

BC3 AI Sustainability Vendor Engagement Resources

Introduction

As companies adopt AI, they need better information about its impacts to support reporting, decision making, and their climate commitments. Many organizations are seeking more transparent, comparable, and decision-useful information regarding the energy use, water consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions associated with AI products and services.

Based on input from over 40 organizations, BC3 developed these resources to support conversations regarding AI sustainability transparency and to promote more consistent approaches to environmental impact reporting.

BC3 is making these resources publicly available to encourage discussion, support the development of best practices, and advance greater transparency regarding the environmental impacts of AI.

These resources are voluntary and are intended solely for informational and educational purposes. Nothing in these materials is intended to establish procurement requirements, supplier standards, or commercial obligations. Each organization independently determines its procurement practices, vendor relationships, sustainability objectives, and business decisions.

Who this is for & How to use

- These public resources were created to help organizations better understand, evaluate, and discuss AI-related environmental impacts.
- **Sample email language for AI vendors** (*see below*)
Customizable email language companies can use to ask vendors for more information about AI-related impacts.
- **Technical methodology** (*linked in sample email language below*)
A proposed methodology intended to support consistent measurement and reporting of AI-related environmental impacts.

Why this matters

Transparency helps companies make better procurement, deployment, reporting, and sustainability decisions. These best practices make it easier for companies to start engaging AI vendors to increase transparency.

Greater consistency in transparency-related discussions can improve comparability of information and reduce fragmented or duplicative information requests. More comparable information can help organizations better evaluate sustainability impacts and support reporting and decision-making objectives.

Share feedback

These resources are intended as a starting point for discussion and continued development of best practices. BC3 encourages companies, providers, researchers, and other stakeholders to test, refine, and improve these resources as standards and methodologies continue to evolve. [BC3 welcomes feedback on how these tools can be improved through this form.](#)

Aligned AI & Cloud Provider Sustainability & Transparency Language

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Dear <Company>,

We are interested in deepening our dialogue with cloud and artificial intelligence (AI) providers regarding the sustainability performance and transparency of the services we procure.

As organizations continue to evaluate the environmental impacts associated with AI and cloud computing, access to consistent and comparable information can help inform sustainability reporting, impact measurement, and decision-making.

To support greater transparency, we encourage providers to consider public disclosure of the following information:

To enhance transparency, we request:

- Company transparency: Public disclosure of company-level Scope 1, 2, and 3 greenhouse gas emissions
- Model development transparency: Public disclosure of model-level energy, water, and greenhouse gas impacts for training workloads
- Model usage transparency: Public disclosure of model-level energy, water, and greenhouse gas efficiency metrics for inference workloads, and, where appropriate, private sharing of customer-specific model consumption data to support customer's own impact measurement and reporting efforts

Details on methodology for these [expectations are available online here.](#)

These principles are intended solely to promote transparency, information-sharing, and informed decision-making. Each organization independently determines its procurement practices, sustainability objectives, vendor relationships, and business decisions.

We look forward to continued engagement regarding transparency, sustainability, and the responsible development and deployment of AI technologies.

Signed,
<Company>