri/FactorsToConPDF.pdf>).

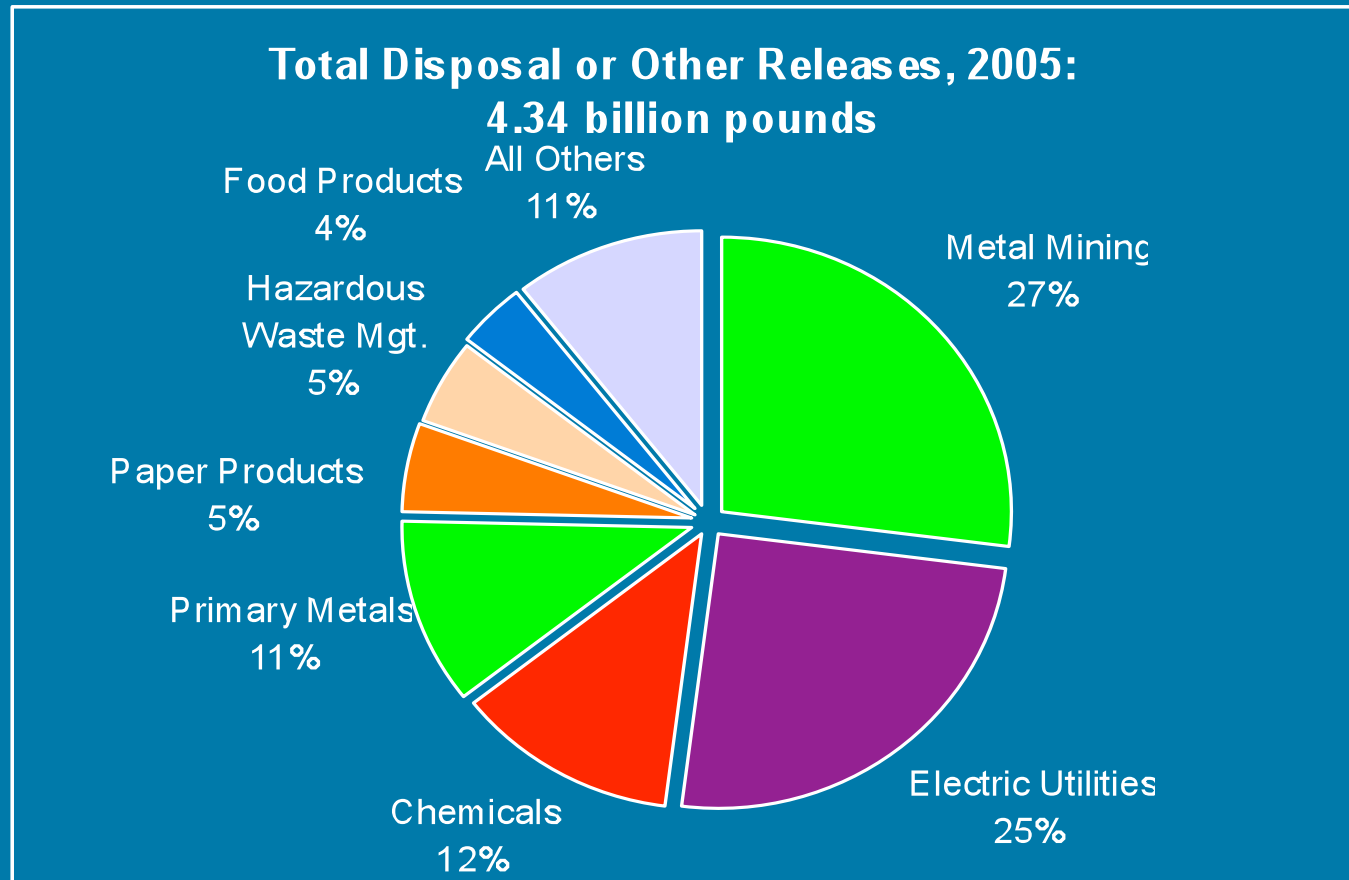


2005 TRI Data

- 2005 facility level TRI data made available in fall of 2006
- EPA annual Public Data Release materials were released in March 2007 (<http://www.epa.gov/tri/tridata/tri05/index.htm>)
- For RY 2005, 23,461 facilities, including federal facilities, reported to EPA's TRI Program. They reported 4.34 billion pounds of on-site and off-site disposal or other releases of the almost 650 toxic chemicals. Almost 88% of the total was disposed of or otherwise released on-site; 12% was sent off-site for disposal or other releases.
- Metal mining facilities reported 27% and electric utilities reported 25% of the total in 2005.

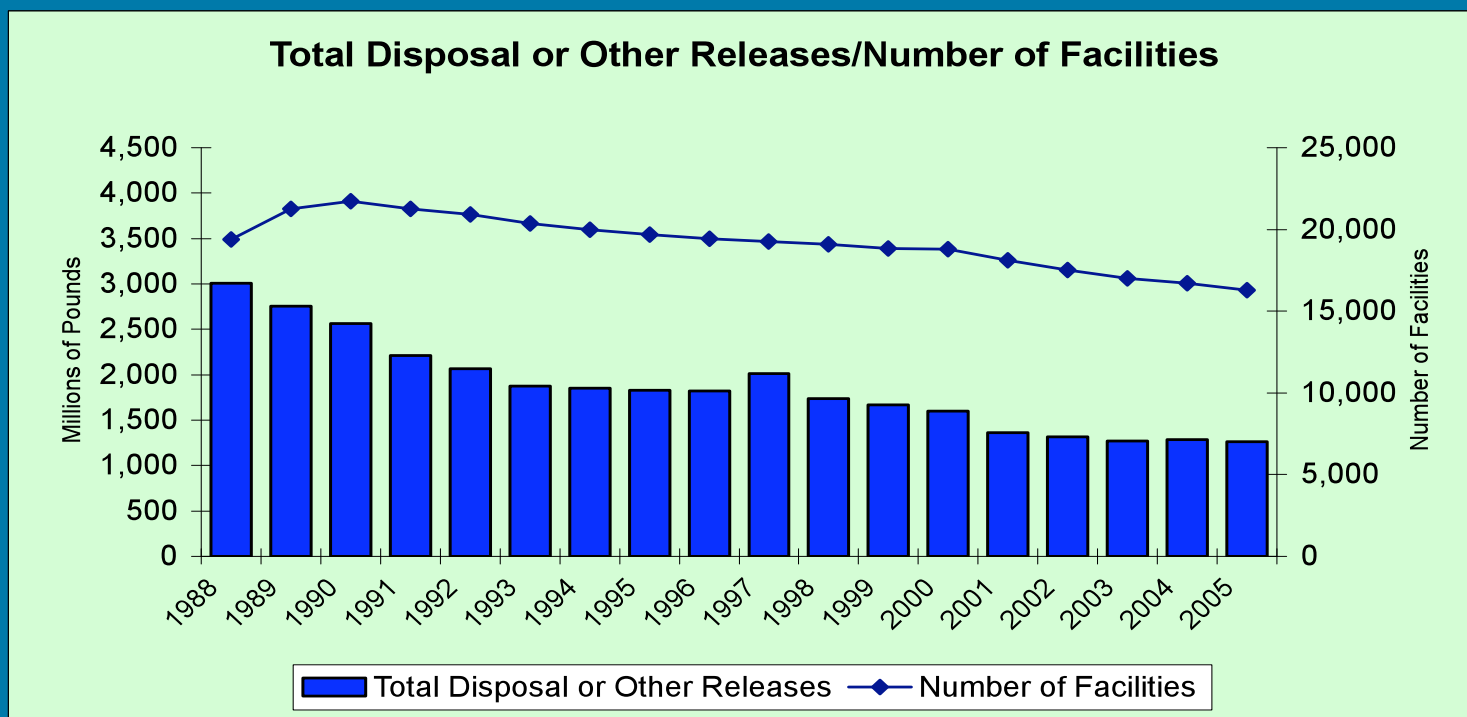


Total Disposal or Other Releases, 2005



U.S. PRTR DATA, 1988-2005

- Looking at trends in the industries and chemicals that have been consistently reported since that time, over the eighteen years from 1988 to 2005, total on- and off-site disposal or other releases of TRI chemicals decreased by 58% (by 1.74 billion pounds).
- The number of facilities reporting to TRI decreased by 16% over that same time period. This decrease only takes into consideration the 1988 core set of chemicals (i.e., those chemicals that have been on the TRI list 1988 and have had the same reporting definition since 1988).



Public Access to U.S. PRTR Data – 2005 Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Public Data Release

Materials from EPA's 2005 TRI Public Data Release Page (<http://www.epa.gov/tri/tridata/tri05/index.htm>)

EPA TRI: 2005 TRI Data Release - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites

Address <http://www.epa.gov/tri/tridata/tri05/index.htm>

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What materials are available for the Public Data Release?

- **2005 PDR Brochure** (March 2007): This eight-page printable version of the brochure provides a quick overview of TRI data, including a background document, charts, and data tables.
- **2005 Public Data Release eReport (PDF)** (245pp, 2.4MB, [About PDF](#)) provides a general overview of 2005 TRI data and information on trends. You can also get the report by calling (202) 564-9554 or emailing your request to TRIDOC@epa.gov. [Reports for past years](#)

Read the report sections individually:

- **Summary of Key Findings: (PDF)** (21pp, 1.6 MB, [About PDF](#)) This section provides a detailed look at the key findings of the 2005 TRI data.
- **Data Tables and Charts Table of Contents: (PDF)** (225pp, 1.03MB, [About PDF](#)) This section provides a look at just the numbers for a select set of national data
 - **Section A - Data Charts (PDF)** (6pp, 64KB, [About PDF](#))
 - **Section B - Summary, 2005 (PDF)** (43pp, 254KB, [About PDF](#))
 - **Section C - Top Facilities by Industry Sector, 2005: Total Disposal or Other Releases (PDF)** (55pp, 284KB, [About PDF](#))
 - **Section D - Top Facilities by Industry Sector, 2005: Total Disposal or Other Releases, Not Including Class I Underground Injection Wells, RCRA Subtitle C Landfills and Other Landfills (PDF)** (55pp, 290KB, [About PDF](#))
 - **Section E - Quantities of TRI Chemicals in Waste, 2005 (PDF)** (38pp, 92KB, [About PDF](#))
 - **Section F - Top Facilities by Industry Sector, 2005: Total TRI Production-Related Waste (PDF)** (28pp, 156KB, [About PDF](#))You can also get the report by calling (202) 564-9554 or emailing your request to TRIDOC@epa.gov. [Reports For Past Years](#)

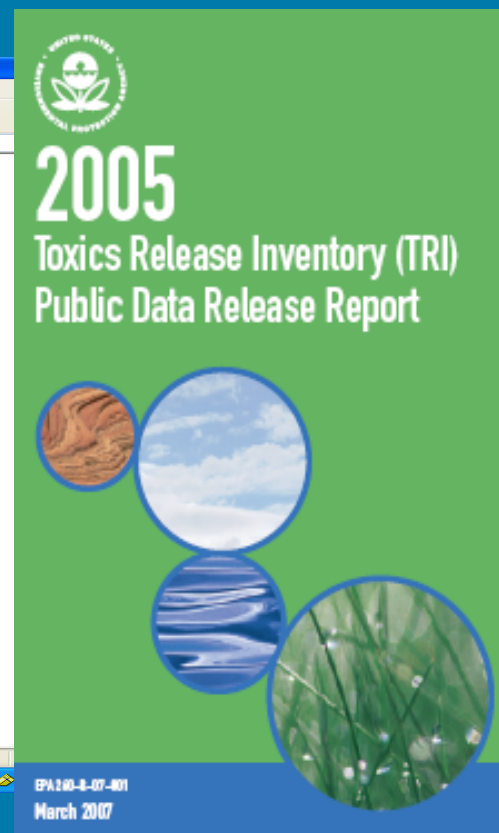
- **2005 State Fact Sheets**; accessible in TRI Explorer, an interactive online display system

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How can I obtain the full data set for my state?

- **2005 TRI Data Files**

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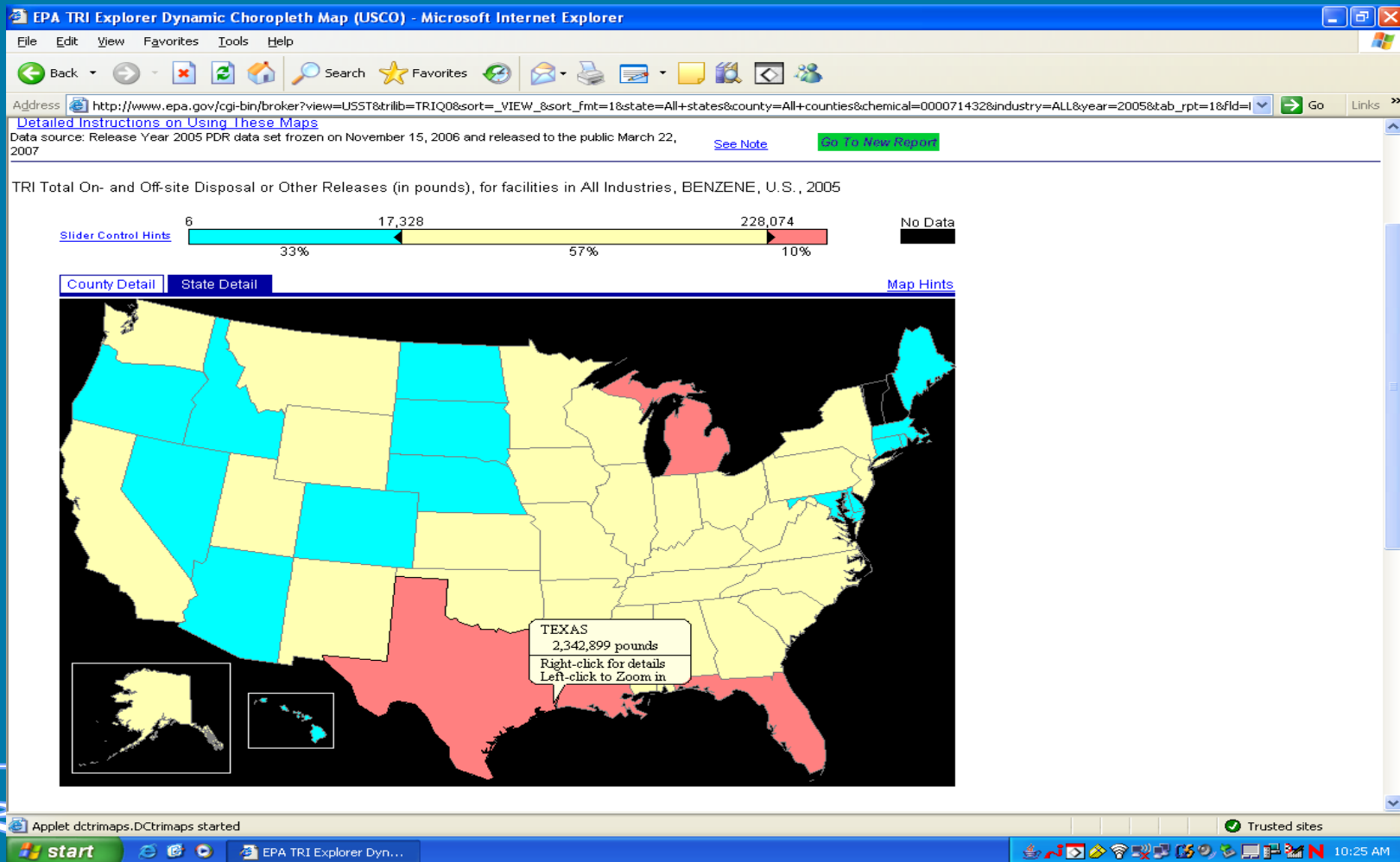
Public Access to U.S. PRTR Data on the Internet - TRI Explorer

- Provides fast and easy access to TRI data and can answer your questions about a chemical, facility, geographic area, or industry sector.
- Find out what chemicals are released to the air by facilities in your state in 2005, what facilities reported in your zip code, or what progress has been made in reducing TRI chemicals since 1988.
- You can also customize maps of states or countries within a state to your preferences.
- <http://www.epa.gov/triexplorer/>

The screenshot shows the EPA TRI Explorer website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar displays <http://www.epa.gov/triexplorer/>. The website header features the EPA logo and the text "U.S. Environmental Protection Agency TRI Explorer". Below the header, there are navigation links for "Recent Additions", "Contact Us", and "Print Version", along with a search bar and a "GO" button. The main content area is titled "Chemical Report" and includes links for "Hints for First-time users" and "Assumptions used in the analysis". A navigation bar contains tabs for "About TRI Explorer", "State Fact Sheet", "Release Reports", "Waste Transfer Reports", and "Waste Quantity Reports". The "Release Reports" tab is active, showing a "Generate Report" button. The report configuration section includes dropdown menus for "Year of Data" (set to 2005), "Geographic Location" (set to All of United States), "Chemical Released" (set to All chemicals), and "Industry" (set to All Industries). The "Data Set" section has a checkbox for "Select 2005 PDR data set". The "Report columns to include" section has several checked options: "Total On-site Disposal or Other Releases", "Total Off-site Disposal or Other Releases", and "Total On-and Off-site Disposal or Other Releases". The footer contains links for "EPA Home", "Privacy and Security Notice", and "Contact Us", along with the text "Last updated on Thursday, December 14th, 2006" and the URL <http://www.epa.gov/triexplorer/>.



TRI Explorer: Dynamic Maps



TRI Program Updates

Regulatory Changes

- Change to North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes finalized in June 2006 (effective for RY2006, reports due July 1, 2007). Also, TRI is in the process of developing a proposed rule to implement the latest 2007 NAICS changes instituted by OMB.
- Expanded Use of Form A – In December 2006, a rule was finalized that expanded eligibility for facilities to use Form A, a simpler form with less detailed information, in lieu of the more detailed form. (effective for RY2006, reports due July 1, 2007)
- TRI Dioxin and Dioxin-like Compounds Toxic Equivalency (TEQ) Information Rule finalized May 2007 (effective for RY2008, reports due July 1, 2009)
- EPA has proposed making several revisions to the Form R and Form A through the US Information Collection Request process – move toward adopting basis of estimate codes that would be slightly more detailed than the current codes used by TRI and make comparisons with CEC partners easier, but the codes are not exactly the same as the ones used by other CEC partners



Toxics Release Inventory Program Directions

Continue efforts to make data available earlier

- Released 2006 TRI Electronic Facility Data Release (e-FDR) August 2007
 - The e-FDR is a facility-level, form-by-form release of TRI data for 2006 as reported by July 2, 2007. The e-FDR does not include analyses of the TRI data, such as national trend analysis.
- Plan to release annual Public Data Release materials early spring 2008
- Web-based version of Toxics Release Inventory – Made Easy (TRI-ME) reporting software will be made available to ALL facilities for RY 2007 (reports due July 1, 2008)
 - Pilot version of TRI-MEweb was available in RY 2006
 - PC-based version will be available from the TRI website, will only mail cd upon request
- Continue to expand the number of States using automated data exchange



Toxics Release Inventory Program Directions

Improve Data Quality through

- Work with the CEC, Mexico and Canada to evaluate data quality issues and data comparability
- Industry sector analysis to better characterize the types of emissions facilities within the sector (e.g., electric generating facilities and petroleum refining for 2008)
 - This information will help EPA to better identify potential reporting errors from facilities and to develop better and more targeted guidance materials
- Cross Referencing Project - comparing TRI data to other EPA media-specific (i.e., air, land, and water) data to determine consistency and completeness of filings across programs.
 - The purposes are to enhance data quality, strengthen data integration, and support compliance/enforcement efforts.



Toxics Release Inventory Program Directions

Provide more context information about TRI data

- For example, through a TRI Supplementary Information report that will be released soon
- Possible additional analysis as part of EPA's PDR materials
- TRI NATA Explorer
- All part of a longer term effort to expand partnerships and improve usefulness of data
 - EPA's is beginning to pursue a new cooperative agreement that will allow key non-federal audiences to attain a greater understanding of TRI data and other related data and information.



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