



PRESS RELEASE  
November 29, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Contact: David M. ("Max") Williamson  
[davidwilliamson@andrewskurth.com](mailto:davidwilliamson@andrewskurth.com)  
(202) 256-6155

The Carbon Offset Providers Coalition [www.carbonoffsetproviders.org](http://www.carbonoffsetproviders.org) has submitted a formal petition to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting the Agency to recognize greenhouse gas emissions reductions from investments in forest conservation, agricultural methane utilization, industrial gas destruction, and other low-carbon and clean tech offset projects under the federal Clean Air Act permitting regime.

The EPA recently released guidance on the consideration of what greenhouse gas reduction methods should be considered as best available control technology (BACT) for new and modified industrial facilities, factories, and power plants. In addition, the Clean Air Act will require greenhouse gas reductions from an expanding number of industrial sectors.

The COPC's petition demonstrates that offsets are a cost-effective – and legally available – method to control emissions that must be considered among the suite of options evaluated when states, tribes and EPA issue emissions permits under the Clean Air Act. By recognizing the benefits of reducing emissions by investing in "outside the fence line" reductions, offsets can help America transform its energy structure and transition into a low-carbon economy and a new era of jobs growth, environmental benefits, and energy and climate security.

Roger Williams, chair of the COPC, said: "Economic analyses show that creating the right incentives for the robust use of offsets would dramatically reduce the overall cost to American industry, taxpayers and consumers of meeting Clean Air Act requirements. Offsets provide a flexible method for regulated industries to find the greatest emission reductions at the lowest cost. Our petition is designed to ensure that EPA and state permitting agencies consider investments and policy tools that maximize both environmental and economic benefits."

The Carbon Offset Providers Coalition ("COPC") is an alliance of the leading companies in the carbon offset market, including those involved in financing, producing, generating, providing, verifying, aggregating and/or marketing greenhouse gas emission reductions for sale as offsets in existing and emerging voluntary and compliance greenhouse gas emission trading markets. The Coalition bases its advocacy on its collective experience from hundreds of offset projects in nearly all 50 states in the U.S. and abroad that have achieved millions of tons of greenhouse gas reduction. More information is available at [www.carbonoffsetproviders.org](http://www.carbonoffsetproviders.org).

###