



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

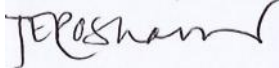
AUSTRALIAN ESSENTIAL SERVICES GROUP

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION

CY2022

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Australian Essential Services Group
REPORTING PERIOD	1 January 2022 – 31 December 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>Jane Rosham General Manager 17 January 2023</p>



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

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Version March 2023.

1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	184.15 tCO ₂ -e
OFFSETS USED	50% ACCUs, 50% VCU's
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	N/A
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Pangolin Associates
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	8/9/2020 Pangolin Associates Next technical assessment due: CY2023 Submission

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2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

Our organisation certification covers the business operations of Australian Essential Services Group Pty Ltd (AESG), ABN 15 096 873 004.

The organisational boundary included the following locations and facilities:

- Head Office, located at 2 / 120 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe Victoria 3079
- Field Inspectors who operate throughout Victoria, NSW, SA, Queensland, WA, ACT, NT, and Tasmania

Organisation description

Australian Essential Services Group is a national independent auditor providing fire safety services. Our specialized audits review the maintenance and compliance of fire equipment, building essential safety measures and building health and safety. Our services extend to compliance consultation for properties under Building Notice Orders, providing insurance reports, in-depth investigation, and management of combustible cladding works, as well as fire door tagging and compliance, evacuation diagrams, slip testing and ten-year maintenance plans.

Our long-standing relationships with our clients extend back to our establishment in 1996 and we now provide services to more than 800 organisations across Australia. We provide our auditing and safety measures services to owners' corporations, property management, aged care, health services, government and semi-government organisations, industrial, retail, and commercial clients.

AESG has auditors located in metropolitan Melbourne and throughout regional Victoria, Sydney and regional New South Wales, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Darwin and in Tasmania. We are committed to supporting regional communities through local employment.

Our operations are based in Melbourne, where our team coordinates the completion and delivery of more than 25,000 inspections and real-time reports each year. Our Quality Management System has been certified with ISO 9001 (2015) accreditation.

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

Quantified

Accommodation and facilities
Cleaning and Chemicals
Climate Active Carbon
Neutral Products and
Services
Electricity
Food
ICT services and equipment
Machinery and vehicles
Office equipment & supplies
Postage, courier, and freight
Products
Professional Services
Transport (Air)
Transport (Land and Sea)
Waste
Water
Working from home

Non-quantified

Refrigerants

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

N/A

4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Australian Essential Services Group's emission reduction strategy involves:

- **General Measures**
 - Measuring and reporting on our energy consumption and carbon footprint
 - Acting on opportunities to reduce our emissions by improving operational efficiencies.
- **Scope 1 emissions will be reduced by:**
 - Embracing technologies such as hybrid motor vehicles
 - We aim to have a fleet of hybrid vehicles by the end of 2023.
 - We aim to have a fleet of electric vehicles by the end of 2025.
 - This initiative is expected to reduce our footprint by approximately 70 t CO₂e (~32% of the total 2021 footprint) by the end of 2026.
- **Scope 2 emissions will be reduced by:**
 - Transitioning to 100% carbon neutral or renewable electricity.
 - This initiative is expected to reduce our footprint by approximately 6 t CO₂e (~3% of the total 2021 footprint) by the end of 2022.
- **Scope 3 emissions will be reduced by:**
 - Investing in technological innovations to reduce our resource consumption.
 - We aim to change our technology/computer hardware to more energy efficient and power saving options by the end of 2023.
 - Continuing to employ locally, to both support regional communities and reduce our travel footprint and significantly reduce air travel.
 - Being as close as possible to being a “paperless office” and using carbon neutral paper when we need to print.
 - Reducing waste, and recycling wherever possible.
 - Encouraging our suppliers to reduce carbon impacts in our supply chain.
 - Educating and engaging our team to reduce work-related emissions;
 - We are aiming to move into a workspace/environment that we own outright, which would give us greater control for a greater reduction strategy (we will not have limitations by not leasing the workspace) – we hope to have moved into another location by mid-2024.
 - These initiatives are expected to reduce our footprint by approximately 33 t CO₂e by 2026 (~15% of the total 2021 footprint)

Based on the above initiatives, Australian Essential Services Group's emission reduction target over the next 5 years (relative to AESG's CY2021 footprint) is as follows:

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
AESG Emission Reduction Target (Relative to 2021)	0.0%	12.5%	20.0%	35.0%	45.0%	50.0%

Australian Essential Services Group will continue to offset our residual annual carbon emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by purchasing offsets that meet the requirements of Climate Active.

Emissions reduction actions

- Purchased 6 hybrid vehicles.
- Sold 5 petrol/diesel vehicles.
- Commenced purchasing Carbon Neutral electricity from Energy Australia.
- Introduced a Seasonal Fruit Policy.
- Purchased a soft plastics recycling bin.
- Changed lights in the office to energy saving/efficient globes.
- All general office waste is sorted and recycled - mobile devices are returned for recycling. AESG has engaged a commercial recycling service for papers and cardboard; we have a paid recycling service for glass; we sort hard and soft plastics and return them to appropriate recycle depots.

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year		
		Total tCO ₂ -e
Base Year/ Year 1:	2020	193.8
Year 2:	2021	219.7
Year 3:	2022	184.1

Significant changes in emissions

Emission source name	Previous year (CY2021) emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)	Current year (CY2022) emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)	Detailed reason for change
Hybrid: Medium Car	20,006.57	84,391.17	Change in estimation methodology - where in previous years, employee commuting survey results were uplifted according to the response rate across the whole organisation, survey results are now uplifted according to the response rate within each business subunit. This has meant that the estimated kilometres travelled for AESG's Victorian Field Inspectors has been uplifted more aggressively than in previous years, based on the 2 Victorian Field Inspectors that responded out of 17.3 FTE for this group.

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products, services, buildings, or precincts

Since April 2021, AESG has been using Climate Active Certified carbon neutral electricity provided by Energy Australia.

This submission was prepared by Pangolin Associates, which is a Climate Active Certified carbon neutral service.

Certified brand name	Product/Service/Building/Precinct used
Energy Australia	Carbon Neutral electricity product
Pangolin Associates	Consulting Service

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 (t CO ₂ -e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	5.49	5.49
Transport (Taxi, Rideshare, Railway passenger transport services)	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.43
Cleaning and Chemicals	0.00	0.00	0.41	0.41
Climate Active Carbon Neutral Products and Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Food	0.00	0.00	23.80	23.80
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	10.55	10.55
Office equipment & supplies	0.00	0.00	2.27	2.27
Postage, courier, and freight	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.35
Products	0.00	0.00	1.51	1.51
Professional Services	0.00	0.00	0.75	0.75
Transport (Air)	0.00	0.00	2.39	2.39
Transport (Land and Sea)	26.75	0.00	102.64	129.39
Waste	0.00	0.00	6.64	6.64
Water	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17
Working from home	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total emissions	26.75	0.00	157.40	184.15

Uplift factors

N/A.

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

This certification has taken an in-arrears offsetting approach. The total emission to offset is 185 t CO₂-e. The total number of eligible offsets used in this report is 185. Of the total eligible offsets used, 41 were previously banked and 300 were newly purchased and retired. 156 are remaining and have been banked for future use.

Co-benefits

Yuxian Baiyantuo 49.3 MW Wind Power Project - Hebei Province, China

Yuxian Baiyantuo 49.3 MW Wind Power Project is located in Yu County, Zhangjiakou City, Hebei Province, China. The total installed capacity of the Project is 49.3 MW equipped with 58 sets of wind turbines with a unit installed capacity of 850 kW.

This Project will not only supply renewable electricity to the grid, but also contribute to sustainable development of the local community, the host country and the world by means of:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions compared to a business-as-usual scenario.
- Diversifying power sources and mitigating the demand and supply contradiction.
- Helping to stimulate the growth of the wind power industry and encourage and promote the technology.
- Progress and commercial popularization of grid-connected renewable power generation projects in China.
- Reducing the emission of other pollutants resulting from the power generation industry in China, compared to a business-as-usual scenario.
- Creating employment opportunities for local community during the operation period of the Project and creating several employment opportunities for local community during the construction period of the Project.

Karlantijpa North Savanna Burning project

This project involves strategic and planned burning of savanna areas in the low rainfall zone during the early dry season to reduce the risk of late dry season wild fires. The Central Land Council is helping the traditional owners of the Karlantijpa North Aboriginal Land Trust, near Elliott in the Northern Territory, to develop their carbon business. The first such Aboriginal enterprise in its region, the engagement will carry out financially sustainable fire management that meets safety, cultural and environmental needs.

Natural Capital Units – Orana Park

The Yuxian Baiyantuo 49.3 MW Wind Power Project credits are stapled with an Australian vegetation offset from Bendigo, Victoria (see project details on the following page). We have selected Orana Park, to reflect our company's Victorian heritage and large number of regional clients. The project is ambitious, encompassing regenerative farming, threatened species recovery and work into bio-links.

Orana Park

Orana Park is a 4,500ha farm northwest of Bendigo, Victoria owned and operated by the Tiverton Agriculture Impact Fund (TAIF).

TAIF's work with Orana Park will see the full restoration of riparian vegetation along the banks of the 33km Loddon river as well as a purpose-built wildlife sanctuary.

Orana Sanctuary has been built for Australian threatened species protection and breeding on 200ha of predator-proof land.

The sanctuary will become a new home for the critically endangered Eastern Bettong and Bush Stone Curlew incubation and recovery programs.

Size
Hectares 4,580

Riparian
Protection 33km

Biodiversity
Corridors 800ha

Soil
Sequestration 300,000t CO2

Threatened
Species Eastern Bettong

NCU
Allocation 95,000



MT ROTHWELL
NATURAL CAPITAL



Eligible offsets retirement summary

Offsets retired 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 retired (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 (%)
Yuxian Baiyantuo 49.3 MW Wind Power Project stapled to Orana Natural Capital Project	VCU Natural Capital Unit	Verra	05/06/2022 14/06/2022	8090-454685058-454685257-VCU-034-APX-CN-1-808-01012016-31122016-0 19437-19636	2016	200	200	159	0	41	22%
Aboriginal Carbon Fund - Karlantijpa North Savanna Burning project	ACCU	ANREU	2/11/2023	8,333,301,655 – 8,333,301,754	2021-22	0	100	0	7	93	50%
Anhui Guzhen Biomass Generation Project stapled to Orana Natural Capital Project	VCU Natural Capital Unit	Verra	25/10/2023	11775-356401225-356401424-VCS-VCU-1317-VER-CN-1-1121-01012019-31122019-0 25787- 25986	2019	200	200	0	149	51	28%
Total eligible offsets retired and used for this report										185	
Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports									156		
Type of offset units		Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)				Percentage of total					
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU)		93				50%					
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)		92				50%					

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Our reference: VC_CFL-3071_01 VOL001- NCU-041

25 October 2023

Stephanie Bordignon

Australian Essential Services Group
Suite 2, 120 Upper Heidelberg Rd
Ivanhoe VIC 3179

Dear Stephanie

RE: Natural Capital Units issued

I can confirm that the following units have been recorded and allocated from the Orana Natural Capital Project:

Date	Project Reference	Serial Numbers	Amount
25.10.2023	Retired on behalf of Australian Essential Services Group for CY2022 & CY2023 under Climate Active	25787-25986	200

One Natural Capital Unit represents the permanent protection of one square metre of very high conservation significance native habitat in Serpentine, Victoria.

Sincerely,

Tesha Mahoney
Registrar

nationalregistry.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/transaction/show/140712

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Australian National Registry of Emissions Units

ANREU Home Account Holders Accounts Unit Position Summary Projects Transaction Log CER Notifications Public Reports My Profile

Transaction Details

Transaction details appear below.

Transaction Successfully Approved

Transaction ID AU30493
 Current Status Completed (4)
 Status Date 02/11/2023 08:49:47 (AEDT)
 01/11/2023 21:49:47 (GMT)
 Transaction Type Cancellation (4)
 Transaction Initiator Foley, Rowan Paul Bulmer
 Transaction Approver Foley, Rowan Paul Bulmer
 Comment Retired on behalf of Australian Essential Services Group for CY2022 & CY2023 under Climate Active

Transferring Account
 Account Number AU-2798
 Account Name Aboriginal Carbon Fund Limited
 Account Holder Aboriginal Carbon Fund Limited

Acquiring Account
 Account Number AU-1068
 Account Name Australia Voluntary Cancellation Account
 Account Holder Commonwealth of Australia

Transaction Blocks

Party	Type	Transaction Type	Original CP	Current CP	ERF Project ID	NGER Facility ID	NGER Facility Name	Safeguard #	Kyoto Project #	Vintage	Expiry Date	Serial Range	Quantity
AU	KACCU	Voluntary ACCU Cancellation			ERF104800					2021-22		8,333,301,655 - 8,333,301,754	100

Transaction Status History

Bus Date Status Code

7:20 AM 11/2/2023

APPENDIX B: ELECTRICITY SUMMARY

There are two international best-practice methods for calculating electricity emissions – the location-based method and the market-based method. Reporting electricity emissions under both methods is called dual reporting.

Dual reporting of electricity emissions is useful, as it provides different perspectives of the emissions associated with a business's electricity usage.

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.

For this certification, electricity emissions have been set by using the **market-based approach**.

Market-based approach summary			
Market-based approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)	Renewable percentage of total
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	0	0	-
Total non-grid electricity	0	0	-
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs)	0	0	-
GreenPower	0	0	-
Climate Active precinct/building (voluntary renewables)	0	0	-
Precinct/Building (LRET)	0	0	-
Precinct/Building jurisdictional renewables (LGCS surrendered)	0	0	-
Electricity products (voluntary renewables)	0	0	-
Electricity products (LRET)	0	0	-
Electricity products jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	-
Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	-
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	0	0	-
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	0	0	-
Residual Electricity	19,694	18,807	-
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	0	0	-
Total grid electricity	19,694	18,807	-
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	19,694	18,807	
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	19,694	18,807	
Scope 2	17,392	16,609	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	2,302	2,198	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	0	0	
Scope 3	0	0	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	0.00%
Mandatory	0.00%
Voluntary	0.00%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO₂-e)	16.61
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO₂-e)	2.20
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	0.00
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	0.00
Total emissions liability (t CO₂-e)	0.00

Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%

Location-based approach summary						
Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh) total	Under operational control			Not under operational control	
Percentage of grid electricity consumption under operational control	100%	(kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	19,694	19,694	16,740	1,379	0	0
QLD	0	0	0	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0	0	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	19,694	19,694	16,740	1,379	0	0
ACT	0	0	0	0		
NSW	0	0	0	0		
SA	0	0	0	0		
VIC	0	0	0	0		
QLD	0	0	0	0		
NT	0	0	0	0		
WA	0	0	0	0		
TAS	0	0	0	0		
Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)	0	0	0	0		
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	19,694					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	16.74
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	1.38
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO ₂ -e)	0.00
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO ₂ -e)	0.00
Total emissions liability	0.00

Climate Active carbon neutral electricity products

Climate Active carbon neutral product used	Electricity claimed from Climate Active electricity products (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)
<i>Energy Australia</i>	19,694	0
<i>Enter name of Climate Active Carbon Neutral electricity product</i>	0	0
<i>Enter name of Climate Active Carbon Neutral electricity product</i>	0	0
<i>Enter name of Climate Active Carbon Neutral electricity product</i>	0	0
<i>Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity. These electricity emissions have been offset by another Climate Active member through their electricity product certification. This electricity consumption is also included in the market based and location-based summary tables. Any electricity that has been sourced as renewable electricity by the electricity product under the market-based method is outlined as such in the market-based summary table.</i>		

APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Non-quantified emission sources

The following emissions sources 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	Justification reason
Refrigerants	Immaterial

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.

APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Excluded emission sources

The below emission sources have been assessed as not relevant to this organisation'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.

Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



An Australian Government Initiative

