

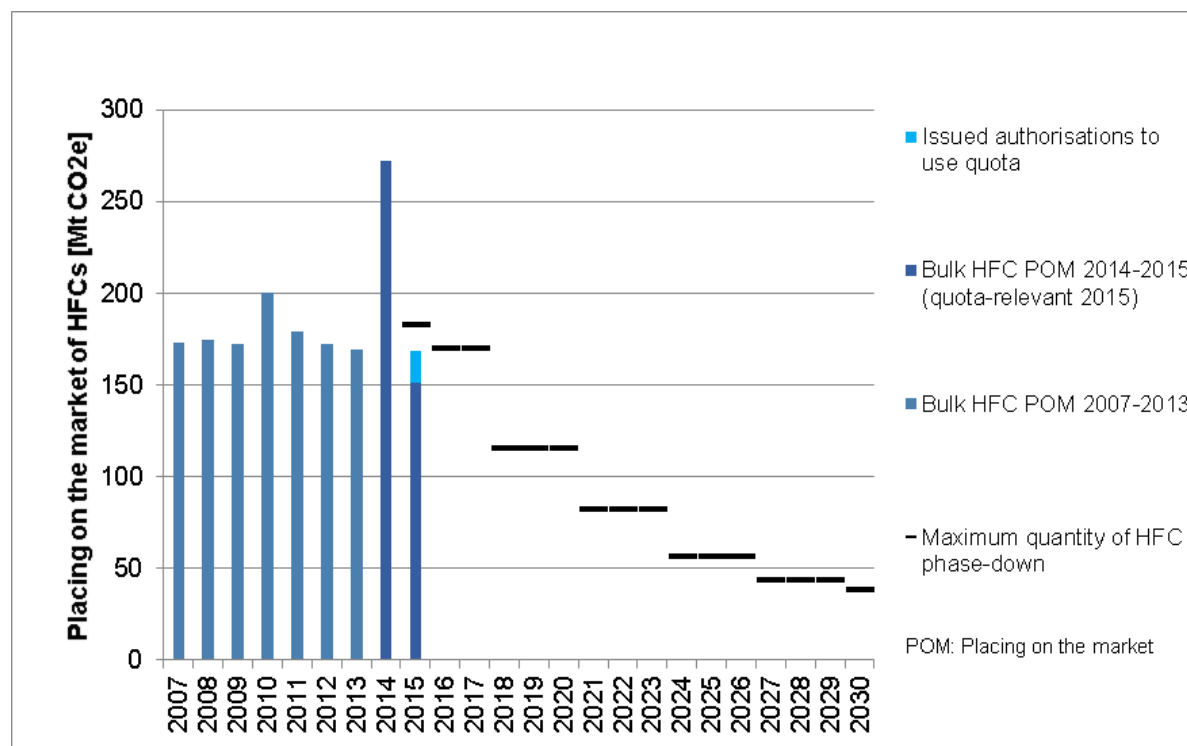
Progress of the HFC Phase Down

October 2016

Starting in 2015, the amount of HFCs that can be placed on the market is subject to quantitative limits ("phase-down"). The cap and phase-down of HFCs is implemented through a quota system calculated on a CO₂eq basis. Quotas are allocated to companies in accordance with Article 16 and Annexes V and VI of the F-Gas Regulation (Regulation (EU) No 517/2014). In order to legally place HFC bulk gases on the EU market companies must hold sufficient quota.

HFCs contained in refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump (RACHP) equipment also fall under the phase-down from 2017 onwards. The inclusion of RACHP equipment imports containing HFCs is implemented by means of authorisations to use quota issued by a quota holder to an equipment importer. In the perspective of compliance with the quota system, an authorisation is considered placed on the market by the importer or producer (= quota holder) at the time when it is given, even if it is actually used by the equipment importer in a later year.

The monitoring of the HFC phase-down relies on the metric 'placing on the market' (POM). Compliance-relevant POM is the physical POM of bulk HFCs, where not covered by one of the exemptions, in addition to authorisations issued by quota holders. The total compliance-relevant POM in 2015 amounted to 168 Mt CO₂eq while the total quota allocated was 183 Mt CO₂eq. Thus, the 2015 company reporting data indicates an overachievement of the phase-down measure, i.e. a reduction of 8% below the maximum level allowed.



N.B.: Values from 2007-2013 are based on the reporting obligations of Regulation (EC) No 842/2006 and are therefore not fully comparable to data from 2014 onwards (based on obligations of Regulation (EU) No 517/2014). Similarly, the maximum quantities of the HFC phase-down will be recalculated in 2018 and are therefore for indicative purposes only

Sources: EC, 2011; EEA, 2015; Company reporting data for 2015 submitted under Article 19

EC, 2011, *Fluorinated greenhouse gases 2010 — Data reported by companies on the production, import and export of fluorinated greenhouse gases in 2010*, confidential report to the European Commission and Member States' competent authorities, Umweltbundesamt, Vienna, 2011.

EEA, 2015, *Fluorinated greenhouse gases 2014 — Data reported by companies on the production, import and export of fluorinated greenhouse gases in the European Union*, Technical Report No 22/2015, European Environment Agency.