

EXTRAORDINARY

OFFICIAL GAZETTE
THE BAHAMAS

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

NASSAU 4th April, 2025

EMISSIONS REDUCTION INITIATIVES AND INCENTIVES REGULATIONS, 2025

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OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

S.I. No. 24 of 2025

CLIMATE CHANGE AND CARBON MARKET INITIATIVES ACT, 2022

(NO. 15 OF 2022)

EMMISSIONS REDUCTION INITIATIVES AND INCENTIVES REGULATIONS, 2025

The Prime Minister in exercise of the powers conferred by section 19, 21, and 30 of the Climate Change and Carbon Market Initiatives Act, 2022 (*No. 15 of 2022*) makes the following regulations —

PART I - PRELIMINARY

1. Citation and commencement.

(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Emissions Reduction Initiatives and Incentives Regulations, 2025.

(2) These Regulations shall come into force on the 1st day of April, 2025.

2. Interpretation.

In these Regulations —

"Act" means the Climate Change and Carbon Market Initiatives Act, 2022 (*No. 15 of 2022*);

"**emissions**" means the release of greenhouse gasses (GHGs) and or their precursors into the atmosphere over a specified area and period of time;

"**greenhouse gases"** or "**GHGs**" —

(a) means the atmospheric gases responsible for causing global warming that leads to climate change; and

(b) includes carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrogen triflouride (NF3), nitrous oxide (N20), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF6);

"**Nationally Determined Contributions**", or "**NDCs**", means the report made by each country that is a signatory to the Paris Agreement providing targets to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change;

"net zero" means the balance between anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and the removal of greenhouse gases over a specified period;

"Registry" means the National Emissions Registry established under section 27 of the Act;

"Registrar" means the Registrar appointed under section 27 of the Act;

"**social support entities**" means entities which provide services intended to aid disadvantaged, distressed, or vulnerable persons or groups.

3. Application of Regulations.

These Regulations shall apply to —

(a) the implementation of emission reduction initiatives and incentives;

(b) the issuance of emission allocations;

(c) the collection of GHG data; and

(d) the reporting of GHG data.

PART II – EMISSION REDUCTION INITIATIVES AND INCENTIVES

EMISSION REDUCTION INITIATIVES

4. Interpretation of Part.

For the purposes of this Part, a **"permit holder"** includes a net-zero or carbon neutral entity of GHGs who has been registered under this Part.

5. Prime Minister may implement emission reduction initiatives.

(1) The Prime Minister shall notify the Registrar in writing of any initiative for emission reduction in accordance with section 19 of the Act.

(2) All emission reduction initiatives created and implemented pursuant to section 19(1) of the Act shall include the general principles specified in Part I of the *Schedule*.

6. Application to participate in an emission reduction initiative.

(1) Any person or entity who is desirous of participating in an emission reduction initiative shall make application in the manner set out in Form I of Part II of the *Schedule* and pay the fee specified in Part III of the *Schedule*.

(2) An application made under paragraph (1) shall be supported by a proposal specifying the details to be implemented to reduce GHG emissions.

7. Permit to participate in an emission reduction initiative.

(1) The Prime Minister shall issue a permit pursuant to section 19(4) of the Act, to a person or entity under regulations 6 and 10, for an emission reduction initiative, in Form II, Part II of the *Schedule*.

(2) The Registrar shall record the information provided in regulation 6 in the Registry.

8. Offence to participate in an emission reduction initiative without a permit.

(1) No person shall participate in an emission reduction initiative unless that person is in possession of a permit.

(2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of paragraph (1) commits an offence and is liable to a fine of five thousand dollars.

9. Registrar to maintain register of initiatives and permits.

The Registrar shall maintain or cause to be maintained a register of —

(a) the initiatives implemented to reduce GHG emissions in The Bahamas; and

(b) the permits granted to participate in an initiative.

10. Procedure for net-zero or carbon neutral entities to participate in an emissions reduction initiative.

(1) Any net-zero or carbon neutral entity who is desirous of participating in an emissions reduction initiative shall make application in Form III of Part II of the *Schedule*.

(2) An application made pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be supported by —

(a) an emission audit which provides sufficient evidence of the net-zero or carbon neutral state of the entity; and

(b) any other information or document requested by the Registrar.

EMISSION REDUCTION INCENTIVES

11. Prime Minister may create and implement incentives.

(1) The Prime Minister may by order create and implement incentives for an emission reduction initiative.

(2) An order made under paragraph (1) shall specify —

(a) the type of incentive to be granted;

(b) the duration of the incentive;

(c) the persons, entities or sectors to whom the incentive is eligible;

(d) the value of the incentive.

(3) The Prime Minister may amend an order made under this regulation from time to time.

12. Permit proof of eligibility to access incentives.

A permit issued pursuant to regulation 7 and regulation 15(6), shall be conclusive evidence of approval to access any incentive established under regulation 11.

REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

13. Obligation of holder of a permit to report.

(1) The holder of a permit issued under regulation 7 shall submit an annual report in Form IV of Part II of the *Schedule* to the Prime Minister, by the 31st day of March in each calendar year.

(2) Any person who fails to report by the period specified in paragraph (1) shall have their permit cancelled and commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or equal to the benefit accrued by the incentive or whichever is greater.

(3) The Prime Minister shall cause the annual report to be reviewed for accuracy and the Registrar may, on behalf of the Prime Minister, request the holder of a permit to provide further information.

14. Special reporting for net-zero or carbon neutral entities.

Any person or entity who by virtue of their activities, achieves a net-zero in GHGs emissions and who has made application to participate under regulation 10 is duly registered with the Registry, shall submit a report in Form V of Part II of the *Schedule* by the 31st day of March in each calendar year.

PART III – ACTIVITY DATA AND EMISSION ALLOCATIONS

PROCEDURE AND REPORTING OBLIGATIONS FOR ACTIVITY DATA AND EMISSION ALLOCATIONS

15. Reporting obligations of sectors identified in NDCs.

(1) An entity operating in any sector identified in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), shall be registered with the Registry.

(2) The Registrar shall select entities registered under paragraph (1) for the completion of an activity data questionnaire related to its GHG emissions.

(3) An entity selected pursuant to paragraph (2) shall submit a completed activity data questionnaire to the Registry on the activity data of the entity for the specified period.

(4) The activity data questionnaire shall be submitted annually by the last Friday of February in each calendar year in respect to the information obtained during the preceding year.

(5) All entities that submit their activity data questionnaire in the prescribed manner shall be reviewed for eligibility to participate in an incentive.

(6) An entity that is determined to be eligible to participate in an incentive under paragraph (5) shall be issued a permit to access any incentive established under regulation 11.

(7) Where an entity fails to submit the relevant section of the activity data questionnaire to the Registry, that entity commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars and a further fine of one thousand dollars per month until the submission of the questionnaire.

16. Issuance of emission allocation permit and reporting obligations.

(1) The Registrar shall review the information contained in the activity data questionnaire pursuant to regulation 15 and determine if the emission allocation should be applied to an entity.

(2) Based on the determination pursuant to paragraph (1) the Registrar shall recommend to the Prime Minister the issue of an emission allocation permit to the entity.

(3) The Prime Minister shall issue an emission allocation permit in accordance with the recommendation in paragraph (2) in Form I, Part IV of the *Schedule*.

17. Transfer of an emission allocation.

(1) No person shall transfer an emission allocation granted under a permit issued in accordance with regulation 16, unless approved by the Registrar.

(2) Where the Registrar approves the transfer of an emission allocation, the Registrar shall make a record of the transfer in the Registry.

18. Cancellation of an emission allocation.

(1) An emission allocation which has been granted may be cancelled by the Registrar where —

(a) an entity reaches net zero or carbon neutral; or

(b) the entity has ceased to carry on the activity specified in its activity data.

(2) Where an emission allocation has been cancelled in accordance with paragraph (1), the Registrar shall make a record of the cancellation in the Registry.

PART IV - MISCELLANEOUS

19. Fees.

The fees payable under these regulations may be deposited into a specific sub-fund established under the National Investment Funds Act, 2022 for this purpose.

20. Publication of annual report to public.

(1) The Prime Minister shall, as soon as practicable and in any case within six months after the end of each year, prepare a report on the performance of his functions under this Act during that year.

(2) A report prepared in accordance with paragraph (1) shall be published in the manner as the Prime Minister may determine.

SCHEDULE

PART I
(regulation 5)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

NATIONAL EMISSIONS REGISTRY

GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR EMISSION REDUCTION INITIATIVES

Entities seeking to participate in an Emission Reduction Initiatives shall provide information which indicates that their project shall:

1. Contribute to long-term emissions reductions.
2. Promote sustainable development.
3. Generate an environmental benefit.
4. Align with relevant national policies or plans to reduce emissions.
5. Comply with regulatory requirements relevant to the project type.
6. Have a clear implementation plan with timelines.
7. Have a financial need which the initiative directly addresses.
8. Provides a benefit to the local community and meets the goals set by the initiative.
9. Aligns with the principles and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

PART II

FORM I
(regulation 6)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

NATIONAL EMISSIONS REGISTRY

APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EMISSION REDUCTION INITIATIVE

Company Name		
Type of Company		
Relevant Company Partners		
Contact Information		
Email		
Phone		
Address		
Street, City, Country, Postcode		
Emission Reduction Initiative Proposal Summary (1,000 word summary of project)		
Projected Annual Emission Reductions (t CO2 eq)		

Is this residential address to be used for correspondence?	Yes [ ]	No [ ]
If no, please provide address for correspondence below.		
Street,City,Country, Postcode		

Relevant Documents:

Full proposal of emissions reduction initiative including:

- Evidence of the initiatives contribution to long term emission reductions;
- Evidence of how the proposal promotes sustainable development;
- Evidence of how the project generates environmental benefits;
- Evidence of the proposal's alignment with relevant national policies or plans to reduce emissions;
- A clear implementation plan with timelines;
- Evidence of financial needs which the initiative will directly address;
- Evidence of the proposal's benefit to the local community and how it meets the goals set by the initiative;
- Evidence of the proposal's alignment with the principles and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Registrar may request additional information to aid in the processing of the application.

FORM II
(regulation 7)



THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

NATIONAL EMISSIONS REGISTRY

PERMIT FOR EMISSIONS REDUCTION INITIATIVE

Permit No.

This permit authorizes _____ to participate in _____; an emissions reduction initiative created in accordance with Section 19 of the Climate Change and Carbon Market Initiatives Act, 2022.

The emissions reduction initiative is located in _____ (provide address or include the coordinates) and proposes to reduce emissions by _____ tons of CO2 (eq.) over a period of time.

This permit will be effective from _____ to _____.

FORM III
(regulation 10)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

NATIONAL EMISSIONS REGISTRY

NET ZERO OR CARBON NEUTRAL ENTITIES APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EMISSION REDUCTION INITIATIVE

Name (Company or Person)	
Name of individual completing the form	
Title of individual completing the form (if applicable)	
Please indicate the economic sector which your business operates in (if applicable)	
How long has the business operated at net zero? How long has the residence operated at net zero?	
Contact Information	
Email	
Phone	
Address	
Address of company or residence Street, City, Island Postcode:	
Please provide information on how participation will benefit your company and what benefits from the initiative are being sought (for example: additional staff, staff capacity building, etc.)	

Please provide information on resulting community benefit from your access to the initiative and which Sustainable Development Goals will be achieved?
Is this address to be used for correspondence? [ ] Yes [ ] No
If no, please provide address for correspondence:
Street, City, Country, Postcode:
Relevant Documents: Full program proposal for access to the initiative Business License; Certificate of good standing; National Insurance Certificate Inland Revenue Certificate; Most recent Energy Audit. The Registrar may request additional information to aid in processing of the application.

FORM IV
(regulation 13)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

NATIONAL EMISSIONS REGISTRY

ANNUAL EMISSION REDUCTION INITIATIVE REPORT

Name of company Report year:	
Name of project(s)	
Name(s) reporting representative	
Title of reporting representative Sector impacted by emission reduction initiative (Energy, Transportation, Agriculture, Waste, Other)	
Summary of project (including the purpose)	
Geographic location of each project (including coordinates)	
Change to business operation due to emission reduction initiative Please provide a brief report of the benefits realized from this initiative (for example, environmental, financial or social benefits)	
Has there been any incident at the facility	

or within your operation which would have negatively impacted your emission reductions?	
Supporting documents: Please attach the following: Copy of permit Any relevant permits	

The Registrar may request additional information to determine the accuracy of reporting.

FORM V
(regulation 14)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

NATIONAL EMISSIONS REGISTRY

ANNUAL NET ZERO AND CARBON NEUTRAL REPORT

Name of company	
Report year	
Name of project(s)	
Name of representative completing the form	
Title of representative completing the form	
Economic sector of the business operation	
Geographic location of each project (including coordinates)	
Has there been any changes since the last reporting which resulted in increased emissions? , If so please indicate and provide a report.	
Overall impact of the emission reduction initiative	
Quantity of emission reduction from last report (if applicable)	
Sectors impacted by emission reduction initiative	Energy [ ] Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) [ ] Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use

	(AFOLU) [ ] Waste [ ]
Supporting Documents: Please attach the following: Copy of permit [ ] Any relevant permit [ ] Independent audit report [ ] A brief report on the realized benefits from the initiative (for example, environmental, financial or social benefit) [ ] The Registrar may request additional information to determine the accuracy of reporting.	

PART III
(regulation 6)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

NATIONAL EMISSIONS REGISTRY

FEES

Application to participate in an emission reduction initiative - residential	$100.00
Application to Participate in an Emission Reduction Initiative – Social Support Entity	$75.00
Application to participate in an emission reduction initiative – commercial	$300.00
Application to participate in an emission reduction initiative for net zero or carbon neutral entities:	
Residential	$75.00
Social Support Entities	$75.00
Commercial	$200.00

PART IV

FORM I
(regulation 16)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

NATIONAL EMISSIONS REGISTRY

PERMIT FOR EMISSION ALLOCATIONS

This permit grants the ability to emit _____ tons of carbon dioxide or carbon dioxide equivalent at _____.

This permit will be effective from _____ to _____.

Made this 26th day of March, 2025

Signed
PHILIP DAVIS
PRIME MINISTER