

# Summary of carboNZero certification: Lowndes Associates



## Lowndes Associates

CORPORATE & COMMERCIAL LAW SPECIALISTS

**Introduction** – Lowndes Associates are corporate and commercial law specialists. The firm has an extensive international practice and exclusively represents in New Zealand one of the largest international networks of law firms. The firm provides specialist expertise and experience in a wide range of practice areas, its team working from Lowndes Associates House in Auckland’s CBD.

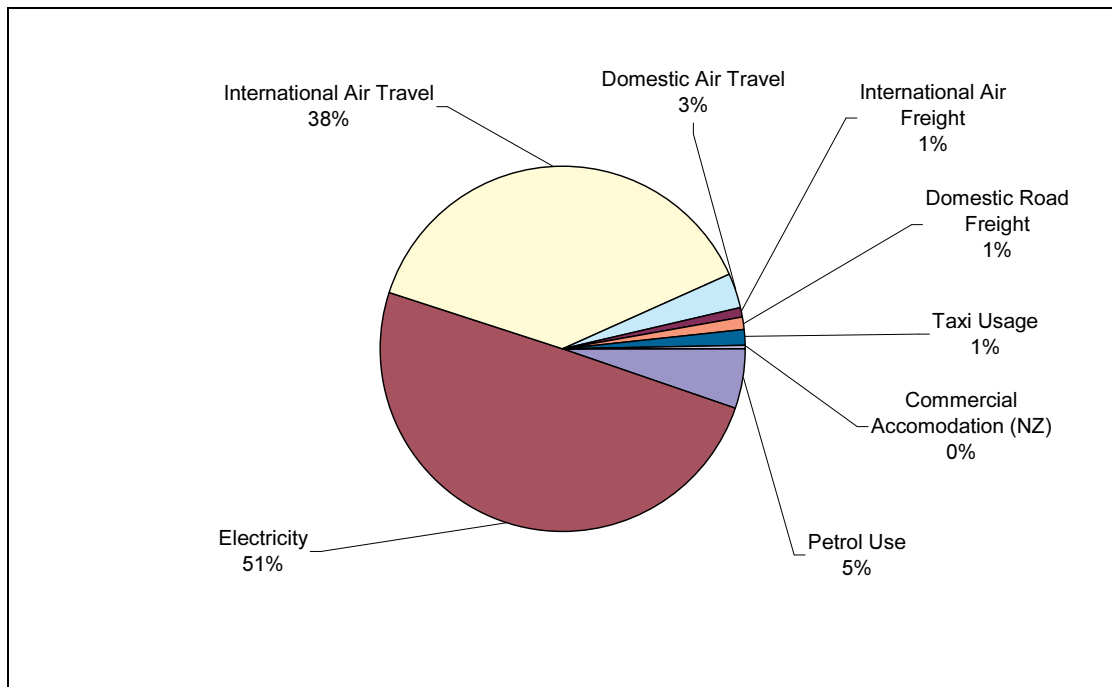
The rapidly expanding body of evidence about climate change means companies need to take action, partner Mark Lowndes said. “Our firm’s decision to be carbon neutral is not just for the ‘feel good’ factor; in fact, it’s fundamentally a business decision. Consumers are demanding that companies demonstrate responsibility, and in a global marketplace, New Zealand firms across all industries face a real risk of being left behind unless they show decisiveness in modifying their practices.”

As part of attaining carboNZero certification, Lowndes Associates measured all activities causing greenhouse gas emissions and implemented reduction programmes to address the biggest sources of emissions. Lowndes Associates is currently assessing its supply chain and researching environmentally friendly suppliers.

**Boundary** – All Lowndes Associates activities were included in their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory.

**GHG emissions profile** – the diagram below shows the operational GHG emissions for Lowndes Associates. Lowndes Associates’ total emissions for this period were 47.6 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e).

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**GHG emissions reduction commitments** – Lowndes Associates has developed a GHG emissions reduction plan. This plan specifically targets:

- Electricity usage
- International and domestic air travel
- Transport options.

**Offset** – 48 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e. VERs<sup>1</sup> from PRE<sup>2</sup> landfill gas recovery and windpower projects.

**Verified by** – PricewaterhouseCoopers.

**Base Year** – 01/10/2006 to 30/09/2007.

**Certification status** – carboNZero certified “organisation” covering the entire corporate and commercial law business.

**Valid until** – 31 December 2008.

<sup>1</sup> VERs are created by eligible projects for emissions reductions achieved up to the end of 2007.

<sup>2</sup> PRE - Projects to Reduce Emissions is a New Zealand government scheme for projects that are eligible under the Joint Implementation initiative of the Kyoto Protocol – see [www.mfe.govt.nz](http://www.mfe.govt.nz)