

# **Scope 3 Emissions Tracking and Reporting, and Policy Relevance**

Air & Waste Management Association

Greenhouse Gas Strategies in a Changing Climate

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# Agenda

- Introduction
- Review of Current Scope 3 Estimation Methodologies
- Results and Scope 3 Case Study
- Future Developments



## Introduction

#### **Definition of Scope 3 Emissions:**

Those that are not emitted directly by facilities or equipment owned and operated by the reporting organization, but occur as a result of the organization's activities.



Source: WRI/WBCSD

# Introduction

# Why would the reporting organization care about Scope 3 emissions?

- Limited control of Scope 1 and 2 emissions
- Limited amount of Scope 1 and 2 emissions and large amount of Scope 3 emissions
- Ability to influence Scope 3 emissions
- •Examples:
  - Employee commuting
  - Employee business travel
  - ✓ Supply chain



# Introduction

### Other Drivers for Reporting Scope 3 Emissions

- •Federal agencies are now required to report some Scope 3 emissions
- •Federal contractors may be required to report in the future
- •The Carbon Disclosure Project asks about Scope 3 emissions
- •Wal-Mart and other retailers are in the game
- Some investors are considering scope 3 emissions due to "climate risk"
   5 KEMA

# Scope 3 Calculation and Estimation Methodologies

The problem with Scope 3:

- Limited data
- Organization must rely on others to obtain the data
- Lack of methodologies for some sources
- Data uncertainty



# Scope 3 Calculation and Estimation Methodologies

#### **Employee Commuting**

- •Best practice is to administer a survey
- Extrapolation of data is required
- May include many assumptions or fewer, depending on the extent of questions in the survey

#### **Employee Business Travel**

- Based on reimbursement records
- Data were not designed for GHG calculations, but were created for financial purposes
- Many assumptions normally applied



# Scope 3 Calculation and Estimation Methodologies

#### **Purchasing of Products and Services**

- •Crude methods exist for estimating "upstream" emissions from purchasing
- Based on large-scale economic models of the national economy
- •Data required is often difficult to gather:
  - The amounts spent on various categories of goods and services
- •Often a very large portion of the Scope 3 footprint



# Results and Scope 3 Case Study

#### **Results from Federal Agencies**

- Scope 3 emissions comprise 26% of all currently reported GHG emissions from the federal government
  Scope 3 emissions range from 5 100% of an agency's emissions
  - Low percentages: Corporation for National and Community Service (5%); GSA (7%); NASA (10%)
  - High Percentages: Department of Education (98%); Export Import Bank of the U.S. (100%); Farm Credit Administration (100%); U.S. AID (100%)



# **Results and Scope 3 Case Study**

#### **Case Study: Sprint Nextel**

- •Scope 3 emissions from the supply chain comprise 52% of the company's total GHG emissions
- •The footprint included data from 162 suppliers
- •The top 5 suppliers contributed to 58% of the footprint, and the top 20 contributed to about 85%
- Also found the carbon intensity of the supply chain:
   154 metric tons of CO2E per million dollars of expenditure



# **Results and Scope 3 Case Study**





Source: Trucost. Highlight Report, Sprint Nextel Supply Chain Footprint, March 2011

# **Future Developments**

- New Scope 3 requirements for federal agencies and their contractors
- Updated and improved calculation methodologies
- Better understanding of the uncertainty of various Scope 3 emissions calculations





# Questions and Answers...

