

Carbon Offset Verification and Climate Consulting Services



Carbon Offset Verification

SES provides independent and impartial verification for sustainability programs and carbon offsets.

Since 2004, SES has verified carbon offsets throughout the U.S. and in Asia, Europe, and South America. This includes millions of acres of cropland, pasture, and rangeland projects in the U.S. SES has verified dozens of methane capture offsets for livestock methane, active and abandoned coal mines, and industrial wastewater systems.



- **GHG** accounting
- GHG goals and emissions reduction programs
- GHG emissions reporting
- Sustainability audits
- Regulatory inspections and third-party verification
- Sustainability protocol development

REGULATORY EXPERTISE

- ISO standards
- **CARB** regulations
- Low Carbon Fuel Standards
- Federal and state environmental regulations and statutes, including EPA Clean Air Act reporting requirements

We conduct these verifications under protocols that include livestock methane production, ozone-depleting substances, mine methane production, low carbon fuel standards, and rice cultivation.

Our team verifies carbon offsets following the ARB Compliance Offset Protocols, the most current version of the ARB Regulations (§95977 and §95978), and applicable ARB guidance documents. The verifications include completing and submitting a Notice of Verification Activity, conflict of interest (COI) statement, and introductory meetings with clients.

Our process follows ISO standards and regulatory requirements and a rigorous quality management plan. We receive preliminary data from the clients and use the data to plan for the verification. We then produce a verification plan and verification sampling plan.

After the initial work, SES conducts a site visit and reviews all pertinent notifications and data related to the client's claim of offsets generated. Our team conducts independent calculations of baseline and project emissions to verify the project's claimed emission reductions. We then issue a verification statement and verification report based on the findings.



GHG Emissions Accounting and Reporting

SES can help your team meet reporting requirements including greenhouse gas emissions reporting for the EPA and ARB, supply chain reporting, and GHG goal metrics for corporate social responsibility reports. We develop custom reporting and database solutions for clients that reduce effort and improve the consistency and accuracy of reports. Our team can also support your company with voluntary reporting for existing software platforms and entities.



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carbon generated from the client's operations.

GHG Accounting and Reporting

SES worked with an integrated livestock producer to develop a comprehensive inventory of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the company's operations. The inventory included emissions from feed milling, live animal production, slaughter, processing and transportation. As part of the inventory project, SES developed a calculator spreadsheet to estimate methane emissions from manure lagoons, manure composting, and industrial wastewater. SES supported the organization with GHG emissions reporting to the EPA.

Commitment to Integrity

As part of our commitment to integrity, SES does not conduct both accounting and verification work for the same client.



Program Development

SES develops sustainability programs and GHG emissions reduction goals that meet regulatory requirements and the demands of stakeholders, customers, and your bottom line.

Our capabilities include animal welfare, sustainability, GHG emissions reduction, and biodiversity. Program development services include setting GHG emissions reduction goals, developing policies and procedures, standards, gaining stakeholder buy-in, management and implementation guidance, training, metrics development, and reporting.

SERVICES

- GHG offset verification
- GHG accounting
- GHG goals and emissions reduction programs
- GHG emissions reporting
- Sustainability audits
- Regulatory inspections and third-party verification
- Sustainability protocol development

REGULATORY EXPERTISE

- ISO standards
- CARB regulations
- Low Carbon Fuel Standards
- Good Environmental Livestock Production Practices (GELPP)
- Federal and state environmental regulations and statutes, including EPA Clean Air Act reporting requirements

Project Experience

Beef Industry GHG Mitigation

SES evaluated the potential sources and quantities of avoided Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions for the global beef industry. SES evaluated mitigation options including the commodity production practices, inputs, productivity, and biomass that can be modified to reduce or avoid GHG emissions or to increase the sequestration of GHGs. SES also provided a review of carbon calculation methodologies and tools as well as estimates for the range of credible carbon emission reductions and sequestration.

Sustainability Audits

SES reviewed sustainability practices for a poultry integrator with grower operations in California and produced its auditing protocol. SES audits growers on a three-year cycle to verify the company's sustainability claims.

Sustainability Metrics Definition

SES defined the sustainability metrics that a global top three meat conglomerate presents in its annual sustainability report. Through corporate management interviews and a data review, SES helped the company develop a process to measure and report metrics consistently and accurately.

Soil Carbon Sequestration Analysis

SES developed a report, "Analysis of How Crop Rotation Impacts Nutrient Management and Sustainability Performance," for the United Soybean Board. The project included an analysis of how crop rotation impacts nutrient management and sustainability performance, including nitrogen management and losses and soil and plant carbon sequestration in an agroecosystem.



Our Clients

Private Entities

SES provides services for major livestock producers, *Farm Journal*, and various law firms

Federal Agencies

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Animal Plant Health Investigative Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services, Agricultural Marketing Service, National Organic Program (NOP), U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

State Agencies

Animal Health and Agriculture Agencies in: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Washington

Organizations

National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA), Multi-State Partnership for Security in Agriculture, Southern Animal Health Association, Border Governors' Agriculture Worktable, Cultivation Corridor

Trade Associations

Dairy Farmers of America (DFA), Livestock Marketing Association (LMA), Kentucky Corn Growers Association, U.S. Soybean Board and Export Council, National Pork Board, Western Equipment Dealers Association

"I have worked with SES for more than 15 years on a variety of projects and have come to rely on their expertise in developing management systems, standards, training and auditing programs. SES has consistently delivered high-quality projects, on-time and on schedule."

 VP Environmental Engineering for a Large Livestock and Poultry Company



Contact SES

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SES helps companies manage their triple bottom line through actionable, science-based sustainability programs that improve the resiliency of operations and supply chains.

SES is a leader in the field of GHG accounting and offset verification, as well as verification for sustainability metrics and regulatory compliance.

