SLT Emissions Inventory Reporting System Cases and Adoption of CAERS

1/26/2023

Workflow Cases

Case 1: State custom system reporting interface and backend are retained (CAERS receives data from state interface)
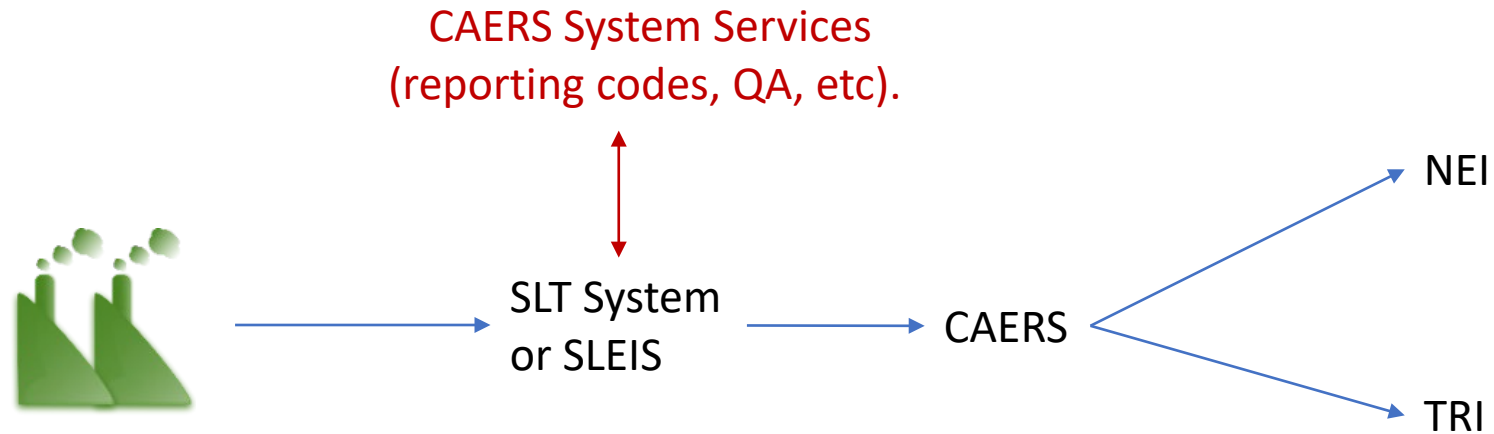
Case 2: State custom system reporting interface and backend are retained (CAERS pushes data to state interface)

Case 3: CAERS replaces state reporting interface, but state database is retained

Case 4: State does not have or does not want to keep custom system, and prefers to use CAERS
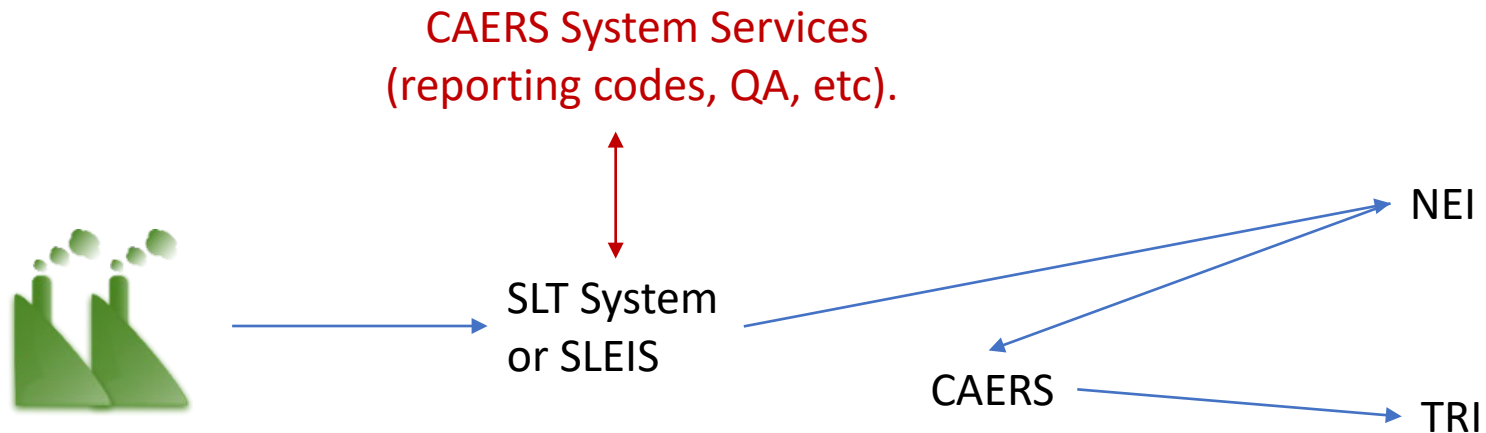
State custom system includes the use of SLEIS as the SLT system.

Case 1: State interface and backend are retained (CAERS receives data from state interface)

CAERS System Services
(reporting codes, QA, etc).
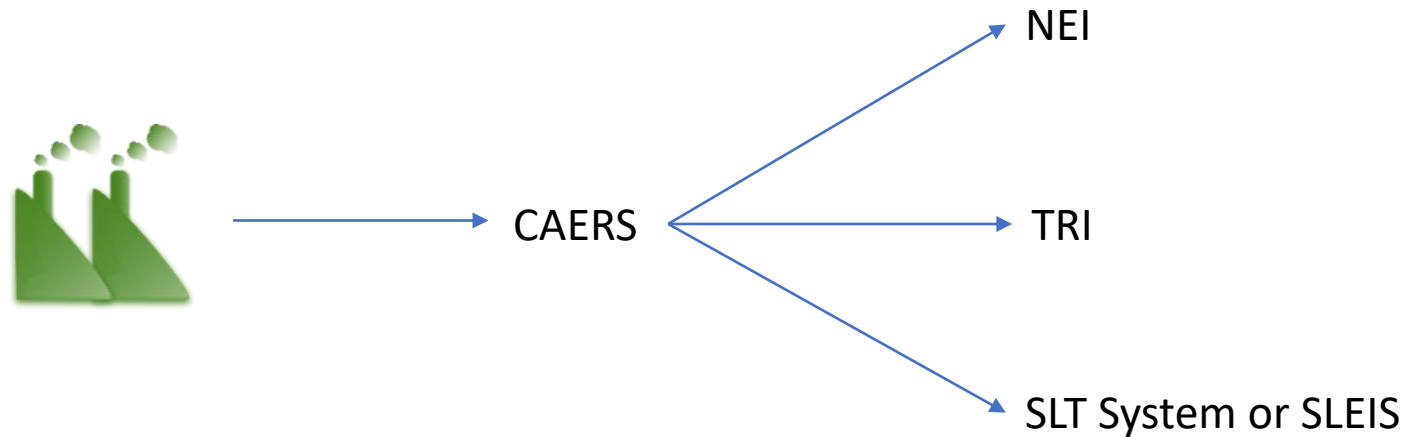
SLT System
or SLEIS → CAERS

NEI

TRI

State reviews its data in its own system/SLEIS. Toxics data coming from the SLT allows alignment of data between NEI and TRI. Direction of CAERS workflow with CEDRI and GHGRP to be determined.

Case 1: State interface and backend are retained (NEI receives data from state interface)

CAERS System Services (reporting codes, QA, etc).
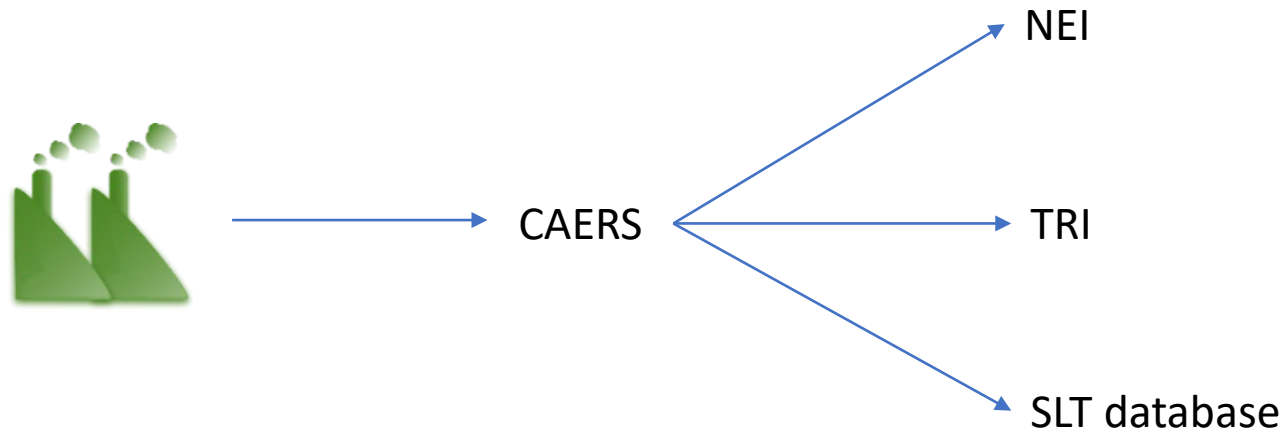
SLT System or SLEIS

CAERS

NEI

TRI

State reviews its data in its own system/SLEIS. Toxics data coming from the SLT allows alignment of data between NEI and TRI. Direction of CAERS workflow with CEDRI and GHGRP to be determined.

Case 2: State interface and backend are retained (CAERS pushes data to state interface)
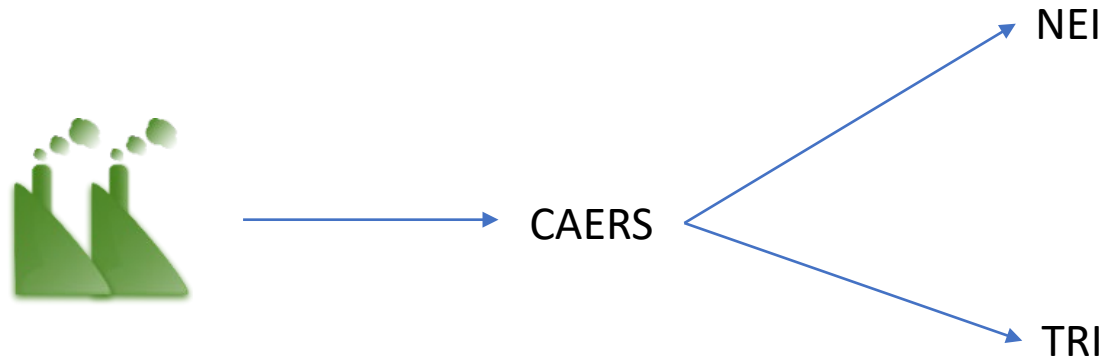

While the SLT could receive the data at the same time as EPA, this workflow takes advantage of the opportunity for data to be aligned amongst federal and state programs, by reviewing the data prior to sending it to EPA from CAERS. Direction of CAERS workflow with CEDRI and GHGRP to be determined.

Case 3: CAERS replaces state interface & state database is retained

This workflow takes advantage of the opportunity for data to be aligned amongst federal and state programs. Direction of CAERS workflow with CEDRI and GHGRP to be determined.
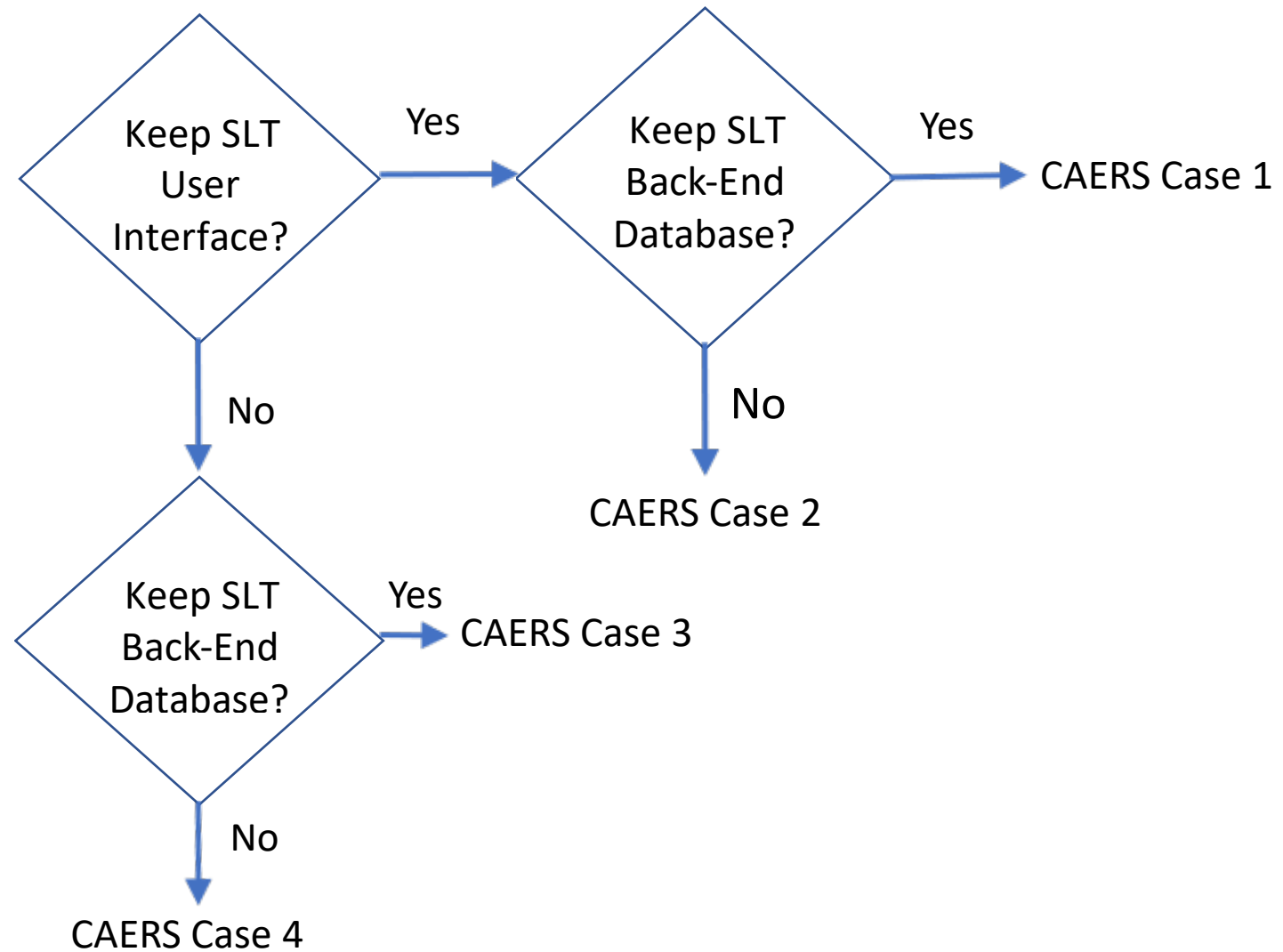
Case 4: State uses CAERS Only

This workflow takes advantage of the opportunity for data to be aligned amongst federal and state programs. Direction of CAERS workflow with CEDRI and GHGRP to be determined.

CAERS SLT Decision Tree

Benefits for SLTs

- Voluntary: will work with SLT systems already in place if you want to engage with the CAERS, replace an aging system if you don't want to continue to invest in it, or become an SLT's system if you are still using paper

- Customizable: SLTs will be able to add SLT-specific requirements and customize reports saving time on QA/QC and assisting their facilities before data goes through to EPA.

- Easy to Transition: SLTs can transition to use various parts of the CAERS System over time to help users and proceed cautiously when needed.

Benefits for SLTs

- Flexible: If states want to keep their current system but also use CAER, how would that work exactly? E.g., would states download data from CAER into their system, or would states upload their data from facilities to CAER? Answer: We have contemplated four broad workflow cases and will work with the state to assist it in adopting the workflow that best suits that state's needs.

- Accessible for Data Retrieval: States will be able to query the data much like they currently do their own inventory databases, pulling the information they are interested in depending on the specific need. All fields selected and entered will be available to query, so any information submitted by a facility will be easily accessible and available for various analyses.

- Customizable: States can continue using the QA.QC checks they find helpful with their state systems. Similar reports can be developed using the CAER system to make the transition as seamless as possible and ensuring the same high-level QA/QC as with previous systems. The same is true for data. If there are data fields states currently require and find useful, these values can be added and customized for states in CAER.