

BC Energy Regulator 2025 Climate Change Accountability Report

Title: 2025 Climate Change Accountability Report

Organization: BC Energy Regulator

PART 1. Legislative Reporting Requirements

Declaration statement: This PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 summarizes our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2025 to minimize our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2026 and beyond.

Emission Reductions: Actions & Plans

A. Stationary Sources (e.g., buildings, power generation)

BCER's stationary sources experienced a significant increase in tCO₂e Greenhouse Gas emissions compared to 2024. This was primarily due to extreme heatwave in Victoria being the 3rd highest on record & Kelowna which was characterized as a "super-hot" and extended, drier-than normal season driven by strong high-pressure ridges. Kelowna experienced severe, long-lasting heat, with September 2025 being the warmest on record.

Although the BCER is a small emitter, the organization consistently seeks opportunities to reduce emissions further from stationary sources. Key actions include:

- Implementing work-from-home options with an in-office workstation sign-out system to reduce the carbon impact on a growing workforce.
- Investigating incidents of increased energy usage to identify inefficiencies in building systems and prioritize repairs or improvements.
- Continuing to explore contractors that incorporate green technologies to reduce embedded emissions in essential repairs or improvements.

- Leasing office spaces that meet LEED Gold Standards.

Through these efforts, BCER remains committed to sustainability and supports the transition to a low-carbon economy.

B. Mobile Sources (e.g., fleet vehicles, off-road/portable equipment)

In 2025, BCER decreased mobile emissions by 5% by removing Off-Road-Vehicles from our fleet. In addition, the BCER disposed of nine trucks, three heavy-duty, and six light-duty trucks and replaced them with five light-duty and two heavy-duty vehicles reducing the fleet by two light-duty and one heavy-duty vehicles which attributed to the reduction in emissions.

The BCER is currently unable to transition to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) in Northern BC office locations due to limited charging infrastructure and challenging winter conditions. Additionally, field staff working in remote areas with diverse seasonal demands rely on gasoline trucks for their proven reliability, ensuring safety during field operations.

BCER continues to actively monitor advancements in energy-efficient vehicle technologies and remains committed to adopting solutions that align with operational needs, budgetary considerations, and environmental goals. This commitment highlights BCER's dedication to sustainability and ongoing effort to implement impactful changes in transportation practices.

C. Paper Consumption

BCER is committed to minimizing paper consumption and reducing its carbon footprint through a variety of initiatives that support a more paperless work environment, including:

- Increasing awareness of printing costs and promoting responsible usage by displaying the cost per print.
- Defaulting printers to double-sided and black and white printing to decrease paper waste and ink cartridge replacements.
- Requiring printer authorization before print jobs are released, allowing users to reconsider the necessity of printing and cancel unnecessary print jobs.
- Providing employees with dual monitors to support the review of online documents and reduce the need for printing.
- Utilizing cloud-based records management and online document accessibility, reducing the need for printing and enabling access from any location in Canada.

BCER currently uses 30% recycled paper. Efforts to explore higher recycled-content options have been limited by concerns related to print quality. BCER remains committed to maintaining printer defaults and monitoring usage patterns and analytics to identify further opportunities to reduce paper consumption. These strategies demonstrate BCER's ongoing commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility.

D. Fugitive Sources⁵ (e.g., heat pumps, refrigerators, air conditioners)

BCER manages fugitive emissions from HVAC and refrigeration equipment through preventative maintenance, operational controls, and equipment selection.

All HVAC systems across BCER facilities are maintained through regular preventative maintenance schedules designed to identify and address performance issues early, including potential refrigerant leaks. Routine servicing supports system efficiency and reduces the risk of fugitive emissions. While BCER does not currently use a centralized refrigerant tracking system, ongoing maintenance activities provide regular monitoring of equipment condition and performance.

Operationally, HVAC systems in the Victoria and Fort St. John offices are programmed to operate at reduced capacity overnight and on weekends, minimizing overall system runtime and associated emission risks.

Looking ahead, BCER will continue to prioritize energy-efficient systems and consider low global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants, where feasible, in future equipment purchases and upgrades.

⁵ Fugitive sources: sources of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from unintentional releases (leaks) of gases, such as hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants from equipment

2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary Table

BC Energy Regulator 2025 GHG Emissions and Offsets Summary	
GHG emissions for the period January 1 - December 31, 2025	
Total BioCO ₂	7.94
Total Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	398
Total Offsets (tCO ₂ e)	390
Adjustments to Offset Required GHG Emissions Reported in Prior Years	
Total Offsets Adjustment (tCO ₂ e)	.42
Grand Total Offsets for the 2025 Reporting Year	
Grand Total Offsets to be Retired for 2025 Reporting Year (tCO ₂ e)	390
Offset Investment (\$)	\$9,750.00

Retirement of Offsets:

In accordance with the requirements of the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, **BC Energy Regulator (the Organization)** is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2025 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years (if applicable). The Organization hereby agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions (**the Ministry**) ensuring that these offsets are retired on the Organization's behalf, the Organization will pay within 30 days, the associated invoice to be issued by the Ministry in an amount equal to \$25 per tonne of offsets retired on its behalf plus GST.

PART 2. Public Sector Climate Leadership

BCER plays a vital role as a trusted partner of various government entities, including the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions, in facilitating and promoting the energy transition within the province. Despite being classified as a small emitter, BCER actively participates in these initiatives to foster dialogue and advance shared objectives.

2A. Climate Risk Management

Climate risk is a key driver in the BCER risk management framework. Climate risk considerations are embedded in statutory decisions and regulatory oversight activities related to energy resource activities, safety, and responsible environmental practices. For example, changing snowfall and precipitation patterns drive water use authorizations and requirements for in-stream works. A considerable focus is placed on methane emissions reduction management, including emissions monitoring and reporting. BCER's emergency preparedness and emergency response requirements include climate-informed risk assessments and operational exercises.

BCER has performed assessments and adjusted operational procedures for field work in the event of extreme climate events to ensure staff safety and continuity of critical processes. By staying vigilant and responsive to climate-related challenges, BCER demonstrates its dedication to sustainable practices and resilience in the face of a diverse provincial geography.

BCER's business continuity management program periodically assesses risks to operations, including risks from extreme weather events. Event scenarios for crisis management and business continuity exercises include climate risk.

2B. Additional Sustainability Initiatives

BCER's Strategic Plan emphasizes sustainability as a key objective, aligning with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and the [CleanBC](#) plan. Key Objectives in our plan include Advance the Energy Transition and Low Carbon Economy, as well as Stewardship in the Public Interest. This includes a commitment to clean up 100% of orphan wells by 2030, aligned with CleanBC, through the decommissioning of wells and infrastructure to eliminate emissions. In 2025, BCER became a single-window regulator for wind and solar projects, under the Renewable Energy Projects (Streamlined Permitting) Act (REPA), streamlining regulatory oversight to support efficient, timely decisions while maintaining strong regulatory standards. Through collaboration with First Nations, local communities, and the renewable energy sector, a comprehensive regulatory Framework is now in place to support BC's transition to a low-carbon energy future.

2C. Success Stories

The BCER has taken the approach to consider climate risk in the analysis and assessment of all other risks managed by the organization. For instance, the Occupational Health and Safety Program conducted a number of specialized risk assessments, in which various weather events and their impacts were considered, leading to enhanced procedures for field employee safety. Similarly, the Emergency Management Program, which ensures regulated companies are prepared for an effective response in the case of an operational emergency, requires that Emergency Response Plans include provisions for climate-related events, including equipment, training, exercises, communications and reporting.

As B.C. has experienced a significant drought impacts for the past several years, BCER's water use management program has worked extensively with Environment Canada and other provincial and federal flow monitoring agencies to restrict water use for energy resource activities during critical months and in environmentally sensitive areas to protect fish habitat and riparian ecosystems. The data collected and lessons learned to date help inform effective water management practices going forward.

Executive Sign-off:



May 25, 2026

Signature

Date

Name: Michelle Carr

Title: Chief Executive Officer