

Addressing the Top 4 Criticisms of Carbon Neutrality: Permanence

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This article is the fourth installment of [\[Addressing the Top 4 Criticisms of Carbon Neutrality\]](#)

[Criticism #1: The ability to purchase carbon offsets can delay real action](#)

[Criticism #2: Lack of accountability and transparency](#)

[Criticism #3: Lack of Additionality](#)

Criticism #4: Permanence

The concept of permanence in carbon offset projects, particularly those involving reforestation, afforestation, and forest conservation, is a critical concern. There's uncertainty regarding the lasting impact of these projects due to potential risks like wildfires, deforestation, or other events that might release stored carbon back into the atmosphere.

Ariva's offsetting partner, Carbonzero, recognizes these challenges and provides projects that implement strategies to ensure the permanence of carbon reductions, especially in forestry projects, including:

1. **Distributed Lands:** Spreading projects across various locations minimizes localized risks.
2. **Buffer Zones & Carbon Offset Volume Buffer:** Protective zones and holding back a percentage of carbon offset volumes guard against unforeseen events like disease or fire.
3. **Continuous Monitoring:** Ongoing oversight ensures the integrity and permanence of the carbon offsets.
4. **Diverse Project Offering:** Including non-forestry projects like landfill gas capture adds to the portfolio's resilience.
5. **Third-Party Verification:** Independent audits confirm the lasting impact of the emissions reductions.

These strategies help ensure that the carbon offsets are not only real and verified but also permanent. By recognizing and actively mitigating the challenges associated with permanence, our offsetting partner provides confidence that the support for these projects is making a lasting difference in combating climate change.