

U.S. Borax: California AB 1305 Disclosure

Overview

U.S. Borax Inc. (“U.S. Borax”) provides this disclosure to comply with the California Voluntary Carbon Markets Disclosure Act (“AB 1305”), codified at California Health and Safety Code (“H&SC”), Division 26, Part 10 Section 44475 et seq.

Our Business

U.S. Borax mines borates, a naturally occurring mineral, from a mine in Boron, California. Borates are then processed and refined for shipment to customers in the U.S. and around the world for use in industrial processes, and in agricultural and commercial applications.

AB 1305 Disclosure¹

Section 44475.2 (Cal. H&SC § 44475.2) applies to an entity that, among other things, makes claims implying it has made significant reductions to its carbon dioxide (CO₂) or greenhouse gas emissions. Section 44475.2 does not apply to entities that either do not operate within the State of California, or that do not make claims within the State.

U.S. Borax has made public statements regarding CO₂ and greenhouse gas emission reductions that are potentially subject to Section 44475.2. U.S. Borax describes these statements and provides the required disclosures below:

- 1. *Transition to renewable diesel.*** U.S. Borax publishes information about the transition of heavy machinery used at its Boron, California site from fossil to renewable diesel fuel, which is estimated to reduce up to 45,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions per year, the equivalent of eliminating the annual emissions of approximately 9,600 cars.

For its emission reduction estimate, U.S. Borax calculated expected fuel volume usage for heavy machinery at the Boron site. It then compared estimated CO₂ emission rates for the combustion of this volume of fossil diesel fuel to expected emission rates from the combustion of an identical volume of the type of renewable diesel fuel that is typically procured for the site. Combustion emission rates were estimated using publicly available average emissions data for both fossil and renewable diesel. U.S. Borax used the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s “Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator” to estimate annual car emission reductions correlating to the claimed site emission reductions.² These

¹ This disclosure is limited to the obligations under AB 1305 Section 44475.2 (Cal. H&SC § 44475.2). U.S. Borax is not subject to AB 1305 Section 44475 (Cal. H&SC § 44475) because it does not market or sell voluntary carbon offsets within the State of California. U.S. Borax is also not subject to AB 1305 Section 44475.1 (Cal. H&SC § 44475.1) because it does not purchase or use voluntary carbon offsets sold within the State.

² See U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, “Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator,” available [here](#).

estimates were calculated using best available data and were not subject to independent third-party verification.

2. Support for customers' sustainability efforts. U.S. Borax publishes information about how its products help to reduce the environmental impacts of its customers' operations, including by lowering the carbon intensity of their operations or products. For example:

- U.S. Borax publishes information about the ways in which the use of refined borates and other boron products produced at U.S. Borax's Boron, California site can reduce the carbon intensity of its customers' and other end-use products, including the following:
 - *Aluminum recycling.* Borates can be used in the aluminum smelting process to eliminate or reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as described [here](#).
 - *Glass production.* The addition of borates in the glass manufacturing processes significantly lowers the melting temperature required for glass production, leading to improved energy efficiency and reduced carbon emissions, as described [here](#).
 - *Building materials.* The addition of borates improves the safety (including fire retardancy) and durability of cellulose insulation, which is one of the lowest embodied carbon building products on the market, as described [here](#). Similarly, borates play a critical role in the creation, protection, and flame retardancy of wood and engineered wood products such as cross laminated timber, whose use as a substitute for concrete or steel can lower the carbon footprint of building construction, as described [here](#).
 - *Other applications.* Refined borates have the capability to lower processing temperatures for certain industrial manufacturing processes (e.g., battery graphitization), which in turn reduces the energy demand of these processes, translating in most instances a reduction of GHGs emissions attributable to the energy source.
 - These claims—and other similar claims related to the ability of borates to potentially lower the carbon intensity of products in which they are used—are determined to be accurate based upon the technical knowledge and practical experience of the company's research scientists and technical support team, who are informed by their own research and third-party literature reviews. These claims are not subject to independent third-party verification.



Disclaimers

The information provided herein reflects reasonable diligence by U.S. Borax to assess its activities subject to AB 1305 and is provided to the best of the Company's ability.

This disclosure covers claims made by U.S. Borax that are current and in effect as of December 31, 2024. In accordance with AB 1305, U.S. Borax will update this statement annually. While U.S. Borax undertakes no duty to update this statement on an ongoing basis before the next annual update deadline on December 31, 2025, it expressly reserves the right to do so as needed.