Draft Regulation

Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2)

Afforestation and reforestation projects eligible for the issuance of offset credits on privately-owned land —Amendment

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting afforestation and reforestation projects eligible for the issuance of offset credits on privately-owned land, appearing below, may be made by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation amends the Regulation respecting afforestation and reforestation projects eligible for the issuance of offset credits on privately-owned land (chapter Q-2, r. 35.3.1) to introduce greater flexibility in the verification process while maintaining a rigorous approach. In particular, the draft Regulation allows a member of the Ordre des ingénieurs forestiers du Québec to act as team leader in cases where the verifier designated by the verification organization is not a member of that order. In addition, the draft Regulation introduces an attestation by the team leader to guarantee that all forestry-related aspects of a project comply with the standards and principles of forest science. Moreover, the draft Regulation adds a stipulation to ensure compliance with the Forest Engineers Act (chapter I-10).

Further information on the draft Regulation may be obtained by contacting Mourad Ziani, coordinator, Direction adjointe des opérations du marché, Direction générale de la réglementation carbone et des données d'émission, Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs, édifice Marie-Guyart, 675, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, boîte 30, Québec (Québec) G1R 5V7; email: mourad.ziani@environnement.gouv.qc.ca.

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to Nicolas Garceau, deputy director, Direction adjointe des opérations du marché, Direction générale de la réglementation carbone et des données d'émission, Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs, édifice Marie-Guyart, 675, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, boîte 30, Québec (Québec) G1R 5V7; email: nicolas.garceau@environnement.gouv.qc.ca.

BENOIT CHARETTE Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting afforestation and reforestation projects eligible for the issuance of offset credits on privately-owned land

Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2, s. 46.8.2).

1. The Regulation respecting afforestation and reforestation projects eligible for the issuance of offset credits on privately-owned land (chapter Q-2, r. 35.3.1) is amended in section 87 by adding the following:

"Despite the first paragraph, if no member of the order is available to exercise the function of verifier when a promoter wants to entrust the verification of a project plan and project report to a verification organization in accordance with section 85, that organization may designate a person who is not a member of the order to act as verifier, provided the organization also designates, when the verification team is created, a member of that order who will act as the team leader.

In the case provided for in the second paragraph, the leader of the verification team must attest, in a document attached to the verification report of a project plan and project report, that

(1) the team leader participated in all steps of the verification;

(2) the team leader examined all data and documents pertaining to the forestry-related aspects of the project;

(3) the team leader issued an opinion on the compliance of the project; and

(4) the notice of compliance was taken into consideration in the project verification notice given to the promoter.

The notice of compliance referred to in the second paragraph must be attached to the verification report of a project plan and project report.".

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2. Section 90 is amended by adding the following at the end:

"All verifications referred to in sections 93 to 99 must be carried out in accordance with the Forest Engineers Act (chapter I-10).".

3. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

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