



## **Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) (Audit Thresholds) Instrument 2025**

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The Clean Energy Regulator makes the following instrument.

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## 1 Name

This instrument is the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) (Audit Thresholds) Instrument 2025*.

## 2 Commencement

- (1) Each provision of this instrument specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

Commencement information		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Provisions	Commencement	Date/Details
1. The whole of this instrument	1 April 2025	

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this instrument as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this instrument.

- (2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this instrument. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this instrument.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under subsection 75(4) of the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Rule 2015*.

## 4 Definitions

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011* and the CFI Rule, including the following:

- (a) eligible offsets project;
- (b) initial audit;
- (c) subsequent audit.

In this instrument:

**CFI Rule** means the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Rule 2015*.

**New project** means an eligible offsets project, other than a transitioning project which is not required to have an initial audit.

**tCO<sub>2</sub>-e** means tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.

## 5 Audit thresholds

The audit thresholds for eligible offsets projects (other than alternative assurance projects) are as follows:

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<b>Annual average abatement amount</b>	<b>Audit threshold</b>
50 000 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e or less	Threshold A (small)
50 001 to 150 000 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	Threshold B (medium)
More than 150 000 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	Threshold C (large)

## 6 Number of subsequent audits

The number of subsequent audits required for eligible offsets projects (other than alternative assurance projects) that meet an audit threshold set out in Column I of the following table is the number set out adjacent to that audit threshold in Column II or Column III, as applicable, of the following table.

<b>Column I</b>	<b>Column II</b>	<b>Column III</b>
<b>Audit threshold</b>	<b>New projects</b>	<b>Transitioning projects that are not required to have an initial audit</b>
Threshold A (small)	2	3
Threshold B (medium)	3	4
Threshold C (large)	5	6

## 7 Trigger audit threshold

The trigger audit threshold for eligible offsets projects is 100 000 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e.

## 8 Alternative assurance projects

- (1) For the purposes of subsection 73(7) of the CFI Rule, a project is an alternative assurance project if:
  - (a) the project is included in the class of projects mentioned column 2 of an item in the table in subsection (3); and
  - (b) the applicable methodology determination for the project is prescribed by column 3 of that item; and
  - (c) the project meets the criteria prescribed by column 4 of that item; and
  - (d) the project proponent meets the conditions (if any) specified by column 5 of that item relating to the operation, monitoring or reporting for the project.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 75(4)(bb) of the CFI Rule, if the project is an alternative assurance project because of subsection (1), column 6 of the item of the table in subsection (3) sets out:

- (a) the number of scheduled audits (if any) for the project; and  
 (b) whether the first of those audits is an initial audit.

(3) The following table has effect:

Item	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
	<b>Class of project</b>	<b>Prescribed methodology determination</b>  (CFI Rule paragraph 73(7)(a))	<b>Project related criteria that must be met</b>  (CFI Rule paragraph 73(7)(b))	<b>Conditions related to operation, monitoring, or reporting for the project that must be met</b>  (CFI Rule paragraph 73(7)(c))	<b>Number of subsequent audits required for projects that meet an audit threshold (CFI Rule paragraph 75(4)(b)), and whether the first is an initial audit (CFI Rule paragraph 75(4)(bb))</b>
1	Low Risk Environmental Plantings 2014 Projects	<i>Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) (Reforestation by Environmental or Mallee Plantings—FullCAM) Methodology Determination 2014</i> , including when applied under section 125, 126 or 127 of the Act.	<p>1. The project proponent, or nominee of multiple project proponents, must be a freehold title holder, leaseholder, or native title holder or registered native title body corporate for all project areas of the project.</p> <p>2. The anticipated and reported carbon estimation area for the project must be no more than 200 hectares.</p> <p>3. The project must be modelled as a mixed species block planting using the generic calibration in FullCAM (within the meaning of the prescribed methodology determination).</p> <p>4. The project is subject to geospatial tool monitoring by the Clean Energy Regulator.</p>	No conditions	Zero
2	Low Risk Plantation Forestry Projects	<i>Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative—Plantation Forestry) Methodology Determination 2022</i> , including when applied under section 125, 126 or 127 of the Act.	<p>1. The project must be a plantation forest project (within the meaning of the prescribed methodology determination) which is covered only by either or both paragraphs 8(1)(a) and 8(1)(b) of that determination.</p> <p>2. The anticipated and reported</p>	No conditions	One, which is an initial audit

			<p>carbon estimation area for the project must be no more than 200 hectares.</p> <p>3. The project is subject to geospatial tool monitoring by the Clean Energy Regulator.</p>		
3	Low Risk Environmental Plantings 2024 Projects	<p><i>Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) (Reforestation by Environmental or Mallee Plantings—FullCAM) Methodology Determination 2024</i>, including when applied under section 125, 126 or 127 of the Act.</p>	<p>1. The project proponent, or nominee of multiple project proponents, must be a freehold title holder, leaseholder, or native title holder or registered native title body corporate for all project areas of the project.</p> <p>2. The anticipated and reported carbon estimation area for the project must be no more than 200 hectares.</p> <p>3. The project must be modelled as a mixed species block planting using FullCAM (within the meaning of the prescribed methodology determination).</p> <p>4. The project is subject to geospatial tool monitoring by the Clean Energy Regulator.</p>	No conditions	Zero

Note: If a project no longer satisfies a criterion or condition specified in the table, the Clean Energy Regulator may amend the audit schedule for the project in accordance with paragraph 73(5)(ab) of the CFI Rule.

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