Global Research Alliance on Agriculture and Climate Change - Integrated Research Group

An Australian Overview

Lee Nelson February 2019



Australian Climate Change Policy

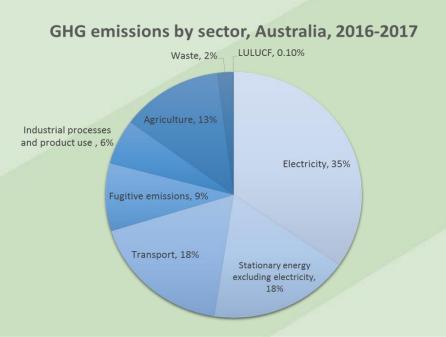
- Australia's policy to cut GHG by:
 - 5% below 2000 levels by 2020 and
 - 26 to 28% below 2005 levels by 2030
 - Paris COP21 NDC commitment

- Two ways to achieve this:
 - The Emissions Reduction Fund
 - The National Energy Guarantee



The Emission Reduction Fund

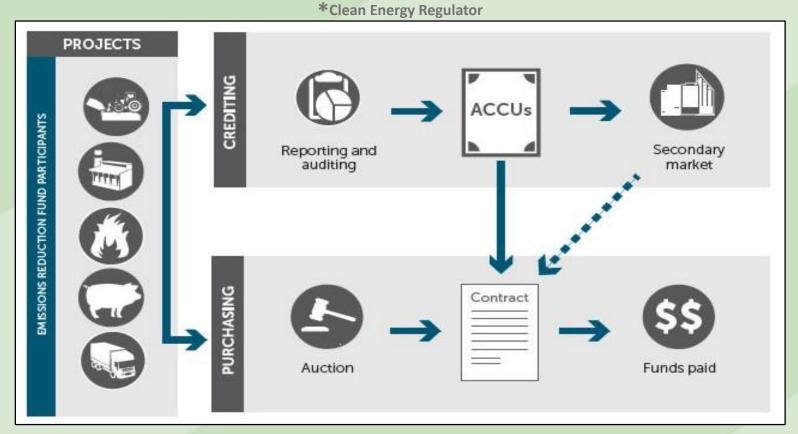
- Carbon credits (ACCU) allocated for:
 - Reducing GHG emissions
 - Increasing carbon stored in soils and vegetation
- Government is the sole purchaser
 - Through reverse auction
- Participation is voluntary





The Emissions Reduction Fund

Crediting and purchasing components of the Emissions Reduction Fund





The Emissions Reduction Fund

- Covers all industrial and agricultural emissions
 - Agriculture
 - Energy efficiency in the building sector
 - Waste coal mine gas
 - Cleaning up power stations
 - Transport sector
 - Large industrial facilities



Summary of credits

Vegetation	125.7	million tonnes
Landfill and waste	25.5	million
Agriculture	18.1	million
Savanna burning	13.6	million
Energy efficiency	5.2	million
Industrial fugitives	4.0	million
Transport	1.2	million
	Landfill and waste Agriculture Savanna burning Energy efficiency Industrial fugitives	Landfill and waste 25.5 Agriculture 18.1 Savanna burning 13.6 Energy efficiency 5.2 Industrial fugitives 4.0



Soil Carbon Methods

- Expanded coverage of soil carbon activities
 - Soil Carbon using Default Values
 - Soil Carbon in Grazing Systems
 - (revocation from February 7 2019)
 - Soil Carbon Sequestration in Agricultural Systems
 - (new method)



Soil Carbon Sequestration in Agricultural Systems

- improved soil sampling strategy;
- increased range of eligible farming systems;
- allowing the use of soil amendments;
- an additional measurement option;
- a ten year baseline period; and
- use of a land management strategy, to be developed or reviewed by an independent person.
- http://environment.gov.au/climate-change/government/emissions-reduction-fund/methods
- https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2018L00089

Overlapping interests of Australian government departments in climate change and agriculture

