



Cool Climate Concrete (C³) Program

C³ is an innovative greenhouse gas offset program paying concrete producers for reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by replacing portland cement with supplementary cementitious materials during concrete production. These producers receive **\$4 per metric ton of avoided CO₂ emissions**.

\$800,000 in Funding Available

C³ is one of several offset projects sponsored by the Climate Trust, an Oregon nonprofit, who is currently providing up to \$800,000 in offset funding through September 2012 to verify 200,000 metric tons of avoided CO₂ emissions.

Who Can Participate

Ready mixed concrete manufacturers and concrete products manufacturers who purchase portland cement and supplementary cementitious materials (SCMs) from suppliers to blend their own cement during concrete mixing are eligible to participate.

SCMs Eligible Under C³

- Fly Ash (ASTM C618)
- Slag (ASTM C989 Grade 100 or 120)
- Silica Fume (ASTM C1240)
- Rice Hull Ash
- Cement Kiln Dust

Why SCM Concrete

The majority of emissions related to concrete are from portland cement production; nearly one metric ton of CO₂ is produced for every metric ton of portland cement produced. When producers replace portland cement with SCMs qualified under C³, they are effectively reducing CO₂ emissions, thereby creating offsets.

How Offsets Are Determined

When actual emissions are less than baseline emissions for a quarter due to reducing portland cement use, emissions are avoided and are equal to the difference between the two. Each metric ton of avoided emissions translates to one offset, and quarterly incentive payments of \$4 per offset are paid to concrete producers.

How to Participate

Companies enroll in C³ by signing a Program Participant Contract and a Transfer and Disclaimer Form. Participants then provide 3 years of historical cement usage, SCM usage and concrete production data to establish quarterly baseline cement to concrete ratios used to determine company-specific quarterly baseline emissions. Similar data is provided on an ongoing quarterly basis to determine actual quarterly emissions. All participant data is kept confidential.

Participant Benefits

By incentivizing the replacement of portland cement in concrete mixes, C³ helps concrete producers:

- **Reduce mix costs** by rewarding increased replacement of portland cement with SCMs.
- **Lower carbon footprints** by reducing portland cement use per cubic yard.
- **Track sustainability performance** for free, based on actual company data.
- **Gain recognition** for steps taken towards more sustainable practices.

The C³ Program is managed by the sustainable materials consulting firm West Main Consultants. For more information, visit www.coolclimateconcrete.com or contact Lura Schmoyer at schmoyer@wm-consultants.com or 610.683.5730.