




# **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**CITY OF MELBOURNE  
NOW OR NEVER 2023  
AUGUST 17 – SEPTEMBER 2  
POST-EVENT REPORT**

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



RESPONSIBLE ENTITY NAME	City of Melbourne
NAME OF EVENT	Now or Never 2023
EVENT DATE(S)	August 17 – September 2
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>Tiffany Crawford            Co-director, Climate Change and City Resilience, City of Melbourne            16/11/2023</p>



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

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Version: August 2023



# 1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	688 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
OFFSETS USED	31% VERs, 69% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	34.97%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: City of Melbourne
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Date: Organisation: Pangolin Associates Next technical assessment due: 2026
THIRD PARTY VALIDATION	N/A

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## 2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

### Description of certification

The Now or Never Festival is a new large-scale festival of technology, innovation and arts which premiered on August 17, 2023 and concluded on September 2. Replacing Melbourne Music Week and Melbourne Knowledge Week, Now or Never retained some of these past events' signature programming, such as Live Music Safari (now called NON STOP Weekend) and Festival Hubs.

Now or Never included a four day music and conference program in the Royal Exhibition Building, complemented by a series of immersive experience dinners in the NEVERSPHERE in the forecourt. Melbourne Town Hall, the State Library of Victoria, and North Melbourne Arts House all played host to music and interactive arts events while ACMI, The Capitol Theatre and the Melbourne Museum presented cinematic and conference style events. Now or Never will presented a projection program at Melbourne's Shrine or Remembrance and the Docklands played host to a public art trail with festival type catering and bars.

Now or Never attracted 148,431 attendees across ticketed and free events,

### Event description

Now or Never is a wholly owned and managed event presented by the City of Melbourne.

This carbon neutral certification takes into account all energy and fuel use, all food and beverage sales and all waste from each event, plus the international travel and accommodation for each artist and their teams engaged for the event, all third party contractor costs and the ground transport for applicable attendees to all events.

This is the first year Now or Never has been certified carbon neutral, however the two events which have been merged to create Now or Never (Melbourne Music Week and Melbourne Knowledge Week) were certified carbon neutral for three years each. The approach to setting the emissions boundary and the pre-event emissions estimates were based on event elements that were carried over from these now defunct events.

## 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 event, 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 the event'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**

Electricity  
Gas  
Liquid Fuels  
Processional services  
Products  
Office supplies  
Construction materials  
Florals  
Attendee travel  
Artist travel  
Food & drink  
Artist Accommodation  
Waste and Recycling  
Water

**Non-quantified**

**Optionally included**

**Outside emission boundary**

**Excluded**

Attendee accommodation

## Data collection – changes since the pre-event report

Emission source	Data collection method	Assumptions / conservative approach taken
Attendee travel	<p>A sample of attendees are surveyed asking their travel origin and mode of transport. These figures are used to calculate the total distance travel by the sample group. These figures are then extrapolated over the entire number of attendees to the event.</p> <p>An additional question was asked of attendees – <i>Did you attend work or school as part of your travel today?</i> Those answering yes had their transport emissions excluded from the inventory, as it was determined not to be additional to business as usual.</p>	A sample of 690 attendees was surveyed across a number of Now or Never events and considered to be representative.
Artist travel	All artists submitted information on the origin city of their travel. An air travel distance calculator was used to determine total distance flown.	All air transport is calculated as a return trip unless indicated by the artist otherwise
Artist accommodation	All artists' submitted information on the number of nights' accommodation spent in Melbourne and the star rating of the hotel if known.	A default of 4 stars was applied for all accommodation where the star rating was not reported.
Food and drinks	<p>All caterers and venues serving food or drinks were required to report food and beverage sales. All beverages donated as part of commercial partnerships were also counted.</p>	A 5% uplift factor has been applied to the whole inventory to capture any missing data from smaller venues.
Electricity	All venues submitted their electricity bills and a 'per day' electricity usage was derived from this and multiplied by the total number of days the venue was used. For the largest events, an energy subcontractor sub-metered all usage.	.

## 4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

### Emissions reduction measures

For the inaugural Now or Never, a baseline of emissions will be set with opportunities for emissions reduction identified post-event.

Some key emissions reduction action were targeted based on the City of Melbourne's experience on other events, including –

- Encouraging travelling artists to offset their flights at the point of booking.
- Identifying waste avoidance and reduction opportunities for each venue and ensuring recyclability of any single use items.
- Encouraging attendees to use public transport instead of driving to events.
- Where possible, eliminating the use of generators.



## 5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

### Significant changes in emissions – pre-event vs post-event

Emission source name	Pre-event emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Post-event emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Detailed reason for change
Professional Services	34.82	254.66	Previous iterations of Melbourne Knowledge were used to predict the value of services for Now or Never. The reality was that the security, technical contractors and other outsourced services for Now or Never were many factors greater than the much smaller Knowledge Week.
Transport (air)	248.21	205.35	The final program of international acts was not known at the time of preparing the pre-event inventory. Some previously booked international acts did not end up performing in Now or Never 2023.
Transport (Land and Sea)	344.67	55.87	A number of factors contributed to attendee transport emissions being reduced. 1) Attendee numbers were predicted to be 250,000 but were only 148,431. 2) The average distance travelled by an attendee to Now or Never was shorter than predicted 3) A new survey question was asked of attendees - <i>Did you attend work or school as part of you travel today?</i> For those answering <i>yes</i> (49%), their transport emissions were discounted by 100% as they were deemed 'not additional' to BAU. We use this same method for Firelight and Moomba as they have large, passive attendance numbers which Now or Never also has elements of.

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

N/A

## Emissions summary

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

Emission category	Pre-event emissions totals (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	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 (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
Accommodation and facilities	11.46	0.00	0.00	3.19	3.19
Cleaning and Chemicals	2.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Construction materials and services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.49	0.49
Electricity	32.31	0.00	21.72	2.87	24.59
Food	102.84	0.00	0.00	94.80	94.80
Products	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.25	2.25
Professional Services	34.82	0.00	0.00	254.66	254.66
Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)	1.02	1.38	0.00	0.11	1.49
Stationary energy (liquid fuels)	0.00	2.33	0.00	0.57	2.91
Transport (Air)	248.21	0.00	0.00	205.35	205.35
Transport (Land and Sea)	344.67	0.00	0.00	55.87	55.87
Waste	8.47	0.00	0.00	6.52	6.52
Water	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.06
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.87	1.87
Florals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.32	0.32
<b>Total emissions</b>	<b>779.2</b>	<b>3.72</b>	<b>21.72</b>	<b>628.93</b>	<b>654.36</b>
<b>Difference between pre-event and post-event emissions</b>	<b>- 124.84</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
5% margin for error uplift – allows for some minor inaccuracies in contract reporting	32.72
Total of all uplift factors	32.72
<b>Total footprint to offset</b> <i>(total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)</i>	<b>687.08</b>

## 6. CARBON OFFSETS

### Eligible offsets retirement summary

The total emission to offset for this certification is 688 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e. The total number of eligible offsets used in this report is 688. Of the total eligible offsets used, 858 were previously banked and zero were newly purchased and retired. 178 are remaining and have been banked for future use.

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 <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 (%)
Grouped Hydropower Plants in Chongqing, Yunnan, Sichuan and Guizhou Provinces, P.R. China	VCU	VERRA	16/06/2023	<a href="#">9407-95978352-95978951-VCS-VCU-785-VER-CN-1-438-28032016-25092016-1</a>	2016		600	0	178	422	69%
Mount Sandy Conservation Project (EcoAustralia™)	ABU		03/08/2023	59923-59933	2020	11		0	0	11	2%
<b>Stapled with</b> Miaoli 49.8MW Wind Farm Project	VER	GSR		<a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/batch-retirements/details/147645">https://registry.goldstandard.org/batch-retirements/details/147645</a>	2014		11				

Mount Sandy Conservation Project (EcoAustralia™)	ABU		20/06/2023	59298-59552	2020	255		0	0	255	29%
Stapled with Miaoli 49.8MW Wind Farm Project	VER	GSR		<a href="#">GS1-1-TW-GS931-12-2014-4575-35569-35823</a> <a href="#">(GS VERs)</a>	2014		255				
<b>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</b>										688	
<b>Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports</b>										178	

Type of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Verified Emissions Reductions (VERs)	266	31%
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	422	69%

## 7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

### Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A.

# APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## CERTIFICATE

MOUNT SANDY  
CONSERVATION PROJECT

11

Australian Biodiversity Units  
(16.5 square metres)  
were purchased and retired by:

CITY OF MELBOURNE  
CRN 105685  
SERIAL NUMBERS 59923-59933

AN AUSTRALIAN BIODIVERSITY UNIT (ABU) REPRESENTS THE PERMANENT  
PROTECTION OF 1.5 SQUARE METRES OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE  
NATIVE HABITAT



24/08/2023

REGISTRAR CERTIFICATION

DATE

NVCR ALLOCATION REFERENCE: 2019/4003 VOL 003

# CERTIFICATE

## MOUNT SANDY CONSERVATION PROJECT

# 255

Australian Biodiversity Units  
(382.50 square metres)  
were purchased and retired by:

**CITY OF MELBOURNE**  
CRN 105685  
SERIAL NUMBERS 59298-59552

AN AUSTRALIAN BIODIVERSITY UNIT (ABU) REPRESENTS THE PERMANENT  
PROTECTION OF 1.5 SQUARE METRES OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE  
NATIVE HABITAT



27/06/2023

REGISTRAR CERTIFICATION

DATE

NVCR ALLOCATION REFERENCE: 2019/4003 VOL 003



## 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 CO2-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)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	6,404	0	16%
Climate Active precinct/building (voluntary renewables)	0	0	0%
Precinct/Building (LRET)	0	0	0%
Precinct/Building jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	0%
Electricity products (voluntary renewables)	0	0	0%
Electricity products (LRET)	0	0	0%
Electricity products jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	0	0	0%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	7,444	0	19%
Residual Electricity	25,750	24,591	0%
<b>Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>13,848</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>Total grid electricity</b>	<b>39,598</b>	<b>24,591</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>Total electricity (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>39,598</b>	<b>24,591</b>	<b>35%</b>
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
<b>Residual electricity consumption under operational control</b>	<b>25,750</b>	<b>24,591</b>	
Scope 2	22,740	21,717	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	3,010	2,874	
<b>Residual electricity consumption not under operational control</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Scope 3	0	0	

<b>Total renewables (grid and non-grid)</b>	<b>34.97%</b>
<b>Mandatory</b>	<b>18.80%</b>
<b>Voluntary</b>	<b>16.17%</b>
<b>Behind the meter</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO2-e)</b>	<b>21.72</b>
<b>Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO2-e)</b>	<b>2.87</b>
<b>Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)</b>	<b>21.72</b>
<b>Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)</b>	<b>2.87</b>
<b>Total emissions liability (t CO2-e)</b>	<b>24.59</b>

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 (kg CO2-e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO2-e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO2-e)
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	39,598	39,598	33,659	2,772	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
<b>Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)</b>	<b>39,598</b>	<b>39,598</b>	<b>33,659</b>	<b>2,772</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
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		
<b>Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>Total electricity (grid + non grid)</b>	<b>39,598</b>					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO2-e)	33.66
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO2-e)	2.77
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	33.66
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	2.77
<b>Total emissions liability (t CO2-e)</b>	<b>36.43</b>

## Operations in Climate Active buildings and precincts

Operations in Climate Active buildings and precincts	Electricity consumed in Climate Active certified building/precinct (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
N/A	0	0
<p><i>Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity. These electricity emissions have been offset by another Climate Active member through their building or precinct 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 building/precinct under the market-based method is outlined as such in the market based summary table.</i></p>		

## Climate Active carbon neutral electricity products

Climate Active carbon neutral product used	Electricity claimed from Climate Active electricity products (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
N/A	0	0
<p><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></p>		

## APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

### Non-quantified emission sources

N/A

## APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

### Excluded emission sources

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 event's electricity.
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 event's greenhouse gas risk exposure.
4. **Stakeholders** The emissions from a particular source are deemed relevant by key stakeholders.
5. **Outsourcing** The emissions are from outsourced activities that were previously undertaken within the event's boundary or from outsourced activities that are typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable events.

## Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
Attendee Accommodation	N	N	N	N	N	<p><b>Size:</b> Now or Never, as with all City of Melbourne Major events is marketed to, and primarily attended by a local Victoria audience. Any instance of attendees from out of state are assumed to be attending the event as a secondary reason for their travel. The accommodation of artists and other contractors and their teams IS included in the inventory however</p> <p><b>Influence:</b> We do not have the potential to influence the emissions from this source, including by shifting to a different lower-emissions supplier for our event.</p> <p><b>Risk:</b> There are no relevant laws or regulations that apply to limit emissions specifically from this source.</p> <p><b>Stakeholders:</b> Key stakeholders, including the public, are unlikely to consider this a relevant source of emissions for our business.</p> <p><b>Outsourcing:</b> We have not previously included this source our emissions boundary for any City of Melbourne major event</p>



An Australian Government Initiative

