

# SUSTAINABLE MERIDIAN



*Meridian Energy is New Zealand's first and only energy company to achieve carbonNZero certification for our renewable generation and retail activities*

*Sustainability is fundamental to the way we do business at Meridian. We take our responsibilities to New Zealand and the environment very seriously.*

*We've made it our mission to meet the growing electricity needs of New Zealanders in a sustainable way. We're doing this by increasing the efficiency of our power generation assets and investigating new, economical methods of renewable generation. We're also putting in place sustainable development activities throughout our company.*

## OUR SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENT

Our Sustainable Development Policy defines our commitment to considering the social, economic and environmental impacts on our communities, our country

and our planet when making decisions. It is simply the right thing to do. We have also found it to be good business practice. It gives us a competitive

advantage and, as more of our customers are looking to confirm sustainability in their own supply chains, it helps us meet even more of their business needs.

## THIS IS WHAT WE'VE SAID WE WILL DO:

- 1) We will be a carbon neutral company.
- 2) We will build only renewable generation projects.
- 3) We will encourage our partners and suppliers to follow a sustainable development pathway.
- 4) We will deliver value to our customers by providing efficient, hassle-free service, innovative product offerings and energy efficiency advice.
- 5) We will be a company that people are proud to work for and that allows

- them to be as effective as they can be by providing a safe and supportive work environment.
- 6) We will nurture and protect the natural resources that enable us to achieve our goals.
- 7) We will support and get actively involved in communities that we operate within.
- 8) We will reduce the company's overall environmental footprint by reducing, reusing and recycling resources.

We have active strategies for all these points. There are some exciting and innovative projects going on across the company, including our lease on a new Wellington building with a five-star rating from the New Zealand Green Building Council; wind farm developments; a staff sustainability champions group and an electric car trial.

## WE'RE CARBONZERO CERTIFIED

On 26 February 2007 we announced that our electricity, renewable generation and retail operations were carbonZero certified. The certification means that our core business activities of generating and retailing electricity do not contribute to the build-up of greenhouse gases in the

atmosphere. In these areas our carbon footprint is zero.

**Customers who buy electricity from Meridian now know that the carbon footprint of the electricity they use is neutral.\***

*\*Meridian's certification applies to electricity supplied to residential and business customers, excluding our grid-connected customers with Market Services Agreements. The carbonZero certification does not apply to financial products such as 'Contracts for Differences'.*

## THREE STEPS TO CARBON NEUTRALITY

For Meridian becoming carbon neutral is an essential step to becoming a sustainable company. We're using a three step process.

- 1) We **measure** the carbon dioxide equivalent emission from our core business activities
- 2) We **reduce** our emissions as much as possible, in line with our approved emissions reduction plan

- 3) Then, we purchase **carbon offsets** for those emissions we can't eliminate.

We are taking a staged approach, so we took the best practice approach and split our business into five logical activities. We started our carbon neutrality journey with our generation and electricity retail activities, as these are the core parts of our business. We are working towards achieving carbon neutrality for

our subsidiaries and other parts of our business. Our plan is to achieve carbon neutral recognition for our entire business.

Our current certification is awarded by Landcare Research, which developed and administers the carboNZero programme. Our certification is valid until June 2008 and must be renewed each year.



## FIND OUT MORE

More detailed information is available on Meridian's carbon neutral journey, our Sustainable Development Policy and our environmental performance. Call us on 0800 496 888 or visit [www.meridian.co.nz](http://www.meridian.co.nz).

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