



# **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**ERBAS™  
ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION  
FY2021-22**

Australian Government

# Climate Public Disclosure Statement

# Active



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	erbas™
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022 Arrear's 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>Name of signatory: Lincoln Merlo Position of signatory: Executive Director Date: 20/6/23</p>



**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	327.55 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	328 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e 79% VERs 21% ACCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	N/A
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Date: 28 July 2022 Name: Alexander Stathakis Organisation: Conversio Pty Ltd Next technical assessment due: FY24

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## 2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

### Description of certification

This certification is for erbas™ (ABN 57 077 132 266) Australian business operations.

### Organisation description

erbas™ has been established over 25 years and employs approximately 90 staff across multiple offices in Australia and abroad. Everything we do is focused on successful outcomes for our clients. It has never been our goal to be the biggest. But we are committed to being the best and that makes all the difference. Our fields of consulting include the building engineering fields of Mechanical, Electrical & Communications, Security, AV, Lighting, Hydraulic, Stormwater, Fire Protection, Sustainability and Lift systems. erbas™ SUSTAIN is a subsidiary brand of erbas™. Through our ESD team, we strive to encompass good sustainability principles in all our projects.

The reporting boundaries of our GHG inventory encompass our facilities at

- Level 3, 116 Hardware Street, Melbourne VIC 3000,
- Level 1, 15 Atchison Street, St Leonards, NSW 2065, and
- A regional office in Echuca/Moama (VIC/NSW) for one person working from home.

Our GHG inventory quantifies carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), measured in tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub> -e).

We are not aware of any relevant sources of hydrofluorocarbons, (HFC), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>), or nitrogen trifluoride (NF<sub>3</sub>) within our operational boundary.

*“Through erbas™ SUSTAIN we offer sustainability and wellbeing solutions to our clients.*

*It is important to us that we practice what we preach, so we committed to being Carbon Neutral.*

*Our approach also enabled us to support renewable projects and indigenous community projects.”*

## 3.EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

### Inside the emissions boundary

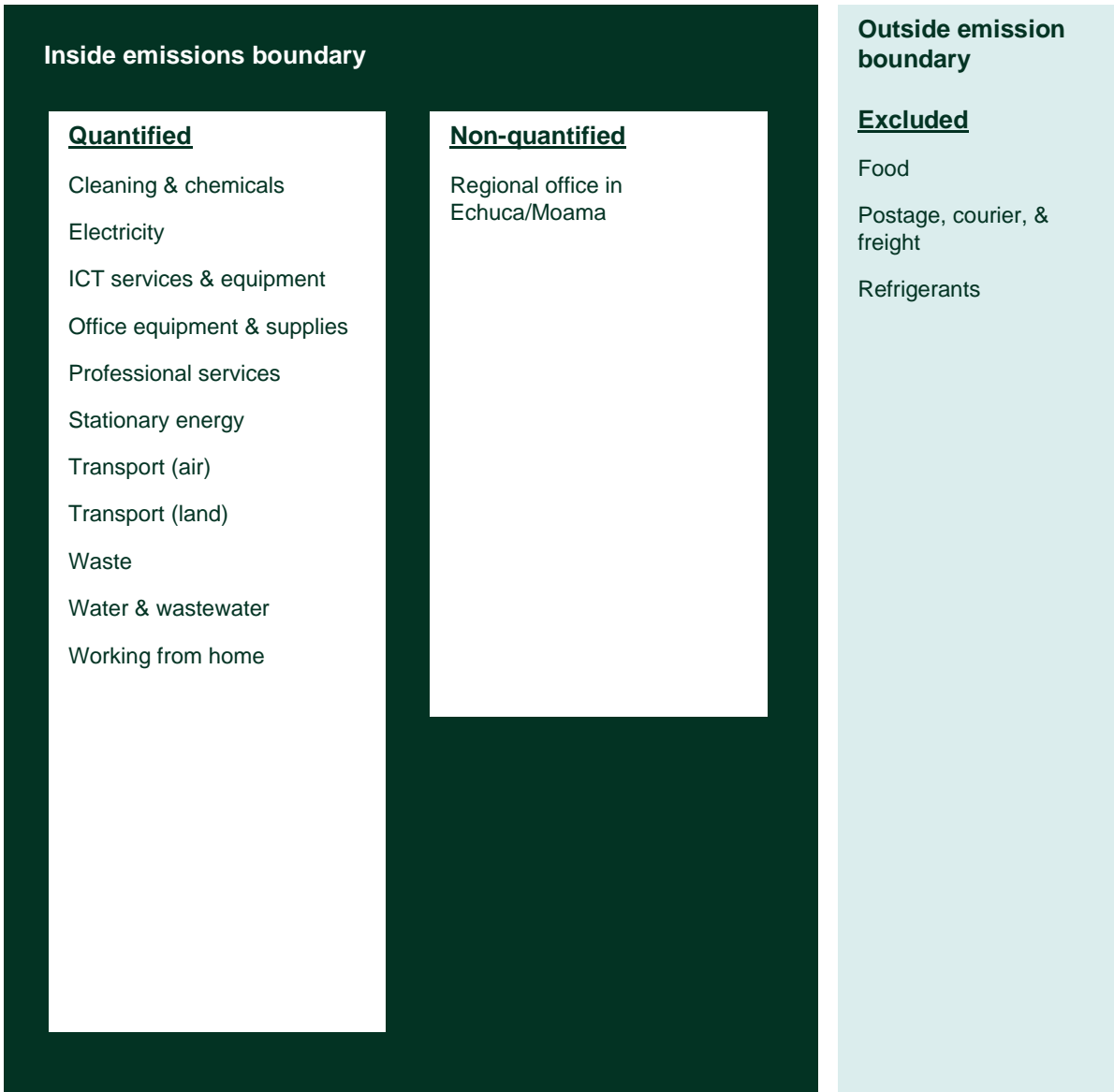
All emission sources listed in the emissions boundary are part of the carbon neutral claim.

**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 in 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 details are available in 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.

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

erbas™'s strategy for reduction of carbon emissions is two-fold and comprises firstly of the utilisation of continuous improvements resulting from the collaborations between business development elements and knowledge sharing from the sustainability wing of erbas™ SUSTAIN (which is a subsidiary brand of erbas™) and secondly, consider key direct emission reduction actions across all offices nationally and overseas. The firm is continually looking to adopt and improve upon existing sustainable business measures that not only assist in reducing the firm's environmental footprint but are also coherent with other key aspects of sustainability e.g. benefiting local economies, social elements such as improving the lives of indigenous communities and people well-being which includes the physical and mental well-being of all our stakeholders and especially our highly valued staff and the communities we work in. erbas™ have developed sustainability master plans for private and independent schools, are rolling out sustainability initiatives for multinational logistics companies, and have long standing consultancy panel arrangements with numerous institutional and private entities such as Councils and Universities. In setting the emission reduction strategy, erbas™ firmly believes that any measures and actions adopted or developed should provide long-term quantifiable contributions to the company's wider sustainability goals.

erbas™ targets a reduction in Scope 1, 2, and 3 of 10% by 2030 compared to FY21-FY22. This target will be reviewed as erbas™ makes progress on operational improvements.

erbas™ considers the following actions as part of the Emissions Reduction Strategy.

### *Education and research*

- Knowledge-sharing pathways
  - Action: Implement office training sessions approximately every 3 months.
  - Objective: Achieve 5% uplift of office training every year.
  - Timeline: 3-year implementation with annual evaluations.

### *Energy*

- Energy usage monitoring and efficiency
  - Action: Review monitoring system, air-conditioning system, lighting system, and current ICT equipment
  - Objective: Achieve a 10% reduction in energy consumption.
  - Timeline: 3-year implementation with annual evaluations.

### *Water*

- Water efficiency:
  - Action: Review current fixtures in kitchens and bathrooms.
  - Objective: Replace hydraulic fixtures with high WELs rating fixtures at the upcoming proposed office renovation.
  - Timeline: Upcoming renovation.

## Waste

- Waste management and recycling:
  - Action: Review tracking system for waste management, education of staff on recycling.
  - Objective: Reduce waste to landfill by 20%.
  - Timeline: 3-year implementation with annual evaluations.

## Indoor environmental quality (IEQ)

- IEQ monitoring and improvement:
  - Action: Regular monitoring of indoor air quality.
  - Objective: Identify problematic air quality metric, if any, and review actions to improve it. Action will be dependent on the air quality metric identified.
  - Timeline: 3-year implementation with annual evaluations.

This is erbas™'s second year at carbon neutral certification. erbas™ is committed to reviewing the reduction strategy, seeking opportunities for emission reductions.

## Emissions reduction actions

- erbas™ staff have been provided with energy-efficient IT systems (e.g. laptop computers), and all the monitors in the Sydney office have been replaced with energy-efficient LED monitors.
- A 3-day in the office and 2-day working from home flexible working arrangements have been adopted to improve work-life balance and minimise travel.
- Employees have been encouraged to use active or public transport as alternatives to driving to work.
- Set up a framework to assess the ESG performance of erbas™.
- erbas™ SUSTAIN established knowledge-sharing pathways for the team to share their ESD knowledge and align internally on the business strategy and R&D pathways to develop strong collaborations between management, core building services engineering and sustainability teams. This not only enhances knowledge and awareness of key sustainability principles and contemporary industrial 'know-how' but also assists in aligning people's professional values with the firm's long-term sustainability goals.
- Due to the growth of the company, there has been investment in ICT i.e., hardware, technical software, and qualified professionals to support research and knowledge-sharing goals.
- Ongoing IEQ monitoring in the Melbourne office. The IEQ data, coupled with the experience of our core engineering and sustainability teams, have been used to suggest and implement improvements. Higher IEQ improves staff health and wellbeing, improving their efficiency.



## 5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

### Emissions over time

Emissions since base year			Total t CO <sub>2</sub> -e
Base year:	2020-21		253.50 <sup>1</sup>
Year 1:	2021-22		327.55

### Significant changes in emissions

Emission source name	Current year (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Previous year (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Detailed reason for change
ICT services and equipment	79.10	37.68	52% increase in the number of staff in 2021 compared to 2020.  Monitor overhaul in the Sydney office.
Professional services	54.21	3.36	Related to recruitment costs, visas, and other legal fees
Working from home	16.05	7.69	52% increase in the number of staff in 2021 compared to 2020.
Transport (land)	41.54	4.51	Business travel returning to normal, but employees prefer to travel in their personal vehicle
Transport (air)	1.52	5.76	Less interstate travel.
Electricity	119.13	127.79	Less consumption, lower emission factor

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

Carbon neutral office paper.

<sup>1</sup> Includes an adjustment of 11 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e compared to the reported GHG statement in FY21 to account for updated calculations.

## Organisation emissions summary

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

Emission category	Sum of total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)
Cleaning and Chemicals	1.75
Electricity	119.13
ICT services and equipment	79.10
Office equipment & supplies	1.31
Professional Services	54.21
Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)	3.70
Stationary Energy (liquid fuels)	0.51
Transport (Air)	1.52
Transport (Land and Sea)	41.54
Waste	8.03
Water	0.71
Working from home	16.05
<b>Total</b>	<b>327.55</b>

## Uplift factors

N/A

## 6. CARBON OFFSETS

### Offset's retirement approach

#### In arrears

1. Total number of eligible offsets banked from last year's report	0
2. Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	327.55 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e
3. Total eligible offsets required for this report	328
4. Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	328
5. Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	0

### Co-benefits

The **Paroo River North Environmental Project** establishes permanent native forests through assisted regeneration from in-situ seed sources (including rootstock and lignotubers) on land that was cleared of vegetation and where regrowth was suppressed for at least 10 years prior to the project having commenced.

The **Akbük wind farm** project includes the development of a 31.5 MW onshore wind farm in the Aydın region, Didim district in Turkey. It includes the installation of 15 turbines and the construction of a high-voltage line between the project area and the national network. The project activity generates an estimated net electricity of 105 GWh per year and feeds it into the Turkish grid. The project helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Turkey by generating clean electricity for the regional power grid, which has so far obtained a large proportion of its electricity from fossil fuel sources.

The **Kavaklı Wind Farm** project activity aims to produce renewable electricity using wind as the power source and contribute to Turkey's growing electricity demand through sustainable and low-carbon technology. The project displaces the same amount of electricity generated by the grid dominated by fossil-fired power plants.

## 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 (%)	
<a href="#">Akbuk Wind Farm Project, Turkey</a>	VER	Gold Standard Impact Registry	24 May 2023	<a href="#">GS1-1-TR-GS2464-12-2016-19157-2514-2619</a>	2016	n/a	106	0	0	106	32%	
<a href="#">Akbuk Wind Farm Project, Turkey</a>	VER	Gold Standard Impact Registry	24 May 2023	<a href="#">GS1-1-TR-GS436-12-2015-7440-7567-7659</a>	2015	n/a	93	0	0	93	28%	
<a href="#">Kavakli Wind Power Plant, Turkey</a>	VER	Gold Standard Impact Registry	24 May 2023	<a href="#">GS1-1-TR-GS2682-12-2015-4808-21780-21840</a>	2015	n/a	61	0	0	61	19%	
<a href="#">ERF104646 – Paroo River North Environmental Project</a>	ACCU	ANREU	26 May 203	<a href="#">8.334.356.065 - 8.334.356.132</a>	2021-22	n/a	68	0	0	68	21%	
<b>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</b>										328		
<b>Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports</b>									0			
Type of offset units		Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)					Percentage of total					
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)		68					21%					
Verified Emissions Reductions (VERs)		260					79%					

## 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.

<b>1. Large-scale Generation certificates (LGCs)*</b>	N/A
<b>2. Other RECs</b>	N/A

\* 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 (LGCs)	code	Certificate serial number	Generation year	Quantity (MWh)	Fuel source	Location
N/A										
<b>Total LGCs surrendered this report and used in this report</b>										

## APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Additional offsets cancelled for purposes other than 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 (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Purpose of cancellation
Akbuk Wind Farm Project, Turkey	VER	Gold Standard Impact Registry	14 June 2022	<a href="#">GS1-1-TR-GS2464-12-2016-19157-2120-2243</a>	2016	11	Offset FY21 shortfall

# 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 (kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Renewable total	Percentage of
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	0	0	0	
<b>Total non-grid electricity</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
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)	23,949	0	19%	
Residual Electricity	104,881	104,352	0%	
<b>Total grid electricity</b>	<b>128,830</b>	<b>104,352</b>	<b>19%</b>	
<b>Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>128,830</b>	<b>104,352</b>	<b>19%</b>	
Electricity renewables	23,949	0		
Residual Electricity	104,881	104,352		
<b>Exported on-site generated electricity</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		
Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)		104,352		
<b>Total renewables (grid and non-grid)</b>	18.59%			
<b>Mandatory</b>	18.59%			
<b>Voluntary</b>	0.00%			
<b>Behind the meter</b>	0.00%			
<b>Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>	104			
<i>Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%</i>				

### Location Based Approach Summary

Location Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
NSW	68,686	53,575	4,808
Vic	60,144	54,731	6,014
<b>Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)</b>	<b>128,830</b>	<b>108,306</b>	<b>10,822</b>
NSW	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0
<b>Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Electricity Consumed</b>	<b>128,830</b>	<b>108,306</b>	<b>10,822</b>

<b>Emission Footprint (t CO<sub>2</sub>-e)</b>	<b>119</b>
Scope 2 Emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	108
Scope 3 Emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	11

### Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Not applicable	0	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, and 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 are 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
Regional office in Echuca/Moama	Yes	No	No	No

# APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

## Excluded emission sources

The below emission sources have been assessed as not relevant to an organisations 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?
Food	No	No	No	No	No	No
Postage, courier, & freight	No	No	No	No	No	No
Refrigerants	No	No	No	No	No	No



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