

NITROUS OXIDE EMISSION REDUCTION QUANTIFICATION PROTOCOL
Addressing October 29-30, 2009, 2nd Round Protocol Review Questions and Comments

#	Section	Type of Comment	Comment / Statement	Proposed Resolution and Modifications made to Protocol
1	N/A	General	General comment really like the approach in the protocol that links with other protocols and having the sign off in the beginning prior to project condition – makes verification easier.	No change to protocol.
2	Applicability	Technical	Does this protocol have a requirement for an actual change in N use?	<p>Emission reduction claims will only be claimed if improvement to current management is documented.</p> <p>Yes, will make more clear. This protocol is based on actual measurement and monitoring of the Nitrogen Management Plan that needs to be developed and signed off upon prior to project condition.</p> <p>Clarified the wording in Section.1 of the Protocol (eligibility and applicability)</p>
3	Eligibility	General	Can implement part of Best Management Plans (BMPs) levels i.e. table in the protocol?	<p>No, more guidance is needed on this aspect – we are currently developing and Implementation Guide to accompany this protocol. If you cannot document the management change then you cannot prove it and cant be verified. Each individual component of the BMPs listed in the protocol are based on science, research and expert opinion and consensus that was reached during a two day consultation workshop held prior to development of this protocol.</p> <p>Also made more clear right at beginning of the protocol - Section.1.1 Protocol Scope and Description specifies: <i>“Projects that implement only individual elements of the system are not eligible to generate emission reductions using this protocol. “</i></p>
4	Implementation	General	What about	This project will be aggregated as most Ag sector protocols that will require

			<p>proprietary/competitiveness concerns (expected to see with protocol)?</p> <p>Protocols will cease uptake if posting of private information occurs...</p>	<p>disclosure of information to contractors/verifiers as any other offset project requires. Public posting of project reporting and verification reporting is required on the Offset Registry, but not Legal Land Locations or agreed upon proprietary information.</p> <p>Although the Government is gathering information in regard to FOIP requirements (for example, water allocations are publically available) and requirements of information sharing from Government auditing, so this may change over time. It will be up to individuals to decide what they want to do.</p> <p>No change to protocol.</p>
5	Baseline Condition	Technical	<p>Need to ensure that proper baselines are established...consecutive years? Flexibility mechanisms?</p> <p>**The soil testing statistics should be removed from the protocol. (this actually meant removed from the presentation; no change to protocol)</p>	<p>**The baseline is determined on 3 years of data – will specify this is consecutive years per crop event - data for establishing. The additional guidance documents being developed will need to be specific in regard to soil testing for crops or it could be gamed.</p> <p>Baseline calculated for each crop collected and quantified separately. Address new crops in protocol. Will also address the “language” used for project implementation guidance.</p> <p>Added more clarity throughout the protocol for establishing baseline conditions. emission reductions are quantified based on the difference between baseline and project for each crop event (ie. area under a particular crop in the baseline, and area under a particular crop in the project – under the 4R Stewardship Plan)</p> <p>Baseline emissions are determined based on <u>three years of data</u>, for the crop event prior to the implementation of the 4R Stewardship Plan and through the quantification of N₂O emissions from agricultural soils following the guidance provided in Canada’s National Greenhouse Gas Inventory methodology.</p>
6	Project Condition	Technical	<p>Does this preclude manure in the project condition?</p>	<p>Manure is and was considered in the N inputs - synthetic N is quantified.</p>

				<p>Usage of National Inventory Factors, best available guidance. Is currently waiting to update the inventory numbers based on changes in IPCC quantification. Protocol will be updated as these factors change over time.</p> <p>No change to protocol.</p>
7	Eligibility	General	What about existing credits and grandfathering to 2002?	<p>For implementation of this protocol will generally see that eligibility back to 2002 will not be available due to the requirements of developing a full Nitrogen Management Plan with sign off from Approved Professional Advisor prior to project implementation to determine baseline levels.</p> <p>New projects will be required to use the current protocol but registered projects have the standard 8 year crediting period using the protocol of the day.</p> <p>This is in regard to Alberta Offset System criteria for each project and has been also listed specifically in the protocol along with other main criteria. But all criteria need to be met.</p>