

**Rice Cultivation
Compliance Offset Protocol
3rd Technical Working Group Meeting**

California Air Resources Board

Oct 1, 2013

1:00-3:00 PST

Conference Call Information

- Meeting agenda and slides posted at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/protocols/riceprotocol.htm>
- Call-in numbers:
 - Domestic line: **1-888-324-7179**
 - Passcode: **58643**

Agenda

- Introduction
- Rice Protocol development timeframe
- Discussions of the potential environmental impact:
 - (1) Switch from wet seeding to dry seeding (eligible in the California Rice Growing Region only);
 - (2) Early drainage in preparation for harvest (eligible in the both the California and Mid-South Rice Growing Regions);
 - (3) Alternate wet and dry during growing season (eligible in the Mid-South Rice Growing Region only); and
 - (4) Rice straw removal after harvest (eligible in both the California and Mid-South Rice Growing Regions).
- New assignment and tasks
- Other items for future discussions
- Meeting adjourned

Note:

This technical working group meeting is to discuss the Rice Cultivation Protocol only. There is a separate rulemaking currently underway that is scheduled for hearing at the October Board meeting from October 24-25. This protocol is not included in the current rulemaking, and comments submitted during this working group meeting will not be included in the rulemaking file of the pending rulemaking. ARB intends to bring this protocol before the Board in Spring 2014 for consideration of inclusion in the Cap-and-Trade Program.

Switch from Wet Seeding to Dry Seeding

- Eligible in the California Rice Growing Region only
- Potential environmental impact: for discussion
- Potential related regulation: for discussion

Early Drainage in Preparation for Harvest

- Eligible in both the California and Mid-South Rice Growing Regions
- For the California Rice Growing Region:
 - Mosquito abatement schedule and biological control
 - Late broods
 - Potential positive impact on regional air quality
 - Drain water goes into dry wetlands earlier
 - Wildlife habitat
- For the Mid-South Rice Growing Region: for discussion
- Potential related regulation: for discussion

Alternate Wet and Dry during Growing Season

- Eligible in the Mid-South Rice Growing Region only
- Potential environmental impact:
 - Less dependence on water resources
 - Others unknown
- Potential related regulation: for discussion

Rice Straw Removal after Harvest

- Eligible in both the California and Mid-South Rice Growing Regions
- For the California Rice Growing Region:
 - Removal of rice field could result in no winter flooding—a potential reduction of migratory bird and waterfowl habitat
- For the Mid-South Rice Growing Region: for discussion
- Potential related regulation: for discussion

Homework

- New Assignment
- Previous homework update at the next meeting:
 - Structural uncertainty
 - Use of remote sensing and satellite imagery for verification