

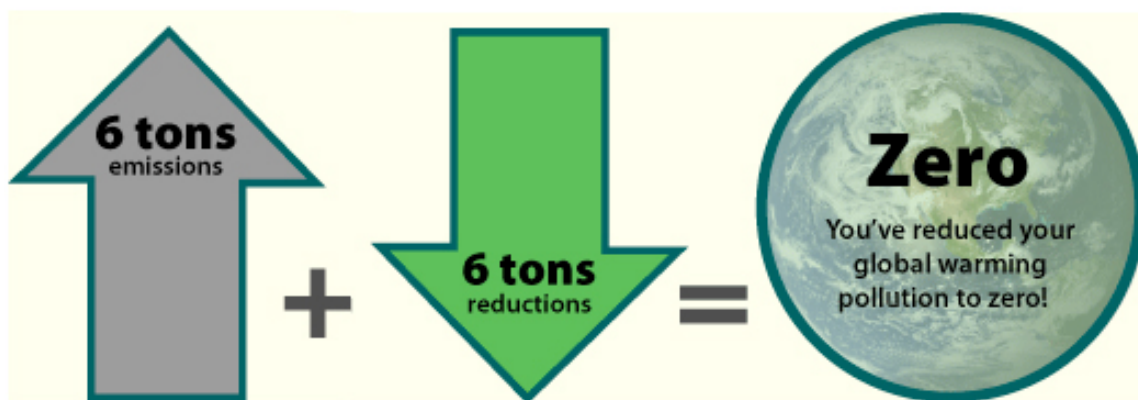


WHAT IS OFFSETTING AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Each time we get on an airplane, drive our car, or turn on a light, carbon dioxide (CO₂) is added into the atmosphere. CO₂ is a greenhouse gas released into the atmosphere when fossil fuels such as oil, gas and coal are burnt.

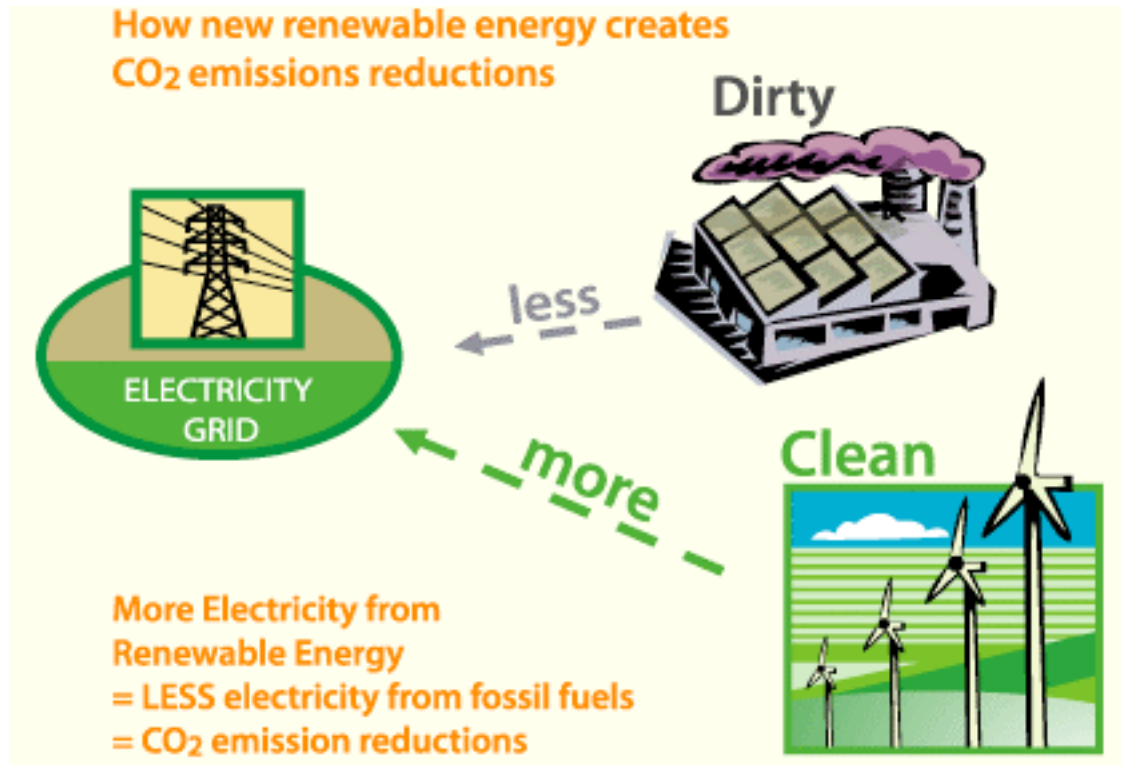
Everyone has a carbon footprint and while we should all look for ways to reduce that footprint through numerous energy conserving methods from carpooling to cleaning our dryer vents after every load, there will still be that remaining footprint that results from the activities that comprise our lives.

By adding an offsetting component to an energy conserving lifestyle, we essentially pay someone to reduce CO₂ in the atmosphere by the same amount that our activities add, thus 'neutralizing' or 'balancing' the CO₂ we've added. Offsetting is not a new concept. We practice offsetting in our everyday lives; going to the gym for an extra long workout the day after Thanksgiving's feast, cutting down on dinners out to balance the increased loan payment your new car has brought to the checkbook, planning special family time in the evenings and weekends to catch up with your kids after a busy work week. The concept is the same for carbon offsetting.



Native Energy, out of Charlotte Vermont is just one of a growing number of organizations that offers individuals and companies “green” offset options. “We offer our customers buy-in on projects that reduce global warming pollution by reducing the amount of power generated by burning fossil fuels,” states Tom Boucher, President and Chief Executive Officer of Native Energy. “The result is that for every kWh generated

by a renewable generator, one kWh less is generated by fossil fuel plants. By helping build new clean and renewable energy projects customers reduce CO₂ pollution by helping change how our power is made.”



Some renewable energy projects, such as Native Energy’s family farm methane projects, reduce global warming pollution by reducing the amount of fossil fuels the farms themselves use for heat and cooling, or by preventing emissions of methane gas from manure stored in lagoons.