



## Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule

The Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule (CROMERR), published in the Federal Register under 40 CFR, Part 3 on October 13, 2005, provides the legal framework for electronic reporting under all of EPA's environmental regulations. Although the CROMERR standards apply to state, tribal, and local programs authorized or delegated by EPA, Agency policy requires that all EPA systems meet these standards as well. EPA has designated its Central Data Exchange (CDX) to provide the CROMERR-compliant services for electronic reporting for all Agency systems. All EPA data collections subject to CROMERR must use CDX's CROMERR services to ensure that their data collection or exchange has met Agency enforceability requirements. (For more information see the Data Exchange Procedure CIO 2122-P-04.0 under the Agency's Enterprise Architecture Policy.)

### Purpose

CROMERR:

- Provides a uniform, technology neutral framework for electronic reporting across all EPA programs
- Ensures that electronic reporting under EPA and EPA authorized state programs does not compromise the enforceability of environmental programs
- Provides states with a streamlined process - together with a uniform set of criteria - for approval of their electronic reporting for all their EPA authorized programs
- Allows EPA programs to offer electronic reporting as they become ready without any additional rule making beyond CROMERR

### For More Information:

[cromerr@epa.gov](mailto:cromerr@epa.gov)

<http://www.epa.gov/cromerr/>

### Overview of Standards

The regulation establishes the following standards for the electronically submitted reports:

- Criteria for establishing a copy of record
- Integrity of electronic document



- Validity of electronic signature
- Determination of the identity of the individual uniquely entitled to use a signature device
- Opportunity to review and repudiate copy of record

## Highlights of Application Process

Each EPA Program or Region or state/tribal/local government entity is responsible for determining, in consultation with the Office of Information Collection (OIC), which of their existing or planned systems are subject to CROMERR. Organizations operating or planning subject systems, including Central Data Exchange (CDX) data flows, that receive electronic reports (including via email) must document how these systems comply with the CROMERR standards by submitting an application to EPA OIC. EPA provides template forms and example applications on its CROMERR website to aid this process.

Once an application is received, a cross-Agency Technical Review Committee (TRC) reviews the application for completeness against the requirements outlined in CROMERR § 3.1000. Applications determined to be complete are then evaluated by the TRC for approval against the requirements outlined in CROMERR §3.2000.

## Implementation Progress

To date, more than 50 applications from state agencies have been approved under CROMERR and dozens more are in process. A full list of approved applications and applications in process from state agencies can be viewed on the CROMERR website.

Also, to date, over a dozen applications from EPA programs have been approved under CROMERR, including the Office of Environmental Information's Central Data Exchange, the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance's Network Discharge Monitoring Report system, and the Office of Water's Safe Drinking Water Lab-to-State system.