

# PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**COX ARCHITECTURE** 

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION FY2022-23

#### Australian Government

# Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement







NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	COX Architecture Pty Ltd
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 Arrears report
DECLARATION	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.
	Dr Matthias Irger National Head of Sustainability 9 April 2024



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Version March 2023.



# 1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	2,961 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
OFFSETS USED	24% ACCUs, 76% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	91.8%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Pangolin Associates
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	1/02/2023 Pangolin Associates Next technical assessment due: FY 2026

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# 2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

### **Description of certification**

This inventory has been prepared using the financial year from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 and covers the Australian business and retail operations of COX Architecture Pty Ltd, trading as COX, for the purpose of carbon neutral large organisation certification.

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:

- L1, 14 Ebenezer Place, Adelaide, 5000 SA
- L2, 2 Edward St, Brisbane, 4000 QLD
- Unit 1, 19 Eastlake Parade, Kingston, 2604 ACT
- 167 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, 3000 VIC
- 189 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, 3000 VIC
- 360 Murray St, Perth, 6000 WA
- 70 George St, The Rocks, 2000 NSW

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 ( $CO_2$ ), methane ( $CH_4$ ), nitrous oxide ( $N_2O$ ) and synthetic gases - hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) sulphur hexafluoride ( $SF_6$ ) and nitrogen trifluoride ( $NF_3$ ). These have been expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents ( $CO_2$ -e) using relative global warming potentials (GWPs).



### **Organisation description**

COX Architecture Pty Ltd trading as COX, is the sole trustee for The Philip Cox and Partners Unit Trust (ABN 78 426 372 646). The Philip Cox and Partners Unit Trust's emissions are captured within the boundary. COX is a design-focused international architecture, interior design and planning practice with studios in every major Australian city and projects around the world.

COX cares deeply about our planet, its ecology, and habitats. We acknowledge the climate and biodiversity emergency facing the planet and understand the importance of protecting and regenerating the natural environment.

At COX, we believe that sustainability is an ancient and intuitive part of good design that is embedded in our 'total design' mindset, and applied to all aspects of our design processes and operations. Transforming the way we design our built environment is fundamental to combating the climate crisis.

We are determined to continually improve our processes through research, technology and training. In collaboration with our clients, we steer architectural responses that minimise the impact our projects have on people and the environment. This includes committing to continual reductions in embodied and operational carbon.



# 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 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

Construction materials and services

Electricity

Food

ICT services and equipment

Machinery and vehicles

Office equipment and supplies

Postage, courier and freight

Professional services

Transport (air)

Transport (land and sea)

Waste

Water

Working from home

### Non-quantified

Refrigerants

Advertising services

# Outside emission boundary

#### **Excluded**

N/A



# 4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

## **Emissions reduction strategy**

COX aims to reduce our operational carbon footprint by 50% by 2025 compared to a 2019 baseline. In 2019, comparable emissions were 2,965 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e. By 2030, we target an 80% reduction of our emissions with the intention to become carbon negative in the longer term.

COX's journey to reducing our carbon footprint includes the following actions in all studios across Australia

Scope 1 emissions directly generated by us will be reduced by:

- Encouraging the use of active and public transport, e-mobility and car sharing services in lieu of driving a company vehicle if an in-person meeting is required;
- Replacing company vehicles with electric cars when they come to the end of their useful lives; and
- In the longer term, phasing out ownership of company vehicles where practical.

Scope 2 emissions generated indirectly by our electricity consumption will be reduced by:

- Continuing to switch branches to 100% renewable electricity with the aim of all branches using 100% renewable electricity by 2025;
- Negotiating with our landlord to switch to 100% renewable electricity where base building energy is out of our control;
- Utilizing natural cross-ventilation when outside weather conditions are favourable in lieu of air-conditioning in branches with operable windows; and
- In the longer term, negotiating with our landlord to install solar panels and battery storage if feasible.

**Scope 3** emissions generated indirectly by our business activity will be reduced by:

- Ensuring only necessary business travel is undertaken and encourage meetings to be held via video/teleconference where in-person meetings are not culturally or economically beneficial;
- Promoting the use of active and public transport, and e-mobility in lieu of using a taxi, company car or private vehicle;
- Regularly promoting reduced carbon solutions to employees by supporting modified commuting behaviours, reducing waste to landfill, reducing printing, and reducing single use plastic;
- Prioritizing service providers and products that are Climate Active or Net Zero certified.
- Considering embodied and operational emissions when assessing procurement options of equipment.

The **COX Sustainability Strategy** provides more information about our targets and commitments, including broader environmental goals for our projects such as achieving zero energy, carbon, water and zero waste amid a circular economy, increasing resiliency and enhancing native biodiversity. The Sustainability Strategy is publicly available on our webpage and will be updated regularly.



# **Emissions reduction actions in FY23**

- Combining our Melbourne studio into one location est 50 tonnes
- Relocating our Sydney studio to one with no 3rd party electricity and natural ventilation est. 50 tonnes



# **5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY**

#### **Emissions over time**

Emissions since base year				
		Total tCO <sub>2</sub> -e (without uplift)	Total tCO <sub>2</sub> -e (with uplift)	
Base year:	2021-22	1,616*	n/a	
Year 1:	2022-23	2961	n/a	

<sup>\*</sup>Cox Architecture FY2022 PDS refers to 1,660 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e as the total emissions for that period. An over-reporting error has resulted in a reduced figure of 1,616.3 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e for this reporting period.

### Significant changes in emissions

The reopening of state and national borders post-COVID-19 lockdowns has led to an expansion in interstate and overseas business, resulting in a significant rise in total air transport emissions from 153 tones to 1,112 tones. Additionally, the inclusion of the fit-out for the new Sydney studio has contributed to the overall increase in emissions.

Emission source name	Previous year emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Current year emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Detailed reason for change
Long business class flights (>3,700km)	28	792	Opening of national borders after COVID-19 lockdowns and growth in overseas business.
Construction materials and services	-	445	Fit out of new Sydney studio

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

Certified brand name	Product/Service/Building/Precinct used
Bibbulmun, Reflex, and COS	Paper
Qantas and Virgin	Opt in carbon offset flight tickets



# **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 <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	0	0	55	55
Cleaning and chemicals	0	0	43	43
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services	0	0	0	0
Construction materials and services	0	0	445	445
Electricity	0	0	79	79
Food	0	0	250	250
ICT services and equipment	0	0	257	257
Machinery and vehicles	0	0	0	0.2
Office equipment and supplies	0	0	43	43
Postage, courier and freight	0	0	7	7
Professional services	0	0	362	362
Transport (air)	0	0	1112	1112
Transport (land and sea)	7	0	218	225
Waste	0	0	40	40
Water	0	0	10	10
Working from home	0	0	32	32
Total emissions	7	0.0	2953	2961

# **Uplift factors**

Reason for uplift factor	tCO₂-e
N/A	
Total of all uplift factors	
Total emissions footprint to offset (total emissions from summary table + total of all uplift factors)	



# **6.CARBON OFFSETS**

### Offsets retirement approach

This certification has taken an in-arrears offsetting approach. The total emission to offset is 2,961 t CO<sub>2</sub>-e. The total number of eligible offsets used in this report is 3644. Of the total eligible offsets used, 144 were previously banked and 3500 were newly purchased and retired. 683 are remaining and have been banked for future use.

#### Co-benefits

#### Lynwood Human-Induced Regeneration Project

Located in Western New South Wales, this project works with landholders to regenerate and protect native vegetation. The area harbors a number of indigenous plant species which provide important habitat and nutrients for native wildlife. By erecting fencing and actively managing invasive species, the project avoids emissions caused by clearing and achieves key environmental and biodiversity benefits.

#### Key Impacts:

- · Emissions reduction
- Wildlife protection
- Habitat conservation
- Improved soil health

#### Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project in Indonesia

The Rimba Raya REDD+ project has successfully defended 64,500 hectares of carbon and biodiversity-rich lowland peat forest from conversion to oil palm plantations, which surround the project area and adjacent Tanjung Putting National Park. Rimba Raya protects over 120 threatened and endangered species in the project area including the endangered Borneo Orangutan and supports over 10,000 forest-dependent community members living in and along the boundaries of the project, who have traditionally held no tenure and who have used the forest in an unsustainable way.

#### **Evergreen Forest Protection Project in Brazil**

The Evergreen Forest Protection Project aims to conserve 130,554 hectares of biodiverse tropical rainforest each year. Prior to the project's implementation, the region, which is owned by private landowners, had come under significant pressure from illegal logging and unplanned deforestation. In close collaboration with the on-the-ground local partner, the project's main objective is to increase surveillance around the project area. With increased observation posts throughout the project area and motorbikes that enable project staff to cover wider distances, the project aims to ensure illegal loggers do not encroach on the area and the positive effects on biodiversity are monitored over time. In tandem with surveillance activities, the project aims to implement training courses for project staff and nearby communities in sustainable forest and wildfire management, strengthening the local ability to preserve the forest

# 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 <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 in Indonesia	VCU	Verra	14 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	9380-92901683- 92902682-VCS-VCU- 263-VER-ID-14-674- 01072014-31122014-1	2014	0	1,000	856	0	144	5%
EVERGREEN REDD+ PROJECT	VCU	Verra	14/12/2023	13020-467370137- 467372936-VCS-VCU- 262-VER-BR-14-2539- 01012021-31072021-0	2021	0	2800	0	683	2117	71%
Lynwood Human- Induced Regeneration Project	ACCU	ANREU	14/12/23	8,356,141,664- 8,356,142,363	2022-23	0	700	0	0	700	24%
	Total eligible offsets retired and used for this report 2961										
Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports 683											

\*In FY2021-22 there was an over-estimate in emissions resulting in over surrender of Rimba Raya credits. Previously reported as 101 credits banked for FY2022-23, the total amount of credits to be used for FY2022-23 from this retirement is 144 units. There has been no double counting in this calculation.

Type of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)	700	24%
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	2261	76%



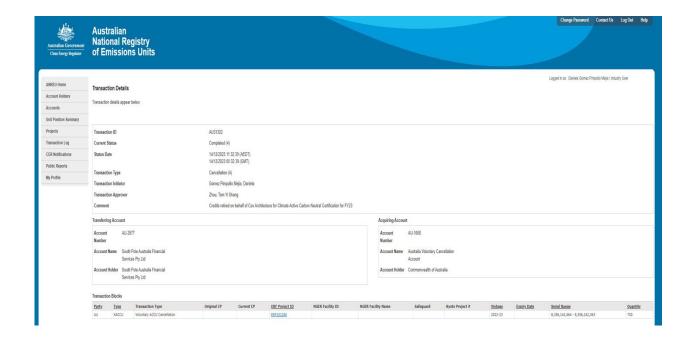
# 7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A



# APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION





# 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%
Total non-grid electricity	0	0	0%
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	662,065	0	66%
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)	74,438	0	7%
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	18,878	0	2%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	170,720	0	17%
Residual Electricity	82,398	78,690	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	926,101	0	92%
Total grid electricity	1,008,499	78,690	92%
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	1,008,499	78,690	92%
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	0%	10,000	<b>52</b> 70
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	0	0	
Scope 2	0	0	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	0	0	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	82,398	78,690	
Scope 3	82,398	78,690	
	02,000	10,000	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	91.83%
Mandatory	18.80%
Voluntary	73.03%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	0.00
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	78.69
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	0.00
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	78.69
Total emissions liability (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	78.69
Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%	



Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh) total	Under operational control			Not under operational control		
Percentage of grid electricity consumption under operational control	89%	(kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	
ACT	100,416	89,370	65,240	5,362	11,046	8,726	
NSW	236,662	210,629	153,759	12,638	26,033	20,566	
SA	80,577	71,714	17,928	5,737	8,863	2,925	
VIC	308,906	274,926	233,688	19,245	33,980	31,261	
QLD	153,093	136,253	99,464	20,438	16,840	14,819	
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0	
WA	128,845	114,672	58,483	4,587	14,173	7,795	
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	1,008,499	897,564	628,563	68,007	110,935	86,093	
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)	1,008,499						

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	628.56
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO <sup>2</sup> -e)	154.10
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	628.56
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	154.10
Total emissions liability	782.66

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
Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electric	ity. These electricity emissions have been	offset by another Climate

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.



### 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

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.



# 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 <u>one</u> of the following reasons:

- 1. Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively
- 2. <u>Cost effective</u> Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.
- 3. <u>Data unavailable</u> 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
Advertising services	Immaterial

## Data management plan for non-quantified sources

There are no non-quantified sources in the emission boundary that require a data management plan.



# 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:

- <u>Size</u> The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions.
- 2. <u>Influence</u> 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.
- 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						





