

Reducing our carbon emissions – saving energy

The Department of Main Roads has established SAFELink Alliance to deliver the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade from Wacol to Darra. Construction is underway and is due for completion in December 2010.

Sustainability is a key value for SAFELink Alliance, with a dedicated sustainability coordinator to lead the team in thinking about sustainable work practices.

One fundamental objective of sustainability is to reduce carbon emissions on the upgrade project.

By educating staff and contractors on the impacts of carbon on climate change, the team will work within the project and their day-to-day lives to make a positive difference.

Saving energy

Initiatives in place on the Wacol to Darra project to help save energy include:

In the office

- » partnership with Greenfleet to offset emissions generated by project vehicle fleet
- » solar hot water heating for kitchen water
- » insulation throughout the office buildings
- » lights and air conditioners are turned off whenever possible.

During construction

- » a carbon footprint will be created for the project, calculating emissions through measuring fuel use, electricity use and other sources of energy use. A baseline for understanding the project's impacts will be developed. The project team will review alternative ways to save energy throughout the project
- » the procurement team pursue and acquire the best items based on their energy performance.



The design

- » energy efficient light bulbs will be used to light the new bike paths
- » a sustainable design that promoted natural ventilation in place of air conditioners was used for the clubhouse on PJ McIlwain Place, the new sports fields built by the project team.

What is carbon footprinting?

Carbon footprinting relates to energy use, specifically the overall amount of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions associated with a product or activity.

What is sustainability?

The best known definition of sustainability or sustainable development is the definition by the World Commission on Environment and Development. This suggests that sustainability is defined as “forms of progress that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.”

Ipswich Motorway Upgrade Wacol to Darra

Drivers can help too!

Did you know that poor driving techniques can increase fuel consumption by 10-15%?

Here are some tips to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save you money:

- » check your tyre pressure as under-inflated tyres increase fuel consumption
- » undertake regular vehicle maintenance
- » avoid wasting fuel, don't idle as this uses excess fuel
- » only use air conditioning when it's really necessary
- » choose the right gear for the conditions
- » don't speed
- » don't rev the engine unnecessarily
- » minimise drag by keeping the windows closed, if possible. Remove heavy items from the boot and take off the roof racks when not in use
- » plan your trip ahead. Try to avoid the peak periods. Consider leaving for work earlier or starting later
- » use your car less. If you can, take public transport more often, or arrange car pooling to work or school
- » ride a bike to work.



Using public transport where possible can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Greenfleet

Greenfleet exists to make a difference, not a profit.

Greenfleet is the first not-for-profit forestry offset organisation to become an Approved Abatement Provider under the Federal Government's Greenhouse Friendly™ initiative. Investment in Greenfleet projects generating approved Greenhouse Friendly™ offsets will make a real difference in the fight against climate change.

Did you know?

Traffic congestion is a serious concern. When vehicles enter a congested traffic stream, operation costs and trip travel times increase. This can potentially double greenhouse emissions.

Our aim is to reduce traffic congestion and improve traffic flow.

Contact us

Community Engagement Team

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1800 605 410*

*Higher rates apply from mobile phones and pay phones. If calling from outside of Queensland, STD rates will apply.

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SMS updates*

www.wacol2darra.com.au

*Visit the website to receive free project updates direct to your mobile phone.

For other Western Corridor transport projects Phone 1800 013 189

**Please remember that safety around roadworks is a two-way street.
We ask that you drive carefully and responsibly during these construction works.**