



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

NICHE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE


ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION

FY2023-24

Australian Government

Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Niche Environment and Heritage (trading as Niche)
REPORTING PERIOD	1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024 Arrears report
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>Ian Rollins Managing Director 14/07/2025</p>



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

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Version 9.

1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	495 tCO ₂ -e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	100% VCU's
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	17.10%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Pangolin Associates
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	14/3/2024 Pangolin Associates Next technical assessment due: FY 2026

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2.CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Description of organisation certification

This organisation certification is for the business operations of Niche Environment and Heritage in Australia (trading as Niche), ABN 19137111721.

This Public Disclosure Statement includes information for FY2023-24 reporting period.

This certification includes the business operations of Niche Environment and Heritage in Australia. The operational boundary has been defined based on an operational control approach. This includes the following locations and facilities:

Location	Street Address	Suburb	Postcode	State
Parramatta	L3, 93 George St	Parramatta	2150	NSW
Bulli	2 Rixon Ave	Bulli	2500	NSW
Port Macquarie	25 Sherwood Drive	Port Macquarie	2444	NSW
Brisbane	527 Gregory Terrace	Fortitude Valley	2011	QLD
Sydney Coworking	L3, Customs House 31 Alfred St	Sydney	2000	NSW
Melbourne Coworking	L3, 162 Collins St	Melbourne	3000	VIC

The delivery of client services is excluded from this certification.

Organisation description

Niche is a leading multidisciplinary consultancy delivering specialist ecology, heritage management and natural capital services to clients in the energy transition, infrastructure, land development and management, and resources sectors throughout eastern Australia.

We deliver highly specialised technical expertise and strategic advice. Collaborating with our clients, we help them navigate their environmental, social or sustainability challenges and deliver commercially effective project outcomes.

At Niche, we do work that matters and has a lasting and profound impact on our clients, our communities and our environment. We want to leave a positive legacy on the world and create a sustainable future.

This certification cover our operations for Niche Environment and Heritage (trading Niche), ABN 19137111721, with no subsidiaries to 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 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

Accommodation and facilities
Cleaning and chemicals
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services
Electricity
ICT services and equipment
Office equipment and supplies
Postage, courier and freight
Professional services
Refrigerants
Stationary energy (gaseous fuels)
Transport (air)
Transport (land)
Waste
Water
Working from home

Non-quantified

Waste generated on site work

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

N/A

4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Niche is committed to responsible environmental management, sustainability and protection of the natural environment in our workplace.

Niche is committed to reducing its scope 2 emissions by 30% by FY2028 compared to its FY2023 baseline. Niche commits to reduce its scope 3 emissions from employee-related activities including: business flights, accommodation, printing and stationery, waste in office space and water consumption by 20% per employee by FY2028 compared to FY2023 baseline.

Actions to be implemented:

We will develop a Sustainable Procurement Policy to direct procurement to Climate Active or carbon neutral products and professional services that align with our carbon neutral commitments by 2026. The policy will also align with our Reconciliation Action Plan. Niche will also seek to improve the data quality used to estimate supplier-specific emissions, especially for software services.

We will review electricity suppliers to explore 100% renewable energy, at time of purchase by 2025. We will also encourage staff to use renewable energy at home offices.

We will add guidelines for energy and waste reduction actions into the Working from Home guidelines for all staff, including turning off equipment and appliances when not in use and tips for managing heating and cooling. We will run some lunch and learn sessions to enhance this communication.

We will aim to reduce our professional services usage by sourcing carbon neutral suppliers where possible.

We have a plan in place to move from single occupancy offices to co-working spaces in key CBD locations in carbon certified Hub Australia by 2026.

We will encourage staff to request electric vehicles when using ride-share services.

We will encourage the use of video-conferencing to reduce travel.

We will endeavour to have staff transport equipment between offices in lieu of courier services.

We will include the Fuel Consumption Label data in the decision making process for purchasing new vehicles.

Emissions reduction actions

Actions already implemented:

Niche has leased office space at Hub Australia in Melbourne, a CoWorking space that is Climate Active accredited and closed leased offices in Sandgate and Cairns that were not fully utilized by staff.

We have completed an analysis on our data storage and have begun reducing our needs by archiving old data and removing obsolete data.

5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year			
		Total tCO ₂ -e (without uplift)	Total tCO ₂ -e (with uplift)
Base year/Year 1: 2022-23		422.68	N/A
Year 2:	2023-24	494.81	N/A

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
Technical services	55.23	69.38	Technical services activity has increased compared to the previous year due to business growth.
Petrol: Medium Car	15.69	56.69	There has been a significant increase in car travel compared to FY2023 due to business growth.
Consulting services	12.44	103.97	There has been a significant increase in consulting expenses compared to FY2023 due to business growth.

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

Certified brand name	Product/Service/Building/Precinct used
Virgin	Flight
Qantas	Flight
Hub Australia L3, Customs House 31 Alfred St	Professional services
Hub Australia Level 3/162 Collins St, Melbourne	Professional services

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	39.50	39.50
Cleaning and chemicals	0.00	0.00	2.35	2.35
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity	0.00	15.09	20.10	35.19
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	21.43	21.43
Machinery and vehicles	0.00	0.00	7.13	7.13
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	6.99	6.99
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	1.62	1.62
Professional services	0.00	0.00	200.25	200.25
Refrigerants	2.06	0.00	0.00	2.06
Stationary energy (gaseous fuels)	0.89	0.00	0.23	1.12
Transport (air)	0.00	0.00	21.41	21.41
Transport (land and sea)	27.77	0.00	83.70	111.47
Waste	0.00	0.00	26.33	26.33
Water	0.00	0.00	1.78	1.78
Working from home	0.00	0.00	16.18	16.18
Grand Total	30.72	15.09	449.01	494.81

Uplift factors

N/A

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)	495	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
Bundled Solar Power Project by Solararise India Projects PVT. LTD.	VCU	Verra	18/12/2023	10730-245050982-245051581-VCS-VCU-997-VER-IN-1-1762-26042018-31122018-0	2018	600	423	0	177	35.76%
Bundled Solar Power Project by Solararise India Projects PVT. LTD.	VCU	Verra	19/1/2024	10730-245118145-245118392-VCS-VCU-997-VER-IN-1-1762-26042018-31122018-0	2018	248	0	178	70	14.14%
Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project	VCU	Verra	19/1/2024	9900-157304131-157304378-VCS-VCU-263-VER-ID-14-674-01012018-31 122018-1	2018	248	0	0	248	50.10%
Total offsets used this reporting period									495	
Total offsets banked for future use								178		

Co-benefits

Bundled Solar Power by Solarise; India

The project activity involves the installation of Solar PV project. The total installed capacity of the project is 120 MW of Solar PV plant located at different states in India. The project is promoted by SolarArise India Projects Pvt. Ltd.

Co-benefits:

Social well-being: The project would help in generating employment opportunities during the construction and operation phases. The project activity will lead to development in infrastructure in the region like development of roads and also may promote business with improved power generation.

Economic well-being: The project is a clean technology investment in the region, which would not have been taken place in the absence of the VCS benefits the project activity will also help to reduce the demand supply gap in the state. The project activity will generate power using zero emissions Solar PV based power generation which helps to reduce GHG emissions and specific pollutants like SO_x, NO_x, and SPM associated with the conventional thermal power generation facilities.

Technological well-being: The successful operation of project activity would lead to promotion of Solar based power generation and would encourage other entrepreneurs to participate in similar projects

7. 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 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	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)	8,907	0	17%
Residual Electricity	43,182	39,296	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	8,907	0	17%
Total grid electricity	52,089	39,296	17%
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	52,089	39,296	17%
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	48%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	20,798	18,926	
Scope 2	18,512	16,846	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	2,285	2,080	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	22,384	20,370	
Scope 3	22,384	20,370	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	17.10%
Mandatory	17.10%
Voluntary	0.00%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO₂-e)	16.85
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO₂-e)	22.45
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	15.09
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	20.10
Total emissions liability (t CO₂-e)	35.19
<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	48%	(kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)
NSW	40,024	19,211	13,064	961	20,812	15,193
VIC	2,023	971	767	68	1,052	905
QLD	10,042	4,820	3,519	723	5,222	4,595
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	52,089	25,003	17,350	1,752	27,086	20,693
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)	52,089					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO₂-e)	17.35
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO₂-e)	22.44
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	15.77
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	20.47
Total emissions liability	36.24

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)
Hub Australia - Sydney Coworking	2,487	0
Hub Australia - Melbourne Coworking	2,023	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

N/A

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
Waste generated on field work sites	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

No emission sources were excluded from this assessment.

Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
N/A						



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