

Australian Government

## Carbon Neutral Program

# Public Disclosure Summary



**THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE**

**Responsible Entity name: Uniting Communities Incorporated**

**Building / Project Name: U-City**

**Building Owner (if different from Responsible Entity): Uniting Communities Incorporated**

**Project Address: 43 Franklin Street, Adelaide SA 5000**

This building U-City has been Certified Carbon neutral (whole building) by the GBCA against the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Buildings (the Standard) for the period 28/04/2022 to 28/04/2023.

### Emissions Reduction Strategy

|  |   |                                     |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| The Responsible Entity has achieved either<br><br>(The Green Star – Performance Certificate and associated Carbon Neutral Certificate are displayed on the Department's website) | At least a 4 Star Green Star – Performance Rating; or                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|  | At least 8 out of 20 (base building) in the Greenhouse Gas Emissions credit; or | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
|  | At least 9 out of 23 (whole building) in the Greenhouse Gas Emissions credit.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

Or, the Responsible Entity has provided the following commitment to achieve a minimum energy efficiency rating within three years of the building's first carbon neutral certification

### Reporting Year Period 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| The project's nominated Green Star - Performance period                               | 1/07/2020  |
| 12 consecutive months from which data will be drawn for the purposes of the project's | to         |
| Green Star – Performance assessment.  | 30/06/2021 |

## 1. Carbon Neutral Information

### 1A Introduction:

Uniting Communities was the first South Australian organisation and first registered charity in Australia to become certified carbon neutral, in 2015. Uniting Communities is an inclusive not-for-profit organisation working alongside more than 80,000 South Australians each year as they strive for bright futures and great lives. We value diversity and are committed to providing respectful, accessible services to all.

Uniting Communities' 'U City' development is a community mixed use building - the first of its kind in Australia - blending Uniting Communities' own services and offices with commercial retail and other tenants, a retirement village and a disability hotel. In line with the organisation's leadership in sustainable practices, the U City building is setting a new benchmark for developments in Adelaide and South Australia, and for the community and aged care sectors in particular.

Note that the U-City building has targeted a whole building Carbon Neutral Certification. Through Green Star Performance, the project met the minimum energy efficiency requirements for the base building and all the carbon emissions were covered through Uniting Communities' organisational Carbon Neutral Certification and additional banked offsets retired by Uniting Communities, which accounted for both the base building and all tenant carbon emissions.

It's a unique situation for this building, where Uniting communities as an organisation occupies the U-City building and captured all its emissions under its organisational Carbon Neutral certification, including all the building's energy use, water and waste emissions.

For reference, the following diagram from Uniting Communities' organisation Carbon Neutral certification [public disclosure statement](#) outlines the emissions boundary covered by the organisational certification.



## 1B Emission sources within certification boundary

**Table 1. Emissions Boundary**

|  |  |                                     |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| The Responsible Entity has achieved Carbon Neutral Certification for the   | Base Building; or  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
|  | Whole Building.  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| The Responsible Entity has defined the building's emissions boundary (in terms of geographic boundary, building operations, relevance & materiality) as including the following emission sources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural Gas</li> <li>• Purchased Electricity</li> <li>• Waste to Landfill</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul> |                                     |
| Shared services are present within the project boundary which enable the building to fulfil its function   | Yes; or  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
|  | No   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**Table 2. Exclusions**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| The following emission sources have been excluded in line with the provisions of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Buildings. The impact of excluding these sources is not expected to materially affect the overall total emissions. | Refrigerants   |
| Reasons each excluded emission source has been excluded  | <p>Uniting Communities' organisational carbon inventory only accounts for GHG emissions from refrigerants in periods when these emissions occur (e.g. top up of AC systems). These allows for a more accurate accounting than using standardised assumed leakage rates. To keep best possible consistency, the same approach is applied to GHG emissions from refrigerant for the U-City building. As the 2020/21 Performance period no refrigerant refill, top up etc. has occurred at U-City, the initially calculated refrigerant impacts have been excluded.</p> |

## 2. Emissions Summary

**Table 3. Emissions Source – Summary (only for projects using the 15A NABERS pathway)**

|   | t CO <sub>2</sub> –e |
|---|----------------------|
| Scope 1: Refrigerants   | 0                    |
| Scope 1 (combustion of fuel), scope 2 (electricity, GreenPower purchased, LGCs retired/not retired) & scope 3 (fuel & electricity) <sup>1</sup> | 835                  |
| Scope 3: Water  | 31.33                |
| Scope 3: Wastewater   | 0                    |
| Scope 3: Waste (includes transport)   | 1.86                 |
| <b>Total Net Emissions</b>  | <b>868.19</b>        |

<sup>1</sup> Note: Total Gross emissions cannot be reported for buildings taking the NABERS pathway because only net electricity emissions are reported on the NABERS certificate.

### 3. Carbon Offsets Summary

Table 4. Offsets retired

| Offset project, unit type, registry & hyperlink  | Vintage (date of issuance of the offset unit) | Date retired | Serial Numbers  | Offset Quantity (t CO <sub>2</sub> –e) |
|--|---|--------------|---|--|
| <b>Offsets from organisation certification</b>   |   |              |   |  |
| VERs from InfraVest Wind Farm<br>Project Taiwan<br>Gold Standard Registry<br><a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/credit-blocks/details/143361">https://registry.goldstandard.org/credit-blocks/details/143361</a> | 2017  | 30/11/2020   | GS1-1-TW-GS472-12-2017-6457-117603-122502                         | 449                                    |
| VCUs from Chakala Wind Power<br>Project India<br>VCS Registry<br><a href="https://registry.terra.org/app/search/VCS">https://registry.terra.org/app/search/VCS</a>   | 2017  | 22/07/2019   | 7069-368178853-368180052-VCU-034-APXIN-1-1197-01012017-31122017-0 | 90.19                                  |
| <b>Additional offsets for this building certification</b>  |   |              |   |  |
| VERs from InfraVest Wind Farm<br>Project Taiwan<br>Gold Standard Registry<br><a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/credit-blocks/details/143361">https://registry.goldstandard.org/credit-blocks/details/143361</a> | 2017  | 30/11/2020   | GS1-1-TW-GS472-12-2017-6457-117603-122502                         | 329                                    |
| <b>Total Offset units retired</b>  |   |              |   | 868.19                                 |
| <b>Net emissions after offsetting</b>  |   |              |   | 0                                      |

— Report end —

