

SF₆ Emissions Reduction Partnership for Electric Power Systems

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An Opportunity for Industry

- ∞ SF₆ Emissions Reduction Partnership for Electric Power Systems
- ∞ Work with industry to reduce emissions of SF₆ in technically and economically feasible ways



Why a Program for Electrical Power Systems?

- ∩ Estimate--Nearly 80% of SF₆ purchased by utilities
- ∩ Gas emitted from electrical equipment
- ∩ Cost-effective opportunities to reduce emissions
- ∩ Many in industry have begun addressing the problem



What Is in the MOU?--EPA's Responsibilities

- ∞ Designate liaison for program
- ∞ Serve as clearinghouse for technical information
- ∞ Sponsor conferences
- ∞ Provide recognition for partners
- ∞ Establish protocols for estimating and reporting SF₆ emissions



What Is in the MOU?--Partner Responsibilities

- ∞ Where possible, estimate emissions for any year between 1990 and 1999
- ∞ Annually inventory and assess leaks (units with less than 15 pounds of SF₆ not included in program)
- ∞ Annually report emissions to EPA using inventory method



Partner Responsibilities--Cont.

- ∞ Establish corporate policy for proper handling of SF₆, including commitment to recycle
- ∞ Develop strategy for retiring high-leakers
- ∞ Ensure that knowledgeable people handle SF₆
- ∞ After 18 months, establish an emissions reduction goal



The Partnership Is Off to a Great Start

- ∞ 61 partners representing roughly 40% of U.S. net generating capacity
- ∞ Partners improving management of this valuable resource
- ∞ Annual reports indicate successful reduction strategies in place



Cumulative Partnership Numbers for 1999

$\Omega \sim 73,000$ pounds--mean SF₆ capacity

$\Omega \sim 13,000$ pounds--mean emissions of SF₆

Ω 10%--mean leak rate



Key Points

- ∞ Program is strictly voluntary--not regulatory
- ∞ Extremely flexible agreement (MOU)-- encourages technically and economically feasible activities as defined by the partner
- ∞ Opportunity to demonstrate that emissions reductions can be achieved through voluntary action