



The Nitrous oxide Emission Reduction Protocol (NERP) is intended to reduce on-farm emissions of nitrous oxide (N₂O) in a quantifiable, credible and verifiable way that would allow farmers to earn carbon credits. Currently, it is being readied for introduction in Alberta, the first jurisdiction in North America to actively regulate Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and establish a regulatory carbon trading market.

Nutrient Management

NERP is based on applying fertilizer using Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are part of the 4R nutrient stewardship system. This system encourages farmers to apply fertilizer products using the *Right Source @ Right Rate, Right Time, Right Place*[™] framework. Farmers can participate in the NERP by implementing a suitable management level from basic through to intermediate, or even advanced. NERP supports the three pillars of sustainable development, namely environmental, social and economic sustainability.

The Canadian Fertilizer industry is asking members of Parliament to encourage Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to:

- **Promote the Right Source @ Right Rate, Right Time, Right Place[™] (4R) Nutrient Stewardship framework in its nutrient management policies and communications with farmers, researchers, provinces and other governments**
- **Develop a research partnership with the Canadian Fertilizer Institute focused on reducing greenhouse emissions on Canadian farms by refining the science behind the Nitrous Oxide Emission Reduction Protocol.**

QUICK FACTS

CANADA'S FERTILIZER INDUSTRY...

- Contributes \$7 billion annually to the Canadian economy and employs 12,000
- Canadians
- Has farm gate sales valued at about \$3 billion a year



The Benefits of NERP

For Farmers

If they meet the criteria outlines in NERP they could qualify for an offset credit equal to \$5-\$10 per acre. They would also be improving the economics of their farm while doing the right thing in reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions.

For Industry

Once implemented, NERP would be a source of creditable and secure offset credits. These, of course, could be purchased or traded in the growing carbon marketplace.

For Government

A tool like NERP could help governments meet their Greenhouse Gas emission reduction commitments.

For Environmental Groups

The opportunity to partner with the agricultural community to work towards the same goal – reduction of Greenhouse Gas emissions, responsibly.

For Researchers

NERP is a science-based transformational tool. Aside from providing all other stakeholders with a solution to their needs, NERP also creates opportunities for researchers to advance nitrous oxide science.



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