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**Delaware CO2 Budget Trading Program**

**Offset Project Consistency Application**

**U.S. Forest Projects – Avoided Conversion**

**March 2019**

*Offset Project Name*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

*Offset Project ID Code*

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**COVERSHEET**

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| Each of the following Forms must be completed (except Form 2.5, which is optional). Check the boxes below to indicate that the *Consistency Application* includes each of the required forms |
| **PART 1. Preliminary Information Forms** |
| Form 1.1 – General Information |
| Form 1.2 – Project Sponsor Attestations |
| Form 1.3 – Project Sponsor Agreement |
| Form 1.4 – Disclosure of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Data Reporting |
| **PART 2. Category-Specific Information and Documentation Forms** |
| Form 2.1 – Project Description |
| Form 2.2 – Demonstration of Eligibility |
| Form 2.3 – Baseline Modeling |
| Form 2.4 – Monitoring and Verification Plan |
| Form 2.5 – Reversal Risk Rating (Optional) |
| **PART 3. Independent Verification Form** |
| Form 3.1 – General Information |
| Form 3.2 – Certification Statement and Report |

**Form 1.1 – General Information**

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| Project Sponsor (RGGI COATS Authorized Account Representative) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Telephone Number | | | | | | Fax Number | | | | | | | Email Address | | | | |
|  | | | |  | |  | | | | | |  |  | | | | |
| Street Address | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| City | | | | | State/Province | | | | | | Postal Code | | | | | | Country |
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| RGGI COATS General Account Name | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| RGGI COATS General Account Number | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Offset Project ID Code | | | | | | | | | | | Application Date | | | | | | |
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| Brief Description of Offset Project | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Project City | | | Project Country | | | | | | Project State | | | | | | Project Commencement Date | | |
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| Project Sponsor Organization | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Primary Street Address | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| City | | | | | State/Province | | | | | | Postal Code | | | | | | Country |
|  | |  | | |  | | | | |  |  | | | | |  |  |
| Brief Description of Project Sponsor Organization | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Telephone Number | | | | | | | | | Website URL | | | | | | | | |
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**Form 1.2 – Project Sponsor Attestations**

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| The undersigned Project Sponsor certifies the truth of the following statements:   1. The offset project referenced in this *Consistency Application* is not required pursuant to any local, state, or federal law, regulation, or administrative or judicial order. 2. The offset project referenced in this *Consistency Application* has not and will not be awarded credits or allowances under any other greenhouse gas program. 3. The offset project referenced in this *Consistency Application* has not and will not receive any funding or other incentives from any program or fund made up of revenue collected directly from retail electricity or natural gas ratepayers through retail energy bills, or any program or fund funded through revenue from the auction or sale of CO2 allowances. 4. A *Consistency Application* for the offset project or any portion of the offset project referenced in this *Consistency Application* has not been filed in any other participating state. 5. All offset projects for which the Project Sponsor or project sponsor organization has received CO2 offset allowances, if any, under the Project Sponsor’s or project sponsor organization’s ownership or control (or under the ownership or control of any entity which controls, is controlled by, or has common control with the Project Sponsor or project sponsor organization) are in compliance with all applicable requirements of the CO2 Budget Trading Program in all participating states. 6. I am authorized to make this submission on behalf of the project sponsor organization. I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined, and am familiar with, the statements and information submitted in this *Consistency Application* and all its attachments. Based on my inquiry of those individuals with primary responsibility for obtaining the information, I certify that the statements and information are to the best of my knowledge and belief true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false statements and information or omitting required statements and information, including the possibility of fine or imprisonment. | | |
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| Project Sponsor Signature |  | Date |
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| Printed Name |  |
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|  |  |
| Title |  |
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| Organization |  | Notary |

**Form 1.3 – Project Sponsor Agreement**

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| The undersigned Project Sponsor recognizes and accepts that the application for, and the receipt of, CO2 offset allowances under the CO2 Budget Trading Program is predicated on the Project Sponsor following all the requirements of 7 DE Reg. 1147. The undersigned Project Sponsor holds the legal rights to the offset project, or has been granted the right to act on behalf of a party that holds the legal rights to the offset project. The Project Sponsor understands that eligibility for the award of CO2 offset allowances under 7 DE Reg. 1147, is contingent on meeting the requirements of 7 DE Reg. 1147. The Project Sponsor authorizes the Department or its agent to audit this offset project for purposes of verifying that the offset project, including the Monitoring and Verification Plan, has been implemented as described in this application. The Project Sponsor understands that this right to audit shall include the right to enter the physical location of the offset project. The Project Sponsor submits to the legal jurisdiction of the State of Delaware. | | | |
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| Project Sponsor Signature |  |  |  | |
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|  |  |  |  | |
| Printed Name |  |  |  | |
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| Title |  |  |  | |
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| Organization |  |  |  | |
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| Date |  |  | Notary | |

**Form 1.4 – Disclosure of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Data Reporting**

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| Check the box below that applies:  No greenhouse gas emissions data related to the offset project referenced in this *Consistency Application* have been or will be reported to a voluntary or mandatory program other than the CO2 Budget Trading Program.  Greenhouse gas emissions data related to the offset project referenced in this *Consistency Application* have been or will be reported to a voluntary or mandatory program other than the CO2 Budget Trading Program. Information for all such programs to which greenhouse gas emissions data have been or will be reported is provided below. | |
| **Name of Program to which GHG Emissions Data Reported** | |
|  | |
| Check all that apply | Enter Frequency of Reporting |
| Reporting is currently ongoing |  |
| Reporting was conducted in the past | Enter Reporting Start Date |
| Reporting will be conducted in the future |  |
| Reporting is mandatory | Program Website |
| Reporting is voluntary |  |
| Program Contact Information – Address | |
|  | |
| Categories of Emissions Data Reported | |
|  | |
| **Name of Program to which GHG Emissions Data Reported** | |
|  | |
| Check all that apply | Enter Frequency of Reporting |
| Reporting is currently ongoing |  |
| Reporting was conducted in the past | Enter Reporting Start Date |
| Reporting will be conducted in the future |  |
| Reporting is mandatory | Program Website |
| Reporting is voluntary |  |
| Program Contact Information – Address | |
|  | |
| Categories of Emissions Data Reported | |
|  | |
| *Add extra pages as needed.* | |

**Form 2.1 – Project Description**

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| Attach a detailed narrative of the actions to be taken by the offset project. The attached narrative must include a header that indicates it is an attachment to Form 2.1 and includes the offset project name and offset project ID code.  Check the boxes below to indicate that the following required information is included in the attached detailed project narrative:  1. Land Owners. Table identifying the owner(s) of the land within the offset project boundary and copy of deed or title filed with state or local registrar of deeds; statement identifying whether subsurface or surface rights leased to other parties  2. Project Area. Documentation describing whether project is on private or public lands, and whether the project is located on tribal lands.  3. Conservation Easement. Copy of conservation easement (executed or to-be-executed copy) or any other legal encumbrances affecting the Project  4. Assessment Area. Table listing Project Assessment Area (s) by acreage |

**Form 2.2 – Demonstration of Eligibility**

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| Attach documentation to demonstrate offset project eligibility. Attached documentation must include a header that indicates it is an attachment to Form 2.2 and includes the offset project name and offset project ID code.  Check the boxes below to indicate that the following documentation is attached:  1. Documentation of Tree Canopy Cover. Provide documentation as evidence that the project takes place on land with greater than 10% tree canopy cover.  Aerial photographs or satellite imagery illustrating greater than 10 percent tree canopy cover.  2. Appraisal. Provide a copy of the appraisal conducted to identify the alternative land use for the Project Area.  3. Legal Permissibility. Indicate what type of documentation will be submitted as part of the M&V Report to demonstrate the legal permissibility of anticipated conversion.  4. Project Slope. Provide the slope of the Project Area.  5. Project Commencement. Identify project commencement date and provide documentation as evidence of action identifying the commencement date.  Transfer of ownership  Recordation of conservation easement  Submission of project to RGGI  6. Natural Forest Management. Describe how the project will meet the Natural Forest Management requirements.  Native Species  Species Diversity  Sustainable Management  Structural Elements  7. Legal Requirement. Describe the legal framework of the project (federal, state, local regulations) and explain why this project is not legally required.  8. Broadcast Fertilization. Confirm that the project does not and will not use broadcast fertilization. |

**Form 2.3 – Baseline Modeling**

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| Attach documentation to demonstrate the baseline modeling methodology and preliminary data. Each attachment must include a header that indicates it is an attachment to Form 2.3 and includes the offset project name and offset project ID code. Multiple attachments may be integrated into a single document, as appropriate, as long as each element is clearly identified, as specified below.  Check the boxes below to indicate that the following required documentation is attached:  1. Modeling Plan. Identify the approved forest growth model being used for the project. Describe the modeling plan in accordance with Appendix B of the RGGI U.S. Forest Protocol.  2. Characterize Project Baseline. Estimate the rate of conversion and removal of onsite carbon stocks, indicating which of the following two options is used to calculate the rate:  Planning documentation for the Project Area specifying the timeframe of the conversion and intended removal of forest carbon  Default Total Conversion Impact and Annual Conversion rates as provided by Table 6.3 in the RGGI U.S. Forest Protocol  3. Baseline Calculations. Provide the supporting data and calculation for the Discount for Uncertainty of Conversion Probability.  4. Baseline Harvested Wood Products. Provide an estimate of the carbon that will be stored in long-term harvested wood products in the baseline. |

**Form 2.4 – Monitoring and Verification Plan**

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| Provide the Monitoring and Verification Plan (M&V Plan) as multiple attachments. The attachment must include a header that indicates it is an attachment to Form 2.4 and includes the offset project name and offset project ID code. Multiple attachments may be integrated into a single document as long as each element is clearly identified, as specified below.  Check the boxes below to indicate that the following required components of the M&V Plan are attached: | |
|  | 1. Documentation of Project Inventory. Description of the inventory design and plot selection process. List of stratification rules, map of vegetation strata, and description of vegetation strata, if applicable. |
|  | 1. Identification of Sampling Plots. Map of sampling plots and list of number, sizes, and locations of all sampling plots used for developing the project inventory, including recent photos and distinct sampling plot identifiers. |
|  | 1. Documentation of Field Measurements. List all field procedures used to take measurements and monument the sampling plots. |
|  | 1. Documentation of the Modeling Plan. Description of approved model and the modeling plan used to update the project inventory. |
|  | 1. Assessment of Forest Management Practices if Commercial Timber Harvest Activities Have Occurred. If applicable, the assessment or certification issued by American Tree Farm System (ATFS), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Sustainable Forestry Institute (SFI), or such other similar organizations as approved by the Department ensuring that the land within the offset project boundary is being managed in accordance with environmentally sustainable forestry practices. |
|  | 1. Documentation of Quality Assurance Procedures Conducted. Documentation of quality assurance procedures conducted during the reporting period to ensure accuracy in data collection, data analysis, and data storage. |

**Form 2.5 – Reversal Risk Rating**

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| Submit Form 2.5 detailing the calculation of the project’s Reversal Risk Rating according to Appendix D of the RGGI U.S. Forest Protocol.  Check the boxes below to indicate that the following required components of the M&V Plan are attached:  1. Reversal Risk Rating Table. Provide the table identifying the reversal risk rating for each risk category.  2. Reversal Risk Rating Calculation. Show the Reversal Risk Rating calculation in accordance with the formula in Appendix D. |

**Form 3.1 – Independent Verifier General Information**

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| Independent Verifier | | | | | | States Where Verifier is Accredited/Recognized | | | | |
|  | | | | |  |  | | | | |
| Primary Street Address | | | | | | Website URL | | | | |
|  | | | | |  |  | | | | |
| City | | | State/Province | | | Postal Code | | | | Country |
|  |  | |  | |  |  | | |  |  |
| Point of Contact for Project | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Telephone Number | | | | Fax Number | | | | Email Address | | |
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| Contact Street Address | | | | | | | | | | |
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| City | | | State/Province | | | Postal Code | | | | Country |
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**Form 3.2 – Independent Verifier Certification Statement and Report**

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| I certify that the accredited independent verifier identified reviewed the *Consistency Application*, including all Forms and attachments, in its entirety, including a review of the following:   1. The adequacy and validity of information supplied by the Project Sponsor to demonstrate that the offset project meets the applicable eligibility requirements of 7 DE Reg. 1147, including the required documentation that must be provided in the *Consistency Application*. 2. The adequacy and validity of information supplied by the Project Sponsor to demonstrate baseline CO2-equivalent sequestration, pursuant to the applicable requirements of 7 DE Reg. 1147, including the required documentation that must be provided in the *Consistency Application*. 3. The adequacy of the Monitoring and Verification Plan in accordance with the applicable requirements of 7 DE Reg. 1147, including the required documentation that must be provided in the *Consistency Application*. | | | |
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|  |  |  |  | |
| Verifier Representative Signature |  |  |  | |
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| Date |  |  | Notary | |
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| A verification report is attached that documents the verifier’s review of the entire *Consistency Application* in relation to the applicable requirements of 7 DE Reg. 1147 and includes evaluation, conclusions, and findings. | | | |