



AUSTRALIAN  
AUTOMOBILE  
ASSOCIATION

# ON THE ROAD TO greener motoring

## CUTTING MOTORING CLUB GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

The AAA clubs provide a range of products and services to their more than six million members Australia wide, from world leading emergency roadside assistance, to accommodation ratings and guides, home and contents insurance, and tips on buying cars.

The AAA clubs have also for many years played a leading role in promoting cleaner, less carbon intensive, and more fuel efficient motoring through a range of initiatives including consumer testing, driver training and campaigns for legislative action for improved vehicle emission and fuel quality standards.

Collectively, the motoring clubs are involved in a broad range of environmental activities, including:

- 75% of the NRMA Motoring and Services fleet runs on Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) and this will increase to 95% by the end of 2008.<sup>1</sup> NRMA has also signed up to the Greenhouse Challenge Plus Program.
- RACV has implemented the process to achieve Sustainability Victoria waste-wise accreditation, which has already resulted in a 12% reduction in paper use since 2004.
- RACQ enables motorists to learn how they can save fuel and reduce emissions using an interactive online Envirocar tool.
- RAASA has undertaken an energy audit of its metropolitan and regional office network and is implementing an action plan to reduce its energy use.
- RACWA moved into a new head office building in West Perth in 2005 which was purpose-designed to have a 4-star rating by the Australian Building Greenhouse Rating Scheme.

- RACT represented the interests of motorists in a parliamentary inquiry into alternative fuels.
- AAA has supported the introduction of fuel consumption labelling on new cars and legislative change to improve fuel quality and emission standards.

AAA motoring clubs are also taking steps to reduce and offset the emissions generated by roadside assistance vehicles nationally (see separate *Roadside Assistance Goes Green* Fact Sheet).

As large businesses, AAA clubs recognise the responsibility to build on their existing environmental initiatives with comprehensive carbon strategies for their own operations. Thus, they are also undertaking a rigorous assessment of their direct and indirect carbon emissions, developing plans to avoid and reduce these emissions and, for those emissions that cannot be eliminated, investing in carbon offsets.

Simple steps can make a significant difference. Using energy wisely, by switching off lights and computers for example, helps to reduce emissions. Moving to renewable power sources and products accredited as 'green' such as recycled paper, helps reduce greenhouse-intensive resources.

<sup>1</sup> LPG typically has around 10 to 15% lower greenhouse gas emissions compared to petrol. [www.lpgautogas.com.au/index.cfm?Action=Environment](http://www.lpgautogas.com.au/index.cfm?Action=Environment)

