



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ROSS HILL WINE GROUP

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2020-21

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

ROSS HILL
ORANGE NSW AUSTRALIA



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: Ross Hill Wine Group

REPORTING PERIOD: Financial year 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

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.

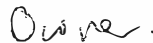
Signature 

Date 8/2/22.

Name of Signatory



Position of Signatory





Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science,
Energy and Resources

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Version number February 2021

1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This inventory has been prepared for the financial year from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 and covers the Australian business operations of Ross Hill Wine Group, ABN 47 604 711 962.

The operational boundary has been defined based on an operational control test, in accordance with the principles of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007. This includes the following location:

- 134 Wallace Lane, Orange, NSW 2800

This certification only covers the Australian business operations of Ross Hill Wines. Wine products sold to customers by Ross Hill Wines is covered by a separate Product Public Disclosure Statement, found [here](#).

The methods used for collating data, performing calculations and presenting the carbon account are in accordance with the following standards:

- Climate Active Standards
- The Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (Revised Edition)
- National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008

Where possible, the calculation methodologies and emission factors used in this inventory are derived from the National Greenhouse Accounts (NGA) Factors in accordance with "Method 1" from the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008.

The greenhouse gases considered within the inventory are those that are commonly reported under the Kyoto Protocol; carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O) and synthetic gases - hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). These have been expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂-e) using relative global warming potentials (GWPs).

“Ross Hill Wines relies on trusted certifications to demonstrate its environmental claims. Climate Active provides a transparent process.”

Organisation description

The Ross Hill Wine Group roots were firmly planted in 1994 by Peter and Terri Robson. Joined by their son James and wife Chrissy in 2006 to continue the hard work, passion and dedication to produce exceptional quality and elegantly refined, cool climate Ross Hill Wines.

In 2019 Luke Steele, joined the Ross Hill family as the Head Winemaker. The winemaking approach of Ross Hill is to create stunning wines that demonstrate complex structures that are harmonious, rich, luscious and balanced. All of Ross Hill's wines are naturally fermented, relying on wild yeasts indigenous to the local area to work their magic. No enzymes are added to the winemaking process nor are any insecticides, pesticides or fertilisers used on the vineyards.

The Ross Hill Vineyard is situated on the gentle north facing slopes of Griffin Rd, Orange at an elevation ranging from 750 to 850 metres. Such elevation presents itself in our wines that are so distinctively high altitude and cool climate produce.

Covering the hills with 12 hectares (ha) of established vine we are able to grow the majority of the grapes used in our wines. Ross Hill white wine varieties include Chardonnay & Sauvignon Blanc, and the iconic red styles of Merlot, Shiraz and Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Shiraz.

2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

Diagram of the certification boundary



Non-quantified sources

Refrigerants have been non-quantified as they have been estimated to be immaterial.

Data management plan

N/A

Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)

The excluded emission sources have been included in the separate carbon neutral certification for Ross Hill's wine range. Emissions are shown in the separate Public Disclosure Statement for the product range.

"Climate Active provides an excellent framework for Ross Hill Wine to align with on our low carbon journey"

3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions reduction strategy

We have taken a number of initiatives to reduce our carbon footprint.

- We collect our own rainwater
- We have installed 34 kW of solar panels.
- With introduction of solar panels on the roof at the winery in September 2013, our electricity and gas expenses for period July 2013 to June 2014 were further reduced from \$18,000 to \$9,200.
- Our ongoing strategy is to work on efficiency measures in the vineyards and winery to continually reduce energy, fuel and material use.

We will continue to work on developing and implementing an emissions reduction strategy over the next two years.

Emissions over time

In FY 2020-21 Ross Hill Wine's emissions increased by 23% compared to the previous year. However, compared to the base year (FY 2014-15) the organizational emissions have decreased by 21.5%, as seen in table 1.

In 2016 we had a review on our solar panels as we were concerned with their efficiency. The review found that faults were found in the system and they advised that 128 panels needed replacing with more efficient and superior solar panels. We have been keeping a log since the upgrade. The results are showing good, consistent performance since major upgrade in 2016. Monthly logging is an effective way of monitoring performance of the system to ensure the maximum benefits are extracted.

In 2016 we replaced two of our old, larger tractors for two new fuel efficient smaller tractors, which has resulted in a 25% decrease in diesel use.

In FY 2018-19 we changed to a carbon neutral electrical supplier for 100% of our grid electricity.

No new emission reduction projects were implemented in 2020 -2021 apart from ongoing improvements in efficiency. Our focus in this period has been to meet the challenges of Covid-19 shutdowns and difficult export market conditions for our wines.

Table 1

Emissions since base year			
	Base year: 2014 - 2015	Year 5: 2019 - 2020	Current year Year 6: 2020 - 2021
<i>Total tCO₂-e</i>	109.4	69.93	85.90

Emissions reduction actions

In FY2020/21 Ross Hill expenses associated with wine functions decreased by 27.4% in comparison to the previous year due to various COVID restrictions, including the 4 square meter rule and lockdowns, were various periods during FY 2020-21 that wine functions were unable to be held. Furthermore, a decrease of 12.2% in LPG use was due to reduced winery production and a lower yield in grapes because of the drought.

With the introduction of a weekly Saturday lunch at Cellar Door, expenses associated to food & catering increased due to organic growth. Moreover, when the Cellar Door was reopened after lockdown it was extremely busy, which increased general waste and recycling. During lockdown we had a major cleanup around the winery/Cellar Door with large amounts of items being disposed of. Furthermore, winery equipment mechanical repairs were undertaken and thus expenses increased. Finally, accounting services expenses increase due to a business ownership changed. Valuation and sale of business expenses were included in this general ledger account as a one-off expense.

Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 2

Emission source category	tonnes CO ₂ -e
Accounting services	4.29
Advertising & Promotion	0.79
Banking and investment	0.18
Commercial and Industrial Waste	13.26
Computer equipment	0.19
Diesel oil post-2004	12.06
Entertainment	0.55
Food & catering	8.55
Insurance and retirement services	0.59
Interest groups & Memberships	0.37
Liquefied petroleum gas	8.68
Medium Car: unknown fuel	10.99
Motor vehicle repairs and maintenance	2.10
Powershop: Electricity	0.00
Rates & Taxes	0.80
Telecommunications	0.76
Total net electricity emissions (Market based)	0.00
Wine Functions	7.30
Winery Repairs & Maintenance	14.41
Total Net Emissions	85.90

Uplift factors

Table 3

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO ₂ -e
N/A	
<i>Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)</i>	85.90

Carbon neutral products

Carbon neutral electricity was purchased from Powershop.

This assessment and Climate Active submission was prepared with the assistance of [Pangolin Associates](#) and these services are also carbon neutral.

Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a market-based approach.

Market-based approach summary

Table 4

Market-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)	Renewable %
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	11,950	0	100%
Total non-grid electricity	11,950	0	100%
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)	0	0	0%
Residual Electricity	0	0	0%
Total grid electricity	0	0	0%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	11,950	0	100%
Electricity renewables	11,950	0	
Residual Electricity	0	0	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emission Footprint (kgCO ₂ e)		0	

A minus Residual Electricity Emissions in kgCO₂e rounds to zero because the negative emissions can only be used to reduce electricity consumption emissions.

See electricity accounting rules for further information

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	100.00%
Mandatory	0.00%
Voluntary	0.00%
Behind the meter	100.00%
Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	0

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

Location-based approach summary

Table 5

Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO₂e)
NSW	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	0	0
NSW	11,950	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	11,950	0
Total Electricity Consumed	11,950	0

Emission Footprint (tCO₂-e)	0
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Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Table 6

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO₂e)
Powershop	90,988	0

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

4. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets strategy

Table 7

Offset purchasing strategy: In arrears	
1. Total offsets previously forward purchased and banked for this report	0
2. Total emissions liability to offset for this report	86
3. Net offset balance for this reporting period	86
4. Total offsets to be forward purchased to offset the next reporting period	0
5. Total offsets required for this report	86

The details of offsets relating to this certification also cover the Ross Hill Wine's Product certification. The relevant PDS can be found [here](#).

Co-benefits

150 MW grid connected Wind Power based electricity generation project in Gujarat, India

The main purpose of the project is to generate renewable electricity using wind power and feed the generated output to the local grid in Gujarat, contributing to climate change mitigation efforts. In addition to the generation of renewable energy-based electricity, the project has also been conceived to enhance the propagation of commercialisation of wind power generation in the region and to contribute to the sustainable development of the region, socially, environmentally and economically. The proposed project activity leads to alleviation of poverty by establishing direct and indirect employment benefits accruing out of infrastructure development of wind farms, installation work, operation and management of wind farm, providing daily needs, etc. The infrastructure in and around the project area will also improve due to project activity. This includes development of road network and improvement of electricity quality, frequency and availability as the electricity is fed into a deficit grid. The generated electricity is fed into the Western regional Grid through local grid, thereby improving the grid frequency and availability of electricity to the local consumers (villagers & sub-urban habitants) which will provide new opportunities for industries and economic activities to be setup in the area thereby resulting in greater local employment, ultimately leading to overall development.

Offsets summary

Proof of cancellation of offset units

Table 8

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 (%)
150 MW grid connected Wind Power based electricity generation project in Gujarat, India.	VCUs	Verra	12/10/2021	9085-66629475-66629869-VCS-VCU-1491-VER-IN-1-292-01012017-31122017-0	2017	395*	0	0	78	91%
150 MW grid connected Wind Power based electricity generation project in Gujarat, India.	VCUs	Verra	08/11/2021	9085-66656481-66656488-VCS-VCU-1491-VER-IN-1-292-01012017-31122017-0	2017	8	0	0	8	9%
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report									86	
Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports									0	

*317 Offsets were retired to offset the product emissions separately – refer to PDS link [here](#)

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of Total
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	86	100%

5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 9

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Website: https://www.rosshillwines.com.au/about-us/carbon-neutral-certification/	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 10

Relevance test					
Excluded emission sources	<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>
Wines sold to customers	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Freight distributing wine	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

The excluded emission sources have been included in the separate carbon neutral certification for Ross Hill's wine range. Emissions are shown in the separate Public Disclosure Statement for the product range.

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for organisations

Table 11

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	<i>Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively</i>	<i>Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.</i>	<i>Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.</i>	<i>Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified</i>
Refrigerants	No	No	No	No



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