



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

AUSTRALIAN ESSENTIAL SERVICES GROUP

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION

CY2021

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Australian Essential Services Group
REPORTING PERIOD	1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 Arrears Report
DECLARATION	<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>



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	220 tCO ₂ -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	100% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	N/A
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	8/9/2020 James Endean Pangolin Associates Next technical assessment due: CY2023 Submission

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2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

Our organisation certification covers the business operations of Australian Essential Services Group Pty Ltd (AESG), ABN 15 096 873 004.

The organisational boundary included the following locations and facilities:

- Head Office, located at 2 / 120 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe Victoria 3079
- Field Inspectors who operate throughout Victoria, NSW, SA, Queensland, WA, ACT, NT and Tasmania

Organisation description

Australian Essential Services Group is a national independent auditor providing fire safety services. Our specialised audits review the maintenance and compliance of fire equipment, building essential safety measures and building health and safety. Our services extend to compliance consultation for properties under Building Notice Orders, providing insurance reports, in-depth investigation and management of combustible cladding works, as well as fire door tagging and compliance, evacuation diagrams, slip testing and ten-year maintenance plans.

Our long-standing relationships with our clients extend back to our establishment in 1996 and we now provide services to more than 800 organisations across Australia. We provide our auditing and safety measures services to owners' corporations, property management, aged care, health services, government and semi-government organisations, industrial, retail and commercial clients.

AESG has auditors located in metropolitan Melbourne and throughout regional Victoria, Sydney and regional New South Wales, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Darwin and in Tasmania. We are committed to supporting regional communities through local employment.

Our operations are based in Melbourne, where our team coordinates the completion and delivery of more than 25,000 inspections and real-time reports each year. Our Quality Management System has been certified with ISO 9001 (2015) accreditation.

“The world is clearly being adversely impacted by climate change. We believe at AESG that it is the responsibility of everyone to make a difference no matter how big or small in safeguarding our future.”

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 at 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 at Appendix D.

Inside emissions boundary		Outside emission boundary
<p><u>Quantified</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodation and facilities Cleaning and Chemicals Climate Active Carbon Neutral Products and Services Electricity Food ICT services and equipment Machinery and vehicles Office equipment & supplies Postage, courier, and freight Products Professional Services Transport (Air) Transport (Land and Sea) Waste Water Working from home 	<p><u>Non-quantified</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refrigerants 	<p><u>Excluded</u></p> <p>N/A</p>

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

Australian Essential Services Group's emission reduction strategy involves:

- **General Measures**
 - Measuring and reporting on our energy consumption and carbon footprint
 - Acting on opportunities to reduce our emissions by improving operational efficiencies
- **Scope 1 emissions will be reduced by:**
 - Embracing technologies such as hybrid motor vehicles
 - We aim to have a fleet of hybrid vehicles by the end of 2023
 - We aim to have a fleet of electric vehicles by the end of 2025
 - This initiative is expected to reduce our footprint by approximately 70t CO₂e (approximately 32% of the total 2021 footprint) by the end of 2026.
- **Scope 2 emissions will be reduced by:**
 - Transitioning to 100% carbon neutral or renewable electricity.
 - This initiative is expected to reduce our footprint by approximately 6t CO₂e (approximately 3% of the total 2021 footprint) by the end of 2022.
- **Scope 3 emissions will be reduced by:**
 - Investing in technological innovations to reduce our resource consumption
 - We aim to change our technology/computer hardware to more energy efficient and power saving options by the end of 2023
 - Continuing to employ locally, to both support regional communities and reduce our travel footprint and significantly reduce air travel
 - Being as close as possible to being a “paperless office” and using carbon neutral paper when we need to print.
 - Reducing waste, and recycling wherever possible.
 - Encouraging our suppliers to reduce carbon impacts in our supply chain
 - Educating and engaging our team to reduce work-related emissions
 - We are aiming to move into a workspace/environment that we own outright, which would give us greater control for a greater reduction strategy (we will not have limitations by not leasing the workspace) – we hope to have moved into another location by mid-2024
 - These initiatives are expected to reduce our footprint by approximately 33t CO₂e by 2026 (approximately 15% of the total 2021 footprint)

Based on the above initiatives, Australian Essential Services Group's emission reduction target over the next 5 years (relative the to AESG's 2021 footprint) is as follows:

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
AESG Emission Reduction Target (Relative to 2021)	0.0%	12.5%	20.0%	35.0%	45.0%	50.0%

Australian Essential Services Group will continue to offset our residual annual carbon emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by purchasing offsets that meet the requirements of Climate Active.

Emissions reduction actions

- Purchased 6 hybrid vehicles
- Sold 5 petrol/diesel vehicles
- Commenced purchasing Carbon Neutral electricity from Energy Australia
- Introduced a Seasonal Fruit Policy
- Purchased a soft plastics recycling bin
- Changed lights in the office to energy saving/efficient globes
- All general office waste is sorted and recycled - mobile devices are returned for recycling. AESG has engaged a commercial recycling service for papers and cardboard; we have a paid recycling service for glass; we sort hard and soft plastics and return them to appropriate recycle depots.

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year		Total tCO ₂ -e
Base year/Year 1:	2020	193.8
Year 2:	2021	219.7

Significant changes in emissions

Emission source name	Current year (tCO ₂ -e and/ or activity data)	Previous year (tCO ₂ -e and/ or activity data)	Detailed reason for change
Motor Vehicles	32.2 tCO ₂ -e	19.0 tCO ₂ e	The increase in emission for these emission sources is a direct result of the business returning to more normal operating conditions with the easing of restrictions under the Covid Pandemic.
Short economy class flights (>400km, ≤3,700km)	17.0 tCO ₂ -e	10.5 tCO ₂ e	
Diesel oil post-2004	45.7 tCO ₂ -e	53.2 tCO ₂ e	
Petrol / Gasoline post-2004	49.2 tCO ₂ -e	29.5 tCO ₂ e	
Hybrid: Medium Car	0.0 tCO ₂ -e	20.0 tCO ₂ e	
Petrol: Small Car	17.2 tCO ₂ -e	11.0 tCO ₂ e	

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

Since April 2021 AESG has been using Climate Active Certified carbon neutral electricity provided by Energy Australia.

This submission was prepared by Pangolin Associates, which is a Climate Active Certified carbon neutral service.

Organisation emissions summary

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

Emission category	Sum of total emissions (tCO ₂ -e)
Accommodation and facilities	7.0
Cleaning and Chemicals	1.1
Climate Active Carbon Neutral Products and Services	0.0
Electricity	6.7
Food	1.9
ICT services and equipment	10.6
Machinery and vehicles	32.2
Office equipment & supplies	2.7
Postage, courier and freight	0.8
Products	2.1
Professional Services	0.6
Transport (Air)	17.0
Transport (Land and Sea)	132.4
Waste	1.8
Water	0.1
Working from home	2.7
Total	219.7

Uplift factors

N/A

Reason for uplift factor	tCO ₂ -e
N/A	0.0
Total of all uplift factors	0.0
Total footprint to offset <i>(total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)</i>	219.7

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

In arrears	
1. Total number of eligible offsets banked from last year's report	61
2. Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	220
3. Total eligible offsets required for this report	159
4. Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	200
5. Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	41

Co-benefits

CECIC HKC Gansu Changma Wind Power project – Changma, China

The purpose of the project is to generate electricity using wind power resources in the region and to deliver to the Northwest China Power Grid (NWPG) which is predominated by connected fossil fuel fired power plants. The project aims to generate a total of 431,949 MWh of clean electricity to the NWPG annually and has been estimated to reduce GHG emissions by 430,588 tCO₂-e annually. The wind farm provides a much-needed boost in electricity for the area. China's rapid economic growth has resulted in frequent power outages. A local source of clean electricity gives energy security to the region. It is also a source of employment and educational opportunities for the community.

Yuxian Baiyantuo 49.3 MW Wind Power Project - Hebei Province, China

Yuxian Baiyantuo 49.3 MW Wind Power Project is located in Yu County, Zhangjiakou City, Hebei Province, China. The total installed capacity of the Project is 49.3 MW equipped with 58 sets of wind turbines with a unit installed capacity of 850 kW.

This Project will not only supply renewable electricity to the grid, but also contribute to sustainable development of the local community, the host country and the world by means of:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions compared to a business-as-usual scenario.

- Diversifying power sources and mitigating the demand and supply contradiction.
- Helping to stimulate the growth of the wind power industry and encourage and promote the technology.
- Progress and commercial popularization of grid-connected renewable power generation projects in China.
- Reducing the emission of other pollutants resulting from the power generation industry in China, compared to a business-as-usual scenario.
- Creating employment opportunities for local community during the operation period of the Project and creating several employment opportunities for local community during the construction period of the Project.

Natural Capital Units – Orana Park

The Yuxian Baiyantuo 49.3 MW Wind Power Project credits are stapled with an Australian vegetation offset from Bendigo, Victoria (see project details on the following page). We have selected Orana Park, to reflect our company's Victorian heritage and large number of regional clients. The project is ambitious, encompassing regenerative farming, threatened species recovery and work into bio-links.

Orana Park

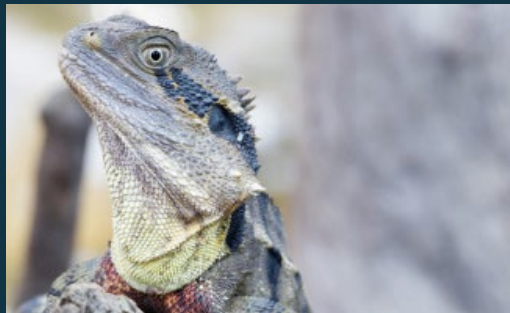
Orana Park is a 4,500ha farm northwest of Bendigo, Victoria owned and operated by the Tiverton Agriculture Impact Fund (TAIF).

TAIF's work with Orana Park will see the full restoration of riparian vegetation along the banks of the 33km Loddon river as well as a purpose-built wildlife sanctuary.

Orana Sanctuary has been built for Australian threatened species protection and breeding on 200ha of predator- proof land.

The sanctuary will become a new home for the critically endangered Eastern Bettong and Bush Stone Curlew incubation and recovery programs.

Size Hectares	4,580
Riparian Protection	33km
Biodiversity Corridors	800ha
Soil Sequestration	300,000t CO2
Threatened Species	Eastern Bettong
NCU Allocation	95,000



MT ROTHWELL
NATURAL CAPITAL



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 (%)
CECIC HKC Gansu Changma Wind Power project in China	VCU	Verra	25/8/2020	7822-430602343-430602542-VCU-034-APX-CN-1-717-01012019-28092019-0	2019	0	200	139	0	61	27.7%
Yuxian Baiyantuo 49.3 MW Wind Power Project	VCU	Verra	05/06/2022	8090-454685058-454685257-VCU-034-APX-CN-1-808-01012016-31122016-0	2016	200	200	0	41	159	72.3%
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report										220	
Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports									41		
Type of offset units		Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)					Percentage of total				
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)		220					100%				

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

vegetationlink

Our reference: VC_CFL-3071_01 VOL001- NCU-023

14 June 2022

Matthew Gale

Operations Manager
Australian Essential Services Group
Suite 2, 120 Upper Heidelberg Rd
Ivanhoe VIC 3179

Dear Matthew

RE: Natural Capital Units issued

I can confirm that the following units have been recorded and allocated from the Orana Natural Capital Project:

Date	Project Reference	Serial Numbers	Amount
14.06.2022	Retired on behalf of Australian Essential Services Group for CY2021 & CY2022 under Climate Active	19437-19636	200

One Natural Capital Unit represents the permanent protection of one square metre of very high conservation significance native habitat in Serpentine, Victoria.

Sincerely,



Mel Pritchard

Registrar

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)	1,229	0	19%
Residual Electricity	5,401	5,371	0%
Total grid electricity	6,631	5,371	19%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	6,631	5,371	19%
Electricity renewables	1,229	0	
Residual Electricity	5,401	5,371	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)		5,371	
Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	18.54%		
Mandatory	18.54%		
Voluntary	0.00%		
Behind the meter	0.00%		

Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO2e) 5

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 (kgCO2e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO2e)
Vic	6,631	6,034	663
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	6,631	6,034	663
Vic	0	0	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	0	0	0
Total Electricity Consumed	6,631	6,034	663

Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	7
<i>Scope 2 Emissions (TCO2e)</i>	6
<i>Scope 3 Emissions (TCO2e)</i>	1

Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO2e)
EnergyAustralia	14,414	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 sources emissions 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
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?
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



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