

ABOUT THE LOW CARBON MARINA INITIATIVE

Climate change is emerging as an issue of great significance to the marina industry. Increased coastal rainfall activity, rising sea levels, and increased cyclone and storm intensity are potentially damaging to our marine environment.

The Low Carbon Marina Initiative is a national, voluntary certification program for marinas, yacht clubs, boat clubs, slipways and other associated industry operators across Australia. The initiative is designed to support the marine industry's endeavours in protecting our coastal and inland waterways from the threat of climate change. The initiative is jointly established by the Marina Industries Association of Australia and the Carbon Reduction Institute.

The Low Carbon Marina Initiative provides a simple certification system to enhance the sustainability of marinas as well as provide marina operators with real cost savings and marketing benefits.

WHO SHOULD GET INVOLVED?

Whether you operate a marina, yacht club or boatyard, or whether you operate a business within a marina, you should take action on climate change and get involved in the Low Carbon Marina Initiative.

Make use of this unique chance to take active leadership on one of the world's most pressing issues whilst improving your public image and environmental profile. The Low Carbon Marina Initiative is for everyone – it is easy to implement, understandable, and rewarding.



WHAT IS A CARBON CREDIT AND WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

A carbon credit is like a certificate or license that represents the reduction of 1 Tonne of Carbon Dioxide from our atmosphere. The sale of carbon credits helps fund projects that reduce or prevent the emission of greenhouse gases from entering our atmosphere.

The purchase of carbon credits can be used to offset the greenhouse gas impact of your marine industry site. For example, a site that had an annual emissions impact of 10 Tonnes of greenhouse gas could offset this by purchasing 10 carbon credits.

Through the Low Carbon Marina Initiative, marina owners can purchase carbon credits from renewable energy, energy efficiency and composting projects. These projects rely on revenue from carbon credit sales to fund their ongoing operations.

HOW DO I BECOME A LOW CARBON MARINA?

There are 3 steps to becoming a Low Carbon Marina:

1. Assessing your marina's carbon footprint.

Includes all greenhouse gases emitted through the operation of your site.

2. Reducing your carbon emissions.

A sustainability consultant will visit your site and work with you to devise options to reduce your marina's impact. This will include pursuit of energy efficiency, renewable energy, water saving measures and more.

3. Offsetting your unavoidable carbon emissions by purchasing carbon credits.

The process is supported through the provision of a detailed carbon audit and sustainability plan that contains photos and guidance in implementing all identified emission reduction options. You will also be provided with logos, flags, posters and certificates that enable you to market your involvement in the initiative.

