

Offsetting Emissions from the Arctic Expedition for Climate Action

The Arctic Expedition would not be possible without emitting greenhouse gases (GHGs). However, emissions from travel are one of the chief sources for which carbon offsets have been developed, since they represent an area that is typically beyond the control of most organizations and individuals. If you want to get there, you have to emit GHGs.

While carbon offsets are not the answer to our climate problems, they are a good way to ensure that the Arctic Expedition for Climate Action causes no net increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. To that end, we've procured carbon credits to offset emissions from our guests' travel to and from Svalbard. Lindblad Expeditions already offsets emissions from the operation of the vessel.

The high-quality offsets we are using for this occasion represent verifiable, permanent, "additional" reductions to emissions. This means that we know where they come from, that they represent reductions that are real and that, because the credits are retired through Clean Air - Cool Planet, the reductions are permanent. The project based reductions are also "additional" because they would not have been made without the revenue from their sale; it was the existence of the offsets market that made the projects from which the offsets originate possible.

For more information on high-quality carbon offsets, we invite you to read the report from Clean Air - Cool Planet at www.cleanair-coolplanet.org/ConsumersGuidetoCarbonOffsets.pdf.

The offsets we have purchased come from a portfolio of sources – just as our travels are to and from a range of different places. They include:

- 80 metric tonnes of European Union Allowances (EUAs). These are emissions allocations that are officially registered under the regulated European Trading System and can be retired to take them permanently out of circulation.
- 100 metric tonnes of Gold Standard certified Voluntary Emission Reductions (VERs) from First Climate's Turkish wind project in Marmara.
- 220 metric tonnes of a combination of *NativeEnergy's* Salish Kootenai tribal-owned certified low impact hydro on the Flathead Reservation in Montana and *NativeEnergy's* Wray School District wind turbine in Colorado. Both of these are forward stream, "help build" offsets that support local community based projects.

NativeEnergy, based in Vermont, enables people and businesses to compensate for their global warming pollution by helping build Native American, farmer-owned, and charitable-purpose renewable energy projects. *NativeEnergy's* mission is to get more wind turbines and other renewable energy systems built through its portfolio of programs offering high-quality carbon offsets.