

National Carbon Offset Standard Carbon Neutral Program Public Disclosure Summary



An Australian Government Initiative

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COMPANY NAME: GOLDEN WEST HOLDINGS PTY LTD T/A BLUE
MOUNTAINS

EXPLORER BUS / FANTASTIC AUSSIE TOURS

REPORTING PERIOD: FY2019

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 17/6/20
Name of Signatory Jason Cranshaw	
Position of Signatory Managing Director	

Carbon neutral certification category	Organisation & service
Date of most recent external verification/audit	



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy

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Auditor	
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1. Carbon neutral information

1A. Introduction

Golden West Holdings operates both Fantastic Aussie Tours and Blue Mountains Explorer Bus, based in an office in Katoomba (238 Bathurst St) and a depot in North Katoomba (91 Barton St). These two businesses provide three different types of transport services for tourists, schools, corporate events and other customers. These services are:

1. Hop-on hop-off Explorer Bus: This service ferries tourists between different sites in the Blue Mountains.
2. Fantastic Aussie Tours: This caters to tourists wanting to take tours in the Blue Mountains as well as other locations (e.g. between Sydney and inter-state destinations)
3. Fantastic Aussie Tours coach charter service: This involves six coaches catering to local schools, Barker College (outdoor education), the International Management School, Corporate transfers (e.g. to restaurants, hotels or to/from Sydney)

Golden West Holdings' National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS) Carbon Neutral Program (CNP) certification includes both the business activities of Golden West Holdings (organisational certification), as well as the coach charter and tourist sightseeing services operating in the Blue Mountains (service certification).

To this effect, this greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory covers direct (scope 1) and indirect (scope 2) GHG emissions associated with Fantastic Aussie Tours's and Blue Mountains Explorer Bus's activities over which Golden West Holdings has operational control, as well as other indirect GHG emissions that occur as a result of Golden West Holdings's business activities (scope 3).

Also included in the GHG inventory are lifecycle (embodied) emissions from vehicle manufacture of Golden West Holdings' fleet of 11 buses and coaches, which have been estimated using a lifecycle assessment approach. Most energy in vehicles is consumed during their operational (use) phase. Emissions associated with vehicle maintenance and fuel consumption are accounted for under scope 1, scope 2, and scope 3.

The GHG inventory has been prepared in accordance with the Climate Active Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS), the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Program Guidelines, the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007 and supporting legislation and documentation, and the GHG Protocol series.

1B. Emission sources within certification boundary

Quantified sources

The following emission sources have been included in this GHG inventory:

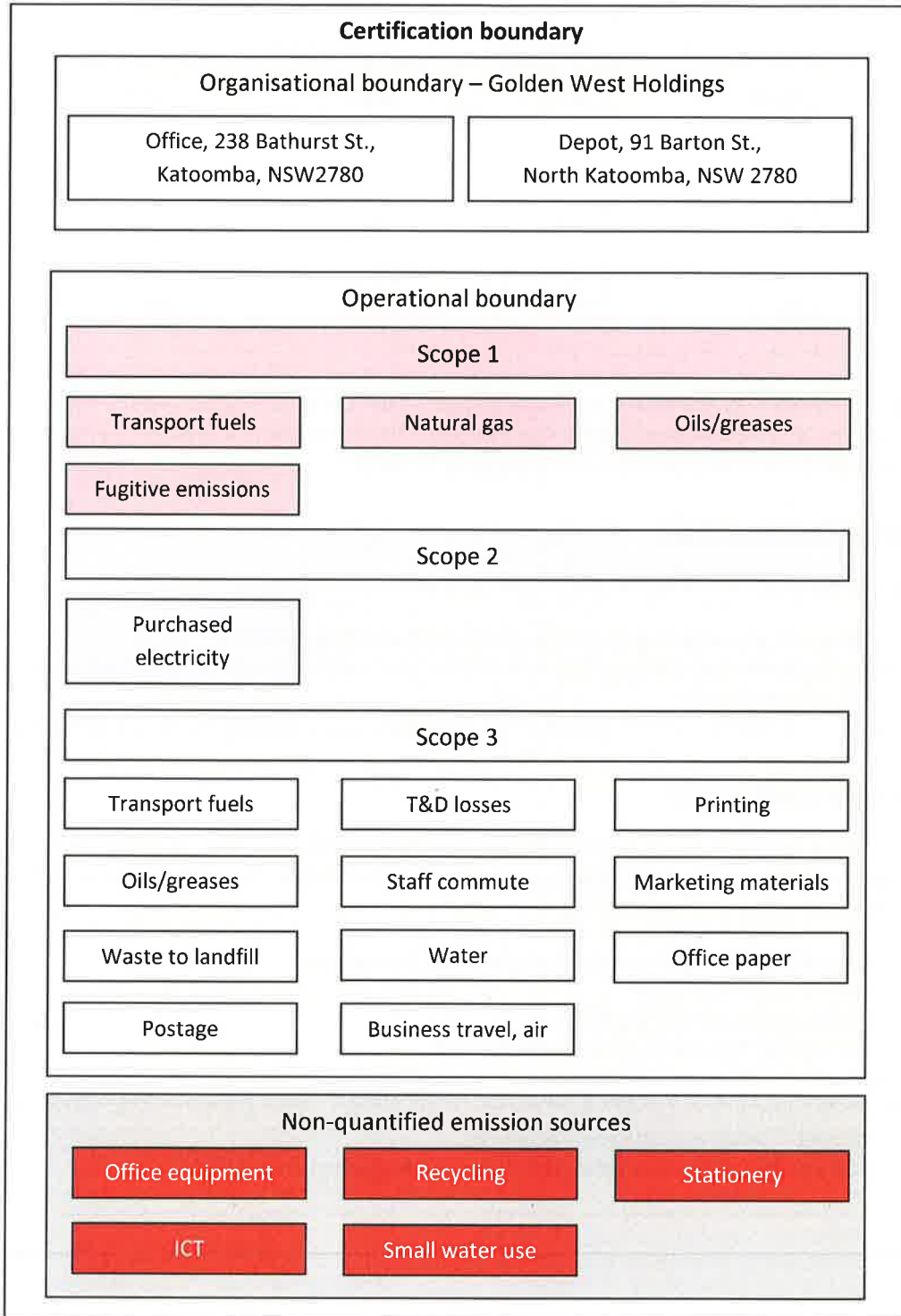
- Transport fuels – buses and business travel
- Natural gas distributed in a pipeline
- Petroleum-based oils and greases
- Fugitive emissions from refrigerants used in air-conditioning units
- Purchased electricity, including transmission and distribution losses
- Extraction, production and distribution of fuels, natural gas, as well as oils and greases used
- Waste to landfill
- Water supply and waste water
- Business air travel
- Staff commute
- Marketing materials
- Office paper
- Postage

Non-quantified sources

- Office equipment, telecommunications/Internet and stationery are not included because these are not significant expenditures and not expected to make up a material contribution to total emissions.
- Water use for one toilet and one sink in the rented Katoomba office has been excluded as GWH does not pay for this water usage nor has access to the water invoices for the premises. The contribution of this emission source to the total footprint is considered to be immaterial.
- Emissions associated with recycling of waste, filters, oil and mechanical items have been excluded due to data limitations.

1C. Diagram of the certification boundary

All emissions from the service certification are accounted for within the organisation certification and are classified as 'shared emissions'.



2. Emissions reduction measures

2A. Emissions over time

Table 1. Emissions since base year in tonnes CO₂-e				
	Base Year: FY16	Year 1: FY17	Year 2: FY18	
Scope 1	283.8	324.4	324.7	340.5
Scope 2	16.4	23	18.9	12.8
Scope 3	397.3	72.6	73.4	71.4
Total	681.3	421.8	417	425

Note that Scope 3 emissions for the base year include embedded emissions associated with the manufacture of the vehicles. Corresponding emissions have been calculated using a lifecycle approach. Therefore, embedded emissions need only be accounted for when new vehicles are added to the fleet.

2B. Emissions reduction strategy

The following activities form part of Golden West Holdings's emissions reduction strategy:

- Annual measurement and reporting of energy consumption and GHG inventory
- Identifying and implementing opportunities to reduce emissions and energy consumption wherever possible and feasible (avoid, reduce, offset)
- Staff engagement, providing staff the opportunity to contribute to the process of reducing emissions

2C. Emissions reduction actions

Golden West Holdings is using the current GHG inventory and the baseline to identify, evaluate and implement potential emission reduction opportunities and against which future efforts and overall environmental performance is evaluated. Opportunities implemented include:

- Switching to Climate Active-certified carbon neutral products, such as
 - Carbon neutral office paper
 - Carbon neutral electricity products
 - Carbon neutral flight options for business travel
- Driver training
- Energy efficiency opportunities to reduce energy demand, such as switching lights to LEDs, and considering the most efficient options when procuring new equipment
- Improving recycling rate and further reducing amount of waste that goes to landfill

3. Emissions summary

The total tonnes CO₂-e listed this GHG inventory have been rounded to the first decimal place. Where the rounded value shows as 0.0, the value has been rounded up to 0.1 to indicate occurrence of GHG emissions. Due to this rounding, numbers presented in Table 2 may not add up precisely to the totals provided.

Table 2. Emissions Summary		
Scope	Emission source	t CO ₂ -e
1	Diesel for buses	170.5
1	Diesel for coaches	163.2
3	Staff commute	22.8
3	Diesel – extraction, production and distribution	17.0
2	Purchased electricity – NCOS CNP-certified	12.8
3	Marketing materials	9.1
3	Waste to landfill	8.1
3	Printing and publishing	6.7
1	Natural gas distributed in pipeline	4.8
3	Electricity – transmission and distribution losses	1.4
3	Natural gas – extraction, production and distribution	1.3
1	Petroleum-based oils	0.8
1	Diesel for company car	0.7
3	Office paper – Climate Active CNP-certified	0.7
1	Refrigerant leakage	0.6
3	Office paper	0.5
3	Water supply and waste water	0.4
3	Postage	0.2
Total Gross Emissions		425
Powershop Carbon Neutral electricity – Climate Active CNP-certified		12.8
Office paper – Climate Active CNP-certified		1.2
Petroleum based oils – Climate Active CNP-certified		0.8
Total Net Emissions		411

4. Carbon offsets

4A. Offsets summary

Table 3. Offsets Summary			
Offset type and registry	Year retired	Quantity	Serial numbers
CERs, UNFCCC CDM Registry	2020	220	IN-5-252504056-2-2-0-2342 to IN-5-252504275-2-2-0-2342
CERs, ANREU	2020	220	CN-5-1010972370-2-2-0-316 to CN-5-1010972589-2-2-0-316
PERs (Gold Standard), Gold Standard Registry (assigned units)	N/A	220	GS1-1-AU-GS3039-21-2022-19221-1629-1848
Total offset units retired			440
Total offset units assigned			220
Net emissions after offsetting			0

4B. Offsets purchasing and retirement strategy

Offsets will be purchased and retired annually in arrears at the end of each reporting year in accordance with the NCOS and NCOS Carbon Neutral Program Guidelines. All offsets will be purchased and retired by the offset provider on Golden West Holdings's behalf.

Golden West Holdings has purchased and retired 440 offset units:

- 411 units have been retired to cover the carbon footprint associated with Golden West Holdings' business activities, including fuel used by the vehicle fleet;
- An additional allocation of 29 units has been retired to ensure carbon neutrality (considering immaterial emission sources) and to minimise the risk of shortfall, as well as to underscore Golden West Holdings's commitment to the principles of the Climate Active CNP.

Of the 440 offset units purchased and retired for the this year of certification, 220 CERs are part of Golden West Holdings's commitment to the [UN Climate Neutral Now](#) program.

4C. Offset projects (Co-benefits)

14MW Wind Power Project in Maharashtra, India ([PA 2342](#)) – In addition to the environmental benefits, this project contributes to social development by income and employment generation. For more details, please see the corresponding CDM [SD Report](#).

GWH supports the [Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Project](#) – From a small scale initial biodiverse planting in 2008 the project has expanded into a 11,700 hectare restoration of uneconomic and partly degraded farmland. It aims to create a connected, biodiverse landscape across the mid-West wheatbelt region, offsetting carbon emissions, and support the conservation of ecological communities of native flora and fauna. The project won the [Banksia Natural Capital Award](#) at the 28th annual Banksia Sustainability Awards.

The assigned units of this project are underlined by the Ningxia Helanshan Wind-farm Project, Ningxia Autonomous Region, China ([PA0316](#)).

5. Use of trade mark

Table 4. Trade mark register	
Where used	Logo type
Website	Certified organisation & service
Marketing materials	Certified organisation & service
Email signature	Certified organisation & service
On buses	Certified service
Business cards & stationery	Certified organisation

6. Have you done more?

Golden West Holdings will continuously review available emission factors and methodologies, and update its GHG inventory if there are any significant changes to the data, inventory boundary, methodologies, emission factors or any other relevant factors such as changes to the organisational structure or the discovery of significant errors.

