

National Carbon Offset Standard Carbon Neutral Program Public Disclosure Summary



An Australian Government Initiative

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COMPANY NAME: GOLDEN WEST HOLDINGS PTY LTD T/A BLUE

MOUNTAINS

EXPLORER BUS / FANTASTIC AUSSIE TOURS

REPORTING PERIOD: FY2017

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.

Signature 	Date 5 Dec 2017
Name of Signatory Jason Cronshaw	
Position of Signatory Managing Director	

Carbon neutral certification category	Organisation & Service
Date of most recent external verification/audit	25/01/2017



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Energy

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Auditor	Ben Jenkins, GPP Audit Pty Ltd
Auditor assurance statement link	



Australian Government

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1. Carbon neutral information

1A. Introduction

Golden West Holdings operates both Fantastic Aussie Tours and Blue Mountains Explorer Bus, based in an office in Katoomba (283 Bathurst Rd) and a depot in North Katoomba (91 Barton St). These two businesses provide three different types of transport services for tourists, schools, corporate events and other customers. These services are:

1. Hop-on hop-off Explorer Bus: This service ferries tourists between different sites in the Blue Mountains.
2. Fantastic Aussie Tours: This caters to tourists wanting to take tours in the Blue Mountains as well as other locations (e.g. between Sydney and inter-state destinations)
3. Fantastic Aussie Tours coach charter service: This involves six coaches catering to local schools, Barker College (outdoor education), the International Management School, Corporate transfers (e.g. to restaurants, hotels or to/from Sydney)

Golden West Holdings' National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS) Carbon Neutral Program (CNP) certification includes both the business activities of Golden West Holdings (organisational certification), as well as the coach charter and tourist sightseeing services operating in the Blue Mountains (service certification).

To this effect, this greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory covers direct (scope 1) and indirect (scope 2) GHG emissions associated with Fantastic Aussie Tours's and Blue Mountains Explorer Bus's activities over which Golden West Holdings has operational control, as well as other indirect GHG emissions that occur as a result of Golden West Holdings's business activities (scope 3).

The GHG inventory has been prepared in accordance with the National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS), the NCOS Carbon Neutral Program Guidelines, the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007 and supporting legislation and documentation, and the GHG Protocol series.

1B. Emission sources within certification boundary

Quantified sources

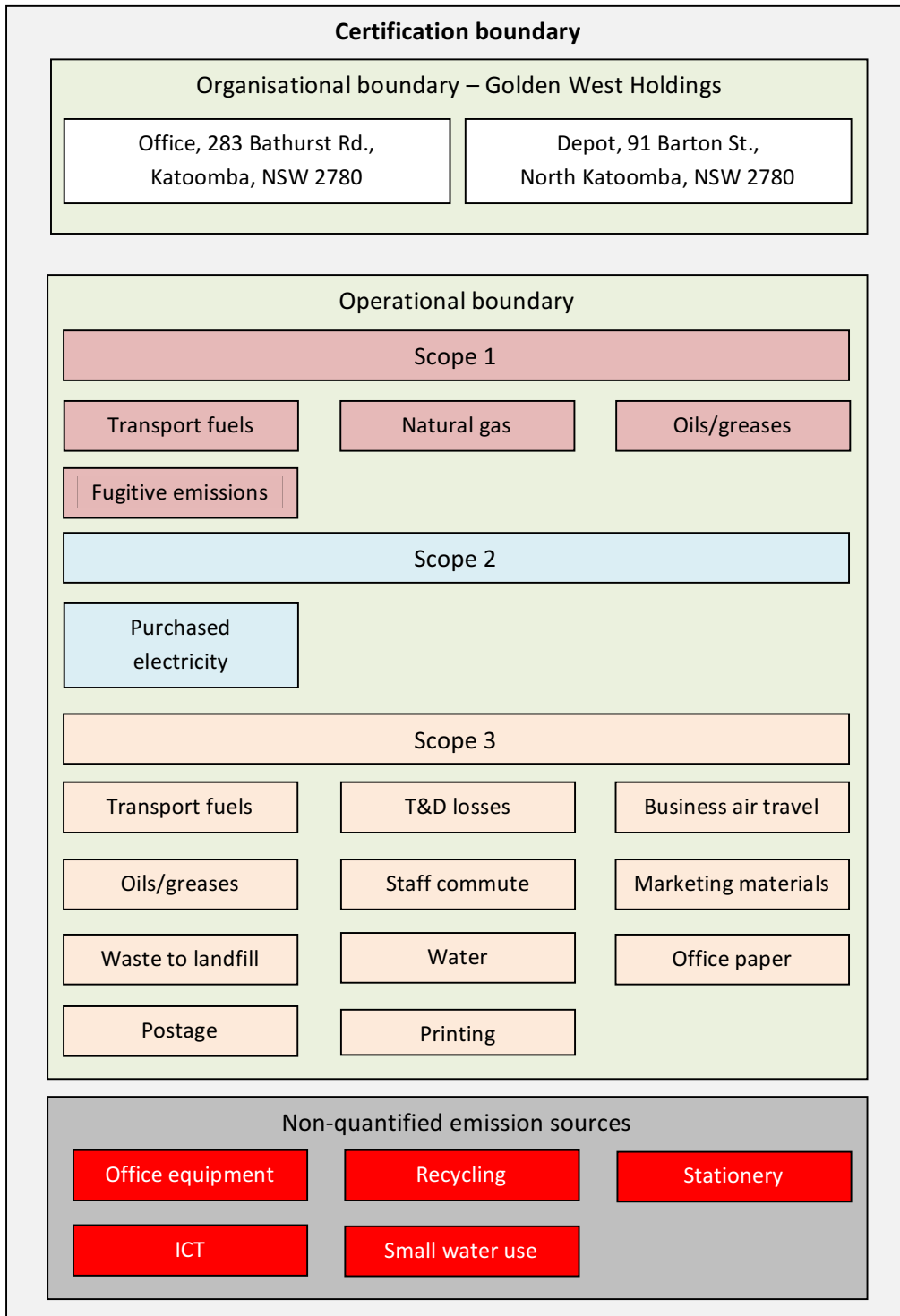
The following emission sources have been included in this GHG inventory:

- Transport fuels – buses and business travel
- Natural gas distributed in a pipeline
- Petroleum-based oils and greases
- Fugitive emissions from refrigerants used in air-conditioning units
- Purchased electricity, including transmission and distribution losses
- Extraction, production and distribution of fuels, natural gas, as well as oils and greases used
- Waste to landfill
- Water supply and waste water
- Business air travel
- Staff commute
- Marketing materials
- Office paper
- Postage

Non-quantified sources

- Office equipment, telecommunications/Internet and stationery are not included because these are not significant expenditures and not expected to make up a material contribution to total emissions.
- Water use for one toilet and one sink in the rented Katoomba office has been excluded as GWH does not pay for this water usage nor has access to the water invoices for the premises. The contribution of this emission source to the total footprint is considered to be immaterial.
- Emissions associated with recycling of waste, filters, oil and mechanical items have been excluded due to data limitations.

1C. Diagram of the certification boundary



2. Emissions reduction measures

2A. Emissions over time

Table 1. Emissions since base year			
	Base Year: 2016	Current year Year 1: 2017	
Scope 1	283.8	324.4	
Scope 2	16.4	23	
Scope 3	397.3	72.6	Base year includes embodied energy of buses.
Total	681.3	420	t CO ₂ -e

Note that Scope 3 emissions for the base year include embedded emissions associated with the manufacture of the vehicles. Corresponding emissions have been calculated using a lifecycle approach. Therefore, embedded emissions need only be accounted for when new vehicles are added to the fleet.

2B. Emissions reduction strategy

The following activities form part of Golden West Holdings's emissions reduction strategy:

- Annual measurement and reporting of energy consumption and GHG inventory
- Identifying and implementing opportunities to reduce emissions and energy consumption wherever possible and feasible (avoid, reduce, offset)
- Staff engagement, providing staff the opportunity to contribute to the process of reducing emissions

2C. Emissions reduction actions

Golden West Holdings is using the current GHG inventory and the baseline to identify, evaluate and implement potential emission reduction opportunities and against which future efforts and overall environmental performance is evaluated. Opportunities implemented include:

- Switching to NCOS-certified carbon neutral products, such as
 - Carbon neutral office paper
 - Carbon neutral electricity products
 - Carbon neutral flight options for business travel
- Driver training
- Energy efficiency opportunities to reduce energy demand, such as switching lights to LEDs, and considering the most efficient options when procuring new equipment
- Improving recycling rate and further reducing amount of waste that goes to landfill

3. Emissions summary

The total tonnes CO₂-e listed this GHG inventory have been rounded to the first decimal place. Due to this rounding, numbers presented in Table 2 may not add up precisely to the totals provided.

Table 2. Emissions Summary		
Scope	Emission source	t CO ₂ -e
1	Diesel for coaches	174.4
1	Diesel for buses	144.7
1	Diesel for company car	0.7
1	Natural gas distributed in pipeline	2.6
1	Petroleum-based oils	1.4
1	Refrigerant leakage	0.6
2	Purchased electricity – NCOS CNP-certified	23
3	Diesel – extraction, production and distribution	16.3
3	Natural gas – extraction, production and distribution	0.7
3	Electricity – transmission and distribution losses	3.3
3	Business air travel – NCOS CNP-certified	0.8
3	Waste to landfill	7.3
3	Water supply and waste water	0.3
3	Staff commute	18.6
3	Marketing materials	11.1
3	Printing and publishing	11.4
3	Office paper	0.2
3	Office paper – NCOS CNP-certified	0.7
3	Postage	2
Total Gross Emissions		420
Powershop Carbon Neutral electricity		23
Business air travel – NCOS CNP-certified		0.8
Office paper – NCOS CNP-certified		0.7
Total Net Emissions		395

4. Carbon offsets

4A. Offsets summary

Table 3. Offsets Summary			
Offset type and registry	Year retired	Quantity	Serial numbers
CERs (Gold Standard), UNFCCC CDM Registry	2017	200	IN-5-211599250-2-2-1-8855 - IN-5-211599449-2-2-1-8855
VERs (Gold Standard), Markit Registry	2017	200	GS1-1-CN-750-15-2010-262-15363 – GS1-1-CN-750-15-2010-262-15562
Total offset units retired			400
Net emissions after offsetting			0

4B. Offsets purchasing and retirement strategy

Offsets will be purchased and retired annually in arrears at the end of each reporting year in accordance with the NCOS and NCOS Carbon Neutral Program Guidelines. All offsets will be purchased and retired by the offset provider on Golden West Holdings's behalf.

For the first year of certification, Golden West Holdings has purchased and retired xxx offset units:

- 395 units have been retired to cover the carbon footprint associated with Golden West Holdings' business activities, including fuel used by the vehicle fleet;
- An additional allocation of 5 units has been retired to ensure carbon neutrality (considering immaterial emission sources) and to minimise the risk of shortfall, as well as to underscore Golden West Holdings's commitment to the principles of the NCOS CNP.

Of the 400 offset units purchased and retired for the this year of certification, 200 CERs are part of Golden West Holdings's commitment to the [UN Climate Neutral Now](#) program.

4C. Offset projects (Co-benefits)

Solar Water Heater Program in India ([PoA 8855](#)) – In addition to the environmental benefits, this project contributes to social development by income and employment generation. The project employs local people for manufacturing, distribution, installation and maintenance of the solar water heaters. It also demonstrates a replicable renewable technology and enhances the commercialisation of renewable energy technology on the level of households and SMEs in India.

GWH supports the [Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Project](#) – From a small scale initial biodiverse planting in 2008 the project has expanded into a 11,700 hectare restoration of uneconomic and partly degraded farmland. It aims to create a connected, biodiverse landscape across the mid-West wheatbelt region, offsetting carbon emissions, and support the conservation of ecological communities of native flora and fauna. The project won the [Banksia Natural Capital Award](#) at the 28th annual Banksia Sustainability Awards. The assigned units of this project are underlined by the [Glass Furnace Flue Gas Waste Heat To Energy](#) in China – Hebei Yingxin Co., Ltd has four glass production lines with total daily melting capacity of 2,000 tonnes. The project generates electricity through recovering and utilising the waste heat from a glass production line. The electricity from the proposed Project will be consumed on site by the organisation and will meet part of the electricity demand of the company thereby displacing the electricity that is

currently supplied by the coal dominated grid. In the absence of the project activity, the waste heat would be vented into the atmosphere. In addition, the project activity contributes to sustainable development by reducing fossil fuel exploitation and consumption, improving energy efficiency, significantly reducing harmful particulate matter emissions (including particulate matter), and increasing the number of local staff employed.

5. Use of trade mark

Table 4. Trade mark register	
Where used	Logo type
Website	Certified organisation & service
Marketing materials	Certified organisation & service
Email signature	Certified organisation & service
On buses	Certified service
Business cards & stationery	Certified organisation

6. Have you done more?

Golden West Holdings will continuously review available emission factors and methodologies, and update its carbon footprint if there are any significant changes to the data, inventory boundary, methodologies, emission factors or any other relevant factors such as changes to the organisational structure or the discovery of significant errors.