



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**ERBAS AND ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.
TRADING AS ERBAS™**


**ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2020–21**

Australian Government
**Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement**



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Erbas and Associates Pty. Ltd. trading as erbas™
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021 Arrears report
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: Lincoln Merlo Position of signatory: Executive Director Date: 27th April 2022</p>



Australian Government
**Department of Industry, Science,
Energy and Resources**

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Version March 2022. To be used for FY20/21/CY2021 reporting onwards.

1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	255 t CO ₂ -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	49% ACCUs; 51% VERs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	N/A
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Date: 28 July 2022 Name: Alexander Stathakis Organisation: Conversio Pty Ltd
THIRD PARTY VALIDATION	Type 1 Date: 29 July 2022 Name: Katherine Simmons Organisation: KREA Consulting Pty Ltd

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2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This certification covers the Australian business operations of erbas™ (ABN 57 077 132 266).

Organisation description

erbas™ has been established for over 25 years and employs approximately 90 staff across multiple offices in Australia and abroad. Everything we do is focused on successful outcomes for our clients. It has never been our goal to be the biggest. But we are committed to being the best and that makes all the difference. Our fields of consulting include the building engineering fields of Mechanical, Electrical & Communications, Security, AV, Lighting, Hydraulic, Stormwater, Fire Protection, Sustainability and Lift systems. erbas™ SUSTAIN is a subsidiary brand of erbas™. Through our ESD team, we strive to encompass good sustainability principles in all our projects.

The reporting boundaries of our GHG inventory encompass our facilities at

- Level 3, 116 Hardware Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
- Level 1, 15 Atchison Street, St Leonards, NSW 2065

We also have a regional office located in Echuca/Moama (VIC/NSW) for 1 person (WFH). The non-quantified emissions from this office location are covered under the 5% uplift.

Our GHG inventory quantifies carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O), measured in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (CO₂-e).

We are not aware of any relevant sources of hydrofluorocarbons, (HFC), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆), or nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃) within our operational boundary.

“Through erbas™ SUSTAIN we offer sustainability and wellbeing solutions to our clients.

It is important to us that we practice what we preach, so we committed to being Carbon Neutral.

Our approach also enabled us to support renewable projects and indigenous community projects.”

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. This may include emissions that are not identified as arising due to the operations of the certified entity, however, are **optionally included**.

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 in Appendix C.

Outside the emissions boundary

Excluded emissions are those that have been assessed as not relevant to an organisation's or precinct'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 in Appendix D.

Inside emissions boundary

Quantified

Air Transport (km)
Cleaning and Chemicals
Construction Materials and Services
Electricity
ICT services and equipment
Land and Sea Transport (km)
Office equipment & supplies
Professional Services
Stationary Energy
Waste
Water
Working from home

Non-quantified

Food
Postage, courier, and freight
Refrigerants

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

No relevant emission sources have been excluded.

Data management plan for non-quantified sources

There are no non-quantified sources in the emission boundary that require a data management plan.

4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

erbas™'s strategy for reduction of carbon emissions is two-fold and comprises firstly of the utilisation of continuous improvements resulting from the collaborations between business development elements and knowledge sharing from the sustainability wing of erbas™ SUSTAIN (which is a subsidiary brand of erbas™) and secondly, consider key direct emission reduction actions across all offices nationally and overseas. The firm is constantly looking to adopt and improve upon existing sustainable business measures that not only assist in reducing the firm's environmental footprint but are also coherent with other key aspects of sustainability e.g. benefiting local economies, social elements such as improving the lives of indigenous communities and people well-being which includes the physical and mental well-being of all our stakeholders and especially our highly valued staff and the communities we work in. erbas™ have developed sustainability master plans for private and independent schools, are rolling out sustainability initiatives for multinational logistics companies, and have long standing consultancy panel arrangements with numerous institutional and private entities such as Councils and Universities. In setting the emission reduction strategy, erbas™ firmly believes that any measures and actions adopted or developed should provide long-term quantifiable contributions to the company's wider sustainability goals.

erbas™ considers the following actions as part of the Emissions Reduction Strategy.

Education and Research:

- Establishing clear knowledge-sharing pathways for the firm's teams to share their technical acumen, and align internally on the business strategy and R&D pathways to develop strong collaborations between management, core building services engineering and sustainability teams. This not only enhances knowledge and awareness of key sustainability principles and contemporary industrial 'know-how' but also assists in the alignment of people's professional values with the firm's long-term sustainability goals.
- Investment in ICT i.e., hardware, technical software, and qualified professionals to support research and knowledge sharing goals.

Energy:

- Monitoring the energy usage of erbas™'s office facilities via benchmarking against rating systems such as NABERS Tenancy Rating, feeding back to our engineering and sustainability teams and implementing measures for reduction of electricity usage such as high-efficiency air-conditioning, and lighting.
- Providing erbas™ staff with energy-efficient IT systems such as laptop computers and energy-efficient LED monitors.
- Educating erbas™ staff working in remote working conditions on sustainability best practices in home offices including recommendations for indoor environmental quality, energy usage and ergonomics.

Water:

- Monitoring the water usage of the offices, feeding back to the company's engineering and sustainability teams and implementing measures to reduce water usage such as installation/replacement of high-efficiency hydraulic fixtures in existing kitchens and bathrooms.

Waste:

- Develop waste management practices to improve recycling strategies, track waste streams and optimise waste handling operations to maximise recycling efforts.

Indoor Environmental Quality:

- Monitor IEQ in the offices and utilise the knowledge and experience of our core-engineering and sustainability teams to suggest and implement improvements. Higher IEQ improves staff health and wellbeing which in turn can improve their efficiency and hence emissions.

Transport:

- Encourage flexible working arrangements and work-life balance and provide high-quality ICT facilities to enable seamless communication in hybrid working modes which can directly reduce travel emissions.
- Encourage the use of public transport and promote the use of end-of-trip facilities to staff to encourage cycling/walking and other sustainable modes of commute.

Sustainable Procurement:

- Develop internal sustainable procurement policies to reduce emissions associated with office stationery, cleaning products and office fit-out refurbishments.

As this is erbas™'s first year at carbon neutral certification, erbas™ commits to reviewing the reduction strategy year-on-year for potential reductions in company emissions.

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

Australian Paper carbon neutral office paper.

Organisation emissions summary

The electricity summary is available in Appendix B. Electricity emissions were calculated using a location-based approach.

Emission category	Sum of total emissions (tCO ₂ -e)
Air Transport (km)	5.76
Cleaning and Chemicals	1.46
Construction Materials and Services	0.32
Electricity	127.79
ICT services and equipment	46.08
Land and Sea Transport (km)	35.47
Office equipment & supplies	1.09
Professional Services	3.36
Stationary Energy	4.16
Waste	8.03
Water	1.28
Working from home	7.69
Total	242.50

Uplift factors

An uplift factor is an upwards adjustment to the total carbon inventory to account for relevant emissions, which can't be reasonably quantified or estimated. This conservative accounting approach helps ensure the integrity of the carbon neutral claim.

Reason for uplift factor	tCO ₂ -e
Climate Active mandated 5% to account for immaterial non-quantified items	12.16
Total of all uplift factors	12.16
Total footprint to offset <i>(total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)</i>	254.63

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

In arrears

1.	Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	255 t CO ₂ -e
2.	Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	255
3.	Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	N/A

Co-benefits

Paroo River North Environmental Project – The savannas in northern Australia burn predominately in the late dry season, resulting in large, hot, and intense fires. These fires produce more GHG emissions and burn a greater proportion of dead organic matter than fires that occur under cooler, moister conditions in the early dry season. Savanna fire management projects aim to reduce the frequency and extent of late dry season fires in savannas, resulting in fewer GHG and more carbon being sequestered in dead organic matter.

The **Merepah Fire Project, Cape York**, involves strategic fire management, including aerial and ground burning, as well as fire suppression to reduce late dry-season wildfires, in turn decreasing carbon emissions.

The **Akbük Wind Farm Project** involves the development of 31.5 MW of onshore wind farm in the region of Aydın Province, Didim District in Turkey. The purpose of the project activity is to generate renewable electrical energy utilising wind as the primary energy source and deliver this energy to the national grid of Turkey while displacing the same amount of electricity that would otherwise be generated by the fossil fuel plants dominating the national grid. This project will also benefit local communities by providing high quality jobs requiring professional skills and training.

Eligible offsets retirement summary

Offsets cancelled for Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification											
Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Stapled quantity	Eligible quantity (tCO ₂ -e)	Eligible quantity used for previous reporting periods	Eligible quantity banked for future reporting periods	Eligible quantity used for this reporting period	Percentage of total (%) ¹
Akbuk Wind Power Plant, Turkey	VER	Gold Standard Impact Registry	14 June 2022	GS1-1-TR-GS2464-12-2016-19157-2120-2243	2016		124	0	0	124	49%
Akbuk Wind Power Plant, Turkey	VER	Gold Standard Impact Registry	27 July 2022	GS1-1-TR-GS2464-12-2016-19157-2244-2253	2016		10	0	0	7	3%
Merepah Fire Project	ACCU	ANREU	08 June 2022	3,782,819,106-3,782,819,124	2018-19		19	0	0	19	7%
Merepah Fire Project	ACCU	ANREU	08 June 2022	3,782,820,809-3,782,820,874	2018-19		66	0	0	66	26%
Paroo River North Environmental Project	ACCU	ANREU	08 June 2022	8,325,716,356-8,325,716,394	2020-21		39	0	0	39	15%
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report										255	
Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports										0	

¹ Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of total
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUUs)	124	49%
Verified Emissions Reductions (VERs)	124	51%



7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

The following RECs have been surrendered to reduce electricity emissions under the market-based reporting method.

1. Large-scale Generation certificates (LGCs)*	N/A
2. Other RECs	N/A

* LGCs in this table only include those surrendered voluntarily (including through PPA arrangements), and does not include those surrendered in relation to the LRET, GreenPower, and jurisdictional renewables.

Project supported by LGC purchase	Eligible units	Registry	Surrender date	Accreditation code (LGCs)	Certificate serial number	Generation year	Quantity (MWh)	Fuel source	Location
N/A									
Total LGCs surrendered this report and used in this report							N/A		

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional offsets cancelled for purposes other than Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification

Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Eligible Quantity (tCO ₂ -e)	Purpose of cancellation
Akbuk Wind Power Plant, Turkey	VER	Gold Standard Impact Registry	27 July 2022	GS1-1-TR-GS2464-12-2016-19157-2251-2253	2016	3	Minimise risk of offset shortfall

APPENDIX B: ELECTRICITY SUMMARY

Electricity emissions are calculated using a location-based approach.

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.

Market-based approach summary			
Market-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)	Renewable Percentage of total
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	0	0	0%
Total non-grid electricity	0	0	0%
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs & Precinct LGCs)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs retired)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	0	0	0%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	24,738	0	19%
Residual Electricity	105,978	113,723	0%
Total grid electricity	130,716	113,723	19%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	130,716	113,723	19%
Electricity renewables	24,738	0	
Residual Electricity	105,978	113,723	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)		113,723	
Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	18.93%		
Mandatory	18.93%		
Voluntary	0.00%		
Behind the meter	0.00%		
Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (tCO₂-e)	114		

Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%

Location-based approach summary

Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)
NSW	77,306	62,618	6,958
VIC	53,410	52,342	5,875
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	130,716	114,960	12,833
NSW	0	0	0
VIC	0	0	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	0	0	0
Total Electricity Consumed	130,716	114,960	12,833

Emission Footprint (tCO₂-e)	128
Scope 2 Emissions (tCO ₂ -e)	115
Scope 3 Emissions (tCO ₂ -e)	13

Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)
N/A	0	0

Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity. The emissions have been offset by another Climate Active member through their Product certification.

APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Non-quantified emission sources

The following emission sources have been assessed as relevant, are captured within the emissions boundary, but are not measured (quantified) in the carbon inventory. These emissions are accounted for through an uplift factor. They have been non-quantified due to one of the following reasons:

1. **Immaterial** <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively
2. **Cost effective** Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.
3. **Data unavailable** Data is unavailable, but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.
4. **Maintenance** Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified.

Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	(1) Immaterial	(2) Cost effective (but uplift applied)	(3) Data unavailable (but uplift applied & data plan in place)	(4) Maintenance
Food	Yes	No	No	No
Postage, courier, and freight	Yes	No	No	No
Refrigerants	Yes	No	No	No

APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Excluded emission sources

The below emission sources have been assessed as not relevant to an organisation's or precinct's operations and are outside of its emissions boundary. These emissions are not part of the carbon neutral claim. Emission sources considered for relevance must be included within the certification boundary if they meet two of the five relevance criteria. Those which only meet one condition of the relevance test can be excluded from the certification 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 organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions
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 organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.
4. **Stakeholders** Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.
5. **Outsourcing** 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.

Emission sources tested for relevance	(1) Size	(2) Influence	(3) Risk	(4) Stakeholders	(5) Outsourcing	Included in boundary?
Not applicable						



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