

CARBON REDUCTION & ELECTRIFICATION FOR TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT

What is emission reduction?

Emission reduction refers to minimisation of carbon emissions generated by an individual, organisation, or country. Carbon Dioxide and other greenhouse gases are responsible for trapping heat and warming the planet. Therefore, they are a key focus when it comes to fighting the climate crisis [Reference: [Our Trace](#)].

Why electrification?

Aotearoa New Zealand is in a strong position to address emissions in the energy and industry sectors due to its high levels of renewable electricity. Decarbonising the energy sector offers numerous benefits, such as reducing emissions across various sectors, decreasing dependence on global fossil fuel markets, lowering costs through energy efficiency and clean technologies, and creating high-wage job opportunities. [Reference: [Ministry for the Environment](#)]

CALCULATE AND UNDERSTAND YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Measure Your Carbon Footprint

Use tools like the [Genless's Climate Action box](#) and learn what makes up the carbon footprint of your business. Alternatively, refer to the [DQ member capability environmental page](#) and learn about some of the NZ based organisations that can support you in counting and verifying your emissions.

Learn About Your Emissions Profile

Analyse your emissions and energy data to identify the primary sources of your carbon emissions. This step helps you understand where to focus your reduction efforts.

IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES TO REDUCE EMISSIONS

- Install energy-efficient lighting, heating, and cooling systems, and enhance building insulation to reduce energy consumption.
- Consider installing solar panels if you own the building. Local commercial solar businesses like [Queenstown Solar](#) and [Infinite Energy](#) can assist.
- Transition to electric vehicles and explore options like [Polestar](#), or [UBCO](#) for staff transport.
- Support your staff with a [Bee Card](#) to catch public transport to work.
- Consider getting on-site charging stations like [Chargenet](#) to support your guests with charging their EV's while at your activity.
- [Source locally](#) where possible to reduce food mileage, emissions, and waste.
- [Engage with your suppliers](#) on their sustainability practices and prioritise suppliers who are actively reducing their waste and emissions.
- Look for ways that you can reduce your waste, this could be through engaging with [Wastebusters for a waste audit](#), Or reviewing [QLDC's waste minimisation guide and resources](#). Engage with [Kiwi Harvest](#) for your eatable left over food, or Michael Sly from [Waste to Wilderness](#) for your organic waste. Consider going [single-use cup free](#).
- Explore green loan options from your bank or [apply for funding through EECA](#).
- Obtain New Zealand and/or global [sustainability certifications](#) to showcase your efforts to guests.

SET REDUCTION TARGETS

Establish clear and measurable goals for reducing your carbon footprint.

Monitor your progress regularly and adjust your strategies to meet your targets effectively.

By starting to implement these strategies, tourism activity providers in Queenstown Lakes District can significantly reduce their carbon footprint, moving towards a carbon zero visitor economy by 2030, and enhancing their appeal to environmentally conscious travelers.

For more information or to discuss any of the above information, please feel free to contact Destination Queenstown's Sustainability lead; [Micaela McLeod](#).