



# **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**LA TROBE UNIVERSITY – MILDURA CAMPUS**

**PRECINCT CERTIFICATION**

**CY2021**

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



<b>NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY</b>	La Trobe University – Mildura campus
<b>REPORTING PERIOD</b>	1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 True-up
<b>DECLARATION</b>	<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>John Dewar</i></p>
	<p>Name of signatory: Professor John Dewar AO            Position of signatory: Vice-Chancellor            Date: 24 August 2022</p>



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

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Version March 2022. To be used for FY20/21/CY2021 reporting onwards.



# 1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	131 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	100% VCU's
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	63.45%
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Date: 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 Name: Carlin Hales Organisation: La Trobe University Next technical assessment due: 2024

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## 2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

### Description of certification

La Trobe University, ABN 64 804 735 113, is certified carbon neutral for the operations of its Mildura Campus precinct from calendar year 2021. A carbon inventory was calculated for calendar year 2020 to produce a base year for the campus and to be used as a project for calendar year 2021. The base year has allowed tracking of the implementation and impact of emissions reductions strategies over the proceeding years.

### Precinct geographical boundary

La Trobe University has committed to being at the forefront of addressing key global issues. As such, social and environmental sustainability is embedded into its operations, curriculum and research.

Aligned with its sustainable practices, the University has set a target to become carbon neutral by 2029 and make the regional campuses carbon neutral by 2022.

The Mildura Campus was established in 1996 and plays a vital economic, educational, social and cultural role in the community. The Campus offers students with a well-resourced education precinct in a convenient setting, including a modern lecture theatre, seminar rooms and a computer and clinical learning.

The precinct is located at 471 Benetook Avenue, Mildura. The geographic boundaries are illustrated in Figure 1 and Figure 2, aligned with the property title and community expectations. The total Gross Floor Area (GFA) is approximately 1,618m<sup>2</sup> and the precinct has been fully developed with no further construction currently expected.

*“La Trobe University has a long and proud history of pursuing sustainable practice and we’re proud to be leading the way to become carbon neutral by 2029.”*

Figure 1: Approximate geographic boundaries of Mildura Campus Precinct <sup>1</sup>

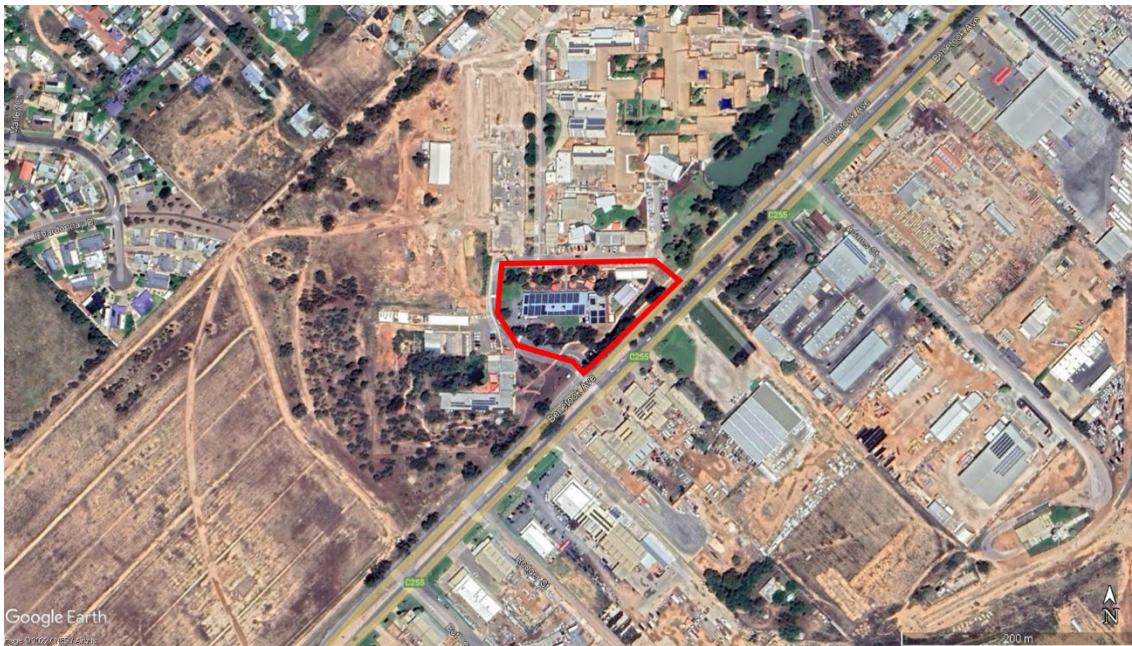
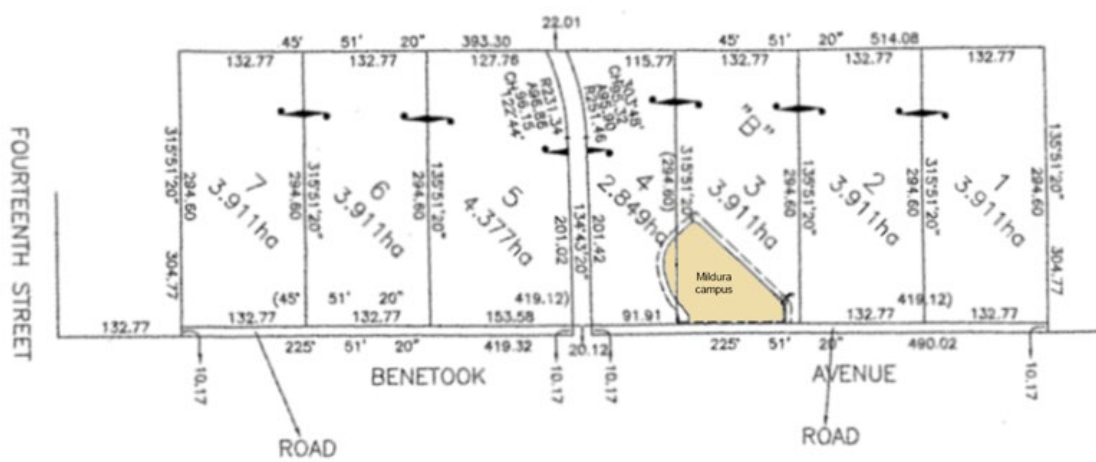


Figure 2: Property title of Mildura Campus Precinct<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Source: Map of Mildura Campus exported from Google Earth Pro

<sup>2</sup> Source: Property title of Mildura Campus provided by La Trobe University

## 3.EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

### 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 organisation's 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
<p><b><u>Quantified</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural gas</li> <li>Transport fuel use (fleet)</li> <li>Electricity</li> <li>Water and wastewater treatment</li> <li>Waste to landfill</li> <li>Recycled waste</li> <li>Office paper</li> <li>Staff commute</li> <li>Working from home</li> <li>Air travel</li> <li>Business travel accommodation</li> <li>Courier services</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Non-quantified</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taxi</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Excluded</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student commute</li> <li>Food &amp; catering</li> <li>Refrigerants</li> <li>Office furniture and IT equipment</li> <li>Cleaning services</li> <li>Investments</li> </ul>

### Data management plan for non-quantified sources

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

## 4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

### Emissions reduction strategy

In 2019, La Trobe University made the ambitious commitment to become carbon neutral by 2029, with its regional campuses to achieve this target in 2022. As a university with a long and proud history of pursuing sustainable practice, La Trobe recognises the social, environmental and economic importance of reducing its carbon footprint through onsite renewable generation and adopting energy efficient and new technologies.

Two of the University's regional campuses – Mildura and Shepparton – were the first to reach net zero carbon emissions in 2022. A range of projects have been implemented at these campuses, including the installation of rooftop solar panels, energy efficient LED lights, mechanical system efficiency upgrades, and batteries to store solar energy. These projects have reduced carbon emissions at these campuses by a significant margin.

La Trobe is committed to its Net Zero program<sup>3</sup>, with a range of projects currently underway and in the pipeline that will support our other regional campuses to also reach zero emissions in 2022. The wider University is on track to achieve net zero by 2029.

La Trobe University is exceeding its emissions reductions with total emissions reduced by more than 40% from the baseline year (2019) of the Net Zero program.

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<sup>3</sup> Additional information can be found on <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/sustainability/net-zero>



## 5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

### Significant changes in emissions

Emission source name	Current year (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e and/ or activity data)	Previous year (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e and/ or activity data)	Detailed reason for change
<b>Electricity</b>	75.94	233.1	The installation of new solar PV rooftop system increasing renewables generation significantly. Additionally, an error occurred in the previous year's report which led to usage being counted twice. This has been rectified for this report.
<b>Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)</b>	28.99	24.5	Weather events throughout the year impacted the usage of natural gas.
<b>Transport (Land and Sea)</b>	8.07	10.2	This value was most greatly contributed by staff commutes. Staffing levels decreased between the projected value from 2020 and actual staffing in 2021. Staff working from home rates also increased between the base year and 2021.
<b>Working from home</b>	15.21	17.0	Staffing levels decreased between the projected value from 2020 and actual staffing in 2021.

## Organisation emissions summary

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

The previous report was a projection report using representative data to estimate the emissions for the reporting year. This table shows the differences between the projected emissions and the actual emissions recorded.

Emission category	Projected emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Sum of total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)
Accommodation and facilities	1.0	0.34
Air Transport (km)	2.8	1.08
Electricity	233.1	75.94
Land and Sea Transport (fuel)	0.3	0.00
Land and Sea Transport (km)	10.2	8.07
Office equipment & supplies	0.3	0.26
Postage, courier and freight	1.1	0.80
Stationary Energy	24.5	28.99
Waste	9.4	0.09
Water	1.5	1.60
Working from home	17.0	15.21
<b>Total net emissions</b>	<b>301.2</b>	<b>130.86</b>
<b>Difference between projected and actual</b>		<b>170.43</b>

## 6. CARBON OFFSETS

### Offsets retirement approach

In arrears	
1. Total number of eligible offsets banked from last year's report	302
2. Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	131
3. Total eligible offsets required for this report	-171
4. Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	Zero
5. Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	171

### Co-benefits

For CY2021, La Trobe University purchased offsets for the Vishnuprayag Hydro-electric Project. This renewable energy project is a run-of-the-river based hydro-electric project and has an implemented capacity of 400MW. By generating electricity from renewable sources of energy, the hydro-electric installation reduces the need for burning fossil fuels to supply power to the grid. This in turn reduces anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions that would have otherwise been generated via this process.

La Trobe University has purchased Greenfleet revegetation offsets to accompany the VCUs from the Vishnuprayag Hydro-Electric Project. The Greenfleet offsets will contribute to a revegetation project local to Victoria. More information on the Greenfleet offsets can be found in Appendix A.

## Eligible offsets retirement summary

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	Stapled quantity	Eligible quantity (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Eligible quantity used for previous reporting periods	Eligible quantity banked for future reporting periods	Eligible quantity used for this reporting period	Percentage of total (%)
Vishnuprayag Hydroelectric Project (VHEP) by Jaiprakash Power Ventures Ltd.(JPVL)	VCUs	Verra	06/11/2021	<a href="#">10593-230773650-230773951-VCS-VCU-259-VER-IN-1-173-01012013-31122013-0</a>	2013	302	131	302	171	131	100%
Stapled to Greenfleet Offsets (future offsets delivering carbon sequestration through protected native ecosystem restoration)	Greenfleet Reforestation offsets	Multi-phase verification processes:  Full Carbon Accounting Model (FullCAM) is verified annually by EY; Pitcher Partners independently audit and carbon on title agreements are authorised by each landholder.  All data is managed in Salesforce	Forward offsets, purchased	NA – Salesforce reporting available upon request	2022		302	0	302	0	0%
<b>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</b>										131	
<b>Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports</b>										171	
Type of offset units		Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)				Percentage of total					
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)		131				100%					

## 7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

### Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

## APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Greenfleet Offsets

La Trobe University has purchased one Greenfleet offset to accompany every VCU purchased from the Vishnuprayag Hydro-Electric Project. For each Greenfleet offset purchased, Greenfleet will plant enough native trees to capture 1 tonne CO<sub>2</sub>-e.

Greenfleet is revegetating native ecosystem on a property in Kinglake, Victoria, on land traditionally owned by the Taungurung and Wurundjeri Peoples. This site will provide habitat for a variety of native birds including Sulphur-crested Cockatoos, lyrebirds, King Parrots and colourful rosellas.

The Greenfleet offsets purchased by La Trobe University for 2021 will contribute to this project. In addition to this, La Trobe University will be providing Greenfleet a portion of the native vegetation seedlings that will be planted. These seedlings will be grown at the indigenous plant nursery at La Trobe's Nangak Tamboree Wildlife Sanctuary, located on the Bundoora campus.

## 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 <sub>2</sub> e)	Renewable Percentage of total
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	156,388	0	55%
<b>Total non-grid electricity</b>	<b>156,388</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55%</b>
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)	23,593	0	8%
Residual Electricity	103,662	103,077	0%
<b>Total grid electricity</b>	<b>127,255</b>	<b>103,077</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>283,643</b>	<b>103,077</b>	<b>63%</b>
Electricity renewables	179,981	0	
Residual Electricity	103,662	103,077	
<b>Exported on-site generated electricity</b>	<b>44,581</b>	<b>-32,544</b>	
Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)		<b>70,533</b>	

<b>Total renewables (grid and non-grid)</b>	<b>63.45%</b>
<b>Mandatory</b>	<b>8.32%</b>
<b>Voluntary</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Behind the meter</b>	<b>55.14%</b>
<b>Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO<sub>2</sub>e)</b>	<b>71</b>

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

## Location Based Approach Summary

Location Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0
Vic	127,255	115,802	12,726
Qld	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
<b>Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)</b>	<b>127,255</b>	<b>115,802</b>	<b>12,726</b>
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0
Vic	156,388	0	0
Qld	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
<b>Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)</b>	<b>156,388</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Electricity Consumed</b>	<b>283,643</b>	<b>115,802</b>	<b>12,726</b>
<b>Emission Footprint (TCO<sub>2</sub>e)</b>	<b>129</b>		
<i>Scope 2 Emissions (TCO<sub>2</sub>e)</i>	116		
<i>Scope 3 Emissions (TCO<sub>2</sub>e)</i>	13		



# 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.

Taxi

- The emissions associated with taxi trips have been non-quantified in line with the provisions of the CACNS. These emissions correspond to less than 1% of the total carbon account and are not considered material.

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
Taxi	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.

These emission sources have been excluded in line with the provisions of the CACNS:

- **Student commute**

La Trobe understands that the emissions from student commute may be substantial in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption. However, given the complexity involved in gathering the necessary data and the fact that the emission source does not meet any other criteria in the relevance test, it has been excluded from the carbon account.

- **Food & catering**

The campus does not have a dedicated food court and uses the facility located at the adjacent SuniTAFE campus. Data required to apportion the consumption between La Trobe and SuniTAFE is not available. Moreover, the emissions from this source are not considered to be material in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption.

- **Refrigerants**

The volume of refrigerants on campus is deemed to be very low. Emissions from this source are likely to be immaterial in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption.

- **Office and IT equipment**

The emissions from office and IT equipment are deemed immaterial in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption.

- **Cleaning services**

Cleaning services are provided by an external provider. Even though La Trobe is very particular with the environmental practices of services providers, the emission source is considered immaterial in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption and does not meet any other criteria in the relevance test.

- **Investments**

Investments consist of managed products and La Trobe does not have the potential to influence emission reductions. However, La Trobe understands that investments are deemed relevant by stakeholders. As such, investments are carefully considered subject to an internal policy that takes into account social, ethical and environmental concerns.

<b>Emission sources tested for relevance</b>	<b>(1) Size</b>	<b>(2) Influence</b>	<b>(3) Risk</b>	<b>(4) Stakeholders</b>	<b>(5) Outsourcing</b>	<b>Included in boundary?</b>
Student commute	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Food & catering	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Refrigerants	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Office and IT equipment	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Cleaning services	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Investments	No	No	No	Yes	No	No



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