

Dairy Digester Research and Development Program Phase II

Summary of Public Comments

Public Comment Period: March 4, 2015 - March 18, 2015

Comment	CDFA Response
Is there a thought that this money could go to improve the GIS and other systems to speed up or make readily available interconnection studies?	Projects funded from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund must demonstrate GHG reductions as part of the proposed work. This aspect of the research priorities may not be directly serviced through GIS-based studies.
Will the project term continue for several years after receipt of awards? Two years is insufficient time to conduct agronomic research which must ideally be conducted for several cropping seasons. Project time is also influenced by the focus of the program on organic soil amendments as they take a longer time for uptake and assimilation.	Project term extended to two years and seven months. Grant funds may not be expended prior to August 1, 2015 or after February 28, 2018.
Since digesters may not be an ideal manure management strategy for different kinds of dairies, will the program fund research comparing management practices other than dairy digesters?	The program will consider comparison of GHG emission reductions of different manure management practices (e.g. scrape or lagoon systems) with digesters. Please see '4. Research Priorities' in the Request for Proposals for details.
Is the program framework available for comment a copy of the public meeting presentation, or is there a more detailed document?	The public meeting presentation was the only document available for comment during March 4-18, 2015.
Since awards will be announced in July 2015, which is the start of the next fiscal year - would this present any issues with regards to use of funds?	CDFA has two fiscal years post encumbrance to expend the funds, therefore, there are no foreseen issues with awards announced in July 2015.