

Natural Resources Canada / Ressources naturelles Canada

NRCan's Material Carbon Emissions Estimator (MCE²) Tool

Preview and Launch Details – Spring Training Camp, April 25th 2022

Patric Langevin - LEEP Team Facilitator and Technical Lead, NRCan CanmetENERGY

Canada

1

NRCan's Material Carbon Emissions Estimator (MCE²) Tool

2

- Free tool to help builders understand the first carbon impacts of their homes
- Can help inform your product selections

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

MENU ▾

[Canada.ca](#) > [Environment and natural resources](#) > [Climate change](#) >

Net-Zero Emissions by 2050



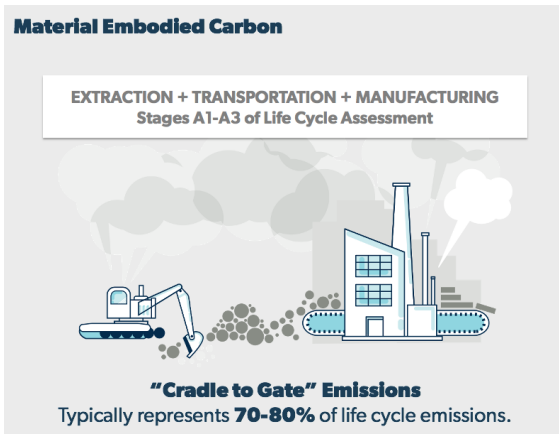
Natural Resources Canada / Ressources naturelles Canada

Canada

2

3

What does this calculator do?



+



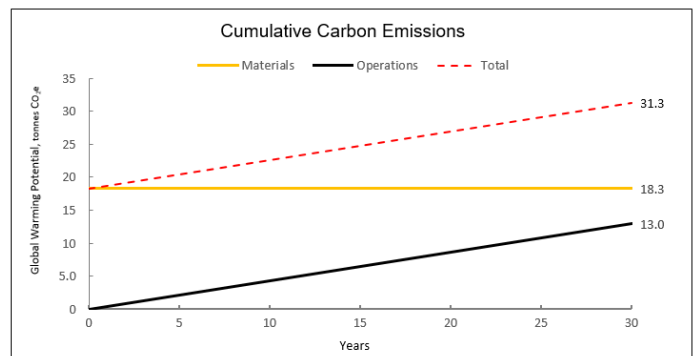
3

4

What do results look like?

- Depending on location and fuel source, embodied emissions can rival operational emissions.
- Material selection matters!

PROJECT EMISSIONS TIMELINE



4

What do results look like?

- Can help you hone in on the most impactful areas of your project

TOP 10 MOST IMPACTFUL MATERIALS

Rank	kg CO ₂ e	Section	Material
1	12,075	Cladding	Brick, Clay, Generic Modular / Bri
2	5,897	Foundation Walls	Concrete - 0-25 MPa, Industry Ave
3	4,705	Foundation Walls	XPS foam board - AVERAGE (exc
4	2,564	Footings & Slabs	Concrete - 0-25 MPa, Industry Ave
5	2,243	Footings & Slabs	Concrete - 0-25 MPa, Industry Ave
6	1,969	Windows	Window - double pane / Vinyl fram
7	1,668	Garage	Brick, Clay, Generic Modular / Bri
8	993	Floors	Hardwood flooring - AVERAGE
9	978	Roof	EPDM Roofing Membrane / SPRI
10	940	Roof	Fiberglass loose fill - Roof Insulatir

[Example case for illustration only](#)



5

2 minutes in the MCE²...

Material Carbon Emissions Estimator (MCE²)

Project Carbon Content

Step 1 **Import project data from HOT2000** (if no HOT2000 file, skip to Step 2)

Press Here to import HOT2000 Data

Clear All (User Input and all Assembly Tabs) Clear This Sheet Only (User Input)

Step 2 **Confirm or enter project information**

Address: TRAILS Province: Ontario

City: CLARINGTON Postal code:

Building Type: Single Evaluation date: 7/26/2021

Storeys: Two storeys File ID:

Year Built: 1990-99 File name:

Heated Floor Area (above grade, m²): 138.0

Heated Floor Area (below grade, m²): 72.5

Heating Degree Days: 3890

Energy Consumption

Elec. kWh/yr	N. Gas m ³ /yr	Elec. kWh/yr
8195	1781	0
Propane L/yr	Oil L/yr	Wood kg/yr
0	0	0

To override energy GHG intensities, use the Energy GHG tab.

Operational Emissions

tonnes CO ₂ e / yr	t CO ₂ e / 30 yrs
3.7	110

Material Emissions

tonnes CO ₂ e	kg CO ₂ e / m ²
46.5	221



6

Example 1 - OBC Embodied Carbon Scenarios

A

OBC Package A1 - Typical construction techniques and materials


B

OBC Package A1 with lower carbon concrete, insulation materials, reduced high carbon cladding


C

OBC Package A1 with low carbon cladding and carbon storing insulation



Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

Canada

7

Example 1 - OBC Embodied Carbon Scenarios

A

OBC Package A1 - Typical construction techniques and materials



Material Emissions

tonnes CO ₂ e	kg CO ₂ e / m ²
46.5	221

B

OBC Package A1 with lower carbon concrete, insulation materials, reduced high carbon cladding



tonnes CO ₂ e	kg CO ₂ e / m ²
34.0	161

C

OBC Package A1 with low carbon cladding and carbon storing insulation



tonnes CO ₂ e	kg CO ₂ e / m ²
20.0	94.8



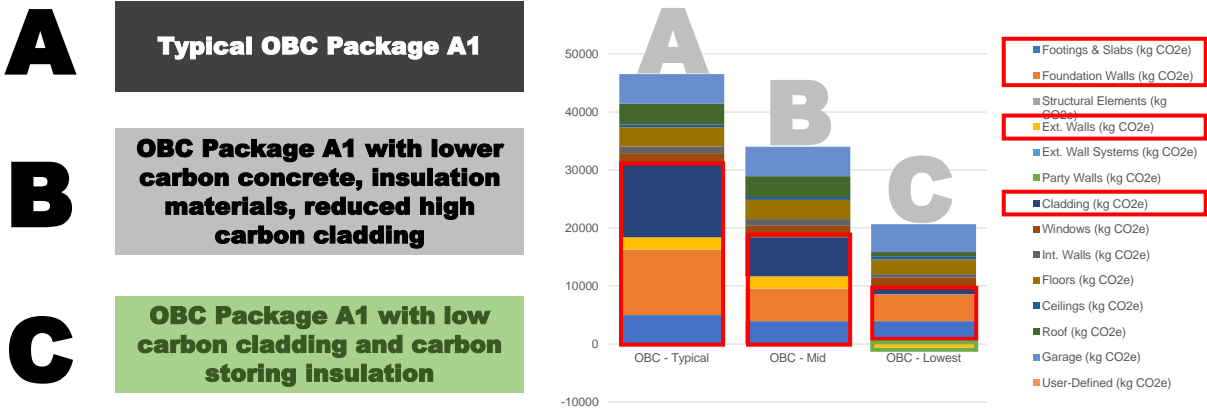
Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

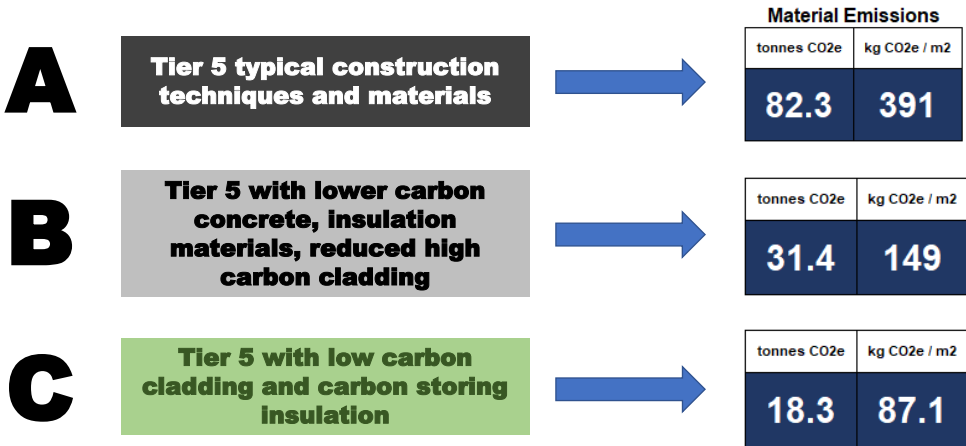
Canada

8

Example 1 - OBC Embodied Carbon Scenarios



Example 2 – NBC Tier 5, Embodied Carbon Scenarios



Example 2 – NBC Tier 5, Embodied Carbon Scenarios

A

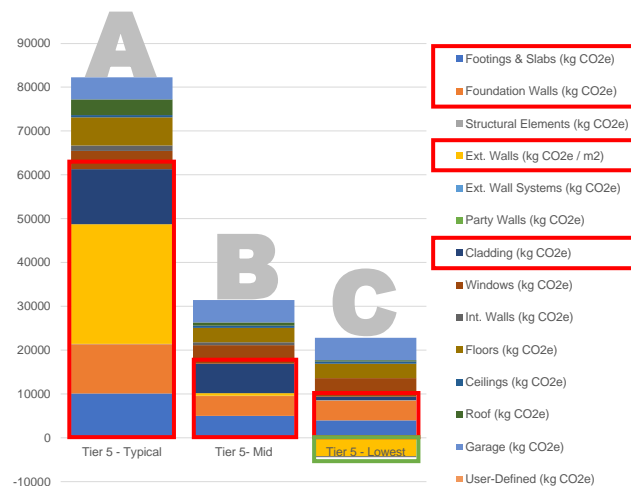
Tier 5 typical construction techniques and materials

B

Tier 5 with lower carbon concrete, insulation materials, reduced high carbon cladding

C

Tier 5 with low carbon cladding and carbon storing insulation



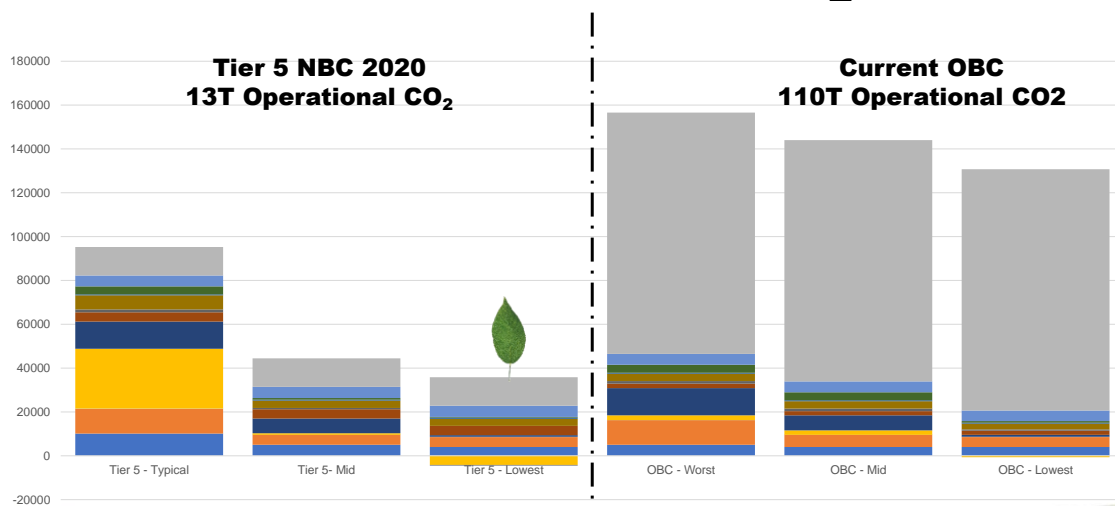
Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

Canada

11

Examples 1 & 2 – 30 year CO₂ Outlook



Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

Canada

12

WALL ASSEMBLIES

- **BASF (R-42)**
 - Spray Polyurethane Foam
- **Insulspan (R-18)**
 - SIP Panels
- **Owens Corning (R-20)**
 - Rigid Insulation
- **Rockwool (R-17)**
 - Mineral Fiber Insulation
- **Dryvit (R-20)**
 - Expanded Polystyrene Insulation



(BASF)
 - VINYL SIDING
 - 1" x 4" WOOD STRAPPING @ 16" O.C.
 - SRP AIR OUTSHIELD WEATHER BARRIER
 - 2" NEOCOR
 - 3" x 2" WOOD GIRTS @ 24" O.C.
 - 1 1/2" SPRAY FOAM INSULATION
 - 3 1/2" SPRAY FOAM INSULATION IN EXISTING
 2" x 4" STUD SPACE (EXISTING SHEATHING,
 BATT INSULATION, AND POLY VAPOUR
 BARRIER REMOVED)
 - (EXISTING) 1/2" GYPSUM WALL BOARD

R-VALUE: R-42



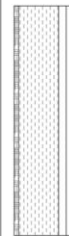
(INSULSPAN)
 - VINYL SIDING
 - 1" x 4" WOOD STRAPPING @ 16" O.C.
 - WATER BARRIER HOUSEWRAP
 - INSULSPAN PANELS - 3.5" EPS w/ 7/16" OSB
 FOR AIR BARRIER
 - (EXISTING) 2" x 4" WOOD STUD FRAMING
 - (EXISTING) 3 1/2" BATT INSULATION
 - (EXISTING) POLY VAPOUR BARRIER
 - (EXISTING) 1/2" GYPSUM WALL BOARD

R-VALUE: R-18



(OWENS CORNING)
 - VINYL SIDING
 - 1" x 4" VERTICAL WOOD STRAPPING @ 16" O.C.
 - 2 LAYERS OF 2" EXTRUDED POLYSTYRENE
 WITH TAPED JOINTS (XPS) (R 20)
 - (EXISTING) 2" x 4" WOOD STUD FRAMING
 - (EXISTING) 3 1/2" BATT INSULATION
 - (EXISTING) AIR/VAPOUR BARRIER
 - (EXISTING) 1/2" GYPSUM WALL BOARD

R-VALUE: R-20



(ROCKWOOL)
 - VINYL SIDING
 - 1" x 4" SPF VERTICAL STRAPPING @ 16" O.C.
 ALIGNED WITH EXISTING STUDS
 - 4" SEMI-RIGID MINERAL WOOL INSULATION
 (MIN. R-16.8)
 - CONTINUOUS VAPOUR PERMEABLE
 AIR/WATER MEMBRANE
 - 7/16" OSB SHEATHING
 - (EXISTING) 3 1/2" BATT INSULATION
 - (EXISTING) 2" x 4" WOOD STUD FRAMING
 - (EXISTING) POLY VAPOUR BARRIER
 - (EXISTING) 1/2" GYPSUM WALL BOARD

R-VALUE: R-17.2

13

BASF (R-42)

SECTION 12 → REVIEW		SELECTED MATERIALS	9,093	10,958	1,865
SECTION	CATEGORY	MATERIAL	NET CARBON FOOTPRINT [kg CO ₂ e]	CARBON EMISSIONS [kg CO ₂ e]	CARBON STORAGE [kg CO ₂ e]
Footings & Slabs	SLAB FLOOR(S)	Concrete - 0.25 MPa, Industry Average Benchmark / CRBCA / Can. Avg.	87	87	0
Foundation Walls	FOUNDATION WALL CONTINUOUS INSULATION	Spray polyurethane foam - Closed Cell (SPF) / SFA / R 6.6inch	542	542	0
Foundation Walls	INTERIOR FOUNDATION WALL CLADDING	Drywall 1/2" - AVERAGE	90	90	0
Structural Elements	HEAVY STEEL COMPONENTS	Steel post / Generic / 1.5 x 0.214" (39 x 5.5 mm), Sched 40 STD	128	128	0
Ext. Walls	WOOD FRAME WALLS	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	111	111	0
Ext. Walls	STRUCTURAL SHEATHING	OSB sheathing / Huber / ZIP System / 7/16" Sheathing, protective barrier	360	360	0
Ext. Walls	CAVITY INSULATION	Spray polyurethane foam - Closed Cell (SPF) / SFA / R 6.6inch	542	542	0
Ext. Walls	CONTINUOUS INSULATION (EXT. or INT.)	EPS foam board with graphite / BASF / Neopor / R 4.7inch, Type II, 15 psi	411	411	0
Cladding	EXTERIOR CLADDING	Vinyl Siding / Vinyl Siding Institute / 0.048" Double 4.5"	484	484	0
Cladding	STRAPPING FOR RAIN SCREEN	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	16	16	0
Windows	TRIPLE PANE WINDOWS - GENERIC	Window - triple pane / Vinyl frame / USA & CAN	1,228	1,228	0
Roof	WOOD FRAME ROOF	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	19	19	0
Roof	ROOF DECKING	OSB sheathing / American Wood Council & Canadian Wood Council / 1	19	19	0
Roof	ROOF STRAPPING	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	1	1	0
Roof	ROOF INSULATION	Spray polyurethane foam - Closed Cell (SPF) / SFA / R 6.6inch	161	161	0
Roof	ROOF INSULATION	Cellulose - Roof insulation - AVERAGE	-1,487	408	1,865

INSULSPAN (R-18)

SECTION 12 → REVIEW		SELECTED MATERIALS	2,573	4,438	1,865
SECTION	CATEGORY	MATERIAL	NET CARBON FOOTPRINT [kg CO ₂ e]	CARBON EMISSIONS [kg CO ₂ e]	CARBON STORAGE [kg CO ₂ e]
Footings & Slabs	SLAB FLOOR(S)	Concrete - 0.25 MPa, Industry Average Benchmark / CRBCA / Can. Avg.	87	87	0
Foundation Walls	FOUNDATION WALL CONTINUOUS INSULATION	Spray polyurethane foam - Closed Cell (SPF) / SFA / R 6.6inch	542	542	0
Foundation Walls	FOUNDATION WALL INSULATION	Mineral wool batt - Rockwool / Safe'n'Sound, ComberBat / R 3.8inch	128	128	0
Foundation Walls	INTERIOR FOUNDATION WALL CLADDING	Drywall 1/2" - AVERAGE	90	90	0
Structural Elements	HEAVY STEEL COMPONENTS	Steel post / Generic / 1.5 x 0.214" (39 x 5.5 mm), Sched 40 STD	128	128	0
Ext. Walls	STRUCTURAL SHEATHING	OSB sheathing / Huber / ZIP System / 7/16" Sheathing, protective barrier	360	360	0
Ext. Walls	CONTINUOUS INSULATION (EXT. or INT.)	EPS foam board - AVERAGE	542	542	0
Cladding	EXTERIOR CLADDING	Vinyl Siding / Vinyl Siding Institute / 0.048" Double 4.5"	484	484	0
Cladding	STRAPPING FOR RAIN SCREEN	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	16	16	0
Windows	TRIPLE PANE WINDOWS - GENERIC	Window - triple pane / Vinyl frame / USA & CAN	1,228	1,228	0
Roof	WOOD FRAME ROOF	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	19	19	0
Roof	ROOF DECKING	OSB sheathing / American Wood Council & Canadian Wood Council / 1	19	19	0
Roof	ROOF STRAPPING	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	1	1	0
Roof	ROOF INSULATION	Spray polyurethane foam - Closed Cell (SPF) / SFA / R 6.6inch	161	161	0
Roof	ROOF INSULATION	Cellulose - Roof insulation - AVERAGE	-1,487	408	1,865

OWENS CORNING (R-20)

SECTION 12 → REVIEW		SELECTED MATERIALS	3,785	5,650	1,865
SECTION	CATEGORY	MATERIAL	NET CARBON FOOTPRINT [kg CO ₂ e]	CARBON EMISSIONS [kg CO ₂ e]	CARBON STORAGE [kg CO ₂ e]
Footings & Slabs	SLAB FLOOR(S)	Concrete - 0.25 MPa, Industry Average Benchmark / CRBCA / Can. Avg.	87	87	0
Foundation Walls	FOUNDATION WALL CONTINUOUS INSULATION	Spray polyurethane foam - Closed Cell (SPF) / SFA / R 6.6inch	542	542	0
Foundation Walls	FOUNDATION WALL INSULATION	Mineral wool batt / Rockwool / Safe'n'Sound, ComberBat / R 3.8inch	60	60	0
Foundation Walls	INTERIOR FOUNDATION WALL CLADDING	Drywall 1/2" - AVERAGE	90	90	0
Structural Elements	HEAVY STEEL COMPONENTS	Steel post / Generic / 1.5 x 0.214" (39 x 5.5 mm), Sched 40 STD	128	128	0
Ext. Walls	CONTINUOUS INSULATION (EXT. or INT.)	XPS foam board / Owens Corning / Foamular NGX 300 (New 2021) / R 6.1	2,674	2,674	0
Cladding	EXTERIOR CLADDING	Vinyl Siding / Vinyl Siding Institute / 0.048" Double 4.5"	484	484	0
Cladding	STRAPPING FOR RAIN SCREEN	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	16	16	0
Windows	TRIPLE PANE WINDOWS - GENERIC	Window - triple pane / Vinyl frame / USA & CAN	1,228	1,228	0
Roof	WOOD FRAME ROOF	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	19	19	0
Roof	ROOF DECKING	OSB sheathing / American Wood Council & Canadian Wood Council / 1	19	19	0
Roof	ROOF STRAPPING	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	1	1	0
Roof	ROOF INSULATION	Spray polyurethane foam - Closed Cell (SPF) / SFA / R 6.6inch	161	161	0
Roof	ROOF INSULATION	Cellulose - Roof insulation - AVERAGE	-1,487	408	1,865

ROCKWOOL (R-17)

SECTION 12 → REVIEW		SELECTED MATERIALS	2,356	4,221	1,865
SECTION	CATEGORY	MATERIAL	NET CARBON FOOTPRINT [kg CO ₂ e]	CARBON EMISSIONS [kg CO ₂ e]	CARBON STORAGE [kg CO ₂ e]
Footings & Slabs	SLAB FLOOR(S)	Concrete - 0.25 MPa, Industry Average Benchmark / CRBCA / Can. Avg.	87	87	0
Foundation Walls	FOUNDATION WALL CONTINUOUS INSULATION	Spray polyurethane foam - Closed Cell (SPF) / SFA / R 6.6inch	542	542	0
Foundation Walls	FOUNDATION WALL INSULATION	Mineral wool batt / Rockwool / Safe'n'Sound, ComberBat / R 3.8inch	128	128	0
Foundation Walls	INTERIOR FOUNDATION WALL CLADDING	Drywall 1/2" - AVERAGE	90	90	0
Structural Elements	HEAVY STEEL COMPONENTS	Steel post / Generic / 1.5 x 0.214" (39 x 5.5 mm), Sched 40 STD	128	128	0
Ext. Walls	STRUCTURAL SHEATHING	OSB sheathing / Huber / ZIP System / 7/16" Sheathing, protective barrier	360	360	0
Ext. Walls	CONTINUOUS INSULATION (EXT. or INT.)	Mineral wool board / Rockwool / Rockboard 40 / R 4.3inch	705	705	0
Cladding	EXTERIOR CLADDING	Vinyl Siding / Vinyl Siding Institute / 0.048" Double 4.5"	484	484	0
Cladding	STRAPPING FOR RAIN SCREEN	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	16	16	0
Windows	TRIPLE PANE WINDOWS - GENERIC	Window - triple pane / Vinyl frame / USA & CAN	1,228	1,228	0
Roof	WOOD FRAME ROOF	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	19	19	0
Roof	ROOF DECKING	OSB sheathing / American Wood Council & Canadian Wood Council / 1	19	19	0
Roof	ROOF STRAPPING	Wood framing & siding - SPF / American Wood Council & Canadian Woc	1	1	0
Roof	ROOF INSULATION	Spray polyurethane foam - Closed Cell (SPF) / SFA / R 6.6inch	161	161	0
Roof	ROOF INSULATION	Cellulose - Roof insulation - AVERAGE	-1,487	408	1,865

14

NRCan's Material Carbon Emissions Estimator (MCE²)

- Available for free through the LEEP website soon
- Intuitive architecture, easy to navigate
- Provides key insights on overall carbon consumption
- Really fun activity for a Friday evening!!

<https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy-efficiency/homes/local-energy-efficiency-partnerships-leep/leep-technology-guides/17346>

Coming Soon!



<https://makeagif.com/gif/chubby-checker-lets-twist-again-lyrics-AUzuvq>



Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

Canada

15

Thank you!



Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

Canada

16

Canada

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Natural Resources, 2019

