



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**GOLDEN WEST HOLDINGS PTY LTD T/A
BLUE MOUNTAINS EXPLORER BUS/
FANTASTIC AUSSIE TOURS**

**ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FINANCIAL YEAR 2021-22**

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Golden West Holdings Pty Ltd T/A Blue Mountains Explorer Bus/ Fantastic Aussie Tours
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022 Arrears report
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>Jason Cronshaw</i></p> <hr/> <p>Name of signatory – Jason Cronshaw Position of signatory – Managing Director Date – 16/2/2023</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	182.32 t CO ₂ -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	CER (100%)
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	N/A
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Next technical assessment due: FY25

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2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This greenhouse gas (GHG) statement has been prepared for the financial year (FY) from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2021. The certification covers the Australian business operations of Golden West Holdings (ABN 54 003 025 250).

This GHG inventory quantifies carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O) emissions, and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), measured in tonnes of CO₂-e. We are not aware of any significant sources of perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆), or nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃) within the operational boundary. It covers direct (scope 1) and indirect (scope 2) GHG emissions associated with Fantastic Aussie Tours' and Blue Mountains Explorer Bus's activities over which Golden West Holdings has operational control, as well as other indirect GHG emissions that occur as a result of Golden West Holdings' business activities (scope 3).

Climate Active is very important to us operating within a World Heritage National Park. It enables us to understand how our actions affect the natural environment and try to reduce our impacts.

Organisation description

Golden West Holdings operates both Fantastic Aussie Tours and Blue Mountains Explorer Bus, based in an office in Katoomba (238 Bathurst St) and a depot in North Katoomba (91 Barton St). These two businesses provide three different types of transport services for tourists, schools, corporate events and other customers. These services are:

- Hop-on hop-off Explorer Bus: This service ferries tourists between different sites in the Blue Mountains.
- Fantastic Aussie Tours: This caters to tourists wanting to take tours in the Blue Mountains as well as other locations (e.g. between Sydney and inter-state destinations)
- Fantastic Aussie Tours coach charter service: This involves six coaches catering to local schools, Barker College (outdoor education), the International Management School, Corporate transfers (e.g. to restaurants, hotels or to/from Sydney)

3.EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Inside the emissions boundary

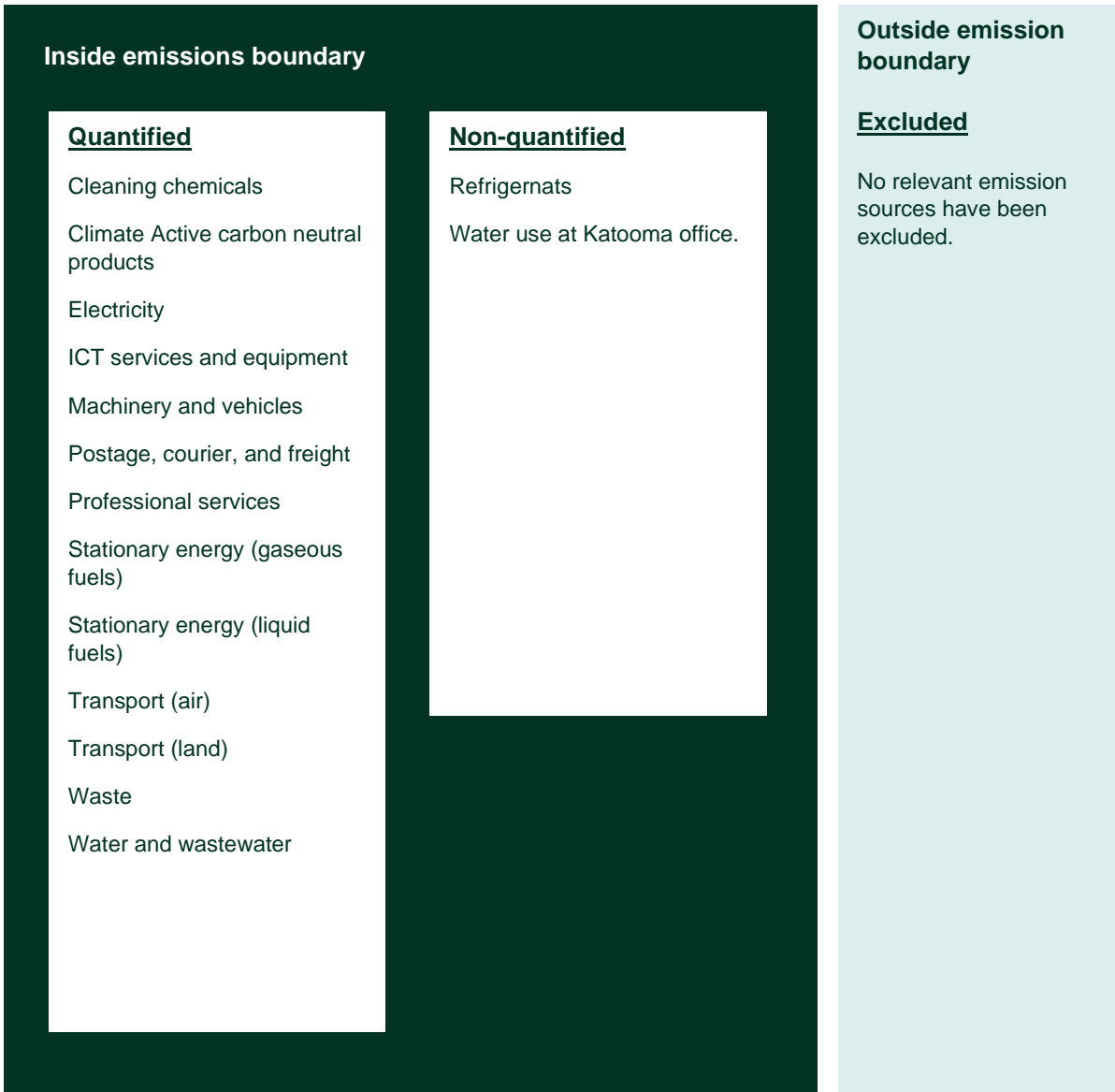
All emission sources listed in the emissions boundary are part of the carbon neutral claim.

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 in 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 the scope of the certification. These emissions are not part of the carbon neutral claim. Further detail is available in Appendix D.



Data management plan for non-quantified sources

No non-quantified sources in the emission boundary require a data management plan.

Refrigerants have not been quantified as the contribution of this emission source to the total footprint is considered to be de minimis.

Water use for one toilet and one sink in the rented Katoomba office have not been quantified as Golden West Holdings does not pay for this water usage nor has access to the water invoices for the premises. The contribution of this emission source to the total footprint is considered to be de minimis.

4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

The bushfires and the pandemic and its ripple effects on our businesses, including hop-on hop-off tourist buses, coach charters, and extended tours, have led to a significant shift in fuel consumption over the past few years. Our operations were particularly hard-hit during the four-month Greater Sydney lockdown from June to October 2021, resulting in a noticeable decrease in fuel usage.

Our commitment remains to achieve a 20% reduction in our Scope 1 emissions by FY27, using the period before the bushfires and Covid as a baseline. Part of our strategy includes transitioning to a more energy-efficient fleet of vehicles.

However, it is important to acknowledge that these turbulent circumstances pose significant challenges when setting a comprehensive emissions reduction target and developing a strategic roadmap. These unpredicted variables have added complexity to our planning and implementation processes, yet our dedication to environmental sustainability remains steady.

Emissions reduction actions

Golden West Holdings uses the current GHG inventory and the baseline to identify, evaluate and implement potential emission reduction opportunities and against which future efforts and overall environmental performance are evaluated. Opportunities implemented include:

- Switching to Climate Active-certified carbon neutral products, such as
 - Carbon neutral office paper
 - Carbon neutral electricity products
 - Carbon neutral flight options for business travel
- Driver training
- Energy efficiency opportunities to reduce energy demand, such as switching lights to LEDs, and considering the most efficient options when procuring new equipment
- Improving recycling rate and further reducing amount of waste that goes to landfill

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year, incl. mandatory 5% uplift		Total t CO ₂ -e
Base year:	2015-16	681
Year 1:	2016-17	422
Year 2:	2017-18	417
Year 3:	2018-19	425
Year 4:	2019-20	362
Year 5:	2020-21	248
Year 6:	2021-22	183

Significant changes in emissions

Emission source name	Current year (tCO ₂ -e and/ or activity data)	Previous year (tCO ₂ -e and/ or activity data)	Detailed reason for change
Transport (land) – diesel for busses	112.20	176.55	Organisation impacted by bushfires and Covid19.

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

- Opal Australian Paper
- Powershop electricity

Organisation emissions summary

Electricity emissions were calculated using a location-based approach.

Emission category	Sum of total emissions (tCO ₂ -e)
Bespoke – EV electricity consumption	0.11
Cleaning and chemicals	2.08
Climate Active Carbon Neutral Products & services	0.00
ICT services and equipment	3.41
Machinery and vehicles	15.51
Office equipment & supplies	0.11
Postage, courier and freight	0.12
Professional services	1.16
Stationary energy (gaseous fuels)	3.85
Stationary energy (liquid fuels)	1.21
Transport (air)	0.45
Transport (land and sea)	144.39
Waste	7.51
Water	0.39
Total	180.32

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
Uplift for non-quantified refrigerants and water GHG emissions	2
Total of all uplift factors	2
Total footprint to offset <i>(total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)</i>	182.32

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

In arrears

1. Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	182.32 t CO ₂ -e
2. Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	183
3. Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	17

Co-benefits

The project is a 330 MW 'run of the river' hydropower project in Uttarakhand, India. The project site is 110 km from Rishikesh railhead, along Rishikesh - Badrinath highway.

Social well-being:

- New employment opportunities for the region.
- Increased income security of vulnerable local rural communities.
- Infrastructure development in the neighbouring villages, incl. better roads and telecommunications.

Environmental well-being:

- Replaces fossil fuel-generated electricity, reducing GHG emissions and air pollutants (especially NO_x and SO₂).
- Lower environmental impact than a reservoir-based hydropower plant.

Economic well-being:

- Employment opportunities for the local population, raising the economic standards of the people residing near the project activity.
- The stakeholders near the project site have tourism as a significant income source, and the project activity of this scale is expected to boost that further.

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 (%)
Run-of-the-river Hydroelectric Power Project in Uttarakhand by Alaknanda Hydro Power Company Limited	CER	United Nations Carbon Offset Platform	23 January 2023	IN-5-280916790-2-2-0-4776- IN-5-280916978-2-2-0-4776	2016/17	N/A	200	0	17	183	100
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report										183	
Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports									17		
Type of offset units		Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)				Percentage of total					
Certified Emissions Reductions (CERs)		183				100%					

The offset summary also covers the service, the PDS is available on the Climate Active website.

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 do 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								N/A	

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

N/A

APPENDIX B: ELECTRICITY SUMMARY

Electricity emissions are calculated using a location-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) where 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.

Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)
Powershop	13,818	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
Refrigerants	Yes	No	No	No
Water in Katoomba office	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?
N/A						



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