PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

DSQUARED CONSULTING PTY LTD

ORGANISATION

CY2020

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

dsquared

An Australian Government Initiative

Climate Active

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 January 2020 – 31 December 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: 21/07/21

Name of Signatory
Jacob Potter

Position of Signatory
Senior ESD Consultant

Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Version number February 2021

1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

The Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification is for dsquared Consulting as an organisation for the 2020 calendar year.

The certification is based on the Australian business operations of D SQUARED CONSULTING PTY LTD, trading as dsquared Consulting, ABN 38 159 612 067 and the Climate Active standards for small organisations and includes all emissions within its operational control.

Organisation description

Formed in 2012 by Paul Davy and Deborah Davidson, dsquared Consulting delivers innovative and independent sustainable solutions in the built environment.

dsquared provides Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) and Sustainability advice from the earliest stages of project master planning, through building design, construction and functionality. The consultancy works on projects spanning from precinct infrastructure planning right down to the selection of office furniture.

The dsquared has been operating out of their one office since 2014 in Adelaide, South Australia. During the calendar year of 2020 the dsquared team consisted of 9 personnel; 2 Directors and 7 ESD Consultants and one administration support officer.

dsquared Consulting's work involves a wide variety of engagements, with the vast majority of work being completed in the company office or within the Adelaide CBD through face-to-face meetings, computer documentation and computer simulation. Specific services provided include:

- Sustainability consultancy for master planning and building developments
- Building certification submissions
- Organisational sustainability planning
- Building computer simulation
- Desktop analysis

"dsquared is an innovative and independent ESD and sustainability consultancy which aims to create more sustainable spaces, places and communities.

We are passionate about reducing our environmental impact and Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification is one of the ways that we demonstrate this commitment."

2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

Diagram of the certification boundary

This is a small organisation certification, which uses the standard Climate Active small organisation emissions boundary.

Quantified

Paper

Water

Business travel

Staff commute to work

Computer equipment

Waste

Electricity

Petrol and gas used in company cars

Stationary energy

Non-quantified

Office furniture

Cleaning services

Food & catering

Printing and stationary

Excluded

N/A

Non-quantified sources

The following non-quantified sources have been identified but not included due to being immaterial and are <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively:

- **Office furniture:** Minimal office furniture has been purchased and are estimated to be immaterial.
- **Cleaning services:** The office is cleaned on a fortnightly basis and the impact has been deemed as immaterial.
- **Food & Catering**: Minimal food and catering is procured and the impact has been deemed as immaterial.
- **Printing & stationary:** Minimal printing and stationery is procured and the impact has been deemed as immaterial.

"Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification provides a strong framework for organisations to track their emissions and drive emission reduction measures.

Data management plan

dsquared operate under certified ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 Quality and Environmental Management Systems which include ongoing data and reporting requirements. As part of ISO 9001 / 14001 dsquared have identified data and record management improvements which are continually being implemented to capture all emissions records in a consistent manner.

As an ESD and sustainability consultancy, Climate Active certification allows us to lead by example and demonstrate ways to reduce emissions and work towards mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)

All small organisation emission sources under dsquared's operational control have been included.

Although freight and international offices are a deemed relevant emission under the Climate Active template small organisation certification boundary, we do not use freight and do not have any international offices and as such it has not been included in PDS or carbon inventory.

3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions reduction strategy

dsquared Consulting is dedicated to sustainability within our own business, not just for our clients and projects, and aims to 'walk the walk'. The organisation's emissions reduction strategy involves:

- Minimising energy and water consumption through sustainable behaviours including turning lights and equipment off when not in use, turning lights off when daylight levels are sufficient and reducing air-conditioning use by wearing appropriate clothing.
- Generating and utilising solar energy throughout the day and exporting excess.
- Measuring and reporting our energy consumption and carbon footprint annually.
- Encouraging sustainable transport options for staff commute including providing bicycle storage areas, shower facilities and lockers/storage facilities.
- Implementing improved waste management practices including increased waste streams and ongoing reporting to reduce waste to landfill.
- Promoting our commitments to our clients, project partners and associated programs to encourage sustainable change within the built environment industry.
- Encouraging our staff to be minimise their impacts at the office and at home.
- Procuring 100% Green Power from a Climate Active Carbon Neutral electricity retailer.
- Maintaining a certified ISO 14001 Environmental Management System which requires continual improvement to reduce environmental impacts, and therefore emissions, over time.

Emissions over time

2020 emissions varied significantly compared to 2019 due to the impacts of COVID-19 with reduced business flights, hotel nights, staff commute and office energy and water consumption. The main reductions are associated with flights and hotels, as well as decreased electricity use. Previous increases in emissions were the result of increasing staff numbers.

In addition, dsquared implemented a new waste separation system with multiple waste streams which has reduced landfill waste emissions by over 70%. New more efficient air-conditioning systems were also installed which has reduced electricity consumption. As a result, emissions have reduced by 3.34 tCO_2e or approximately 35% from 2019 to 2020.

Table 1

Emissions since base year			
	Base year: 2017	Year 1: 2019	Current year Year 2: 2020
Total tCO2e	**5.57**	**9.59**	**7.99**

Emissions reduction actions

dsquared is continually investigating and implementing emissions reduction initiatives to reduce our environmental impact and demonstrate leadership. In 2020 emissions varied significantly due to COVID-19 however in 2020 we have implemented a number of emission reduction initiatives including:

- A strong focus was placed on reducing waste to landfill, with a new internal bin solution implemented which introduced a formalised approach to soft plastics, compostable packaging, 10c container, batteries and electronics recycling. We have worked with Binshift to implement new bins and provide clear signage of the various waste streams and also implemented monthly reporting to track the amount of waste being generated and sent to landfill. As a result of the new waste management system, waste to landfill has reduced by approximately 70% compared to 2019.
    - We also ran a waste workshop with other tenants in our building to introduce our waste system which has resulted in other business implementing improved waste management practices.
- Utilising video conferencing to reduce the requirement to travel to and from meetings and the use of vehicles. This includes running workshops typically run interstate via a collaborative online workshop tool. It is expected that this tool will continue to be used regardless of any restrictions as it has proved to be an effective collaboration tool.
- We worked with the building owner to replace older inefficient air-conditioning with more efficient systems.
- We implemented certified ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 Quality and Environmental Management Systems to continually track our operations and reduce our environmental impact.

Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 2

Emission source category	tonnes CO_2-e
Hotel nights	0.19
Flights	0.91
Total net electricity emissions (Location based)	0.94
Computer equipment	0.48
Staff commute (car, scooter/motorcycle, bus, train)	4.19
Paper	0.20
Refrigerants	0.60
General waste (municipal waste)	0.03
Water supply and wastewater treatment - Adelaide	0.07
Total Net Emissions	7.61

Uplift factors

Table 3

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO_2-e
A 5% small organisation up-lift factor has been applied	0.38
Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)	7.99

Carbon neutral products

No Carbon Neutral products were purchased in 2020.

Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a location -based approach.

Market-based approach summary

Market-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO2e)	Renewable %
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	999	0	36%
Total non-grid electricity	999	0	36%
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	699	0	25%
Jurisdictional renewables	0	0	0%
Residual Electricity	0	0	0%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	348	0	12%
Residual Electricity	755	815	0%
Total grid electricity	1,803	815	37%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	2,801	815	73%
Electricity renewables	2,046	0	
Residual Electricity	755	815	
Exported on-site generated electricity	1,402	-1,094	
Emission Footprint (kgCO2e)		0	

Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	0
LRET renewables	19.31%
Voluntary Renewable Electricity	60.61%
Total renewables	79.92%

Location-based approach summary

Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO2e)
ACT	0	0
NSW	0	0
SA	1,803	937

Vic	0	0
Qld	0	0
NT	0	0
WA	0	0
Tas	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	1,803	937
ACT	0	0
NSW	0	0
SA	999	0
Vic	0	0
Qld	0	0
NT	0	0
WA	0	0
Tas	0	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	999	0
Total Electricity Consumed	2,801	937

Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	**1**

4. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets strategy

Offset purchasing strategy: **Forward purchasing (2020)** **From 2020 additional offsets will be purchase in arrears at the time of reporting.**	
1. Total offsets previously forward purchased and banked for this report	8
2. Total emissions liability to offset for this report	8
3. Net offset balance for this reporting period	0
4. Total offsets to be forward purchased to offset the next reporting period	0
5. Total offsets required for this report	0

Co-benefits

Chakala Wind-Based Power Generation Project

This project is located at Nandurbar, Maharashtra State, India. This greenfield project generates power using renewable energy source (wind energy) and sells the power generated to the state grid. It replaces the use of diesel generators by meeting the power demand during shortage periods. There is no consumption of any fossil fuel and hence no greenhouse gas emissions.

The total installed capacity of the project involves operating 26 machines each with a rated capacity 1.5 MW. It is a group project being part of Mytrah Energy (India) Limited.

Co-Benefits include the following:

Social:
The project helps in generating employment opportunities during the construction and operation phases. The project activity will lead to development in infrastructure in the region such as development of roads and may promote business with improved power generation.

Project developers will use at a minimum 2% of the revenues accrued from the sale of carbon credits on an annual basis for community related activities. These include providing assistance for development of public amenities in the surrounding areas such as water distribution/sanitation facilities/building of schools and hospitals and free distribution of educational books and school uniforms, annual eye camps health checks for villagers.

Economic:

The project is a clean technology investment in the region, which would not have taken place in the absence of the VCS benefits. The project activity will also help to reduce the demand supply gap in the state. The project will generate power using zero emissions wind based power generation which helps to reduce GHG emissions and specific pollutants like SOx, NOx, and SPM associated with the conventional thermal power generation facilities.

Environmental:

Wind being a renewable source of energy, reduces the dependence on fossil fuels and conserves natural resources which are on the verge of depletion. Due to its zero emission the Project activity avoids a significant amount of GHG emissions.

Technological:

The successful operation of the project activity should lead to promotion of wind-based power generation and would encourage other entrepreneurs to participate in similar projects.

Offsets summary

Proof of cancellation of offset units

Offsets cancelled for Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification										
Project description	**Type of offset units**	**Registry**	**Date retired**	**Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)**	**Vintage**	**Eligible Quantity (TCO2-e)**	**Quantity used for previous reporting periods**	**Quantity banked for future reporting periods**	**Quantity used for this reporting period claim**	**Percentage of total (%)**
Chakala Wind Power Project in Maharashtra	VCUs	Verra	16 Mar 2020	7068-368116948-368116965-VCU-034-APX-IN-1-1197-01012016-31122016-0	2016	18	10	0	8	100%
								Total offsets retired this report and used in this report		8
								Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports		0
Additional offsets cancelled for purposes other than Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification										
Project description	**Type of offset units**	**Registry**	**Date retired**	**Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)**	**Vintage**	**Eligible Quantity (TCO2-e)**	**Purpose of cancellation**			
N/A										

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of Total
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	8	100%

5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 8

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Organisational reports and documentation	Certified organisation
Website and emails	Certified organisation
Presentations	Certified organisation
Newsletters	Certified organisation

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

N/A

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

Relevance test					
Excluded emission sources	*The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions*	*The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.*	*Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.*	*The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.*	*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.*
N/A					

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for organisations

The following non-quantified sources have been identified but not included due to being immaterial and are <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively:

- **Office furniture:** Minimal office furniture has been purchased and are estimated to be immaterial.
- **Cleaning services:** The office is cleaned on a fortnightly basis and the impact has been deemed as immaterial.
- **Food & Catering**: Minimal food and catering is procured and the impact has been deemed as immaterial.
- **Printing & stationary**: Minimal printing and stationery is procured and the impact has been deemed as immaterial.

Table 10

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	*Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively*	*Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.*	*Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.*	*Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified*
Office furniture	Yes	No	No	No
Cleaning services	Yes	No	No	No
Food & catering	Yes	No	No	No
Printing & stationary	Yes	No	No	No

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