National Carbon Offset Standard Public Disclosure Summary

Australian Government

Carbon Neutral Program Public Disclosure Summary





An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: CARE Super Pty Ltd (thereafter referred to as

CareSuper)

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

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 Afhandu	Date 23 - 1 · 20
Name of Signatory Julie Lander	
Position of Signatory CEO	

Carbon neutral certification category	Organisation		
Date of most recent external verification/audit	19/11/2019		
Auditor	Matt Drum, Ndevr Environmental		
Auditor assurance statement link	https://www.caresuper.com.au/sites/default/files/2019- 12/CARE_Super_NCOS_Assurance_Report_2018FY_20191216.pdf		



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Energy

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National Carbon Offset Standard Public Disclosure Summary Template v5.6, February 2019

1. Carbon neutral information

1A. Introduction

CareSuper is Australia's largest industry super fund for professionals. We are driven by a clear and genuine purpose: we care about helping our members achieve their goals in life and specifically helping them to achieve a comfortable lifestyle in retirement. For over 30 years, we have become the super fund of choice for professionally minded people, across all occupations and sectors, who want a high-performing fund that fulfils their needs and aspirations. CareSuper has offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Canberra, and members in every State and Territory. CareSuper published its Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Policy in April 2019 and commits to implementing the policy through a range of initiatives, which include reducing and offsetting our carbon footprint. CareSuper started offsetting carbon emissions for air travel since 2014.

Table 1 below presents general information about the company and its reporting period.

Table 1. Company information			
Website:	www.caresuper.com.au		
Business area:	Superannuation		
Reporting period:	1 st July 2017 to 30 th June 2018		
Number of full-time employees (FTE):	88		

CareSuper's greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting and reporting procedure is based on the National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS) for organisations and the 'Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard Revised edition' (GHG Protocol)¹.

CareSuper's organisational boundaries have been defined following the control approach. The boundary covers all entities where CareSuper has operational control, including its offices in Melbourne and Sydney.

CareSuper's GHG account covers the six GHGs covered by the Kyoto Protocol: carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆). All emissions are reported in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂-e).

1B. Emission sources within certification boundary

Quantified sources

CareSuper includes all direct (Scope 1) and indirect energy (Scope 2) emissions sources in its GHG emissions inventory. It also includes indirect (Scope 3) emissions sources that result from the operations of its business. In the 2018 carbon account, the below listed emissions sources have been quantified.

• Scope 1

- Fuels for combustion in mobile sources (vehicles)
- Scope 2

¹ World Resources Institute (WRI) and World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), 2004

• Electricity consumption (tenancy)

• Scope 3

- Fuel and energy-related activities²
- Base building electricity, including energy-related activities
- o Base building natural gas, including energy-related activities
- Business travel (flights and taxis)
- Business travel accommodation
- o Employee commuting
- Food and catering services
- o Freight
- o Office rent (Brisbane and Canberra)
- Post and telecommunications
- Printing and publishing
- o Paper
- IT equipment and services
- o Disposal of waste to landfill
- Disposal of waste to recycling
- Reticulated water usage (supply and treatment)

Non-quantified sources

• The potential emissions from refrigerants is not quantified due to the lack of information about the technology used in the air conditioning (AC) systems of the buildings where CareSuper has its offices. Nonetheless, CareSuper will continue working with the building managers to ensure that the information is available and that these emissions are included in future carbon accounts.

Excluded sources

The following emission source has been excluded in line with the provisions of the National Carbon Offset Standard for Organisations. The impact of excluding this source is not expected to materially affect the overall total emissions.

• Emissions from CareSuper's investment portfolio have been excluded in line with the relevance test as applied to CareSuper's trustee operations.

² Fuel and energy-related activities comprise well-to-tank (WTT) emissions from fuels and emissions associated with electricity transmission and distribution (T&D) losses. WTT emissions account for the upstream emissions associated with extraction, refining and transportation of the raw fuel sources of an organisation's site (or asset), prior to combustion. T&D accounts for the emissions associated with grid losses (the energy loss that occurs in transferring electricity from the power plant to the organisations that purchase it).

<u>1C. Diagram of the certification boundary</u>



2. Emissions reduction measures

2A. Emissions over time

This is CareSuper's first Public Disclosure Summary, therefore this section is not applicable.

2B. Emissions reduction strategy

CareSuper published its <u>Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability Policy</u> in April 2019. As stated in our policy, while our operational footprint is small, we are always looking for ways to reduce the use of resources and minimise waste. Improvements to resource efficiency lessen our environmental impact and may represent a direct cost saving to CareSuper and ultimately to members.

Our workplace sustainability strategy includes:

- ensuring our office accommodation is in efficient buildings, looking for high ratings of Green Star and NABERS' ratings when considering any changes in location
- implementing a comprehensive recycling system
- encouraging staff to use online communications and reporting systems, thereby reducing paper usage and air travel for internal meetings
- encouraging staff to take public transport to and from work and offering 'work from home' arrangements to reduce carbon footprint
- energy efficient workspaces and consideration of energy ratings when purchasing or leasing appliances and using green energy
- purchasing carbon offsets for air travel
- engaging with our service providers about their sustainability initiatives

We are also actively seeking other carbon reduction measures such as measuring and improving basebuilding energy efficiency and reducing paper consumption by encouraging staff to print less and members to receive notifications and engage with us electronically.

2C. Emissions reduction actions

CareSuper initiated the following emission reduction actions during the 2017 - 2018 financial year:

- encouraged staff to contribute to CareSuper's sustainability strategy by inviting them to join the staff Sustainability Subcommittee
- switched to green energy through our power suppliers, purchasing 65% of our office electricity from renewable sources (certified GreenPower)
- started implementing a comprehensive recycling system
- implemented technology initiatives which better enable staff to use online communications and reporting
- encouraged members to access online information and opt-out of receiving hard copy information such as annual statements
- promoted the use of public transport amongst staff, by establishing a commuter club and offering discounted annual Myki passes in 2018
- offered 'work from home' arrangements to staff to meet their needs and reduce travel
- measured and started offsetting emissions from air travel since 2014
- defined our GHG inventory scope and measured our corporate carbon footprint

The table below summarises quantifiable actions for CareSuper's ongoing and future emissions reduction actions:

Scope	Emission source	Reduction measures	Calculation method	Status
2 & 3	Electricity	Increase the percentage of renewable electricity purchased to 100%	Energy bills	Ongoing
2&3	Electricity	Office energy efficiency initiatives: LED lighting, occupancy sensors, daylight harvesting, rezoning for after-hours/holiday air conditioning, etc.; aim to purchase energy efficient appliances.	Energy bills	Future
2&3	Electricity, Water, Waste	Transform employee behaviours by raising awareness and basic training to reduce waste generation and energy and water consumption. Use brown water where feasible. Encourage staff to use reusable cups instead of paper cups for takeaway drinks.	Energy bills, water bills, amount of waste generated	Ongoing
3	Travel – all	Develop guidelines and training for virtual meeting and video conferences and guidelines for working from home	Flight records and amount spent on land travel	Ongoing
3	Staff commuting	Implement policies to encourage the use of public transport, biking, walking and co-travelling to work	Employee commuting survey	Ongoing
3	Waste	Separate waste to be recycled	Amount of waste recycled	Ongoing
3	Paper	Raise awareness to reduce consumption, increase the usage of recycled paper, encourage members to receive their information electronically rather than in paper form.	Amount of paper consumption	Ongoing

3. Emissions summary

Table 2. Emissions Summary				
Scope	Emission source	t CO ₂ -e		
1	Mobile combustion fuel – petrol	76.6		
2	Purchased electricity	93.5		
3	Energy-related activities from purchased fuel	4.1		
3	Energy-related activities from purchased electricity	9.0		
3	Base building electricity 176			
3	Base building – electricity (energy-related activities)	17.2		
3	Base building natural gas	6.1		
3	Base building – natural gas (energy-related activities)	0.6		
3	Travel – Flights (incl. WTT emissions)	273.0		
3	Travel – Taxis (incl. WTT emissions)	8.0		
3	Accommodation	39.5		
3	Staff Commuting	431.2		
3	Food and catering services	11.6		
3	Freight	12.8		
3	Office renting	2.2		
3	Post and telecommunications	148.6		
3	Printing and publishing	59.8		
3	Paper	5.0		
3	IT equipment	32.2		
3	Disposal of waste to landfill	16.9		
3	Disposal of waste to recycling	0.2		
3	Reticulated water usage (supply and treatment)	1.8		
Total Gro	oss Emissions	1,426.6		
GreenPower or retired LGCs		59.5		
Total Net Emissions		1,367.1		

4. Carbon offsets

4A. Offsets summary

Table 3. Offsets Summary						
Projects supported by offset purchase	Eligible offset units	Registry	Cancellation date	Serial numbers (including hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Quantity
Changbin and Taichung Wind Power, Taiwan	684	Gold Standard	05-Nov-2019	<u>GS1-1-TW-GS472-12-2017-6457-84392-</u> <u>85075</u>	2017	684
Mytrah Wind Power, India	684	VCS	05-Nov-2019	<u>6938-359406619-359407302-VCU-034-</u> <u>APX-IN-1-1728-01012017-24112017-0</u>	2017	684
Total offsets cancelled					1,368	
Net emissions after offsetting				0		

4B. Offsets purchasing and retirement strategy

CareSuper will acquire a sufficient quantity of NCOS-eligible offset units to offset the total GHG emissions associated with its operations for each reporting year. The offsets will be retired once the final GHG inventory has been completed and approved by CareSuper and the external auditor (every 3 years). Offsets will be acquired and retired in arrears at the end of the reporting period.

CareSuper will keep records of and disclose the offset units in a registry and record appropriate details to audit this cancelling activity (e.g. registry name, serial number and cancellation certificate). These details will be reported as part of the public disclosure summary.

4C. Offset projects (Co-benefits)

CareSuper purchased 50% of offsets from SouthPole through dual credit product - EcoAustralia. The remaining 50% were purchased from the Mytrah Wind Power project in India.

EcoAustralia is an award-winning stapled carbon credit product, pioneered by South Pole in partnership with Australian biodiversity protection organisation, Cassinia Environmental. The product blends state government-accredited biodiversity protection with international carbon credits. Thanks to EcoAustralia, Australian organisations now have a unique opportunity to compensate for greenhouse gas emissions while contributing to the regeneration and preservation of Australia's most vulnerable ecosystem types.

EcoAustralia is a stapled product, combining:

- 1 Gold Standard international carbon credit, representing 1 tCO₂e of avoided emissions
- 1 Australian Biodiversity Unit, equal to 1.5 m² of government-accredited, permanently protected Australian vegetation



An Australian Biodiversity Unit (ABU) is a South Pole-standardised unit that represents 1.5 m² of protected land delivering biodiversity outcomes for Australian flora and fauna species. ABUs are a division of the larger biodiversity units used on the state-based Native Vegetation Credit Registers, termed a Biodiversity Equivalence Unit (BEU) in Victoria. The state-based units vary in land area based on complex evaluations of vegetation quality, habitat types and expected improvements on the site. The issued BEUs are divided into standardised 1.5 m² ABUs by Vegetation Link, an independent third party, who manage the ABU registry to ensure transparent allocation to EcoAustralia buyers.

Please visit the following websites for more information:

EcoAustralia Website: <u>www.southpole.com/sustainability-solutions/ecoaustralia</u> EcoAustralia Frequently Asked Questions: <u>www.southpole.com/ecoaustralia-frequently-asked-questions</u>

Myamyn Lowland Forest Conservation, Victoria, Australia – EcoAustralia biodiversity component

Located on private land within the Annya State Forest in South-West Victoria, the Myamyn project works to protect and rehabilitate the land that was illegally cleared for blue gum plantations in the 1990s. As well as cleared land, the site contains remnant forests that are among the most undisturbed in the region, while a large freshwater wetland provides a rare pocket of habitat for local frog, bird and bat species such as the southern toadlet, curly sedge and southern bent-wing bat. By protecting the site and replanting cleared areas with native plants, this project permanently protects and enhances local biodiversity.

The Myamyn project has rehabilitated over 20 hectares of cleared lands, protecting a total of 200 hectares against further clearing and enhancing habitat by controlling weeds and pest animals like cats and foxes. In doing so, habitat for a range of vulnerable and endangered native species is protected and enhanced – including the southern brown bandicoot, powerful owl and long-nosed potoroo.

Below is the contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals made by the Myamyn project.

15





stapled to each government accredited Australian Biodiversity Unit purchased from the Myamyn project, meeting stringent standards for NCOS eligibility



of wetlands protected, providing habitat for vulnerable frog, bird and bat species

of forests protected and enhanced, including 22 ha that have been replanted with native vegetation





enabling voluntary purchases of government-accredited Australian Biodiversity Units (normally reserved only for offsetting vegetation removal)

View the factsheet for the Myamyn Conservation Project: a.southpole.com/public/media/302113/2113.pdf

Changbin and Taichung Wind Power, Taiwan – EcoAustralia carbon component

This Gold Standard project is expanding Taiwan's renewables sector and raising environmental awareness. By harnessing the power of prevailing coastal winds to generate clean energy, the Changbin and Taichung wind farms power Taiwanese homes, while helping to expand Taiwan's renewable energy industry. The project is helping boost sustainable development through a number of local initiatives, such as guided wind farm tours that raise awareness about climate change and pollution, supporting the elderly and a scholarship programme.

This project harnesses the strong prevailing winds along Taiwan's west coast. The wind farms consist of 62 wind turbines that generate over 480,000 MWh of clean power on average each year, which is supplied to the local electricity grid.

As well as contributing to global climate change mitigation efforts through emission reductions, the project is engaged in several activities that help to preserve the local ecosystem such as regular beach clean ups and guided tours that raise awareness about climate change, pollution and other environmental issues. The project has also supported the reforestation of 2,400 m2 of land, which is encouraging local biodiversity.

Below is the contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals made by the Changbin and Taichung Wind Project:





28 local jobs

renewable electricity generated annually and supplied to the local grid

created, boosting local economies



reduced on average annually by providing a clean alternative to fossil fuel generation

Gold Standard



of trees planted by the project, encouraging biodiversity in the area

View the factsheet for the Changbin and Taichung Wind Project: a.southpole.com/public/media/300190/0190.pdf

Mytrah Wind Power, India

This project converts wind energy into electrical energy, across a number of wind farms, which have a combined installed capacity of 493.5 MW. This clean electricity is then exported to the Indian Grid, supplementing energy demands with an alternative to coal-fired electricity.

The clean power produced by the project displaces an equivalent amount of power from the grid, which is fed mainly by fossil fuel-fired power plants. Therefore, it results in a reduction of GHG emissions. Mytrah Wind, the project owner, also runs a wide Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) scheme that supports the wellbeing of local communities. This includes investment to improve access to education, clean water and a focus on reducing unemployment and the lack of opportunities for young people in the area. It also runs two community camps, together with UNICEF, to empower young women by educating them on their rights, creative abilities and skills in healthcare, while a safe water project provides clean water, sanitation education and improved latrine services.

Below is the contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals made by the Mytrah Wind Power Project:



of electricity supplied to India's energy grid on average each year, displacing fossil fuelgenerated energy created, plus 84 temporary jobs, boosting local economies

reduced on average annually, contributing to climate change mitigation

View the factsheet for the Mytrah Wind Power Project: a.southpole.com/public/media/302192/2192.pdf

5. Use of trade mark

Table 4. Trade mark register			
Where used	Logo type		
Company website	Certified organisation		
Company marketing materials	Certified organisation		
Certificate to be displayed at the company headquarters	Carbon Neutral Organisation certificate		