



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

BOWER ARCHITECTURE PTY LTD

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION

FY2022-23


Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

bower



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Bower Architecture Pty Ltd
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 Arrears report
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></p> <p>Name of signatory: Anna Dutton Lourie Position of signatory: Architect Director Date 07.05.2024</p>



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

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Version March 2023.



1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	31 tCO ₂ -e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	100% VCU's
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	100% renewables
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Pangolin Associates
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	13/10/2021 for FY2020-21 report Pangolin Associates Next technical assessment due: N/A (small organisation pathway)

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2. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Description of certification

This inventory has been prepared for the financial year from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 and covers the Australian business operations of Bower Architecture Pty Ltd, ABN: 12 113 273 448.

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:

- 8 Prince Patrick Street, Richmond 3121 VIC

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

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

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

The greenhouse gases considered within the inventory are those that are commonly reported under the Kyoto Protocol; carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O) and synthetic gases - hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). These have been expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂-e) using relative global warming potentials (GWPs) as specified in the 2014 IPCC Assessment Report 5 with a 100-year horizon.

Organisation description

Bower Architecture is a Melbourne architecture and interior design practice formed in 2005 and led by Architect Directors Chema Bould and Anna Dutton.

We strive to create timeless places that are loved by our clients and those who experience them. We maximise every opportunity, revealing smart, memorable spaces that inspire, challenge, engage and excite.

Many clients are drawn to us because of our approach to sustainability. Sustainability is integral to all of our projects, and we discuss it from the very beginning with our clients.

For us, sustainability starts with building quality that lasts the long term. A sustainable building is one that is used and loved for over 50 years. From this foundation, we plan our buildings to make the most of natural light and processes such as natural ventilation and passive heating and cooling. We carefully plan shading and thermal mass to create stable indoor temperatures while also maximising efficiency and minimising waste in terms of space and materials. Maximising durability and using local, sustainably, and ethically sourced materials and products whenever possible is a given. Most of our projects feature solar power and batteries and if clients are keen to go further, we can assist them with other choices like eliminating reliance on natural gas (a non-renewable resource), choosing certified GreenPower, or making their project carbon neutral. All these steps aim to significantly reduce or even eliminate the long-term lifespan energy costs to our clients and the environment.

Bower Architecture has been proudly carbon neutral since financial year 2019 and we commit to have all our new projects and major renovations be carbon neutral by 2030.

3.EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

This is a small organisation certification, which uses the standard Climate Active small organisation 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
- Cleaning and chemicals
- Climate Active Products and Services
- Electricity
- Food
- ICT Services and Equipment
- Office Equipment and Supplied
- Postage, Courier, and Freight
- Professional Services
- Refrigerants
- Transport (air)
- Transport (land and sea)
- Waste
- Water
- Working from Home

Non-quantified

- Stationary energy and fuels

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

N/A

4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Bower has a future emissions reduction target of 40% from a base year of FY2020-21 by 2027.

Moving forward, Bower is now in a good position to see a significant reduction in the carbon footprint for the coming financial years; we intend to reduce our total emissions by 40% on average by 2027.

Some of the emission reduction strategies involves:

1. Assessment and improvement of our process targeting on areas with highest emissions.

Computer and technical services now constitute more than 25% of our emissions. Bower commits to reviewing the process for reducing this emission significantly by encouraging the IT support team to go emission free as well.

In the past couple of years Bower has invested in new equipment to ensure we are efficient and up to date with technology. For future equipment procurement, we commit to prioritising any available carbon-neutral equipment available on the market. In the past financial year, Bower has experienced more standard ICT expenditure resulting in 22% less emissions from IT related services and equipment compared to the previous year. We intend to further reduce IT related emissions to achieve a 10% reduction from our baseline year.

Since investing in digital markup software and equipment, we have seen a significant drop in paper usage. Bower commits to paperless services and encourages clients to accept digital copies of drawings, to reduce printing emissions.

2. Facilitate an increase in climate change awareness within the organisation.

Bower commits to ensuring that when everyone within the organisation schedule meetings, they are conscious of our carbon emission through travels to remote sites. Where possible staff members will be encouraged to share cars for site visits or use virtual meetings via zoom instead of travel. Public transport use will be facilitated to get to and from work for staff. Bower will develop a policy for site visits and meetings, with staff input by 2024, which will reduce site visits emissions by at least 15% by end of 2027.

3. Commit and continue supporting suppliers who provides emission free products or services.

Bower will identify our most significant products, services, suppliers, and providers, seeking opportunities to purchase emission free or lower emissions products and services. We aim at replacing 15% of our supply chain with Carbon neutral services by 2027. Currently Bower already purchases sustainable products and services such as Recycled paper, sustainably sourced toilet-paper rolls and carbon neutral electricity. By specifying local, sustainable, responsible products and materials as a priority, Bower aims at creating a better awareness. Bower has diligently encouraged suppliers and consultants to engage in sustainable practices and aim toward carbon neutrality.

4. Ongoing training and exposure on how to improve our daily office operations and procedures to increase awareness on climate change to better align with Australia's 2030 vision.

Bower will facilitate an increase in climate change action, knowledge, and capability across the organisation by encouraging Bower's team to attend sustainability focused webinars and conferences to learn how others are addressing their emission reduction strategies and how to adopt similar strategies within our organisation. In 2023, our team attended several webinars relating to sustainable design and practice in architecture. Bower has also begun trialling Life-cycle Carbon Assessment tools to eventually include accurate embodied carbon reports and reduction strategies for our projects.

At the start of 2023 we developed a Sustainability Action Plan to encourage input and awareness across the whole team in our goal towards carbon neutrality by 2030. Our SAP includes annual targets for reduction of operational carbon emissions, adoption of technologies to measure project embodied carbon, design strategies for reduction, and continuing engagement for sustainable practices.

Emissions reduction actions

During the previous financial year, Bower experienced significant outliers due to office relocation and an extended period where the full team was working from home. In the current year Bower returned to a majority of hours in office and more standard expenditures, thus reducing Bower's emissions to an expected level.

Following our targets from the previous year, Bower committed to reducing emissions by reducing ICT related expenditures and avoiding unnecessary travel where possible or prioritising public transport in cases where travel was required. Bower also saw significant reductions in professional services expenditure such as photography and accounting, resulting in more than 40% reduction in that category.

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:	2020-21	29.08	30.57
Year 2:	2021-22	44.17	46.63
Year 3:	2022-23	29.13	30.59

Significant changes in emissions

Emission source	Previous year emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	Current year emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	Reason for change
Computer and Technical Services	5.24	7.75	Office relocation in previous year incurred significant costs over standard expectations and combining other ICT services in the Computer and Technical Services category in the current year accounted for the increase, however overall, all ICT Services and Equipment categories emissions were reduced from 11.24 t CO ₂ -e (previous year) to 8.69 t CO ₂ -e (current year)

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

Certified brand name	Product/Service used
Pangolin Associates	Consulting
Powershop Electricity	Electricity
Reflex Ultra White	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)
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17
Cleaning and chemicals	0.00	0.00	1.05	1.05
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Food	0.00	0.00	3.38	3.38
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	8.69	8.69
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	0.91	0.91
Postage, courier, and freight	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03
Professional services	0.00	0.00	7.53	7.53
Refrigerants	0.79	0.00	0.00	0.79
Transport (air)	0.00	0.00	0.87	0.87
Transport (land and sea)	1.81	0.00	2.56	4.37
Waste	0.00	0.00	0.31	0.31
Water	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.16
Working from home	0.00	0.00	0.85	0.85
Total emissions	2.60	0.00	26.52	29.12

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
Compulsory additional 5% of the total to be added for small organisations	1.46
Total of all uplift factors	1.46
Total emissions footprint to offset <i>(total emissions from summary table + total of all uplift factors)</i>	30.59

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

This certification has taken an in-arrears offsetting approach. The total emissions to offset are 31 t CO₂-e. The total number of eligible offsets used in this report is 31. Of the total eligible offsets used, 0 were previously banked and 31 were newly purchased and retired. 0 are remaining and have been banked for future use.

Co-benefits

GreenFleet

Bower Architecture has also purchased an additional 31 tonnes of biodiversity offsets through GreenFleet. GreenFleet is a leading Australian not-for-profit environmental organisation on a mission to protect our climate by restoring forests. GreenFleet forests address critical deforestation, restore habitat for wildlife including many endangered species, capture carbon emissions to protect our climate, reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and economically support local and indigenous communities. This GreenFleet certificate can be seen under Appendix A.

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 (%)
Bundled Solar Photovoltaic Project by ACME	VCU	Verra	16 Jan 2024	11045-273828100-273828130-VCS-VCU-997-VER-IN-1-1753-01022020-31122020-0	2020	-	31	0	0	31	100%
Stapled to GreenFleet Donation	-	-	18 Jan 2024	-	-	31	-	-	-	-	-
Total eligible offsets retired and used for this report										31	
Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports									0		

Type of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	31	100%

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



This is to certify

Bower Architecture & Interiors

offset 31.00 tonnes of CO₂-e with Greenfleet.

Your support will help us restore native forests and ecosystems, which provide crucial habitat for endangered wildlife, help counter the devastating impact of the bushfires, and reduce the impacts of climate change.

Greenfleet will plant enough biodiverse native trees on your behalf to offset these emissions.

Thank you for helping us grow our forests and grow climate hope.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne".

Wayne Wescott | Greenfleet CEO

16/01/2024

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)	11,170	0	100%
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)	0	0	0%
Residual Electricity	0	0	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	11,170	0	100%
Total grid electricity	11,170	0	100%
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	11,170	0	100%
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
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	0	0	
Scope 3	0	0	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	100.00%
Mandatory	0.00%
Voluntary	100.00%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO₂-e)	0.00
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO₂-e)	0.00
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	0.00
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	0.00
Total emissions liability (t CO₂-e)	0.00

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		100%	(kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO ₂ -e)
VIC		11,170	11,170	9,495	782	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)		11,170	11,170	9,495	782	0	0
VIC		0	0	0	0		
Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)		0	0	0	0		
Total electricity (grid + non grid)		11,170					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO₂-e)	9.49
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO₂-e)	0.78
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	0.00
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	0.00
Total emissions liability	0.00

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 electricity	11,170	0
<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>		

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
<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>		

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
Stationary energy and fuel	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:

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 or activities have been assessed as not relevant in this reporting period.



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