

**QUANTIFICATION PROTOCOL FOR
TILLAGE SYSTEM MANAGEMENT**

:

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:

- Are the factors a reasonable approach?
- Is the baseline adjustment reasonable?
- Is the 10 year timeline for SOC reasonable?
- What factors would influence the development of a permanency factor?
 - Periodic severe rain events at harvest,
 - Periodic pest and weed cycles, etc.
- Are the regional generalizations reasonable?

Summary of Policy Issues

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

- Is the baseline-adjusted factor based approach reasonable?
- Is there a role for a permanency factor in reducing the types of credits to only permanent offsets?
 - Movement towards no-till, cost of getting into this practise being a barrier.
- Is it acceptable to define the baseline in the adjustment of factors applied to the tillage approach?
 - Can we bring all sinks projects together to address the start year issue?