PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

EDUCATION SERVICES AUSTRALIA

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2022–23

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Education Services Australia Ltd
REPORTING PERIOD	1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 Arrears report
DECLARATIONP	*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.*  Cameron Power Chief Financial Officer 15/04/2024

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

Version August 2023.

1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	1157 tCO_2-e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	20% ACCUs, 80% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	19%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Pangolin Associates
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	19/12/2023 Completed by: Pangolin Associates Next technical assessment due: FY 2025-26 report

Contents

2. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Description of certification

This certification covers the Australian business operations of Education Services Australia, (ESA), ABN 18 007 342 421.

Organisation description

Education Services Australia (ESA) is a national not-for-profit company owned by the state, territory and Australian Government education ministers.

Established in March 2010 by Australian education ministers, ESA aims to advance key, nationally agreed education initiatives, programs and projects.

Our services include:

- researching, testing and developing technologies and communication systems for education
- devising, developing and delivering curriculum and assessment, professional development, career, and information support services
- pooling, sharing and distributing knowledge, resources and services to support e-learning
- supporting national infrastructure to ensure:
    - access to quality-assured systems and content
    - interoperability between individuals, entities and systems.

We also create, publish, disseminate and market:

- curriculum and assessment materials
- ICT-based solutions
- products and services that support learning, teaching, leadership and administration.

As a leading education services provider, ESA helps create technology-based education services that benefit *all* Australian education jurisdictions. ESA's cost-efficient products and services can be adapted in response to emerging technologies – and the education and training sector's changing needs.

ESA provides:

- development, sharing and deployment of nationally owned technical data and assessment systems
- digital teaching and learning resources, tools and services
- information and communications technology services

ESA uses the operational control method to determine its boundaries. The company had a tenancy in the Melbourne CBD during the reporting period, moving offices in November 2022. At this time, ESA moved to a flexible working model, allowing staff to work from home for 60% of their working hours.

ESA is a single legal entity. It has no consolidation of companies to consider.

All activities relating to ESA are included in its organisational boundary. ESA also includes its Melbourne office in its emissions inventory.

ESA's operational boundaries include all Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions – and all material and relevant Scope 3 emissions.

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

Construction materials and services

Electricity

ICT services and equipment

Postage, courier and freight

Professional services

Refrigerants

Transport (air)

Transport (land and sea)

Waste

Water

Working from home

Office equipment and supplies

Non-quantified

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

ESA aims to reduce carbon emissions by 10% by FY27 compared to FY2023

ESA's 2024–26 strategic objective is to be recognised as an essential partner in the delivery of safe and effective education solutions informed by our unique understanding of our stakeholders' digital opportunities and challenges.

We at Education Services Australia also acknowledge our important role in climate action. A fruitful life and education, after all, must include a liveable *climate* for young Australians. To support this, we've created three guiding principles as part of our emissions reduction strategy:

Learn
We will relentlessly expand our understanding of emissions reduction. We'll leverage our existing relationships – and explore new ones – to understand how we can make the greatest possible difference.

Facilitate
We will use our learnings to align the organisation's actions with its aims – optimising our processes, policies and procedures.

Educate
We will educate our staff and, where relevant, our stakeholders to drive change.

As part of this, we will refresh a cross-functional sustainability committee to lead ESA's 2024-2027 sustainability initiatives. While this group will enact our initiatives across the organisation, over the last 12 months we continue to practice the following actions:

- Switching off all monitors at the end of each day
- Favouring motion-sensor lighting in the office
- Switching off all lights in unoccupied rooms
- Reducing on-premise infrastructure (removing physical servers)
- Teaching staff how to limit energy use at work with regular internal campaigns
- Encouraging virtual meetings over commute meetings (supported with incoming updates to our travel policy)
- Reducing waste by:
    - using online collaboration tools
    - limiting stationery orders to two per year
    - limiting printers in the office to two
- Limiting energy usage by capping fridge and microwaves to two in the office
- Limiting single-use plastics by:
    - giving all staff keep cups and glass water bottles as part of their welcome package
    - reducing catering order volumes and favouring compostable packaging
- Reducing emissions from staff commutes by:
    - encouraging employees to use eco-friendly commuting options like bicycles, public transport and e-bikes
    - enacting our flexible working policy, allowing staff to work from home for 60% of their working hours
    - keeping end-of-trip facilities accessible and attractive for employees.
    -

Understanding ESA's emission footprint

In reducing our emissions, the most important step is to understand our current footprint.

In 2023, ESA committed to a full review of how carbon reporting is produced. This involved getting support from subject matter experts and challenging all the inputs into the calculation for ESA emissions. The result of this process identified that the FY23 carbon emissions was 1,157 tonnes.

The summary of ESA's emissions by category is as follows, identifying the top 8 items / services that make up 88% of total emissions:

Category	Item/Service	FY23 emissions (tCO_2-e)	% of total emissions
Business Travel	Flights	359	28%
ICT Services	Software	233	18%
Construction & Repair Services	Fit-/out	207	16%
ICT Equipment	Computer, Mobile Phones & Peripherals	63	5%
Employees	Working From Home	58	4%
Electricity	Controlled Electricity	39	3%
ICT Services	Data services	32	2%
Electricity	Third-Party Electricity	28	2%
Other		138	12%
Total		**1,157**	

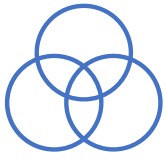
Aligning to the Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs)

ESA has a commitment to enhance our positive impact on the lives and learning of young Australians by contributing to improved student outcomes, enhanced teacher impact and stronger school communities.

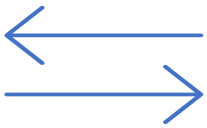
As part of this commitment, ESA strives to assist with the UN SDG (United Nations Sustainability Development Goals), in particular goal 4: *Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all* and goal 5: *Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*. As a national agency, we recognise our role in being climate active, and support SDG 13: *Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.*

ESA has been climate active certified for over a decade, showcasing our commitment to reducing carbon emissions and being an active member to assist Australia to achieve net zero emissions.

Our strategy is based on the following directions:



Direction 1: Leverage relationships for empowerment



Direction 2: Facilitate change within

Direction 3: Increase our focus on awareness and tangible action

Direction 1 – Leverage relationships for empowerment

- Review existing partnerships and vendors to ensure sustainability is a decision consideration.
- Review procurement processes to consider carbon emission impacts.
- Learn from existing and new relationships (e.g. clean energy council) to educate our staff and to seek further opportunities for carbon emission reduction.
- Reduce carbon emissions by working with airlines to purchase carbon offsets at the time of booking air travel.
- Reviewing software use, conducting further analysis of the ICT supply chain to identify the emissions nature of individual suppliers and working with suppliers where possible to reduce carbon across these supply chains.

Direction 2 – Facilitate change within

- Build a communications plan to educate our staff on responsible choices and impacts on carbon emissions.
- Review policies and procedures to include carbon emission impacts and considerations such as single use plastics and printing quotas.
- Build staff capability to deliver environmental outcomes.
- Ensure ESA's products and services use resources efficiently.
- Raise and manage any environmental risks and issues.
- Align our digital and technology strategies with the sustainability strategy to ensure responsible procurement, use and disposal of technology.
- Reduction in purchasing physical infrastructure server and network equipment by progressively migrating components of ESA's on-premise infrastructure to the cloud.

Direction 3 – Increase focus on awareness and tangible action

- Create a staff committee to review and drive sustainability initiatives.
- Review and measure outcomes of our sustainability strategy annually.
- Where appropriate, use our existing channels to create further awareness of climate action and contribute to industry needs (e.g. myfuture and the GiST).
- Review facilities management alongside building management to facilitate improvements including switching to more environmentally friendly energy and ensuring continued use of existing office fitout with reduced construction and replacement costs.
- Reduce electricity in ESA's ICT supply chain by reviewing the need to maintain two physical data centres, with a view to consolidate and reduce the need for energy within the datacentre environment.

Emissions reduction actions

Much of this can be attributed to the relocation to a new head office on Lonsdale St, which has a higher NABERS rating for energy and water compared to the previous tenancy. The largest share of ESA's emissions remains related to office electricity use and ICT-related emissions.

As part of the move to a new office, ESA continued its clean desk policy, significantly reducing storage space available and encouraging staff to print less. Recognising the benefits of working from home, ESA adopted a flexible working policy, allowing staff to work from home for 60% of their working hours.

As part of ESA's ongoing commitment to reducing carbon emissions and contributing positively to society, many of the whitegoods and crockery from the Collins St office were donated to West Welcome Wagon, a charity which supports more than 900 refugees and asylum-seekers.

5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year		
		Total tCO_2-e
Base year:	2015–16	851.22
Year 1:	2016–17	729.50
Year 2:	2017–18	702.67
Year 3:	2018-19	823.76
Year 4:	2019-20	728.56
Year 5:	2020-21	763.29
Year 6:	2021-22	631.86
Year 7:	2022-23	1156.80

Significant changes in emissions

Although there was only one significant changed in emissions for a particular activity, emissions have increased significantly overall. This was due to a few factors:

- Increase of long-haul flights post-covid.
- Fit-out: an office move into a more sustainable office saw a fit out required. This is not an annual activity and will not be needed for a next few reporting periods.
- Moving from limited/no staff in the office during the previous period, to allowing staff to return to the office in the reporting period.
- Better data gathering has seen professional services included in this reporting period compared to FY2022 where it was not included.

Significant changes in emissions			
Emission source	**Previous year emissions** ($t CO_2$-e)	**Current year emissions** ($t CO_2$-e)	**Reason for change**
Short economy class flights (>400km, ≤3,700km)	6.28	123.08	Increased flights post-covid

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

N/A

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	19.10	19.10
Cleaning and chemicals	0.00	0.00	4.10	4.10
Construction materials and services	0.00	0.00	207.03	207.03
Electricity	0.00	34.67	32.61	67.28
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	102.14	102.14
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	8.35	8.35
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	2.80	2.80
Professional services	0.00	0.00	284.58	284.58
Refrigerants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transport (air)	0.00	0.00	358.51	358.51
Transport (land and sea)	1.05	0.00	33.43	34.48
Waste	0.00	0.00	10.39	10.39
Water	0.00	0.00	0.54	0.54
Working from home	0.00	0.00	57.50	57.50
Total emissions	**1.05**	**34.67**	**1121.08**	**1156.80**

Uplift factors

N/A

6.CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

This certification has taken an in-arrears offsetting approach. The total emissions to offset are 1157 tCO_2-e. The total number of eligible offsets used in this report is 1157. Of the total eligible offsets used, 0 were previously banked and 1157 were newly purchased and retired. 5 are remaining and have been banked for future use.

Co-benefits

The Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project, an initiative by InfiniteEARTH, aims to reduce Indonesia's emissions by preserving some 64,000 hectares of tropical peat swamp forest. This area, rich in biodiversity including the endangered Bornean orangutan, was slated by the Provincial government to be converted into four palm oil estates. Located on the southern coast of Borneo in the province of Central Kalimantan, the project is also designed to protect the integrity of the adjacent world-renowned Tanjung Puting National Park, by creating a physical buffer zone on the full extent of the ~90km eastern border of the park. It covers all 17 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

The Raak Nguunge savanna burning project involves strategic and planned burning of savanna areas in the high and low rainfall zones during the early dry season to reduce the risk of late dry season wild fires. This savanna burning project works with local rangers to undertake strategic aerial and on-ground burning in the tropical winter, so as to reduce fuel loads in later (hotter) months when dry lightning storms begin. By preventing larger late-season wildfires, emissions are reduced when compared against the historical average. Raak Nguunge means 'burning season' in the Kuuk Thaayorre language, and the success of the project is thanks to strong collaboration between the Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council and the Pormpuraaw Land & Sea Management Rangers.

Jawoyn Fire 2 savanna burning project is Jawoyns largest project outside the ALFA partnership. It is carried out on tradition Jawoyn land, now held as Aboriginal land Trust or as NT freehold. Nitmiluk National Park is included in this project and marks the first park in the NT to be included in a savanna burning project and a triumph for joint management of our national parks.

Eligible offsets retirement summary

Offsets retired for Climate Active 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 (%)**
North Kimberley Pastoral Lease Carbon Abatement	ACCU	ANREU	12/01/2022	8,343,218,636 – 8,343,219,265	2021-22	-	630	625	0	5	0.4%
Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project	VCU	VERRA	19/12/2023	9900-157287592-157287737-VCS-VCU-263-VER-ID-14-674-01012018-31122018-1	2018	-	146	0	0	146	12.6%
Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project	VCU	VERRA	19/12/2023	9900-157312752-157313530-VCS-VCU-263-VER-ID-14-674-01012018-31122018-1	2018	-	779	0	0	779	67.3%
Raak Nguunge	ACCU	ANREU	19/12/2023	8,344,030,201 - 8,344,030,316	2021-22	-	116	0	0	116	10.02%
Jawoyn Fire 2	ACCU	ANREU	19/12/2023	8,330,522,377 - 8,330,522,492	2021-22	-	116	0	5	111	9.6%
									Total eligible offsets retired and used for this report	**1157**	
									Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports	**5**	

Type of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)	232	20%
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	925	80%

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL

Australian Government
Clean Energy Regulator

20 December 2023 VC202324-00377

To whom it may concern,

Voluntary cancellation of units in ANREU
This letter is confirmation of the voluntary cancellation of units in the Australian National Registry of Emissions Units (ANREU) by ANREU account holder, VIRIDIOS CAPITAL PTY LTD (account number AU-3048).

The details of the cancellation are as follows:

Date of transaction		19 December 2023
Transaction ID		AU31465
Type of units		KACCU
Total Number of units		232
Block 1	**Serial number range**	8,344,030,201 - 8,344,030,316 (116 KACCUs)
	ERF Project	Raak Nguunge - EOP100813
	Vintage	2021-22
Block 2	**Serial number range**	8,330,522,377 - 8,330,522,492 (116 KACCUs)
	ERF Project	Jawoyn Fire 2 - ERF102021
	Vintage	2021-22
Transaction comment		"Retired on behalf of Education Services Australia for FY2022-23 Climate Active certification."

Details of all voluntary cancellations in the ANREU are published on the Clean Energy Regulator's website, http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/OSR/ANREU/Data-and-information.

If you require additional information about the above transaction, please email CER-RegistryContact@cer.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

David O'Toole
ANREU and International
NGER and Safeguard Branch
Scheme Operations Division
Clean Energy Regulator
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CLEAN ENERGY REGULATOR

OFFICIAL

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	0%
Total non-grid electricity	**0**	**0**	**0%**
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	60	0	0%
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)	16,325	0	19%
Residual Electricity	70,449	67,278	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	**16,385**	**0**	**19%**
Total grid electricity	**86,834**	**67,278**	**19%**
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	**86,834**	**67,278**	**19%**
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	58%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	**41,111**	**39,261**	
Scope 2	36,306	34,672	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	4,805	4,589	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	**29,337**	**28,017**	
Scope 3	29,337	28,017	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	**18.87%**
Mandatory	**18.80%**
Voluntary	**0.07%**
Behind the meter	**0.00%**
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**34.67**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**32.61**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**34.67**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**32.61**
Total emissions liability (t CO_2-e)	**67.28**

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	**58%**	**(kWh)**	**Scope 2 Emissions ($kgCO_2$-e)**	**Scope 3 Emissions ($kgCO_2$-e)**	**(kWh)**	**Scope 3 Emissions ($kgCO_2$-e)**
VIC	86,834	50,716	43,109	3,550	36,117	33,228
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	**86,834**	**50,716**	**43,109**	**3,550**	**36,117**	**33,228**
VIC	0	0	0	0		
Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**		
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	**86,834**					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**43.11**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**36.78**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**43.11**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**36.78**
Total emissions liability	**79.89**

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_2-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 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_2-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 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.

N/A – no relevant (non-quantified) emission sources for this certification in this reporting period.

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:

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.

N/A – no emission sources have been excluded from the boundary in this reporting period.

An Australian Government Initiative

Climate Active