



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT


**CITY OF MELBOURNE
NOW OR NEVER
21- 31 AUGUST 2025**

PRE-EVENT REPORT

Australian Government

Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement



RESPONSIBLE ENTITY NAME	City of Melbourne
NAME OF EVENT	Now or Never 2025
EVENT DATE(S)	August 21-31, 2025
DECLARATION	<p><i>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.</i></p>  <p>Krista Milne, Co-director, Climate Change and City Resilience, City of Melbourne 29/05/2025</p>



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

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Version 9.1.

1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	419 tCO ₂ -e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	VER
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	63.6%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: City of Melbourne
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Next technical assessment due: CY 2026

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2. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Description of certification

This certification is for the Now or Never Festival held across August 21-31, 2025

The event is expected to have approximately 250,000 attendees and is being held at the following location(s).

- Royal Exhibition Building
- Melbourne Town Hall
- State Library of Victoria
- North Melbourne Arts House
- The Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI)
- The Capitol Theatre
- Southbank promenade
- 161 Collins Street
- Immigration Museum
- Various smaller venues throughout the city

Activity data collected from previous occurrences of this event has informed the preparation of this carbon inventory.

Event description

Now or Never Festival is a wholly owned and managed event presented by the City of Melbourne.

This carbon neutral certification takes into account all energy and fuel use, all food and beverage sales and all waste from each event, plus the interstate or international travel and accommodation for each artist and their teams, all third-party contractor costs and the ground transport for applicable attendees to all events.

This is the third year Now or Never is certified carbon neutral, however the two events which were merged to create Now or Never (Melbourne Music Week and Melbourne Knowledge Week) were certified carbon neutral for three years each.

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		Outside emission boundary
<u>Quantified</u>	<u>Non-quantified</u>	<u>Excluded</u>
Cleaning		Attendee accommodation
Electricity		
Gas		
Liquid Fuels		
Marine Freight		
Professional services		
Products		
Office supplies		
Attendee travel		
Artist travel		
Food & drink		
Artist Accommodation		
Waste and Recycling		
Water		

Data collection

Emissions source	Data collection method	Assumptions / conservative approach taken
Attendee travel	<p>In 2024 a sample of 397 attendees were surveyed asking their:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mode of transport; and 2. Origin of trip (postcode) <p>From this information, a total travel distance by all modes is calculated. These figures are then extrapolated over the entire number of attendees to the event. Attendee = audience.</p> <p>An additional question was asked of attendees – <i>Did you attend work or school as part of your travel today?</i> Those answering yes had their transport emissions excluded from the inventory, as it was determined not to be additional to business as usual.</p>	<p>It is assumed that a sample of 397 attendees is representative of the whole attendee cohort.</p> <p>It is assumed that attendee travel in 2025 will be similar to that of 2024, in terms of proportion of attendees taking various travel modes.</p>
Artist Travel	Artists and the representatives will submit information on the origin mode and class of their travel, An air travel distance calculator will be used to determine total distance traveled	All air transport is calculated as a return trip unless indicated by the artist otherwise
Artist accommodation	All artists or their representatives will submit information on the number of nights' accommodation spent in Melbourne and the star rating of the hotel if known.	If no star rating is recorded, a default of 'four stars' will be assigned.
Food and drinks	All caterers and venues serving food or drinks are required to report food and beverage sales. All beverages acquired as part of commercial partnerships are also counted.	
Electricity	All venues will submit their electricity bills and a 'per day' electricity usage will be derived from this and multiplied by the total number of days the venue is	If only a part of the venue is used, a proportional multiplier will be used to discount the energy use.

	used.	
Professional Services	Now or Never staff provide total costs for all services procured for the event.	A centralised budget spreadsheet is managed by the City of Melbourne and is used to double check all service costs.

4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction measures

Key emissions reductions targeted in 2025 include:

- Reducing single use items and communicating with each venue to encourage recycling practices are a priority in waste management.
- Working with feature artists to use recycled materials and to ensure work is reused after Now or Never.
- Prioritising venues which use renewable energy.
- Encouraging attendees to use public transport instead of driving to events.
- Where possible, eliminating the use of generators.

5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY

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

N/A.

Emissions summary

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

Emission category	Scope 1 emissions (tCO ₂ -e)	Scope 2 emissions (tCO ₂ -e)	Scope 3 emissions (tCO ₂ -e)	Total emissions (t CO ₂ -e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	6.87	6.87
Cleaning and chemicals	0.00	0.00	2.11	2.11
Electricity	0.00	11.90	1.47	13.37
Food	0.00	0.00	52.72	52.72
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	8.44	8.44
Professional services	0.00	0.00	65.80	65.80
Stationary energy (gaseous fuels)	0.42	0.00	0.03	0.45
Stationary energy (liquid fuels)	5.11	0.00	1.26	6.37
Transport (air)	0.00	0.00	214.90	214.90
Transport (land and sea)	0.00	0.00	41.49	41.49
Waste	0.00	0.00	2.12	2.12
Water	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.06
Total emissions (tCO₂-e)	5.53	11.90	397.26	414.68

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	CO ₂ -e
one percent uplift for all physical marketing material produced. Many individually immaterial print runs of marketing materials collectively amount to enough to justify a very small uplift.	4.15
Total of all uplift factors (tCO ₂ -e)	4.15
Total emissions footprint to offset (tCO₂-e) (total pre-event emissions from summary table + total of all uplift factors)	419

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Eligible offsets retirement summary

Offsets retired for Climate Active certification

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

Type of offset unit	Quantity used for this reporting period	Percentage of total units used
Verified Emissions Reductions (VERs)	419	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
Thai Hoa Wind Power Project	VER	Gold Standard Impact Registry	19/05/2025	GS1-1-VN-GS11251-12-2023-26254-78032-78450	2023	419	0	0	419	100.00%
Offset Totals:						419	0	100	419	100.00%

Stapled units summary

The below units have been 'stapled' to eligible Climate Active carbon offset units. Stapled units may represent a beneficial outcome, such as biodiversity protection or improved water quality. These purchases are additional to Climate Active program requirements.

Stapled units and their corresponding scheme or project have not been assessed by Climate Active against the offset integrity principles in the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standards and are not included in the list of eligible Climate Active carbon offset units (Appendix A of the Standards). Businesses have undertaken their own due diligence when purchasing these stapled units.

Project name	Unit type e.g. biodiversity	Project location	Eligible offset project stapled to	Stapled quantity	Link to project or evidence
Mount Sandy Conservation Project	Australian Biodiversity Units	Mount Sandy	Thai Hoa Wind Power Project	419	See Appendix A

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A.

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional offsets retired for purposes other than Climate Active certification							
Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Eligible Quantity (tCO ₂ -e)	Purpose of retirement
Mount Sandy Conservation Project	Australian Biodiversity Units	ABU	20/05/2025	11971-12389	2021	419	Supporting nature conservation in Australia and aboriginal businesses.

BIODIVERSITY UNIT CERTIFICATE

MOUNT SANDY CONSERVATION PROJECT

This certificate confirms that

419


Australian Biodiversity Units
(628.50 square metres)

have been purchased and are being retired by

City of Melbourne
CRN: 111813

Serial Numbers: 11971-12389

An Australian Biodiversity Unit (ABU) represents the permanent protection of 1.5 square metres of high conservation value native habitat




20/05/2025

Registrar Certification

date

NVCR ALLOCATION REFERENCE: NVS2019-4003-181 VOL005b



vegetationlink
Verified Biodiversity Units

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	18,211	0	45%
Climate Active certified - Precinct/Building (voluntary renewables)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Precinct/Building (LRET)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Precinct/Building jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Electricity products (voluntary renewables)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Electricity products (LRET)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - 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)	7,458	0	18%
Residual electricity	14,688	13,366	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	25,669	0	64%
Total grid electricity	40,357	13,366	64%
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	40,357	13,366	64%
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	14,688	13,366	
Scope 2	13,074	11,897	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	1,614	1,469	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	0	0	
Scope 3	0	0	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	63.60%
Mandatory	18.48%
Voluntary	45.12%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO₂-e)	11.90
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO₂-e)	1.47
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	11.90
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	1.47
Total emissions liability (t CO₂-e)	13.37
<i>Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%</i>	

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)
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	40,357	40,357	31,882	2,825	0	0
QLD	0	0	0	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0	0	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	40,357	40,357	31,882	2,825	0	0
ACT	0	0	0	0		
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)	40,357					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	31.88
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	2.82
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO ₂ -e)	31.88
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO ₂ -e)	2.82
Total emissions liability (t CO₂-e)	34.71

If your organisation does not use any Climate Active buildings or precincts, please add N/A to the first row, and delete the remaining empty rows.

APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Non-quantified emission sources

N/A

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
Attendee Accommodation	N	N	N	N	N	<p>Size: Now or Never, as with all City of Melbourne major events is marketed to, and primarily attended by a local Victoria audience. Any instance of attendees from out of state are assumed to be attending the event as a secondary reason for their travel. It is assumed however that the number of interstate or overseas visitors to this event would be immaterial. The accommodation of artists and other contractors and their teams is however included in the inventory.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Risk: There are no relevant laws or regulations that apply to limit emissions specifically from this source.</p> <p>Stakeholders: Key stakeholders, including the public, are unlikely to consider attendee accommodation a relevant source of emissions for this event.</p> <p>Outsourcing: This activity is not outsourced, it is simply out of scope. We have not previously included this source our emissions boundary for any City of Melbourne major event.</p>



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