

**QUANTIFICATION PROTOCOL FOR  
AFFORESTATION PROJECTS:**

*Technical and Policy Issue Summary*

Submitted to:

Alberta Environment

and

Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

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## ***Background***

In conjunction with the development of the protocol document, a listing of key technical and policy issues were tracked for discussion as part of the technical and stakeholder review processes. The following document provides a listing of the key issues for discussion. Many of the issues have both a technical and policy component and are listed under both sections, as required.

### ***Summary of Technical Issues***

The following technical issues may be considered as part of the technical and stakeholder review processes:

- Sampling methods for increase in biomass.
  - Is the method reasonable?
  - Are there other methods that should be referenced?
- What factors would influence the development of a permanency factor?
  - Fire, disease, etc.
  - Region
  - Tree type
- Are there a means of bringing the soil carbon component into the protocol without having sampling requirements?
- Can sustainably managed agro-forestry applications be included through minor modifications to the protocol?

### ***Summary of Policy Issues***

The following policy issues may be considered as part of the technical and stakeholder review processes:

- Is there a role for a permanency factor in reducing the types of credits to only permanent offsets?
- What time scale is appropriate for the dedication of a parcel of land to being forest?
- Is it acceptable to define the baseline as current condition, or do we have to step back to some arbitrary date or pre-forest time period?
  - Can we bring all sinks projects together to address the start year issue?