

DOMESTIC OFFSETS INTEGRITY COMMITTEE

Notice of Decision to Endorse Methodology Proposal

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Beef Cattle by Feeding Nitrate Supplements (2013LD054)

Under paragraph 112(14)(a) of the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011* (the Act), notice is given that on 20 March 2014 the Domestic Offsets Integrity Committee (DOIC) decided to endorse the above methodology proposal.

Reasons for endorsement

The DOIC is satisfied that:

- the proposed methodology provides a credible way of measuring, reporting and verifying abatement from the relevant offsets projects;
- there is a sufficient degree of certainty that abatement credited under the proposed methodology would not have occurred in the absence of the incentive provided by the Carbon Farming Initiative; and
- if the Minister were to make a methodology determination to give effect to the proposal, the determination would meet the requirements specified in subsection 112(3) of the Act (see Table 1 for further details), including the offsets integrity standards (see Table 2).

The reasons for endorsement of the above proposal will be published on the Department's website in accordance with subsection 112(14A) of the Act.

Further information

As required by section 112(5) of the Act, the proposal was published on the Department's website for a 40 day public consultation period from 2 December 2013 to 11 January 2014. Two public submissions were received and considered by the DOIC in making their endorsement decision.

Table 1 – Requirements that must be met for methodology proposals to be endorsed by the DOIC

Section*	Requirement	Statement
112(3)(a)	Complies with the offsets integrity standards.	See Table 2 below.
112(3)(b)	Does not specify a kind of offsets project by reference to a State or part of a State.	Complies.
112(3)(c)	Complies with regulations made for the purpose of 106(4)(e).	No regulations have been made for the purpose of 106(4)(e).

112(3)(d)	Includes calculation of a baseline for a project.	The methodology proposal adequately specifies the process for identifying the project baseline. The baseline assumes that the project herd were fed an equivalent amount of Non-Protein Nitrogen in the form of urea.
112(3)(g)	Applies methods specified under the <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</i> (NGER Act) where appropriate.	All emissions sources in the methodology that are covered by the NGER Act are calculated consistent with the legislation.

* Section of the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011*

Table 2 – Offsets Integrity Standards

Section*	Requirement	Statement
133(1)(a)	Covered by the additionality test regulations.	The activities in the proposal are covered by the following additionality test regulations: 3.28(1)(i)), which specifies “the reduction of emissions from ruminants by manipulation of their digestive processes”.
133(1)(b)	Estimations of emissions reduction, sequestration and emissions are measurable and capable of being verified.	Appropriate equations are specified for the calculation of emissions reduction and project emissions. Appropriate methods to enable verification of these estimations are specified for data collection, monitoring and reporting.
133(1)(c)	Methods specified in the methodology are not inconsistent with the methods set out in the National Inventory Report.	The methods set out in the methodology proposal are not inconsistent with the methods in the National Inventory Report.
133(1)(d)	The methodology is supported by relevant scientific results published in peer-reviewed literature.	The methodology proposal is supported by credible scientific data published in peer-reviewed literature
133(1)(e)	Net abatement is calculated after deducting the emissions generated as a result of carrying out the project.	Complies. Abatement is calculated as sum of emissions under the baseline condition minus the sum of emissions under the project conditions.
133(1)(f)	Methodologies related to sequestration projects should provide for adjustments that take account of cyclical variations.	Methodology is not related to a sequestration project.
133(1)(g)	Estimates, projections or assumptions included in the	The assumptions and estimates are conservative. The net abatement estimate is conservative.

	methodology are conservative.	
133(1)(h)	Applies methods specified under the <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</i> (NGER Act) where appropriate.	All emissions sources in the methodology that are covered by the NGER Act are calculated consistently with the legislation.

* Section of the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011*