

Trial the Aotearoa New Zealand Low Emission Freight Certificate (LEFC) –

Frequently Asked Questions

Trial period: 1 September 2027 – 30 October 2027

Delivered by: SBC, EECA & 123Carbon

Who is eligible to participate?

You can join the trial if you are a New Zealand-based:

- Road freight transport company operating trucks with a lower-carbon footprint
- Freight forwarder
- Cargo owner (i.e., any business moving goods within NZ)

Both large and small operators are welcome. Mixed fleets are acceptable.

What is the LEFC registry?

The LEFC registry is a digital platform that:

- Rewards trucking companies for investing in lower-emission transport
- Enables freight forwarders and cargo owners to allocate verified carbon savings to their supply-chain footprint
- Simulates the issuing, transferring, and allocation of LEFC certificates

Why be involved in the LEFC trial?

Being part of the Low Emission Freight Certificate (LEFC) pilot is an opportunity to lead the sector, shape how book-and-claim could work in Aotearoa and test the practical benefits for your organisation.

As an issuer (trucking company):

- Test how certificates could support future low-emission fleet investment
- See how the registry works in practice and identify what would make it valuable for your business
- Understand how customers may use certificates to recognise low-emission freight movements

As a freight forwarder or cargo owner:

- Explore how LEFCs could integrate into your carbon reporting, procurement processes, or customer offerings
- Test how the system works end-to-end and assess operational impacts
- Understand the potential commercial and reputational benefits of accessing certified low-emission freight

What can I do with LEFC certificates?

As an issuer (e.g., trucking company):

- Issue Scope 3 certificates that can be allocated or sold via the 123Carbon registry
- Demonstrate the value of fuel switching or zero-emission trucks

As a freight forwarder or cargo owner:

- Receive Scope 3 certificates allocated to your business



- Simulate how these certificates could reduce your transport-related emissions
- Book & claim - match low-emission freight activity (the book) with certificates purchased or allocated (the claim) to demonstrate credible emissions reductions

What technologies are eligible?

The trial includes:

- Fuel-switch trucks (Renewable Diesel or Biodiesel replacing fossil diesel)
- Dual fuel hydrogen
- Battery Electric Trucks (BEVs)
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell Trucks (FCEVs)

What does participation involve?

You will:

- Attend onboarding training
- Access the LEFC registry
- Upload or simulate basic activity data
- Issue, transfer, or allocate certificates
- Provide feedback on usability and methodology
- Sign a demo licence form (see attachment) to enable access to the registry
- Provide feedback on value and commercial relevance, including what your organisation might be willing to pay and how useful the system could be for your business

Most participants spend 1–2 hours per week during the trial.

What data do I need to provide?

For issuers (transport operators):

- Proof of Sustainability (POS) for low-carbon fuels or energy sources
- Transport activity data (e.g., MT/km per truck or aggregated fleet data)
- Activity dates
- Data can be real or simulated

For freight forwarders and cargo owners:

- Basic information on freight movements
- Identification of which shipments or customers certificates should be allocated to
- No sensitive commercial data is required

Data examples will be provided during onboarding.

What does onboarding include?

Participants receive:

- A guided introduction to the registry
- Examples of acceptable data formats
- Step-by-step instructions for issuing and allocating certificates
- Support from the 123Carbon technical team

How much does it cost?

The trial is completely free.

There are limited places, and registration is open now.

What happens after the trial?



The trial will help shape the future LEFC scheme. After the trial, participants may:

- Receive early access to future registry versions
- Help refine the methodology
- Be invited to participate in pilot commercial deployments
- Gain visibility as early adopters of low-emission freight innovation

The trial does not create any reportable certificates.

How do I apply?

To register your interest, please email:
Charlotte Kootstra, Sustainable Business Council
ckootstra@businessnz.org.nz

Who is delivering the trial?

The LEFC trial is delivered in partnership by: Sustainable Business Council, EECA and 123Carbon.

Together, these organisations are testing how a credible, transparent, and scalable low-emission freight certificate system could operate in New Zealand.

Who oversees the LEFC methodology and governance?

The LEFC is supported by an independent Methodology & Assurance Governance Committee, established to ensure the system is credible, transparent, and aligned with international best practice. The committee provides oversight of:

- Methodology development and updates
- Validation and verification processes
- Quality assurance and integrity principles
- Audit and dispute-resolution processes

Who is on the Governance Committee?

Charlotte Kootstra: Sustainable Business Council
James Veale: 123Carbon
David Taylor: DETA
Rebecca Powell: Smart Freight Centre
Osana Robertson: Toitū Envirocare
Jo Parag: EECA
James Smith: National Road Carriers Association
Ryan McDonald: Hiringa

