

## Corporate policy

### North American offset registry accepts Mexican credits

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#### **Mexican landfill and methane projects can now generate credits for the Climate Action Reserve.**

The California-based offset registry announced Monday it has adopted two project design blueprints that allow landfill and agriculture methane destruction projects in Mexican states to generate carbon credits that meet its quality standards.

The protocols could potentially boost the number of international offsets available in the US as it gears up for a mandatory national carbon market.

“Offset credits from international greenhouse gas reduction projects are going to be essential to the US reaching its national climate change goals,” said Linda Adams, secretary of California’s Environmental Protection Agency, in a release.

The Waxman-Markey bill, climate change legislation that passed in the House of Representatives on 26 June, allows emitters to use one billion domestic and one billion international offsets to meet their greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Mexico is expected to be a preferred host country for emissions-reducing offset projects for the voluntary and compliance carbon markets in North America.

The Western Climate Initiative, a regional emissions trading system consisting of seven US states and four Canadian provinces, will accept credits from Mexican offset projects, according to its market design.

The Climate Action Reserve is also looking at developing a reforestation protocol for Mexican forests.

In addition to the Mexican protocols, the voluntary offset standard is also looking at developing protocols for Canadian projects, but has set no release date, said a spokeswoman.

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