



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

GAIA CONSTRUCTION PTY LTD

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION

FY2020-21

Australian Government

Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Gaia Construction Pty Ltd
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021 Arrears Report – Base Year
DECLARATION	<p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>Jeremy Gates</i></p> <hr/> <p>Jeremy Gates Director 10th December 2021</p>



Australian Government

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

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Version September 2021. To be used for FY20/21 reporting onwards.



1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	56 tCO ₂ -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	100% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	19%
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Not required for Small Organisation
THIRD PARTY VALIDATION	Type 1 Data Validation 16 th November 2021

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2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This Climate Active Carbon Neutral Small Organisation certification covers the Australian business operations of Gaia Construction Pty Ltd, ABN 61 151 331 001.

This carbon emission inventory has been based on the Climate Active Small Organisation fixed emission boundary using an operational control approach. It covers the business operations of the company which are based in a shared office located at Suite 3, 6 Riddell Parade, Elsternwick, Victoria 3185.

Organisation description

Gaia Construction Pty Ltd is a small family owned and operated boutique residential building company operating in Bayside Melbourne. Gaia Construction specialise in highly energy efficient renovations and extensions in the residential market and building new highly efficient passive houses.

Gaia Construction are keen to minimise the impact of their business operations and have decided to become Climate Active Certified Carbon Neutral as part of their ongoing efforts to reduce carbon emissions and improve the environment. With the rigorous measurement and verification of emissions data and strict requirements for offsets, they will confident their carbon neutral status is legitimate and credible.

Gaia Construction operate from Suite 3, Riddell Parade, Elsternwick VIC 3185.

Website <https://gaiaconstruction.com.au/>

“At Gaia Construction, we’re committed to playing our part to reach net zero emissions in Australia as quickly as possible. One of the ways we’re doing that is by ensuring our business operations are carbon neutral. In our view, achieving this through Climate Active’s Carbon Neutral Certification is essential.”

3.EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

This is a small organisation certification, which uses the standard Climate Active small organisation emissions boundary. Emission sources can be excluded if they do not occur.

Inside the emissions boundary

All emission sources listed in the emissions boundary are part of the carbon neutral claim.

Quantified emissions have been assessed as relevant and are quantified in the carbon inventory. This may include emissions that are not identified as arising due to the operations of the certified entity, however, are **optionally included**.

Non-quantified emissions have been assessed as relevant and are captured within the emissions boundary but are not measured (quantified) in the carbon inventory. All material emissions are accounted for through an uplift factor. Further detail is available at Appendix C.

Outside the emissions boundary

Excluded emissions are those that have been assessed as not relevant to an organisations or precinct's operations and are outside of its emissions boundary or are outside of the scope of the certification. These emissions are not part of the carbon neutral claim. Further detail is available at Appendix D.

Inside emissions boundary		Outside emission boundary
<u>Quantified</u>	<u>Non-quantified</u>	<u>Excluded</u>
Accommodation Air travel Cleaning & chemicals Construction materials and Servicing Electricity Horticulture and Agriculture ICT services and equipment Fuel Land and Sea transport Machinery and vehicles Office equipment and supplies Postage, courier and freight Products Professional Services Refrigerants Stationery Energy Waste	Water	Built product
	<u>Optionally included</u>	
	None	

Data management plan for non-quantified sources

There are no non-quantified sources in the emission boundary that require a data management plan.

Water is non quantified due to data being unavailable (uplift has been applied) and is immaterial (less than 1% of emissions).

4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Gaia Constructions carbon reduction strategy consists of:

Sustainability policies

- Establish environmental sustainability policies for the business and make them publicly available by 30 June 2022
- Set an overall emissions reduction target by 30 June 2022
- Create a five-year climate action and emission reduction plan by 30 June 2022

Energy emission reductions

- Advocate for transition to 100% green power from landlord by 2025

Fuel, Travel and commuting

- When upgrading company vehicles opt for highly fuel efficient or hybrid models.
- Review schedules and consider route planning to reduce travel and fuel requirements
- Consider employee travel requirements (preference local staffing) when hiring to minimise scope 3 emissions

Waste reductions

- Conduct waste assessment/audit to identify further opportunities for onsite waste reduction

Company purchasing policies

- Update company policies to formally preference more sustainable and resource efficient products, and where possible certified carbon neutral products and services by 30 June 2025

Consumer and Staff Education

- Training of Gaia construction staff in energy efficient building techniques
- Advocate and educate homeowners on benefits of energy efficient homes

Emissions reduction actions

The following actions have already been undertaken by Gaia Construction.

- Construction waste 75% recycled
- Plug in hybrid vehicle purchased and utilized for company transport since 2016
- Inclusion of highly energy efficient appliances and sustainable building practices for all products built.
- Commitment to building highly energy efficient renovations and new homes.

5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

None

Organisation emissions summary

The electricity summary is available in the Appendix B. Electricity emissions were calculated using a location/market-based approach.

Row Labels	Sum of Total Emissions (TCO2e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.1946
Construction Materials and Services	3.6327
Electricity	2.0450
Food	0.7739
ICT services and equipment	3.2127
Land and Sea Transport (fuel)	1.1489
Land and Sea Transport (km)	8.1039
Machinery and vehicles	6.2309
Office equipment & supplies	1.9878
Postage, courier and freight	0.0293
Products	0.7225
Professional Services	22.2043
Waste	3.0005
Working from home	0.0280
Grand Total	53.3151

Uplift factors

An uplift factor is an upwards adjustment to the total carbon inventory to account for relevant emissions, which can't be reasonably quantified or estimated. This conservative accounting approach helps ensure the integrity of the carbon neutral claim.

Reason for uplift factor	tCO ₂ -e
Compulsory additional 5% of the total to be added for small organisations	2.6660
Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)	55.9808

CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets strategy

Offset purchasing strategy: In Arrears

1. Total offsets previously forward purchased and banked for this report	Zero
2. Total emissions liability to offset for this report	56 tonnes CO2e
3. Net offset balance for this reporting period	56 tonnes CO2e
4. Total offsets to be forward purchased to offset the next reporting period	Zero
5. Total offsets required for this report	56 tonnes CO2e

Co-benefits

Co-benefits of the offsets chosen include contributions to reduced deforestation and soil erosion, local employment, promotion of sustainable land management, sustainable food production, equal rights for women, improved health and education.

Rimba Raya Biodiversity Project

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project contributes to all 17 SDGs.



Life on Land

Indonesia has the largest number of threatened mammal species and the fourth largest total across flora and fauna species.



Climate Action

Avoiding deforestation will prevent the release of more than 100 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.



Clean Water and Sanitation

By minimising land-use change, the project is helping to prevent downstream flooding.



Zero Hunger

Training on the growth of cash crops such as fruit trees offers communities an alternative source of income.



Decent Work and Economic Growth

Growth

The project is building community centres offering facilities for park and project staff as well as for community organisations.



No Poverty



Good Health and Well-being



Quality Education



Gender Equality



Affordable and Clean Energy



Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure



Reduced Inequalities



Sustainable Cities and Communities



Responsible Consumption and Production



Life Below Water



Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



Partnerships for the Goals



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 (tCO ₂ -e)	Quantity used for previous reporting periods	Quantity banked for future reporting periods	Quantity used for this reporting period claim	Percentage of total (%)
VCS VCU (REDD) - Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project, Indonesia	VCU	Verra	7 th December 2021	Serial numbers: 7828-431368814-431368869-VCU-016-MER-ID-14-674-01072014-31122014-1	2014	56	0	0	56	100%
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report									56	
Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports								0		
Type of offset units		Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)				Percentage of total				
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)		56				100%				

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

The following RECs have been surrendered to reduce electricity emissions under the market-based reporting method.

1. Large-scale Generation certificates (LGCs)*	N/A
2. Other RECs	N/A

* LGCs in this table only include those surrendered voluntarily (including through PPA arrangements), and does not include those surrendered in relation to the LRET, GreenPower, and jurisdictional renewables.

Project supported by LGC purchase	Eligible units	Registry	Surrender date	Accreditation code (LGCs)	Certificate serial number	Generation year	Quantity (MWh)	Fuel source	Location
N/A									
Total LGCs surrendered this report and used in this report									

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Gaia (pronounced guy-á) is the Greek goddess of the earth and the name of an environmental theory developed by the English scientist and environmentalist James Lovelock in the 1980s.

The name Gaia was chosen to represent their commitment to sustainable building practices and products. Gaia's goal is to differentiate themselves from other high quality residential builders in Melbourne, not only by attention to detail and excellent customer service, but also by providing informed and practical advice on sustainable materials and options for improving energy efficiency.

Gaia are not only committed to improving the energy efficiency and sustainability of the homes they build, they also focus on reducing their operations environmental footprint.

They do this through:

- Training building staff in environmental building techniques and passive house standards
- Preferencing green accredited trades and subcontractors
- Inclusion of highly energy efficient appliances and sustainable building practices for all products built
- Offering Residential Efficiency Scorecard assessments to clients
- Encouraging clients to incorporate energy efficient features into their build and renovation works
- Recycle construction waste (75% currently recycled)
- Use of hybrid vehicle for company transport since 2016

APPENDIX B: ELECTRICITY SUMMARY

Electricity emissions are calculated using a market-based approach.

Location-based method

The location-based method provides a picture of a business's electricity emissions in the context of its location, and the emissions intensity of the electricity grid it relies on. It reflects the average emissions intensity of the electricity grid in the location (State) in which energy consumption occurs. The location-based method does not allow for any claims of renewable electricity from grid-imported electricity usage.

Market-based method

The market-based method provides a picture of a business's electricity emissions in the context of its renewable energy investments. It reflects the emissions intensity of different electricity products, markets and investments. It uses a residual mix factor (RMF) to allow for unique claims on the zero emissions attribute of renewables without double-counting.

Market Based Approach Summary			
Market Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)	Renewable Percentage of total
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	0	0	0%
Total non-grid electricity	0	0	0%
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs & Precinct LGCs)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs retired)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	0	0	0%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	445	0	19%
Residual Electricity	1,905	2,045	0%
Total grid electricity	2,350	2,045	19%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	2,350	2,045	19%
Electricity renewables	445	0	
Residual Electricity	1,905	2,045	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emission Footprint (kgCO ₂ e)		2,045	
Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	18.93%		
Mandatory	18.93%		
Voluntary	0.00%		
Behind the meter	0.00%		
Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO₂e)	2		

Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%

Location Based Approach Summary

Location Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)
ACT	0	0
NSW	0	0
SA	0	0
Vic	2,350	2,562
Qld	0	0
NT	0	0
WA	0	0
Tas	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	2,350	2,562
ACT	0	0
NSW	0	0
SA	0	0
Vic	0	0
Qld	0	0
NT	0	0
WA	0	0
Tas	0	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	0	0
Total Electricity Consumed	2,350	2,562

Emission Footprint (TCO₂e)

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Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)
Enter product name/s here	0	0

Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity. The emissions have been offset by another Climate Active member through their Product certification.

APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Non-quantified emission sources

The following sources emissions have been assessed as relevant, are captured within the emissions boundary, but are not measured (quantified) in the carbon inventory. These emissions are accounted for through an uplift factor. They have been non-quantified due to one of the following reasons:

1. **Immaterial** <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively
2. **Cost effective** Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.
3. **Data unavailable** Data is unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.
4. **Maintenance** Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified.

Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	(1) Immaterial	(2) Cost effective (but uplift applied)	(3) Data unavailable (but uplift applied & data plan in place)	(4) Maintenance
Water	Yes	No	No	No

APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Excluded emission sources

The below emission sources have been assessed as not relevant to an organisation's or precinct's operations and are outside of its emissions boundary. These emissions are not part of the carbon neutral claim. Emission sources considered for relevance must be included within the certification boundary if they meet two of the five relevance criteria. Those which only meet one condition of the relevance test can be excluded from the certification boundary.

Emissions tested for relevance are detailed below against each of the following criteria:

1. **Size** The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions
2. **Influence** The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.
3. **Risk** The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.
4. **Stakeholders** Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.

5. **Outsourcing** 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.

Emission sources tested for relevance	(1) Size	(2) Influence	(3) Risk	(4) Stakeholders	(5) Outsourcing	Included in boundary?
Built product	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
End-of-life treatment of built products	No	No	No	No	No	No



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