



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Address: 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114

Phone: 617-292-5500

Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kim Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Rebecca Tepper
Secretary

Bonnie Heiple
Commissioner

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

This Public Hearing Notice is available in alternative languages (Español -- Tiếng Việt -- Chinese -- Kreyòl Ayisyen -- Português) on MassDEP's website at: [MassDEP Public Hearings Comment Opportunities Web Page](#)

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), under the authority of M.G.L. c. 21A, sections 2, 8, 16 and 22, M.G.L c. 21N, and M.G.L. c. 111, sections 2C, 142A through 142E, will hold public hearings in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30A on proposed amendments to *310 CMR 7.70: Massachusetts CO₂ Budget Trading Program*. MassDEP is proposing these amendments concurrent with the Department of Energy Resources' (DOER's) proposed revisions to 225 CMR 13.00: the DOER CO₂ Budget Trading Program Auction Regulation. Together these proposed amendments would implement program changes agreed to by the Regional Green House Initiative (RGGI) participating states after completing the Third Program Review. The proposed amendments and a technical support document are available on MassDEP's website at: [MassDEP Public Hearings Comment Opportunities Web Page](#)

Two public hearings will be conducted online and via telephone. The public hearings will be held:

Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at 10:00 AM

Register in advance for this hearing:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ujznRL9oRjavLSGFa85Odg>

Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Register in advance for this hearing:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/6CCbT_cjSgmbmPj2r0xgQg

Please join the public hearing from your computer, tablet, or smartphone. You can also dial in using your phone. Testimony may be presented orally at the public hearing, or written comments may be submitted until Friday, August 7. Written comments must be submitted via email to climate.strategies@mass.gov, or by mail to Climate Strategies, MassDEP, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114.

For special accommodations for these hearings, please call the EEA Diversity Office at 617-626-1282. TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370. This information is available in alternate format upon request. MassDEP provides language access interpreter and translation services to limited English proficient individuals free of charge. If you need an interpreter to participate in this meeting, translation services, please reach out to Camila Pedrosa at mariacamila.pedrosa@mass.gov or 617-556-1148.

By Order of the Department of Environmental Protection
Bonnie Heiple
Commissioner

Small Business Impact Statement

(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

CMR No: 310 CMR 7.70

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.

- Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.)
Yes. The regulation includes performance standards, not design/operational standards.
- Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?
No. No other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation.
- Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Is the regulation likely to *deter* the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Is the regulation likely to *encourage* the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.
- Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses?
No. The regulation impacts large electric power plants, not small businesses.