

# PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

QUEENSLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY LIMITED T/A BUSINESS CHAMBER QUEENSLAND

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION FY 2022–2023

Australian Government

# Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement



We know business matters.



Climate

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited t/a Business Chamber Queensland
REPORTING PERIOD	1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 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. Heidi Cooper Chief Executive Officer 16 May 2024



**Australian Government** 

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

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Version August 2023.



# 1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	417 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	52% ACCUs, 48% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	24.72%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Pangolin Associates
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Date: 25/6/2021 for FY2020-21 report (projection) Completed by: Pangolin Associates
	Next technical assessment due: FY2023-24 report

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# 2. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

## **Description of certification**

This Climate Active organisation certification is for the Australian business operations of the Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited T/A Business Chamber Queensland; ABN 55 009 662 060. This certification is for financial year (FY) 2023 and is the third year of certification.

## **Organisation description**

Business Chamber Queensland is a member-owned peak body representing Queensland's business community and working to protect Queenslanders who run a small or medium business. Business Chamber Queensland lobbies all levels of Government to ensure Queensland business can operate and thrive in the right business environment.

Business Chamber Queensland offers tailored business solutions to make it easier for business to compete and stay compliant through offering HR Services, International Trade services, business sustainability resources and services and opportunities for procurement with Government agencies.

Business Chamber Queensland represents over 400,000 businesses across Queensland.

Business Chamber Queensland is located in Brisbane City.



# **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 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.



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# **4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS**

### **Emissions reduction strategy**

Based on the greenhouse gas assessment and breakdown of emissions for the 2023 FY, Business Chamber Queensland has identified hotspots guiding prioritisation decisions, and development of further actions and strategies for emissions reductions to reduce total emissions by 10% by 2028 FY compared to 2023 FY. Business Chamber Queensland commits to reduce scope 2 emissions by 30% by 2028 FY from 2023 FY and scope 3 emissions by 10% in the same timeframe.

Scope 1:

 Presently, Business Chamber Queensland boasts a commendable absence of scope 1 emissions.

Scope 2:

We will reduce scope 2 and scope 3 electricity emissions (i.e. directly controlled and third-party controlled electricity) by increasing GreenPower percentage by 30% by 2028 FY compared to 2023 FY. As both directly controlled and third-party electricity plans and agreements are controlled by the building manager, this will require influencing them to increase their GreenPower purchase.

#### Scope 3:

- We will reduce scope 2 and scope 3 electricity emissions (i.e. directly controlled and third-party controlled electricity) by increasing GreenPower percentage by 30% by 2028 FY compared to 2023 FY. As both directly controlled and third-party electricity plans and agreements are controlled by the building manager, this will require influencing them to increase their GreenPower purchase.
- We will also continue the work the Green Team is currently doing to promote energy conservation practices throughout the office.
- Business Chamber Queensland will reduce business travel related emissions by 15%. This will be achieved by developing and implementing a travel policy to support and prioritise travel choices that reduce emissions (need for travel, transport mode, accommodation choice etc...). We will also secure a low emissions vehicle (hybrid or electric vehicle) that will be prioritised over employee-owned vehicles and rental vehicles whenever possible.
- Business Chamber Queensland will reduce our emissions across our value chain by 10% by 2028 FY compared to 2023 FY with a strong focus on our ICT services emissions, professional services emissions and advertising and marketing services. We will achieve this by reviewing and consolidating our ICT systems for efficiency and by developing and implementing a procurement policy with a focus on sustainability and GHG emissions.
- Business Chamber Queensland's Green Team is continuously working to identify and implement actions for carbon emission reduction and improved sustainable outcomes. The Green Team is responsible for driving the implementation of some operational emissions reduction initiatives in the office, enhancing maturity of employees with regards to sustainability and supporting policies across the various business functions.

## **Emissions reduction actions**

The following actions were taken for the 2022-23 financial year.



- Business Chamber Queensland created a cross-department Green Team to identify and implement actions for continuous improvement in carbon emission reduction and improved sustainable outcomes. The Green Team has organised multiple events to enhance maturity and awareness of employees with regards to sustainability and supporting policies across the various business functions. The Green Team has also implemented various waste management improvements.
- A procurement mapping has been developed in order to support the development of a sustainable procurement policy with the aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve sustainable outcomes.
- Business Chamber Queensland also identified hotspots and started developing strategies to prioritise actions to reduce emissions in relation to these hotspots.



# 5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

## **Emissions over time**

Emissions since base year							
Total tCO2-e (without uplift) Total tCO2-e (with uplift)							
Base year/ Year 1 (True-up):	2020–21	310.28	325.79				
Year 2:	2021–22	300.02 <sup>1</sup>	N/A				
Year 3:	2022–23	416.83 <sup>2</sup>	N/A				

## Significant changes in emissions

Electricity methodology changed from location based to market, due to the use of Greenpower in the base building.

Emission source	Previous year emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Current year emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Reason for change
Technical services	30.60	114.01	Business Chamber Queensland has been undergoing a transformational and growth phase which has led to an increase in expenditures for technical services including software and IT as well outside contractors.

# Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products, services, buildings or precincts

Certified brand name	Service used
Pangolin Associates Pty Ltd	Consulting



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Electricity emissions calculated using the location-based method.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Electricity emissions calculated using the market-based method.

# **Emissions summary**

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

Emission category	Scope 1 emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Scope 2 emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Scope 3 emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Total emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	12.47	12.47
Cleaning and chemicals	0.00	0.00	1.35	1.35
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Construction materials and services	0.00	0.00	0.84	0.84
Electricity	0.00	15.09	55.80	70.89
Food	0.00	0.00	12.56	12.56
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	22.31	22.31
Machinery and vehicles	0.00	0.00	0.62	0.62
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	14.11	14.11
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	1.31	1.31
Products	0.00	0.00	3.14	3.14
Professional Services	0.00	0.00	183.53	183.53
Refrigerants	0.00	0.00	3.87	3.87
Stationary energy (liquid fuels)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transport (air)	0.00	0.00	34.19	34.19
Transport (Land and Sea)	0.00	0.00	48.96	48.96
Waste	0.00	0.00	3.03	3.03
Water	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.80
Working from home	0.00	0.00	2.86	2.86
Total emissions	0.00	15.09	401.74	416.83

# **Uplift factors**

N/A - none applied.



# **6.CARBON OFFSETS**

## Offsets retirement approach

This certification has taken an in-arrears offsetting approach. The total emissions to offset are 417 t  $CO_2$ -e. The total number of eligible offsets used in this report is 417. Of the total eligible offsets used, 15 were previously banked and 402 were newly purchased and retired. None are remaining and have been banked for future use.

## **Co-benefits**

#### Paroo River North Environmental Project:

Changes to agricultural processes on the Yerrel and Humeburn Station are promoting the regrowth of the native forest while protecting local wetlands and river systems. This is significant since the wetlands are rare and provide vital habitat for a variety of plants and animals.

The project is also supporting indigenous use of the land and improving overall environmental health by reducing grazing and revegetating the land. The regenerating forest is promoting biodiversity and improving the health of the local ecosystem.

#### Oriners & Sefton Savanna Burning Project (Kowanyama):

By collaborating, Traditional Owners and Aboriginal rangers implement controlled, cooler fires in the early dry season, reducing greenhouse gas emissions compared to the intense, uncontrolled fires that arise later when the land is dry.

When savanna grasslands are burned in a controlled manner, it can stimulate the growth of new grasses and other vegetation, which in turn provides food and habitat for a wide range of local species. Cool burning can also help to control the spread of invasive species, reduces the risk of wildfire, and improves the overall health and resilience of the ecosystem.

#### Delta Blue Carbon:

This project aims to restore and maintain tidal ecosystems in the Indus Delta Area of south-eastern, Pakistan, with the goal of contributing to climate change mitigation, increasing carbon storage, conserving biodiversity, and improving the livelihoods of local communities. The project will focus on regenerating native coastal vegetation and habitat, specifically tidal wetlands and mangroves.

Tidal wetlands are important marine ecosystems that provide a range of benefits, including protecting the coastline from erosion, supporting a diverse array of aquatic organisms, and supporting the economic livelihoods of coastal communities.



#### Katingan Peatland Restoration and Conservation Project:

This project seeks to protect and restore 149,800 hectares of peatland ecosystems, to offer local people sustainable sources of income, and to tackle global climate change.

The project lies within the districts of Katingan and Kotawaringin Timur in Central Kalimantan Province, and covers one of the largest remaining intact peat swamp forests in Indonesia. The area stores vast amounts of CO<sub>2</sub>, and plays a vital role in stabilizing water flows, preventing devastating peat fires, enriching soil nutrients and providing clean water.

It is rich in biodiversity, being home to large populations of many high conservation value species, including some of the world's most endangered, such as the Bornean Orangutan (Pongo pygmaeus) and Proboscis Monkey (Nasalis larvatus). It is surrounded by villages for which it supports traditional livelihoods including farming, fishing, and non-timber forest products harvesting.



# Eligible offsets retirement summary

Type of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)	219	52%
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	198	48%

#### 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 <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 (%)
Paroo River North Environmental Project	ACCU	ANREU	29 January 2024	8,326,908,057 – 8,326,908,249	2020-21	-	193	0	0	193	46%
Oriners & Sefton Savanna Burning Project	ACCU	ANREU	29 January 2024	8,370,683,676 – 8,370,683,701	2022-23	-	26	0	0	26	6%
Katingan Peatland Restoration and Conservation Project	VCU	VERRA	29 January 2024	<u>11720-353180951-353181107-VCS-VCU-</u> <u>263-VER-ID-14-1477-01012019-</u> <u>31122019-1</u>	2019	-	157	0	0	157	38%
	VCU VEF		24 May 2023	<u>13916-537349234-537349284-VCS-VCU-</u> <u>466-VER-PK-14-2250-01012020-</u> <u>31122020-1</u>	2020	-	51	36	0	15	4%
Deita Blue Carbon – 1		VERRA	29 January 2024	<u>13916-537350375-537350400-VCS-VCU-</u> <u>466-VER-PK-14-2250-01012020-</u> <u>31122020-1</u>	2020	-	26	0	0	26	6%
						Total e	eligible offs	ets retired and us	sed for this report	417	
Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports							n future reports	0			



# 7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC)

## Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

# APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

N/A

# 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 market-based approach.



Market-based approach summary			
Market-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO₂-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	5,837	0	6%
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)	18,537	0	19%
Residual Electricity	74,226	70,886	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	24,374	0	25%
Total grid electricity	98,600	70,886	25%
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	98,600	70,886	25%
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	24%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	17,891	17,086	
Scope 2	15,800	15,089	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	2,091	1,997	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	56,335	53,800	
Scope 3	56,335	53,800	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	24.72%
Mandatory	18.80%
Voluntary	5.92%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	15.09
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	55.80
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	15.09
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	55.80
Total emissions liability (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	70.89
Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%	



Location-based approach summary								
Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh) total	Und	er operational	Not under operational control				
Percentage of grid electricity consumption under operational control	24%	(kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)		
QLD	98,600	23,766	17,349	3,565	74,834	65,854		
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	98,600	23,766	17,349	3,565	74,834	65,854		
QLD	0	0	0	0				
Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)	0	0	0	0				
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	98,600							

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	17.35
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	69.42
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	17.35
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	69.42
Total emissions liability	86.77

#### 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 <sub>2</sub> -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 CO₂-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. They have been non-quantified due to <u>one</u> 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. <u>Data unavailable</u> Data is unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.
- 4. <u>Maintenance</u> Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified.

N/A - no relevant emission sources have been non-quantified in this reporting period.

#### Data management plan for non-quantified sources

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

The data management plan below outlines how more rigorous quantification can be achieved for material (greater than 1%) non-quantified emission sources.



# APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

### **Excluded emission sources**

The below emission sources have been assessed as not relevant to this organisation'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. <u>Size</u> The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions.
- 2. <u>Influence</u> The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.
- <u>Risk</u> 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.
- <u>Outsourcing</u> 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.



# Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
Services delivered under the ecoBiz program	No	No	No	Yes	No	Everything that is delivered by Business Chamber Queensland is included in the assessment; all work done by contractors is not within the boundary nor operational control of Business Chamber Queensland, therefore it has been excluded.
ACCI licencing	No	No	No	Yes	No	While a license is required for operation, factors such as size, influence, risk, and outsourcing have led to its exclusion from boundary.







An Australian Government Initiative