PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

CITY OF YARRA

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2019-20

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY:

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020

Declaration

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.

Signature  Date 16/12/2020

Name of Signatory

MICHAEL OKE

Position of Signatory

SUSTAINABILITY UNIT MANAGER

Australian Government

Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This Public Disclosure Summary and accompanying documents are the submission for the Climate Active Carbon Neutrality certification for the organisation of Yarra City Council, as defined by the Organisational and Operational boundaries detailed on the following pages and reflected in the graphic titled Diagram of Certification Boundary (**Figure 1**).

The entire organisation of Yarra City Council is the subject of this carbon neutral certification.

Organisation description

The City of Yarra - an inner metropolitan municipality of Melbourne, Victoria, was originally formed in June 1994 and is home to a diverse community of approximately 100,000 people. The municipality is 19.5 square kilometres.

As an organisation, Yarra City Council has a total capital and operating budget of $197.36 million, which is used to deliver a wide range of community services and maintain essential community infrastructure.

Council's service delivery includes:

- Care for aged residents and/or residents with a disability
- Meal on Wheels
- Collection of domestic rubbish and recycling
- Footpath and road resurfacing
- Operation of 5 libraries, 3 leisure centres and a golf course
- Family and Children Services
- Maintenance of parks and gardens and street trees
- Construction of new community assets and redevelopment and maintenance of existing community assets

"Responding effectively to the climate emergency requires a collective effort across all levels of government, businesses and the community. As a council one of the key roles we play is operating as a carbon neutral organisation, rapidly reducing carbon emissions from our own operations prior to purchasing carbon offsets."

Emissions reduction strategy

Climate Emergency Plan (endorsed) and Carbon and Energy Management Plan (draft)

Yarra City Council is one of the first Council's in Australia to endorse a Climate Emergency Plan (CEP) (2020), the second of its kind in Australia. The plan provides the overall strategic direction for reducing Yarra Council's reliance on fossil fuels and supporting the local community to take climate action.

Yarra's Climate Emergency Plan also aspires to achieve zero-net emissions across the entire Yarra community by 2030, while also ensuring the city is resilient to future pressures, such as those caused by extreme weather events.

Whilst the Climate Emergency Plan focuses on the whole municipality, including Council operations, we are currently developing the more-detailed Carbon and Energy Management Plan (CEMP), which focuses only on Council operations and builds on the commitments in the Climate Emergency Plan.

Some of the key actions which Council will take to reduce emissions are;

- Continue purchasing 100% renewable electricity through our award-winning Melbourne Renewable Energy Project 10-year power purchase agreement;
- Significant transition of buildings off gas to all-electric, including aquatic centres – powered by Council's 100% renewable energy;
- Transitioning our vehicle fleet completely to zero emissions vehicles by 2025, noting we already have a number of electric passenger vehicles and leading in the space of electric trucks;
- Working with our contractors who deliver our kerbside waste collections (heavy vehicles) to transition to zero emissions vehicles;
- Maximising solar installations on our buildings, including those used by community groups;
- Implementing innovative and cutting edge building automation including artificial intelligence software to optimise energy efficiency;
- Upgrading all of our street lights to high efficiency LED, with smart controls included on main roads. Although this will not directly reduce emissions, as our electricity is 100% renewable, this is an essential project to balance our electricity demand against the underlying increased demand from the electrification of our buildings and vehicle fleet. This one project is projected to result in a 25% reduction in our overall electricity consumption.

2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

Diagram of the certification boundary

Quantified

Electricity

Natural gas

Transport Fuels

Transport Fuels - Contractors

Stationary Fuel use - Contractors

Waste

Fugitive Emissions

Paper

Business Travel of Employees

Water

Asphalt

Non-quantified

Purchased Goods and Services

Oils and Lubricants purchased via Third Parties

Redevelopment (of Buildings)

Outdoor Events

Contractor Electricity and Gas

Employee Commuting

Council-owned buildings leased to commercial or community groups

Investments

Excluded

Municipal waste

Community emissions

Figure 1: City of Yarra's Certification Boundary

Non-quantified sources

The following emissions sources (**Table 2**) have not been quantified, in line with the Climate Active standards.

Some of these fall within Council's organisational boundary but have not been quantified in line with the Climate Active Technical Guidance Manual, due to one (or more) of the following:

- the emissions are likely to be negligible (relative to other scope 3 emissions)
- determining the emissions will be very costly relative to their likely significance or
- there is insufficient data.

Table 2. Non-quantified emission from within the Organisational Boundary		
Emission source	Scope	Justification for non-quantification & overall implications for footprint
Purchased Goods and Services	3	Lack of complete and reliable data, and uncertainty regarding methodologies and locally relevant emissions factors. Would be extremely time intensive to capture holistic data for this emissions source but will consider limited inclusions in future reporting periods. Council also have limited ability to influence these emissions, and limited resources to collect this information. The below goods and services are <u>included</u> in emissions calculations because Council has reliable data and a strong ability to influence: • Contractor fuel use • Asphalt • Paper These three sub-categories are expected to represent the largest sources of emissions from Council's goods and services. Remaining emissions from Goods and Services are not expected to represent a material impact to Council's footprint.
Oils and Lubricants purchased via Third Parties	3	Council contracts out the servicing of its vehicles and most equipment. As such the vast bulk of Council's use of oils and lubricants is incorporated into bills from such contractors and very difficult to isolate. As a result there is a lack of complete and reliable data for this emissions source. Implication for the footprint is minor. An uplift factor will be added by the required 2023/24 reporting period.
Redevelopment (of Buildings)	3	Lack of complete and reliable data. The implication for footprint is likely to be immaterial as no significant renovations took place during 2019/20.
Outdoor Events	3	Lack of complete and reliable data. Implication for footprint would be minor, however an uplift factor will be added by the required 2023/24 reporting period.
Contractor Electricity and Gas	3	Lack of complete and reliable data. Implication for footprint likely to be minor, however an uplift factor will be added by the required 2023/24 reporting period.
Employee Commuting (except those commuting in a fleet vehicle)	3	Lack of complete and reliable data. Could consider future inclusion if based on very limited sample data. Implication for footprint likely to be minor, however an uplift factor will be added by the required 2023/24 reporting period.

Council-owned buildings leased to commercial or community groups	3	Not considered to be within Council's operational control. Lack of, and inability to get, consistent and quality data. Implication for the footprint considered to be immaterial. Note –Yarra does not lease out any of its Leisure Centres to third party operators and as such are included in Council's emissions boundary.
Investments	3	Council holds no financial investments (as defined under the Greenhouse Gas Protocol – Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard) as its investments are held in term deposits with no link to any specific products or services. Council have limited resources to collect this information. Implication for the footprint considered to be immaterial.

Data management plan

For items listed as non-quantified due to "data unavailable" in **Table 2**, a data management plan has been developed below in **Table 3**. The data management plan should have no greater than a five-year timeframe.

Table 3

Non quantified emission sources	Data management plan to quantify these sources	To be completed by the required reporting year
Oils and Lubricants purchased via Third Parties	Council's Sustainability Unit will work closely with the Council officers who manage the relationships with our contractors. We will survey these contractors to determine realistic quantities of oil and lubricants which can be attributed to City of Yarra activities. An appropriate uplift factor will be determined based on this.	2023/24
Outdoor events	Council's Sustainability Unit will work closely with Council's Communications team to track Council sponsored outdoor events, their size, and duration. Using the Climate Active reporting methodology for Events, we will determine a realistic uplift factor.	2023/24

Contractor electricity and gas	Council's Sustainability Unit will work closely with the Council officers who manage the relationships with our contractors. We will survey these contractors to determine realistic quantities of electricity and gas which can be attributed to City of Yarra activities. An appropriate uplift factor will be determined based on this.	2023/24
Employee commuting (except those commuting in a fleet vehicle)	Council's Sustainability Unit will create a survey for employees to complete which will allow us to approximately determine the mode of transport and the distance travelled to work by our employees. Using the existing transport emissions factors, we should be able to determine a realistic emissions figure for inclusion in future reports.	2023/24

Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)

Other scope 3 emissions are outside Council's organisational boundary and as such not included in this inventory. These include:

- Municipal waste – all waste generated by the broader Yarra community, with the exception of the corporate waste Council produces.
- Community emissions (emissions emitted within the City of Yarra but outside of Council's operational control).

3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions summary (inventory)

Emission source category	tonnes CO_2-e
Carbon neutral products and services	0
Construction Materials and Services	466.00
Electricity	0
Land and Sea Transport (fuel)	2347.28
Land and Sea Transport (km)	4.95
Office Equipment & supplies	70.13
Refrigerants	152.18
Stationary Energy	1,875.21
Taxi and Uber	0.57
Waste	66.91
Water	165.31
Total Net Emissions	5,148.54

Uplift factors

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO_2-e
Total Footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)	5,149

Carbon neutral products

- Council has contracted to purchase 100% of its electricity from renewable sources via our award-winning 10-year power purchase agreement (PPA) with Tango Energy and Pacific Hydro; the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project. 2019 was Council's first full year under this contract. We estimate that this saves approximately 6,500 tonnes of CO2-e each year.
- Council purchase 129.7 kg of the below certified carbon neutral paper products:
    - Reflex Copy Paper Carbon Neutral 50% Recycled A4 White
    - Winc Copy Paper Carbon Neutral 80gsm A3 White

- Reflex Copy Paper Carbon Neutral A3 Ultra White

Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a **Market-based approac**h. The Climate Active team are consulting on the use of a market vs location-based approach for electricity accounting with a view to finalising a policy decision for the carbon neutral certification by July 2020. Given a decision is still pending on the accounting way forward, a summary of emissions using both measures has been provided for full disclosure and to ensure year on year comparisons can be made.

Market-based approach electricity summary

Electricity inventory items	kWh	Emissions (kgs CO2e)
Electricity Renewables*	6,089,355	0.00
Electricity Carbon Neutral Power*	6,109,920	-6,605,434.51
Electricity Remaining	-175,405	-189,630.46
Renewable electricity percentage	100%	
Net emissions (Market based approach)		0

** LGC information is contained in section 6 'Additional Information'*

Location-based summary

State/ Territory	Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Full Emission factor (Scope 2 +3)	Emissions (kg CO2e)
Vic	Electricity Renewables*	4,952,910	-1.12	-5,547,259.20
Vic	Electricity Carbon Neutral Power*	6,109,920	-1.12	-6,843,110.40
Vic	Netted off (exported on-site generation)	195,970	-1.02	-199,889.39
Vic	Electricity Total	6,109,920	1.12	6,843,110.40
	Total net electricity emissions		*0.00*	*0.00*

** LGC information is contained in section 6 'Additional Information'*

4. CARBON OFFSETS

Council offset procurement process specifies that Council only procure offsets that meet the Climate Active guidance on e*ligible offset units.* Offsets have historically been retired on either the Markit or APX VCS registries and this is unlikely to change in the foreseeable future.

Offset purchasing strategy: in arrears

Offsets summary

1. Total offsets required for this report	5,149
2. Offsets retired in previous reports and used in this report	3,339
3. Net offsets required for this report	1,810

Project description	Eligible offset units type	Registry unit retired in	Date retired	Serial number (including hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Quantity (tonnes CO2-e)	Quantity used for previous report	Quantity to be banked for future years	Quantity to be used this report
AAC Block Project by Aerocon Buildwell Pvt. Ltd	VCUs	Verra	16 Dec 2020	9199-74009809-74011190-VCS-VCU-1423-VER-IN-4-1549-15072014-31122014-0	2014	1,382	0	0	1,382
AAC Block Project by Aerocon Buildwell Pvt. Ltd	VCUs	Verra	29 Mar 2021	9199-74011191-74011618-VCS-VCU-1423-VER-IN-4-1549-15072014-31122014-0	2014	428	0	0	428
Kalasin Wastewater Treatment, Thailand (300136)	VCUs	Markit	5-Mar-19	5092-211552538-211563728-VCU-005-APX-TH-13-416-01012014-14092014-0	2014	3,339	0	0	3,339
						Total offsets retired this report and used in this report			5,149
						Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports			0

Co-benefits of the AAC Block Project by Aerocon Buildwell Pvt. Ltd

Council has chosen offsets from the AAC Block Project by Aerocon Buildwell Pvt Ltd in Madhya Pradesh, India. Aerocon Buildwell Pvt Ltd claim that the project has created employment opportunities for more than 300 skilled-and unskilled people. The company has provided the following summary of the project:

The project manufactures 150,000 m3 of Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) blocks and 90,000 m3 of Fly Ash bricks. These products are high-quality walling and wall insulating building materials produced using an efficient, low energy intensive brick production process, instead of high energy intensive production processes like brick trench kilns.

Central to the process is the composition and chemistry of the raw material inputs, with fly ash from thermal plants mixed with lime, cement, gypsum, aluminium powder, stone dust and Plaster of Paris. This enables the blocks and bricks to acquire the mechanical properties required during the hydration and curing process without being sintered. Sintering/ firing 'green' bricks in a kiln uses large amounts of thermal energy, sourced mainly from coal combustion plus a small amount of fuelwood. AAC blocks don't require any sintering or kiln heating for block consolidation, so coal use is eliminated and overall energy use is greatly reduced compared to clay bricks.

AAC does require electricity and steam generation. The steam production's energy use is much less than brick kilns use. The project's steam is generated using biomass briquettes produced locally from agricultural residues, displacing the carbon intensive coal/ fuel oils typically used in brick kilns. Leakage of emissions associated with the production of the raw materials used (e.g. cement and lime) are accounted for and netted off from the project's emission reductions.

67% of the raw materials used are waste materials or by-products from other industries. Thermal coal's waste product, fly ash, has the potential to pollute both air and water. Using fly ash in AAC reduces the consumption of natural resources such as land and water (for fly ash disposal), fossil fuels and limestone. No waste material is generated during manufacturing. The project has created employment opportunities for more than 300 skilled-and unskilled people. It reduces air pollution by introducing robust air treatment facilities compared to brick kiln technology. Local and regional air quality improvements occur by avoiding local fossil fuel combustion. Reduced dependence on fossil fuels for brick making helps lower regional dependence on the import and availability of fossil fuels.

The project produces a "green" building material which: is energy efficient; lowers energy consumption per m3 in the production process; is 6 to 10 times better thermal insulation than regular concrete; is non-toxic, fire resistant and has excellent sound absorption. AAC blocks' low density enables the building structure to be lightweight.

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Staff Email Signature Blocks	Certified organisation
Decal on Nissan Leaf Electric Vehicle	Certified organisation
Website	Certified organisation

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

None

LGC INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY TANGO ENERGY AND PACIFIC HYDRO PTY LTD.

QUARTER	Yarra LGC Invoice (MW/cert)
Q3 2019	1,768.21
Q4 2019	1,444.63
Q1 2020	1,462.52
Q2 2020	1,434.56

MREP Partner	Q3 19 TOTAL	Matched Fixed	Matched & Compliance	RET Compliance LGC Volume	Voluntary LGC Volume
Yarra City Council	**1,768,202**	100% (18.60%+81.40%)		329	1,439

MREP Partner	Q4 19 TOTAL	Matched Fixed	Matched & Compliance	RET Compliance LGC Volume	Voluntary LGC Volume
Yarra City Council	**1,544,467**	100% (18.60%+81.40%)		287	1,257

MREP Partner	Q1 20 TOTAL	Matched Fixed	Matched & Compliance	RET Compliance LGC Volume	Voluntary LGC Volume
Yarra City Council	**1,462,525**	100% (19.31%+80.69%)		282	1,180

MREP Partner	Q2 20 TOTAL	Matched Fixed	Matched & Compliance	RET Compliance LGC Volume	Voluntary LGC Volume
Yarra City Council	**1,434,566**	100% (19.31%+80.69%)		277	1,158

Compliance component

Certificate type	Accreditation code	Fuel source	Generation year	Creation year	Generation state	Certificate tag	Status	Certificate serial number	Certificate quantity
LGC	WD00VC32	Wind	2019	2019	VIC	Q3 Yarra City Volun	Invalid Due to surrender	118132 - 118438	307
LGC	WD00VC32	Wind	2019	2019	VIC	Yarra Q3 Compl Adj	Invalid Due to surrender	136777-136798	22
LGC	WD00VC32	Wind	2019	2019	VIC	Yarra Q4 MREP + Ad	registered	122807-123093	287
LGC	WD00VC32	Wind	2020	2020	VIC	Yarra city 1Q20 Comp	Registered	5523 - 5804	282
LGC	WD00VC32	Wind	2020	2020	VIC	YarraCC ComQ2-20	Registered	138754 - 139028	275

Voluntary component

Certificate type	Accreditation code	Fuel source	Generation year	Creation year	Generation state	Certificate tag	Status	Certificate serial number	Certificate quantity
LGC	WD00VC32	Wind	2019	2019	VIC	YARRA Volun 2019 MREP	Invalid due to voluntary surrender	154997 - 156253	1257
LGC	WD00VC32	Wind	2019	2019	VIC	YARRA Volun 2019 MREP	Invalid due to voluntary surrender	14359 - 15808	1450
LGC	WD00VC32	Wind	2020	2020	VIC	Yarra 1Q20 Volunt	Registered	12385 - 13564	1180
LGC	WD00VC32	Wind	2020	2020	VIC	YarraCC VolQ2-20	Registered	70727 - 71877	1151

COPIES OF LGC INVOICES FOR 2019/20 ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

7. APPENDIX 1: EXCLUDED EMISSIONS

To be deemed relevant an emission must meet two of the five relevance criteria. Excluded emissions are detailed below against each of the five criteria.

	Relevance Test				
Excluded Emission	*The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions*	*The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.*	*Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.*	*The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.*	*The emissions are from outsourced activities previously undertaken within the organisation's boundary, or from outsourced activities typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable organisations.*
Municipal waste	✓	×	×	×	×
Community emissions	✓	×	×	×	×

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for organisations

Table 10

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	*Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively*	*Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.*	*Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.*	*Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified*
Purchased Goods and Services (excluding Contractor fuel use, Asphalt, Paper)	Yes	No	No	N/A
Oils and Lubricants purchased via Third Parties	No	Yes	No	N/A
Redevelopment (of Buildings)	Yes	No	No	N/A
Outdoor Events	No	Yes	No	N/A
Contractor Electricity and Gas	No	Yes	No	N/A
Employee Commuting	No	Yes	No	N/A
Council-owned buildings leased to commercial or community groups	No	Yes	No	N/A
Investments	Yes	No	No	N/A