

# DOMESTIC OFFSETS INTEGRITY COMMITTEE

23 May 2013

## Reasons for Endorsement

### Methodology for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in milking cows through feeding dietary additives (2013LD050)

The Domestic Offsets Integrity Committee (DOIC) advises that it has endorsed the above methodology proposal because it satisfies the requirements for a methodology determination specified in Section 112 of the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011* (the Act).

As required by section 112(5) of the Act, the proposal was published on the Department's website for a 40 day public consultation period from 1 March 2013 to 10 April 2013. As a result of this consultation, four public submissions were received and considered by the DOIC in making their endorsement decision.

The reasons for the DOIC's decision to endorse the methodology proposal are set out in Tables 1 and 2 below. These reasons will also be published on the Department's website within 28 days of the decision in compliance with Section 112(14A) of the Act.

**Table 1 – Requirements to be met for methodology proposal endorsement by the DOIC**

Section*	Requirement	Statement
112(3)(a)	Complies with the offsets integrity standards.	See Table 2 below.
112(3)(b)	Does not specify a kind of offsets project by reference to a State or part of a State.	Complies.
112(3)(c)	Complies with regulations made for the purpose of 106(4)(e).	No regulations have been made for the purpose of 106(4)(e).
112(3)(d)	Includes calculation of a baseline for a project.	The methodology proposal adequately specifies the process for identifying the project baseline. The project baseline is a three-year historic emissions level calculated using the Dairy Greenhouse Gas Abatement Strategies – Dietary Fats Carbon Farming Initiative tool ('DGAS – Dietary Fats CFI tool'), using input data relating to animal inventory, feed type, feed quality and quantity, milk production and manure management systems in place prior to project commencement.

112(3)(g)	Applies methods specified under the <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</i> (NGER Act) where appropriate.	All emissions sources in the methodology that are covered by the NGER Act are calculated consistent with the legislation.
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\* Section of the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011*

**Table 2 – Offsets Integrity Standards**

Section*	Requirement	Statement
133(1)(a)	Covered by the additionality test regulations.	The activity is covered by Regulation 3.28(1)(i), which specifies the reduction of emissions from ruminants by manipulation of their digestive processes.
133(1)(b)	Estimations of emissions reduction, sequestration and emissions are measurable and capable of being verified.	Appropriate equations are specified for the calculation of emissions reduction and project emissions. Appropriate methods to enable verification of these estimations are specified for data collection, monitoring and reporting.
133(1)(c)	Methods specified in the methodology are not inconsistent with the methods set out in the National Inventory Report.	The methods set out in the methodology proposal are not inconsistent with the methods in the National Inventory Report.
133(1)(d)	The methodology is supported by relevant scientific results published in peer-reviewed literature.	The methodology proposal is supported by peer reviewed scientific literature and credible scientific data.
133(1)(e)	Net abatement is calculated after deducting the emissions generated as a result of carrying out the project.	Complies. The net abatement is calculated as the quantity of methane emissions avoided, minus emissions from project activities. Project emissions are calculated as the sum of the changes in emissions from feed consumption, dung and urine in the project scenario.
133(1)(f)	Methodologies related to sequestration projects should provide for adjustments that take account of cyclical variations.	Not applicable – the methodology does not relate to sequestration projects.
133(1)(g)	Estimates, projections or assumptions included in the methodology are conservative.	The assumptions and estimates are conservative. The net abatement estimate is conservative.
133(1)(h)	Applies methods specified under the <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</i> (NGER Act) where appropriate.	All emissions sources in the methodology that are covered by the NGER Act are calculated consistently with the legislation.

\* Section of the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011*