

VOLUME REDUCTION, MERCURY RECOVERY, OR MERCURY RECLAMATION INFORMATIONAL HANDOUT



❖ What is the Purpose of the Air General Permit Registration Program?

- The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has established an Air General Permit (AGP) under Rule 62-210.310(5)(a), Florida Administrative Code, (F.A.C.), for Volume Reduction, Mercury Recovery or Mercury Reclamation Operations. By simply registering to “use” the AGP, the owner or operator of an eligible facility is allowed to construct and operate the facility under the terms and conditions of the AGP rule. There is no need for the owner or operator to incur the additional time and expense of applying for an individual air construction or air operation permit.

❖ Who is Eligible to use a Volume Reduction, Mercury Recovery, or Mercury Reclamation Operations AGP?

- The owner or operator of a proposed new or existing facility shall determine the facility’s eligibility to use the Air General Permit.
- Eligible facilities must not emit more than ten (10) tons per year of any listed hazardous air pollutant (HAP), twenty-five (25) tons per year of any combination of HAPs, or one hundred (100) tons per year of any other regulated air pollutant.
- Eligible facilities must not operate any other emission units that would require an AG permit.
- Existing facilities with an AO permit may renew that permit or apply for the AG permit at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of the existing permit.

❖ **How Do I Register or Re-register for a Volume Reduction, Mercury Recovery, or Mercury Reclamation Operations AGP?**

- To register, the owner/operator of an existing or new volume reduction, mercury recovery, or mercury reclamation operation may:
 - Use the Department's online Air General Permit Electronic Registration System (AGPERS) found at <https://floridadep.gov/air/permitting-compliance/content/air-general-permits>; or
 - Download and complete the volume reduction, mercury recovery, or mercury reclamation operation registration worksheet found at <https://floridadep.gov/air/permitting-compliance/content/mercury-recovery-and-reclamation> and mail it to the Department at the address indicated in the worksheet instructions along with a \$100 registration processing fee.
- The registration and associated processing fee must be submitted to the Department at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of an existing facility's authorization.
- For a new facility, the registration must be submitted at least thirty (30) days before intending to use the AGP rule authority.
- If certain changes occur at an existing volume reduction, mercury recovery, or mercury reclamation facility, the owner/operator must re-register for use of the AGP. Re-registration of the AGP is required for the following changes:
 - Change of ownership
 - The new owner/operator must submit a registration along with a fee of \$100.00, at least thirty (30) days before intending to use the AGP rule authority.
 - The current owner operator is encouraged to notify the Department prior to the sale of the facility.
 - Physical change in location
 - Proposed new construction
 - Modifications to equipment (installation of new process or air pollution equipment; alteration of existing process or control equipment; or replacement of existing process or control equipment with equipment substantially different in terms of capacity,

method of operation, material processed, or intended use than that noted in the most recent registration form)

❖ **What is required by the Volume Reduction, Mercury Recovery, or Mercury Reclamation Operations AGP Rule?**

General Requirements

- The facility must not emit objectionable odors.
- Use of the AGP rule authorization does not eliminate the necessity for the owner/operator to obtain any other federal, state, or local permits that may be required, or relieve the owner/operator from the duty to comply with any federal, state or local requirements that may apply.

Control Technology and Operating Requirements

- Permissible Exposure Limit
 - a) Eligible facilities must adhere to the following: The United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Permissible Exposure Limit for mercury vapor, which is listed in 29 C.F.R. 1910.1000.
- Negative Pressure Requirement for Processing Area
 - a) The area in which the processing equipment is located shall be fully enclosed and kept under negative pressure while processing mercury-containing lamps or devices.
- Facilities with Dual Air Handling Systems
 - a) The owner/operator or authorized representative shall install a primary air handling system with air pollution control equipment in order to reduce the mercury content of the air collected during the volume reduction and mercury recovery and reclamation processes.
 - b) The air collected by the primary system shall be vented within a fully enclosed area of the facility after the air is filtered through the air pollution control equipment.
 - c) Once each day the facility processes any mercury-containing lamps or devices and while mercury-containing lamps or devices are being processed, a sample of air shall be collected within the fully enclosed area of the facility in which the air collected by

the primary air handling system is vented. The mercury content of the sample shall be determined for comparison with the OSHA permissible exposure limit.

- d) The owner/operator or authorized representative shall operate, monitor and maintain the primary system air pollution control equipment in such a manner that does not OSHA permissible exposure limit for mercury vapor within the fully enclosed area of the facility in which the air collected by the primary air handling system is vented.
 - e) The owner/operator or authorized representative shall install a secondary air handling system in order to maintain negative pressure in the fully enclosed area of the facility in which the air collected by the primary system is vented.
 - f) The owner/operator or authorized representative shall install, operate, monitor and maintain air pollution control equipment in order to reduce the mercury content of the air collected by the secondary air handling system.
 - g) The primary system with air pollution controls shall be independent and separate from the secondary system with air pollution controls. The primary and secondary system air pollution controls shall incorporate carbon filters or equivalent technology.
- Facilities Using a Single Air Handling System with Redundant Mercury Controls
 - a) The owner/operator or authorized representative shall operate, monitor and maintain an air handling system with redundant air pollution control equipment in order to reduce the mercury content of the air collected during the volume reduction and mercury recovery and reclamation processes.
 - b) Redundant air pollution control equipment shall incorporate at least two carbon filters or equivalent technology arranged in series so that the air passes through both filters before being released. Each filter shall be designed as to ensure compliance with the OSHA permissible exposure limit for mercury vapor at the emission point in the event of a single filter failure.
 - c) Once each day the facility processes any mercury-containing lamps or devices and while mercury-containing lamps or devices are being processed, a sample of air shall be collected downstream of the first carbon filter (or equivalent technology) and upstream of the second. The mercury content of the sample shall be determined for comparison with the OSHA permissible exposure limit.

d) The owner/operator or authorized representative shall operate, monitor and maintain the air pollution control equipment in such a manner as not to exceed the OSHA permissible exposure limit for mercury vapor downstream of the first carbon filter (or equivalent technology) and upstream of the second.

☑ Record-keeping

- The owner/operator or authorized representative of a facility using this AG permit shall maintain records of monitoring information that specify the date, place, and time of measurement; the methodology used; and the analytical results. These shall include all calibration and maintenance records of monitoring equipment. The owner/operator or authorized representative shall retain records of all monitoring data and supporting information, available for Department inspection, for a period of at least five years from the date of collection.

☑ Equipment Maintenance

- All volume reduction, mercury recovery or mercury reclamation operations units shall be maintained in proper working order in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications to ensure the integrity and efficiency of the equipment.
- If a volume reduction, mercury recovery or mercury reclamation operations unit contains a defect that affects the integrity or efficiency of the unit, the unit shall be taken out of service. The unit shall not be operated until it has been repaired or adjusted.
- A written plan containing operating procedures for startup, shutdown and malfunction shall be maintained and followed during those events.

❖ Who do I contact regarding questions about AGPs and/or registration procedures?

- Please contact the Department's Small Business Environmental Assistance Program by phone at 1-800-722-7457 or by email at Small.Business@dep.state.fl.us.

DISCLAIMER: This handout is for guidance purposes only. It is not official rule language and does not include a comprehensive listing of all environmental regulations that may be applicable to Volume Reduction, Mercury Recovery or Mercury Reclamation Operations. Please refer to Rule 62-210.310(5)(a) for complete and up-to-date rule language.