

# PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**OCULUS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE** 

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION CY2021

#### Australian Government

# Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement

# OCULUS





NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Oculus Landscape Architecture; Urban Design; Environmental Planning Pty Limited, trading as Oculus
REPORTING PERIOD	Calendar year 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 Arrears report
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.



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# 1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	100.0 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	100% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	88.74%
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	CY2020 Sarah Colquhoun Pangolin Associates Next technical assessment due: CY2023

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## 2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

#### **Description of certification**

This inventory has been prepared for the calendar year from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 and covers the Australian business operations of Oculus Landscape Architecture; Urban Design; Environmental Planning Pty Limited, trading as OCULUS, ABN: 34 074 882 447.

The operational boundary has been defined based on an operational control test, in accordance with the principles of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007. This includes the following facilities:

- Level 1, 5 Wilson Street Newtown, NSW 2042
- Level 2, 33 Guildford Lane Melbourne, VIC 3000
- Pavillion Studios, K14 Kendall lane Canberra, ACT 2600

Emission from the Washington office have not been included due to its geographical location not being covered under the Climate Active certification.

The methods used for collating data, performing calculations and presenting the carbon account are in accordance with the following standards:

- Climate Active Standards
- The Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (Revised Edition)
- National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008

Organisation description

OCULUS, ABN 34 074 882 447, is an urban design and landscape architectural consultancy offering design services to a range of private and public sector clients. We employ approximately 40 staff across three Australian offices: Sydney, Melbourne, and Canberra. We have a close affiliation with a separately owned practice in Washington D.C. OCULUS is wholly owned by its sole director, Robert Earl.

"Climate Active certification will allow us to embed sustainability in everything we do and amplify our environmental impact."



## 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.



# **Outside emission** Inside emissions boundary boundary **Excluded** Quantified Non-quantified N/A Accommodation and facilities Water Cleaning and Chemicals Electricity Food ICT services and equipment Office equipment & supplies Postage, courier and freight **Professional Services** Refrigerants Transport (Air) Transport (Land and Sea) Waste Working from home

#### 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**

OCULUS is dedicated to protecting the environment and fostering a robust and engaged society. We believe that we can make a positive contribution to the physical and social environment and create places that people value and retain.

As a business we seek to do good in the world by reducing our environmental and ecological impact whilst embedding sustainability practices in our workplace and projects. OCULUS has developed an emissions reduction strategy for the next 10 years, in consultation with all employees, which reflects these values and commitment. Our Objectives and Targets are outlined below;

Objectives	Targets	Measure				
Short term objectives – within 1	2 months					
To reduce electricity emissions	100% GreenPower by 2022	Have achieved – Confirmed through electricity invoices				
To reduce in person meetings and prioritise virtual meetings, where possible	For majority of meetings to be attended virtually and only travel for in person meetings when necessary, such as for site visits etc	Review and monitor individual monthly meeting attendance and travel expenditure				
To minimise Office Grocery Deliveries	To ensure all grocery deliveries are monthly only, to both Studios by 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	To audit orders on a monthly basis				
To ensure we only maintain IT Services/Software as required	Review by 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 and make amendments, cancellations as needed	To audit subscription lists annually on 30 <sup>th</sup> June each year				
To review and develop guidelines around Archive storage	Review by 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022 to ensure we are only storing Job Folders, as per legal requirements.	To audit Archive storage in January each year, to ensure older projects are being removed.				
To continue our Waste recycling program based on: Refuse, reduce, reuse or recycle	To maintain our existing program and ensure compliance	To monitor on a weekly basis by nominated Waste Supervisor				
Where possible to use Carbon Neutral and/or Climate Active accredited Suppliers for Office Supplies	To review current Suppliers by 31st December 2022 and update or change existing supplier arrangements, where identified.	To audit annually each January				
Long term objectives – within 1	-5 years					
To minimise local Travel and where possible use Public Transport and or ride share with +2 people	To achieve 75% usage of Public Transport and/or Shared carpool by December 2023	To monitor and review monthly travel expenses and audit in December each year.				
To only collaborate with other Professional Services who align with our Values and Climate Active accreditation.	To review all existing collaborators and Professional Service providers and rate their value alignment.	To audit through our consultant register annually each December				
To minimise Flights and Accommodation	By 2025 to only approve flights and accommodation when considered essential	To monitor and review monthly approvals for flight and accommodation expenses				
Longer term objectives – 10 years						
To achieve a minimum of a 30% reduction of emissions.	By 2030, which is 10 years from our base year of 2020	Annual Climate Active Data Collection				



#### **Emissions reduction actions**

During the 2021 Calendar year OCULUS achieved a significant change in emissions in the following areas by focusing on our Objectives and Targets, as identified and agreed;

- Changing Electricity plans to 100% GreenPower
- Reducing employee travel and holding virtual meetings rather than in-person, where possible
- Changing to Carbon Neutral Reflex A3 & A4 copy paper in 2021

OCULUS will continue to focus on achieving their objectives and targets to reduce emissions further, as outlined for the Calendar year in 2022.



# **5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY**

#### **Emissions over time**

Emissions since base year				
			Total tCO <sub>2</sub> -e	
Base Year/Year 1:	CY2020		145.1	
Year 2:	CY2021		100.0	

#### Significant changes in emissions

The table below outlines any significant (+/- 5%) change in the total emissions in CY2021 compared to the previous year. Most notably, OCULUS changed over to GreenPower which has shown a reduction in emission compared to the previous year.

Emission source name	Current year (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Previous year (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Detailed reason for change
Electricity (Market based)	6.0	32.7	Converted to 100% GreenPower
Computer and technical services	36.6	35.9	Increase in employee numbers but minimised increase in services
Short economy class flights	5.2	6.3	Local travel minimised
Working from home	8.0	14.1	Employees worked more at the office during 2021

### Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

OCULUS purchased carbon neutral reflex paper in CY2021.

This assessment and Climate Active submission was prepared with the assistance of <u>Pangolin Associates</u> and these services are also carbon neutral.



### Organisation emissions summary

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

Emission category	Sum of total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.9
Cleaning and Chemicals	2.6
Electricity	6.0
Food	3.6
ICT services and equipment	52.1
Office equipment & supplies	3.5
Postage, courier and freight	0.4
Professional Services	3.1
Refrigerants	1.5
Transport (Air)	5.2
Transport (Land and Sea)	9.9
Waste	3.1
Working from home	8.0
Total	100.0

#### **Uplift factors**

N/A.

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 <sub>2</sub> -e
N/A		
	Total of all uplift factors	
	Total footprint to offset (total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)	100.0



### **6.CARBON OFFSETS**

#### Offsets retirement approach

In a	arrears	
1.	Total number of eligible offsets banked from last year's report	0
2.	Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	100
3.	Total eligible offsets required for this report	100
4.	Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	100
5.	Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	0

#### Co-benefits

# AAC Block Project By Aerocon Buildwell Pvt. Ltd. (EKIESL- June 2016-02) Social Benefits:

Improvement of air quality in the nearby region: With the avoidance of fossil fuel combustion in the proposed project activity, the exhaust gas emissions and direct air pollution is being substantially reduced in the neighbouring region.

Better quality employment creation: The proposed project activity is situated in the Ujjain district, Madhya Pradesh state, India. Since the proposed project activity is a green

field project it has created employment opportunities for more than 300 skilled-unskilled people in the entire project area.

#### **Economic Benefits:**

Reduction of dependence from fossil fuels: The project activity reduces to the maximum the dependence of the brick manufacturing process from fossil fuels. This reduces the overall dependence of the whole region from the imports and availability of fossil fuels, thereby allowing other industries to use energy resources.

#### **Technical Benefits:**

Enhancement of the use of green building material: The following are the ecological green building quality and characteristics of AAC blocks:

- · Energy efficient
- Lower energy consumption per cum in production process
- Best thermal insulation, 6 to 10 times better than regular concrete
- Non-toxic, environmentally friendly
- Un-suppressed fire resistance
- Excellent sound absorption
- · No waste of raw materials



# 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 <sub>2</sub> -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 (%)
AAC Block Project By Aerocon Buildwell Pvt. Ltd. (EKIESL- June 2016-02); stapled with Greenfleet Biodiversity offsets	VCUs	Verra	15 May 2022	11962-371337789- 371337888-VCS-VCU- 1423-VER-IN-4-1549- 01072016-31122016-0	2016	100	100	0	0	100	100%
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report						100					
	Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports						0				

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of total
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	100	100%



# 7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

#### Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A.

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

1. Large-scale Ge	eneration certificates (LGCs)*	0	
2. Other RECs		0	

<sup>\*</sup> 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					0				



# APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### **Additional Biodiversity Offsets**

OCULUS has also been offsetting additional carbon emissions via native tree planting by purchasing an additional 100 biodiversity offsets. The forests address critical deforestation, restore habitat for wildlife including many endangered species, capture carbon emissions to protect our climate, reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and economically support local and indigenous communities.



# APPENDIX B: ELECTRICITY SUMMARY

Electricity emissions are calculated using a market-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	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO2e)	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	34,102	0	63%
Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs retired)	3,666	0	7%
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	834	0	2%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	9,140	0	17%
Residual Electricity	6,056	6,022	0%
Total grid electricity	53,798	6,022	89%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	53,798	6,022	89%
Electricity renewables	47,742	0	
Residual Electricity	6,056	6,022	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emissions (kgCO2e)		6,022	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	88.74%
Mandatory	25.35%
Voluntary	63.39%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	6
Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percei	ntage can be above 100%
Voluntary includes LGCs retired by the ACT (MWh)	3



# Location Based Approach Summary

Location Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO2e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO2e)
ACT	4,500	3,510	315
NSW	29,290	22,846	2,050
VIC	20,008	18,207	2,001
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	53,798	44,563	4,366
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0
VIC	0	0	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	0	0	0
Total Electricity Consumed	53,798	44,563	4,366

Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	49
Scope 2 Emissions (TCO2e)	45
Scope 3 Emissions (TCO2e)	4

#### Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO2e)
N/A	0	0
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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 <u>one</u> 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. <u>Data unavailable</u> 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
Water	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:

- <u>Size</u> The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions
- 2. <u>Influence</u> 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.
- 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						





