



Briefing Note: Ontario's Assessed Air EASR

New Ontario Air Self-Permitting Regulation (O.Reg 1/17)

Air Permitting in Ontario has changed. The Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) has brought in the Assessed Air Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (*Assessed Air EASR*) self-permitting regulation (O.Reg 1/17), to improve the turnaround times needed for industry to obtain air and noise emission permits.

The *Assessed Air EASR Registration* process replaces the current Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) permit application and Ministry-approval process, for facilities with a low-or-medium risk of causing adverse emission effects, effective December 31, 2016. All eligible facilities must apply using the process, and must change over their ECA to an *Assessed Air EASR* immediately upon making emission-related modifications to the facility that would normally trigger an ECA amendment, or by January 31, 2027 at the latest.

The Ministry has made the legislated Assessment requirements more onerous under the EASR process, in return for essentially allowing facilities to self-register. Reports must be signed & sealed by an Ontario Professional Engineer (P.Eng.); the practitioner must:

- Assess all discharges of contaminants from a facility to air, including modelling;
- Complete toxicological assessments on contaminants that have no MOECC limits;
- Also determine the potential impact of the facility's noise and odour emissions;
- Include self-enforced noise and odour mitigation plans and controls if needed;
- Include written O&M procedures, complaints and record-keeping requirements;

Some sectors have been deemed higher-risk and are not eligible under this EASR regulation. (e.g. chemical manufacturing, cement manufacturing, mining). For high-risk sectors only, the former ECA Application process, including full Ministry review, applies.

Benefits: speed of obtaining your permit, and consistency of self-assessment.

Disadvantages: more onerous and costly process of permitting, including odour assessment of all facilities, toxicology self-assessments, best practices documentation, impact mitigation plans, re-assessment of each future modification, and P.Eng. licensure requirement.

Need More Info?

Contact Brian Bobbie of Altech (ext. 245) for a complete briefing of how the new air permitting process affects your facility, and for qualified engineering support for your Assessed Air EASR Registration.

*Integrated
Solutions for
Business and the
Environment*

www.altech-group.com

*ALTECH is one of Ontario's leading industrial environmental engineering, assessment and management firms. For more information, contact
ALTECH Environmental Consulting Ltd. at 1-800-323-4937 or info@altech-group.com*