Airport Carbon Accreditation Communication

Communication No:	5 of 2026
To:	Accredited Airports, Approved Verifiers and Programme Stakeholders
Subject:	General Programme Updates
Date:	July 22 2026

This Communication sets out updates to the *Airport Carbon Accreditation* programme regarding technical document updates, forthcoming Level 4+ carbon credit provisions, and a reminder about non-permissible carbon credits.

A. Technical Documents

The ACA Website Technical Documents section has been comprehensively updated and now houses a full suite of resources to support airports and verifiers throughout the accreditation cycle. This includes the latest editions of the *Programme Requirements* for all accreditation levels, the *Verifier Requirements* and *Carbon Offset Requirements*, together with a series of dedicated *Verifier Webinars* and accompanying Communications, as well as the updated *Certification Fees*. Each resource is listed below alongside its publication date and the date from which it is applicable, so stakeholders can see which version governs the next submission:

Resource	Date Published	Applicable From
Documents		
Carbon Offset Requirements Issue 2	June 2025	June 2025
Requirements for All Levels Edition 1.0	January 2026	May 15th 2026
Level 1 Requirements Edition 1.0	January 2026	May 15th 2026
Level 2 Requirements Edition 1.0	January 2026	May 15th 2026
Level 3/3+ Requirements Edition 1.0	January 2026	May 15th 2026
Level 4/4+ Requirements Edition 1.0	January 2026	May 15th 2026
Level 5 Requirements Edition 1.0	January 2026	May 15th 2026
Verifier Requirements Edition 1.0	May 2026	May 15th 2026
Certification Fees	July 2026	January 1st, 2027
Webinars		
Verifier Webinar: Information For All Verifiers	June 2026	June 2026
Verifier Webinar for Levels 1 to 3+	June 2026	June 2026
Verifier Webinar for Levels 4 & 4+	June 2026	June 2026
Verifier Webinar for Level 5	June 2026	June 2026

B. Level 4+ Provisions Relating to the Purchase of Carbon Credits

Following Communication 1 of 2026, and in line with relevant decisions of the programme stakeholders, airports at Level 4+ will be required to purchase 100% removal credits from March 31st 2029 for their residual Scope 1, Scope 2 and business travel emissions. It is recommended that airports adjust their policies and purchase strategies during the transition period.

C. Methodologies Rejected by ICVCM

In line with Section 2.2.4 and 3.2.4 of the Carbon Offset Requirements Issue 2 airports that purchase carbon credits to offset any residual emissions at Levels 3+, 4+ or 5, are reminded that any credits from methodologies *rejected* by ICVCM are not permitted to be used under *Airport Carbon Accreditation*.

For any questions, please contact the Airport Carbon Accreditation Helpdesk at aca@environmental-minds.com