

> California GHG and Offset Project Verification Services

About California Assembly Bill 32

California's Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32 or AB 32) sets forth an aggressive program to reduce greenhouse gases (GHGs) from nearly every sector of the state's economy, including manufacturing, electricity, transportation, agriculture, consumer products, and others. The primary objective of AB 32 is to implement emission reduction strategies and programs that reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020 initially, with additional reductions by the year 2050.

Independent Verification Requirement for GHG Reporting Program

As part of AB 32, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) promulgated mandatory reporting regulations (MRR) in December 2007 that require entities to calculate and report their GHG emissions for specific industry sectors and for general stationary combustion sources with emissions greater than or equal to 10,000 metric tons (MT) of CO₂e per year. In addition, for those facilities with emissions that equal or exceed 25,000 MT-CO₂e per year, accredited third-party verification is required (and AB 32 cap-and-trade obligations apply). The independent verification of GHG emissions data by an accredited verification body (VB) is an important element of ARB's MRR and cap-and-trade regulation to ensure reliable and accurate data.

Independent Verification Requirement for Offset Projects

Offset projects can be used to generate GHG offset credits, which represent a removal or reduction of GHGs by a measurable, quantifiable, and verifiable activity. All compliance offset projects must be developed according to ARB-approved compliance offset protocols. To be eligible providers of ARB offset credits, offset project operators must register their offset projects with an approved offset project registry. Furthermore, offset



projects must be independently verified by an accredited offset verification body, which has the required verification staff who are trained and accredited for the specific type of offset project. Once verified, the offsets generated from the offset project may be sold to AB 32 subject entities, who can use a limited number of offset credits to satisfy up to 8% of their annual compliance obligations under the cap-and-trade program.

Partnering with Trinity Consultants

Our ARB-accredited offset verification and GHG verification services are performed by experienced environmental professionals with engineering backgrounds, most with advanced degrees and professional certifications. Our multidisciplinary staff provides the highest-quality verification services that enhance regulatory compliance while maximizing operational flexibility. Trinity serves its clients through an unparalleled combination of regulatory expertise, technical proficiency, responsiveness, and creative thinking. In addition, Trinity's Quality Management System ensures that clients consistently receive high-quality verification services. Trinity's AB 32 GHG verification team provides the following unique benefits to our clients:

> **Accredited Verification Services for All Sectors:**

Trinity is an accredited offset and GHG verification body. Our team includes experienced ARB-accredited offset verifiers and GHG verifiers with all four types of sector specific accreditations (i.e., General, Oil and Gas, Process, and Transaction).

> **Proven Track Record:** As one of the most active ARB-accredited verification bodies in California, Trinity completes more than 50 verifications annually, with resoundingly positive feedback.

> **Recognized Industry Leader:** Trinity is recognized as an industry leader in air quality and climate change issues.

> **In-depth Knowledge:** Trinity's team has extensive experience based on in-depth knowledge of GHG emission inventories and GHG-related regulatory requirements.

> **High Quality Work Products:** Trinity's consulting and verification practices and operations are quality assured for delivery of superior technical products.

> **Relevant Project Experience:** Trinity has relevant experience in GHG verifications, GHG management and emission reduction plans, enterprise-wide inventories, and carbon foot-printing exercises for national and international corporations across various industry sectors and locations.

> **Cost Effectiveness:** Trinity offers cost-competitive project budgets and works efficiently using in-house checklists, protocols, and other tools developed during extensive GHG emissions verification/inventory projects.

> **Local California Offices:** Fully staffed offices with accredited verifiers are strategically located to cover the entire state, including Northern California, Central California, and Southern California.

Industry Clients

Trinity's verification team has provided GHG verification services to the following industry sectors:

- > Aerospace
- > Agriculture
- > Cement and lime manufacturing
- > Chemicals production
- > Colleges and universities
- > Crude petroleum and natural gas extraction
- > General manufacturing
- > Metals and minerals mining
- > Natural gas distribution
- > Petroleum refining
- > Power entities (electricity transactions)
- > Power generation
- > Pulp and Paper

Related Services

In addition to GHG and offset project verification services, Trinity offers a wide variety of other climate change, sustainability, and GHG-related services:

- > ARB and EPA MRR reporting
- > Cap-and-trade forecasting and compliance
- > Cap-and-trade benchmark evaluation and rulemaking support
- > GHG verification in other programs and registries (e.g., CDP, CAR, and VCS)
- > GHG program training
- > GHG emission reduction plans

For more information on how Trinity can assist you, please contact:

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ISO 9001:2008 certified at our corporate office in Dallas, Texas

