

Subject: June 20 Workshop on the Proposed Rice Cultivation Offset Protocol and Updates to Existing Offset Protocols

ARB staff is holding a public workshop on Friday, June 20, 2014 to discuss updated draft language for a proposed new Rice Cultivation Projects Compliance Offset Protocol and proposed updates to existing Compliance Offset Protocols.

DATE: Friday, June 20, 2014

TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board
Byron Sher Auditorium
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Staff plans to propose the addition of a new Rice Cultivation Projects Compliance Offset Protocol and updates to existing Compliance Offset Protocols under the Cap-and-Trade Regulation at the September 2014 Board hearing. If adopted, we anticipate the effective date to be January 1, 2015. When the new and updated Compliance Offset Protocols are proposed, a Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action with the draft new and updated Compliance Offset Protocols will be released for a 45-day public comment period in advance of the Board item.

Background

The California Cap-and-Trade Regulation (Regulation) was formally adopted by the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) in 2011. In response to continued Board direction and further discussions with stakeholders, staff began a public process to propose a new Rice Cultivation Projects Compliance Offset Protocol and updates to existing Compliance Offset Protocols for Board consideration in 2014. Documents that will be made publicly available prior to the workshop will provide a discussion of the new Rice Cultivation Projects Compliance Offset Protocol and updates to existing Compliance Offset Protocols. These documents will provide the public with the opportunity to discuss staff's draft language for the new and updated Compliance Offset Protocols prior to staff formally submitting a Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action. The public will have additional opportunities to comment on these protocols during the 45-day public comment period and Board hearing.