



## EXPLANATORY PAPER - OUTLINE OF THE **LOW CARBON MARINA INITIATIVE**

### SUBJECT: THE AUSTRALIAN LOW CARBON MARINA INITIATIVE

The Marina Industries Association of Australia (MIAA) recognises climate change is emerging as a major issue for the marina industry. Increased coastal rainfall activity, rising sea levels, and increased storm and cyclone intensity are all potentially damaging to our marine environment.

The Low Carbon Marina Initiative is a result of MIAA's commitment to take positive action to help reduce carbon emissions. The Initiative is a national certification program for marinas, yacht clubs, boat clubs, slipways and other associated industry operators across Australia. The Initiative is administered by the Carbon Reduction Institute (CRI) in conjunction with MIAA.

Marinas participating in the Low Carbon Marina Initiative engage the Sydney based CRI to calculate their climate change impact with the aim to define and establish operational boundaries to account for their direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions (scope 1, scope 2, scope 3) and then reduce and offset those emissions. Based on their individual objectives and the result of their calculations, marinas can choose to become either LowCO<sub>2</sub> or NoCO<sub>2</sub> certified.

The process includes a CRI representative visiting the respective site to determine its climate change contribution on location while using the opportunity to gather the data necessary to undertake the calculations, i.e. electricity bills, gas bills, fuel used, amount of waste produced, staff commuting distances, and a list of assets and expenses.

Subsequently, the marina's carbon footprint is calculated based on the aspired certification level including emissions released onsite from burning fossil fuels and from gas leakages, from electricity consumption, staff travel and waste, and emissions from the production of products and services used and sold by the marina.

The emissions from these sources are calculated using published life cycle data, an input/output analysis of the Australian economy and emissions factors provided by the Australian Department of Climate Change.

The marina is then encouraged to take up feasible measures aimed at reducing its carbon footprint such as implementing energy efficiency measures, installing solar panels or wind turbines, implementing waste management techniques (e.g. recycling) and optimizing its supply chains.

Furthermore, the marina pays for unavoidable emissions to be either completely offset (for NoCO<sub>2</sub> certification) or partially offset (for LowCO<sub>2</sub> certification) using carbon credits that are certified Greenhouse Friendly™ by the Department of Climate Change. This ensures that when an offset is purchased, it represents an emissions reduction which is real, permanent and goes beyond business as usual.



The carbon credits the marinas use to offset their emissions are sourced from the South Metropolitan Regional Council's (SMRC) Landfill Diversion Program in Western Australia. The SMRC is a joint government authority of seven local councils in the southern part of metropolitan Perth. It is responsible for developing environmentally sustainable waste management solutions and climate change abatement measures for the communities of Canning, Cockburn, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville and Rockingham.

The SMRC's waste processing facility diverts from landfill the household rubbish of more than 350,000 residents. When the disposal of organic matter to landfill is avoided by composting, methane emissions are abated as the waste is broken down in the presence of oxygen. This reduces the amount of methane, which is 21 times more potent than CO<sub>2</sub>, produced.

Through accurate and thorough calculations of emissions from a broad emissions boundary and the subsequent purchasing of verified, real and permanent emission offsets, marinas then have a valid claim to a low carbon or no carbon impact on climate change. Marinas promote this claim by displaying the NoCO<sub>2</sub> or LowCO<sub>2</sub> certification logos, associated promotion material and the Low Carbon Marina Initiative flag.

For enquires please contact CRI on 02 9439 9990 or [info@noco2.com.au](mailto:info@noco2.com.au)

Enquiries to MIAA can be made to [colin@marinas.net.au](mailto:colin@marinas.net.au) or ring Colin on 02 9439 5806