Nitrous Oxide (N2O) Emissions from Waste and Biomass to Energy Plants

Abstract:
Nitrous oxide is a greenhouse gas with a global warming potential approximately 300 times that of CO2. N2O appears naturally in the atmosphere, oceans and tropic and temperate soils being the major natural sources of N2O. Nevertheless, the concentration of N2O has increased by around 13% since pre-industrial times. Waste treatment and disposal has been reported as a significant source of N2O. Main activities with potential N2O emissions are waste-water treatment, sewage sludge incineration, municipal solid waste incineration, biomass combustion for energy production, incineration of high N-containing fuels, etc. This paper assesses the impact of waste incineration on N2O inventories. Keywords: Nitrous oxide, waste, incineration, co-combustion, wmr745-8

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