



Federal Maritime Commission 2019 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan

Executive Summary

First constituted over 100 years ago as the United States Shipping Board, the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC, Commission, or agency) was authorized in its current form as an independent Executive Branch agency in 1961. The Commission's mission is to ensure a competitive and reliable international ocean transportation system that supports the U.S. economy and protects the public from unfair and deceptive practices. The Commission is responsible for the regulation of oceanborne transportation in the foreign commerce of the United States for the benefit of U.S. exporters, importers, and consumers.

The Commission is directed by five Commissioners appointed for staggered five-year terms, with one Commissioner designated by the President to serve as Chairman. The Chairman is the Chief Executive and Administrative Officer of the agency.

The principal statutes administered by the Commission, codified in Title 46 of the U.S. Code at sections 40101 through 44106, are:

- the Shipping Act of 1984, as amended by the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998 (Shipping Act), 46 U.S.C. §§ 40101-41309;
- the Foreign Shipping Practices Act of 1988 (FSPA), 46 U.S.C. §§ 42301-42307;
- section 19 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (1920 Act), 46 U.S.C. §§ 42101-42109; and
- sections 2 and 3 of Pub. L. No. 89-777, 80 Stat. 1350, 46 U.S.C. §§ 44101-44106.

The Federal Maritime Commission strives to comply with relevant federal environmental and energy statutes, regulations, and Executive Orders. Because the FMC is a small agency with no real property assets, our focus is to incorporate sustainable practices into our day-to-day business operations. For example, many FMC publications are increasingly made available through our website, and hard copy production of publications has been reduced significantly over the last few years.

The FMC is committed to pursuing and achieving sustainability goals and targets. Management and staff seek to achieve sustainability targets in areas such as green purchasing, reduction in travel and use of leased vehicles, use of public transit, flexible work schedules, and telework. The FMC maintains existing programs related to recycling of paper, glass, plastics, and toner cartridges; use of energy efficient lighting; and conservation of water in its General Services Administration-leased headquarters offices at 800 North Capitol Street, NW, Washington, D.C.

The Commission does not own any real property or vehicles. Headquarters offices are co-located with several other tenants in a privately-owned building leased by the GSA, and the Area Representatives are also located in GSA-leased space. Acting solely as a tenant, the Commission is unable to identify GHG scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions except for those generated by employee business travel and commuting.

At the mid-point of FY 2019, 70% of employees (80 of 114 currently onboard) were participating in the Federal transit benefits program. Employees are encouraged to make use of telework, and/or a compressed work schedule, which can further reduce commuting expenses and emissions. During FY 2018, there were 87 employee telework agreements in place, 65 employees teleworked at least once during the year, and of those, 32 had regularly scheduled telework.

Business travel is limited to that which is required to support mission objectives. Commission staff must travel to fulfill the agency’s statutory responsibilities, and participate in local or regional outreach programs, industry educational forums, dispute resolution meetings, or training. The Commission remains dedicated to reducing Level 3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions consistent with fulfilling its mission responsibilities.

SCOPE 3 GHG TARGET	UNITS	Base Year FY 2008	FY 2017	FY 2018	% Change FY 2008 – FY 2018	% Change FY 2018 – FY 2017
Business Ground Travel	mtCO2e	11	4	4	-63.6%	0%
Business Air Travel	Kg CO2 equivalent	127,152	94,647	100,351	-21.1%	+6.0%

Increases in CO2 equivalents from FY 2017 to FY 2018 reflect increased international air travel by the FMC’s Commissioners and accompanying senior staff. International travel is required for bilateral government consultations with significant trading partners and presentations at global liner shipping conferences regarding operational impact of carrier alliances, competition and cooperation in the ocean shipping industry.

The FMC currently leases 6 vehicles from GSA: 1 small pickup truck, 3 compact cars, and 2 sub-compact cars. Three of the vehicles are hybrid electric and 3 have standard gasoline engines. To the extent possible, the FMC has made a commitment to transition all leased vehicles from gasoline to gasoline hybrid electric vehicles as their lease terms expire. The data for these vehicles is reported in the GSA’s FAST Data Center.

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