

National Carbon Offset Standard Carbon Neutral Program Public Disclosure Summary

Allens > < Linklaters



An Australian Government Initiative

Allens

Reporting period: 1 July 2015 – 30 June 2016

Declaration

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Summary is true and correct and meets the requirements of the National Carbon Offset Standard Carbon Neutral Program.

Handwritten signature of Nicky Friedman in black ink.

1.2.17

Nicky Friedman

Director of Community Engagement

Type of carbon neutral certification: organisation

Verification

Date of most recent external verification/audit: 17 December 2015

Auditor: Ben Jenkins, Graff, Paul & Parnell Chartered Accountants

Auditor assurance statement link: n/a

1. Carbon neutral information

1A. Introduction

Allens is a leading law firm with offices across Australia and Asia, and through our integrated alliance with Linklaters, has a global network spanning 40 offices and 29 countries. We provides access to leading lawyers and resources, covering all commercial issues, from acquisition finance to workplace relations. Allens has some of the world's longest ongoing client relationships, stretching back more than 150 years. We work with many of the world's leading organisations - including 55 of the world's top 100 companies and more than 75 of Australia's top 100 companies.

Allens reporting boundary includes all of its Australian offices, located in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth (using the operational control test in accordance with the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007).

1B. Emission sources within certification boundary

Quantified sources

Allens includes all direct (scope 1) and indirect (scope 2) emissions sources (natural gas, refrigerants and electricity) in its greenhouse gas emissions inventory. Other significant sources of indirect (scope 3) emissions have been assessed and these are:

- Water consumption
- Base building
- Staff commuting to and from work
- IT equipment expenditure
- Paper purchases
- Business flights
- Food and catering purchases
- Postage and courier services
- International hotel accommodation
- National hotel accommodation
- Taxi travel
- Meat and meat products
- Waste to landfill
- Data centre electricity use

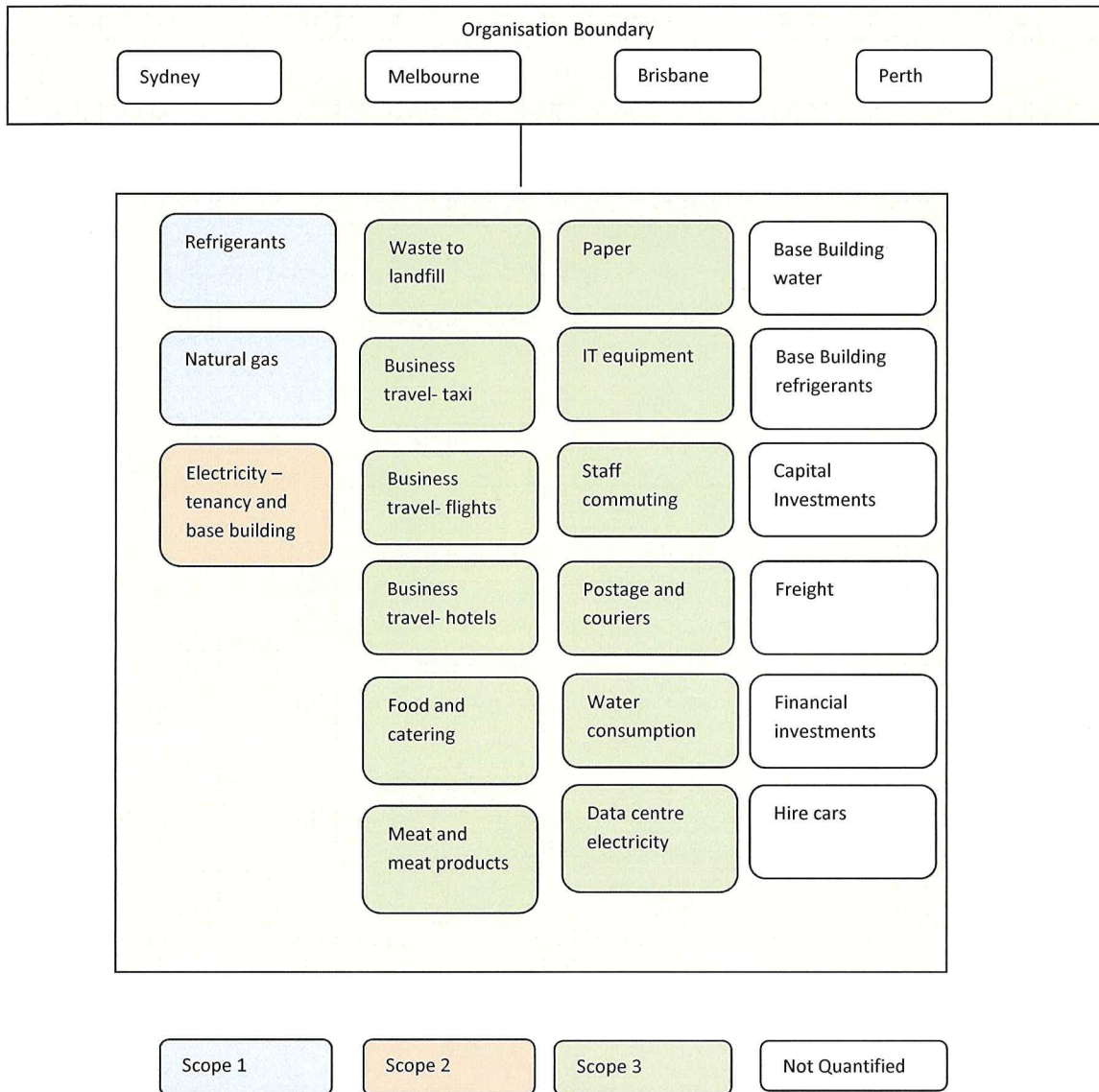
These emissions sources have been included on the basis that they account for a comprehensive overview of all emissions related to Allens' operations in Australia and that they would be considered as relevant for a range of key stakeholders. Allens' office space, which is sublet to other entities, has been excluded.

Non-quantified sources

Emissions related to capital investment equipment, base building refrigerants and water, freight, financial investments, car hire and contractors have been excluded from the inventory. The exclusion of these emission sources is not expected to materially affect the overall inventory.

- Capital investment equipment - Embodied emissions contained in purchased capital assets have not been included, as estimating these emissions is likely to be very difficult relative the contribution of this category to the inventory.
- Base building refrigerants and water – These emission sources are excluded on the basis that the information is very difficult to gather and they are likely to have minimal impact relative to scope 1 and 2 emissions.
- Freight – Allens does not use freight services directly and emissions from this source are likely to be negligible compared to other scope 3 emission sources.
- Hire cars – Allens' use of hire cars is minimal, and emissions from this source are likely to be negligible compared to other scope 3 emission sources.
- Financial investments – Determining the emissions associated with financial investments would be very costly relative to their likely significance.

1C. Diagram of certification boundary



2. Emissions reduction measures

2A. Emissions over time

Overall emissions have reduced by 22% (or 3,409.9tCO₂-e) since the base year (1 July 2013 – 30 June 2014). This has been due to a range of initiatives including improvements in electricity consumption at the Sydney and Melbourne offices, relocation of our Brisbane office to more energy efficient premises and a reduction in the number of business flights taken.

This year we have included estimated emissions relating to the firm's use of external data centre services in New South Wales.

	Base Year (tCO ₂ -e)*	Current Year (tCO ₂ -e)	Percentage change
Scope 1	2.6	3.1	19%
Scope 2	3,784.3	3,003.2	-21%
Scope 3	11,628.1	8998.8	-23%
Total	15415.0	12005.1	-22%

* In 2014/15, a variation in supplier data relating to business travel and paper consumption resulted in a recalculation of baseline emissions and a restatement of gross base year emissions from 16,330.2 tCO₂-e to 15,415.0 tCO₂-e.

2B. Emissions reduction strategy

Allens' emissions reduction strategy involves:

- measuring and reporting on our energy consumption and carbon footprint;
- setting targets for reducing our emissions;
- acting on opportunities to reduce our emissions by improving operational efficiencies, investing in technological innovation and reducing our resource consumption;
- encouraging our suppliers to reduce carbon impacts in our supply chain;
- educating and engaging our people to reduce work-related emissions; and
- offsetting our residual annual carbon emissions to achieve net-zero emissions, by purchasing offsets that meet the requirements of the National Carbon Offset Standard.

2C. Emissions reduction actions

Emissions source	Reduction measure and calculation method	Scope	Status	Reduction t CO ₂ -e
Electricity	Reduce the number of multi-function devices and upgrade to more energy-efficient models in all of our Australian offices.	2 & 3	Completed	Not estimated
Electricity	Investigate the introduction of a regular, automated computer shut down across all of our Australian offices.	2 & 3	Ongoing	Not estimated
Electricity	Complete the migration to more energy-efficient, virtual servers for all of our Australian offices.	2 & 3	Completed	Not estimated

Electricity	Relocate our Brisbane office to premises with more energy efficient design and layout.	2 & 3	Completed	Not estimated
Paper	Introduce 'follow-me' printing on all multi-function devices, with a view to reducing printing volumes and paper use.	2 & 3	Completed	Not estimated
Employee Commute, Business Flights, Electricity, Paper, Waste	Educate and engage our employees to encourage them to reduce their environmental impacts at work and at home (including internal seminars on environmental issues and participation in National Ride2Work Day, Earth Hour, World Environment Day and National Recycling Week).	3	Ongoing	Not estimated

3. Emissions summary

Scope	Emission source	t CO ₂ -e
1	Refrigerants	1.1
1	Natural gas	2
2	Electricity	3003.2
3	Natural gas	0.5
3	Electricity	384.4
3	Base building	2552.7
3	Water	6.3
3	IT equipment	386.7
3	Paper purchased	98.5
3	Employee commute	712.9
3	Business flights	3127.4
3	Food and catering	494
3	Postage and couriers	52.4
3	International hotel accommodation	12.3
3	National hotel accommodation	180.5
3	Taxis	54.4

Table 3. Emissions Summary		
Scope	Emission source	t CO ₂ -e
3	Meat and meat products	631.5
3	Waste to landfill	155.3
3	Data centre electricity use	149
Total Gross Emissions		12005.1

4. Carbon offsets

4A. Offsets summary

Table 4. Offsets Summary			
Offset type and registry	Year retired	Quantity	Serial numbers
ACCU, ANREU	2016	1,250	3,744,272,857 – 3,744,274,106
ACCU, ANREU	2016	604	3,744,257,464 – 3,744,258,067
VCS, APX Registry	2016	4,818	2491-106448259-106453076-VCU-008-APX-VN-1-589-01112010-31032012-0
VCS, APX Registry	2016	741	4450-186455776-186456516-VCU-016-APX-PG-14-1122-22052009-31122012-0
ACCU, ANREU	2016	157	3,744,257,307-3,744,257,463
VCS, APX Registry	2016	468	4611-191040787-191041254-VCU-016-APX-PG-14-1122-22052009-31122012-0
VCS, APX Registry	2016	2,317	4034-172725107-172727423-VCU-008-APX-VN-1-589-01042012-31052014-0
VCS, APX Registry	2016	182	2491-106453077-106453258-VCU-008-APX-VN-1-589-01112010-31032012-0
VCS, APX Registry	2016	569	2491-106453259-106454458-VCU-008-APX-VN-589-01112010-31032012-0
VCS, APX Registry	2016	378	4611-191041825-191042202-VCU-016-APX-PG-14-1122-22052009-31122012-0

Table 4. Offsets Summary			
Offset type and registry	Year retired	Quantity	Serial numbers
VCS, APX Registry	2016	322	4789-197183174-197183495-VCU-016-APX-PG-14-1122-22052009-31122012-0
ACCU, ANREU	2016	200	3,744,898,652-3,744,898,851
Total offsets retired			12,006
Net emissions			nil

4B. Offsets purchasing and retirement strategy

Offsets are partially purchased and retired during the reporting period and the remainder purchased once reporting has been completed.

4C. Offset projects (Co-benefits)

Allens seeks to buy offsets from projects that align with the firm's community engagement program and objectives and offer additional environmental and social benefits. The example projects described below relate to 34 per cent of the total amount of offsets purchased and retired by Allens for this reporting period.

North Kimberley fire abatement project in Australia

This project is a savanna fire management program established by North Kimberley traditional owners. Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by conducting strategic early season burning on country, to reduce the intensity of late dry season fires. The project provides employment and an income stream to local Aboriginal communities, while at the same time strengthening connections with the land and allowing the traditional owners to fulfil cultural responsibilities. It also helps to conserve biodiversity and provides various substantial social benefits within the local community.

April Salumei REDD project in Papua New Guinea

This project protects 177,000 hectares of rainforest, which prevents the carbon stored in the trees from being released into the atmosphere. Without this project, the forest would be harvested for timber and converted to agricultural land. The rainforest protected by this project is considered one of the ten most important biodiversity hotspots on earth. The April Salumei project is also home to 163 communities who depend upon the rainforest for their livelihoods, as they have done for hundreds of years. Due largely to the remoteness of the area, these communities are some of the least developed in Papua New Guinea. To deliver positive social and environmental outcomes, the project works in partnership with the traditional landowners to invest in health, education, communication and accessibility programs that provide essential services alongside conservation efforts.

5. Use of trade mark

Table 5. Trade mark register	
Where used	Logo type
Emissions Reduction Summit case study – Allens' journey to carbon neutrality	Certified organisation
CMI Update article and case study – Allens' journey to carbon neutrality	Certified organisation
CitySwitch Sustainability Heroes Campaign poster	Certified organisation
Carbon Neutral Program, Carbon Neutral Information Sessions – Allens' panel presentation in Sydney, Brisbane and Perth	Certified organisation

