

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM
Agriculture Working Group

Near-Term Implementation Plan
Strategy 1: Central Valley Dairy Digester and Co-digester
Facilities Program

CAT Working Group Overview: This working group is focused on the mitigation and adaptation efforts related to California’s agricultural sector.

Working Group Agencies: State Agencies (Departments, Boards, Offices, etc.) participating in this group include: California Water Resources Control Board, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Department of Pesticide Regulation, Air Resources Board, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Department of Water Resources, California Energy Commission, and

Measure / Strategy

- A) Description: Multiple State agencies are working together to address regulatory, permitting, and financial barriers to a widespread voluntary adoption of anaerobic digesters on California dairies. In this effort, environmental concerns common to these systems can be addressed on a system-wide basis so that each individual project can build on existing knowledge and prior public participation, allowing proper focus on unique project characteristics and environmental concerns specific to individual installations and locations.
It is anticipated this will reduce the time required to develop and issue permits associated with digesters by other state and local permitting agencies. For example, the Air Resources Board (ARB) and San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) have estimated that the certification of the Program EIR will reduce air quality permitting time by 50 percent or more for certain digester projects.
- B) Agencies Involved: CDFA, DTSC, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, Air Resources Board, California Air Resources Board, CalRecycle
- C) Scoping Plan/Adaptation Plan Reference: Scoping Plan Measure A-1: Dairy Methane Capture
- D) Metrics:
- E) Crosscutting Issues: This effort will intersect with efforts underway by the Energy, Landuse, and Water Energy subgroups.
- F) Tasks and Deliverables:

Task 1:

- 1. Description: Development of programmatic environmental documentation to address general characteristics of dairy digesters and environmental considerations common to these projects.
- 2. Deliverables: Programmatic environmental documentation covering various aspects and environmental considerations common to these projects.

3. Agency Roles: The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, is the lead agency on the Program EIR.
4. Timeline: Program EIR is should be open to public review and comment in July 2010.

G) SUMMARY TABLE:

Deliverable	Agencies	Deadline
Program EIR draft for public review and comment	Central Valley Regional Water Board	July 2010
Certified EIR	Central Valley Regional Water Board	July 2012