The raw materials then undergo environmentally taxing chemical processes that require heavy energy consumption and generate high greenhouse gas emissions.

1. Producing refrigerant-grade ammonia — like other so-called “naturals” — starts with mining coal or fracking for natural gas.

2. Disposing of contaminated ammonia requires incineration or an aqueous treatment due to its dangerous chemical properties, which creates hazardous waste.

3. The resulting refrigerant-grade ammonia is toxic and flammable — if leaked, it poses significant physical risks to the nearby public.

4. Do you know where your ammonia refrigerant has been?