AIRPORT CARBON ACCREDITATION · PLAN DOCUMENT

Carbon Management Plan

Our roadmap to cut carbon emissions at San Luis Obispo County Airport **30% by 2033.**

PREPARED BY	TARGET	BASELINE YEAR	REVIEW CYCLE
Dept. of Airports	-30% by 2033	2022	Every 3 years

Start reading ↓

Contact the team

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Purpose of the plan

The County of San Luis Obispo Department of Airports developed this Carbon Management Plan to guide meaningful, measurable cuts to carbon emissions at SBP in line with our target of a 30% reduction by 2033. After this first edition, we'll update the plan at least every three years.

Reviewed and updated at least **every three years**.

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Emissions Reduction Policy Commitment

SBP is committed to the sustainability of its facilities and operations — implementing environmentally responsible solutions that support global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) and mitigate the negative impacts of climate change. This statement serves as our airport management's formal, written carbon-reduction commitment.

In 2023, SBP joined the Airports Council International (ACI) Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) Program — the only institutionally endorsed carbon-management certification standard for airports. We're committed to reducing emissions from sources within our operational control (Scope 1 and Scope 2) through cost-effective initiatives that cut electricity, natural gas, and vehicle-fuel use. In the future, we'll work with tenants and stakeholders to align on Scope 3 reductions.

SCOPE 1

Direct emissions

Greenhouse gases generated by sources SBP owns or controls — boilers, furnaces, and airport-owned vehicles.

SCOPE 2

Indirect emissions

Emissions from the generation of purchased electricity consumed by the airport — physically occurring where that electricity is produced.

OUR GOAL

SBP has set a voluntary goal to reduce Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions **30% by 2033**, using 2022 as the baseline year — achieved through the recommendations in this Carbon Management Plan.

Courtney M. Johnson, C.M., C.A.E.
Director, County of San Luis Obispo Department of Airports

E-signed May 24, 2023

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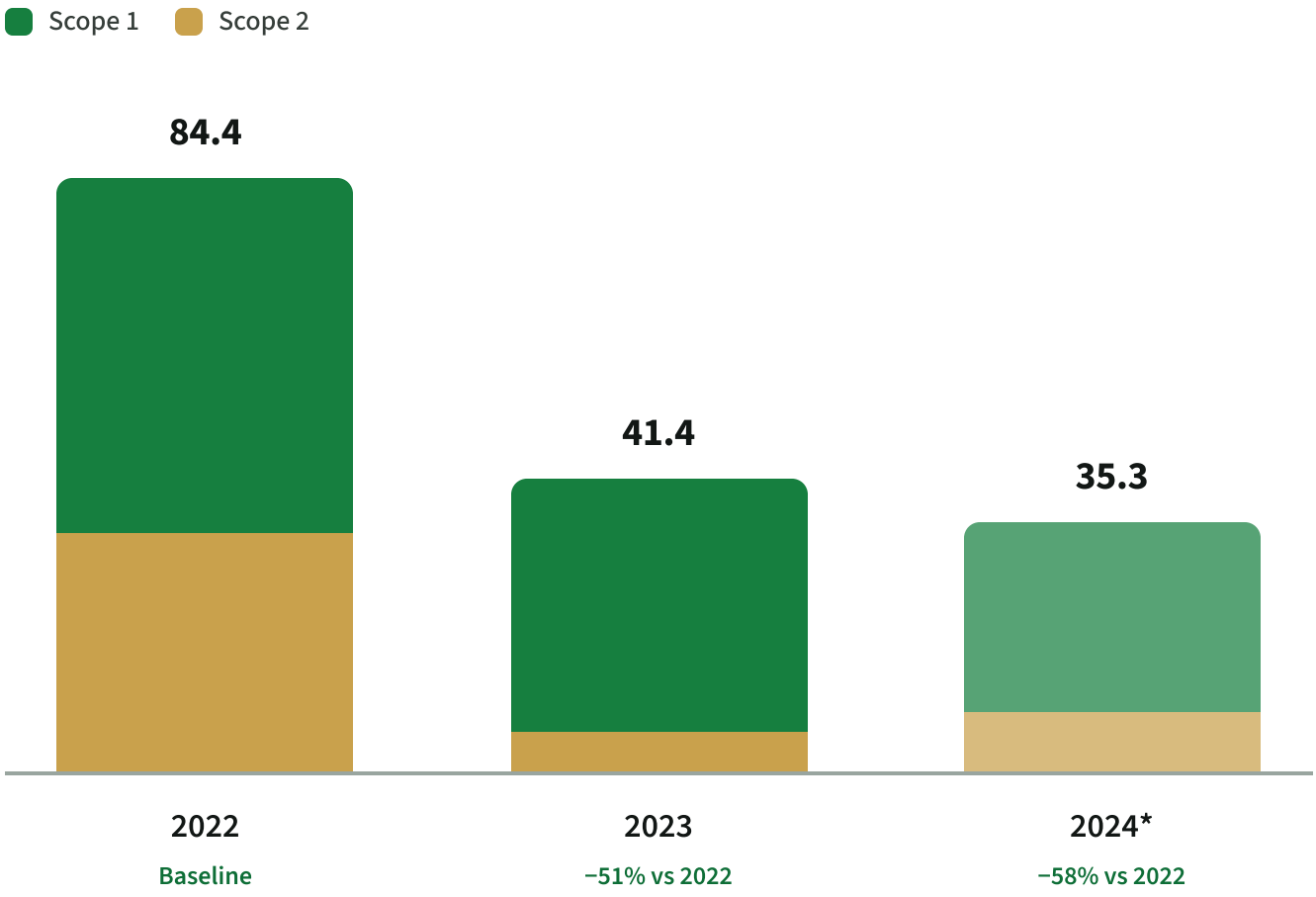
The 2033 emissions target

Guided by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), we set an intensity target: about a 3% reduction each year for up to ten years, measured against our 2022 baseline. We track it every year with the ACI ACERT tool, and we'll reevaluate once three years of data (2023–2026) are in hand.

30%	3%	2022	ACERT
reduction by 2033	reduction each year	baseline year	tracked annually

Verified gross emissions by year

Tonnes CO_2e · Scope 1 + Scope 2 (market-based), from ACERT inventories. Scope 3 not reported.



Gross emissions fell **58%** from the 2022 baseline by 2024 — well past our 30% target. Vehicle (mobile-source) emissions fell from 31.0 to 5.2 t CO_2e, and purchased-electricity emissions from 33.6 to 8.4 t CO_2e.

* **2024 figures are provisional** — still undergoing verification and may be revised.

EMISSIONS INVENTORY (T CO_2E)

Year	Scope 1	Scope 2	Total gross	vs 2022
2022	50.7	33.6	**84.4**	Baseline
2023	36.0	5.5	**41.4**	−51% vs 2022
2024*	26.9	8.4	**35.3**	−58% vs 2022

Scope 2 uses market-based emission factors. Scope 3 emissions were not reported for these years. No carbon offsets were applied; net emissions equal gross.

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Leadership & committee

Annie Secrest, Sustainabiltiy Manager, leads our ACI accreditation and Carbon Management Plan as Airport Carbon Management Manager. The committee sets strategic direction, keeps targets and resources realistic, and reviews progress across each three-year cycle.

Carbon Management Manager

Annie Secrest

Sustainability Manager

Committee Member

Courtney Pene

Deputy Director, Planning & Outreach

Committee Member

Tim O'Keeffe

Deputy Director, Operations

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What's already underway

LEED Gold terminal

Our passenger terminal was built to LEED Gold standards from the ground up.

Community Choice Energy

We subscribed to the California Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program in January 2025.

Electric fleet

We're replacing our Dodge Caravan with a Ford F-150 Lightning — with three more to follow as they become available.

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Initiatives we're exploring

Working with Cal Poly's City & Regional Planning Master's Program, we studied local Climate Action and Sustainability Plans to find alignment and model future reductions for SBP. Recommended initiatives include:

- Gate electrification
- Alternative fuel
- Solar power
- Ground source heat pumps
- Battery storage & DC microgrid
- Sustainability programs

Full reports and analysis for each initiative are in Appendix A.

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Projected impact

63–97%

Gate electrification

potential emissions reduction

30%

Alternative fuel

potential emissions reduction

25%+

Solar power

potential emissions reduction

25–50%

Ground source heat pumps

lower building energy use

Estimates based on Cal Poly research. Actual reductions depend on final project design and scope.

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Implementation plan

Our implementation strategy is a living matrix, integrated with the Department's Strategic Plan, that prioritizes each project and lays out its action items. Every initiative is reviewed against the same set of topics.

Appendix B holds the initiatives to be considered and prioritized through the 10-year planning process — up to 2050 and beyond.

MATRIX REVIEW TOPICS

- Objective
- Justification
- Project Goal
- Goal Priority
- Management Role
- Staffing Needs & Resources
- Costs
- Funding Opportunities
- Schedule
- Duration
- Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Reporting

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How we prioritize

01 Largest hotspots

Identify the sources emitting the highest share of CO_2 and develop solutions to reduce them.

02 Carbon reduction

Prioritize initiatives by their potential to cut emissions.

03 Cost

Determine the cost of each initiative and whether FAA grant or other funding is available.

04 Return on investment

Weigh the ROI a project is expected to deliver against its actual cost.

05 Cost benefit

Account for every benefit tied to an initiative — financial and non-financial alike.

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Communication, awareness & training

- Publish an annual sustainability report covering all of our emissions-reduction efforts.
- Continue working with Cal Poly to develop recommended policies for implementing the plan.
- Identify certification training and invite stakeholders and tenants to take part.
- Identify regulatory policies to incorporate into the management plan.

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Audit & self-assessment

Our committee tracks SBP's emissions, plan, and reduction targets by evaluating performance every year, recording both existing and newly implemented initiatives. At the three-year mark (2023–2026), we'll refresh the full plan: inventory, carbon footprint, and reduction targets.

GET IN TOUCH

Questions about the plan?

Email us at greensbp@co.slo.ca.us with your questions, ideas, or comments!

975 Airport Drive, Suite 1
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 781-5205

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County of San Luis Obispo
Department of Airports

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