



# **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**POPULOUS DESIGN PTY LTD**

**ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION**

**FY2022**


Australian Government  
**Climate Active**  
**Public Disclosure Statement**

**POPULOUS®**



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Populous Design 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>Al Baxter Senior Principal Date</p>



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources**

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# 1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	618 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	80.5% VCUs, 19.5% ACCUs.
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	N/A
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	06.06.2023 Morna McGuire Organisation Next technical assessment due: FY 2025
THIRD PARTY VALIDATION	Type 1 01.06.2023 Walker Wayland NSW

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## 2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

### Description of certification

The company is a strong international brand, and the climate active certification is for Australian operations only. The Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification covers the Australian business operations of Populous Design Pty Ltd (Populous); ABN, 55 072 891 993. The operational boundary has been defined based on an operational control test, in accordance with the principles of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007. This includes the following locations and facilities:

- Collin House, 469 Adelaide St, Brisbane, QLD
- Level 2, 78-84 Kippax St, Surry Hills, NSW
- Level 1, 561 Church St, Richmond, Vic

The methods used for collating data, performing calculations and presenting the carbon account are in accordance with the following standards:

- Climate Active Standards
- The Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (Revised Edition)
- National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008

Where possible, the calculation methodologies and emission factors used in this inventory are derived from the National Greenhouse Accounts (NGA) Factors in accordance with "Method 1" from the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008.

The greenhouse gases considered within the inventory are those that are commonly reported under the Kyoto Protocol; carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) and synthetic gases - hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF<sub>3</sub>). These have been expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>-e) using relative global warming potentials (GWPs).

*"Sustainability at Populous means ensuring we lead by example.*

*The Climate Active certification is a transparent demonstration of this commitment".*

## Organisation description

Populous (ABN: 55 072 891 993) is a global architecture and design firm that designs the places where people love to be together, like Suncorp Stadium, Yankee Stadium, the London Olympics and the Super Bowl.

Over the last 35 years, the firm has designed more than 3,000 projects worth \$40 billion across emerging and established markets. Populous' comprehensive services include architecture, interior design, event planning and overlay, environmental graphics and wayfinding, master planning, landscape design, urban planning and sustainable design consulting.

With regional headquarters in Brisbane, Kansas City, and London, Populous has 21 offices on four continents. All work in the Asia Pacific Region is managed from the Populous regional headquarters in Brisbane (ABN 55 072 891 993) with satellite Australian studios in Sydney and Melbourne.

## 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><b><u>Quantified</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accommodation and facilities</li> <li>Cleaning and Chemicals</li> <li>Climate Active Carbon Neutral Products and Services</li> <li>Electricity</li> <li>Food</li> <li>ICT services and equipment</li> <li>Office equipment &amp; supplies</li> <li>Postage, courier and freight</li> <li>Products</li> <li>Professional Services</li> <li>Transport (Air)</li> <li>Transport (Land and Sea)</li> <li>Waste</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Working from home</li> <li>Synthetic Gas</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Non-quantified</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>	<p><b><u>Excluded</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p><b><u>Optionally included</u></b></p> <p>N/A</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

Populous is committed to a carbon footprint reduction target of at least 30% by 2025 and 75% by 2030 against our FY2021 baseline.

The principal activity contributing to GHG emissions in was Electricity, at 55% of GHG Protocol emissions.

Our emissions reduction strategy involves:

- Measuring and reporting our annual carbon emissions for at least the next 5 years.
- All Populous Australian studios to switch to renewable energy Greenpower providers by 2025; controlled electricity represents 25.5% of the total footprint.
- Where travel is essential, particularly flights, encouraging staff to make the trip more impactful by including additional meetings or purposes. Business flights represent 15.8% of the total footprint. Develop an internal procedure so that all flights are booked via a central agent and directly offset on purchase within the next 2 years.
- Employee commute and working from home represent nearly 10% of the total footprint. Encouraging & enabling staff to use less carbon intensive forms of transport in their daily commute (public transport, cycling, walking, co sharing, electric vehicles).
- Encouraging & enabling staff to use virtual meetings where possible to replace work related travel. Encouraging & enabling staff to use less carbon intensive forms of transport in work hours in meeting clients and travelling to site.
- Third party services represent a significant chunk of the total footprint. Populous will develop a sustainable procurement policy that will encourage the use of Climate Active certified products. The aim is to procure at least 5 Climate Active suppliers (Category products or services) within the next 5 years.
- Regularly reviewing our consumables and switching to low carbon (and more ethical) alternatives where possible.
- Outlining our targets and strategies in our Sustainable Action Plan (SAP), disaggregating emissions reduction actions by scope and year, and publicly disclosing our SAP and reporting against these targets.

Efforts will be focused on the Brisbane office, as this is geographically the main source of emissions (87.2%).



## Emissions reduction actions

In 2021 the Populous Brisbane Studio moved to a new office space. This space was refurbished to include low energy LED light fittings, automatic light sensors in meeting rooms and offices, water efficient sanitary fixtures and taps, the removal of desk side waste bins and the inclusion of central waste separation and recycling bins.

In 2022 the Populous Sydney Studio moved to a new office space. The office was selected based on location close to public transport and extensive end of trip facilities to encourage active and public transport commuting, no car spaces were taken with the lease again to encourage active or public transport use, existing furniture, workstations, storage equipment, IT equipment, acoustic tiles and pin boards were re-used from the old Populous office space; and the space was refurbished using energy efficient LED lights and water efficient taps.

## Additional Information

Initiatives and actions already in place at Populous are:

- Prior to Covid-19 (2007 to 2019 inclusive) all Populous domestic and international air travel emissions within Australia and Asia Pacific were offset through Australian Native Reforestation Gold Standard VER offsets and Biodiverse Reforestation Carbon Offsets. Populous have now rolled these air travel emissions into the offset program outlined in this Climate Active certification.
- Since March 2020 the Populous internal environmental working group, EcoPOP, undertakes regular reviews of consumables for Australian based offices. Where more environmentally sustainable, lower carbon or ethical products are identified these products are procured in place of the less sustainable, higher carbon or less ethical product.
- Globally the Populous EcoPOP teams run an annual Sustainability Week program for all staff with a focus on sustainability issues through speakers and initiatives to improve sustainability in operations, projects and our staff.

## 5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

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

- This assessment and Climate Active submission was prepared with the assistance of [Pangolin Associates](#) and these services are carbon neutral.
- Opal Australian Paper (Reflex, Australian)

### Organisation emissions summary

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

Emission category	Sum of Scope 1 (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Sum of Scope 2 (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Sum of Scope 3 (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Sum of total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.0	0.0	3.5	3.5
Cleaning and Chemicals	0.0	0.0	15.2	15.2
Climate Active Carbon Neutral Products and Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Electricity	0.0	340.0	0.0	340.0
Food	0.0	0.0	8.1	8.1
ICT services and equipment	0.0	0.0	13.4	13.4
Office equipment & supplies	0.0	0.0	25.2	25.2
Postage, courier and freight	0.0	0.0	13.6	13.6
Products	0.0	0.0	9.2	9.2
Professional Services	0.0	0.0	6.6	6.6
Transport (Air)	0.0	0.0	97.5	97.5
Transport (Land and Sea)	2.0	0.0	43.3	45.3
Waste	0.0	0.0	7.5	7.5
Water	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.9
Working from home	0.0	0.0	19.5	19.5
Synthetic Gas	12.1	0.0	0.0	12.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>340.0</b>	<b>263.4</b>	<b>617.5</b>

## Uplift factors

An uplift factor is an upwards adjustment to the total carbon inventory to account for relevant emissions, which can't be reasonably quantified or estimated. This conservative accounting approach helps ensure the integrity of the carbon neutral claim.

Reason for uplift factor	tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
N/A	N/A
Total of all uplift factors	0
<b>Total footprint to offset</b> <i>(total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)</i>	618

## 6. CARBON OFFSETS

### Offsets retirement approach

In arrears	
1. Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	618
2. Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	618
3. Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	0

### Co-benefits

#### Aboriginal Carbon Foundation (ACCUs)

Examples of environmental, social and cultural core benefits are:

- Elders sharing traditional ecological knowledge with young people,
- Protection of rock art and sacred sites,
- Protection of the environment by Aboriginal led land and sea management,
- Meaningful employment aligning with the interests and values of Traditional Owners,
- Contribution to increased pride and self-esteem of Aboriginal people.

Support jobs for local people:

- Invest in Indigenous communities and rural towns.
- Invest in measurable environmental, social and cultural core benefits.
- Enable rangers and farmers to share knowledge and experiences.
- Make a positive contribution towards tackling climate change.
- Support Reconciliation Action Plans, Corporate Social Responsibility Goals and UN Sustainable Development Goals.

#### Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project

- Rimba Raya is located in Central Kalimantan, Indonesian Borneo, and is one of the largest REDD+ peat swamp forest projects in the world, avoiding nearly 130 million tonnes of carbon emissions
- Rimba Raya generates carbon credits from High Conservation Value (HCV) peat swamp forest within the carbon accounting area.
- Rimba Raya is an InfiniteEARTH Project.
- Rimba Raya protects one of the most highly endangered ecosystems in the world.
- Rimba Raya develops livelihood programmes in surrounding villages (addressing all 17 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals) to provide education, employment and hope for the future.
- Rimba Raya provides a buffer zone between the palm oil industry and the Tanjung Puting National Park, home to one of the last remaining wild populations of orangutans on earth.

## 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 (%)
Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project	VCUs	Verra	10 June 2023	<a href="#">7627-414287460-414287583-VCU-016-MER-ID-14-674-01072014-31122014-1</a>	2014	0	124	0	0	124	80.5%
Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project	VCUs	Verra	10 June 2023	<a href="#">9380-92406654-92407027-VCS-VCU-263-VER-ID-14-674-01072014-31122014-1</a>	2014	0	374	0	0	374	
KACCU / Wulbujubur Cultural Fire project with Aboriginal Carbon Foundation	ACCUs	ANREU	21 April 2023	8,357,016,216 8,357,016,335	2022 - 2023	0	120	0	0	120	19.5%
<b>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</b>										618	
<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)		120				80.5%					
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)		498				19.5%					

## 7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

### Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

## APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

N/A



## 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 (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Renewable Percentage of total
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)	68,381	0	19%
Residual Electricity	300,449	298,753	0%
<b>Total grid electricity</b>	<b>368,831</b>	<b>298,753</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Total Electricity Consumed (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>368,831</b>	<b>298,753</b>	<b>19%</b>
Electricity renewables	68,381	0	
Residual Electricity	300,449	298,753	
<b>Exported on-site generated electricity</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)		298,753	
<b>Total renewables (grid and non-grid)</b>	<b>18.54%</b>		
<b>Mandatory</b>	<b>18.54%</b>		
<b>Voluntary</b>	<b>0.00%</b>		
<b>Behind the meter</b>	<b>0.00%</b>		
<b>Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO<sub>2</sub>e)</b>	<b>299</b>		
<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 (kgCO2e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO2e)
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	6,935	5,409	485
SA	0	0	0
Vic	12,398	11,282	1,240
Qld	349,497	279,598	41,940
NT	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0
<b>Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)</b>	<b>368,831</b>	<b>296,290</b>	<b>43,665</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
<b>Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Electricity Consumed</b>	<b>368,831</b>	<b>296,290</b>	<b>43,665</b>

<b>Emission Footprint (TCO2e)</b>	340
<i>Scope 2 Emissions (TCO2e)</i>	296
<i>Scope 3 Emissions (TCO2e)</i>	44

## Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO2e)
N/A	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, 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 quantified.

No emission sources in Populous’s organisation boundary were non-quantified in FY2022.

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
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 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.

No emission sources were excluded from Populous's organisation boundary in FY2022.

Emission sources tested for relevance	(1) Size	(2) Influence	(3) Risk	(4) Stakeholders	(5) Outsourcing	Included in boundary?
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



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