

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

1. What are the goods that are subject to supply restriction under the Environmental Protection and Management Act (EPMA), as amended by EPM (Amendment) Act 2021, and what are the prescribed Global Warming Potential (GWP) limits for the refrigerants of these regulated goods?

S/N	Regulated Goods	Scope	Global Warming Potential (GWP) limits ¹
1	Commercial water-cooled chiller	Electrically driven water-cooled chiller with a cooling capacity of 1,055 kW or more that is used for one or more purposes that include producing chilled water for air-conditioning	15
2	Household air-conditioner	Single-phase non-ducted room air-conditioner with cooling capacity of 17.6 kW or lower, excluding Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) air-conditioner	750
3	Household refrigerator	Single-phase refrigerator with an adjusted volume of up to 900 litres	15

Water-cooled chillers that are used solely for process purposes (that does not include air-conditioning) will not be subject to the supply restriction. However, servicing works involving the handling of regulated refrigerants with GWP > 15 must be carried out / directly supervised by at least one certified chiller technician for all electrically driven water-cooled chillers.

2. Will the supply restrictions apply to existing household air-conditioners, household refrigerators and water-cooled chillers?

The supply restriction will only apply to new sale/supply of regulated equipment on or after 1 October 2022. Existing equipment that are already sold/installed before 1 October 2022 will not be affected by the supply restriction. Please see paragraph 5 for more details.

3. How do I register with NEA as a supplier and/or chiller servicing company?

¹ Regulated goods using refrigerants with GWP higher than the GWP limits will not be allowed to be supplied in Singapore

The online registration portal for regulated goods suppliers and companies servicing water-cooled chillers to register with NEA has not been launched yet. We will circulate information on the online registration system to the industry when it is ready in 3Q 2022.

4. Are air-cooled chillers regulated under the EPMA?

Air-cooled chillers are not one of the regulated goods under the EPMA.

5. When is the deadline for supplying regulated goods that use refrigerants with GWP exceeding the GWP limit and when does the supply restriction for regulated goods come into effect?

The supply restriction of regulated goods will be implemented on 1 October 2022 and is only applicable to suppliers (i.e., importers and manufacturers) supplying in Singapore and importers importing directly from overseas suppliers for their own use in Singapore.

- 1) Importers and manufacturers of regulated goods will not be able to supply regulated goods that use refrigerants exceeding the prescribed GWP limits on or after 1 October 2022 in Singapore, unless:
 - a) the regulated goods are second-hand goods; or
 - b) the regulated goods (not being second-hand goods) -
 - i. are imported into or manufactured in Singapore before 1 October 2022, and are supplied between 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023 (both dates inclusive);
 - ii. are regulated air-conditioners and refrigerators supplied between 1 Oct 2022 and 30 Sep 2023 (both dates inclusive) pursuant to an agreement entered into on or after 31 Mar 2022 but before 1 Oct 2022.
 - iii. are regulated water-cooled chillers supplied pursuant to an agreement entered into before 1 Oct 2022 but not a substitute chiller¹; or
 - iv. are regulated water-cooled chillers supplied pursuant to a warranty in the agreement under which chillers mentioned in sub-point (b)(i) or (b)(iii) are supplied, as a replacement of the same brand and model as those chillers.
- 2) Importers that are importing regulated water-cooled chillers directly from overseas suppliers for their own use in Singapore will not be able to import water-cooled chillers that use refrigerants exceeding the prescribed GWP limit on or after 1 October 2022, unless:
 - a) the regulated water-cooled chillers are second-hand goods;
 - b) the regulated water-cooled chillers (not being second-hand goods) -
 - i. are supplied pursuant to an agreement entered into before 1 Oct 2022 but not a substitute chiller¹; or
 - ii. are supplied pursuant to a warranty in the agreement under which the chillers mentioned in sub-point (i) are supplied, as a replacement of the same brand and model as those chillers.

Note 1: “Substitute chiller” refers to a chiller supplied pursuant to an agreement mentioned under point (1)(b)(iii) and (2)(b)(i) to take the place of any chiller (X) earlier supplied under that agreement, upon the end of the service life of X, as an upgrade of X, or in accordance

with any schedule that was agreed upon, where X may or may not be the first chiller supplied under that agreement.

6. Are there restrictions on the supply of refrigerant?

There are currently no restrictions on the supply of HFC refrigerants. However, with effect from 1 Jan 2019, a NEA Hazardous Substances (HS) Licence is required to import and export 18 types of HFCs which are regulated under the Environmental Protection and Management Act (EPMA). This licensing requirement will not apply to end-users and distributors who are only purchasing and selling the HFCs locally.

7. Will the supply restriction apply to regulated goods that were purchased before 1 October 2022 and replaced on or after 1 October 2022 pursuant to warranty?

Regulated household air-conditioners and household refrigerators that are replaced on or after 1 October 2022 will need to comply to the prescribed GWP limit for refrigerant used set out under the supply restrictions regardless of its warranty. Suppliers may write in to nea_energylabel@nea.gov.sg to seek waiver if suppliers require the regulated household air-conditioners and household refrigerators that do not comply with the prescribed GWP limits to be supplied under warranty.

Water-cooled chillers may be replaced with a chiller of the same brand and model on or after 1 October 2022, pursuant to warranty. The warranty must be specified under the supply agreement entered into before 1 Oct 2022 or under the supply agreement in which the chillers are imported into or manufactured in Singapore before 1 Oct 2022 and supplied between 1 Oct 2022 and 30 Sep 2023 (both dates inclusive).

Replacement parts warranty (i.e., not one-for-one replacement of the entire equipment) will continue to be allowed after the implementation of supply restriction.

8. Must all chiller servicing companies register with NEA?

Only companies that carry out servicing works (e.g., installation, maintenance, or decommissioning) on water-cooled chillers that involves handling of refrigerants with global warming potentials (GWPs) above 15 will need to register with NEA.

9. How do I know which are the registered chiller servicing companies?

The list of registered chiller servicing companies will be made available on NEA's website, closer to the date of implementation.

10. Do all my chiller technicians need to be certified?

Chiller servicing companies will need to have at least one certified chiller technician to carry out or supervise servicing works (e.g. installation, maintenance and decommissioning) on water-cooled chillers that involves the handling of refrigerants with global warming potentials (GWPs) above 15.

11. What is the duration of the Refrigerant Handling for Chiller course and what is the course fee?

The Refrigerant Handling for Chiller course is a 2-day course administered by the Temasek Polytechnic. Chiller technicians will need to achieve at least 75% of attendance and pass an assessment at the end of the course to be certified. The certification is valid for 3 years, before the chiller technician is required to attend a recertification course to be recertified. More information on the course and its fee can be found [here](#).

12. What are the registration and renewal fees for importers and manufacturers of regulated goods, and companies servicing water-cooled chillers?

For importers and manufacturers supplying regulated goods and importers importing regulated water-cooled chillers for own use in Singapore, the registration and renewal fees per model of regulated goods are listed below:

S/N	Regulated Goods	Scope	First-time Application	3-yearly Renewal Application
1	Commercial water-cooled chiller	Electrically driven water-cooled chiller with a cooling capacity of 1,055 kW or more that is used for one or more purposes that include producing chilled water for air-conditioning	\$160	\$160
2	Household air-conditioner	Single-phase non-ducted room air-conditioner with cooling capacity of 17.6 kW or lower, excluding Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) air-conditioner	\$38	\$20
3	Household refrigerator	Single-phase refrigerator with an adjusted volume of up to 900 litres	\$38	\$20

The registration of household air-conditioners and household refrigerators under the EPMA will be subsumed under the registration of the same goods under the Mandatory Energy Labelling Scheme (MELS) and Minimum Energy Performance Scheme (MEPS). This means

that suppliers who have registered and paid for the registration for the household air-conditioners and household refrigerators under MELS and MEPS will not be required to make another registration under the EPMA for the same model of registered goods.

Please refer to this [link](#) for more information on the registration of household air-conditioner and refrigerators under MELS and MEPS.

Companies that are involved in water-cooled chiller servicing works (e.g., installation, maintenance, decommissioning) in Singapore are required to register with NEA. The registration fee will be made known closer to 3Q 2022, before its implementation on 1 Oct 2022.