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## Memorandum

**Date:** July 8, 2022

**From:** John Storey-Bishoff  
Executive Director  
Climate Regulation and Carbon Markets

**To:** Alberta Offset Stakeholders and Other Interested Parties

**Subject:** **Clarification on Withdrawal of the Quantification Protocol for Conservation Cropping**

It has been brought to our attention that the [memorandum](#) released by our office on December 10, 2020 regarding the withdrawal of the Quantification Protocol for Conservation Cropping has been referenced out of context and misinterpreted as applying to stakeholders outside the Alberta Emission Offset System. The 2020 memorandum was addressed to Alberta offset system stakeholders, explaining the withdrawal of the protocol from the Alberta's regulatory offset system and implications to existing emission offset projects registered on the Alberta Emission Offset Registry. The memorandum was specific to Alberta's regulatory offset system, and not applicable to any other carbon offset systems.

For further clarity, Alberta is not responsible for setting standards, criteria or protocols in other carbon offset systems, including non-regulatory or voluntary systems regardless of their potential application in Alberta. Other systems determine their own standards, criteria and protocols for offset projects.

Alberta used the [Technical Guidance for the Assessment of Additionality](#) to evaluate the additionality of the conservation cropping protocol in the context of Alberta's regulatory emission offset system enabled under the Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction Regulation. Alberta's criteria for additionality include legal, penetration rate, and supplemental barriers analysis. The outcome of the penetration rate analysis highlights the success of the protocol and the uptake of no-till farming practice in Alberta. As such, the activity is no longer eligible to generate regulatory emission reductions in the Alberta Emission Offset System.

Although the protocol was withdrawn because it no longer met Alberta Offset System additionality requirements, it was scheduled to end in December 2021. A 20-year crediting period was factored into the methodology and project developers were able to generate emission offsets from January 2002 to December 2021.

If you have any further questions, please contact [AEP.GHG@gov.ab.ca](mailto:AEP.GHG@gov.ab.ca)

*Original signed by*

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