

**NOTICE**

## ARB Compliance Offset Program

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) understands that the Climate Action Reserve (Reserve), the American Carbon Registry (ACR), and the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) may have issued various types of guidance, errata, and clarification (guidance) documents related to the implementation of the voluntary protocols under their voluntary offset programs.

For early action quantification methodologies (approved Reserve and VCS protocols), guidance issued by the Reserve, ACR, or VCS prior to October 20, 2011 on their voluntary protocols may continue to be relied upon until the project transitions to the Compliance Offset Protocol (COP). Guidance issued by the Reserve, ACR, or VCS after October 20, 2011 is currently under ARB review with regard to its applicability to the early action quantification methodologies. If the guidance pertains to sections of the quantification methodology that are silent or ambiguous, then ARB will determine if the guidance is reasonable and consistent with the quantification methodology before allowing its use. Guidance that alters the clear language of an early action quantification methodology will not be applicable. ARB has developed this [Supplemental Information on Early Action Project Review](#) document describing ARB's process for assessing guidance, errata, clarifications, and variances issued for early action offset projects. For questions or clarifications regarding ARB's Compliance Offset Protocols or early action quantification methodologies, please contact an approved Offset Project Registry or ARB directly. The Reserve, ACR, and VCS are approved as Early Action Offset Programs and may issue early action offset credits that may be submitted to ARB for consideration for conversion to ARB Offset Credits.

For the purposes of the Compliance Offset Program, only ARB-issued guidance for Compliance Offset Protocols is considered valid.