PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

GAIA CONSTRUCTION PTY LTD

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2021–22

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

gaia construction

An Australian Government Initiative

Climate Active

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Gaia Construction Pty Ltd
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022 Arrears report
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.* *Jeremy Gates*
	Jeremy Gates Director 14/10/2022

Australian Government
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Version March 2022.

1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	74 tCO_2-e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	100% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	19% Renewable energy
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Not applicable

Contents

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 1, 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.

"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."

Gaia Construction operate from Suite 1, 6 Riddell Parade, Elsternwick VIC 3185.

Website https://gaiaconstruction.com.au/

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

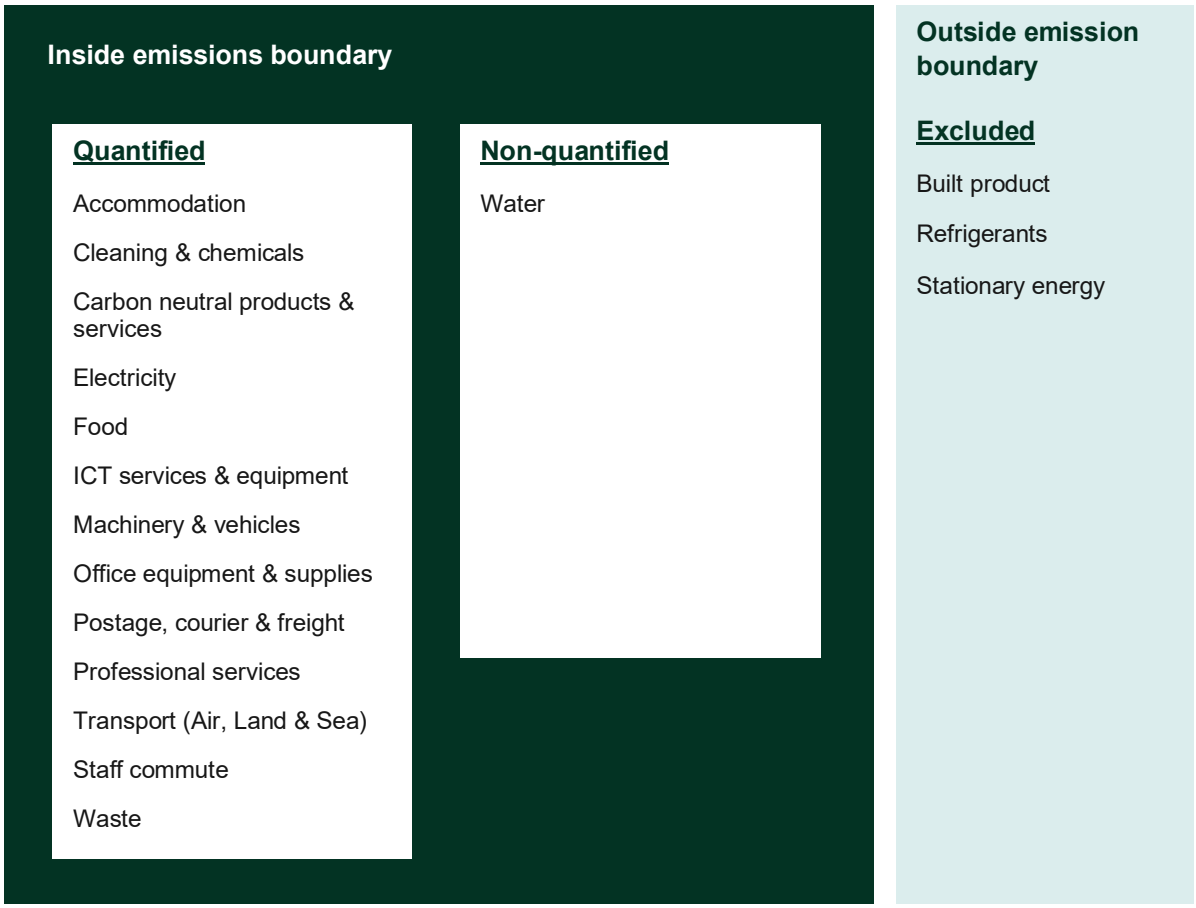
All emission sources listed in the emissions boundary are part of the carbon neutral claim.

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 organisation's operations and are outside of its emissions boundary, are outside of the scope of the certification or for this small organisation did not occur. These emissions are not part of the carbon neutral claim. Further detail is available at Appendix D.



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

Gaia Construction commits to reduce emissions across its value chain (scope 1, 2 and 3) by at least 10% by 2025, and 15% by 2030 from our FY 2020 baseline.

As Gaia Construction is a growing business, measuring emissions reduction from a base year when circumstances change annually, does not provide a true reflection of reductions achieved. Therefore, going forward, we will measure our emissions against a key performance indicator (KPI) of emissions / full time employee (FTE) baselined on our FY 2020 base year.

Our emissions / FTE for base year FY 2021 was 8.96 t-CO2e / FTE

Our emissions / FTE for FY2022 is 7.35 t-CO2e / FTE – equivalent to an 18 % reduction on base year.

Due Date	Emission Source	Emission reduction measure	Scope	Status	Estimated Reduction t CO2-e pa
30 June 2023	All	Establish company policies to preference highly efficient and carbon neutral products where possible	All	In progress	n/a
30 June 2023	Paper	Reduce printing and purchase carbon neutral paper	3	In progress	0.0282
30 June 2023	Air Travel	Any necessary flights are carbon offset	3	In progress	1.320
30 June 2025	All	Update company policies to preference carbon neutral products where possible	All	Planned	n/a
Ongoing	Energy	Continue to advocate for shared office provider to purchase 100% renewable energy	2 & 3	In progress	n/a
2027	Fuel	Investigate opportunities to transition to electric vehicle for business use	3	Planned	n/a

Emissions reduction actions

Emission reduction actions taken to date are noted below.

Year Done	Emission Source	Emission reduction measure	Scope	Status	Reduction t CO2-e pa
FY 2022	All	Set emission reduction target	All	Complete	n/a
FY 2022	Fuel	Plug in hybrid vehicle purchased in 2016 used for business travel to minimize fuel	3	Complete	n/a
FY 2020	Waste	Construction waste is 75% recycled	2	Complete	88.29
FY 2020	Training	All staff are trained in energy efficient building techniques	n/a	Complete	n/a

5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year		
		Total tCO_2-e
Base year/Year 1:	FY 2020-2021	55.9808
Year 2:	FY 2021-2022	73.4686

Significant changes in emissions

As we are emerging from COVID impacts business and volume of work has increased resulting in business growth and efficiency measures implemented.

Emission source	Previous reporting period		This reporting period		% Change from previous year activity data	% Contribution to inventory	Reason for change
	Activity Data	Total Emissions (kg CO_2-e)	Activity Data	Total Emissions (kg CO_2-e)			
Machinery & vehicles equipment hire	20710	4994.43	33219	8011.16	60	11	organic growth
Accounting services	23352	2978.11	4200	5357.11	80	8	organic growth
Advertising services	91997	11049.67	109803	13188.28	19	19	organic growth
Fuel - medium vehicle	31894	7670.83	26447	6360.89	-17	10	Staff changes
Waste - construction	41.487	8375	35.04	7008	-16	10	Improved recycling

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

N/A

Organisation emissions summary

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

Emission Source	Total (t CO2e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.9980
Cleaning and Chemicals	0.0208
Construction Materials and Services	1.0450
Carbon neutral products & services	0.0000
Electricity	2.2830
Food	0.4606
ICT services and equipment	4.4166
Machinery and vehicles	8.7949
Office equipment & supplies	0.8802
Postage, courier and freight	0.0071
Products	1.1370
Professional Services	27.0938
Transport (Air)	1.3204
Transport (Land and Sea)	14.4600
Waste	7.2480
Working from home	-0.1950
Grand Total	69.9701

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	3.4985
Total of all uplift factors	
Total footprint to offset *(total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)*	**73.4686**

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

In arrears		
1.	Total number of eligible offsets banked from last year's report	0 tonnes
2.	Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	74 tonnes
3.	Total eligible offsets required for this report	74 tonnes
4.	Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	74 tonnes
5.	Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	0 tonnes

Co-benefits

Co-benefits of the Chakala India Wind Power Project are below.

CO-BENEFITS:

Social well-being:

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 well-being:

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 well-being:

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.

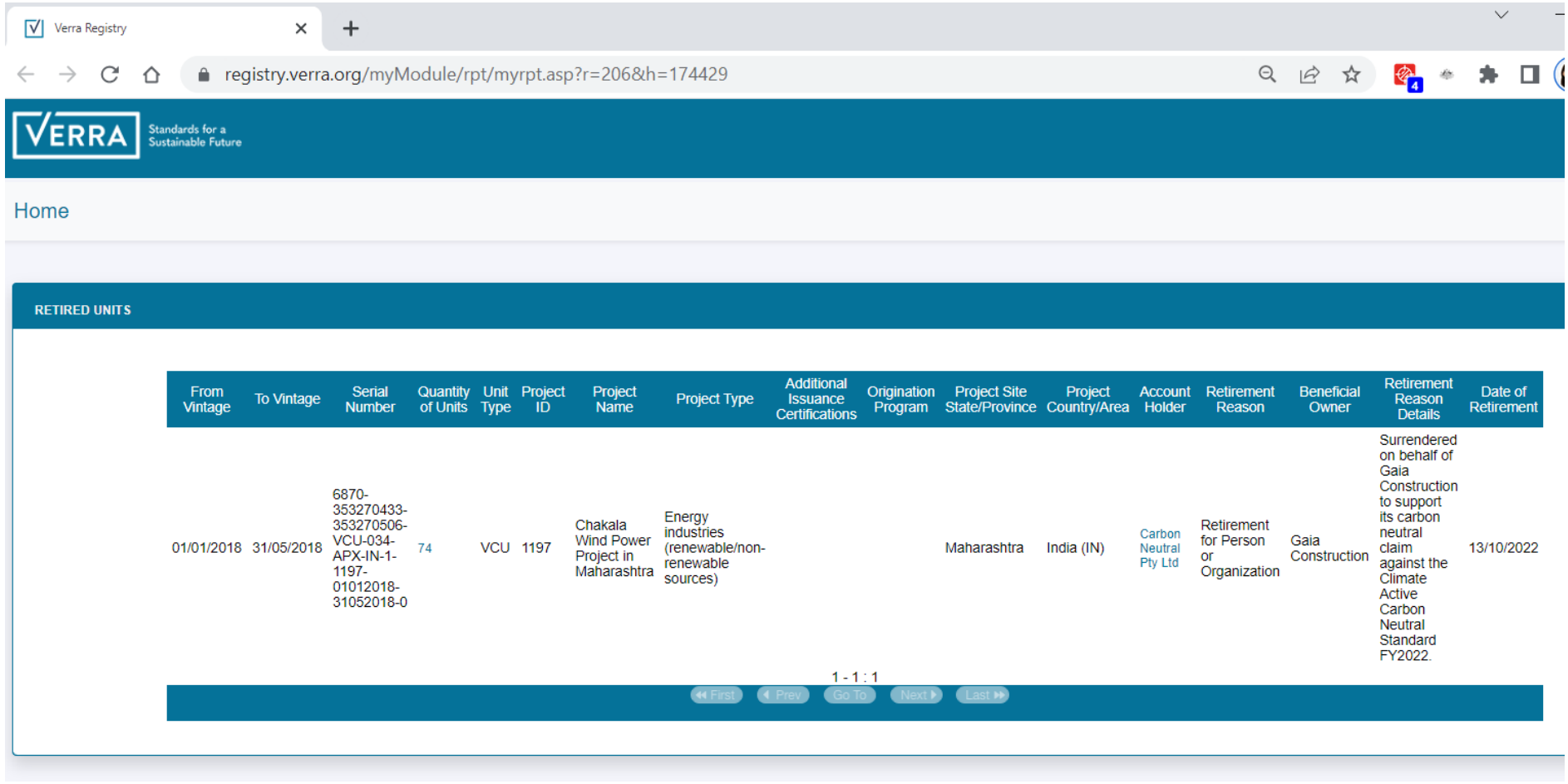
Technological well-being:

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.

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_2-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 (%)**
Chakala Wind Power Project in Maharashtra, India. Project ID 1197	VCU	Verra	13/10/2022	6870-353270433-353270506-VCU-034-APX-IN-1-1197-01012018-31052018-0	2018	0	74	0	0	74	100
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report										74	
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)	74	100



From Vintage	To Vintage	Serial Number	Quantity of Units	Unit Type	Project ID	Project Name	Project Type	Additional Issuance Certifications	Origination Program	Project Site State/Province	Project Country/Area	Account Holder	Retirement Reason	Beneficial Owner	Retirement Reason Details	Date of Retirement
01/01/2018	31/05/2018	6870-353270433-353270506-VCU-034-APX-IN-1-1197-01012018-31052018-0	74	VCU	1197	Chakala Wind Power Project in Maharashtra	Energy industries (renewable/non-renewable sources)			Maharashtra	India (IN)	Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd	Retirement for Person or Organization	Gaia Construction	Surrendered on behalf of Gaia Construction to support its carbon neutral claim against the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard FY2022.	13/10/2022

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7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

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

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

* 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
						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 (kgCO2e)	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)	524	0	19%
Residual Electricity	2,295	2,283	0%
Total grid electricity	**2,819**	**2,283**	**19%**
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	**2,819**	**2,283**	**19%**
Electricity renewables	524	0	
Residual Electricity	2,295	2,283	
Exported on-site generated electricity	**0**	**0**	
Emissions (kgCO2e)		2,283	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	**18.59%**
Mandatory	**18.59%**
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)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO2e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO2e)
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0
Vic	2,819	2,565	282
Qld	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	**2,819**	**2,565**	**282**
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0
Qld	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	**0**	**0**	**0**
Total Electricity Consumed	**2,819**	**2,565**	**282**

Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	**3**
Scope 2 Emissions (TCO2e)	3
Scope 3 Emissions (TCO2e)	0

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO2e)
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. 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.

Although the emission sources below are deemed a relevant emission under the small organisation certification, we do not use these sources and as such they have been excluded from the PDS and carbon inventory.

Emission sources tested for relevance	(1) Size	(2) Influence	(3) Risk	(4) Stakeholders	(5) Outsourcing	Included in boundary?
Built Product	No	No	No	No	No	No
Refrigerants	No	No	No	No	No	No
Stationary energy	No	No	No	No	No	No

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