




# **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**CITY OF MELBOURNE  
FIRELIGHT FESTIVAL  
JULY 3-5, 2026**

**PRE-EVENT REPORT**

Australian Government  
**Climate Active**  
**Public Disclosure Statement**



RESPONSIBLE ENTITY NAME	City of Melbourne
NAME OF EVENT	Firelight Festival
EVENT DATE(S)	July 3-5, 2026
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>Name of signatory: Krista Milne          Position of signatory: Director of Climate Change and City Resilience          Date: 05/03/2026</p>



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

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Version 11.



# 1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	460 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	34.13% VERs, 65.87% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	17.29 %
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: City of Melbourne
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Date: 18/09/2025 (2025 event) Organisation: Pangolin The next technical assessment is due in 2028

## Contents

1. Certification summary .....	3
2. Certification information .....	4
3. Emissions boundary .....	5
4. Emissions reductions .....	8
5. Emissions summary .....	9
6. Carbon offsets .....	10
7. Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary .....	14
Appendix A: Additional Information .....	15
Appendix B: Electricity summary .....	18
Appendix C: Inside emissions boundary .....	21
Appendix D: Outside emissions boundary .....	22

## 2. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

### Description of certification

This certification is for the Firelight Festival being held on July 3<sup>rd</sup> to July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

The event is expected to have approximately 100,000 attendees and is being held at the following location.

- Docklands Precinct, Melbourne.

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

### Event description

Melbourne's Firelight Festival is a multi-day celebration of the winter solstice held in the Docklands precinct of Melbourne. Owned and produced by the City of Melbourne, the Firelight Festival revels in themes of family and community, food and feasting, singing and music and renewal and rebirth.

All attendee transport, activations, food and beverage sales and entertainment brought to the precinct by Firelight organisers is included in the scope of this certification. All fuel use, electricity, management costs, bump-in and bump-out services, waste and post-event clean-up are also part of the certification scope. Any uplift to existing Docklands businesses is not included in the scope.

This is the fifth consecutive year that Firelight Festival has achieved carbon neutral certification.

## 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.

**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
<p><b><u>Quantified</u></b></p> <p>Performer and contractor accommodation</p> <p>Cleaning and Chemicals</p> <p>Electricity</p> <p>Food</p> <p>Office equipment and supplies</p> <p>Products</p> <p>Postage, courier and freight</p> <p>Professional Services</p> <p>Stationary Energy</p> <p>Transport (Land and Sea)</p> <p>Waste</p> <p>Water</p>	<p><b><u>Non-quantified</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Excluded</u></b></p> <p>Attendee Accommodation</p>

## Data collection

Emissions source	Data collection method	Assumptions / conservative approach taken
Attendee travel	A sample of attendees will be surveyed on their travel mode, origin postcode and purposes of their travel. Total distances by transport mode are then extrapolated across all attendees to the event and a proportional attribution factor applied dependent on the average number of 'other activities' an attendee was engaged in on that day.	It is assumed that the sample is truly representative of all attendee travel behaviour.
Attendee accommodation	The Firelight Festival is a local event for Melbournians and is not marketed interstate. Any interstate or overseas attendee is considered to be in Melbourne for other reasons and as such their accommodation is not attributable to Firelight Festival. Accommodation for performers and contractors working at Firelight will be quantified.	It is assumed that no interstate attendee has traveled to Melbourne exclusively to attend the Firelight Festival.
Food and drinks	All food and beverage vendor sales figures are collected by Firelight management.	No assumptions.
Electricity	Sub-metering data and equipment lists for areas not sub-metered are collected by event management for all plug-in loads.	No assumptions.
Road freight	All invoices for freight companies are collected by central event management.	No assumptions.
Professional services	All invoices for freight companies are collected by central event management.	No assumptions.

## 4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

### Emissions reduction measures

Emissions reduction opportunities are becoming limited.

1. Where possible, minimise the amount of new construction – No new activations are planned for construction in 2026.
2. Food organics will continue to be collected and sent to a composting facility to minimise emissions from waste in landfill.
3. Attendees are encouraged to take public transport to the event to reduce their carbon footprint.
4. Electrical infrastructure in Docklands is used as a preference to diesel 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 <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	0.26	0.26
Cleaning and chemicals	0.00	0.00	1.92	1.92
Electricity	0.00	0.75	0.10	0.85
Food	0.00	0.00	185.22	185.22
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	0.72	0.72
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	26.32	26.32
Products	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Professional services	0.00	0.00	97.43	97.43
Stationary energy (liquid fuels)	13.96	0.00	4.17	18.13
Stationary energy (solid fuels)	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.10
Stationary energy (gaseous fuels)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transport (land and sea)	0.00	0.00	122.97	122.97
Waste	0.00	0.00	5.44	5.44
Water	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.11
<b>Total emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>	<b>14.07</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>444.66</b>	<b>459.48</b>
<i>Figures may not sum to total due to rounding.</i>				

### Uplift factors

N/A

## 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)	157	34.13%
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	303	65.87%

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
InfraVest Taiwan Wind Farms Bundled Project 2011 – Taiwan	VER	Gold Standard Impact Registry	11/04/2024	<a href="#">GS1-1-TW-GS1001-12-2020-22066-108677-108960</a>	2020	284	127	0	157	34.13%
Chudu Afforestation Project	VCU	Verra Registry	03/03/2026	<a href="#">9939-165079090-165079392-VCS-VCU-1310-VER-CN-14-2087-01012017-31122017-1</a>	2017	303	0	0	303	65.87%
<b>Offset Totals:</b>						<b>587</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



## 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	Biodiversity	Mount Sandy, South Australia	InfraVest Taiwan Wind Farms Bundled Project 2011 – Taiwan	157 (321)	See Appendix A
Mount Sandy conservation project	Biodiversity	Mount Sandy, South Australia	Chudu Afforestation Project	303	See Appendix A

## Co-benefits

N/A

## 7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

### Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A.



## APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In the absence of affordable and readily available Australian offsets, the City of Melbourne utilises ‘stapled’ offset products. This involved ‘stapling’ or attaching one registered carbon offset unit to one other type of environmental project. This ensures that credible, defensible carbon offsetting to satisfy our carbon neutral claims while supporting critical environmental protection projects in Australia.

The Mount Sandy project ensures permanent protection for a regionally and culturally important pocket of biodiversity-rich land in partnership with its Traditional Owners. The 200-hectare project site features a unique mix of coastal shrublands and saline swamplands that provide strategic habitat for iconic native wildlife, such as the short-beaked echidna, purple-gaped honeyeater and elegant parrot. These species flourish in the protected site while native plants for revegetation are supplied by the local nursery at Raukkan Aboriginal Community, a self-governed Indigenous community 50 kilometres northwest of the project site. Raukkan community members are also employed for onsite works including vegetation monitoring and mapping, fencing, and pest and weed control.

Additional offsets retired for purposes other than Climate Active certification						
Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Vintage	Eligible Quantity (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Purpose of retirement
<b>Mount Sandy conservation project</b>	Australian Biodiversity Unit (ABU)	Not publicly available	12/04/2024	2020	157	To support biodiversity protection projects in Australia and first nations businesses and employees
<b>Mount Sandy conservation project</b>	Australian Biodiversity Unit (ABU)	Not publicly available	03/03/2026	2020	303	To support biodiversity protection projects in Australia and first nations businesses and employees

BIODIVERSITY UNIT CERTIFICATE

MOUNT SANDY  
CONSERVATION PROJECT

This certificate confirms that

**321**

Australian Biodiversity Units  
(481.50 square metres)

have been purchased and are being retired by

**City of Melbourne**

CRN: 107757

Serial Numbers: 106076-106396

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



Registrar Certification

12/04/2024

date

NVCR ALLOCATION REFERENCE: NVS2019-4003-182 VOL003



**vegetationlink**  
Verified Biodiversity Units

BIODIVERSITY UNIT CERTIFICATE

MOUNT SANDY  
CONSERVATION PROJECT

This certificate confirms that

**303**

Australian Biodiversity Units  
(454.50 square metres)

have been purchased and are being retired by

**City of Melbourne**

CRN: 113083

Serial Numbers: 9359 - 9661

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



03/03/2026

Registrar Certification

date

NVCR ALLOCATION REFERENCE: NSV2022-4044-192 VOL005



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 <sub>2</sub> -e)	Renewable percentage of total
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	0	0	0%
<b>Total non-grid electricity</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
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)	194	0	17%
Residual Electricity	927	853	0%
<b>Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Total grid electricity</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Total electricity (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>17%</b>
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
<b>Residual electricity consumption under operational control</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>853</b>	
Scope 2	816	751	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	111	102	
<b>Residual electricity consumption not under operational control</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Scope 3	0	0	

<b>Total renewables (grid and non-grid)</b>	<b>17.29%</b>
<b>Mandatory</b>	<b>17.29%</b>
<b>Voluntary</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Behind the meter</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>	<b>0.75</b>
<b>Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>	<b>0.75</b>
<b>Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>Total emissions liability (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>	<b>0.85</b>

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 (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)
VIC	1,121	1,121	874	101	0	0
<b>Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
VIC	0	0	0	0		
<b>Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>Total electricity (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>1,121</b>					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	0.87
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	0.10
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	0.87
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	0.10
<b>Total emissions liability</b>	<b>0.98</b>

### 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
<i>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.</i>		

### Climate Active carbon neutral electricity products

Climate Active carbon neutral electricity product used	Electricity claimed from Climate Active electricity products (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
N/A	0	0
<i>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.</i>		

## APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

### Non-quantified emission sources

N/A

# APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

## Excluded emission sources

Emissions that do not meet two or more conditions of the relevance test can be excluded from the emissions 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><b>Size:</b> The size of the emissions is unknown as attendees who may be from interstate or overseas are determined to have not travelled to Melbourne for the purpose of attending Firelight as it is a local event. It is assumed however that the number of interstate or overseas visitors to this event would be immaterial.</p> <p><b>Influence:</b> We do not have the potential to influence the emissions from this source.</p> <p><b>Risk:</b> As attendee accommodation is not considered in-scope for this event, and is likely to be very minimal anyway, it is unlikely to be of significant public interest.</p> <p><b>Stakeholders:</b> Stakeholders, including the public, are unlikely to consider this a relevant source of emissions for our business.</p> <p><b>Outsourcing:</b> 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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