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## **CPRS doesn't work for agriculture**

The NSW Farmers' Association does not support the introduction of a Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) under the current circumstances.

However, the Association does welcome the Liberal Party's proposed amendments in relation to agriculture, and accepts it's a small step in the right direction.

NSW Farmers' Association President Charles Armstrong said that the Association has been calling for the permanent exclusion of agricultural emissions from coverage under the CPRS. The Association strongly continues this call.

"We have been very clear that the CPRS doesn't work for agriculture," Mr Armstrong said.

Under the Opposition's proposal, agriculture would not be required to hold permits to cover farm emissions but would be able to create and claim credits for carbon sequestered by soil, pasture and crops.

"The Coalition's proposal to establish an agricultural offset scheme, in line with the United States model, would be an effective way to help fund emissions abatement in the farm sector."

However, Mr Armstrong says that the Association continues to have deep concerns about the practicality of an Emissions Trading Scheme in any form at this time.

"No CPRS will be acceptable to agriculture unless the current Kyoto accounting rules are changed to enable the inclusion of all farm carbon sequestration.

"There must be a commitment from Government to negotiate for a sensible accounting protocol.

"We look forward to working with Federal Government and Opposition with the aim of developing practical alternatives to an emissions trading scheme," Mr Armstrong concluded.

### **Contact:**

**Ellen McNamara (Media Officer) 0429 990 218**

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