



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

PROTECT GROUP

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION


FY2021–22

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Protect Services P/L, the trustee for Protect Services Trust
REPORTING PERIOD	1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022 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></p> <p>Paulo Ramos Chief Technology Officer 02/05/2023</p>



Australian Government
**Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water**

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Version March 2022.



1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	130 tCO ₂ -e (current year only)
OFFSETS BOUGHT	100% VERs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	Total renewables 51%
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	06/12/2022 Dinesh Jayasuriya Susmet Next technical assessment due: FY2024-25

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2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This carbon neutral certification is for the business operations of Protect Services Pty Ltd, the trustee for Protect Services Trust, ABN 38 975 124 058.

“Being a part of the Climate Active initiative aligns us to our values and allows us to give back to society.”

Organisation description

This certification covers the Protect Group (Protect).

Based in Docklands, Protect is Australia's leading industry severance and income protection insurance scheme, employing more than 20 staff who service over 35,000 workers and 1,200 participating employers. Protect represents diverse industries including electrical trades, maritime, construction, fire rescue, service maintenance, manufacturing, rail, power, supply and distribution, and oil and petrochemical.

Protect has been setting the pace for industry severance schemes offering its members superior benefits, including tax-free redundancy payments, income protection and counselling. Protect is the industry scheme preferred by an ever-growing number of workers and employers throughout the nation.

Protect is composed of Protect Severance Scheme - original fund now closed to new members and contributions (PSS)[ABN: 98 395 548 596], Protect Severance Scheme No. 2 (PSS2) [ABN: 52 967 672 143] and the Protect Services Trust (PST) [ABN: 38 975 124 058]. Employer contributions to the scheme go into PSS2 while administrative services to PSS and PSS2 are provided by PST.

Protect is claiming carbon neutrality under the ‘Organisation’ certification category with an operational control emission boundary. Under this boundary, most emissions fall under the PST site in Docklands, Victoria. As both PSS and PSS2 hold the fund which is classified as ‘Managed investments and client services’, emissions from PSS and PSS2 are excluded in accordance with the Climate Active relevant test.

Protect also has a field officer employee based in Western Australia. Due to the nature of the role, Protect does not have any site in Western Australia and that employee works purely on the road or at client sites. The transport fuel for that employee has been captured in the carbon emissions inventory.

The following subsidiaries / child companies are also included within this certification.

Legal entity name	ABN	ACN
Protect Severance Scheme	98 395 548 596	
Protect Severance Scheme No. 2	52 967 672 143	
Protect Services Trust	38 975 124 058	

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> <p>Accommodation and facilities</p> <p>Climate Active Carbon Neutral Products and Services</p> <p>Electricity</p> <p>Food</p> <p>ICT services and equipment</p> <p>Office equipment & supplies</p> <p>Postage, courier and freight</p> <p>Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)</p> <p>Transport (Air)</p> <p>Transport (Land and Sea)</p> <p>Waste</p> <p>Water</p>	<p><u>Non-quantified</u></p> <p>Working From Home (WFH - voluntary)</p> <p>Transport (Land and Sea) – Rental Vehicles</p> <p>Refrigerants</p>	<p><u>Excluded</u></p> <p>Managed Investment and Client Services</p>

Data management plan for non-quantified sources

- Working From Home (WFH)
 - Protect has two types of WFH emissions: WFH due to disaster-related office closures, and staff voluntarily working from home despite the office being open.
 - The disaster-related WFH emissions are expected to be temporary and these emissions were quantified for the current period by increasing the office open days.
 - The voluntary WFH emissions could not be quantified as these operations are yet to stabilise and the data is uncertain/unavailable. It is expected that these emissions are less than 5% of Protect's overall emissions.
 - The voluntary WFH emissions are expected to be quantified in the future if it remains relevant.
- Transport (Land and Sea) – Rental Vehicles: immaterial or non-existent. May be included in the future if there is increased activity.
- Refrigerants: immaterial.

The data management plan below outlines how more rigorous quantification can be achieved for material (greater than 1%) non-quantified emission sources.

4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Protect commits to reduce our total emissions by 10% by 2024-25 (year 9), from a 2018-19 base year (year 3).

Due to the COVID-19 disruptions to our business-as-usual operations during FY2019-20 (year 4), FY2020-21 (year 5) and FY2021-22 (year 6), the reported emissions for those years do not reflect Protect's business-as-usual emissions. Protect expects business-as-usual operations to recommence from FY2022-23 (year 7) onwards, and therefore it expects emissions to increase in comparison to the three disrupted periods.

Emissions reduction actions

Protect was committed to stop posting our biannual worker statements and annual employer statements to our members. This was achieved in this financial year, where possible they were emailed to the clients instead. This can be seen through the drop in our emissions relating to mailing services.

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year		Total tCO ₂ -e
Base year:	2015–16	205.7
Year 1:	2016–17	216.3
Year 2:	2017–18	188.8
Year 3:	2018–19	142.3
Year 4:	2019–20	136.8
Year 5:	2020–21	80.1
Year 6:	2021–22	123.08

Significant changes in emissions

There were significant changes to Protect operations

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic related office closures and staff working from home.
- Increased voluntary working from home even when the office is open
- Moving of the Melbourne office to a new building

In addition, there errors detected in the previous report (FY2021-22) and have been fixed in this report (Correction adjustment to FY2021 inventory). These emission sources were affected:

- Short economy class flights (>400km, ≤3,700km)
- Very short flights (≤400km)
- Diesel : Medium Car
- Petrol: Large Car
- Petrol: Medium Car
- Petrol: Small Car
- Taxi - National Average

These errors were caused by a variety of factors including human error, changes in calculation methods, changes the Climate Active tools and pandemic disruptions. These errors remained undetected in the previous report due to the pandemic disruptions reducing the effectivity of historical data comparison and related controls. Similarly, they were detected this year during historical data comparison and data checking.

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
Total net electricity emissions (Market based)	31.88 tCO ₂ -e	0.00 tCO ₂ -e	Protect moved offices and the new base building electricity is not carbon neutral.
Mailing services: parcels, postal and courier	11.47 tCO ₂ -e	21.17 tCO ₂ -e	Emailing statements and reports instead of posting them.
Petrol: Medium Car	10.11 tCO ₂ -e	1.08 tCO ₂ -e	Due to an error in previous report (corrected in this report).
Petrol: Large Car	13.73 tCO ₂ -e	5.65 tCO ₂ -e	Due to an error in previous report (corrected in this report).
Correction adjustment to FY2021 inventory	6.68 tCO ₂ -e	0.00 tCO ₂ -e	Correction of errors in the previous report detected during this report.
Petrol / Gasoline post-2004	23.16 tCO ₂ -e	19.68 tCO ₂ -e	Increased car usage after pandemic shutdowns.

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

Certified brand name	Product or Service used
Powershop	Electricity (tenant)
Winc	NCOS Certified carbon neutral Paper

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 Scope 1 (tCO ₂ -e)	Sum of Scope 2 (tCO ₂ -e)	Sum of Scope 3 (tCO ₂ -e)	Sum of total emissions (tCO ₂ -e)
Transport (Land and Sea)	31.05	0.00	31.47	62.52
Electricity	0.00	31.88	0.00	31.88
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	11.47	11.47
Correction	0.00	0.00	6.68	6.68
Transport (Air)	0.00	0.00	5.03	5.03
Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)	1.85	0.00	0.14	1.99
Office equipment & supplies	0.00	0.00	1.29	1.29
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	0.95	0.95
Food	0.00	0.00	0.77	0.77
Waste	0.00	0.00	0.31	0.31
Water	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.18
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
Climate Active Carbon Neutral Products and Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	32.90	31.88	58.29	123.08

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
Working from home (5% uplift)	6.2
Immaterial non-quantified emissions (1% uplift)	1.2
Total of all uplift factors	7.4
Total footprint to offset <i>(total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)</i>	131

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

Forward purchasing

1. Total eligible offsets forward purchased and retired in last year's report	131
2. Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	131
3. Total eligible offsets retired and used for this report	0
4. Total eligible offsets forward purchased and retired for next year's report	0
5. Total eligible offsets forward purchased and retired for next year's report plus any remaining banked offsets to be carried over	0

Due to current availability issues of WithOneSeed eligible offsets, 131 WithOneSeed eligible offsets will be purchased before the next report (FY2022-23).

Co-benefits

Protect will offset by purchasing Gold Standard Voluntary Emission Reductions (VER) CarbonSocial credits. CarbonSocial credits come from the WithOneSeed program auspiced by the Australian not-for-profit company xpanse Foundation.

WithOneSeed works with subsistence farming communities in Timor-Leste to generate income through a community forestry initiative. The reforestation of their land reduces soil erosion, improves soil and water quality, crop yields and nutrition, which improves the health and wellbeing of the community. It also helps to build the local economy, boost education and training and to deliver social and economic participation.

As of November 2020, the program has 980 farmers participating and over 200,000 high quality forest trees under management including mahogany, teak and sandalwood trees planted on their land in locations of the farmers' choosing. The trees are owned and maintained by the farmers. The farmers receive annual payments for the management of the trees.

The employment of 23 people by the Timor-Leste organisation Ho Musan Ida Foundation is funded by WithOneSeed with income coming from the sale of carbon offsets. Ho Musan Ida grows and distributes WithOneSeed seedlings and supports farmers by facilitating agroforestry education and training. Bagaia Farmers Cooperative has been established to represent the interests of participating farmers.

By November 2020, through local salaries, farmer payments, local activities and infrastructure development, WithOneSeed has contributed over US\$400,000 into the Bagaia community.

Co-benefits of carbon credits from the WithOneSeed program include:

- Supports 10 of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- Improves social and economic outcomes for subsistence farmers in Timor-Leste.
- Stabilises and improves the quality of soil.
- Improves retention of groundwater.
- Improves crop yields and reduces hunger.
- Regenerates severely degraded forests.
- Currently employs local people in propagation, distribution and agroforestry training.
- Generates farmer income through annual payments.
- Increases farmer agroforestry skills.

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 (%)
WithOneSeed Timor Leste Community Forestry Program (GS4210)	VER	Gold Standard	Oct 14, 2021	GS1-1-TL-GS4210-21-2020-21820-3222-3353	2020	132	132	76	0	56	42%
WithOneSeed Timor Leste Community Forestry Program (GS4210)	VER	Gold Standard	Oct 19, 2021	GS1-1-TL-GS4210-21-2020-21820-5653-5727	2020	75	75	0	0	75	99%
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report										131	
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 Emissions Reductions (VERs)		131					100%				

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A.

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

N/A.

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 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	21,528	0	33%
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)	12,233	0	19%
Residual Electricity	32,042	31,881	0%
Total grid electricity	65,803	31,881	51%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	65,803	31,881	51%
Electricity renewables	33,761	0	
Residual Electricity	32,042	31,881	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)		31,881	
Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	51.31%		
Mandatory	18.59%		
Voluntary	32.72%		
Behind the meter	0.00%		

Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO2e) 32

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)
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0
Vic	65,803	59,881	6,580
Qld	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	65,803	59,881	6,580
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0
Qld	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	0	0	0
Total Electricity Consumed	65,803	59,881	6,580

Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	66
<i>Scope 2 Emissions (TCO2e)</i>	60
<i>Scope 3 Emissions (TCO2e)</i>	7

Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO2e)
<i>Powershop</i>	21,528	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. 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
Working From Home (voluntary WFH)	No	No	Yes (uplift applied & data plan in place)	No
Transport (Land and Sea) – Rental Vehicles	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 *Managed investments and client services* has been excluded as it has been assessed as not relevant according to the relevance test, or

Emission sources tested for relevance	(1) Size	(2) Influence	(3) Risk	(4) Stakeholders	(5) Outsourcing	Included in boundary?
Managed investments and client services	No	Yes	No	No	No	No



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