

The Steel Climate Standard

The Global Steel Climate Council (GSCC) is publishing a draft technology-agnostic global standard, entitled *The Steel Climate Standard*, to measure and report steel carbon emissions. The standard focuses on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the global steel industry with a science-based glidepath to reduce emissions in line with the goal of the Paris Climate Agreement to achieve a 1.5° C scenario.

10 takeaways from *The Steel Climate Standard*

- 1 The GSCC standard creates a transparent, easy to understand designation for lower embodied carbon steel products that applies equally to all steel producers on a global basis.
- 2 Our standard addresses all key, carbon-intensive processes, including Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions in the production of hot rolled steel products.
- 3 Other standards are proposing a “ferrous scrap usage sliding scale” that allows high-emission steel products to be labeled as “green” and prioritized at the expense of lower-carbon products. This is greenwashing and is unacceptable.
- 4 Our five core elements of the standard (scientific, quantitative, comprehensive, principled, and transparent) will guide production toward lower emissions.
- 5 The GSCC standard’s product intensity goals for the steel industry are based on the International Energy Agency’s (IEA) carbon budget for the iron and steel sector to achieve a 1.5° C scenario by 2050. We have expanded the operational boundary to include iron and steel value chain processes that are more inclusive than the IEA’s analytical boundary.
- 6 We focus on real reductions within the steelmaking process value chain and do not allow the purchase of offsets or insets at this time.
- 7 Our standard will incentivize the development of further innovation and investments that will reduce carbon emissions.
- 8 Producers can be guided by GSCC’s product standard and corporate target-setting framework.
- 9 The standard requires companies to set company-wide, science-based reduction goals based on their steel production, GHG intensity, and the GSCC’s glidepath.
- 10 We require independent third-party verification of producers’ emissions at least every three years and reduction targets at least every five years.

The Global Steel Climate Council (GSCC) is a non-profit association organized to advance climate strategy by establishing standards and advocating for carbon emissions reductions by members of the steel industry. The GSCC includes more than 30 international producing members and supporters who are steel manufacturers, trade associations, end users, scrap metal suppliers and non-governmental organizations. The GSCC is technology agnostic and encourages all steelmaking producers to join regardless of steelmaking methods currently utilized.