



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL

**ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2021–22**

Australian Government
**Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement**



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Blacktown City Council
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 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>Kerry Robinson, OAM Chief Executive Officer 6 November 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	41,612 tCO ₂ -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	100% CERs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	21.43%
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Next technical assessment due: financial year 2023/24

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2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This public disclosure statement (PDS) supports the certification of Blacktown City Council (ABN 18 153 831 768) as an organisation committed to net-zero operational carbon emissions from financial year 2020/21, under the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification Standard for Organisations (Climate Active Organisation Standard). This report details Blacktown City Council's operational GHG emission boundary and a summary of our GHG emissions reduction strategy.

“We have committed to carbon neutrality for our operations from financial year 2020/21 onward and to incrementally reduce our carbon footprint to reduce the need for offsets.”

Organisation description

Blacktown City Council (ABN 18 153 831 768) is the largest local government, by population, in NSW. It is dedicated to ensuring Blacktown City is a great place to live and providing leadership and good governance for the people of Blacktown City.

Blacktown City Council wholly owns Blacktown Venue Management Ltd, a sub-entity that manages key Council facilities such as aquatic centres, leisure centres and large sporting venues.

Council is made up of 5 wards, spanning an area of 247 square kilometres. It manages local infrastructure and assets, and provides a broad array of services for the City's 415,000 residents. Our broader City is a mixed-use area, with residential, commercial, industrial, medical, institutional, educational, cultural and entertainment land uses, and substantial parkland and sporting facilities.

Our Blacktown 2041 is Council's long-term community strategic plan for the City. The main priorities for the plan are to maintain and improve quality of life for the Blacktown City community and ensure Blacktown City identifies and embraces future liveability and sustainability opportunities.

Blacktown City Council has been a leader in sustainability practices for more than 20 years. Council has been active in responding to climate change, focusing on the performance of its own operations, as well as delivering initiatives to support our residents and businesses to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

Council endorsed our Responding to climate change policy and strategy in July 2018, and we are progressing well with implementation. The policy provides targets and a clear focus for our work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to climate change and build resilience, especially in the face of increasing urban heat and its associated health threats during summer heatwaves. The accompanying strategy is annually updated, reporting progress on the past year and outlining a program for the upcoming year.

Blacktown City Council has committed to being net zero carbon certified under the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations from financial year 2020/21 onward. This is our second Public Disclosure Statement (PDS) for our Australian business operational emissions, outlining our 2021/22

carbon account, emission reduction measures and annual carbon offset reconciliation.

In 2021/22, Council provided the following services to the residents of Blacktown City:

- land use planning and development assessment
- transport network development and maintenance
- waste management services for residential customers
- provision of on and off-street parking services
- development and maintenance of urban parks
- provision and management of arts and cultural facilities and events
- provision and maintenance of libraries, community halls and sports and recreational facilities
- street cleaning and graffiti removal
- animal management
- flood risk management
- biodiversity conservation
- green community initiatives, including programs and events to support greater sustainability action by households, students and businesses.

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

Legal entity name	ABN	ACN
Blacktown Venue Management Ltd	80 098 490 978	098 490 978

3. EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Inside emissions boundary

Quantified

Natural gas	Private/work travel – leaseback
LPG – stationary	C&I waste
Diesel – fleet	Green waste
Petrol – fleet	C&D waste
Ethanol – fleet	Employee commute
Refrigerants	Working from home
Electricity - operational	Telecommunications
Electricity - streetlighting	Advertising
Water	Cleaning supplies
Outsourced recycling - diesel	Cleaning services
Paper	Legal fees
Outsourced printing	Stationery
IT equipment	Chemicals
Office and desk accessories	Liquid chlorine
Professional services	Food and catering
Business accommodation	Taxis and rideshare
Air travel	Fuel use road maintenance

Non-quantified

Diesel – stationary	Hire cars
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Outside emission boundary

Excluded

Capital works
Sites outside Council's control

Continuous improvement of emissions estimation methodology

Waste

For 2021/22, we improved our waste emissions estimation methodology. Our old method extrapolated quantities and proportions of waste going to landfill from a historic dataset, while the new method, used in this document, is based on actual financial data for the relevant period. We now refer to our relevant contracts to apportion operational waste sent to landfill.

Some areas of procurement present challenges in matching payments to specific emission sources, and

we are working to improve these areas. Specifically, we aim to improve estimation methodologies for professional services, chemicals and fuel use road maintenance.

Professional Services

We currently estimate Scope 3 emissions from professional services by applying Climate Active emission factors to dollar values extracted from our TechnologyOne enterprise management platform. To date, we have achieved a reasonable level of accuracy by apportioning total spend across all relevant accounts, according to our first pass mapping of around 3,600 professional service accounting entries to Climate Active categories in 2018/19. However, this method assumes the same spend ratios on each type of professional service as in 2018/19. As this is not the case, we aim to refine the estimation method to more closely reflect annual variations.

Chemicals

In mapping our chemical procurement entries in TechnologyOne to Climate Active chemical categories, we face similar challenges as outlined for professional services. Again, we intend to explore automating mapping of chemicals to Climate Active categories and have a working solution for reporting in 2024/25.

Fuel use road maintenance

Diesel used for road maintenance undertaken directly by Council is accounted for in fleet diesel records, and associated emissions are allocated to scopes 1 & 3 in our carbon footprint. Our estimates of emissions from outsourced road maintenance have lower accuracy because it is difficult to obtain reliable diesel consumption data for these activities. We are exploring ways to improve accuracy of these estimates.

Data management plan for non-quantified sources

Non-quantified sources listed above are immaterial and are likely to remain immaterial in the coming years. We have no additional non-quantified sources that require a data management plan.

Outside the emissions boundary

We have assessed emissions embodied in capital works and from sites outside Council's control as excluded emissions. These are not relevant to Blacktown City Council's operations, are outside of its emissions boundary and are not part of Council's carbon neutral claim. Further detail is provided in Appendix D.

4. EMISSIONS REDUCTION STRATEGY

Through its *Responding to climate change policy* (P000532.2), Blacktown City Council is committed to using 100% renewable electricity for our operations by 2025 and to net-zero emissions from the electricity, fuel and gas we use in our operations by 2030. We aim to progressively reduce our operational emissions and minimise the requirement for carbon offsetting as outlined below.

Action	Timeframe
Our fleet management policy calls for incrementally phasing out internal combustion engine vehicles and increasing the proportion of battery electric vehicles in our leaseback fleet. We are developing a complementary strategy and action plan with emission reduction targets to define the transition timeframe. We will charge our electric vehicles using renewable electricity at Council sites, and are exploring ways to encourage using renewable electricity when charging fleet vehicles elsewhere.	2023 to 2030
We have a program to reduce reliance on natural gas by replacing gas boilers with heat pumps at large Council facilities, such as leisure centres and swimming pools. Other upgrades will include heating and cooling systems and external and internal lighting and controls.	2021, ongoing
Source and use operational electricity exclusively from renewable sources from 2025. We have secured a contract that will provide 100% of our operational electricity demand from emissions-free renewable sources from January 2025 to December 2029.	2025 to 2030
Upgrade streetlighting to improve energy efficiency. We are incrementally retrofitting our City's older streetlights with LED modules and installing only LED streetlighting in our new development areas.	2016 to 2024
We will continue to install onsite solar PV systems where practical, to add to 34 existing behind the meter rooftop solar PV installations across Council facilities (total capacity of 1,408 kW). Our small technology (<100 kW) systems installed to date offset around 1,044 MWh of grid electricity and reduce emissions by around 825 tCO ₂ -e, annually.	2010, ongoing

Emissions reduction actions

We have retrofitted LED lamps to 56% of our City's older streetlights. Council has approved the retrofit of the remaining older streetlights, scheduled to begin in early 2023.

We have installed heat pump systems that provide highly efficient heating and cooling in 2 of our leisure centres. We now only use the pre-existing gas boilers as backup systems. Specifically, we installed:

- two heat pumps and upgraded the building management system at Blacktown Leisure Centre Stanhope, where a substantial proportion of the electricity for the heat pumps is sourced from the 450kW rooftop solar energy system.
- a new heat pump system at the Charlie Lowes Leisure Centre, Emerton. The heat pumps will use renewable electricity drawn from the 275kW rooftop solar energy system.

We replaced over 200 old and inefficient air conditioners with more efficient inverter type air-conditioners

across our various buildings.

We reduced our passenger fleet emissions by encouraging drivers to choose hybrid electric vehicles. In 2021/22, our leaseback fleet comprised 38% hybrid electric vehicles.

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Our 2021/22 operational carbon footprint was the smallest since we started quantifying our emissions in 2018/19, and our fourth year in a row of carbon emission reductions. Our 2021/22 result shows a reduction of 6,359 tCO₂-e (13.3%) compared with base year 2020/21.

Emissions since base year		Total tCO ₂ -e
Base year/ Year 1:	2020–21	47,971
Year 2:	2021–22	41,612

Significant changes in emissions

Key emission reduction drivers for 2021/22 included:

- energy efficiency improvements in streetlighting (despite a net increase in the number of fixtures installed in new development areas)
- increased use of technical services for our large-scale transformational building projects
- fuel switching from natural gas to electricity by replacing gas boilers with heat pumps and upgrading / retuning building management systems.

Emission source name	Current year (tCO ₂ -e)	Previous year (tCO ₂ -e)	Detailed reason for change
Total net electricity emissions (Market based)	20,054	25,342	Improved energy efficiency from LED streetlighting and air conditioning upgrades
Technical services	3,206	2,384	Increased expenditure on technical services due to an uptick in transformational (large scale) building projects
Diesel oil post-2004	3,890	4,147	Strict COVID-19 restrictions from June to September 2021 impacted heavy fleet use
Natural Gas NSW/ACT (metro) (GJ)	1,950	2,334	Fuel switching from natural gas to electricity through optimised heat pump systems, with gas boilers used only as backups
Commercial and Industrial Waste	2,048	2,566	As outlined in section 3, we improved the waste-related emissions estimation methodology for 2021/22, so comparison with the 2020/21 estimate would not be valid
Outsourced recycling trucks – diesel	972	684	Relocation of collection vehicles and change of disposal facility added approximately 800 km per day across the outsourced domestic recycling fleet

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

Certified brand name	Product or Service used
Reflex 100% recycled office paper, carbon neutral certified	A4 office paper

Organisation emissions summary

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	-	-	9	9
Cleaning and Chemicals	-	-	867	867
Electricity	-	20,054	-	20,054
Food	-	-	416	416
ICT services and equipment	-	-	351	351
Office equipment & supplies	-	-	307	307
Postage, courier and freight	-	-	221	221
Professional Services	-	-	6,702	6,702
Refrigerants	63	-	-	63
Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)	1,555	-	395	1,950
Stationary Energy (liquid fuels)	0	-	0	0
Transport (Air)	-	-	17	17
Transport (Land and Sea)	3,856	-	3,464	7,320
Waste	-	-	2,448	2,448
Water	-	-	783	783
Working from home	-	-	105	105
Total	5,474	20,054	16,084	41,612

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

In arrears

1.	Total number of eligible offsets banked from last year's report	3,029
2.	Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	41,612
3.	Total eligible offsets required for this report	38,583
4.	Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	90,000
5.	Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	51,417

Co-benefits

The Guodian Wuqi Zhouwan 1st 49.5MW wind power project, comprising 33 x 1.5 MW wind turbines, provides additional energy security to the northwest Shaanxi region of China and reduces local air pollution. The project promotes economic development and has created new employment opportunities during both its construction and operating phases.

Eligible offsets retirement summary

Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	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 (%)
Transport Metro Delhi	CER	ANREU	15/11/2021	239,662,935 - 239,713,934	2014 - 2016	51,000	47,971	0	3,029	7.3%
Guodian Wuqi Zhouwan 1st 49.5MW Wind Power Project	CER	ANREU	10/07/2023	1,126,612,097 - 1,126,662,096	2020	50,000	0	11,417	38,583	92.7%
				1,126,762,097 - 1,126,775,615		13,519	13,519	13,519	0	0
				1,126,743,464 - 1,126,762,096		18,633	18,633	18,633	0	0
				1,126,709,584 - 1,126,712,096		2,513	2,513	2,513	0	0
				1,126,606,762 - 1,126,612,096		5,335	5,335	5,335	0	0
Total eligible offsets retired and used for this report									41,612	
Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports								51,417		

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of total
Certified Emissions Reductions (CERs)	41,612	100%

Transaction ID	AU20307
Current Status	Sending (91)
Status Date	15/11/2021 16:57:54 (AEDT) 15/11/2021 05:57:54 (GMT)
Transaction Type	Cancellation (4)
Transaction Initiator	Wilson, Raymond Glen
Transaction Approver	Wilson, Raymond Glen
Comment	Cancelled on behalf of Blacktown City Council to support its FY20/21 carbon neutral claim against the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard. Any surplus cancelled offsets will be used to support the Council's FY21/22 Climate Active Carbon Neutral claim.

Transferring Account

Account Number	AU-2545
Account Name	Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd
Account Holder	Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd

Acquiring Account

Account Number	AU-2764
Account Name	Voluntary Cancellation – CP2
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
IN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					IN-4463			239,662,935 - 239,713,934	51,000

Transaction ID	AU28358
Current Status	Proposed (1)
Status Date	10/07/2023 10:14:32 (AEST) 10/07/2023 00:14:32 (GMT)
Transaction Type	Cancellation (4)
Transaction Initiator	Dobbs, Ian Alexander
Transaction Approver	Dobbs, Ian Alexander
Comment	Retired on behalf of Blacktown City Council for its organisational Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification for 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Transferring Account

Account Number	AU-3255
Account Name	Tasman Environmental Markets Australia Pty Ltd
Account Holder	Tasman Environmental Markets Australia Pty Ltd

Acquiring Account

Account Number	AU-2764
Account Name	Voluntary Cancellation – CP2
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
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,125,612,097 - 1,125,652,096	50,000
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,125,762,097 - 1,125,775,515	13,519
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,125,743,464 - 1,125,752,096	18,633
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,125,709,584 - 1,125,712,096	2,513
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,125,606,762 - 1,125,612,096	5,335



7. 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	895,996	0	3%
Total non-grid electricity	895,996	0	3%
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)	4,602,549	0	18%
Residual Electricity	20,155,647	20,054,139	0%
Total grid electricity	24,758,196	20,054,139	18%
Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)	25,654,192	20,054,139	21%
Electricity renewables	5,498,545	0	
Residual Electricity	20,155,647	20,054,139	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)		20,054,139	
Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	21.43%		
Mandatory	17.94%		
Voluntary	0.00%		
Behind the meter	3.49%		
Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO₂e)	20,054		
<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 (kgCO ₂ e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	24,758,196	19,311,393	1,733,074
SA	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0
Qld	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	24,758,196	19,311,393	1,733,074
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	895,996	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)	895,996	0	0
Total Electricity Consumed	25,654,192	19,311,393	1,733,074
Emission Footprint (TCO₂e)	21,044		
<i>Scope 2 Emissions (TCO₂e)</i>	19,311		
<i>Scope 3 Emissions (TCO₂e)</i>	1,733		

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)
N/A	0	0

APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Non-quantified emission sources

The following emission 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	(1) Immaterial	(2) Cost effective (but uplift applied)	(3) Data unavailable (but uplift applied & data plan in place)	(4) Maintenance
Diesel – stationary	Yes	No	No	No
Hire cars	Yes	No	No	No

Notes

- Diesel – stationary
 - We use only a few hundred litres of diesel annually for stationary purposes, for a small number of events where mains power is not available, and for exercising emergency backup generators; emissions from this activity are immaterial.
- Hire cars
 - Council only very rarely hires cars; emissions from this activity are immaterial.

APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Excluded emission sources

The below emission sources have been assessed as not relevant to Blacktown City Council's operations and are outside of its emissions boundary.

- Embodied emissions in construction materials we use in capital works are released in the creation and transport of the materials before Council starts to use them. By definition, they are not operational emissions. We are currently exploring ways of accounting for embodied (or upfront) emissions in our capital works with reasonable accuracy. In time, we hope to be able to influence decarbonisation of our construction material supply chain.
- Sites outside Council's control have been excluded as these have been assessed as not relevant according to the relevance test

Emission sources tested for relevance	(1) Size	(2) Influence	(3) Risk	(4) Stakeholders	(5) Outsourcing	Included in boundary?
Capital works (embodied emissions)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Sites outside Council's control	No	Yes	No	No	No	No



An Australian Government Initiative

