PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

JOE BENDOTTI & CO
(TRADING AS ECOAVO)
PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

FY2023–24

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Joe Bendotti & Co (Trading as EcoAvo)
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial Year 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.*  Trevor Bendotti Owner 21/11/2024

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

Version 9.

1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	1669 tCO_2-e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	100% VCU's
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	0%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Everclime
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	To Be Completed FY25

Contents

2. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Description of product certification

This Public Disclosure Statement provides details of the carbon neutral product certification for Joe Bendotti & Co trading as EcoAvo (ABN 13 571 989 872). It covers the carbon neutral product line of avocados produced, packed, and distributed from the farm until the point of retail within the financial year (1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024). The functional unit is one kilogram (kg) of avocados. The full coverage product assessment encompasses cradle-to-grave emissions, with uplift factors applied to account for the end-of-life emissions of the avocados by the end customer. The carbon inventory presented below reflects actual data for the third year of certification. This report is prepared in arrears, at the end of FY24.

Description of business

The functional unit for this certification is one kilogram (kg) of Joe Bendotti & Co avocados produced, packed, and distributed until the point of retail for the period 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024 (FY24) under the EcoAvo name. This functional unit is utilized to determine the emissions per functional unit, specifically the CO_2-e emissions intensity of one kg of avocados produced, packed, and distributed from the farm to the retailer.

EcoAvo is a collaborative effort between Joe Bendotti & Co and Carbon Neutral Avocados. The two entities share a packing and distribution centre and operate several farms across Manjimup and Pemberton in Western Australia's South West. While each group manages their respective farms independently, they jointly handle packaging and distribution under the EcoAvo brand. This partnership includes managing Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions associated with the lifecycle of the avocado fruit, encompassing upstream emissions, organisational emissions, and downstream emissions up to the point of retail.

Uplift factors have been incorporated to account for the emissions from the point of retail to the "grave." Due to the extensive distribution network of the avocado product, direct measurement of these end-of-life emissions is impractical, necessitating the application of uplift factors.

The EcoAvo Brand

Our certified product is marketed under the EcoAvo brand. The EcoAvo trademark ensures that all produce sold under this brand is Carbon Neutral certified. All emissions related to the packaging process of EcoAvo have been captured and included within Joe Bendotti & Co's emission scope, ensuring comprehensive coverage of our carbon neutral commitment.

3.EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Inside the emissions boundary

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

Quantified: Total net electricity emissions (Market based), Vegetable and fruit growing, hay, plant nurseries, flowers, Hay, Diesel oil post-2004 & Petrol, Gasoline post-2004, Road freight (Average HGV), Rail or train freight, Marine freight, Chemicals & fertilisers, Pesticides, General waste (municipal waste), Packaging plastic, Cardboard (paper products), Labels, Machinery and equipment repairs and maintenance services.

Non-quantified: Refrigerants, electricity, and chemicals associated with wholesaler storage and ripening; Emissions associated with disposal of fruit until point of retail.

All material emissions are accounted for through an uplift factor. Further detail is available at Appendix C.

Outside the emissions boundary

Non-attributable N/A

Inside emissions boundary

Quantified

Total net electricity emissions (Location based)

Vegetable and fruit growing, hay, plant nurseries, flowers (N/A)

Diesel oil post-2004

Petrol Gasoline post-2004

Road freight (Average HGV)

Rail or train freight

Marine freight (N/A)

Chemicals & fertilisers

Pesticides (N/A)

General waste (municipal waste)

Packaging materials and supplies

Machinery and equipment repairs and maintenance services

Industrial and agricultural machinery embodied emissions

Non-quantified

Refrigerants, electricity, and chemicals associated with wholesaler storage and ripening

Emissions associated with disposal of fruit until point of retail

Excluded

Refrigerants used in packing facility.

Outside emission boundary

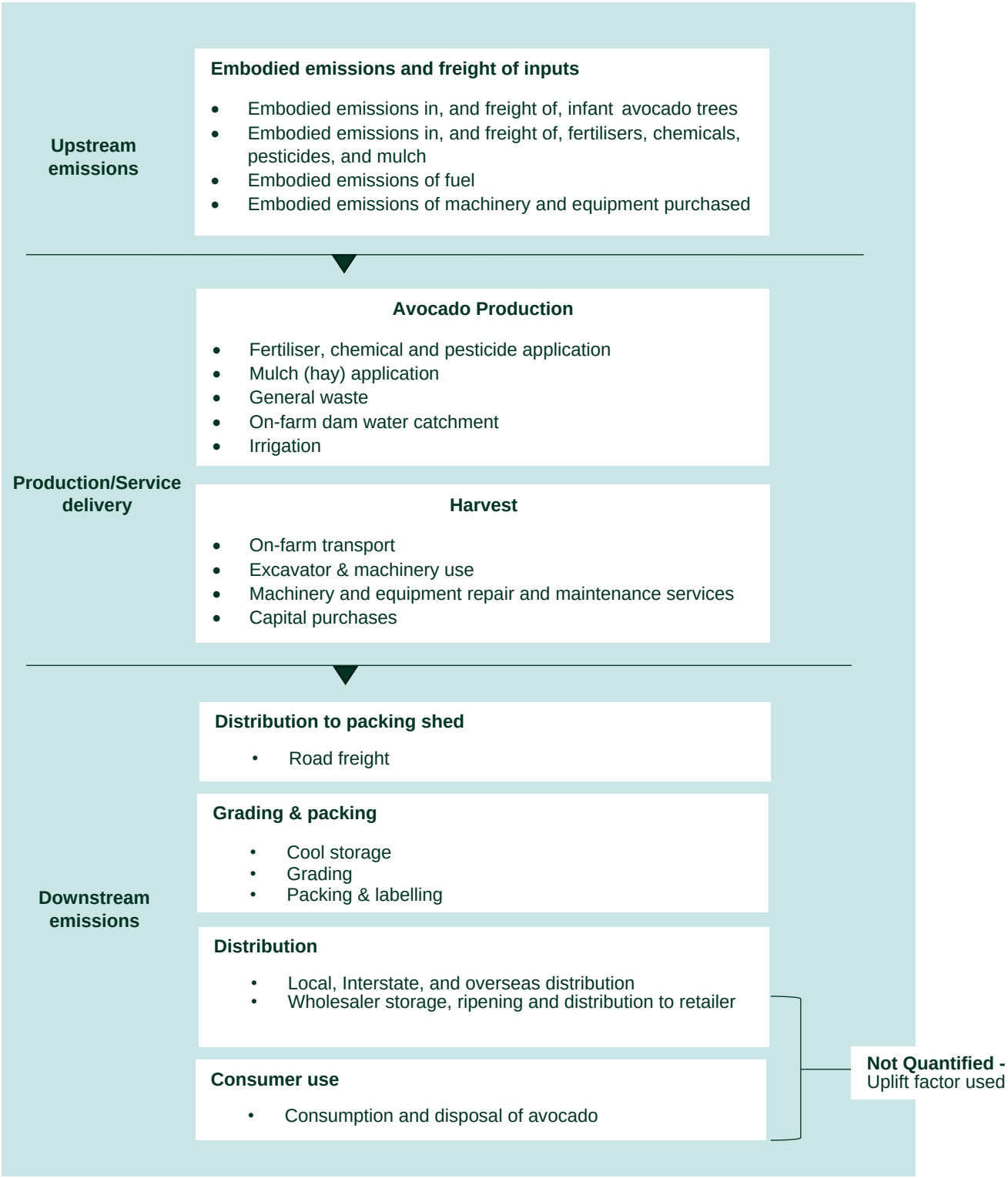
Non-attributable

Not Applicable

Product / Service process diagram

The following diagram provides an overview of the life cycle of Carbon Neutral Avocado's avocado product, including upstream emissions generated from the production and transport of inputs, organisational emissions from onsite production processes, and downstream emissions from distribution, storage and disposal until point of retail.

The below Diagram describes a Cradle to point of retail certification period. Cradle to grave certification was not used due to the data gap that exists relating to the volumes of avocado waste and method of disposal by retailers and the consumer.



4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Our Commitment

At Bendotti & Co., our dedication to reducing our carbon footprint and advancing sustainability in the horticultural sector remains steadfast. We aim to lead the industry by implementing strategies that minimize emissions across Scope 1, 2, and 3. This commitment is evident in our year-on-year efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of our avocado products per functional unit while navigating the variability of seasonal production.

Baseline and Progress

Using FY21-22 as our baseline, we aim for a **35% reduction in actual emissions by 2030**, targeting 0.936 kgCO_2e/kg of avocados. While FY23 presented challenges due to slower crop yields, we utilised the period to strategically increase capital investment in preparation for future large crops. FY24 has already demonstrated the impact of these efforts, with a strong production year resulting in reduced emissions per functional unit due to economies of scale.

Emissions reduction actions

Immediate Term Strategy (0–5 years)

Immediate Term Strategy (0–5 Years)

Over the past 12 months, we have implemented several initiatives to lower our emissions, focusing on water efficiency, renewable energy, and waste management:

1. **Adoption of Advanced Water-Saving Technology**
    - **Implementation:** World-leading water-saving technology from Israel was integrated to monitor trees directly and apply water precisely as required.
    - **Impact:** Reduced water pumping volumes and electricity consumption.
2. **Regenerative Agriculture Techniques**
    - **Action:** This approach is currently excluded from our strategy as our soil carbon levels are already higher than any other soils in WA, making further sequestration cost-ineffective.
3. **Renewable Energy Sourcing**
    - **Action:** Continued sourcing electricity from renewable providers, with plans to upgrade the packaging shed to a **200 kW solar system** by April 2025.
    - **Impact:** Maintained reductions in Scope 2 emissions through renewable energy use.
4. **Work Schedule Optimization**
    - **Action:** Streamlined operational schedules to improve efficiency during the growing season.

- **Impact:** Reduced unnecessary energy and resource consumption.

5. **Proactive Waste Recycling**
    - **Action:** Strengthened waste segregation and recycling protocols.
    - **Impact:** Minimised landfill waste and emissions linked to waste disposal.
6. **Switch to Recyclable Packaging**
    - **Action:** Transitioned all EcoAvo packaging to recyclable materials.
    - **Impact:** Lowered emissions from packaging production and disposal.

Long Term Strategy

We are planning and executing long-term projects to achieve our reduction targets and position ourselves as sustainability leaders in horticulture:

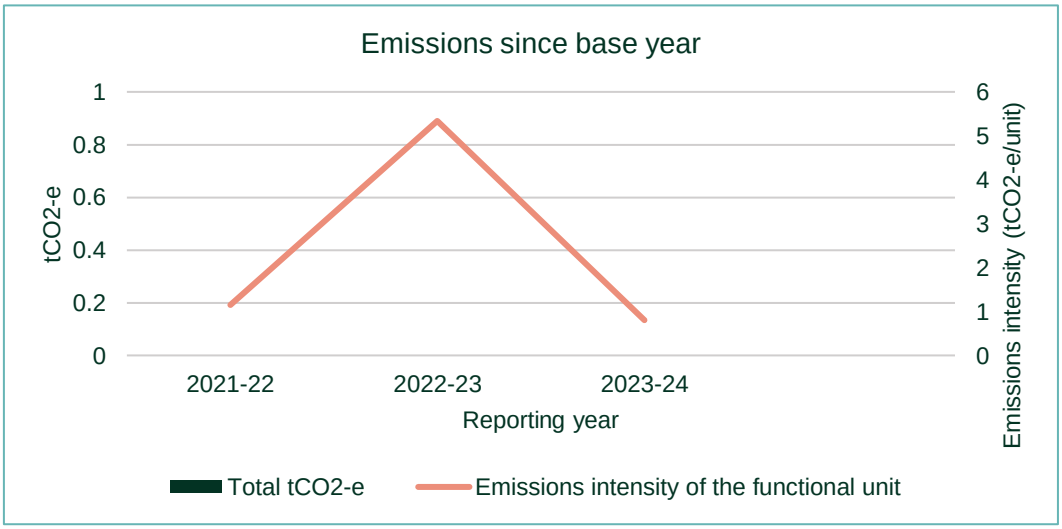
1. **Solar Panel Expansion**
    - *Original Plan*: Uplift from 40 kW to 250 kW.
    - *Updated Plan*: Increase capacity to **200 kW by April 2025**.
    - *Impact*: Enhanced renewable energy generation, reducing Scope 2 emissions further.
2. **Biodiesel Production**
    - *Action*: Initiated biodiesel production using onsite crops in collaboration with DPIRD.
    - *Impact*: Decreased reliance on fossil fuels, cutting Scope 1 emissions.
3. **Mulch Production**
    - *Action*: Produced mulch from biodiesel crops, reducing the need for purchased hay/straw.
    - *Impact*: Reduced Scope 3 emissions and enhanced resource efficiency.
4. **Battery Storage (Not Pursued)**
    - *Status*: Battery storage deemed financially unviable after feasibility studies.

Our efforts in FY24 have demonstrated that proactive investment and strategic planning can yield meaningful reductions in emissions per functional unit. By pursuing both immediate and long-term strategies, we remain on track to achieve a **35% reduction in embedded emissions** by the end of the decade, compared to the baseline figure, achieving below 0.936 $kgCO_2e/kg$ of avocados on a consistent basis (in both high and low production years). Through these actions, Bendotti & Co. continues to pave the way for a sustainable and environmentally conscious horticultural industry.

5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year			
		Total tCO_2-e	Emissions intensity of the functional unit
Base year:	2021-22	1,339t CO2e	1.144kg CO_2-e/kg
Year 1:	2022-23	1162.47t CO2e	5.338kgCO_2-e/kg
Year 2:	2023-24	1,668.04 CO2e	0.8029kgCO_2-e/kg



Significant changes in emissions

Significant changes in emissions			
Emission source	Previous year emissions (t CO_2-e)	Current year emissions (t CO_2-e)	Reason for change
Electricity (location-based method, scope 2)	171.20	261.29	Substantial increase in packaging and general electricity requirements due to large crop
Chemical fertilisers	172.54	212.25	Increased fertiliser usage to support larger crop yields.
Rail or train freight	22.49	237.47	Significant rise in transportation demands due to larger volumes of produce.
Paper containers	13.96	183.61	Increase in packaging materials required to accommodate the larger harvest.

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

N/A

Emissions summary

Attributable process or life cycle stage	tCO_2-e
Electricity (location-based method, scope 2)	261.28566
Electricity (location-based method, scope 3)	19.71967
Plants (from nurseries)	2.196517647
Chemical fertilisers	212.2472542
Pesticides	4.950152769
Business machines and equipment repair and services	12.77670944
Agricultural tractors	21.41399743
Road freight ($)	12.67697685
Rail or train freight	237.4736591
Road Freight (Average HGV):	78.89720881
Signage	28.21826152
Plastic packaging	2.904887682
Paper containers	183.606968
Diesel oil post-2004	257.2383439
Petrol / Gasoline post-2004	35.91244872
General waste (municipal waste)	186.432
Downstream - Road freight (Average HGV):	45.93010762
Attributable emissions	**1603.88**

Product / Service offset liability	
Emissions intensity per functional unit (tCO_2-e/unit)	0.000772
Emissions intensity per functional unit including uplift factors	0.000802919
Number of functional units covered by the certification	2077465.50
Total emissions (tCO_2-e) to be offset	**1669t**

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
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	1669	100%

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
4 MW Kirloskar Wind Farms in Maharashtra Project	VCU	Verra	21/11/2024	16922-800336702-800338201-VCS-VCU-1491-VER-IN-1-510-01022017-31122017-0	2017	1,500	0	0	1500	90%
4 MW Kirloskar Wind Farms in Maharashtra Project	VCU	Verra	21/11/2024	16922-800335716-800335884-VCS-VCU-1491-VER-IN-1-510-01022017-31122017-0	2017	169	0	0	1500	10%

Co-benefits

N/A

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

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 location-based approach

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)**
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	0	0	0	0	0	0
QLD	0	0	0	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0
WA	492,992	492,992	261,286	19,720	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	**492,992**	**492,992**	**261,286**	**19,720**	**0**	**0**
WA	492,992	492,992	261,286	19,720		
NSW	0	0	0	0		
SA	0	0	0	0		
VIC	0	0	0	0		
QLD	0	0	0	0		
NT	0	0	0	0		
WA	0	0	0	0		
TAS	0	0	0	0		
Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**		
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	**492,992**					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**261.29**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**19.72**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**261.29**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**19.72**
Total emissions liability	**281.01**

APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Non-quantified emission sources

The following emissions sources have been assessed as attributable, 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	Justification reason
Refrigerants, electricity, and chemicals associated with wholesaler storage and ripening	Data unavailable from the range of retail providers. Not cost effective, data unavailable.
Emissions associated with disposal of fruit until point of retail	Inconsistencies around the disposal process and amounts from different customers. Not cost effective, data unavailable.

Excluded emission sources

Attributable emissions sources can be excluded from the carbon inventory, but still considered as part of the emissions boundary if they meet **all three of the below criteria**. An uplift factor may not necessarily be applied.

1. A data gap exists because primary or secondary data cannot be collected **(no actual data).**
2. Extrapolated and proxy data cannot be determined to fill the data gap (**no projected data**).
3. An estimation determines the emissions from the process to be **immaterial**).

Emissions Source	No actual data	No projected data	Immaterial
Refrigerants, electricity, and chemicals associated with wholesaler storage and ripening	Yes	Yes	Yes
Emissions associated with disposal of fruit until point of retail	Yes	Yes	Yes

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 EMISSION BOUNDARY

Non-attributable emissions have been assessed as not attributable to a product or service (do not carry, make or become the product/service) and are therefore not part of the carbon neutral claim. To be deemed attributable, an emission must meet two of the five relevance criteria. Emissions which only meet one condition of the relevance test can be assessed as non-attributable and therefore are outside the carbon neutral claim. Non-attributable emissions are detailed below.

1. **Size** The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to other attributable emissions.

2. **Influence** The responsible entity could influence emissions reduction from a particular source.

3. **Risk** The emissions from a particular source contribute to the responsible entity'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 by the responsible entity or from outsourced activities that are typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable products or services.

Non-attributable emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
Refrigerants at packaging	N	Y	N	N	N	**Size:** Refridgeration at packaging facility is immaterial compared with the total ecoavo footprint which are distributed throughout Australia **Influence:** Bendotti Co owns the packing facility **Risk:** Minimal risk due to immaterial size **Stakeholders:** Key emissions have been included **Outsourcing:** Packing has never been outsources

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