




PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ECOVANTAGE PTY LTD

**ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2021–22**

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Ecovantage Pty Ltd
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022
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>Aaron Jenkins Energy & Carbon Division General Manager, Ecovantage Date 31/01/2022</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	1,114 tCO ₂ e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	100% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	100%
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	22/03/2022 Anil Bhatta Carbon & Clean Energy Solutions Next technical assessment due: March 2025

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2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This inventory has been prepared for Ecovantage Pty Ltd for its organisational carbon neutral certification under Climate Active. The inventory covers the financial year from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

The emissions boundary has been defined based on operational control approach and it includes all business operations of Ecovantage in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia.

The methods used for collecting data, calculating emissions, and consolidating the carbon inventory are based on the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisation, the Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (revised edition).

The greenhouse gases considered within the inventory are those that are commonly reported under Kyoto Protocol: Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) and synthetic gasses – Hydrofluorocarbon (HFCs), Perfluorocarbons (PFCs), Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF₆) and Nitrogen Trifluoride (NF₃). All emissions are reported in tonnes of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (tCO_{2e}).

Organisation description

Ecovantage Pty Limited (ABN 32 126 255 856) trading as Ecovantage is an environmental consultancy services company that specialises in providing environmental, planning, management, advisory & consultancy services relating to: energy efficiency, energy consumption and energy conservation; environmental auditing and assessment including greenhouse gas emissions assessments and management; and provision of energy savings plans for residential and commercial customers.

Ecovantage was established in 2007 to support businesses and households to reduce energy use and contribute to the fight against climate change through a reduction in emissions. Our offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Sunshine Coast, and Adelaide are staffed with employees who are genuinely passionate about energy efficiency and are dedicated to helping our customers save energy and save money. The recently opened Queensland, Ecovantage office, which came into operation in July 2021 has been included for this reporting period.

Ecovantage works within the energy efficiency schemes in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Queensland as well as the national Renewable Energy Target and Emission Reduction Funds scheme to help businesses and households access incentives for energy efficiency upgrades. We specialise in creating and trading energy efficiency certificates. Ecovantage has supported businesses in reducing more than 6 million tonnes of carbon dioxide over 13 years of business operations. For our organisation, maintaining our carbon neutrality aligns with our goals and values.

“Ecovantage is dedicated to making a difference and supporting our customers to contribute to the fight against climate change by reducing our emissions. We are passionate about this and maintaining our Carbon Neutral certification aligns with our company values.”

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 & Facilities Air Transport Cleaning & Chemicals Electricity Food ICT Services & Equipment Land and Sea Transport Machinery and Vehicles Office Equipment and Supplies Postage, courier & freight Professional Services Stationary Energy Waste Water Working from home Products 	<p><u>Non-quantified</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refrigerants 	<p><u>Excluded</u></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

Ecovantage is committed to reducing our emissions over the next five years. We have set an emission reduction target to reduce our Scope 1 & 2 emissions by 30% by 2030 from a financial year 2020-2021 base year. We have a further target to reduce our Scope 3 emissions by 15% within the same timeframe, relative to the same baseline. Ecovantage will achieve this through the following actions:

1. Staff Travel

Refresh our existing business travel policy to include a preference for the use of virtual meeting platforms instead of in person meetings, where possible. The use of virtual meeting platforms will support reducing emissions associated with business travel and accommodation.

Where travel is required, staff are encouraged to use vendors that are already carbon neutral certified or those that have sustainability and emission reduction strategies in place. Sales staff who are required to travel are already provided with a yearly travel budget and should not exceed this budget for work related travel.

2. Electricity

Ecovantage will reduce our Scope 2 grid electricity emissions by 30% by 2025 by upgrading our office lighting to the most energy efficient options. Ecovantage will further install solar panels on our Victorian office to procure on-site renewable energy. For any offices without on-site solar options, LGCs will be retired for all electricity consumption. Ecovantage already uses 100% renewable energy through the retirement of LGCs.

3. Working from home

Ecovantage will continue to provide hybrid home/office work options for all employees across all states to reduce Scope 3 staff commuting emissions. Ecovantage further supports energy efficiency improvements in staff homes. This is done through up-front discounts to products and services offered through Ecovantage operations. Ecovantage also provides assistance to our staff to navigate in supporting the scheme in the state in which they work.

4. Vehicles

Ecovantage is already in the process of switching our fleet over to electric vehicles. All new vehicles leases for company use will be electric vehicles only. From 1 July 2023, staff traveling by personal vehicles will no longer be reimbursed unless the vehicle is hybrid or electric.

5. Staff Induction & Training

In the Ecovantage employee induction, staff will be trained on best practices around energy efficiency in the workplace as well as tips on reducing emissions at home. Ecovantage will host ongoing training initiatives for staff to continue to educate and build awareness with staff around sustainable initiatives and tips.

6. ICT Services and Equipment

Ecovantage will undertake a review of the company IT infrastructure. This will include an investigation into more sustainable IT options including energy efficient equipment and products that have published embodied emissions factsheets.

7. Professional Services

Ecovantage will prefer professional service providers who are already carbon neutral certified or those that have sustainability and emission reduction strategies in place. From 2030 onwards, Ecovantage has committed to prioritising working with carbon neutral providers. Ecovantage will continue to engage with our professional service providers to encourage these providers to obtain carbon neutral certification or develop emission reduction strategies.

Emissions reduction actions

During the reporting period Ecovantage matched 100% of our electricity consumption with renewable energy sources. This was achieved through:

- The purchase of GreenPower in our Victoria Office; and
- The purchase of LGCs for all remaining electricity consumption including base building energy.

We further reduced our emissions by encouraging a flexible work approach where employees may work from home 1-2 days per week as well as using virtual meeting platforms to reduce business travel and accommodation emissions. Finally, in 2022, Ecovantage changed over our leased fleet of vehicles in Queensland to electric vehicles.

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year		Total tCO ₂ -e
Base year/Year 1:	2020–21	949
Year 2:	2021–22	1,114

Significant changes in emissions

There have been some changes in emissions between the base year reporting period and current year reporting period. Some of these changes are due to updated emission factors from Climate Active. As well, two emission sources had increased emissions due to organic company growth between the last financial year and the current financial year.

Details are summarized in the table below.

Emission source	Current year (tCO ₂ -e)	Previous year (tCO ₂ -e)	Detailed reason for change
Road freight	90.493	130.521	Climate Active emission factor changes. Ecovantage established a new product offering energy efficiency for homes which required an increase in freighting materials for installation.
Products	461.747	0	New product service launched offering to swap out an inefficient hot water system for an energy-efficient heat pumps. Ecovantage purchased products for the purpose of this new product service. See more at https://www.ecovantage.com.au/heat-pumps/
Business services	71.186	29.878	Organic business growth attributed to an increase in FTE.
Technical Services	160.874	167.660	Climate Active emission factor changes and software upgrades to business systems by consultants
Staff commuting by car	89.096	46.786	Organic business growth. More consultants visited more sites to be able to deliver Ecovantage services.

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

Certified brand name	Product or Service used
Powershop	100% 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	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)
Accommodation and facilities	0	0	4.02	4.02
Cleaning and Chemicals	0.00	0.00	1.55	1.55
Electricity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Food	0.00	0.00	7.53	7.53
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	61.61	61.61
Machinery and vehicles	0.00	0.00	16.08	16.08
Office equipment & supplies	0.00	0.00	14.96	14.96
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	90.85	90.85
Products	0.00	0.00	462.44	462.44
Professional Services	0.00	0.00	291.45	291.45
Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)	3.29	0.00	0.52	3.81
Stationary Energy (liquid fuels)	0.50	0.00	0.03	0.53
Transport (Air)	0.00	0.00	17.22	17.22
Transport (Land and Sea)	9.51	0.00	97.35	106.86
Waste	0.00	0.00	18.70	18.70
Water	0.00	0.00	0.53	0.53
Working from home	0.00	0.00	15.75	15.75
Total	13.29	0.00	1100.60	1113.89

Uplift factors

N/A

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

In arrears	
1. Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	1,114 tonnes CO ₂ e
2. Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	1,114 tonnes CO ₂ e
3. Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	0 tonnes CO ₂ e

Co-benefits

Sipansihaporas is a 50MW hydro power project in North Sumatra, Indonesia. The project was commissioned in 2002 and has been developed in multiple phases. The project generates renewable electricity by harnessing the power of flowing water. This run-of-river project is connected to the Sumatra grid. On average, the project generates 214,000 MWh.

On a national level the project is helping Indonesia reach its 23% renewable energy targets by 2025. On a local level, the project creates job opportunities as well as providing training for workers to learn new skills. As a result of this project, the local economy benefits.

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 (%)
50 MW Sipansihaporas Hydro Power Plant, North Sumatra	VCU	Verra	14 December 2022	14176-561031695-561032808-VCS-VCU-842-VER-ID-1-486-01012017-30042017-0	2017	N/A	1,114	0	0	1,114	100%
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report										1,114	
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)	1,114	100%

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)*	73
2. Other RECs	0

* 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
Solar Farm	LGC	REC Registry	23 Dec 2022	SRPVVCJ9	639-711	2022	73	Solar	VIC, Australia
Total LGCs surrendered this report and used in this report							73		

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	1,930	0	2%
Total non-grid electricity	1,930	0	2%
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs & Precinct LGCs)	73,000	0	59%
GreenPower	26,160	0	21%
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)	22,571	0	18%
Residual Electricity	-315	-313	0%
Total grid electricity	121,416	-313	98%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	123,346	-313	100%
Electricity renewables	123,661	0	
Residual Electricity	-315	-313	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)		0	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	100.26%
Mandatory	18.30%
Voluntary	80.39%
Behind the meter	1.56%
Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO₂e)	0

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	11,071	8,635	775
SA	35,025	10,507	2,452
Vic	70,202	63,884	7,020
Qld	5,119	4,095	614
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	121,416	87,122	10,861
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0
Qld	1,930	0	0
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	1,930	0	0
Total Electricity Consumed	123,346	87,122	10,861

Emission Footprint (TCO2e)	98
<i>Scope 2 Emissions (TCO2e)</i>	87
<i>Scope 3 Emissions (TCO2e)</i>	11

Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO2e)
<i>Powershop electricity</i>	3,176	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 plan in place
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						



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