PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

GEELONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2023 GEELONG BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS PRESENTATION EVENT

19 OCTOBER 2023

PRE-EVENT REPORT

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

An Australian Government Initiative

RESPONSIBLE ENTITY NAME	Geelong Chamber of Commerce
NAME OF EVENT	2023 Geelong Business Excellence Awards Presentation Event
EVENT DATE(S)	19/10/2023
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.* Tennille McInness Business Awards Manager 18/10/2023

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

Version: March 2023

1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	9 tCO_2-e
OFFSETS USED	100% CERs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	N/A
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Climate Society
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	N/A

Contents

2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

Event name: 2023 Geelong Business Excellence Awards Presentation Event

Event date(s): 19/10/2023

Event location(s): GMHBA Stadium, Presidents Room, Level 2, Brownlow Stand, Geelong 3220, Victoria

Expected attendees: 810

The Climate Active event calculator was used to prepare this carbon inventory, which is based on the *Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Events*

Event description

The 2023 Geelong Business Excellence Awards Presentation Event is organised every year in Geelong by the Geelong Chamber of Commerce to recognise and celebrate the finalists and winners of the 2023 Geelong Business Excellence Awards. The Geelong Chamber of Commerce is Geelong's purpose-built organisation in support of local business. The event will take place on 19 October 2023, and will run from 6pm to 10pm. The presentation event is included in the carbon neutral certification. Any after-party event is not included in current certification.

The event in 2022 was a Climate Active Carbon Neutral certified event. The attendance for 2022 year was 810 attendees. We have considered this number of attendees when preparing the 2023 pre-event report.

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 event, 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 the event'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

Quantified

Electricity

Attendee travel

Staff travel

Food & drink

Accommodation

Marketing & Advertising

Waste

Water

Non-quantified

Event preparation

Optionally included

N/A

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

Diesel for generators

After Party

Data collection

Emission source	Data collection method	Assumptions / conservative approach
Attendee travel	Attendee address on registration – Distance to event location	Attendees and staff are local based
Attendee accommodation	Survey during the event	No accommodation required for attendees
Food and drinks	Catering service contracted by organiser	10 vegan mains, 20 vegetarian main, 780 meat mains, 810 vegetarian entrees and deserts. Two drinks per person.
Electricity	Building energy use for a room of 600 m2	Event duration: six hours including event preparation and cleaning.
Waste	Estimated weight of waste based on waste generated	4% of food goes to landfill
Water	Average consumption per attendee provided by Climate Active	
Promotional Material	Data provided by customer	1 skin of banner (the base will be re-used, just replace the skin) 400 booklets of 20 pages Flowers as Centrepiece 1 Medial Wall

4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction measures

We have contracted Climate Society to identify sources of carbon emissions and provide recommendations to reduce emissions.

Our emissions reduction strategy contemplates:

1) We have engaged local talent for the role of MC and entertainment to reduce transport emissions

2) Car Pooling: all of our messaging has focussed on carpooling. We aim at reducing the usage of private cars

3) Emissions from food: The team at Higher Mark are developing a customised menu focused on locally sourced ingredients. At the awards dinner, we will be choosing a vegetarian/vegan entrée.

    Entrée:

    - Lonsdale Tomato Farm tomatoes with watermelon, Meredith Dairy goats' cheese and Sticky Balsamic pearls
    - Asparagus with Lonsdale Tomato Farm red capsicum smoked romesco and basil

4) There will be NO printed menus or order of proceeding. All will be accessible via a QR code.

5) QR Code will be printed on 100% recyclable card imbedded with seeds that guests can plant at home. We have chosen native plants for the seeds.

6) We will serve tap water during the event instead of plastic bottles.

7) Centrepieces will be locally sourced. One lucky person on each table can take it home to plant in the garden

Waste

Our methods of reducing our wastage for an events such as the Excellence Awards include:

- Food purchased and not used on the night will be used in producing specials in the Charles & Co. Café
- Separated food bins when disposing of food items
- Multiple use of food items, for example making stocks
- Food items donated to local charity or used for staff meals

All of the above leads us to having very little food wastage across our Higher Mark kitchens.

The ability to use food across multiple areas in the stadium gives us a big advantage to ensure our food wastage is very low. These areas include:

- Staff meals
- Player meals
- Conference and Events
- Charles & Co. Café

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

N/A

Emissions summary

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

Emission category	Scope 1 emissions (t CO_2-e)	Scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	Scope 3 emissions (t CO_2-e)	Total emissions (t CO_2-e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.08
Food	0.00	0.00	4.01	4.01
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.19
Transport (land and sea)	0.00	0.00	3.16	3.16
Products (trophies)	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02
Waste	0.00	0.00	0.42	0.42
Water	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03
Total	**0.00**	**0.08**	**7.84**	**7.92**

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 to account for uncertainty on distance travelled	0.158
Uplift to account for higher food emissions - higher weight of meat per meal	0.158
Uplift to account for higher number of attendees	0.158
Total of all uplift factors	0.475
Total footprint to offset *(total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)*	**8.390**

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Eligible offsets retirement summary

This is a pre-event report. Any eligible offsets allocated to this event will be reconciled as part of the post-event report.

Offsets retired for Climate Active certification											
Project description	**Type of offset units**	**Registry**	**Date retired**	**Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)**	**Vintage**	**Stapled quantity**	**Eligible quantity retired (tCO_2-e)**	**Eligible quantity used for previous reports**	**Eligible quantity banked for future reports**	**Eligible quantity allocated for this event**	**Percentage of total (%)**
Improved Cook Stove Project 1, Nkhata Bay District, Malawi	CER	CDM	4 Sep 2023	MW-5-349876-2-2-0-9933 to MW-5-349883-2-2-0-9933	CP2	-	8	0	0	8	89%
Improved Cook Stove Project 2, Nkhata Bay District, Malawi	CER	CDM	12 Oct 2023	MW-5-204050-2-2-0-9935 to MW-5-204050-2-2-0-9935	CP2	-	1	0	0	1	11%
									Total eligible offsets retired and allocated for this event	**9**	
									Total eligible offsets retired and banked for future reports	**0**	

Type of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Certified Emissions Reductions (CERs)	9	100%

Co-benefits

Environmental

- The project will help significantly reduce Malawi's greenhouse gas emissions;
- The project will help reduce the use of non-renewable biomass from forests, thus assisting in conserving existing forest stocks, and the protection of natural forest eco-systems and wildlife habitats; and
- The protection of standing forests will also help protect watersheds, reduce soil erosion and maintain rainfall in the project area.

Social

- The Changu Changu Moto stove provides a significantly safer method for cooking with biomass, helping to reduce burn injuries, especially for children;
- The improved efficiency of the Changu Changu Moto stove significantly reduces wood fuel consumption, meaning that considerably less time is required to collect wood fuel. This reduces the work burden on rural families and allows for alternative opportunities for economic development.

Health

- Worldwide, it is estimated that around 1.5 million premature deaths occur annually due to indoor air pollution, with around 15,000 per year in Malawi12. Women and children are the main victims.Adoption of more efficient stoves can significantly reduce indoor air pollution respiratory and health problems associated with smoke emission from biomass stoves13 14. The decrease in total biomass burned and an increase in the temperature of combustion in the Changu Changu Moto improved cook stove will result in lower carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide and particulate emissions.

Economic

- The project will create employment and contribute to the economic development of Nkhata Bay District through the stove construction, maintenance and monitoring activities.
- In areas where wood fuel is purchased, use of the Changu Changu Moto stove will significantly reduce household expenditure on cooking fuel

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

APPENDIX B: ELECTRICITY SUMMARY

There are two international best-practice methods for calculating electricity emissions – the location-based method and the market-based method. Reporting electricity emissions under both methods is called dual reporting.

Dual reporting of electricity emissions is useful, as it provides different perspectives of the emissions associated with a business's electricity usage.

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.

For this certification, electricity emissions have been set by using the location-based method.

Market Based Approach Summary

Market Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO_2-e)	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)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	0	0	0%
Climate Active precinct/building (voluntary renewables)	0	0	0%
Precinct/Building (LRET)	0	0	0%
Precinct/Building jurisdictional renewables (LGCS surrendered)	0	0	0%
Electricity products (voluntary renewables)	0	0	0%
Electricity products (LRET)	0	0	0%
Electricity products jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	0	0	0%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	17	0	0%
Residual Electricity	72	69	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	**17**	**0**	**19%**
Total grid electricity	**89**	**69**	**19%**
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	**89**	**69**	**19%**
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	**72**	**69**	
Scope 2	64	61	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	0	8	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	**0**	**0**	
Scope 3	0	0	.

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	**18.80%**
Mandatory	**18.80%**
Voluntary	**0.00%**
Behind the meter	**0.00%**
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**0.06**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**0.01**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**0.06**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**0.01**
Total emissions liability (t CO_2-e)	**0.07**

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

Location Based Approach Summary

Location Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh) total	Under operational control			Not under operational control	
Percentage of grid electricity consumption under operational control	**100%**	**(kWh)**	**Scope 2 Emissions ($kgCO_2$-e)**	**Scope 3 Emissions ($kgCo_2$-e)**	**(kWh)**	**Scope 3 Emissions ($kgCO_2$-e)**
VIC	89	89	76	0	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	**89**	**89**	**76**	**6**	**0**	**0**
VIC	0	0	0	0		
Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**		
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	**89**					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**0.08**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**0.01**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**0.08**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**0.01**
Total emissions liability	**0.08**

Operations in Climate Active buildings and precincts

Operations in Climate Active buildings and precincts	Electricity consumed in Climate Active certified building/precinct (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO_2-e)
N/A	**0**	**0**

Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity. These electricity emissions have been offset by another Climate Active member through their building or precinct certification. This electricity consumption is also included in the market based and location based summary tables. Any electricity that has been sourced as renewable electricity by the building/precinct under the market based method is outlined as such in the market based summary table.

Climate Active carbon neutral electricity products

Climate Active carbon neutral product used	Electricity claimed from Climate Active electricity products (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO_2-e)
N/A	**0**	**0**

Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity. These electricity emissions have been offset by another Climate Active member through their electricity product certification. This electricity consumption is also included in the market based and location based summary tables. Any electricity that has been sourced as renewable electricity by the electricity product under the market based method is outlined as such in the market based summary table.

APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Non-quantified emission sources

The following emissions sources 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.

Relevant non-quantified emission sources	Justification reason
Event preparation activities	Immaterial

APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Excluded emission sources

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 event's electricity.
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 event's greenhouse gas risk exposure.
4. **Stakeholders** The emissions from a particular source are deemed relevant by key stakeholders.
5. **Outsourcing** The emissions are from outsourced activities that were previously undertaken within the event's boundary or from outsourced activities that are typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable events.

Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
After Party	N	Y	N	N	N	**Size:** The emissions source is likely to be between 0.1 and 0.3 t-CO_2e, which is not large compared to the event's emissions (8.39 t-CO_2e). **Influence:** We have the potential to influence the emissions from this source, but the emissions associated are not relevant. **Risk:** There are no relevant laws or regulations that apply to limit emissions specifically from this source, the source does not create supply chain risks, and it is unlikely to be of significant public interest. **Stakeholders:** Key stakeholders, including the public and our businesses associated, are unlikely to consider this a relevant source of emissions for our business. **Outsourcing:** We have not previously undertaken this activity within our emissions boundary and comparable events do not typically undertake this activity within their boundary.
Diesel for generators	N	N	N	N	N	**Size:** The emissions source is likely to be between 0.01 and 0.025 t-CO_2e, which is not large compared to the event's emissions (8.39 t-CO_2e). **Influence:** We do not have the potential to influence the emissions from this source, including by shifting to a different lower-emissions supplier for our event. Generators are managed by the stadium operator. **Risk:** There are no relevant laws or regulations that apply to limit emissions specifically from this source, the source does not create supply chain risks, and it is unlikely to be of significant public interest. **Stakeholders:** Key stakeholders, including the public and our businesses associated, are unlikely to consider this a relevant source of emissions for our business. **Outsourcing:** We have not previously undertaken this activity within our emissions boundary and comparable events do not typically undertake this activity within their boundary.

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