



# **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**PwC AUSTRALIA  
CARBON NEUTRAL - ORGANISATION  
2019 - 2020**

Australian Government  
**Climate Active**  
**Public Disclosure Statement**



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020

**Declaration**

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Statement is true and correct and meets the requirements of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard.

Signature:

Date: 21 December 2020

Name of Signatory: Rosalie Wilkie

Position of Signatory: Partner

Name of Supporting Signatory: Carolyn Cosgrove

Position of Signatory: Director



**Australian Government**

**Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources**

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# 1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

## Description of certification

This certification and public disclosure statement certifies that PwC Australia (PwC) has achieved net zero emissions for the period 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020 (FY20) and is a carbon neutral organisation certified by Climate Active. This means that the operations of PwC as a whole, within the certification boundary outlined below, have resulted in net zero emissions.

The Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification is an important part of PwC's commitment to managing our impact on the environment and taking positive climate action. Achieving and maintaining this certification allows PwC to take responsibility for our unavoidable emissions and ensures the organisation purchases the right amount of carbon offsets to offset our emissions impact, and in doing so support projects that reduce or remove carbon from the atmosphere.

*“The Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification is an important part of PwC Australia’s commitment to managing our impact on the environment and taking positive climate action.”*

## Organisation description

PwC works with businesses, Government and the community to help Australia continue to thrive and grow. Our firm delivers assurance, financial advisory and consulting services to more than 5,000 clients. PwC is part of a network of firms in 158 countries with over 250,000 people.

Our purpose is to build trust in society and solve important problems. We believe the most important problems are better solved together. PwC is a powerful multiplier of connections and innovation. It's what we do best: connecting people, businesses, technology and ideas to solve important problems.

We are a team of more than 8,000 people in Australia, working together to build trust in society and solve important problems.

## 2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

### Diagram of the certification boundary

PwC's reporting boundary has been defined in accordance with the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007* (NGER Act), and includes all offices in Australia occupied by PwC people, located in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Darwin, Melbourne, Newcastle, Paramatta, Perth and Sydney.

PwC entered a new lease for office space in The Rocks (Sydney) which was opened in August 2019, and this has been included in our reporting boundary for the first time in FY20. Our Parramatta Philip Street office was opened in January 2019, therefore FY20 will be the first time that a full 12 months of this office will be reported. All other offices included in our reporting boundary are unchanged from our FY19 reporting.

PwC office space which is sublet to other entities is excluded.

<u>Quantified</u>	<u>Non-Quantified</u>	<u>Excluded</u>
<i>Paper</i>	N/A	<i>Offices of PwC member firms outside of Australia</i>
<i>Water</i>		<i>Office equipment</i>
<i>Business travel – car hire and public transport</i>		<i>Outsourced printing</i>
<i>Air travel</i>		<i>Food and catering</i>
<i>Freight</i>		<i>Transportation of waste</i>
<i>Waste</i>		
<i>Electricity, including data centres</i>		
<i>Petrol and gas used in business travel</i>		
<i>Stationary energy</i>		
<i>Refrigerants</i>		
<i>Natural gas</i>		
<b><i>New in FY20</i></b>		
<i>Employee commute</i>		
<i>Working from home</i>		

## Non-quantified sources

All relevant emission sources as determined through the relevance test have been quantified by PwC. Where we have not been able to source actual data to use in our calculation of activity data, we have followed Climate Active's guidance and used either provided calculators or reasonable estimates.

## Data management plan

PwC has not listed any relevant emission sources as non-quantified due to data being unavailable.

## Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)

PwC has excluded the following emission sources, and has determined it appropriate to exclude these on the basis of the relevance test applied:

- Food and catering, office equipment and outsourced printing have been excluded as it has been assessed that these emissions sources are not relevant according to the relevance test. These materials do not produce emissions when used but emissions are likely to occur during their production and manufacture. Relevant and comprehensive data for many materials are not yet available and therefore are not included. We will continue to review the adequacy of supporting data for other activities and consider annually whether to include additional activities within our emissions inventory. Most purchased products are delivered by a variety of different suppliers with limited visibility over the location of the warehouse and delivery distances. As there is limited relevant and comprehensive data available these have been excluded from the emissions inventory.
- Transportation of waste has been excluded as it has been assessed that it is not relevant according to the relevance test. Collection of waste occurs at varying frequencies, with limited visibility over the number of collections and distance travelled to waste management facilities. As there is limited relevant and comprehensive data available these have been excluded from the emissions inventory. We will continue to review the adequacy of supporting data for these activities and consider annually whether to include them within our emissions inventory.
- PwC makes use of shared service centres in the Philippines and India. The people in these shared service centres assist with administration and the delivery of some aspects of our client services for PwC offices across the globe. The people in these shared service centres are not direct employees of PwC Australia. As a result, emissions from these shared service centres have been excluded as we are reporting on PwC GHG emissions resulting from our operations within the geographical boundary of Australia.

*"This process allows PwC Australia to take responsibility for our unavoidable emissions and ensures the organisation purchases the right amount of carbon offsets to offset our emissions impact, and in doing so support projects around the world that reduce or remove carbon from the atmosphere."*

### 3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

#### Emissions reduction strategy

PwC has been measuring and reporting Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions since FY08 (baseline year- 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008).

PwC has implemented a number of initiatives to reduce our emissions since our base year, including transitioning to more energy efficient buildings, significant investments in technology to support remote working, reduced work-related travel and increased environmental staff engagement activities in support of promoting positive behavioural change. Our FY20 emissions have decreased by 13,185 tCO<sub>2</sub>e or 28.5% since FY19, which is a result of these initiatives as well as a significant reduction in air travel, tenancy electricity and staff commuting due to the restrictions of movement associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

There have been no changes to PwC's GHG inventory type during the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 apart from the inclusion of the following for the first time in FY20:

- Emissions from our data centres used in our operations;
- Emissions from staff commute to and from our offices – historically only travel to and from client sites were included;
- Emissions generated from staff working from home over the COVID-19 pandemic (commencing March 2020).

Emissions reduction initiatives in the near term include renegotiation of our tenancy electricity agreements, such that 75% of our tenancy electricity will come from renewable sources by FY21 (an increase of approximately 40%). In addition, embedding the behavioural changes resulting from COVID-19 into our new ways of working, including reduced air travel and other work-related travel, will continue in FY21.

On 15 September 2020, PwC made a worldwide commitment to achieve Net Zero GHG emissions by 2030. The commitment includes supporting our clients to reduce their emissions as well as reducing those from PwC network's operations and suppliers. PwC will be adopting a local emissions reduction target in line with this global commitment and releasing targets in FY22.

Detailed information, including statistics, location-specific guides, useful links and FAQs about these and other emissions sources are available to all staff via our Social Impact – Environment intranet page. Information is also available on the PwC Australia website, including the firm's environmental policy, its commitment to carbon neutrality and achieving net zero emissions by 2030, as well as the firm's role in the energy ecosystem and broader environment. The direct link to this information is available here: <https://www.pwc.com.au/about-us/social-impact/trust-capacity/environment.html>

The firm also regularly promotes its focus on the environment in firmwide staff briefings, internal communications and in discussions with existing and prospective clients and suppliers.

## Emissions over time

Table 1

Emissions since base year (in tCO <sub>2</sub> e)								
	Base Year 2007-08	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY19 (Restated)*	FY20
Scope 1	1,107	227	321	604	747	604	604	549
Scope 2	21,314	13,607	14,639	14,722	10,947	14,449	14,598	8,970
Scope 3	14,879	24,644	26,477	31,064	33,925	30,395	31,046	23,544
Total tCO <sub>2</sub> e	37,300	38,478	41,436	46,390	45,619	45,448	46,248	33,063

\* FY19 emissions have been restated as a result of finalisation of Climate Active calculators after initial reporting date. Refer discussion under Table 2 for further detail.

## Emissions reduction actions

### Commitment to Net Zero by 2030

PwC has made a global commitment to reach Net Zero GHG emissions by 2030. Globally across our network, this commitment includes reducing our total greenhouse gas emissions by 50% in absolute terms by 2030. This will be achieved by switching to 100% renewable electricity in all territories, as well as embedding energy efficiency improvements in our offices and halving the emissions associated with business travel and accommodation within a decade. Plans to operationalise these targets at a local Australian level are underway and specific Australian targets will be released in FY22.

### Travel emissions

Air travel has reduced significantly in FY20 from FY19 primarily driven by the impact of COVID-19 from March 2020. COVID-19 related travel restrictions have prompted our people to re-imagine the way we meet with each other, both interstate and internationally, and has increased the utilisation of our collaborative technology to connect virtually through video conferencing rather than face-to-face.

Our business travel emissions are our most significant contributor to our GHG emissions impact, representing 66% of our total GHG emissions produced in FY20, largely in line with FY19 (61%). Given this, we will continue to encourage the use of video conferencing to reduce the need for air travel when travel restrictions are lifted nationally. We recognise that changing the travel behaviours of our people in the long term will play a significant role in reducing our firm's carbon impact.

### Staff working from home

COVID-19 restrictions have changed the way our people work, with some offices becoming temporarily closed while others have remained open but in a significantly limited capacity. This has seen a reduction in the GHG emissions impact arising from staff commutes, and reduced waste, electricity, and water usage in our offices.

## Other emissions reduction activities

- In FY19 we introduced an 'All Roles Flex' policy, allowing employees to carry out their working day in the time and space that suits both clients and staff's personal needs. This policy change, along with increased use of collaborative technology (Google Suite) and promotion of Google meet and internal video conferencing instead of long/short distance travelling, resulted in emissions reductions.
- In FY19, we developed an internal air travel dashboard to monitor GHG emissions from business-related air travel on a real time basis with the aim of increasing awareness of the environmental impact of air travel and driving behavioural change in partners and staff. We also invested in raising awareness of positive environmental behaviours our people could adopt at work and at home; expanded our national 'staff led' Green Team (a network of individuals who are focused on championing positive environmental behaviours); and established an advisory 'Sustainability Steering Committee' of firm leaders to guide the efforts of the Green Team and support environmental initiatives in our firm.
- In FY18 two of PwC's office locations (Melbourne and Sydney) implemented a ban on single use coffee cups at staff cafes in order to reduce the waste to landfill for this item. The Melbourne and Sydney offices are the largest of all our offices around the country.
- In FY17 two of PwC's office locations (Melbourne and Sydney) relocated to new premises. The relocated office locations are 5 and 6 'Green Star' rated respectively. In these two offices, as well as in all others, we have four waste streams embedded in our working environments (organic, recycling, paper recycling, general waste).
- Since FY14 PwC has relocated 5 out of 8 offices locations to more energy efficient offices. All offices are now activity-based environments. "Follow-me-printing" was rolled out to all sites to reduce printing and paper usage and wastage. We moved to paperless offices and printing from then on has been default set at double-sided, black and white.
- Since FY14 there has been a considerable and consistent investment in technology, including in video conferencing facilities to improve digital collaboration and the technological skills of our people.
- Since 2008 (the commencement of our carbon neutral membership) we have regularly promoted environmental awareness with our people and actively sought to encourage a firm culture of care for the planet and our natural resources.



## Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 2

Emission source category	FY20 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e	FY19 revised tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e	FY19 original tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e
Natural Gas	211	245	245
Diesel	32	4	4
Synthetic Gas	306	356	356
Purchased electricity (Note 1)	6,474	11,916	11,678
Electricity offsite (Note 1)	2,496	2,682	2,771
Transport fuel - Air travel	21,933	27,983	27,983
Transport fuel - Taxi	618	832	832
Transport fuel - Car mileage	824	280	280
Transport fuel - Other (Note 2)	907	880	229
Paper	121	204	204
Waste	445	498	498
Waste water	227	368	368
Working from home emissions	(1,531)	-	-
<b>Total Net Emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)</b>	<b>33,063</b>	<b>46,248</b>	<b>45,448</b>

Note 1 – Electricity figures revised to align with final version of Climate Active calculators. FY19 original figures were calculated using a trial version of the calculators.

Note 2 – Transport fuel – Other revised to use the employee travel functionality in the Climate Active calculators that was not available at the time the FY19 original figures were calculated.

Note 3 – Roundings have been applied

## Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a Market-based approach.

The Climate Active team is consulting with Climate Active member companies on the use of a market vs location-based approach for electricity accounting with a view to finalising a policy decision for the carbon neutral certification by July 2020. Given a decision is still pending on the preferred accounting way forward, a summary of emissions using both measures has been provided for full disclosure and to ensure year on year comparisons can be made.

### Market-based approach electricity summary

Table 4

Electricity inventory items	kWh	Emissions (tonnes CO2e)
Electricity Renewables	1,368,346	-
Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	-	-
Electricity Remaining	5,988,353	6,474,008
Renewable Electricity Percentage	19%	
<i>Net emissions (Market based approach)</i>		6,474,008

### Location-based summary

Table 5

State/ Territory	Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Full Emission factor (Scope 2 +3)	Emissions (tonnes CO2e)
ACT/NSW	Electricity Total	1,886,327	0.90	1,697,694.66
SA	Electricity Total	244,663	0.53	129,671.34
Vic	Electricity Total	2,626,517	1.12	2,941,699.49
Qld	Electricity Total	1,428,420	0.93	1,328,430.69
NT	Electricity Total	28,871	0.71	20,498.41
WA	Electricity Total	1,141,900	0.74	845,005.78
	<i>Total net electricity emissions</i>			6,963,000.37

## 4. CARBON OFFSETS

PwC purchased eligible Verified Emissions Reduction (VER) and Emission Reduction Fund (ERF) carbon offsets in FY19 to offset FY19 and FY20 GHG emissions. The offsets have historically been purchased in advance for a two-year period, prior to the GHG emissions being calculated for either year. An estimate is made based on the firm's GHG total emissions from prior years and once the GHG total emissions have been confirmed for actual years (i.e. FY19 and FY20), the pre-purchased offsets are retired.

FY20 total emissions are 33,063 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. Total offsets purchased are retired for FY20 and the FY19 amendment for revised calculators are 33,063 tCO<sub>2</sub>e and 800 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, respectively.

Further, in FY20 it was identified that offsets for electricity emissions from our Barangaroo office had already been offset by the Barangaroo Precinct, dating back to FY17 (the Barangaroo Precinct is certified carbon-neutral). We have identified offset amounts previously retired against the Barangaroo electricity offsets, which totalled 15,407 tCO<sub>2</sub>e from FY17 to FY19. As advised by Climate Active, these offsets can be reapplied against other electricity emissions only, rather than emissions from other sources. These offsets have been reapplied to FY20 electricity emissions of 8,904 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. The remaining unapplied electricity offsets equivalent to 6,503 tCO<sub>2</sub>e will be carried forward to next year and applied against electricity emissions in FY21.

Table 6 below outlines PwC's offset purchases and retirements for FY20.

### Offset purchasing strategy: forward purchasing

Table 6

Forward purchasing summary	Total (tCO <sub>2</sub> )	Permitted for electricity only	All emissions
1. Total offsets previously forward purchased for this reporting period (a)	37,219	-	37,219
2. Total offsets retired for Barangaroo electricity emissions in previous years in error to be carried forward (Note 1) (b)	15,407	15,407	-
3. Total offsets required for this reporting period (FY20) (c)	33,063	8,904	24,159
4. Additional offsets required for FY19 adjustments in FY20 (d)	800	-	800
5. Net offset balance for this reporting period (e = c + d)	33,863	8,904	24,959
6. Total offsets to be carried forward for next reporting period (f = a + b - e)	18,763	6,503	12,260

Note 1 – In FY20, it was identified that the Barangaroo Precinct had been purchasing and retiring offsets for all electricity usage (Tenancy and Base Building) for their tenants since FY17. PwC had also been purchasing and retiring offsets for these emissions, the total of which is below. As offsets were already purchased and retired for FY17 – FY19 electricity emissions in Barangaroo, PwC has reapplied these offsets to FY20 and future year electricity use:

Year	Tenancy	Base building	Total
FY17	5,587	2,391	7,979
FY18	2,455	1,419	3,874
FY19	Data not yet available		3,554
Total electricity offsets retired in prior periods for Barangaroo			15,407

## Offsets summary

Table 7

<b>1. Total offsets required for this report</b>				FY20 – 33,063 tCO <sub>2</sub> e FY19 - 800 tCO <sub>2</sub> e Total required - 33,863 tCO <sub>2</sub> e					
<b>2. Offsets retired in previous reports and used in this report</b>				Electricity offset (Barangaroo offsets retired in previous periods in error) - 15,407 tCO <sub>2</sub> e Offsets from FY19 purchase to be carried forward to FY20 - 37,219 tCO <sub>2</sub> e					
<b>3. Net offsets required for this report</b>				No new offsets required – carry forward balance still available					
Project description	Eligible offset unit type	Registry unit retired in	Date retired	Serial number (including hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Quantity (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Quantity used for previous report	Quantity to be banked for future years	Quantity to be used this report
Turkey Duzova Wind Power	VER	Gold Standard	06/12/2019	GS1-1-TR-GS2468-12-2017-7162 408-20388	2017	19,981	19,981	-	-
Turkey Duzova Wind Power	VER	Gold Standard	06/12/2019	GS1-1-TR-GS2468-12-2016-7163-7564-9679	2016	2,116	2,116	-	-
Turkey Duzova Wind Power	VER	Gold Standard	06/12/2019	GS1-1-TR-GS1237-12-2016-6315-53678-56057	2016	2,380	2,380	-	-
Turkey Duzova Wind Power	VER	Gold Standard	06/12/2019	GS1-1-TR-GS-2468-12-2018-7161-174-8650	2018	8,477	8,477	-	-
Turkey Duzova Wind Power	VER	Gold Standard	06/12/2019	GS1-1-TR-GS2468-12-2016-6159-3066-12311	2016	9,246	9,246	-	-

Danjiang River Solar Cookers China	PRO	VCSR1549	09/12/2019	6635-328864991-328900190-VCU- 009-APX-CN-1-1886-01042015- 3122015-0 <a href="https://vcsregistry2.apx.com/myModule/rpt/myrpt.asp">https://vcsregistry2.apx.com/myModule/rpt/myrpt.asp</a>	01/04/2015- 31/12/2015	35,200	-	35,200	22,940
Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve	VCU	APX VCS Registry	02/01/2020	7378-389864964-389873563-VCU- 016-MER-ID-14-674-01072014- 31122014-1 <a href="https://vcsregistry2.apx.com/myModule/rpt/myrpt.asp?r=206&amp;h=28680">https://vcsregistry2.apx.com/myModule/rpt/myrpt.asp?r=206&amp;h=28680</a>	01/07/2014- 31/12/2014	8,600	6,581	2,019	2,019
Electricity offsets purchased and retired for Barangaroo emissions from FY17 – FY19		Refer previous year submissions				15,407	-	15,407	8,904
<i>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</i>									33,863
<i>Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports</i>									Electricity only: 6,503 Permissible for all emissions: 12,260 Total: 18,763

## 5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 8

Description where trademark used	Logo type
PwC website <a href="https://www.pwc.com.au/about-us/social-impact/trust-capacity/environment.html">https://www.pwc.com.au/about-us/social-impact/trust-capacity/environment.html</a>	PwC Australia (certified organisation)

# APPENDIX 1

## Excluded emissions

To be deemed relevant an emission must meet two of the five relevance criteria. Excluded emissions are detailed below against each of the five criteria.

**Table 9**

Excluded emission sources	Relevance Test				
	<i>The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions.</i>	<i>The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.</i>	<i>Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.</i>	<i>The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.</i>	<i>The emissions are from outsourced activities previously undertaken within the organisation's boundary, or from outsourced activities typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable organisations.</i>
Office equipment and technology	Yes	No	No	No	No
Food and catering	No	No	No	No	No
Outsourced printing	No	No	No	No	No
Transportation of waste	No	No	No	No	No