

# SPECIFIED GAS EMITTERS REGULATION

## QUANTIFICATION PROTOCOL FOR SOLAR ELECTRICITY GENERATION

**MAY 2008**

Version 1



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The information provided in this document is intended as guidance only and is subject to revisions as learnings and new information comes forward as part of a commitment to continuous improvement. This document is not a substitute for the law. Please consult the *Specified Gas Emitters Regulation* and the legislation for all purposes of interpreting and applying the law. In the event that there is a difference between this document and the *Specified Gas Emitters Regulation* or legislation, the *Specified Gas Emitters Regulation* or the legislation prevail.

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## 1.0 Project and Methodology Scope and Description

This quantification protocol is written for the solar electric facility project operator or project proponent. Some familiarity with, or general understanding of, the operation of a solar electric facility, and associated practices, is expected.

This protocol is applicable to the quantification of reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions resulting from the implementation of facilities that convert the energy in solar radiation into electrical energy as the end product. These cover several technologies and will be referred to simply as “solar electric facilities”. The protocol quantifies the emission reductions based on the generation of an equivalent quantity of electricity from fossil fuel based sources, either at grid-connected or off-grid facilities.

### 1.1 Protocol Scope and Description

This protocol serves as a generic ‘recipe’ for project proponents to follow in order to meet the measurement, monitoring and GHG quantification requirements for reductions resulting from the generation and usage of solar electrical energy. **FIGURE 1.1** offers a process flow diagram for a typical project.

#### **Protocol Approach:**

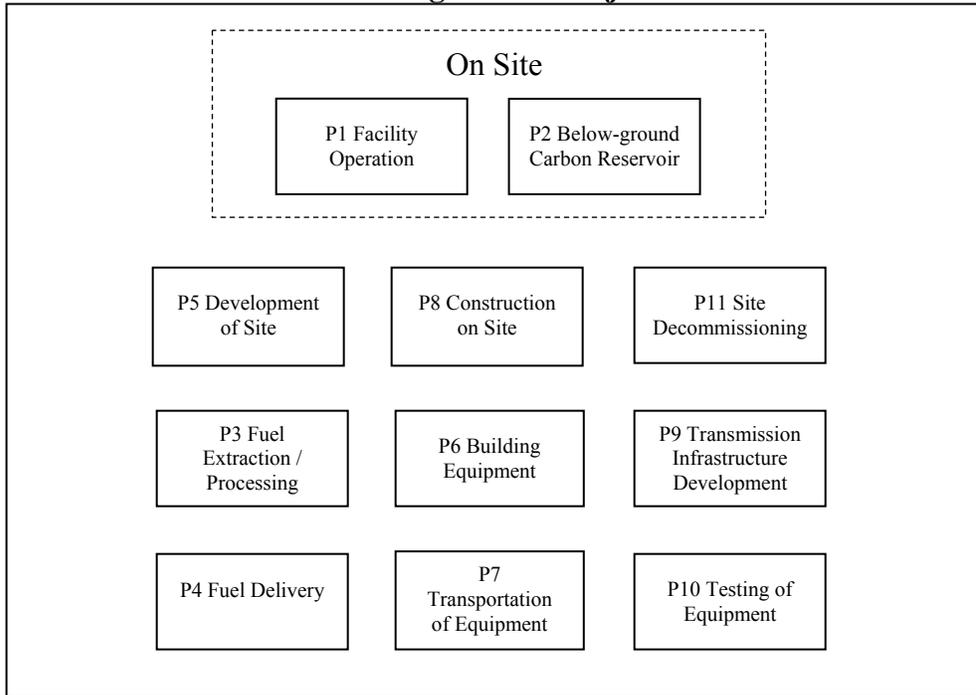
This protocol quantifies GHG offsets from solar electricity generation and encompasses the production, storage, conversion and management of electrical energy and any heat or mechanical energy on the critical path to its generation upstream of the electricity’s input to grid-connected loads or to off-grid loads. The baseline condition for this protocol includes the generation of electricity by other facilities linked to the electrical loads to cover the net generation capacity of the solar electric facility. **FIGURE 1.2** offers a process flow diagram for a typical baseline configuration.

#### **Protocol Applicability:**

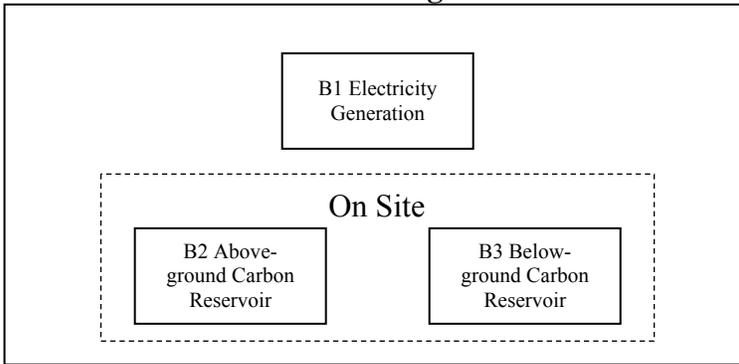
To demonstrate that a project meets the requirements under this protocol, the project proponent must supply sufficient evidence to demonstrate that:

1. The metering of net electricity production must be made at a point downstream of both generation and any storage system, typically to where generated electricity is connected to its loads; and
2. The quantification of reductions achieved by the project is based on actual measurement and monitoring (except where indicated in this protocol) as indicated by the proper application of this protocol.

**FIGURE 1.1: Process Flow Diagram for Project Condition**



**FIGURE 1.2: Process Flow Diagram for Baseline Condition**



It is important to understand that GHG emission reductions are one of many environmental benefits associated with renewable low-impact electricity generation. The aggregation of the environmental benefits of one megawatt hour of renewable electricity generation are commonly referred to as ‘green tags’ and traded as Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs). To ensure no ‘double counting’ of the greenhouse gas emission reductions (that are eligible as offsets under the Specific Gas Emitters Regulation), the electricity generation associated with RECs that include greenhouse gas emission reductions and that have already been sold or otherwise transferred to another owner of the associated benefits should not be included in the quantification of GHG offsets from an eligible project.

**Protocol Flexibility:**

Flexibility in applying the quantification protocol is provided to project developers in the following ways:

1. For off-grid projects, where the solar electric facility is connected by a dedicated line to its loads, site specific electricity generation emission factors that reflect the source of generation displaced under the project condition may be substituted for the generic electrical grid emission factors indicated in this protocol document. Guidance on the selection of appropriate emission factors is contained in Appendix A. The methodology for generation of these emission factors must be sufficiently robust as to ensure reasonable accuracy; and
2. For projects where the land area cleared to make way for electrical energy generation and the subsequent footprint of the solar unit is less than 1 hectare, the B2 Above-ground Carbon Reservoir SSR can be excluded because of the negligible amount of canopy cleared.

If flexibility provisions have been applied, the proponent must describe the provisions used, and justify their application through a detailed methodology, calculations, and all supporting documentation.

**1.2 Glossary of New Terms**

Above-ground Carbon Reservoir:

Is the total amount of carbon held above ground in the terrestrial biosphere, which was transferred from the atmospheric carbon reservoir through photosynthesis. For example, all parts of a tree seen above ground (canopy, trunk) are considered part of the above-ground carbon reservoir.

Below-ground Carbon Reservoir:

Is the total amount of carbon held below ground in the terrestrial biosphere, which was transferred from atmospheric

carbon reservoir through photosynthesis. For example, the root system of a tree and compacted detritus would be considered part of the below-ground carbon reservoir.

Electricity Grid:

Infrastructure that transports electrical energy from generating plants to the end users through long-distance high-voltage transmission systems between the generators and distribution systems, and lower-voltage distribution systems that transport the energy to nearby individual customers.

Solar Electric Facility:

A facility consisting of all solar electrical energy generating, conversion, storage, and management equipment, sub-systems, and their connections up to the point where the generating system connects to its Alternating Current (AC) or Direct Current (DC) loads or to the electricity grid. Solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities can include the solar PV array, any optical concentrating, tracking and mounting equipment, DC to DC charge controllers, batteries of electrochemical or other energy storage cells, disconnecting means, current management means, wiring, DC to AC conversion devices, and AC to DC conversion devices. Solar thermal-electric facilities can include any optical concentrating, tracking and mounting equipment, heat collecting towers, heat transfer, pumping and storage sub-systems, steam generators, steam or air turbines, rotating electricity generators, system controls and converters, and staff operating buildings.

## **2.0 Quantification Development and Justification**

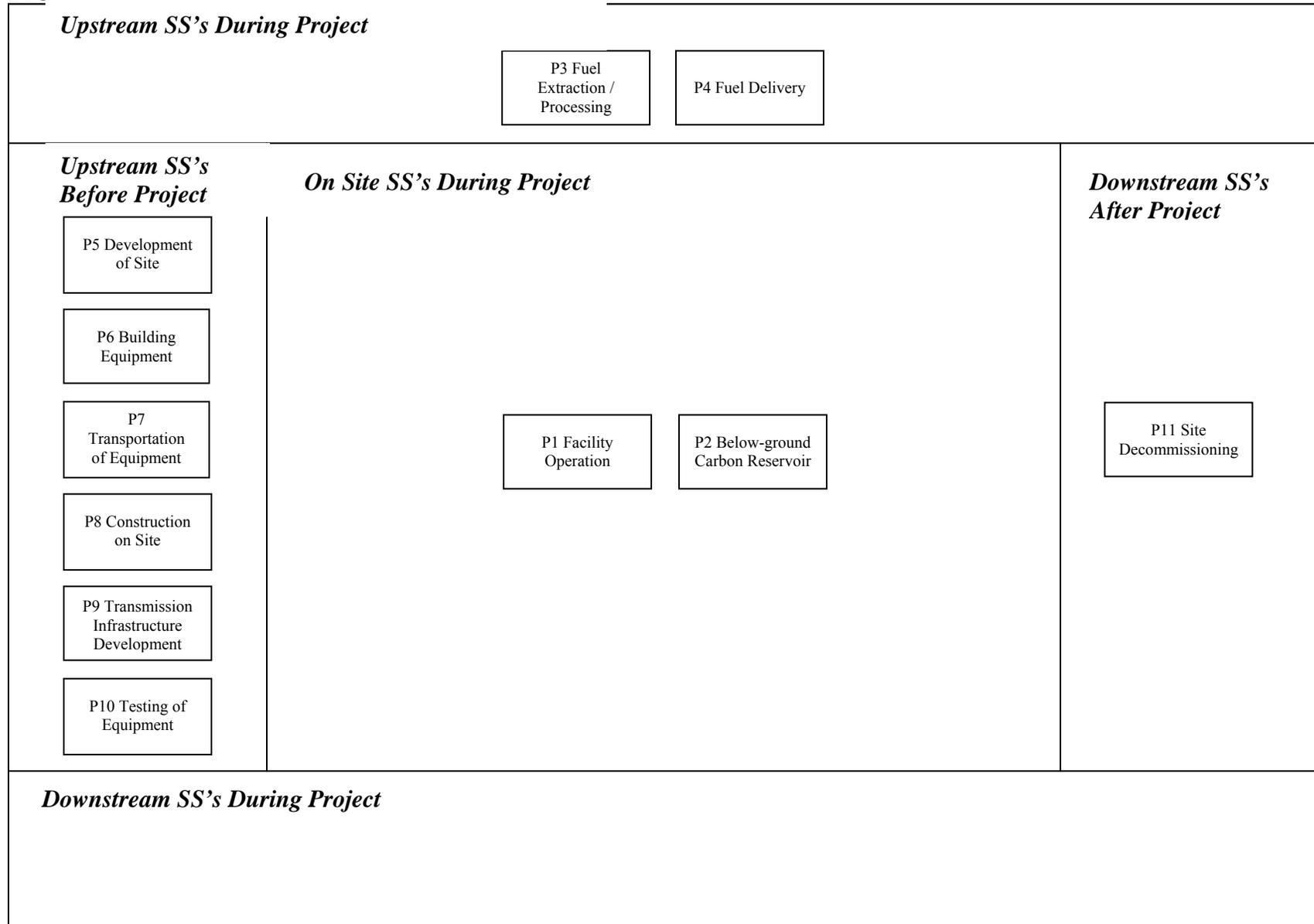
The following sections outline the quantification development and justification.

### **2.1 Identification of Sources and Sinks (SS's) for the Project**

SS's were identified for the project by reviewing the seed document, other protocols and project configurations. This process confirmed that the SS's in the process flow diagrams covered the full scope of eligible project activities under the protocol.

Based on the process flow diagrams provided in **FIGURE 1.1**, the project SS's were organized into life cycle categories in **FIGURE 2.1**. Descriptions of each of the SS's and their classification as controlled, related or affected are provided in **TABLE 2.1**.

**FIGURE 2.1: Project Element Life Cycle Chart**



**TABLE 2.1: Project SS's**

1. SS	2. Description	3. Controlled, Related or Affected
<b>Upstream SS's during Project Operation</b>		
P3 Fuel Extraction and Processing	Each of the fuels used throughout the on-site component of the project will need to be sourced and processed. This will allow for the calculation of the greenhouse gas emissions from the various processes involved in the production, refinement and storage of the fuels. The total volumes of fuel for each of the on-site SS's are considered under this SS. Volumes and types of fuels are the important characteristics to be tracked.	Related
P4 Fuel Delivery	Each of the fuels used throughout the on-site component of the project will need to be transported to the site. This may include shipments by tanker or by pipeline, resulting in the emissions of greenhouse gases. It is reasonable to exclude fuel sourced by taking equipment to an existing commercial fuelling station as the fuel used to take the equipment to the site is captured under other SS's and there is no other delivery.	Related
<b>Onsite SS's during Operation</b>		
P1 Facility Operation	Greenhouse gas emissions may occur that are associated with the operation and maintenance of the overall solar electric facility. This may include running vehicles and operating buildings on the site. Quantities and types of the fuels used would need to be tracked. Electricity Storage Systems may be included at the project site. Any emissions associated with them are included with the electricity generating system.	Controlled
P2 Below-ground Carbon Reservoir	Carbon may accumulate within below-ground organic materials. The extent of this accumulation would need to be tracked.	Controlled
<b>Downstream SS's during Baseline Operation</b>		
None		
<b>Other</b>		
P5 Development of Site	The site may need to be developed. This could include civil infrastructure such as access to electricity, gas and water supply, as well as sewer etc. This may also include clearing, grading, building access roads, etc. There will also need to be some building of structures for the facility such as storage areas, storm water drainage, offices, vent stacks, firefighting water storage lagoons, etc., as well as structures to enclose, support and house the equipment. Greenhouse gas emissions would be primarily attributed to the use of fossil fuels and electricity used to energise equipment required to develop the site such as graders, backhoes, trenching machines, etc.	Related
P6 Building Equipment	Equipment may need to be built either on-site or off-site. This includes all of the components of the storage, handling, processing, combustion, air quality control, and system control and safety systems. These may be sourced as pre-made standard equipment or custom built to specification. Greenhouse gas emissions would be primarily attributed to the use of fossil fuels and electricity used to energize equipment for the extraction of the raw materials, processing, fabricating and assembly.	Related

P7 Transportation of Equipment	Equipment built off-site and the materials to build equipment on-site will all need to be delivered to the site. Transportation may be completed by train, truck, by some combination, or even by courier. Greenhouse gas emissions would be primarily attributed to the use of fossil fuels to energize the equipment delivering the equipment to the site.	Related
P8 Construction on Site	The process of construction at the site will require a variety of heavy equipment, smaller electrical tools, cranes and generators. The operation of this equipment will have associated greenhouse gas emission from the use of fossil fuels and electricity.	Related
P9 Transmission Infrastructure Development	Electricity transmission infrastructure will need to be developed and installed in order to transmit and distribute electricity energy from the generating station to the electrical grid. The installation of this equipment will have associated greenhouse gas emissions as a result of the use of fossil fuels to energise the installation equipment and land clearing activities.	Related
P10 Testing of Equipment	Equipment may need to be tested to ensure functional operation. This may result in running the equipment using test fossil fuels in order to ensure that the equipment runs properly. These activities will result in greenhouse gas emissions associated with the combustion of fossil fuels and the use of electricity.	Related
P11 Site Decommissioning	Once the facility is no longer operational, the site may need to be decommissioned. This may involve the disassembly of the equipment, demolition of on-site structures, disposal of some materials, environmental restoration, re-grading, planting or seeding, and transportation of materials off-site. Greenhouse gas emissions would be primarily attributed to the use of fossil fuels and electricity used to energize equipment required to decommission the site.	Related

## 2.2 Identification of Baseline

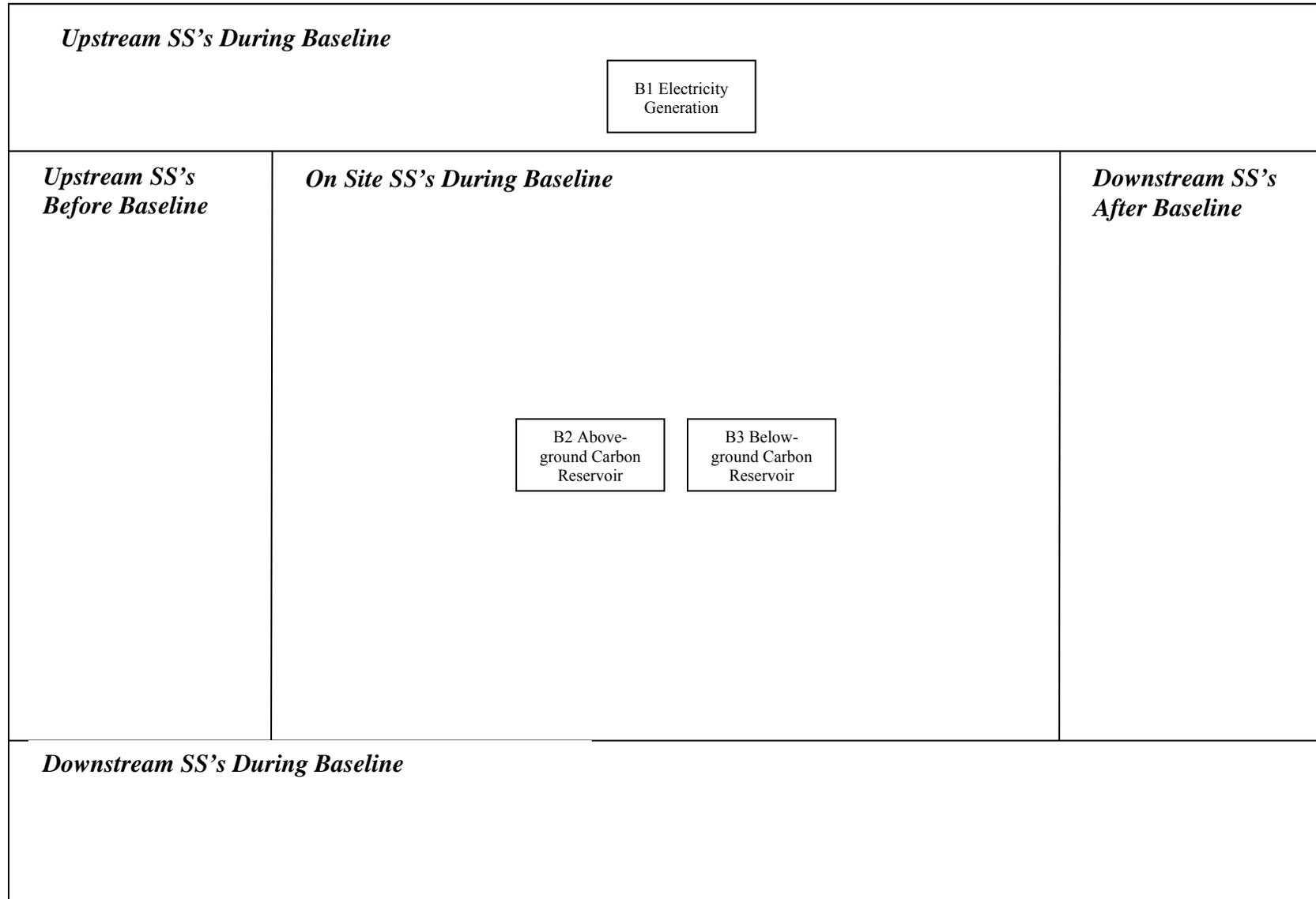
The baseline condition for projects applying this protocol is defined as the quantity electricity that would have otherwise been generated using fossil fuel based sources to cover the production under the project condition either on the grid or an off-grid source. The baseline scenario for this protocol is dynamic as the amount of electricity produced will change.

The baseline condition is defined, including the relevant SS's and processes, as shown in **FIGURE 1.2**. More detail on each of these SS's is provided in Section 2.3, below.

## 2.3 Identification of SS's for the Baseline

Based on the process flow diagrams provided in **FIGURE 1.2**, the project SS's were organized into life cycle categories in **FIGURE 2.2**. Descriptions of each of the SS's and their classification as either 'controlled', 'related' or 'affected' is provided in **TABLE 2.2**.

**FIGURE 2.2: Baseline Element Life Cycle Chart**



**TABLE 2.2: Baseline SS's**

1. SS	2. Description	3. Controlled, Related or Affected
<b>Upstream SS's during Baseline Operation</b>		
B1 Electricity Generation	<p>Electricity will be produced off-site to match the electricity being produced by the solar electric facility. This electricity will be produced at an emission's intensity as deemed appropriate by Alberta Environment.</p> <p>Measurement of the quantity of electricity produced by the facility will need to be tracked to quantify this SS. Measurement must occur downstream of any electricity storage, transmission and distribution systems at the point where the electricity is tied into the electricity grid and/or off-grid loads to account for on-site losses and parasitic loads. The quantity of electricity produced should be net of any electricity sold as Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) as discussed in Section 1.</p>	Related
<b>Onsite SS's during Baseline Operation</b>		
B2 Above-ground Carbon Reservoir	Carbon may accumulate within above-ground organic materials, including biomass harvested from the site. The extent of this accumulation would need to be tracked.	Controlled
B3 Below-ground Carbon Reservoir	Carbon may accumulate within below-ground organic materials. The extent of this accumulation would need to be tracked.	Controlled
<b>Downstream SS's during Baseline Operation</b>		
None		
<b>Other</b>		
None		

## **2.4 Selection of Relevant Project and Baseline SS's**

Each of the SS's from the project and baseline condition were compared and evaluated as to their relevancy using the guidance provided in Annex VI of the "Guide to Quantification Methodologies and Protocols: Draft", dated March 2006 (Environment Canada). The justification for the exclusion or conditions upon which SS's may be excluded is provided in **TABLE 2.3** below. All other SS's listed previously are included.

**TABLE 2.3: Comparison of SS's**

1. Identified SS	2. Baseline (C, R, A)	3. Project (C, R, A)	4. Include or Exclude from Quantification	5. Justification for Exclusion
<b>Upstream SS's</b>				
B1 Electricity Generation	Related	N/A	Include	N/A
P4 Fuel Extraction and Processing	N/A	Related	Include	N/A
P5 Fuel Delivery	N/A	Related	Exclude	Excluded as the emissions from transportation are negligible and likely greater under the baseline condition.
<b>Onsite SS's</b>				
P1 Facility Operation	N/A	Controlled	Include	N/A
B2 Above-ground Carbon Reservoir	Controlled	N/A	Include	N/A (May be excluded if the land footprint of the solar unit is less than 1 Ha as described in the mechanisms outlined in Section 1.1)
P2 Below-ground Carbon Reservoir	N/A	Controlled	Exclude	Excluded as the carbon sequestered in the below-ground carbon reservoir would be materially equivalent between baseline and project conditions.
B3 Below-ground Carbon Reservoir	Controlled	N/A	Exclude	
<b>Downstream SS's</b>				
None				
<b>Other</b>				
P5 Development of Site	N/A	Related	Exclude	Emissions from site development are not material given the long project life, and the minimal site development typically required.
P6 Building Equipment	N/A	Related	Exclude	Emissions from building equipment are not material given the long project life, and the minimal building equipment typically required.
P7 Transportation of Equipment	N/A	Related	Exclude	Emissions from transportation of equipment are not material given the long project life, and the minimal transportation of equipment typically required.
P8 Construction on Site	N/A	Related	Exclude	Emissions from construction on site are not material given the long project life, and the minimal construction on site typically required.
P9 Transmission Infrastructure Development	N/A	Related	Exclude	Emissions from transmission infrastructure development are not material given the long project life, and the minimal transmission infrastructure development typically required.
P10 Testing of Equipment	N/A	Related	Exclude	Emissions from testing of equipment are not material given the long project life, and the minimal testing of equipment typically required.
P11 Site Decommissioning	N/A	Related	Exclude	Emissions from decommissioning are not material given the long project life, and the minimal decommissioning typically required.

## 2.5 Quantification of Reductions, Removals and Reversals of Relevant SS's

### 2.5.1 Quantification Approaches

Quantification of the reductions, removals and reversals of relevant SS's for each of the greenhouse gases will be completed using the methodologies outlined in **TABLE 2.4**, below. A listing of relevant emission factors is provided in **Appendix A**. These calculation methodologies serve to complete the following three equations for calculating the emission reductions from the comparison of the baseline and project conditions.

$$\text{Emission Reduction} = \text{Emissions}_{\text{Baseline}} - \text{Emissions}_{\text{Project}}$$

$$\text{Emissions}_{\text{Baseline}} = \text{Emissions}_{\text{Electricity Generation}} + \text{Sequestration}_{\text{Above-ground Carbon Reservoir}}^1 * \text{Assurance Factor}$$

$$\text{Emissions}_{\text{Project}} = \text{Emissions}_{\text{Facility Operation}} + \text{Emissions}_{\text{Fuel Extraction and Processing}}$$

Where:

$\text{Emissions}_{\text{Baseline}}$  = sum of the emissions under the baseline condition.

$\text{Emissions}_{\text{Electricity Generation}}$  = emissions under SS B1 Electricity Generation

$\text{Sequestration}_{\text{Above-ground Carbon Reservoir}}$  = Sequestration under SS B2 Above ground Carbon Reservoir

$\text{Assurance Factor}$  = Factor which accounts for potential future reversal of sequestered carbon.

$\text{Emissions}_{\text{Project}}$  = sum of the emissions under the project condition.

$\text{Emissions}_{\text{Facility Operation}}$  = emissions under SS P1 Facility Operations

$\text{Emissions}_{\text{Fuel Extraction and Processing}}$  = emissions under SS P4 Fuel Extraction and Processing

Note 1: Above-ground Carbon Reservoir may be excluded in the case described in the mechanisms outlined in Section 1.1. This calculation is only necessary for the first year of the project.

**TABLE 2.4: Quantification Procedures**

1.0 Project/ Baseline SS	2. Parameter / Variable	3. Unit	4. Measured / Estimated	5. Method	6. Frequency	7. Justify measurement or estimation and frequency
<b>Project SS's</b>						
P1 Facility Operation	Emissions <sub>Facility Operation</sub> = $\sum (\text{Vol. Fuel}_i * \text{EF}_{\text{Fuel}_i \text{CO}_2}) ; \sum (\text{Vol. Fuel}_i * \text{EF}_{\text{Fuel}_i \text{CH}_4}) ; \sum (\text{Vol. Fuel}_i * \text{EF}_{\text{Fuel}_i \text{N}_2\text{O}}) ; \sum (\text{Mass HFC}_i * \text{EF}_{\text{Fuel}_{\text{HFC}_i}})$					
	Emissions <sub>Facility Operation</sub>	kg of CO <sub>2</sub> ; CH <sub>4</sub> ; N <sub>2</sub> O	N/A	N/A	N/A	Quantity being calculated in aggregate form as fuel and electricity use on site is likely aggregated for each of these SS's.
	Volume of Each Type of Fuel / Vol Fuel <sub>i</sub>	L, m <sup>3</sup> or other	Measured	Direct metering or reconciliation of volume in storage (including volumes received).	Continuous metering or monthly reconciliation.	Both methods are standard practise. Frequency of metering is highest level possible. Frequency of reconciliation provides for reasonable diligence.
	CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions Factor for Each Type of Fuel / EF <sub>Fuel<sub>i</sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>	kg CO <sub>2</sub> per L, m <sup>3</sup> or other	Estimated	From Environment Canada reference documents.	Annual	Reference values adjusted annually as part of Environment Canada reporting on Canada's emissions inventory.
	CH <sub>4</sub> Emissions Factor for Each Type of Fuel / EF <sub>Fuel<sub>i</sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub>	kg CH <sub>4</sub> per L, m <sup>3</sup> or other	Estimated	From Environment Canada reference documents.	Annual	Reference values adjusted annually as part of Environment Canada reporting on Canada's emissions inventory.
	N <sub>2</sub> O Emissions Factor for Each Type of Fuel / EF <sub>Fuel<sub>i</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O</sub>	kg N <sub>2</sub> O per L, m <sup>3</sup> or other	Estimated	From Environment Canada reference documents.	Annual	Reference values adjusted annually as part of Environment Canada reporting on Canada's emissions inventory.

	Mass of Each Type of Refrigerant / Mass or HFCs and HCFCs	kg HFC <sub>i</sub> and/or kg of HCFC <sub>i</sub>	Measured	Direct metering of the mass of refrigerant used to initially charge equipment at the time of commissioning and all subsequent recharges.	Continuous metering or monthly reconciliation.	Both methods are standard practise. Frequency of metering is highest level possible. Frequency of reconciliation provides for reasonable diligence. The mass of refrigerant lost to the atmosphere is equal to the mass of refrigerant used to 'top-up' equipment to the same level as at the initial commissioning of equipment.
	Global Warming Potential for Each Type of HFC and/or HCFC	kg CO <sub>2E</sub> per kg HFC <sub>i</sub> and/or HCFC <sub>i</sub> consumed	Estimated	From Environment Canada reference documents.	Annual	Reference values adjusted annually as part of Environment Canada reporting on Canada's emissions inventory.
P4 Fuel Extraction and Processing	Emissions <sub>Fuel Extraction / Processing</sub> = $\sum (\text{Vol. Fuel}_i * \text{EF}_{\text{Fuel}_i \text{CO}_2}) ; \sum (\text{Vol. Fuel}_i * \text{EF}_{\text{Fuel}_i \text{CH}_4}) ; \sum (\text{Vol. Fuel}_i * \text{EF}_{\text{Fuel}_i \text{N}_2\text{O}})$					
	Emissions <sub>Fuel Extraction / Processing</sub>	kg of CO <sub>2</sub> ; CH <sub>4</sub> ; N <sub>2</sub> O	N/A	N/A	N/A	Quantity being calculated in aggregate form as fuel and electricity use on site is likely aggregated for each of these SS's.
	Volume of Each Type of Fuel Combusted for P1 and P2 / Vol <sub>Fuel i</sub>	L, m <sup>3</sup> or other	Measured	Direct metering or reconciliation of volume in storage (including volumes received).	Continuous metering or monthly reconciliation.	Both methods are standard practice. Frequency of metering is highest level possible. Frequency of reconciliation provides for reasonable diligence.
	Including CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions Factor for Fuel Production and Processing / EF <sub>Fuel i CO2</sub>	kg CO <sub>2</sub> per L, m <sup>3</sup> or other	Estimated	From Environment Canada reference documents.	Annual	Reference values adjusted annually as part of Environment Canada reporting on Canada's emissions inventory.

	CH <sub>4</sub> Emissions Factor for Fuel Including Production and Processing / EF Fuel <sub>i</sub> CH <sub>4</sub>	kg CH <sub>4</sub> per L, m <sup>3</sup> or other	Estimated	From Environment Canada reference documents.	Annual	Reference values adjusted annually as part of Environment Canada reporting on Canada's emissions inventory.
	N <sub>2</sub> O Emissions Factor for Fuel Including Production and Processing / EF Fuel <sub>i</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	kg N <sub>2</sub> O per L, m <sup>3</sup> or other	Estimated	From Environment Canada reference documents.	Annual	Reference values adjusted annually as part of Environment Canada reporting on Canada's emissions inventory.

**BASELINE SS's**

	Emissions <sub>Electricity Generation</sub> = Electricity * EF <sub>Elec</sub>					
	Emissions <sub>Electricity</sub>	kg of CO <sub>2</sub> e	N/A	N/A	N/A	Quantity being calculated.
B1 Electricity Generation	Incremental Electricity Exported from the Project Site / Electricity	kWh	Measured	Direct metering	Continuous metering	Continuous direct metering represents the industry practice and the highest level of detail.
	Emissions Factor for Electricity / EF <sub>Elec</sub>	kg of CO <sub>2</sub> e per kWh	Estimated	From Alberta Environment Offset Project Guidance Document	Annual	Reference values adjusted periodically.
	Sequestration <sub>Above-ground Carbon Reservoir</sub> = Vol. <sub>Biomass Harvested</sub> * Expansion Factor <sub>Biomass</sub> * Conversion Factor <sub>C-CO<sub>2</sub></sub>					
B2 Above – ground Carbon Reservoir <sup>1</sup>	Sequestration <sub>Above-ground Carbon Reservoir</sub>	kg of CO <sub>2</sub> e	N/A	N/A	N/A	Quantity being calculated.
	Volume of Above Ground Biomass Harvested / Vol. <sub>Biomass Harvested</sub>	m <sup>3</sup>	Estimated	Field survey and statistical sampling with uncertainty to remain within bounds of 10%, with a confidence level of 95%.	Upon project initiation or expansion.	Estimation can be made with high level of accuracy.
	Biomass Expansion Factor / Expansion Factor <sub>Biomass</sub>	kg of Carbon per m <sup>3</sup>	Estimated	From sources of species specific data tables as in Appendix A.	Annual	Carbon content of trees can vary significantly between samples. Using factors based on larger samples would be more accurate.

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						accurate.
	Conversion factor for Carbon to Carbon Dioxide / Conversion Factor $C-CO_2$	-	Estimated	IPCC standard of 44/12.	Annual	Reference value.

Note 1: Above-ground Carbon Reservoir may be excluded in the case described in the mechanisms outlined in Section 1.1. This calculation is only necessary for the first year of the project.

## 2.5.2. Contingent Data Approaches

Contingent means for calculating or estimating the required data for the equations outlined in section 2.5.1 are summarized in **TABLE 2.5**, below.

## 2.6 Management of Data Quality

In general, data quality management must include sufficient data capture such that the mass and energy balances may be easily performed with the need for minimal assumptions and use of contingency procedures. The data should be of sufficient quality to fulfill the quantification requirements and be substantiated by company records for the purpose of verification.

The project proponent shall establish and apply quality management procedures to manage data and information. Written procedures should be established for each measurement task outlining responsibility, timing and record location requirements. The greater the rigour of the management system for the data, the more easily an audit will be to conduct for the project.

### 2.6.1 Record Keeping

Record keeping practises should include:

- a. Electronic recording of values of logged primary parameters for each measurement interval;
- b. Printing of monthly back-up hard copies of all logged data;
- c. Written logs of operations and maintenance of the project system including notation of all shut-downs, start-ups and process adjustments;
- d. Retention of copies of logs and all logged data for a period of 7 years; and
- e. Keeping all records available for review by a verification body.

### 2.6.2 Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC)

QA/QC can also be applied to add confidence that all measurements and calculations have been made correctly. These include, but are not limited to:

- a Protecting monitoring equipment (sealed meters and data loggers);
- b Protecting records of monitored data (hard copy and electronic storage);
- c Checking data integrity on a regular and periodic basis (manual assessment, comparing redundant metered data, and detection of outstanding data/records);
- d Comparing current estimates with previous estimates as a ‘reality check’;
- e Provide sufficient training to operators to perform maintenance and calibration of monitoring devices;
- f Establish minimum experience and requirements for operators in charge of project and monitoring; and
- g Performing recalculations to make sure no mathematical errors have been made.

**TABLE 2.5: Contingent Data Collection Procedures**

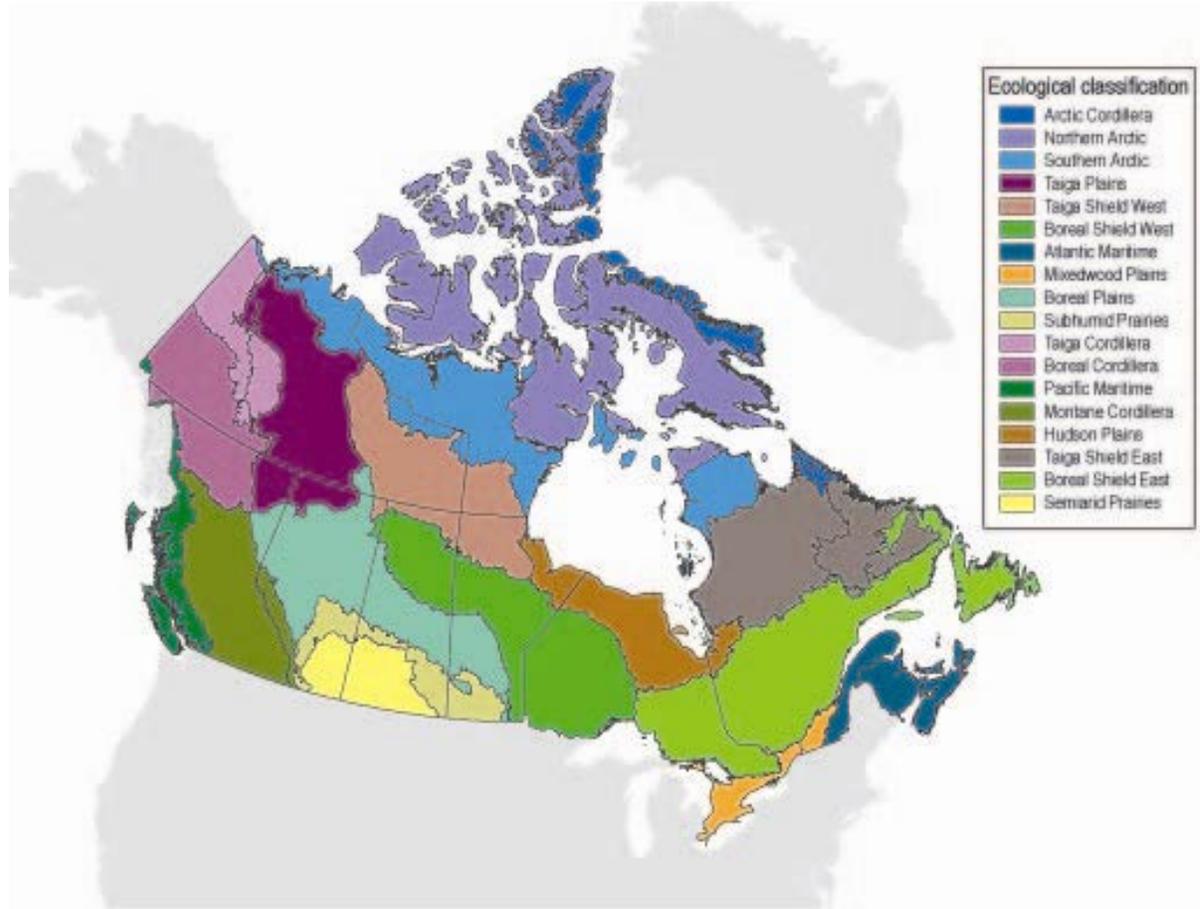
1. Project / Baseline SS	2. Parameter / Variable	3. Unit	4. Measured / Estimated	5. Contingency Method	6. Frequency	7. Justify measurement or estimation and frequency
<b>Project SS's</b>						
P1 Facility Operation	Volume of Each Type of Fuel for Unit Operation / Vol. Fuel <sub>i</sub>	L/ m <sup>3</sup> / other	Measured	Reconciliation of volume of fuel purchased within given time period.	Monthly	Provides reasonable estimate of the parameter, when the more accurate and precise method cannot be used.
	Mass of HFC <sub>i</sub> / Mass HFC <sub>i</sub>	kg	Measured	Reconciliation of mass of HFC <sub>i</sub> purchased within given time period.	Monthly	Provides reasonable estimate of the parameter, when the more accurate and precise method cannot be used.
P3 Fuel Extraction and Processing	Volume of Each Type of Fuel / Vol. Fuel <sub>i</sub>	L/ m <sup>3</sup> / other	Estimated	Reconciliation of volume of fuel purchased within given time period.	Monthly	Provides reasonable estimate of the parameter, when the more accurate and precise method cannot be used.
<b>Baseline SS's</b>						
B1 Electricity Generation	Incremental Electricity Exported from the Project Site / Electricity	kWh	Measured	Reconciliation of energy sales records.	Monthly	Provides reasonable estimate of the parameter, when the more accurate and precise method cannot be used.
B2 Above – ground Carbon Reservoir	Volume of Biomass	m <sup>3</sup>	Measured	Reconciliation with disposal or sales records.	Upon project initiation or expansion.	Must justify on case by case basis why this is acceptable.

**APPENDIX A:**  
**Relevant Emission Factors**

**Table A1: Stand Level Biomass Expansion Factors for Different Species and Regions**

Region		Species				
Province	Terrestrial Ecozone	Spruce	Pine	Hybrid Poplar	Other SW	Other HW
AB	Boreal Plains	1.20	1.05	1.08	1.09	1.26
AB	Boreal Shield West	1.09	1.09	1.11	1.09	1.11
AB	Montane Cordillera	1.21	1.20	0.95	1.18	1.26
AB	Prairies	1.09	1.09	1.11	1.09	1.26
AB	Taiga Plains	0.94	0.86	0.99	0.98	0.99
AB	Taiga Shield West	0.98	0.98	0.99	0.98	0.99

Figure A1: Terrestrial Ecozones of Canada (Environment Canada, 1996; Kull *et al.*, 2006).



**Table A2: Select Density Values for a Selection of Species**

Species	Density (t/m <sup>3</sup> )
Trembling aspen	0.37
Black cottonwood	0.30
Willow (US)	0.39
White birch	0.51
Sugar maple	0.60
White ash	0.57
Red oak	0.58
Black walnut	0.55
Balsam fir	0.34
Jack pine	0.42
Lodgepole pine	0.40
Ponderosa pine	0.44
Red pine	0.39
Jack pine	0.42
White pine (eastern & western)	0.36
White spruce	0.35
Douglas-fir	0.45
Western larch	0.55
Western red cedar	0.31
Tamarack	0.48
Other softwoods and hybrid poplars	0.37
Other deciduous hardwoods	0.60

**Table A3: Miscellaneous Factors**

Parameter	Density (t/m <sup>3</sup> )
Mass of Carbon per Mass Dry Biomass	0.5
Mass of Above-ground Biomass per Mass of Merchantable Biomass	1.45

**Table A4: Emission Intensity of Fuel Extraction and Production (Diesel, Natural Gas, and Gasoline)**

<b>Diesel</b>		
<b>Production</b>		
<b>Emissions Factor (CO<sub>2</sub>)</b>	0.138	kg CO <sub>2</sub> per Litre
<b>Emissions Factor (CH<sub>4</sub>)</b>	0.0109	kg CH <sub>4</sub> per Litre
<b>Emissions Factor (N<sub>2</sub>O)</b>	0.000004	kg N <sub>2</sub> O per Litre
<b>Natural Gas</b>		
<b>Extraction</b>		
<b>Emissions Factor (CO<sub>2</sub>)</b>	0.043	kg CO <sub>2</sub> per m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Emissions Factor (CH<sub>4</sub>)</b>	0.0023	kg CH <sub>4</sub> per m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Emissions Factor (N<sub>2</sub>O)</b>	0.000004	kg N <sub>2</sub> O per m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Processing</b>		
<b>Emissions Factor (CO<sub>2</sub>)</b>	0.090	kg CO <sub>2</sub> per m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Emissions Factor (CH<sub>4</sub>)</b>	0.0003	kg CH <sub>4</sub> per m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Emissions Factor (N<sub>2</sub>O)</b>	0.000003	kg N <sub>2</sub> O per m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Gasoline</b>		
<b>Production</b>		
<b>Emissions Factor (CO<sub>2</sub>)</b>	0.138	kg CO <sub>2</sub> per Litre
<b>Emissions Factor (CH<sub>4</sub>)</b>	0.0109	kg CH <sub>4</sub> per Litre
<b>Emissions Factor (N<sub>2</sub>O)</b>	0.000004	kg N <sub>2</sub> O per Litre

**Table A5: Emission Factors for Natural Gas and NGL's**

<b>Source</b>	<b>Emission Factors</b>		
	<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>CH<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>N<sub>2</sub>O</b>
	<b>g/m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>g/m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>g/m<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>Natural Gas</b>			
Electric Utilities	1891	0.49	0.049
Industrial	1891	0.037	0.033
Producer Consumption	2389	6.5	0.06
Pipelines	1891	1.9	0.05
Cement	1891	0.037	0.034
Manufacturing Industries	1891	0.037	0.033
Residential, Construction, Commercial/Institutional, Agriculture	1891	0.037	0.035
	<b>g/L</b>	<b>g/L</b>	<b>g/L</b>
<b>Propane</b>			
Residential	1510	0.027	0.108
All Other Uses	1510	0.024	0.108
<b>Ethane</b>			
	976	N/A	N/A
<b>Butane</b>			
	1730	0.024	0.108

**Table A6: Emission Factors for Refined Petroleum Products**

Source	Emission Factors (g/L)		
	CO <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>2</sub> O
<b>Light Fuel Oil</b>			
Electric Utilities	2830	0.18	0.031
Industrial	2830	0.006	0.031
Producer Consumption	2830	0.006	0.031
Residential	2830	0.026	0.006
Forestry, Construction, Public Administration, and Commercial/Institutional	2830	0.026	0.031
<b>Heavy Fuel Oil</b>			
Electric Utilities	3080	0.034	0.064
Industrial	3080	0.12	0.064
Producer Consumption	3080	0.12	0.064
Residential, Forestry, Construction, Public Administration, and Commercial/Institutional	3080	0.057	0.064
<b>Kerosene</b>			
Electric Utilities	2550	0.006	0.031
Industrial	2550	0.006	0.031
Producer Consumption	2550	0.006	0.031
Residential	2550	0.026	0.006
Forestry, Construction, Public Administration, and Commercial/Institutional	2550	0.026	0.031
<b>Diesel</b>	2730	0.133	0.4

**APPENDIX B:**  
**Relevant Assurance Factors**

### **Development of Assurance Factors**

The assurance factor accounts for the average risk of reversal across all afforestation projects within a given region. Technical experts and the materials listed in the bibliography were consulted to assess both the range of values and to explore the relationships across regions, tree species and risk types. There were significant gaps in the availability of conclusive and specifically relevant scientific and insurance data to establish definitive assurance factor.

Based on an analysis of the available data, the range of data available provided a reasonable basis for concluding that over a creditable life of an afforestation project, considering cross-subsidy effects across regions and species, that a reasonable assurance factor would be greater than 90%. As the effects of many of these events would be captured in the assessment of above ground biomass accumulation over a given period, this appears to be a reasonable factor. However, there was not sufficient data to support refining this estimate above this level at this time, and as such, a 90% assurance factor was deemed reasonable.

This factor shall be applied in the application of this protocol.

Further research would be useful in supporting this assessment of an assurance factor and in refining the values by ecozone and tree species.

#### *Primary Source Materials*

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