# **2013 Carbon Neutral Action Report**

**BC Oil and Gas Commission** 







#### About the

## BC Oil and Gas Commission

The Commission is the provincial, single-window regulatory agency with responsibilities for regulating oil and gas activities in B.C., including exploration, development, provincial pipeline transportation, processing and reclamation. The Commission's core roles include reviewing and assessing applications for industry activities, consulting with First Nations, ensuring industry complies with provincial legislation and partnering with other responsible agencies. The public interest is served through protecting public safety, conserving the environment and ensuring equitable access to natural gas and petroleum resources.

For general information about the Commission, please visit www.bcogc.ca or phone 250-794-5200.



#### Mission

We regulate oil and gas activities for the benefit of British Columbians.

We achieve this by:

- Protecting public safety,
- Respecting those affected by oil and gas activities,
- Conserving the environment, and
- Supporting resource development.

Through the active engagement of our stakeholders and partners, we provide fair and timely decisions within our regulatory framework.

We support opportunities for employee growth, recognize individual and group contributions, demonstrate accountability at all levels, and instill pride and confidence in our organization.

We serve with a passion for excellence.

Vision

To be the leading oil and gas regulator in Canada.

Values

Respectful Accountable Effective Efficient Responsive Transparent

## Top Three Actions Taken Towards Carbon Neutrality in 2013

1. The Commission's largest office, housing 125 employees in Fort St. John moved into a new LEED Gold building in September, 2013. The office adheres to government standards to ensure office space per employee is optimized. The new building utilizes a passive solar building technique called a glass Trombe wall for energy efficiency, allowing the cold air to absorb the sun heat before entering the air handling unit. The air therefore requires less heating to bring it to an optimal indoor temperature. The new building also has a robust recycling program as well as automated lighting and heating features. The new building has improved electrical outlets for vehicles that only turn on at -13 degrees Celsius and only draw energy for seven minutes at a time. There are also eight electric car charging stations.

2. Office improvements have taken place in the Victoria location as well, which is housed in two LEED Platinum Buildings at Dockside Green. The heating and cooling system has undergone maintenance and improvements to help with energy reduction and the fans are being replaced to improve their efficiency. These actions should help with energy reductions in the coming year. The Kelowna office is also moving to a new floor in an existing building. The space will be renovated to the LEED Gold standard, utilizing daylight and optimal space per employee.

**3.** The third action taken is an effort to reduce paper consumption across the Commission. The Fort St. John office previously had 16 fax machines that printed upon receiving a fax. It now has four fax machines. These machines have now been streamlined and faxes go to an email inbox where they can then be forwarded to the recipient by email instead of printed. All promotional faxes can now be read and deleted instead of printed, therefore reducing paper consumption. This email fax system will also be put in place in Victoria this year.

New Fort St. John Building



## 2013 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In the 2013 calendar year, the Commission emitted 442 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent ( $CO_2e$ ) from sources covered under the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation.

Offsets Applied to Become Carbon Neutral in 2013

The Commission has purchased offsets for 406 tonnes of  $CO_2e$  to achieve carbon neutrality, as required by the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation using the web-based reporting system SMARTTool. The 406 tonnes of  $CO_2e$  were for 434 offsets in 2013 and the reduction of 28 tonnes of  $CO_2e$  from the total emitted was a 2012 adjustment in SMARTTool.

## **Future Plans for Emissions Reduction Activities**

The Commission will continue to reduce emissions by ensuring all new space allocations and renovations are at least at a LEED Gold standard. There will be further efforts to reduce paper use, maximize recycling and composting programs and use video conferencing technology for meetings instead of travelling when possible. The Commission monitors its energy consumption and maintains its HVAC systems for optimal performance. The vehicle fleet has transitioned and no longer has any diesel vehicles and all new vehicles are flex-fuel or hybrid so require less fuel to operate.

# Contact

This is the fifth Carbon Neutral Action Report prepared and submitted by the BC Oil and Gas Commission. This report was prepared in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act adopted in November 2007 by the Ministry of Environment's Climate Action Secretariat.

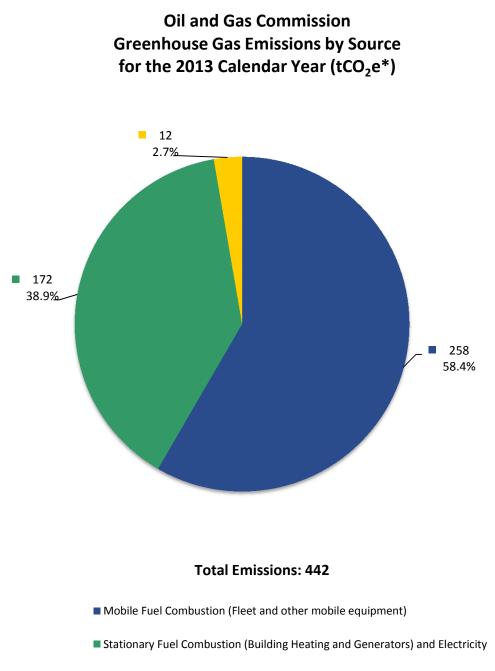
This report is updated annually with new information and statistics. A current copy is available on the Commission website at www.bcogc.ca.

For specific questions or enquiries regarding this report, please contact:

Chelsea Carlson Manager, Corporate Planning and Reporting Chelsea.Carlson@bcogc.ca

# **Executive Sign-off**

Paul Jeakins Commissioner and CEO



Supplies (Paper)

#### Offsets Applied to Become Carbon Neutral in 2013 (Generated May 21, 2014 2:12 PM)

Total offsets required: 434. Total offset investment: \$10,850. Emissions which do not require offsets: 8 \*\*

\*Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) is a standard unit of measure in which all types of greenhouse gases are expressed based on their global warming potential relative to carbon dioxide.

\*\* Under the *Carbon Neutral Government Regulation* of the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act,* all emissions from the sources listed above must be reported. As outlined in the regulation, some emissions do not require offsets.