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## Overview of the EU ETS Reporting Language

### General

The EU ETS Reporting Language is an electronic reporting language supporting the EU ETS activities, such as requesting environmental permits, submitting monitoring plans, and reporting annual emissions.

The EU ETS Reporting Language has been developed during 2009 within a Technical Working Group consisting of various emissions trading specialists from multiple Member States, representatives of the European Commission, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Innofactor.

### Architecture

The EU ETS Reporting Language has been created using the XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language) language, which is an open data standard for business reporting.

The EU ETS Reporting Language consists of two schemas (EUETSRequest and EUETSReport) and two label linkbase files for both EUETSRequest and EUETSReport. The EUETSRequest and EUETSReport schemas specify the elements in technical terms and the label linkbases contain the semantical descriptions of the elements, as defined by the XBRL specifications. Customized attributes have been implemented for both EUETSRequest and EUETSReport schemas, to enable flagging of any element as confidential in the instance files created according to the EU ETS Reporting Language.

The actual schema of the EU ETS Reporting Language has been designed to support structured messages. The instance files should always respect the structure of the elements specified in the schema.

### Features

The EU ETS Reporting Language is designed to support reporting from both stationary installations and aviation operators. Currently the EU ETS Reporting Language enables reporting for CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O, in addition to transferred CO<sub>2</sub> and CCS (Carbon Capture and Storage) activities.

The EU ETS Reporting Language consists of seven messages, which can be created with EUETSRequest and EUETSReport schemas. The following messages (from an Operator to a Competent Authority) are covered:

EUETSRequest:

- *Permit request*, for requesting environmental permits for activities producing green house gas emissions
- *Permit update*, for updating an existing permit
- *Permit cancellation*, for cancelling an existing permit
- *Monitoring plan update*, for updating only the monitoring plan associated with a specific existing permit

EUETSReport:

- *Annual emissions report*, for reporting annual emissions for a stationary installation or for an aviation operator
- *Emissions report update*, for updating a submitted report
- *Verified emissions report*, for adding information from the verification as a part of an annual emissions report

Due to the nature of the information in the messages, it has been made possible for the users of the EU ETS Reporting Language to flag elements as confidential (i.e. not for public display). However, no cryptography has been implemented, instead the confidentiality is achieved by giving attributes to the elements, which contain information that should be treated as confidential.

## Main parts of the EU ETS Reporting Language

The main parts of the EU ETS Reporting Language are presented below.

EUETSRequest:

- Operator Details, including the basic details of an operator
- Permit Details, for the basic details of the environmental permit
- Installation Operation Details for stationary installation
  - Installation Description, including basic information of e.g. installation classification, installation units, source streams, and measurement instruments
  - Monitoring Plan Data for activities producing CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Monitoring Plan Data for activities producing N<sub>2</sub>O
  - Monitoring Plan Data for CCS activities

- Aviation Operation Details for aviation operator
  - Aviation Description Data
  - Tonne Kilometre Monitoring Plan Data
  - Annual Emissions Monitoring Plan Data
- Quality Management for describing all quality related information, such as procedures and quality control

#### EUETSReport:

- Report Details to report total emissions for each pollutant
- Installation Emissions Report Details, for providing more detailed information of the CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, or CCS emissions
- Aviation Emissions Report Details
- Verification Information including the details of the verifier and the verification statement of the emissions report

Since the information between EUETSRequest and EUETSReport is closely linked together, referencing from the report has been made possible. This particular referencing has been implemented with simple element declaration, and the cross-referencing of the actual data (in case data validation is wanted to be performed) is left for the system handling the instance files. Within a single instance document, the referencing between different concepts (group of elements) is implemented according to the XBRL specifications.

#### **Further information**

Please contact the European Commission Environment Directorate-General (ENV-ETS-EReporting@ec.europa.eu) for obtaining further information about the EU ETS Reporting Language.