

Australian Government
Carbon Neutral Program
Public Disclosure Summary



An Australian Government Initiative


NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: South Pole Australia Pty. Ltd.

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 January to 31 December 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
	30/05/2019
Dr. Thomas Schroder	
Director, South Pole Australia Pty. Ltd.	

Carbon neutral certification category	Organisation
Date of most recent external verification/audit	31/10/2018
Auditor	
Auditor assurance statement link	https://www.southpole.com/ncos-certification



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy

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1. Carbon neutral information

1A. Introduction

South Pole Australia is the Australian subsidiary of South Pole Asset Management (South Pole), headquartered in Switzerland. South Pole is a leading sustainability solution provider. Initially focused on the development of premium carbon emissions reduction projects, the company now offers a wide spectrum of sustainability services, including climate policy and strategy advisory. Its expertise covers the areas of climate change, forests & land use, water, and sustainable cities & buildings, as well as renewable energy and energy efficiency. The company is determined to help its clients grow their business with ground-breaking solutions, which positively impact the environment and the needs of society.

South Pole's presence in Australia spans all areas of expertise from consulting, marketing, sales and portfolio. The local Australian team is well connected to South Pole's global network of experts. South Pole Australia's offering includes consulting, marketing and product services across four key areas: certificates, public advisory, advisory & data and green funds. This involves providing both the public and private sector with emissions reductions, renewable energy certificates and sustainability services that include sustainable supply chains and Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) advisory.

In addition, we provide advisory on carbon pricing, climate finance, smart cities and climate policy/Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the public sector.

Table 1 below presents general information about the company and its reporting period.

Table 1. Company information	
Website:	www.southpole.com/sp-australia
Business area:	consultancy services
Reporting period:	1 January to 31 December 2018
Number of full-time employees (FTE):	8

South Pole Australia's greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting and reporting procedure is based on the National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS) for organisations and the 'Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard Revised edition' (GHG Protocol)¹.

South Pole Australia's organisational boundaries have been defined following the control approach. The boundary covers all entities where South Pole Australia has operational control, including its offices in Sydney and Melbourne.

South Poles GHG account covers the six GHGs covered by the Kyoto Protocol: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆). All emissions are reported in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂-e).

¹ World Resources Institute (WRI) and World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), 2004

1B. Emissions sources within certification boundary

Quantified sources

South Pole includes all direct (Scope 1) and indirect energy (Scope 2) emissions sources in its GHG emissions inventory. It also includes indirect (Scope 3) emissions sources that result from the operations of its business. In the 2018 carbon account, three new emissions sources have been considered: internet, printing and publishing, and freight. The following emissions sources have been quantified:

- **Scope 1:**
 - Fuels for combustion in stationary sources
 - Fuels for combustion in mobile sources (vehicles)
- **Scope 2:**
 - Electricity consumption (tenancy)
- **Scope 3:**
 - Fuel and energy-related activities²
 - Base building electricity, including energy-related activities
 - Business travel (flights, car rental, taxis and public transport)
 - Business travel accommodation
 - Paper
 - Disposal of waste to landfill
 - Employee commuting
 - Reticulated water usage (supply and treatment)
 - Courier and postage
 - Telecommunications
 - Food and catering
 - Office equipment
 - Internet
 - Printing and publishing
 - Freight

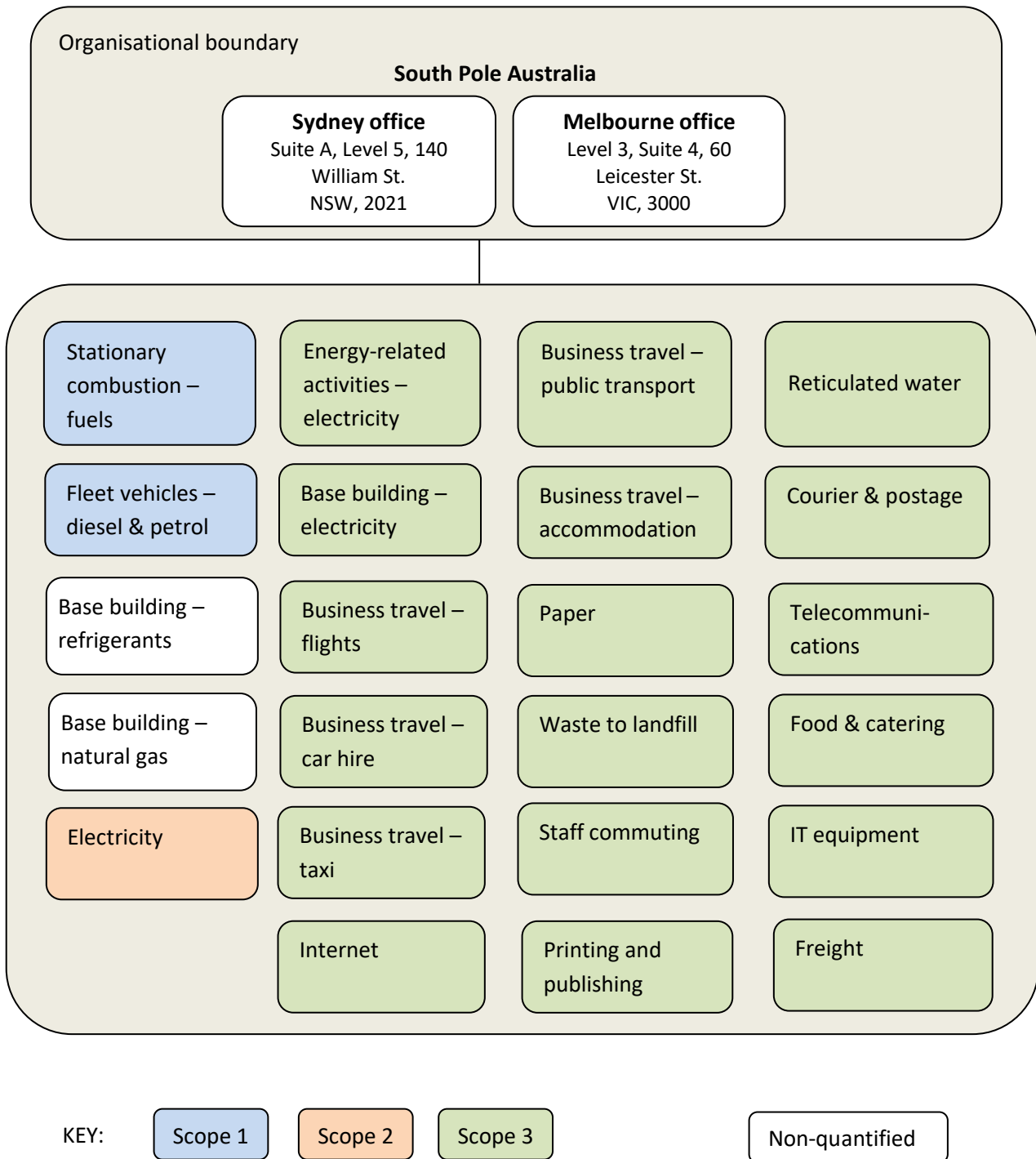
Excluded sources

Due to lack of information about the technology used in the air conditioning (AC) systems of the buildings where South Pole has its offices, it has not been possible to determine a reliable way to estimate potential emissions from refrigerants. This emissions source has been excluded from the 2018 account.

South Pole believes the emissions from refrigerants and base building natural gas usage are likely to be immaterial. Nonetheless, South Pole will continue working with the building managers to ensure that the information is available and that these emissions are included in future carbon accounts.

² Fuel and energy-related activities comprise well-to-tank (WTT) emissions from fuels and emissions associated with electricity transmission and distribution (T&D) losses. WTT emissions account for the upstream emissions associated with extraction, refining and transportation of the raw fuel sources of an organisation's site (or asset), prior to combustion. T&D accounts for the emissions associated with grid losses (the energy loss that occurs in transferring electricity from the power plant to the organisations that purchase it).

1C. Diagram of the certification boundary



2. Emissions reduction measures

2A. Emissions over time

Table 1. Emissions since base year		
	Base Year: 2017	Current year Year 1: 2018
Scope 1	0.00 t CO ₂ -e	0.00 t CO ₂ -e
Scope 2	5.99 t CO ₂ -e	4.98 t CO ₂ -e
Scope 3	41.36 t CO ₂ -e	103.25 t CO ₂ -e
Total gross emissions	47.35 t CO₂-e	107.54 t CO₂-e

2B. Emissions reduction strategy

In 2018, South Pole has made great advances towards taking environmental responsibility for its operations through the development of its Sustainability Policy and Action Plan. It continuously measures its climate impact and encourages the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies. As of January 2019, the following Sustainability Targets and goals have been set for the year 2025. The progress made against these targets will be measured, reported and communicated on a yearly basis.

Sustainability Action Plan	2025 Target
Goal 1: Reduce, compensate and report our carbon emissions	
1.1 Power operations with renewable electricity	100% of electricity purchased is procured from renewable sources, in offices where we have control
1.2 Reduce GHG footprint of heat consumption	50% of purchased heat is procured from renewable sources
1.3 Reduce South Pole office energy consumption through energy efficiency measures	20% reduction in MWh/employee
1.4 Reduce carbon emissions from business travel	10% reduction in km/employee from business travel by all transport modes 15% reduction in km/employee from business travel by air
1.5 Report and publish South Pole's GHG emissions and offset report, verified by a third-party organisation	Continue publishing verified GHG emissions and offset report
1.6 Climate-neutral and climate-positive company	Achieve climate-positive status

Goal 2: Water consumption	
2.1 Reduce water consumption in South Pole operations	20% reduction in m ³ /employee in offices where we have control
Goal 3: Waste & recycling	
3.1 Reduce waste generation within South Pole offices	15% reduction in kg waste/employee
3.2 Recycle all possible materials produced within South Pole operations	20% of waste recycled
3.3 E-waste produced within South Pole is recycled responsibly by a certified e-waste recycler	90% e-waste recycled in countries where certified e-waste recycling is available
Goal 4: Sustainable sourcing/procurement	
4.1 Purchase sustainable office supplies and equipment, including IT equipment	25% supplies and equipment purchased is sustainable
Goal 5: Zero deforestation	
5.1 Paperless offices	50% reduction in paper sheets/employee
5.2 Purchase of only recycled and certified paper	75% certified recycled paper purchased
Goal 7: Community outreach and advocacy	
7.1 Annual local community days for all South Pole teams	Each office adopts a year-long sustainability-related community-outreach programme with numerous coordinated activities
Goal 8: Employee engagement	
8.1 Promote sustainable commuting practices	90% of South Pole employees commuting via public transport, rideshare, bicycle or walking
8.2 Implement onboarding training on sustainable practices at South Pole	80% of new employees completed the training 80% of new employees completed feedback form
8.3 Encourage green office spaces	Every office has at least 1 office plant per 10m ²

2C. Emissions reduction actions

The list below presents the emissions reduction actions South Pole Australia is already undertaking.

- Reducing GHG emissions where possible and offsetting the rest
- Powering operations with renewable energy wherever possible
- Promoting green practices directed at recycling and minimising waste
- Purchasing environmentally friendly, recycled and recyclable supplies wherever possible
- Minimising unnecessary travel between offices to reduce GHG emissions caused by professional trips
- Promoting the use of public transport, as well as bicycle use and walking
- Encouraging and training staff to be the best sustainability advocates and practitioners
- Communicating which projects we choose for offsetting our emissions

The emissions reductions achieved through these measures will be quantified and communicated in future reports.

3. Emissions summary

Table 2. Emissions Summary		
Scope	Emissions source	tCO ₂ -e
1	Stationary combustion fuels – diesel	0.00
1	Transport diesel	0.00
1	Transport petrol	0.00
2	Purchased electricity	4.98
3	Energy-related activities from purchased electricity	0.57
3	Base building – electricity	22.25
3	Base building – electricity (energy-related activities)	2.62
3	Travel – flights (incl. WTT emissions)	53.82
3	Travel – car hire	0.00
3	Travel – taxi & uber	0.26
3	Travel – bus	<0.01
3	Travel – rail	0.05
3	Travel – metro/subway	0.02
3	Travel – tram	0.02
3	Travel – unspecified public transport	1.35
3	Accommodation	4.96
3	Paper	<0.01
3	Waste – municipal solid waste	0.28
3	Staff commuting	2.00
3	Reticulated water	0.30
3	Courier/postage	0.34
3	Telecommunications	1.23
3	Catering/food	8.67
3	Office equipment	3.42
3	Internet	<0.01
3	Printing and publishing	0.38
3	Freight	0.02

Total gross emissions	107.54
GreenPower or retired Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs)	4.29
Total net emissions	103.25

4. Carbon offsets

4A. Offsets summary

The net amount of GHG emissions for the calendar year 2018 is 104 tCO₂-e. South Pole Australia had 19 tCO₂-e banked in 2017, which will be used to offset 2018 emissions.

On top of the organisation's footprint calculation, South Pole Australia has chosen to voluntarily include an additional 30 tCO₂-e to the total amount of carbon offsets retired. This ensures that the organisation's footprint calculation is conservative in respect to all emission sources. With this buffer, the total amount of carbon credits retired for the year 2018 is 115 tCO₂-e.

Table 3. Offsets Summary						
Projects supported by offset purchase	Eligible offset units	Registry	Cancellation date	Serial numbers (including hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Quantity
Kariba REDD+ Project, Zimbabwe – VCUs, APX VCS Registry	115	VCSR978	28 May 2019	5278-221652522-221652636-VCU-006-APX-ZW-14-902-01012013-31122013-1	2013	115
Kariba REDD+ Project, Zimbabwe – VCUs, APX VCS Registry	19	VCSR978	26 Oct 2018	5849-264140958-264141027-VCU-006-APX-ZW-14-902-01012014-30062014-1	2014	19
Total offsets cancelled						134

4B. Offsets purchasing and retirement strategy

South Pole Australia will acquire a sufficient quantity of NCOS-eligible offset units to offset the total GHG emissions associated with our operations for each reporting year. The offsets will be retired once the final GHG inventory has been completed and approved by South Pole's internal GHG accounting review team and the external auditor (every other year). Offsets will be acquired and retired in arrears at the end of the reporting period.

South Pole will keep records of and disclose the offset units in a registry and record appropriate details to audit this cancelling activity (e.g. registry name, serial number and cancellation certificate). These details will be reported as part of the public disclosure summary.

4C. Offset projects (Co-benefits)

Kariba REDD+ is a community-based project, administered by the four local Rural District Councils (RDCs) of Binga, Nyaminyami, Hurungwe and Mbire in Zimbabwe. As such, the project supports a range of activities beyond environmental protection, promoting the independence and wellbeing of these communities. Improved clinic amenities provide better healthcare, infrastructure including new roads and boreholes improve daily life, and school subsidies are offered to the poorest quartile of the population.

Project activities in conservation agriculture, community gardens, beekeeping training, fire management, and ecotourism create jobs and facilitate sustainable incomes, benefiting the entire region.

Additional information on the co-benefits can be found in the Kariba REDD+ project [factsheet](#) and [infographic](#).

5. Use of trade mark

Table 4 below indicates South Pole Australia’s intended usage of the trade mark.

Table 4. Trade mark register	
Where used	Logo type
Company website	Certified organisation
Company marketing materials	Certified organisation
Certification certificate displayed at Sydney office	Certification certificate

6. Have you done more?

Compared to last year, there is improvement in data accuracy reported this year. For instance, activity data for base building energy in Sydney office was able to be obtain directly from the building management. Other than that, South Pole has expanded the coverage of its Scope 3 emissions sources in 2018 to measure three new emissions sources: internet, printing and publishing, and freight.