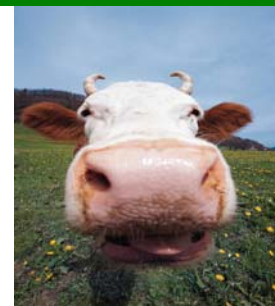


National Carbon Offset Coalition, Inc. (NCOC)



Agricultural Methane Emission Offsets

The National Carbon Offset Coalition (NCOC) is currently accepting applications for agricultural methane offsets to be placed on the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) market. NCOC is an Offset Aggregator which is a CCX-registered entity that serves as an administrative and trading representative on behalf of multiple project owners. NCOC is responsible to interact with CCX, explain CCX rules and requirements to project owners and coordinate with CCX approved verifiers. In addition, NCOC is responsible for trading activities and the maintenance of the project registry account.

The Chicago Climate Exchange is the only active voluntary, legally binding integrated trading system to reduce emissions of all six greenhouse gases (GHGs). Eligible projects include: agricultural methane, landfill methane, and coal mine methane.

Agricultural methane emission offsets are issued to owners of GHG emission reductions achieved by agricultural methane collection and combustion systems placed into operation on or after January 1, 1999. Eligible agricultural methane collection/combustion systems include covered lagoons, anaerobic digesters, complete-mix and plug-flow digesters.

Projects eligible for anaerobic digester offset credits must have prior (baseline) manure management practices (as defined in the IPCC 2000 Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, the IPCC Table 10.18 Definitions of Manure Management Systems 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, and as further clarified below) where manure is handled as a liquid and with significant methane emitting potential, including:

1. Liquid/slurry storage
2. Pit storage below animal confinements (>1 month)
3. Uncovered anaerobic lagoons

Eligible projects with additional baseline manure management systems other than those listed above may include only that portion of the manure handled by eligible systems in any baseline emission and offset credit calculations.

Although the use of non-manure feedstock's may result in additional emission reductions, such use should be treated as a separate project activity and is not included in the specific calculation of agricultural methane offset credits for anaerobic manure digester projects.

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NCOC has developed simple application forms for agricultural and forestry carbon offsets.

Additional eligible projects include:

- Rangeland (degraded & non-degraded)
- Grass planting on cropland
- Conservation Tillage
- Afforestation (tree planting) on land that had not been in forest for 10 years or more
- Reforestation on land where forests were destroyed by natural events (usually wildfires) and are unable to regenerate naturally
- Urban forests planted since January 1, 1990
- Sustainable forest management
- Energy Fuel Switching

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Basic CCX Specifications for Agricultural Methane Emission Offset Projects

- Methane offset projects activated on or after January 1, 1999 are eligible.
- Projects eligible to earn offsets during the years 2003-2010.
- Project owners need to demonstrate clear ownership rights of the emission reductions from the destruction of methane.
- Offsets issued at a rate of 21 metric tons carbon dioxide per ton of methane combusted.
- Offsets are issued at a rate equal to the lesser of the metered amount and a per animal default methane emissions rate.
- Methane collection projects that include electricity generation may also qualify to earn offsets on the basis of displacing CO₂ emissions from grid supplied power (see Renewable Energy Emission Offsets brochure).

Baseline Calculation

The emissions baseline is the amount of methane that would be emitted to the atmosphere during the crediting period in the absence of the anaerobic digester project. For each year during the crediting period in the absence of the anaerobic digesters are calculated as specified in the CCX protocols.

Agriculture Methane Emission Destruction

This protocol provides the methods to be employed in quantifying methane combustion by agricultural methane projects. The project verifier must document (among other items):

1. The project owner's clear ownership rights to Greenhouse Gas emission reductions associated with sites included in the project;
2. Eligibility of the site to earn CCX Exchange Methane Offsets (XMO); and,
3. Records of methane content and total gas flows or total electricity generation and engine manufacturer's efficiency rating (if applicable).

XMO Project Registration, Verification and Project Reports

Registration of each CCX XMO Project must be accompanied by a project eligibility statement prepared by a CCX-approved Verifier. The project registration filing must include a signed attestation that the entity registering as the CCX Project Owner holds full legal title to the Greenhouse Gas mitigation rights registered as CCX Exchange Offsets that are associated with the facilities included in the registered project. The filing must contain an attestation by a CCX-approved Verifier as to the quantity of mitigation achieved and Exchange Offset issuance that is prepared in conformance with the rules provided and the verification protocols prescribed by CCX.



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