PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

BATES SMART ARCHITECTS PTY LTD
TRADING AS BATES SMART

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2023-24

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

BATESSMART™

An Australian Government Initiative

Climate Active

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Bates Smart Architects Pty Ltd
REPORTING PERIOD	1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024 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.*  Philip Vivian Managing Director 29 November 2024

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

Version 9.

1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	1,250.19 t CO_2-e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	19.91% ACCUs and 80.09% VERs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	Total renewables 98.45%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Green Moves (Aust) Pty Ltd
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Next technical assessment due: FY2025-26

Contents

2. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Description of organisation certification

The Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification covers the Australian business operations of Bates Smart Architects Pty Ltd, trading as Bates Smart, ABN 68 094 740 986. The operational boundary of the carbon account has been defined based on the operational control approach. Our services are not included in this certification.

This Public Disclosure Statement represents the reporting period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. FY2023-24 is our fourth year as a Climate Active carbon neutral certified organisation.

The carbon account has been prepared in accordance with the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations. This entails using recognised emission factors and methods for carbon accounting published in Australia, such as the National Greenhouse Accounts (NGA) Factors, and the work of the international corporate accounting and reporting standard The Greenhouse Gas Protocol.

The greenhouse gasses included in the carbon account are the seven gasses reported under the Kyoto Protocol: carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF_3). These gasses are expressed in carbon dioxide equivalents (CO_2-e), providing the ability to present greenhouse gas emissions as one unit.

Organisation description

Bates Smart was established in Melbourne in 1853. We are a multidisciplinary design firm delivering architecture, interior design, urban design, sustainability and strategic services across Australia. Our work reflects an enduring timeline of Australian development, having designed historic landmarks and modern, contemporary buildings for 171 years. With a team of around 280 professionals across our Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane studios, we bring projects and ideas to life through a rigorous, astute and highly collaborative design approach.

We understand the social, cultural, sustainability and economic forces currently shaping communities and their impact on the built environment. Our approach is not simply about making big gestures. We nurture and develop every size of project and all its elements, until the details complement and enhance the whole.

3. EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Inside the emissions boundary

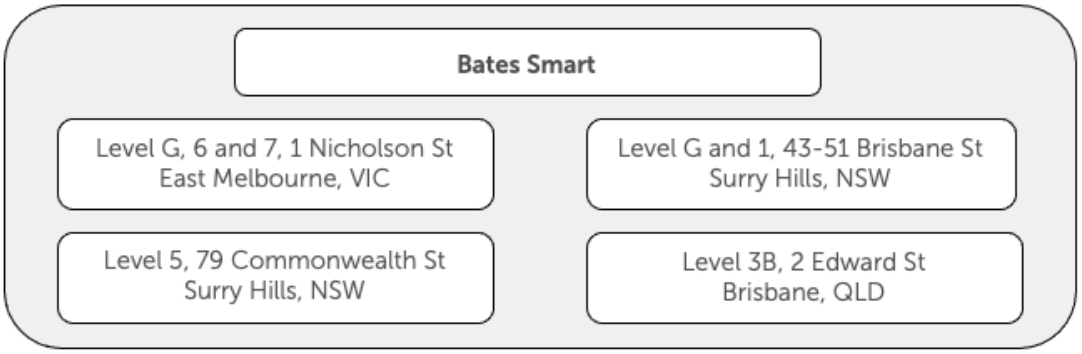
All emission sources listed in the emissions boundary are part of the carbon neutral claim.

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.



Inside emissions boundary

Quantified

Gas
Fuel
Electricity
Working From Home electricity
Air travel
Domestic and international accommodation
Food and catering
Cleaning services
Maintenance and repair
Computer hardware and accessories
ICT applications
ICT services
Telephone and internet
Website
Printing and stationary
Education and training
Entertainment
Rates and taxes
Subscriptions and periodicals
Courier services
Postal services
Business services
Accounting and bookkeeping services
Banking and investment
Legal services
Insurance and retirement services
Photographic services
Public administration and finance services
Security and personal safety
Parking and tolls
Staff commute to and from work
Taxi and Uber and staff travel in own cars
Resources sent to landfill and recycling
Water and Sewage
Office paper

Non-quantified

Refrigerants

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

No exclusions

4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Bates Smart has committed to reducing its emissions by at least 30% from the FY2019-20 base year, and as a stretch target has committed to a 35% reduction through to 2028. In FY2023-24, the company exceeded both targets, achieving a 44.93% reduction in emissions against the base year. These targets were also exceeded in all previous reporting periods.

The key initiatives that have enabled us to reduce our carbon emissions include investing in green energy, which saves approximately 610 t CO_2-e/annually, equivalent to a 26% against our base year, the implementation of virtual meeting platforms into our business practices to reduce travel, and the adoption of flexible work practices.

Our FY2024-25 Action Plan is to:

- Continue to maintain our investment in current renewable electricity (grid and non-grid) of 98.45% and over the next 1-2 years seek to encourage our landlords to purchase renewable energy for the base building.
- Work with our travel agent to explore opportunities to carbon offset flights at the time of purchase.
- Continue to support the use of Uber Green for sustainable rides in electric vehicles, including hybrid electric vehicles, plug-in hybrids, and fully battery electric vehicles, to reduce carbon emissions.
- Actively engage and participate with our colleagues, governments at all levels, clients and supply chain partners in the conversation to make meaningful change in Climate Action including participation in Architects Declare Industry Body Working Groups, GBCA and in industry wide panel discussion and conferences.
- Focus on implementation of our Sustainability Action Plan across all levels of the business. This was launched in FY2023-24 and will be published externally in FY2024-25.

Emissions reduction actions

- In late FY2023-24, Bates Smart opened its new studio in Brisbane. During the studio's fit out, initiatives were implemented to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainable practices, including:
    - Installation of sensor-controlled lights with Bluetooth control to more effectively reduce energy usage.
    - Installation of LED low energy lighting.
    - Utilising operable windows to allow fresh airflow as an alternative to air-conditioning during cooler seasons.

- Installation of a coffee machine and provision of reusable mugs for staff, reducing the number of take-away coffee cups which are sent to landfill.

- Reduction of printing and paper waste by reusing printed paper.
- Reuse and recycle office equipment and only purchase these when required. Where purchase is required, continue to reduce energy usage by installing low energy, better star rating and sensor-controlled products and appliances.
- Implemented and promoted the use of Uber Green and Uber Electric for sustainable rides in electric vehicles, including hybrid electric vehicles, plug-in hybrids, and fully battery electric vehicles, to reduce carbon emissions.
- During FY2022-23 the Melbourne office was renovated and during this time the business took the opportunity to introduce initiatives to further reduce its ongoing carbon emissions and to improve its sustainable practices. These initiatives included the:
  - Installation of sensor-controlled lights to reduce energy usage.
  - Replacement of fluorescent lighting sources with LED low energy lighting.
  - Installation of motorised blinds, making the use of sun control systems easier for all staff, thereby increasing their use, and reducing solar gain.
  - Re-use of most furniture, fittings and equipment and workstations, reducing landfill waste.
  - Where required, the replacement of old, energy inefficient appliances with appliances with better star ratings, thus reducing energy usage.
  - Installation of a coffee machine and purchase of reusable cups for all staff, reducing the number of take-away coffee cups which are sent to landfill.
  - Installation of sensor zip taps in kitchens and bathrooms making water use more efficient, achieving water savings.
- We transitioned to digital business cards, reducing paper consumption.
- In 2020, we transitioned to 100% renewable electricity for two of three locations where electricity is billed independently to our rent agreement. Over 95% of our staff are situated at these locations. Our investment in renewables and implemented energy efficiency measures have reduced our electricity associated emissions from 600.71tCO2-e during our base year (FY20219-20) to 11.24tCO2-e in FY24, i.e., by 98.1%.
- We support Climate Active carbon neutral certified suppliers of office paper.
- We are using electronic storage of information and have implemented ‘Follow-Me’ printing and double-sided printing defaults to reduce paper consumption.

- We continue to transition to energy efficient laptops from desktop computers and reviewing our IT parameters to put computers into sleep/hibernate mode.

- We are founding signatories to the 'Australian Architects Declare Climate & Biodiversity Emergency' movement that seeks to raise awareness of the climate and biodiversity emergencies and the need for action. Over 1,000 Architects have signed a declaration that recognises the climate and biodiversity emergency that architects have a leading role to play in tackling it through our influence over the design of buildings, infrastructure, urban spaces and cities. We are active participants in this organization working to develop tools and undertake advocacy for climate change at an industry wide level.

- Australia's buildings generate 23% of the nation's carbon emissions. The building sector can deliver up to 28% of Australia's 2030 emissions reduction target. As architects, we recognise that we play a leading role in instilling real and significant change. Bates Smart will continue to advocate for positive climate change within the building industry.

- Our Sustainability Action Plan Committee meets monthly and is empowered to identify opportunities and implement initiatives to reduce our carbon footprint.

- We are actively increasing education in sustainability including the impact of carbon emissions, through supporting key staff to become Greenstar and WELL Building Certified. As well as encouraging and supporting our clients to pursue formal environmental certifications for projects.

- We are committed to upholding our status as a Climate Active carbon neutral certified organisation.

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year			
		Total t CO_2-e (without uplift)	Total t CO_2-e (with uplift)
Base year:	2019-20	2,270.15	2,270.15
Year 1:	2020-21	1,104.48	1,104.48
Year 2:	2021-22	1,163.51	1,163.51
Year 3:	2022-23	1,352.32	1,352.32
Year 4:	2023-24	1,250.19	1,250.19

Significant changes in emissions

The FY2023-24 +- 10% changes by emission source category, where the emission category accounts for more than 10% of our total carbon footprint, are:

Significant changes in emissions			
Emission source	Previous year emissions (t CO_2-e)	Current year emissions (t CO_2-e)	Reason for change
Computer and electrical parts, components, hardware and accessories	164.78	144.79	A periodic reduction in hardware expenditure and a Climate Active reduction of the emission factor from 0.14 kg CO_2-e/$ to 0.13 kg CO_2-e/$
Computer and technical services	252.61	201.24	Climate Active reduction of the emission factor from 0.14 kg CO_2-e/$ to 0.10 kg CO_2-e/$

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

Certified brand name	Product/Service/Building/Precinct used
Reflex	249.8 kg office paper

Emissions summary

The electricity summary is available in Appendix B. Electricity emissions were calculated using a market-based 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	7.59	7.59
Cleaning and Chemicals	0.00	0.00	23.89	23.89
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity	0.00	10.00	1.23	11.24
Food	0.00	0.00	22.28	22.28
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	379.21	379.21
Office equipment & supplies	0.00	0.00	33.84	33.84
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	13.74	13.74
Professional Services	0.00	0.00	394.50	394.50
Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)	21.43	0.00	1.98	23.41
Transport (Air)	0.00	0.00	149.61	149.61
Transport (Land and Sea)	0.00	0.00	103.30	103.30
Waste	0.00	0.00	56.47	56.47
Water	0.00	0.00	8.62	8.62
Working from home	0.00	0.00	22.48	22.48
Total emissions (t CO_2-e)	**21.43**	**10.00**	**1,218.75**	**1,250.19**

Uplift factors

Not applicable.

An uplift factor is an upwards adjustment to the total carbon inventory to account for relevant emissions that cannot be reasonably quantified or estimated. This conservative accounting approach helps ensure the integrity of the carbon neutral claim.

Reason for uplift factor	t CO_2-e
Not applicable	
Total of all uplift factors (t CO_2-e)	0.00
Total emissions footprint to offset (t CO_2-e) *(total emissions from summary table + total of all uplift factors)*	**1,250.19**

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Eligible offsets retirement summary

Offsets retired for Climate Active certification

Type of offset unit	Quantity used for this reporting period	Percentage of total units used
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)	249	19.91%
Verified Emissions Reductions (VERs)	1,002	80.09%

Project name	Type of offset unit	Registry	Date retired	Serial number	Vintage	Total quantity retired	Quantity used in previous reporting periods	Quantity banked for future reporting periods	Quantity used for this reporting period	Percentage of total used this reporting period
Jawoyn Fire Project	ACCUs	ANREU	27-Nov-23	8,330,566,016 – 8,330,566,415 (Please see page 16 for retirement details)	2021-22	400	351	0	49	3.92%
Tiwi Islands Savanna Burning Project	ACCUs	ANREU	22-Nov-24	3,773,008,693 – 3,773,008,892 (Please see page 16 for retirement details)	2018-19	200	0	0	200	15.99%
Resilience with Safe Drinking Water in Somali Regional State (Ethiopia) (GS 6750)	VERs	Gold Standard, Impact	20-Nov-24	GS1-1-ET-GS6750-16-2021-27517-1-1020	2021	1020	0	18	1002	80.09%

Co-benefits

Bates Smart purchases offsets from projects that align with the company's values and offers additional environmental and social benefits.

Project: Jawoyn Fire Project

Traditional Owners of Jawoyn land in the Northern Territory use Indigenous traditional techniques of early dry season burning, together with the latest in modern technology to plan and strategically manage savanna back burning in the early dry season to reduce the intensity of late season fires, resulting in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions released into the atmosphere. This abatement is measured and carbon credits generated. This project also delivers broader environmental and social outcomes through the protection of significant fire sensitive ecosystems and the many threatened species in the region. All revenue earned is reinvested in managing country, creating job opportunities and training for landowners and custodians, and connecting people back to country.

Project: Tiwi Islands Savanna Burning Project

The Tiwi people have strategically conducted planned burning in savanna areas within high rainfall zones during the early dry season. This reduces the risk of late dry season wildfires resulting in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The abatement is measured, and carbon credits are generated. This project generates broader environmental and social benefits by protecting significant eco-systems, sacred sites and hundreds of species of wildlife in the region, increasing job opportunities, facilitating knowledge transfer, preserving the Tiwi communities' traditional values and connecting people back to country.

Project: Resilience with Safe Drinking Water in Somali Regional State (Ethiopia)

This clean water project involves the implementation of solar powered safe drinking water systems across the Somali Regional State, in Ethiopia. Many families are still using surface water sources, which are often polluted, to access daily drinking water. Communities often rely on burning locally gathered firewood to purify water leading to increased greenhouse gas emissions and pressure on the country's forests. The project addresses these issues with the supply of solar powered safe drinking water systems for domestic use which consequently improves the hygiene, social, economic, and environmental issues related to the water cycle in addition to reducing CO2 emissions.

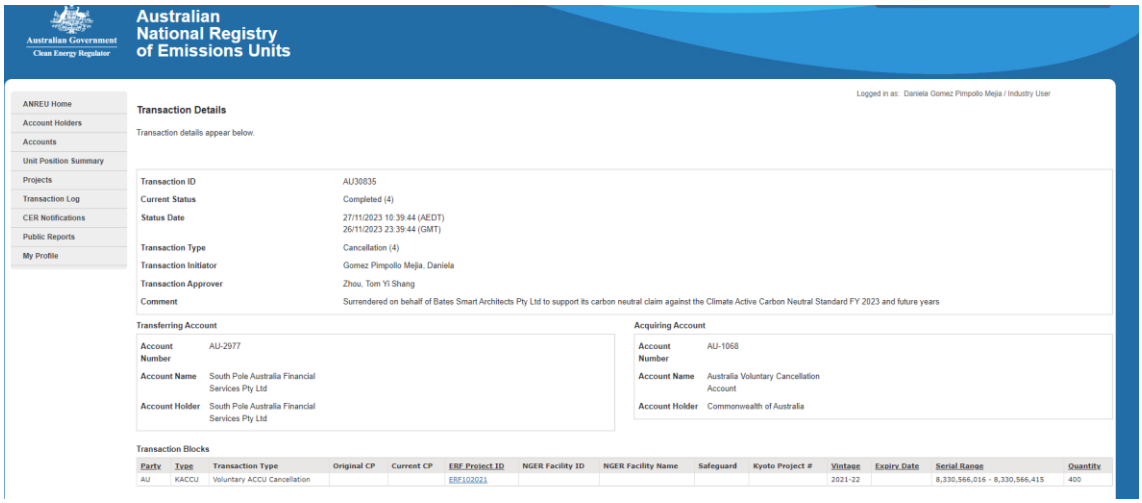
The outcomes of this initiative have been created to align with the following United Nations Sustainability Development Goals:

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

Not applicable.

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Transaction ID	AU37446
Current Status	Completed (4)
Status Date	25/11/2024 12:27:24 (AEDT) 25/11/2024 01:27:24 (GMT)
Transaction Type	Cancellation (4)
Transaction Initiator	Nathalia, Griselda
Transaction Approver	Doan-Lockyer, Jenny
Comment	Cancelled on behalf of Bates Smart Architects Pty Ltd to support its FY 2024 carbon neutral claim against the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations.

Transferring Account

Account Number	AU-2977
Account Name	South Pole Australia Financial Services Pty Ltd
Account Holder	South Pole Australia Financial Services Pty Ltd

Acquiring Account

Account Number	AU-1068
Account Name	Australia Voluntary Cancellation Account
Account Holder	Commonwealth of Australia

Transaction Blocks

Party	Type	Transaction Type	Original CP	Current CP	ERF Project ID	NGER Facility ID	NGER Facility Name	Safeguard	Kyoto Project #	Vintage	Expiry Date	Serial Range	Quantity
AU	KACCU	Voluntary ACCU Cancellation			ERF105045					2018-19		3,773,008,693 - 3,773,008,892	200

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 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	633,539	0	80%
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)	148,757	0	19%
Residual Electricity	12,348	11,237	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	**782,297**	**0**	**98%**
Total grid electricity	**794,645**	**11,237**	**98%**
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	**794,645**	**11,237**	**98%**
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	**12,348**	**11,237**	
Scope 2	10,991	10,002	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	1,357	1,235	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	**0**	**0**	
Scope 3	0	0	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	**98.45%**
Mandatory	**18.72%**
Voluntary	**79.73%**
Behind the meter	**0.00%**
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**10.00**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**1.23**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**10.00**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**1.23**
Total emissions liability (t CO_2-e)	**11.24**

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 (kg CO_2-e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO_2-e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO_2-e)
NSW	485,922	485,922	330,427	24,296	0	0
VIC	296,378	296,378	234,139	20,746	0	0
QLD	12,345	12,345	9,012	1,852	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	**794,645**	**794,645**	**573,577**	**46,894**	**0**	**0**
NSW	0	0	0	0		
VIC	0	0	0	0		
QLD	0	0	0	0		
Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**		
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	**794,645**					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**573.58**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**46.89**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**573.58**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**46.89**
Total emissions liability	**620.47**

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)
Not applicable.	**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 electricity product used	Electricity claimed from Climate Active electricity products (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO_2-e)
Not applicable.	**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 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	Justification reason
Refrigerants	Deemed immaterial

Data management plan for non-quantified sources

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

APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Excluded emission sources

The below emission sources have been assessed as not relevant to an 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. **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.

Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
Not applicable						

An Australian Government Initiative

Climate Active