

Carbon Streaming is cashed up and ready to save the world


written by Dean Bristow | October 13, 2021

You may have heard numerous companies around the world talking about setting net-zero carbon emissions goals, in fact over 1,500 companies have announced plans to be carbon net-zero by 2050 or sooner. But how will they get to net-zero? In the interim, the plan is to offset the carbon they put into the atmosphere by buying carbon credits. A carbon credit represents one tonne of carbon dioxide or the carbon dioxide equivalent of another greenhouse gas (defined by the amount of heat it traps in the atmosphere) that is prevented from entering into or being absorbed from the atmosphere. Carbon credits are anticipated to be integral to meet global net-zero goals, especially in hard-to-abate sectors such as oil, aviation, steel and cement.

No matter how you slice it, the carbon credit world is big now and destined to get a lot bigger. The estimated size of the compliance/regulated market was US\$261 billion in 2020, a five-fold increase from 2017. The voluntary carbon market was a much more modest US\$473 million in 2020, although UN Special Envoy for Climate Action, Mark Carney, the former Governor of the Bank of England, has said that the voluntary market “needs to be \$50-100 billion per annum.” And that’s where [Carbon Streaming Corporation](#) (NEO: NETZ) comes to the rescue, so to speak. Carbon Streaming is a unique, ESG principled, investment vehicle offering investors exposure to carbon credits. Its stated business model is to focus on acquiring, managing and growing a high-quality, diversified portfolio of investments in projects and/or companies that generate or are actively involved with carbon credits. The Company invests capital through carbon credit streaming arrangements, with project developers and

owners, to accelerate the creation of carbon offset projects by bringing capital to projects that might not otherwise be developed.

Carbon Streaming has been raising capital and signing up projects to build up an inventory of carbon credits. In fact, in July the Company was able to [raise an impressive US\\$104.9 million](#) based on the momentum they had been gaining over the first half of 2021. The latest information from the website shows the Company has a near term opportunity pipeline of 16 projects around the world totaling roughly US\$200 million in investments. Longer term the deal pipeline is over US\$700 million and the best part is, the target IRR for these projects is greater than 15%.



Pipeline of Opportunities

Carbon Streaming has sourced a potential deal pipeline of over US\$700 million with its near-term pipeline valued at approximately US\$200 million at target IRRs of 15%+


Carbon Streaming is in a strong financial position to execute its investment strategy.

Targeting to have completed investments that have the potential to annually deliver for up to 30 years:

- 20 million carbon credits by year-end 2021;
- 50 million carbon credits by 2023; and
- 100 million carbon credits by 2025.

Near-Term Opportunity Pipeline		
Project	Location	Investment (US\$)
Forestry	Africa	<\$15 million
Forestry	Africa	>\$10 million
Forestry	North America	\$6 million
Forestry	North America	<\$10 million
Energy	Africa	>\$35 million
Forestry	Africa	>\$25 million
Forestry	North America	>\$20 million
Energy	Middle East	>\$15 million
Forestry	South America	>\$15 million
Energy	Africa	<\$15 million
Energy	Middle East	>\$12 million
Forestry	North America	<\$10 million
Energy	Middle East	>\$5 million
Forestry	Africa	>\$5 million
Energy	South America	<\$5 million
Energy	Latin America	>\$1 million
Total		>\$200 million

Note: The potential near-term carbon streaming transaction pipeline listed above represents an estimate by management based on potential transactions which remain under various states of non-binding proposal and/or negotiation by the Company. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to enter into definitive agreements for, or otherwise complete the acquisition of, all or any of the potential carbon streaming transactions referenced above, nor provide any assurance that the stated targeted after-tax internal rates of return will be realized by the Company.



Source

The value proposition at Carbon Streaming is three fold:

1. Enter into streaming agreements with individuals,

companies, and governments to stream carbon credits from their asset or property that can be sold in either the voluntary or in the compliance markets;

2. Purchase carbon credits in the voluntary and compliance markets for long-term price appreciation with selective trading as opportunities arise; and
3. Invest in or acquire companies, assets or properties involved in the origination, generation, monitoring or management of carbon credits (in other words M&A).

Strategy #1 is pretty straight forward, you simply sell your earned carbon credits to whatever market is willing to pay the most. Strategy #3 is probably similar to almost every publicly traded company on the planet. However, strategy #2 intrigues me the most from an upside potential. Having spent plenty of time in the trenches of commodity trading, I know that being long a commodity that is in demand can be very lucrative. If you are of the opinion that demand for carbon credits is potentially going to grow faster than supply, then having an enormous pipeline of carbon credits coming on stream (targeting 100 million per annum by 2025), can be a very good thing. A modest price swing can create huge leverage. Just look at natural gas prices over the last 4 months as an example for a much more than modest price swing.

The carbon emission contract that trades on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) known as EUAs (European Union Allowance) has a 52 week trading range of €23 to just under €66 on a per tonne of CO₂ equivalent basis. If you have an inventory of 100 million of annual credits being generated each year, imagine if you keep 5% to float with the spot price (preferably with a floor in place to assure breakeven). A \$5 move could add \$25 million to your top line. That's why I think Carbon Streaming could be in the right place at the right time, depending on how they manage their "selective trading".

Upon the exercise of the special warrants issued to raise the above noted US\$105 million, the Company will have roughly 231 million shares outstanding. Based on yesterday's close of \$2.38 that puts the market cap at \$550 million with approximately \$141 million (US\$112) in cash at the end of August. Back of the envelope math suggests that with 20 million in carbon credits by year end, that could generate roughly \$1.7 billion (US\$1.36 billion) in top line revenue based on yesterday's EUA close of €59. I don't know what carbon price assumption Carbon Streaming is using to calculate their 15%+ IRR but it might be worth digging a little deeper to find out.