PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

PROTECT GROUP

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2022–23

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	The trustee for Protect Services Trust, t/a Protect Group
REPORTING PERIOD	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.*
	Paulo Ramos Chief Technology Officer 22/12/2023

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

Version August 2023.

1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	133 tCO_2-e
OFFSETS USED	100% ACCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	Total renewables 51.08%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Susmet
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	06/12/2022 Susmet Next technical assessment due: FY 2025

Contents

2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This carbon neutral certification is for the business operations of Protect Services Pty Ltd, the trustee for Protect Services Trust, ABN 38 975 124 058.

Organisation description

This certification covers the Protect Group (Protect).

Based in Docklands, Protect is Australia's leading industry severance and income protection insurance scheme, employing more than 20 staff who service over 40,000 workers and 1,200 participating employers. Protect represents diverse industries including electrical trades, maritime, construction, fire rescue, service maintenance, manufacturing, rail, power, supply and distribution, and oil and petrochemical.

Protect has been setting the pace for industry severance schemes offering its members superior benefits, including tax-free redundancy payments, income protection and counselling. Protect is the industry scheme preferred by an ever-growing number of workers and employers throughout the nation.

Protect is composed of Protect Severance Scheme - original fund now closed to new members and contributions (PSS)[ABN: 98 395 548 596], Protect Severance Scheme No. 2 (PSS2) [ABN: 52 967 672 143] and the Protect Services Trust (PST) [ABN: 38 975 124 058]. Employer contributions to the scheme go into PSS2 while administrative services to PSS and PSS2 are provided by PST.

Protect is claiming carbon neutrality under the ‘Organisation’ certification category with an operational control emission boundary. Under this boundary, most emissions fall under the PST site in Docklands, Victoria. ‘Managed Investment and Client Services’ are excluded from the emissions boundary. As both PSS and PSS2 hold the fund which is classified as ‘Managed investments and client services’, emissions from PSS and PSS2 are excluded in accordance with the Climate Active relevant test.

Protect also has a field officer employee based in Western Australia. Due to the nature of the role, Protect does not have any site in Western Australia and that employee works purely on the road or at client sites. The transport fuel for that employee has been captured in the carbon emissions inventory.

The following subsidiaries are also included within this certification:

Legal entity name	ABN	ACN
Protect Severance Scheme	98 395 548 596	
Protect Severance Scheme No. 2	52 967 672 143	
Protect Services Trust	38 975 124 058	

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

- Stationary energy and fuels
- Electricity
- Accommodation
- Carbon neutral products and services
- Food
- ICT services and equipment
- Land and sea transport
- Office equipment and supplies
- Postage, courier and freight
- Transport (air)
- Transport (land and sea)
- Waste
- Water
- Working from home

Non-quantified

- Refrigerants
- Transport (Land and Sea) – Rental Vehicles

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

Managed Investment and Client Services.

4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Protect's ongoing goal is to reduce its emissions to a level as low as practically possible before offsetting with socially responsible programs. Since the base year of 2015-16 up to the latest report of 2022/2023, Protect has achieved a reduction in carbon emissions of over 30% across multiple projects.

Protect commits to reducing total emissions by 10% from the FY2022-23 baseline by 2027-08.

Previously, Protect would reflect on its preceding emissions to adjust its strategy and actions. However, due to the drastic changes to business-as-usual operations caused by COVID-19 disruptions in FY2019-20, FY2020-21 and even FY2021-22, alongside moving to a different office building, it has impacted Protect significantly in setting and implementing an achievable and realistic strategy. With business-as-usual operations gradually returning to COVID-normal, Protect plans to understand the emerging emissions profile and then detail further emission reduction actions in the next (FY2023-24) report.

Emissions reduction actions

Protect was committed to stop posting our biannual worker statements and annual employer statements to our members. This was achieved in this financial year, where possible they were emailed to the clients instead. This can be seen through the drop in our emissions relating to mailing services.

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

		Emissions since base year	
		Total tCO_2-e (without uplift)	Total tCO_2-e (with uplift)
Base year/ Year 1:	2015–16	205.7	N/A
Year 2:	2016–17	216.3	N/A
Year 3:	2017–18	188.8	N/A
Year 4:	2018–19	142.3	N/A
Year 5:	2019–20	135.45	136.8
Year 6:	2020–21	69.0	80.1
Year 7:	2021–22	123.08	130.46
Year 8:	2022–23	129.10	135.55

Significant changes in emissions

There were significant changes to Protect operations

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic related office closures and staff working from home during previous period (FY2021-22), and then the gradual return to business as usual in the current period (FY2022-23).
- Increased working from home since the pandemic, so this was included as a new emission activity in the current period (FY2022-23).
- Moving the Melbourne office to a new building in the previous period (FY2021-22) to a more efficient building.

Emission source name	Previous year emissions (t CO_2-e)	Current year emissions (t CO_2-e)	Detailed reason for change
Electricity (market-based method, scope 3)	31.88	18.00	Changes in the CA calculator and inventory for Elec Scopes 2 & 3. Post-COVID return to normal operations also increased both Scope 2 & 3 emissions.
Short economy class flights (>400km, ≤3,700km)	5.03	19.55	Post-COVID return to normal operations
Petrol / Gasoline post-2004	23.16	33.16	Post-COVID return to normal operations

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

Certified brand name	Product/Service/Building/Precinct used
Powershop	Electricity (tenant)
Winc	Paper

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)
Transport (land and sea)	39.63	0.00	34.54	74.18
Transport (air)	0.00	0.00	19.55	19.55
Electricity	0.00	0.00	18.00	18.00
Working from home	0.00	0.00	7.36	7.36
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	4.37	4.37
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	3.37	3.37
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	1.50	1.50
Food	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.35
Stationary energy (gaseous fuels)	0.28	0.00	0.02	0.31
Waste	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.10
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
Water	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total emissions	**39.92**	**0.00**	**89.18**	**129.10**

Uplift factors

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

Reason for uplift factor	tCO_2-e
To account for immaterial and non-quantified emissions (+5% uplift)	6.45
Total of all uplift factors	6.45
Total emissions footprint to offset *(total emissions from summary table + total of all uplift factors)*	**135.55**

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

This certification has taken an in-arrears approach. The total emission to offset is 136 t CO_2-e. The total number of eligible offsets used in this report is 150. Of the total eligible offsets used, 0 were previously banked and 150 were newly purchased and retired. 14 are remaining and have been banked for future use.

Co-benefits

The Karlantijpa North Savanna Burning Project involves strategic and planned burning of savanna areas in the low rainfall zone during the early dry season to reduce the risk of late dry season wild fires. These offsets were purchased from the Aboriginal Carbon Foundation (AbCF) and are expected to have a variety of co-benefits to the Traditional Owners and remote communities, including increased confidence, increased community harmony, meaningful work for the Rangers, protection of sacred sites, maintenance and passing on of traditional ecological knowledge, and Secure employment for people living in remote communities.

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_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 (%)**
Karlantijpa North Savanna Burning project	ACCU	ANREU	6 Nov 2023	8,333,301,866 - 8,333,302,015	2021-22		150	0	14	136	100%
Total eligible offsets retired and used for this report										136	
Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports									14		

Type of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)	136	100%

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A.

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ANREU

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Transaction Details

Transaction details appear below.

Transaction Successfully Approved

Transaction ID	AU30544
Current Status	Completed (4)
Status Date	06/11/2023 15:00:16 (AEDT) 06/11/2023 04:00:16 (GMT)
Transaction Type	Cancellation (4)
Transaction Initiator	Foley, Rowan Paul Bulmer
Transaction Approver	Foley, Rowan Paul Bulmer
Comment	Retired on behalf of Protect Group for Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard 2022-23.

Transferring Account

Account Number	AU-2798
Account Name	Aboriginal Carbon Fund Limited
Account Holder	Aboriginal Carbon Fund Limited

Acquiring Account

Account Number	AU-1068
Account Name	Australia Voluntary Cancellation Account
Account Holder	Commonwealth of Australia

Transaction Blocks

Party	Type	Transaction Type	Original CP	Current CP	ERF Project ID	NGER Facility ID	NGER Facility Name	Safeguard	Kyoto Project #	Vintage	Expiry Date	Serial Range	Quantity
AU	KACCU	Voluntary ACCU Cancellation			ERF104800					2021-22		8,333,301,866 - 8,333,302,015	150

Transaction Status History

Status Date	Status Code

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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	0	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)	15,309	0	40%
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)	4,363	0	11%
Residual Electricity	18,843	17,995	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	**19,672**	**0**	**51%**
Total grid electricity	**38,515**	**17,995**	**51%**
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	**38,515**	**17,995**	**51%**
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	0%		
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	**18,843**	**17,995**	
Scope 3	18,843	17,995	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	**51.08%**
Mandatory	**11.33%**
Voluntary	**39.75%**
Behind the meter	**0.00%**
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**0.00**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO_2-e)	**18.00**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**0.00**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	**18.00**
Total emissions liability (t CO_2-e)	**18.00**

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	**40%**	**(kWh)**	**Scope 2 Emissions ($kgCO_2$-e)**	**Scope 3 Emissions ($kgCO_2$-e)**	**(kWh)**	**Scope 3 Emissions ($kgCO_2$-e)**
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	38,515	15,406	13,095	1,078	23,109	21,260
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
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	38,515	15,406	13,095	1,078	23,109	21,260
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)	**38,515**					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO_2-e)	13.10
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO^2-e)	22.34
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	7.89
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2-e)	13.46
Total emissions liability	21.35

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)**
Powershop	**15,309**	**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.

Relevant non-quantified emission sources	Justification reason
Refrigerants	Immaterial
Transport (Land and Sea) – Rental Vehicles	Immaterial

Data management plan for non-quantified sources

The data management plan below outlines how more rigorous quantification can be achieved for material (greater than 1%) non-quantified emission sources.

N/A

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.

Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
Managed investments and client services	N	Y	N	N	N	**Size:** The emissions source is likely to be less than 1% of the total electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions. **Influence:** We have the potential to influence the emissions from this source, including by shifting to a different lower-emissions supplier for our business. **Risk:** There are no relevant laws or regulations that apply to limit emissions specifically from this source, the source does not create supply chain risks, and it is unlikely to be of significant public interest. **Stakeholders:** Key stakeholders, including the public, are unlikely to consider this a relevant source of emissions for our business. **Outsourcing:** We have not previously undertaken this activity within our emissions boundary and comparable organisations do not typically undertake this activity within their boundary.

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