



# CAPCOA Greenhouse Gas Reduction Exchange (GHG Rx)

And other stuff

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# What is CAPCOA?

- California Air Pollution Control Officers Association ([www.CAPCOA.org](http://www.CAPCOA.org))
- Non-profit association of California's 35 local air pollution control officers
- Formed in 1976
- Forum for local air districts to work together on statewide issues



# The CAPCOA GHG Rx

Launched January 1, 2014

**Mission Statement:** *Our mission is to provide a trusted source of high quality California-based greenhouse gas credits to keep investments, jobs, and benefits in-state, through an Exchange with integrity, transparency, low transaction costs, and exceptional customer service.*

*Financial resources invested in-state will help create local jobs and realize needed air pollution, other environmental and socioeconomic co-benefits from projects in California.*



# CAPCOA GHG Rx

## Role of the Air Districts

### What is needed?

- *Air Districts are the key to Rx success*
- *Air Districts must require CEQA Mitigation for GHGs for projects in their jurisdiction*
- *Getting the “Word Out” about the GHG Rx*
  - Working with regional and local planners
  - Close coordination with cities/counties - GHG mitigation
  - Timely response to GHG Rx projects
  - Refer inquiries and early projects to Administrator



# GHG Rx Key Features

- GHG credits derived from CA-only voluntary projects based on Board-approved protocols
- Low cost, secure online platform for exchange of locally-generated projects
- Air quality, other environmental, socioeconomic co-benefits
- Implemented by Participating Air Districts
- Credits must be real, quantified, verified, permanent, enforceable, additional/surplus
- CEQA & voluntary project mitigation options
- No membership is required & significant cost savings



# Anticipated Users

- Local planning depts. - mitigate land use project impacts
- CEQA consultants for GHG emissions mitigation
- Lead agencies for CEQA mitigation of GHG emissions
- Land use consultants - advise clients on CEQA mitigation
- GHG project developers to produce/sell carbon credits
- Individuals to augment actions to reduce carbon footprint
- High tech & other companies for carbon neutrality
- Non-profits, NGOs, others



# GHG Rx Platform

- Credit Project Database
  - Credit projects in summary form with contacts and links to complete information
  - Searchable by district, project type, etc.
  - Districts validate (verify) credit projects prior to listing, track credit transactions, and update listings
  - Districts are not involved in financial transactions



# Administrative Guidelines

- Governs functions of the GHG Rx
- Outlines goals & purpose
- Establishes roles & responsibilities
- Identifies credit tracking requirements
- Establishes QA procedures for data/projects
- Provides common forms
- Includes Users' Guides
- Other key requirements & templates





# CAPCOA Board-Approved 17 Protocols:

- Weatherization of Single & Multi-family Buildings
- 2 Wetlands Creation Protocols
- 3 Forestry Protocols
- 3 Rice Protocols
- 3 Organic Waste Digester Protocols
  - Organic waste & other, manure; Dairy Cattle & Swine; **NEW!** Livestock
- Other:
  - Compost Additions to Grasslands w/compost facility (Marin Carbon Project)
  - Biochar (PCAPCD, CAPCOA)
  - Case-by-Case (CAPCOA) – one-time projects
  - Biomass (PCAPCD) & Boiler Efficiency (SCAQMD) – N/A



# Process for Submitting Rx Projects

- Contact the GHG Rx Administrator &/or Participating District early in the development process
- Submit a credit project application form to the Participating District with contact & GHG credit information with supporting documentation (maps, calculations, etc.)
- Participating District reviews the application, determines if project meets quality criteria, conducts a site visit, etc.



# Process for Submitting Rx Projects (cont'd)

- If approved, the Participating District issues legal binding instrument for credits & lists on the Rx
- GHG credits have unique project & serial numbers
- Sellers must notify the District of any sales/transfers
- District records any transactions
- Participating Districts are not involved in the sale but track the credits throughout their “life”



# Buying Credits

- View credit projects listed on the GHG Rx at [www.ghgrx.org](http://www.ghgrx.org)
- Click on projects & associated info, e.g., location, maps, type of project and tons of credits for sale, etc.
- Once project selected, contact seller directly to purchase credits
- Any questions, contact the Participating District listed for project(s) of interest or GHG Rx Administrator



# GHG Rx & Contact Information

**CAPCOA GHG Rx:**

<http://www.ghgrx.org/>

**GHG Rx Guidelines & Protocols:**

<http://www.capcoa.org/ghg-rx/>

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