

OZONECO RESOURCE

RCER-2025 Regulatory Summary

Key changes and implications of the Royal Commission Environmental Regulations 2025.

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Executive Summary

The Royal Commission Environmental Regulations (RCER-2025) tighten emission limits, expand reporting obligations, and formalize the role of NCEC as the primary enforcement body. This brief summarizes the key changes and their operational implications for industrial operators.

Top 6 Changes

1. Stricter PM and SO2 limits

Particulate matter limits reduced by 30% for combustion sources; SO2 limits aligned with WHO 2021 guidelines.

2. Mandatory CEMS expansion

CEMS now mandatory on stacks >2 MW thermal input (was 5 MW). Particulate CEMS required on all kilns.

3. Real-time data transmission

Hourly automated transmission to NCEC's central data platform; manual uploads no longer accepted.

4. Producer responsibility for hazardous waste

Generators retain liability through final disposal; quarterly reconciliation reports required.

5. Public disclosure

Annual Environmental Performance Reports must be published on facility website and NCEC portal.

6. Penalty structure overhaul

Fines tied to severity matrix; repeat offenders face permit suspension and criminal referral.

Implementation Timeline

Effective Date	Requirement
01 Jul 2025	RCER-2025 enters into force; transitional period begins.
31 Dec 2025	Updated permits issued for all existing facilities.
30 Jun 2026	CEMS expansion fully operational on qualifying stacks.
31 Dec 2026	First mandatory public AEPR publication.
01 Jan 2027	Full enforcement; transitional concessions end.

Recommended Actions

- Re-baseline emissions inventory against new limits within 60 days.
- Identify CEMS gaps and procure systems with qualified vendors before Q2 2026.
- Upgrade DAS and NCEC gateway to support hourly transmission.
- Refresh hazardous waste contracts to lock in licensed transporters and treaters.
- Train operations and management on the new penalty matrix and disclosure rules.