

Date: Wed, 8 Jul 2015 13:51:39 -0700
Subject: arbcombo -- July 27 Workshop to Discuss Draft Guidance for the US Forest Protocol
From: jmcphée@arb.ca.gov

Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) staff is holding a public workshop on Monday, July 27, 2015, to discuss draft guidance for compliance offset projects using the US Forest Projects protocol.

DATE: Monday, July 27, 2015
TIME: 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
PLACE: California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board
Sierra Hearing Room
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

On June 25, 2015, the Board considered proposed updates to the existing U.S. Forest Projects Compliance Offset Protocol, as well as the addition of a new Rice Cultivation Projects Compliance Offset Protocol and other related amendments to the Cap-and-Trade Regulation (Regulation). The Board approved for adoption the proposed amendments and also directed ARB staff to engage stakeholders through a public process to discuss and develop further guidance for U.S. Forest projects. The July 27, 2015, workshop will commence this public process.

Staff will be outlining the scope of the proposed guidance materials and soliciting input from stakeholders on additional areas that may benefit from guidance. Staff will solicit comments on these forest offset protocol topics to develop a guidance document and clarify the intent of the protocol language: the logical management unit (LMU), even-age management (EAM) requirements (including adjacency, buffer, stocking, and any other related language to enable project developers to clarify implementation) and financial feasibility. Other topics beyond these will be considered for further clarification of the language. Common practice values have been approved for adoption as part of Board action, and as such, discussion of common practice values will be limited to issues requiring further guidance, not changes to the values themselves. Staff will also solicit input on the frequency of future common practice updates.

Following the workshop, stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide written comments during an informal comment period, which will conclude at 5:00 p.m. PST on Tuesday, August 11, 2015. After which, staff will provide a draft guidance document for additional stakeholder input prior to finalizing the guidance document and posting on the ARB webpage.

A copy of the presentation for the workshop will be available on ARB's Cap-and-Trade Workshops and Meetings webpage at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/meetings/meetings.htm>

All interested stakeholders are invited to attend. A live webcast of the workshop will be available at:
<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/?BDO=1>. Remote participants

will be able to submit e-mail questions during the workshop at an address provided in the presentation.

Background

ARB first formally adopted the Regulation in October 2011. The Board has subsequently adopted regulatory amendments covering ARB's Compliance Offsets Program in April 2014, September 2014, and most recently June 2015. More information about ARB's Compliance Offset Program is available at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/offsets/offsets.htm>

More information about ARB's Cap-and-Trade Program is available at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/capandtrade.htm>

California is in a drought emergency.
Visit www.SaveOurH2O.org for water conservation tips.

You are receiving this single arbc combo email because you are a subscriber to or have made a public comment to one or more of the following lists: capandtrade, cc, offsets.

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The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, visit the Flex Alert website at www.flexalert.org .

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