

California Department of Food and Agriculture

Methane Reduction and Renewable Fuels: An Agriculture Perspective

Geetika Joshi, Ph.D.

Senior Environmental Scientist

Biofuels and Bioproducts from Wet and Gaseous Feedstocks: Market Barriers and Opportunities Workshop

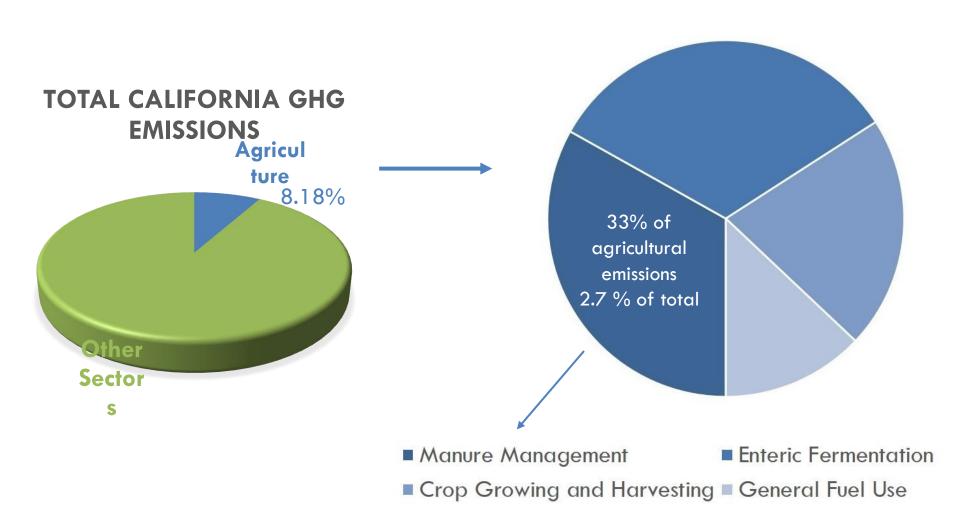
June 6, 2017

Berkeley, CA

OUTLINE

- California GHG emissions.
- □ Legislative updates and background: 2016-17.
- Funds allocation for methane emissions reduction.
- Dairy Digester Research and Development Program.
 - Program framework and timeline.
- Additional efforts and inter-agency coordination.

CALIFORNIA GHG EMISSIONS BY SECTOR



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES & BACKGROUND: 2016-17

- Δ
- SB 1383 (Lara) Short Lived Climate Pollutants ARB to develop comprehensive strategy no later than Jan. 1, 2018
 - Target: to reduce dairy methane emissions by 40% of 2013 levels by 2030
 - ARB, in consultation with CDFA, to adopt regulations to reduce methane emissions from livestock manure management operations and dairy manure management operations; to take effect on or after January 1, 2024.
- AB 1613
 - \$50 million for methane emission reductions from dairy & livestock operations, to be encumbered by June 2018 and expended/liquidated by June 2020.
- SB 859, Section 2 and 6
 - Management practices and criteria air pollutants.

Historically, few digesters for the state with largest dairy livestock population.



- California/Federal Dairy Digester Working Group (2011-13).
- Goal: To identify and remove barriers to the wide spread adoption of dairy digester systems in California.



Barriers to development included: expensive, uncertain and complex interconnection and permitting obstacles, high financing risk and costs, among others.



Recommendations included: consolidated permitting process; dedicated funding mechanisms; protection of environmental quality; research on co-benefits of dairy digesters.



















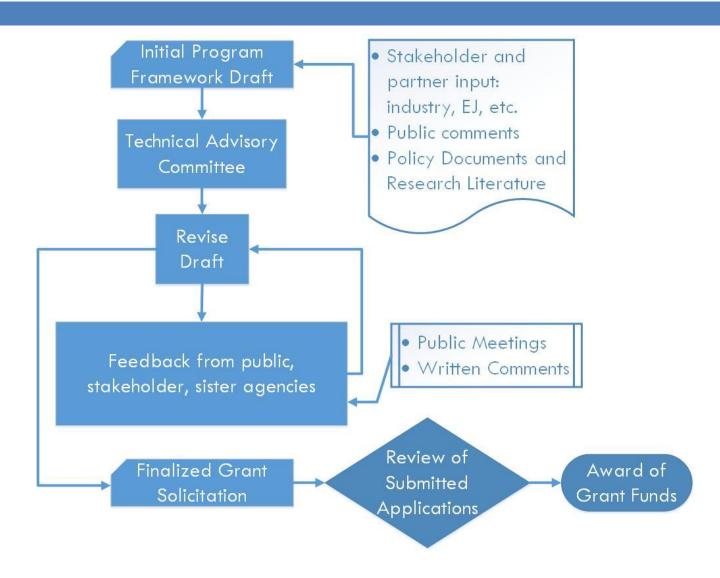
DAIRY DIGESTER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (DDRDP)

- □ Established in 2014-15.
- Authorized by the Budget Act of 2014 (Chapter 25, Statutes of 2014). CDFA received \$12 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to support projects that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from California dairy operations by capturing GHGs, harnessing GHGs as a renewable bioenergy source and promoting low carbon fuels.
- CDFA funded 6 projects, funded \$11.1 million total; \$28 million in matching funds by recipients.
- Projects to generate renewable electricity (approx. 40 million kWh per year)
- Total GHG emissions reduction estimated at 1.56 MTCO₂e over 10 years. Annually:
 - 0.04% of the total GHG emissions in California.
 - 1.3% of GHG emissions from dairy manure management.
- Funded a research project (\$225,000) titled "Converting Manure to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Minimize Environmental Impacts, and Enhance the Economic Feasibility of Dairy Operations" with Dr. William Horwath, UC Davis.

FUNDS ALLOCATION 2016-17

- □ Total funds appropriated: \$50 million.
- Dairy Digester Research and
 Development Program (DDRDP): \$29-\$36 million.
- □ Alternative Manure ManagementProgram (AMMP): \$9-\$16 million.
 - Non-digester management practices.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND ELIGIBILITY

- 9
- Grant size: A maximum of 50% of the total cost of project, up to \$3 million.
- Matching funds Minimum of 50% matching funds required (no more than 25% in kind).
- □ 2-year project term: Oct 2017 June 2019.
- Eligibility:
 - Existing milk producers, dairy digester developers.
 - Cluster projects.
- Eligible bio-methane uses: On-site use or into electrical grid/pipeline (electricity generation or transportation fuel/RCNG), utilization of thermal energy on site or at neighboring facility.

■ Water Quality Protection:

- Double-lined ponds consistent with the Tier 1 specification of the Dairy General Order Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, or,
- Above-ground tank, or,
- Below-ground concrete lined tank.
- Air Quality Protection:
 - Total NOx emissions no greater than 0.50 lb/ MW-hr.

SCORING CRITERIA

Application Section/Scoring Criteria	Max. Points
Feasibility of Digester Project	20
Financial Soundness/Budget Worksheet	10
GHG Emissions Calculations & Reporting	35
Project Readiness	10
Environmental Performance	15
Benefits to Local Communities	10
TOTAL	100

DDRDP APPLICATION PROCESS

 Applications uploaded and submitted via State Water Resources Control Board Financial Assistance Application submittal Tool (FAAST)

https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov/

- Application Workshops.
- □ Q&A period.

DDRDP PROGRAM TIMELINE

ltem	Estimated Dates*	
Public/Stakeholder Meetings and Public Comment Period	November – February, 2016	
Notice of Funding Availability	May, 2017	
Grant Application Workshops	May, 2017	
Grant Applications Due	June 2017	
Grant Evaluation Period	July – September, 2017	
Announce Grant Awardees	September 2017	
*Subject to change		

ADDITIONAL EFFORTS AND INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

- Methane reduction through non-digester management practices: Alternative
 Manure Management Program (AMMP) 2017.
- □ SB 1383 Methane Reduction:
 - Dairy Methane Workgroup in coordination with ARB, CEC and CPUC.
- SB 1383 Organic Diversion from Landfills:
 - Healthy Soils Initiative in coordination with CalEPA, California Natural Resources Agency and Governor's Office.
 - Incentivizing practices such as compost application through the Healthy Soils Program:
 - \$7.5 million in 2016-17 to develop and administer Healthy Soils Program to fund CA farmers and ranchers to implement management practices that sequester soil carbon and reduce GHG emissions.
 - Anticipated release of Request for Grant Applications in July, 2017.
 - Direct incentives and demonstration projects.

CDFA OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL FARMING AND INNOVATION

Casey Walsh Cady

Senior Environmental Scientist (DDRDP)

Casey.Cady@cdfa.ca.gov

Geetika Joshi, Ph.D.

Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor, Incentive Programs)

Geetika.Joshi@cdfa.ca.gov

Amrith Gunasekara, Ph.D.

Manager, Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation