Clean Air Act

In response to a number of air quality incidents across the country, the Clean Air Act (CAA) was first promulgated in 1963 and has been revised a number of times since.
The five basic goals of the CAA are:

1. Control ambient levels of criteria pollutants
2. Limit exposure to Hazardous Air Pollutants
3. Protect and improve visibility in natural areas
4. Reduce emissions that cause acid rain, and
5. Curb the use of chemicals that deplete stratospheric ozone

Oklahoma State University is subject to a number of regulations or portions of regulations promulgated in the CAA and its revisions.

Title V Permit Compliance – An innovative program under Title V of the Clean Air Act Amendments, the operating permit program streamlines the way authorities regulate air pollution by consolidating all air pollution control requirements into a single, comprehensive "operating permit" that covers all aspects of a source's year-to-year air pollution activities.

Title V Permit Compliance

One of the major initiatives Congress added to the CAA in 1990 is an operating permit program for larger industrial and commercial sources that release pollutants into the air. Operating permits include information on which pollutants are being released, how much may be released, and what kinds of steps the source's owner or operator is required to take to reduce the pollution. Permits must include plans to measure and report the air pollution emitted.
Oklahoma State University obtained and operates under a Title V air permit that includes information on the emission sources, which pollutants are being emitted and monitored, emission limitations, and any pollution prevention requirements. The permit also details the type and frequency of reports to be submitted to the state.

Greenhouse Gas Reporting (40 CFR 86, 87, 89 et.al.)

Beginning in 2010, facilities that emit greenhouse gases (GHG) were required to monitor GHG emissions and submit an annual GHG inventory.
Applicability

Any facility that contains any source category (as defined in 40 CFR part 98, subparts C through JJ) in any calendar year starting in 2010.  For these facilities, the annual GHG report covers all source categories and GHGs for which calculation methodologies are provided in 40 CFR part 98, subparts C through JJ.

Facilities that emit 25,000 metric tons of CO2e or more per year from all stationary fuel combustion sources (as defined in 40 CFR part 98, subparts C through JJ).

EPCRA-Tier II reporting

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) was passed by Congress in response to concerns regarding the environmental and safety hazards posed by the storage and handling of toxic chemicals. These concerns were triggered by the 1984 disaster in Bhopal, India, caused by an accidental release of methylisocyanate. The release killed or severely injured more than 2000 people.

To reduce the likelihood of such a disaster in the United States, Congress imposed requirements for federal, state and local governments, tribes, and industry. These requirements covered emergency planning and "Community Right-to-Know" reporting on hazardous and toxic chemicals. The Community Right-to-Know provisions help increase the public's knowledge and access to information on chemicals at individual facilities, their uses, and releases into the environment. States and communities, working with facilities, can use the information to improve chemical safety and protect public health and the environment.

Facilities must complete and submit a toxic chemical release inventory form (Form R) annually. Form R must be submitted for each of the over 600 TRI chemicals that are manufactured or otherwise used above the applicable threshold quantities.