

# PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FINITY CONSULTING PTY LIMITED

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION FY2021–22

Australian Government

## Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement





An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Finity Consulting Pty Limited
REPORTING PERIOD	1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022 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.
	Scott Collings Managing Director 31 October 2022



#### Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Public Disclosure Statement documents are prepared by the submitting organisation. The material in the Public Disclosure Statement document represents the views of the organisation and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth does not guarantee the accuracy of the contents of the Public Disclosure Statement document and disclaims liability for any loss arising from the use of the document for any purpose.

Version March 2022.



# 1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	641 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	76% VERs, 24% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	58.25%
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	13 October 2021 Suzanne Ridding Sustainable Business Consultants Next technical assessment due: 13 October 2024

#### Contents

1.	Certification summary	3
2.	Carbon neutral information	4
3.	Emissions boundary	5
4.	Emissions reductions	7
5.	Emissions summary	9
6.	Carbon offsets	11
7. Re	enewable Energy Certificate (REC) Summary	14
Арре	endix A: Additional Information	15
Арре	endix B: Electricity summary	16
Арре	endix C: Inside emissions boundary	18
Арре	endix D: Outside emissions boundary	19



## 2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

#### **Description of certification**

This certification covers all business operations of Finity Consulting Pty Ltd (Finity) across its three offices in Sydney, Melbourne and Auckland, which are registered to ABN 89 111 470 270.

The emission inventory in this public disclosure statement (PDS) has been developed in accordance with the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations. Finity's emission boundary has been defined in accordance with the operational control approach. "Finity recognises the importance of climate action and is committed to reducing carbon emissions across our organisational footprint."

#### **Organisation description**

Finity is a strategic analytics firm specializing in actuarial and insurance consulting. With over 200 people and offices in Sydney, Melbourne and Auckland we are a trusted partner of tech start-ups through to large scale organisations. Our team helps business leaders navigate complex challenges and bring clarity to decision making.

We are committed to managing our business in ways that are both socially responsible and environmentally sustainable. We bring this commitment to life through our values, diversity and inclusion policies and code of professional conduct.

At Finity, we understand that we have an important role to play in environmental stewardship. We recognise the importance of climate action and strive every day to reduce our environmental footprint. We practice the highest level of ethics, procure supplies and services sustainably and empower our people to give back to their communities. Our climate practice area is committed to promoting industry awareness of climate issues, including challenges from the physical impact of climate change.

As a firm we are committed to driving societal change and promoting environmental sustainability by working with businesses, government and not-for-profit organisations to deliver solutions that contribute to a sustainable future - for everyone.



## **3.EMISSIONS BOUNDARY**

#### Inside the emissions boundary

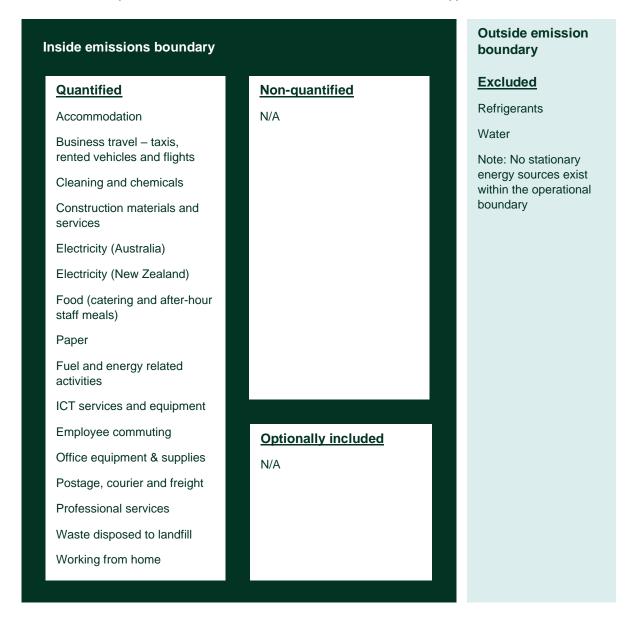
All emission sources listed in the emissions boundary are part of the carbon neutral claim.

**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.



## 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**

Finity is committed to reducing our total carbon emissions intensity per full-time equivalent (FTE) by 30% by 2030, from a 2020 base year emissions intensity of 5.5 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e per FTE. Major components of our emissions are from purchased goods and services, business travel and electricity use.

Our emission reduction strategy will include the following:

Finity transitioned to purchasing Climate-Active certified carbon neutral power in our Sydney office over 2021/22, and commits to purchasing Greenpower in our Sydney office over 2022/23. The Melbourne office is already purchasing Greenpower. Finity does not have operational control over the electricity provided in the Auckland office.

Finity will also engage consultants to conduct an energy audit over 2022/23, to assess the energy efficiency of lighting and equipment of our offices.

• Finity will reach out to all suppliers over the next 24 months to understand their sustainability practices and net zero commitments. This process will allow us to better measure the emissions in our value chain and encourage awareness about carbon neutrality and Climate Active.

Where our suppliers are unable to demonstrate commitment to reducing their carbon footprint, Finity will investigate and transition where possible towards other suppliers who are more environmentally conscious.

- Finity will review our procurement policies over the next 24 months for catering, hosting of events, marketing gifts, and other purchased goods and services. Finity will preference sustainable brands and products that are already carbon neutral, or opt for more environmentally-conscious options where possible, for example by increasing the proportion of vegetarian catering, reducing packaging in purchased goods, switching to dryers or using recycled paper towels, reducing printing, and sustainable gifts for conference speakers.
- Finity will undertake a project over the next 24 months to ensure that all business travel undertaken is well considered (e.g. encouraging fewer same-day trips, visiting multiple clients in a single trip if possible). However, we recognise that as a consultancy, business travel is an integral component of our service offerings. Therefore, for all remaining travel, Finity will place preference on airlines that emit fewer emissions, and purchase Climate-Active certified flight offsets for all flights by 2025. Finity will also encourage use of electric vehicles for taxis and ride-shares, over petrol or diesel vehicles, where available.
- Finity will conduct regular and ongoing education campaigns to encourage staff behaviour both at work and at home. Planned topics include how to recycle, considerations for installing solar panels at home, how to compost, taking public transport, and sustainable brands.
- Finity will publish our emissions reduction commitment on our website over coming months.



#### **Emissions reduction actions**

Finity's emissions reduced significantly over the last two years due to the impacts of COVID-19, compared to our base year of 2019-20. In particular, compared to our base year, business travel reduced by 95% over 2020-21 and 55% over 2021-22. We have also undertaken the following emission reduction actions over the last year:

- A number of emission reduction actions were implemented in the Sydney head office, including switching to Climate-Active certified carbon neutral electricity and introducing recycling capabilities.
- Finity is growing in size, requiring additional office space. The refurbishment of the new office areas includes the sustainability of the materials and office design as a core consideration.
- We have commenced the process of contacting all suppliers around their sustainability and environmental commitments. This includes asking potential vendors if they can provide sustainability tracing or carbon neutral information for marketing materials and gifts. This process will allow us to better measure the emissions in our value chain and encourage awareness about carbon neutrality and Climate Active.
- We have run education sessions for our staff around carbon emissions, net zero and carbon neutrality, carbon offsets, and the Climate Active certification.



## **5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY**

#### Emissions over time

Emissions since base year							
		Total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Emissions intensity (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e per FTE)	FTE			
Base year:	2019–20	876	5.5	160			
Year 1:	2020–21	597	3.2	188			
Year 2:	2021-22	641	3.0	215			

#### Significant changes in emissions

COVID-19 continued to affect Finity's operations through 2021-22, although the business disruptions were lower compared to the previous year. Total emissions over 2021-22 were 641 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e, which was 7% higher than the emissions over 2020-21 but 27% lower than the base year emissions. The main source of emissions increase compared to 2021-22 was from the resuming of business travel which partway through the year compared to almost no travel over 2020-21. The emissions intensity per full-time employee has reduced slightly over 2021-22, noting that Finity's headcount grew 14% over the reporting year.

Emission source name	Current year (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Previous year (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Detailed reason for change
Total net electricity emissions - Australia	76	109	Transition to carbon neutral power in the Sydney office from May 2022.
Food and catering	69	78	Reduction in overtime meals, as staff continue to work from home.
Working from home emissions – NSW	47	42	The Sydney office grew by 14% over the reporting year.
Waste	49	39	Return to normal waste collection in Sydney, following 3 months of no waste collection in the previous year due to COVID-19 lockdowns.
Marketing and distribution	35	39	Reduction in external marketing consulting fees due to growth of in-house marketing team
Computer and electrical components, hardware and accessories	51	34	Growth in company requiring additional computer equipment.



Computer and technical services	58	15	Once-off consulting fees for improvements in IT platform and design of new website.
Business travel (flights plus accommodation)	41	7	Business travel resumed partway through the year.

## Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

Certified brand name	Product or Service used
Energy Australia	Large Business Carbon Neutral Electricity

### **Organisation emissions summary**

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

Emission category	Actual emissions (tCO2-e)
Accommodation and facilities	8
Cleaning and Chemicals	4
Construction Materials and Services	6
Electricity (Australia)	76
Electricity (New Zealand)	4
Food	94
ICT services and equipment	135
Office equipment & supplies	21
Postage, courier and freight	5
Professional Services	91
Transport (Air)	41
Transport (Land and Sea - Australia)	56
Transport (Land and Sea - New Zealand)	2
Waste (Australia)	49
Waste (New Zealand)	0
Working from home (Australia)	50
Working from home (New Zealand)	0
Grand Total	641

#### **Uplift factors**



## **6.CARBON OFFSETS**

#### Offsets retirement approach

In arrears	
1. Total number of eligible offsets banked from last year's report	279
2. Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	641
3. Total eligible offsets required for this report	362
4. Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	416
5. Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	54

#### **Co-benefits**

Co-benefits of offsetting projects supported by Finity are outlined below:

Project 1: Katingan Peatland Restoration and Conservation Project (Katingan Project)

The Katingan Peatland Restoration and Conservation Project (Katingan Project) is an ecosystem restoration initiative on a peat swamp forest which is surrounded by villages dependent on traditional livelihoods such as farming, fishing and non-timber forest product harvesting. Based in in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia, the project promotes community and biodiversity benefits through the creation of economic opportunities for communities within the project zone and the enhancement of natural habitats and ecological integrity through ecosystem restoration. This project type relates to 11% of the total amount of offsets purchased and returned for this reporting period.

#### Project 2: Man and Man Enterprise Improved Cooking Stoves Programme In Ghana

The Man and Man Enterprise Improved Cooking Stove program promotes the use of improved cookstoves in low-income communities in Ghana. The project promotes the implementation of affordable and efficient cookstoves to replace existing inefficient methods which mainly rely on wood fuel. In addition to saving end users 40% of their money per annum, the improved cookstoves are produced from local raw materials keeping dozens employed and helping to build skills of the local communities. This project type relates to 29% of the total amount of offsets purchased and returned for this reporting period.

Project 3: Haikou Rural Methane Digesters Project in Hainan Province

The Haikou Rural Methane Digesters program is aimed at helping famers build methane digesters with organic waste such as manure. The digesters built are used to generated heat supply to meet the thermal demands of the households while helping to recover methane from manure which would otherwise be released to the atmosphere using traditional uncovered storage practices. The project has promoted employment for the local community through the construction of methane pools and the requirement for a



follow up service. Furthermore, the use of the biogas for cooking and heating in replacement of coal has helped to improve the health and well-being of the local people. This project type relates to 60% of the total amount of offsets purchased and returned for this reporting period.



## 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	Eligible quantity (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Quantity used for previous reporting periods	Quantity banked for future reporting periods	Quantity used for this reporting period claim	Percentage of total (%)
Katingan Peatland Restoration and Conservation Project	VCU	Verra	25 October 2022	6359-304832692- 304832791-VCU-016- APX-ID-14-1477- 01012017-31122017-1	2017	100	0	0	100	16
Improved Cooking Stoves Programme in Ghana	VER	Gold Standard	26 October 2022	<u>GS1-1-GH-GS2094-</u> <u>16-2019-19912-</u> <u>26156-26405</u>	2019	250	0	0	250	39
Haikou Rural Methane Digesters Project in Hainan Province	VER	Gold Standard	19 October 2022	<u>GS1-1-CN-GS2664-4-</u> 2016-19356-21576- 22101	2016	526	247	0	279	44
Haikou Rural Methane Digesters Project in Hainan Province	VER	Gold Standard	26 October 2022	<u>GS1-1-CN-GS2664-4-</u> <u>2016-19356-22107-</u> <u>22172</u>	2016	66	0	54	12	2
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report							641			
Total offsets retired th	Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports					54				

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of total
Verified Emissions Reductions (VERs)	541	84%
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	100	16%



# 7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary



# APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



## 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	72,537	0	40%
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)	34,001	0	19%
Residual Electricity	76,362	75,978	0%
Total grid electricity	182,901	75,978	58%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	182,901	75,978	58%
Electricity renewables	106,538	0	
Residual Electricity	76,362	75,978	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emissions (kgCO2e)		75,978	
Total renewables (grid and non-grid)			
	58.25%		
Mandatory	18.59%		
Voluntary	39.66%		
Behind the meter	0.00%		
Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	76		
Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%			



Location Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO2e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO2e)
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	110,363	86,083	7,725
SA	0	0	0
Vic	72,537	66,009	7,254
Qld	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	0 <b>182,901</b>	0 <b>152,092</b>	0 <b>14,979</b>
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	182,901	152,092	14,979
Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	167		
Scope 2 Emissions (TCO2e)	152		

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active	Activity	Emissions
Product	Data (kWh)	(kgCO2e)
Energy Australia Large Business Carbon Neutral Electricity	21,614	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



## 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. <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
- Influence The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.
- 3. <u>**Risk**</u> The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.
- 4. **<u>Stakeholders</u>** Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.
- <u>Outsourcing</u> 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?
Water	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Refrigerants	No	No	No	No	No	No





An Australian Government Initiative

