



RENEWABLE ENERGY AS CARBON OFFSETS

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Community Energy

Building a Clean Energy Future

- Clean energy market pioneer
- Experienced wind and solar developer
- Clean energy supplier to
 - 120,000+ residences and businesses
 - 20 utility green power programs
 - Some of the largest green power purchasers in the nation





- Dedicated to maintaining and growing strong markets for renewable energy in the United States.
- Advocacy and education at federal, state, and regional levels

www.renewablemarketers.org

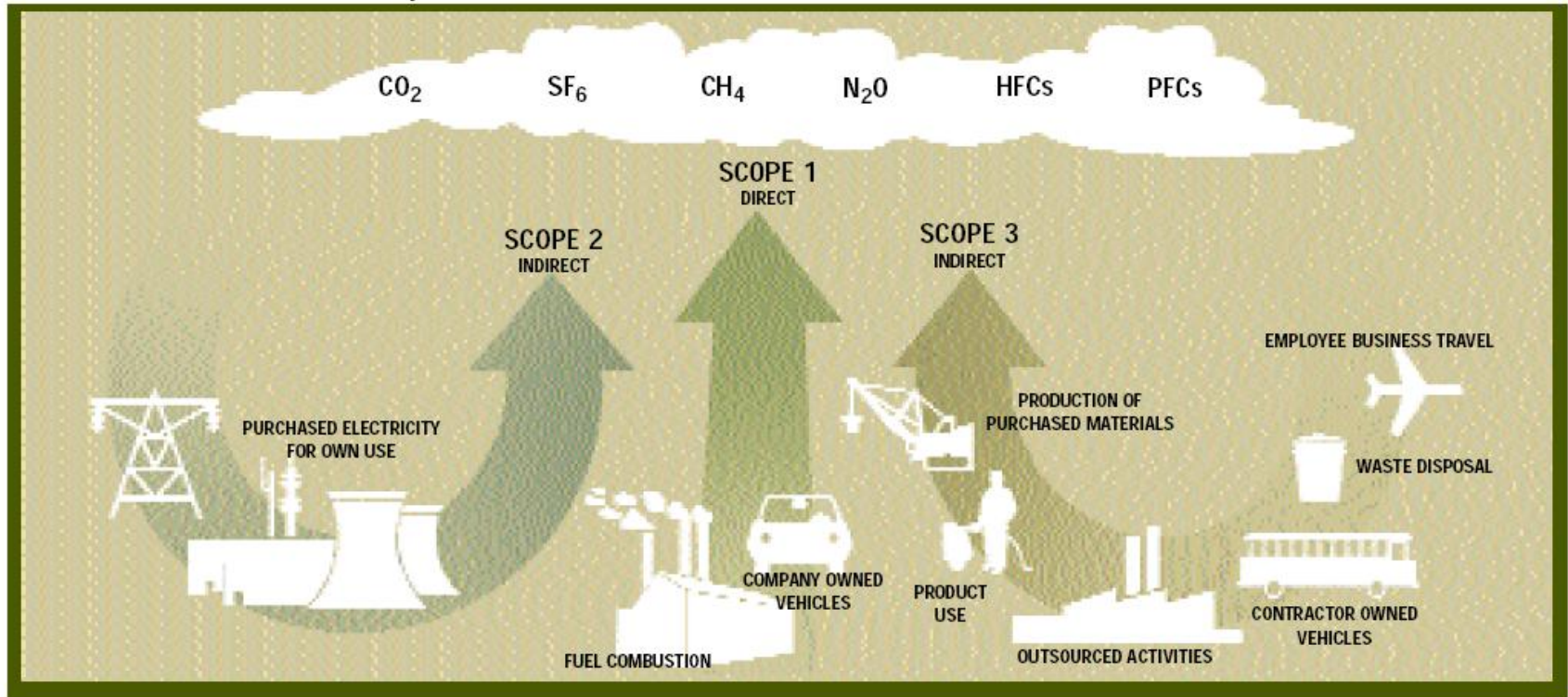


The Question

Do renewable energy projects generate quality carbon reduction products?

Business Inventory Scope 1-2-3

FIGURE 3. Overview of scopes and emissions across a value chain



Adopted from NZBCSD, 2002

* WRI GHG Protocol

*GHG emissions converted to CO₂e

Renewable Energy Certificate

- Proof that 1 MWh of electricity was generated at a renewable energy facility
- Includes all the environmental attributes of renewable energy, i.e., carbon reductions
- Used for Scope II emission reduction

Carbon Offset

- Proof that 1 metric ton of carbon emissions was removed from or prevented from entering the atmosphere
- Wide range of sources: renewable energy, landfill gas destruction, ag methane capture, afforestation, reforestation
- Used for Scope I and III emissions

The Question

Do renewable energy
projects generate quality
carbon reduction products?

The Answer

YES, and

US Renewable Energy Projects should be the preferred source of emission reduction products for Scopes I, II and III for US businesses and consumers.

What Makes a Quality Offset?

- Real
- Permanent
- Additional
- Verifiable



Real

- Robust protocols
 - WRI, Green-e® Climate, Gold Standard, Voluntary Carbon Standard
- Industry standards
 - 10-years of carbon reduction protocols, claims and analysis
- Pre-regulatory questions have subsided

Permanent

- Displaces traditional generation
- Fuel not burned = permanent reduction

Additional

- RECs sold into compliance markets excluded
- Not industry common practice
- RECs including carbon reductions important component of renewable project financing

Verifiable

- RECs well-established tracking mechanism
- Tracking systems in place across the country

US Renewables as Carbon Offsets

- Real
- Permanent
- Additional
- Verifiable



Clean Air

- Displaces fossil fuel generation
- Coal 44.6% of electricity generation (2009)
 - Known to cause asthma, lung disease



Jobs & Economic Growth

25% by 2025

- 297,000 new jobs from renewable energy development
- \$263.4 billion in new capital investment
- \$13.5 billion in income to farmers, ranchers, and rural landowners
- \$11.5 billion in new local tax revenues



Energy Security

- \$64.3 billion in lower electricity and natural gas bills by 2025, growing to \$95.5 billion by 2030*
- Free, homegrown fuel source



Conclusion

- Renewable Energy is the biggest positive change story of our generation
 - Real Carbon Reductions
 - Clean Air
 - Jobs & Economic Growth
 - Energy Security



Questions?

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