



05/03/21

Dear licensee

The Environmental Protection Agency is the competent authority for the national enforcement of the following Regulations:

- **The EU-F-Gas Regulation:** [Regulation \(EU\) No. 517/2014](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on fluorinated greenhouse gases.

The [European Union \(Fluorinated Greenhouse Gas\) Regulations 2016 \(S.I. 658 of 2016\)](#), supports the implementation of Regulation (EU) 517/2014.

- **The ODS Regulation:** [Regulation \(EC\) No 1005/2009](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 on substances that deplete the ozone layer.

The ODS Regulation was given further effect in Ireland by the [Control of Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer Regulations 2011 \(S.I. No. 465 of 2011\)](#).

What are Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases?

Fluorinated greenhouse gases (F-gases) are powerful greenhouse gases (GHG) that contribute to climate change if emitted to the atmosphere. F-gases include hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆), nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃) and Perfluorocarbons (PFCs).

The objective of the EU F-Gas Regulation is to protect the environment and combat climate change by reducing and preventing F-gas emissions to atmosphere and encouraging the use of low Global Warming Potential (GWP) F-gases.

What are Ozone Depleting Substances?

Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) are long-lived chemicals that contain chlorine and/or bromine and can deplete the stratospheric ozone layer. Commonly known ODS include chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), halons and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs). HCFCs have been used as refrigerant gases since the complete phase out of the older CFC refrigerants and are still in use as refrigerants in old Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) equipment. The key objective of the ODS Regulation is the phasing-out of the use of ODS. The regulations imposed a ban on the use of all ODS for the maintenance or servicing of existing refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump equipment from the 1st January 2015.

EPA Survey of Licensed Sites

The EPA's ODS and F-Gases Unit is carrying out a survey to determine the extent to which ODS and F-Gases are used across IE, IPC and Waste licensed sites.

For this purpose, Licensees are required to complete the attached inventory, identifying:

- all stationary equipment on your site containing F-Gases or ODS;
- the types and quantities of ODS and F-Gas on your site;
- leak checking practices on-site, and
- the use of F-gases for any other purposes on-site.



The information you provide will be used to:

- determine compliance with the requirements of the EU F-Gas Regulation and the ODS Regulation, and
- to inform Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

This exercise will also provide you with a template Inventory which will assist you in managing ODS and F-gas on your site. It also provides a means of tracking equipment and collating information in relation to both Regulations.

How do I complete the inventory?

Further information on how to complete the inventory is included within the spreadsheet. Please pay careful attention to the notes and instructions provided.

An FAQ, the ODS and F-gas inventory excel spreadsheet and Guidance Note on the ODS and F-gas inventory is attached and is also available at the following link

<https://www.epa.ie/air/airenforcement/ozone/odsandf-gasinventoryforlicensedsites/>

Response deadline

You are required to submit the completed inventory excel sheet to the Agency, via Licence Return on [EDEN](#), by **16th April 2021**. The spreadsheet shall be named using your current licence registration number, e.g. PXXXX-XX.

What do I do if this inventory is not applicable to my facility?

If this inventory is not applicable to your installation, i.e.:

- The installation does not have stationary equipment containing F-gases or ODS and does not use F-gas in any manufacturing processes on-site, and
- The installation only has domestic fridges or hand-held fire extinguishers that contain F-gas or ODS on-site,

please provide confirmation by email to Maria Lenihan at m.lenihan@epa.ie. Agency records will be amended accordingly to reflect your situation.

If you have any queries, please email m.lenihan@epa.ie

Yours sincerely,

Maria Lenihan