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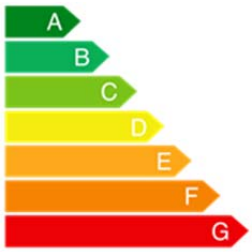
Reducing a Level Crossing Project Carbon Footprint

It is important that level crossing projects are constructed in a sustainable manner that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the needs of future generations.

This includes enhancing and protecting the natural environment and minimising the impact construction has on energy consumption and natural resources.

One element of sustainable construction is the mitigation of climate change through the reduction of carbon footprint.

Carbon footprint is the total amount of carbon dioxide (CO_2) and other greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for which a project is responsible.



GHGs emitted by human activities affect climate change and CO_2 accounts for the largest amount of emissions from these activities so is considered the best measure of climate change mitigation.

CO_2 enters the atmosphere through burning fossil fuels (coal, natural gas and oil), solid waste, trees and wood products, and also as a result of certain chemical reactions (e.g. manufacture of cement).

A document is available HERE on the Safety and Sustainable Development (S&SD) page of the Level Crossing Knowledge Hub which gives an overview of how the carbon footprint of a level crossing project can be measured and provides tips on areas which could reduce the CO_2 emissions and therefore the carbon footprint.

The document supports Network Rail's Sustainable Development Strategy and is written at a high level to get people thinking about what they can do to reduce their carbon footprint.

It also provides details on where you can get help and support on the subject, including the Energy & Carbon Management page on Safety Central.

Remember - doing something is better than doing nothing!

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Visit the Level Crossing Knowledge Hub: http://oc.hiav.networkrail.co.uk/sites/nlx