



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ACTIVE SUPER

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2020-21

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



REPORTING PERIOD: 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:

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read "Moya Yip".

Date: 24 February 2022

Name of Signatory: Moya Yip

Position of Signatory: Head of Responsible Investment



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 Active Super, ABN: 28 901 371 321.

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 certification includes all staff, head office and regional offices in which Active Super operates (Sydney, Ballina, Newcastle, Orange, Parramatta, Wagga Wagga, Tamworth, Wollongong).

LGSS Pty Ltd is the trustee for the Active Super fund and the emissions associated solely with the operation and management of this fund are certified carbon neutral. Any emissions associated with the investment assets themselves are outside of this certification boundary.

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.

“Active Super is committed to net zero emissions by at least 2050 for our investment portfolio, evident in both our Emissions Policy and modelling. Climate Active certification for the fund helps support this commitment to our members.”

Organisation description

Active Super (previously Local Government Super) was established in 1997 to provide retirement benefits to employees of Local Councils in NSW and is now a public offer fund. Active Super manages over \$14 billion in superannuation assets and has approximately 80,000 members. Active Super is a multi-award winning certified responsible super fund with investments across Australian and International shares, property, infrastructure, private equity, absolute return and fixed interest. Active Super manages a \$750 million direct property portfolio (the Portfolio) which comprises eight high quality assets located throughout NSW. The Portfolio helps Active Super to achieve long-term stable returns which is key to helping our members build their retirement savings. In April 2019, the Portfolio was the first property portfolio in Australia to be certified carbon neutral by NABERS on behalf of Climate Active

2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

Diagram of the certification boundary



Non-quantified sources

Water use was not quantified as it was deemed to be immaterial.

Data management plan

N/A

Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)

N/A

“Climate Active certification is key to tackling climate change, one of the greatest global challenges of our times. It focusses us on energy savings & other costs and drives the market for sustainable, ethical products & services.”

3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions reduction strategy

Our overall goal is to achieve a minimum of 3% emissions reduction year-on-year over a 10-year period from a 2018-2019 base year. Our strategy to achieve this is set out below. This strategy will be reviewed each year and will align with the level of decarbonization required to keep global temperature increase to well-below 2°C compared to preindustrial temperatures:

- **Reduce electricity usage:** Active Super had a 20% electricity usage reduction since FY2020, however, this was mainly due to COVID-19 forcing employees to work from home. Active Super is considering installing sensor lighting in its Head Office in the next office renovation – which is planned to happen within the next five years. In the meantime, Active Super is looking at energy usage reduction actions. Finally, Active Super is already purchasing 100% GreenPower for all its offices electricity usages.
- **Reduce printing and postage:** Active Super's printing reduced by 59% and postage reduced by 81% since FY2020, however, this was mainly due to COVID-19. A new communication strategy focused on increasing digital communications to members since FY2020 by increasing the number of e-statements as opposed to hard copy being posted to members. Since January 2021 to date, the number of e-statements sent to members has increased by 3%. Active Super is committed to increase the percentage of e-statement from 43% to 46% of its member base by FY2022 compared to FY2021. This ongoing strategy will help reduce Active Super's printing and postage carbon emissions and will positively impact the environment by reducing material extraction and processing to manufacture paper.
- **Continue to organise and join online webinars for non-essential meetings, where practical, which saves emissions by reducing travel.**
- **Aim to reduce Stationery expenses by 20% from FY2021 by FY2022.**

Emissions over time

Emissions reduced for a combination of reasons. The key areas of change are detailed below.

Postage and printing

Postage and printing volumes decreased during the year due to the implementation of digital e-statements as first option for members as opposed to mailing them out via Australia Post.

Flights, Hotels

All travel was significantly impacted by COVID-19 which resulted in a decrease in business flights, and hotels.

Software, Training, Periodic subscriptions

Software, training, and periodic subscriptions related expenses are accounted from FY2020/21.

Telecommunications

In FY2019/20, at the start of COVID-19, our call center had a higher volume of calls from our members and the length of the calls were longer than in FY2020/21, hence our telecommunications costs spiked between March to June 2020, then they dropped in FY2020/21.

Advertising

Advertising increased in FY2020/21 due to our new branding campaigns.

Transport Fuels

The increase in FY2020/21 was mainly due to more activity around our rebranding and our new marketing team who were visiting our various sites across NSW.

Working from home

Employees worked from home more frequently in FY2020/21 due to COVID-19 lockdown. This explains an increase in working from home related emissions.

Table 1

Emissions since base year			
	Base year/Year 1: 2018-19	Year 2: 2019-20	Current year Year 3: 2020-21
<i>Total tCO₂-e</i>	1,359.5	768.4	620.7

Emissions reduction actions

During the FY2021 period Active Super has maintained video conferencing and whilst this was partly due to COVID-19, this will remain in order, where possible, to reduce travel emissions.

While working from home, staff were also printing less and requiring less stationery, working digitally rather than paper based. Growing staff awareness of only printing when necessary, helped to decrease these emissions further.

Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 2

Emission source category	tonnes CO ₂ -e
Accommodation and facilities	6.59
Air Transport (km)	8.63
Cleaning and Chemicals	5.91
Food	16.51
ICT services and equipment	208.04
Land and Sea Transport (fuel)	69.78
Land and Sea Transport (km)	10.60
Office equipment & supplies	66.30
Postage, courier and freight	4.26
Products	11.57
Professional Services	150.58
Refrigerants	0.03
Taxi and Uber	0.25
Waste	0.49
Working from home	61.14
<i>Total Net Emissions</i>	620.69

Uplift factors

Table 3

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO ₂ -e
N/A	N/A
<i>Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)</i>	621

Carbon neutral products

Carbon neutral paper from Winc and Australia Post carbon neutral card products were used.

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	0	0	0%
Total non-grid electricity	0	0	0%
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	149,181	0	100%
Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs retired)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	0	0	0%
Residual Electricity	-28,233	-30,296	-19%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	28,233	0	19%
Total grid electricity	149,181	-30,296	100%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	149,181	-30,296	119%
Electricity renewables	177,414	0	
Residual Electricity	-28,233	-30,296	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emission Footprint (kgCO ₂ -e)		0	

Emission Footprint (tCO₂-e)	0
Mandatory	18.93%
Voluntary	100.00%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Total renewables	118.93%

Location-based approach summary

Table 5

Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)
NSW	149,181	134,263
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	149,181	134,263
Total Electricity Consumed	149,181	134,263

Emission Footprint (tCO₂-e)	134
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4. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets strategy

Table 6

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	621
3. Net offset balance for this reporting period	621
4. Total offsets to be forward purchased to offset the next reporting period	0
5. Total offsets required for this report	621

Co-benefits

Pacajai REDD+ Project

Active Super has purchased 621 offset credits to support the Pacajai REDD+ Project. This project is working to provide legal land-use permits that will result in official land titles for those villages that actively participate in forest protection. Through funds raised, the project can continue to improve food security through agroforestry techniques, while introducing sustainable livelihood alternatives to local communities. With over 56,000 hectares of land dedicated to these inhabitants, it is expected that each family will receive approximately 140 hectares, and each town will have its own land donated to it. In partnership with local NGOs, the project will provide capacity building to local families to develop and submit business plans (individually or in groups) to apply for funding to start small sustainable businesses – those that take advantage of non-timber products in the project area, such as the highly valuable Acai fruit. We are also building local capabilities in the use of agroforestry techniques, to diversify and secure food consumption, while achieving a sustainable production of cassava – used in farinha production. Since the world's forests are our greatest ally in the fight against climate change, we've made it our mission to prevent over 10 million tonnes of harmful CO₂ entering the atmosphere over the 40- year lifetime of the project. We have been successfully validated and verified against the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and validated to the CCB Standards Second Edition - achieving Climate Adaptation and Biodiversity Gold Levels.

Offsets summary

Proof of cancellation of offset units

Table 7

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 (%)
Pacajai REDD+ Project	VCUs	Verra	29/10/2021	11028-271100373-271100993-VCS-VCU-259-VER-BR-14-981-01012013-31122013-0	2013	621	0	0	621	100%
<i>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</i>										621
<i>Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports</i>										0

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of Total
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	621	100%

5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 8

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Active Super Website	Climate Active Organisation

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 9

Relevance test					
Excluded emission sources	<i>The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationery 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>
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for organisations

Table 10

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>
Water	Yes	No	No	No



An Australian Government Initiative

