

Australian Government
Carbon Neutral Program
Public Disclosure Summary

Allens < Linklaters




An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: Allens

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

Declaration

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Summary is true and correct and meets the requirements of the National Carbon Offset Standard Carbon Neutral Program.

Signature 	Date 20 December 2018
Name of Signatory Tim Stewart	
Position of Signatory Partner	

Carbon neutral certification category	Organisation
Date of most recent external verification/audit	29 January 2018
Auditor	Ben Jenkins, GPP Audit Pty Limited
Auditor assurance statement link	

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Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy

1. Carbon neutral information

1A. Introduction

Allens is a leading international law firm with offices across Australia and Asia. Our global network, formed through an alliance with Linklaters, extends our impact to 40 locations in 28 countries. We are privileged to hold some of the world's longest ongoing client relationships, stretching back more than 150 years, and we are committed to bringing our talent, expertise and insights to continue solving their toughest problems and creating new ways forward to help them thrive. In Australia, we have four offices and approximately 1200 partners and staff.

We use the operational control consolidation approach to establish our organisational boundary and identify our emission sources. Our organisation boundary includes all of our Australian offices, located in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. See section 1B below for details of our emission sources.

Our greenhouse gas inventory has been prepared in accordance with the National Carbon Offset Standard and incorporates all six greenhouse gases listed under the Kyoto Protocol (carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃)).

1B. Emission sources within certification boundary

Quantified sources

Allens includes all direct (scope 1) and indirect (scope 2) emissions sources (natural gas, refrigerants and electricity) in its greenhouse gas emissions inventory. Other significant sources of indirect (scope 3) emissions have been assessed and these are:

- Water consumption
- Base building
- Staff commuting to and from work
- IT equipment expenditure
- Paper purchases
- Business flights
- Food and catering expenses
- Postage and courier services
- International hotel accommodation
- National hotel accommodation
- Taxi travel
- Meat and meat product expenses
- Waste to landfill
- Data centre electricity use

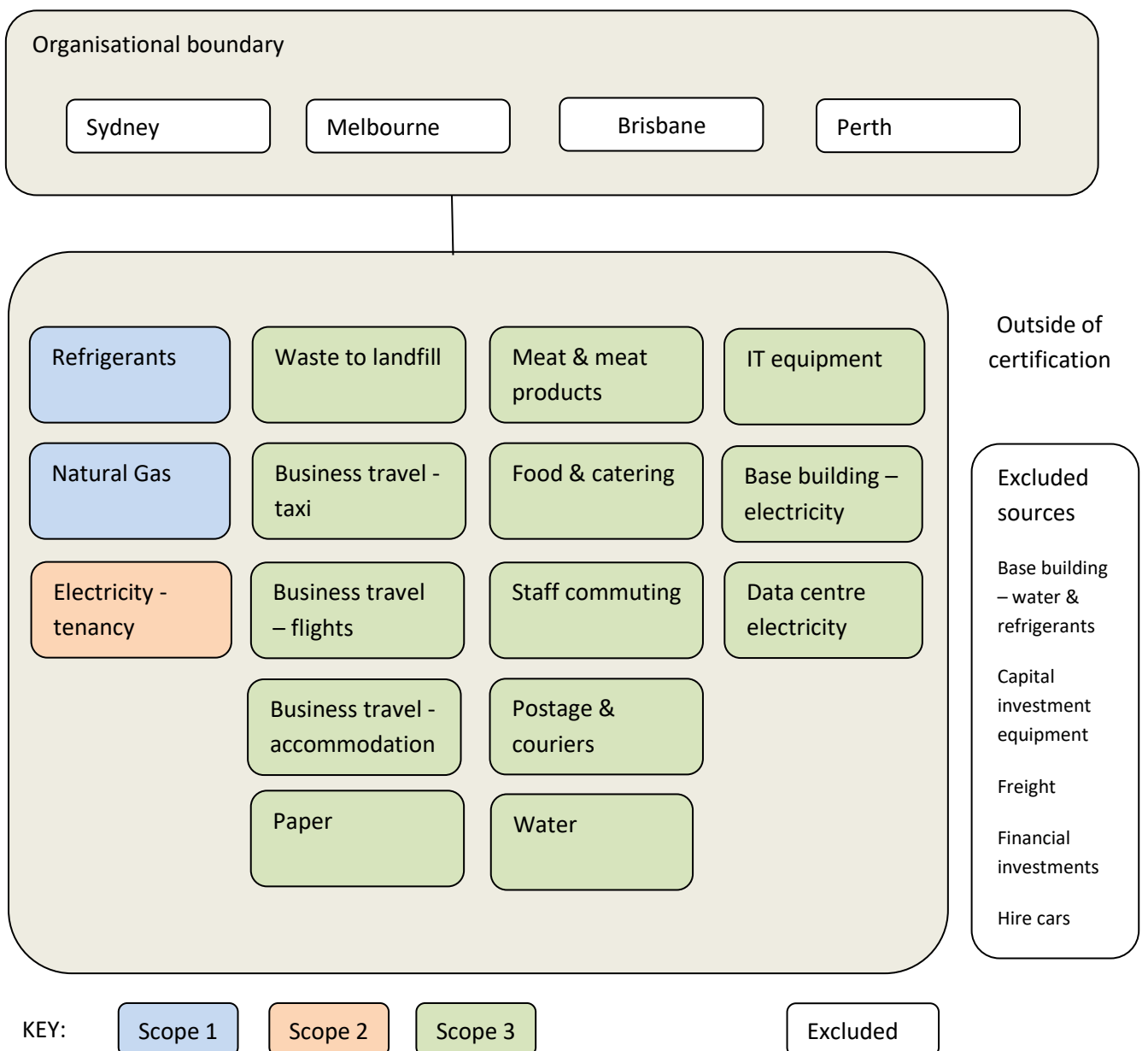
These emission sources have been included on the basis that they account for a comprehensive overview of all emissions related to Allens' operations in Australia and that they would be considered as relevant for a range of key stakeholders. Allens' office space, which is sublet to other entities, has been excluded.

Excluded sources

Emissions related to capital investment equipment, base building refrigerants and water, freight, financial investments and car hire have been excluded from the inventory. The exclusion of these emission sources is not expected to materially affect the overall total emissions.

- Capital investment equipment - Embodied emissions contained in purchased capital assets have not been included, as estimating these emissions is likely to be very difficult relative the contribution of this category to the inventory.
- Base building refrigerants and water – These emission sources are excluded on the basis that the information is very difficult to gather and they are likely to have minimal impact relative to scope 1 and 2 emissions.
- Freight – Allens does not use freight services directly and emissions from this source are likely to be negligible compared to other scope 3 emission sources.
- Hire cars – Allens' use of hire cars is minimal, and emissions from this source are likely to be negligible compared to other scope 3 emission sources.
- Financial investments – Determining the emissions associated with financial investments would be very costly relative to their likely significance.

1C. Diagram of the certification boundary



2. Emissions reduction measures

2A. Emissions over time

Overall emissions have reduced by 34.6% (or tCO₂-e) since the base year (1 July 2013 – 30 June 2014). This has been due to a range of initiatives including upgrading to more energy efficient equipment and improving the energy efficiency of our premises.

Table 1. Emissions since base year			
	Base Year: FY14 (t CO ₂ -e)	Current Year: FY18 (t CO ₂ -e)	Percentage change
Scope 1	2.6	4.6	77%
Scope 2	3,784.3	1722.1	- 54.5%
Scope 3	11,628.1	8347.3	- 28.2%
Total*	15,415.0	10,074	- 34.6%

* In 2014/15, a variation in supplier data relating to business travel and paper consumption resulted in a recalculation of baseline emissions and a restatement of gross base year emissions from 16,330.2 tCO₂-e to 15,415.0 tCO₂-e.

2B. Emissions reduction strategy

Allens' emissions reduction strategy involves:

- measuring and reporting on our energy consumption and carbon footprint;
- setting targets for reducing our emissions;
- acting on opportunities to reduce our emissions by improving operational efficiencies, investing in technological innovation and reducing our resource consumption;
- encouraging our suppliers to reduce carbon impacts in our supply chain;
- educating and engaging our people to reduce work-related emissions; and
- offsetting our residual annual carbon emissions to achieve net-zero emissions, by purchasing offsets that meet the requirements of the National Carbon Offset Standard.

2C. Emissions reduction actions

Table 2. Emissions reduction actions in the current reporting period				
Emissions source	Reduction measure and calculation method	Scope	Status	Reduction t CO ₂ -e
Electricity	Upgrade to more energy-efficient laptops.	2 & 3	Completed	Not estimated
Business Travel	Upgrade video conferencing and meeting room facilities in our Australian offices with a view to reducing the need to travel.	3	Ongoing	Not estimated
Business Travel	Upgrade conferencing and remote meeting solutions with a view to reducing the need to travel.	3	Ongoing	Not estimated
Paper	Upgrade to touch-screen laptops and dual screens in our Australian offices with a view to reducing printing volumes and paper use.	3	Completed	Not estimated

Paper	Upgrade to a new document management system with a view to reducing printing volumes and paper use.	3	Ongoing	Not estimated
Waste - landfill	Introduce new recycling streams with a view to reducing the volume of waste to landfill.	3	Ongoing	Not estimated.
Employee Commute, Business Flights, Electricity, Paper, Waste	Educate and engage our employees to encourage them to reduce their environmental impacts at work and at home (including participation in Ride2Work Day, Earth Hour, World Environment Day and National Recycling Week).	3	Ongoing	Not estimated

We continued to use NCOS certified carbon neutral office paper for our inhouse printing services, which enabled us to reduce our carbon footprint for FY18 by 21.4tCO₂-e.

3. Emissions summary

Table 3. Emissions Summary		
Scope	Emission source	t CO ₂ -e
1	Refrigerants	2.6
1	Natural gas	2
2	Electricity	1,722.1
3	Natural gas	0.5
3	Electricity	188
3	Base building	2,177.6
3	Water	6
3	IT equipment	600.4
3	Paper purchased	66.3
3	Paper (NCOS carbon neutral certified product - 16,722.5kg)	0
3	Employee commute	783.4
3	Business flights	2,505.1
3	Food and catering	603
3	Postage and couriers	56.4
3	International hotel accommodation	9.7
3	National hotel accommodation	232.5
3	Taxis	67.8
3	Meat and meat products	792.2
3	Waste to landfill	72.4
3	Data centre electricity use	186
Total Gross Emissions		10,074

4. Carbon offsets

4A. Offsets summary

Table 3. Offsets Summary				
Date of cancellation	Offset project, unit type and registry	Serial numbers	Vintage	Quantity
15 June 2018	Satara Wind Power Project in Maharashtra, India (VCUs, APX VCS Registry)	5690-255285579-255289088-VCU-050-APX-IN-1-1519-01012016-31122016-0	2016	3,510
15 June 2018	April Salumei REDD Project in PNG (VCUs, APX VCS Registry)	5683-254947555-254948534-VCU-016-APX-PG-14-1122-22052009 - 31122012-0	2012	980
28 June 2018	GSC-VTN-Biomass (Gold Standard VER credits, Markit Environmental Registry)	GS1-1-VN-GS1083-4-2012-4506-2101 to 3000	2012	900
28 June 2018	GSC-VTN-Biomass (Gold Standard VER credits, Markit Environmental Registry)	GS1-1-VN-GS1083-4-2012-4666-454 to 500	2012	47
28 June 2018	GSC-VTN-Biomass (Gold Standard VER credits, Markit Environmental Registry)	GS1-1-VN-GS1083-4-2013-4665-1 to 500	2013	500
28 June 2018	GSC-VTN-Biomass (Gold Standard VER credits, Markit Environmental Registry)	GS1-1-VN-GS1083-4-2013-6470-16863 to 17710	2013	848
15 June 2018	West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement Project (KACCU, Registry)	3,756,674,469 – 3,756,675,188	2016-17	720
20 June 2018	West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement Project (KACCU, Registry)	3,756,675,189-3,756,675,198	2016-17	10
15 June 2018	ACCU–AUS–Dambimangari, North Kimberley Fire Abatement Project (KACCU, Registry)	3,744,274,918 – 3,744,276,402	2015-16	1,485
30 October 2018	April Salumei REDD Project in PNG (VCUs, APX VCS Registry)	5712-256345100-256345319-VCU-016-APX-PG-14-1122-22052009-31122012-0	2012	220
18 December 2018	West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement Project (KACCU, Registry)	3,769,393,614 – 3,769,393,957	2017-18	344

Table 3. Offsets Summary				
Date of cancellation	Offset project, unit type and registry	Serial numbers	Vintage	Quantity
18 December 2018	Satara Wind Power Project in Maharashtra, India (VCUs, APX VCS Registry)	6037-276418414-276418924-VCU-050-APX-IN-1-1660-01012017-30092017-0	2017	510
Total offsets cancelled				10,074
Net emissions after offsetting				Nil



4B. Offsets purchasing and retirement strategy

Offsets are partially purchased and retired during the reporting period and the remainder purchased once reporting has been completed.

4C. Offset projects (Co-benefits)

Allens seeks to buy offsets from projects that align with the firm's community engagement program and objectives and offer additional environmental and social benefits. The example projects described below relate to 37 per cent of the total amount of offsets purchased and retired by Allens for this reporting period.

North Kimberley fire abatement project and Western Arnhem Land fire abatement project in Australia

These projects are savanna fire management programs conducted by Indigenous ranger groups in Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by conducting strategic early season burning on country, to reduce the intensity of late dry season fires. The projects provide employment and an income stream to local Aboriginal communities, while at the same time strengthening connections with the land and allowing the traditional owners to fulfil cultural responsibilities. They also help to conserve biodiversity and provide social benefits within the local communities.

April Salumei REDD project in Papua New Guinea

This project protects rainforest, which prevents the carbon stored in the trees from being released into the atmosphere. Without this project, the forest would be harvested for timber and converted to agricultural land. The rainforest protected by this project is considered one of the ten most important biodiversity hotspots on earth. The April Salumei project is also home to many communities who depend upon the rainforest for their livelihoods, as they have done for hundreds of years. Due largely to the remoteness of the area, these communities are some of the least developed in Papua New Guinea. To deliver positive social and environmental outcomes, the project works in partnership with the traditional landowners to invest in health, education, communication and accessibility programs that provide essential services alongside conservation efforts.

5. Use of trade mark

Table 4. Trade mark register	
Where used	Logo type
Presentation forming part of Allens' induction program	Certified organisation