



PRESS RELEASE

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Dairy Cattle and Swine Farmers Protect the Climate

New measurement protocol adopted by California Climate Action Registry assists farmers in reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Los Angeles, CA - The Board of the California Climate Action Registry has adopted the Livestock Project Protocol, a guideline for creating high quality greenhouse gas reduction projects through the installation of digesters that capture and destroy methane on swine and dairy cattle farms.

Livestock operations, such as swine and dairy cattle farms, produce methane, a powerful greenhouse gas with 21 times more impact on the climate than carbon dioxide. Methane produced annually in the United States from current manure management practices equals 41.3 million metric tons of carbon dioxide or the equivalent of approximately 10 million cars each year.

By capturing methane with a digester, farms can combust and destroy it and then sell the reductions (offsets). Farms can also power their operations with the methane and save money on energy bills. "This protocol can be a positive incentive to help farmers protect the climate," said Paul Martin of the Western United Dairymen

"There is a growing demand for high quality greenhouse gas offsets, like the ones derived from projects that follow the California Climate Action Registry's protocols," said Eron Bloomgarden, US Director of EcoSecurities. "Agriculturally based methane capture projects are an important source of emissions reductions while also providing farmers and California communities with local environmental benefits such as cleaner air and renewable energy."

"The robust quality of the offsets derived from California Climate Action Registry protocols are the type of high standard emissions reductions we are interested in purchasing for the ClimateSmart program," said Robert Parkhurst, manager of PG&E's ClimateSmart program. ClimateSmart is a first-of-its kind program that allows PG&E customers to voluntarily make their energy use climate neutral, balancing out the greenhouse gas emissions associated with their energy use.

The Livestock Project Protocol was subjected to an intensive year long stakeholder process which included environmental non-profits; agricultural organizations; government; and businesses to ensure that it incorporated the principles of environmental integrity, transparency, accuracy, and consistency. Its calculation methods are consistent with those of

the United States EPA, the Northeast Regional Greenhouse Gas initiative (RGGI), and the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism.

The Livestock Project Protocol is available for public use and is published on the website www.climateregistry.org. The Registry is currently developing additional project protocols including landfill methane capture, urban forestry and transportation.

The California Climate Action Registry is a non-profit public/private partnership that serves as a voluntary greenhouse gas (GHG) registry to protect, encourage, and promote early actions to reduce GHG emissions. Over 280 major companies, cities, government agencies and non-profits organizations have measured and publicly reported their GHG emissions through the Registry. The Board of the California Climate Action Registry is appointed by the Governor and legislature and chaired by the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency. www.climateregistry.org.

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