

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY - BENDIGO CAMPUS

PRECINCT CERTIFICATION CY2023

Australian Government

Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement







NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	La Trobe University – B	endigo Campus
REPORTING PERIOD	Calendar year 1 Januar Arrears report	y 2023 – 31 December 2023
DECLARATION		
	Name of signatory Position of signatory Date	Professor Theo Farrell Vice-Chancellor 30/04/2024



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Version August 2023.



1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	6173 tCO ₂ -e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	100% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	32.20%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Name: Xiao Yan Li Organisation: La Trobe University Date: 29/04/2024
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Date: 18/08/2022 Name: Jessica Antunes Organisation: Energetics Next technical assessment due: CY 2025 report

Contents

1.	Certification summary	3
2.	Certification information	4
3.	Emissions boundary	6
4.	Emissions reductions	8
5.	Emissions summary	9
6.	Carbon offsets	11
7. Re	enewable Energy Certificate (REC) Summary	14
Арре	endix A: Additional Information	15
Арре	endix B: Electricity summary	16
Арре	endix C: Inside emissions boundary	19
Δnne	endix D: Outside emissions houndary	20



2. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Description of precinct certification

This precinct certification is for the La Trobe University, Bendigo Campus.

The responsible entity for this precinct certification is La Trobe University Bendigo Campus, ABN 64 804 735 113.

This Public Disclosure Statement includes information for CY2023 reporting period.

Precinct geographical boundary

La Trobe University has committed to being at the forefront of addressing key global issues. As such, social and environmental sustainability is embedded into its operations, curriculum and research.

Aligned with its sustainable practices, the University has set a target to become carbon neutral by 2029 and make the regional campuses carbon neutral by 2022.

The Bendigo campus was established in 1991 and plays a vital role in helping the local community to thrive. The campus provides people in the region with world-class education that is delivered locally. We have strong industry partnerships in the Bendigo region, giving students real world experience, making them better prepared to make positive contributions to their world. We know when students study regionally, they are more likely to stay in regional communities to live and work. We are one of the largest employers in our regional communities, and local communities look to La Trobe for opportunity and growth.

The campus features purpose-built departments for business, arts, education, outdoor education, health, science and engineering. Some of Bendigo's most impressive works of architecture are hosted on the campus, including the campus' new library and engineering buildings. The campus also offers a wide range of comfortable and accessible accommodation options on site, in both shared and single formats. The La Trobe Rural Health School is partly based at our Bendigo campus, and is the largest rural health school in Australia. It has over 3000 students enrolled across 11 disciplines at our regional campuses of Albury-Wodonga, Bendigo, Mildura and Shepparton.

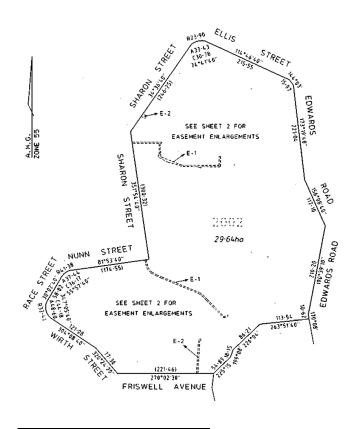
The precinct is located at Edwards Rd, Flora Hill VIC 3552. The geographic boundaries are illustrated in Figure 1 and Figure 2, aligned with the property title and community expectations. The total usable Gross Floor Area (GFA) is approximately 52,000 m2 including on-site student accommodation.



Figure 1: Approximate geographic boundaries of the Bendigo Campus Precinct¹



Figure 2: Property title of Bendigo Campus Precinct²





¹ Source: Map of Bendigo Campus exported from Google Earth Pro ² Source: Property title of Bendigo Campus provided by La Trobe University

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 a precinct'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

Natural gas

Transport fuel use (fleet)

Air transport

Electricity

Water and wastewater treatment

Waste to landfill

Recycled waste

Office paper

Staff commute

Working from home

Business travel accommodation

Courier services

Non-quantified

Taxi

Optionally included

N/A

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

Student commute

Food & catering

Refrigerants

Office furniture and IT equipment

Cleaning services

Investments



4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

In 2019, La Trobe University made the ambitious commitment to become carbon neutral by 2029, with its four regional campuses to achieve this target in 2022. As a university with a long and proud history of pursuing sustainable practice, La Trobe recognises the social, environmental and economic importance of reducing its carbon footprint through onsite renewable generation and adopting energy efficient and new technologies.

All four of the University's regional campuses, Mildura, Shepparton, Bendigo and Albury-Wodonga reached net zero carbon emissions and certification with Climate Active. A range of projects have been implemented at these campuses, including the installation of rooftop solar panels, energy efficient LED lights, mechanical system efficiency upgrades, and batteries to store solar energy. These projects have reduced carbon emissions at these campuses by a significant margin.

La Trobe is committed to further projects to reduce emissions and increase onsite renewable generation. These projects will assist La Trobe to meet its forward-looking commitments to:

- Achieve university-wide Net Zero (scope 1 and 2 emissions) by 2029, from a 2019 baseline year.
- Increase onsite renewable generation for all campuses combined by 50% by 2025, from a 2019 baseline year.
- Reduce Scope 3 emissions from passenger vehicle fleet by 90% by 2025, from a 2019 baseline vear.

For La Trobe, the focus has been on reducing its scope 1 and 2 emissions through investment in onsite renewables generation and energy efficiency projects. La Trobe is also mitigating future impacts by improving its underlying impact through design for new projects – The 6-star Green Star Sports Stadium as an example. La Trobe will continue its investment into green energy purchase and renewable energy as much as feasibly and economically possible and is currently in advance discussions to procure electricity from a renewable source from January 2024.

To find out more about La Trobe's Net Zero strategy: https://www.latrobe.edu.au/sustainability/net-zero

Emissions reduction actions

In 2023, La Trobe University installed a number of electrical vehicle (EV) chargers at the Bendigo Campus. Fast chargers are available for our passenger fleet to enable inter-campus travel. There are also public charging bays with Level 2 chargers that are free for students, staff, partners and community to use.

Several buildings underwent further electrification in 2023. Works in the Arts and Library and Student Union (LSU) buildings included removing the old gas infrastructure and replacing it with a high efficiency electric HVAC plant. HVAC electrification works were also completed in the Health 1 (HHS1) building.



5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year							
		Total tCO₂-e (without uplift)	Total tCO ₂ -e (with uplift)				
Base year/Year 1:	2022	5731.31	N/A				
Year 2:	2023	6172.28	N/A				

Significant changes in emissions

Significant changes in emissions								
Emission source	Previous year emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	Current year emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	Reason for change					
Natural Gas VIC (non-metro)	909.26	1032.38	Increased use of gas due to operational and onsite activities changes.					

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	Scope 1 emissions (tCO ₂ -e)	Scope 2 emissions (tCO ₂ -e)	Scope 3 emissions (tCO ₂ -e)	Total emissions (t CO ₂ -e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	40.30	40.30
Cleaning and Chemicals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Construction Materials and Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity	0.00	3573.08	441.12	4014.20
Food	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Horticulture and Agriculture	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Machinery and vehicles	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Office equipment & supplies	0.00	0.00	4.38	4.38
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	2.37	2.37
Products	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Professional Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Refrigerants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Roads and landscape	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)	958.01	0.00	74.37	1032.38
Stationary Energy (liquid fuels)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stationary Energy (solid fuels)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transport (Air)	0.00	0.00	156.31	156.31
Transport (Land and Sea)	40.77	0.00	362.88	403.65
Waste	0.00	0.00	207.23	207.23
Water	0.00	0.00	70.28	70.28
Working from home	0.00	0.00	241.42	241.42
Total emissions (tCO ₂ -e)	998.78	3573.08	1600.43	6172.52

Uplift factors

N/A



6.CARBON OFFSETS

Eligible offsets retirement summary

Offsets retired for Climate Active certification

Тур	pe of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Ver	rified Carbon Units (VCUs)	6173	100%

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 (%)
Greenfleet Offsets Stapled to 6.5 MW cogeneration project in Akbarpur, Punjab	VCU	Verra	07/01/2022	10776-247218565- 247227564-VCS-VCU-290- VER-IN-1-160-01012015- 31122015-0	2022	9000	9000	6512	0	91³	1.48%
Vishnuprayag Hydro-electric Project (VHEP) by Jaiprakash Power Ventures Ltd.(JPVL) Stapled to	VCUs	Verra	06/11/2021	10593-230774364- 230774649-VCS-VCU-259- VER-IN-1-173-01012013- 31122013-0	2013	286	286	261	0	25 ⁴	0.004%

³ Offset serial numbers #247225077 - #247226987 are allocated to the Albury-Wodonga Campus CY2023 Arrears report. Offset serial numbers #247227206 are allocated to the Mildura Campus CY2023 Arrears report. Offset serial numbers #247227474 - #247227564 are allocated to the Bendigo Campus CY2023 Arrears report. Offset serial numbers #247227474 - #247227564 are allocated to the Bendigo Campus CY2023 Arrears report.

⁴ Offset serial numbers #230774625 - #230774649 are allocated to the Bendigo Campus in the CY2023 Arrears report. The Offset serial numbers #230774364 - #230774624 have previously been used in the CY2022 Mildura Campus, Shepparton Campus and Albury-Wodonga (True-up) certifications.



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 (%)
Greenfleet Offsets											
Bundled Solar Power Project by Solararise Indian Projects PVT. LTD Stapled to Greenfleet Offsets	VCUs	Verra	29/04/2024	10730-245101275- 245107774-VCS-VCU-997- VER-IN-1-1762-26042018- 31122018-0	2018 2024	6500	6500	-	443	6057	98.12%
	Total eligible offsets retired and u								sed for this report	6173	
	Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports							in future reports	443		



Offsets retirement approach

This certification has taken an in-arrears offsetting approach. The total emissions to offset is 6172.28t CO₂-e. The total number of eligible offsets purchased for the MW cogeneration project were 9000, in this report 91 have been used. Of the total eligible offsets used in the MW cogeneration project, 1911 were used for the Albury-Wodonga Campus, 219 were used for the Mildura Campus, 267 were used for the Shepparton Campus. The total number of eligible offsets purchased for the Vishnuprayag Hydro-electric project were 286, in this report 25 have been used. The total number of eligible offsets purchased for the Bundled Solar Power Project were 6500, in this report 6057 have been used. There are 443 remaining units in the Bundled Solar Power Project banked for future reports.

Co-benefits

For CY2023 arrears report, La Trobe University purchased offsets for the Vishnuprayag Hydro-electric Project, the MW cogeneration project in Akbarpur, Punjab, India and the Bundled Solar Power Project.

The Vishnuprayag Hydro-electric renewable energy project is a run-of-the-river based hydro-electric project and has an implemented capacity of 400MW. By generating electricity by renewable sources of energy, the hydro-electric installation reduces the need for burning fossil fuels to supply power to the grid. This in turn reduces anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions that would have otherwise been generated via this process.

La Trobe University has purchased Greenfleet revegetation offsets to accompany the VCUs from the Vishnuprayag Hydro-Electric Project. The Greenfleet offsets will contribute to a revegetation project local to Victoria. The use of these credits are split between the La Trobe Mildura Campus CY2022, Shepparton Campus CY2022 reports, Albury-Wodonga CY2022 (true-up) report and the Bendigo Campus CY2023 arrears report, with no remaining units being banked for future reports. More information on the Greenfleet offsets can be found in Appendix A.

The MW cogeneration project in Akbarpur, Punjab, India, is a boiler is fuelled with carbon neutral biomass (in this case, rice husk) to generate steam and electricity in a 6.5 MW co-generation unit. This project reduces greenhouse gas emissions created by the mostly fossil fuel powered local electricity grid by providing an alternative source of power and electricity.

La Trobe University has retired 9,000 credits for the 6.5 MW cogeneration project, all of which have been stapled to the Greenfleet revegetation project. The use of these credits are split between the La Trobe University Albury-Wodonga Campus CY2022 (initial and true up), Bendigo campus CY2022 (initial and true up) reports and CY2023 arrears report, Mildura Campus CY2023 arrears report and Shepparton Campus CY2023 arrears report with no remaining units banked for future reports.

The Bundled Solar Power Project in India generates clean energy through renewable solar. The project involves installation of 120 MW solar project. Over the 10 years of first crediting period, the project will replace anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases. La Trobe University has retired 6,500 credits for the Bundled Solar Power Project, all of which have been stapled to the Greenfleet Strzelecki Nature link revegetation project. 443 remaining units are banked for future reports.



7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A.



APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Greenfleet Offsets

La Trobe University has purchased one Greenfleet offset to accompany every VCU purchased from the Vishnuprayag Hydro-Electric Project and the Akbarpur, Punjab Cogeneration Projects. For each Greenfleet offset purchased, Greenfleet will plant enough native trees to capture 1 tonne CO2-e.

Greenfleet is revegetating native ecosystem on a property in Kinglake, Victoria, on land traditionally owned by the Taungurung and Wurundjeri Peoples, this site will provide habitat for a variety of native birds including Sulphur-crested Cockatoos, lyrebirds, King Parrots and colourful rosellas.

The Greenfleet offsets purchased by La Trobe University for 2021 will contribute to this project. In addition to this, La Trobe University provided Greenfleet a portion of the native vegetation seedlings that were planted. These seedlings were grown at the indigenous plant nursery at La Trobe's Nangak Tamboree Wildlife Sanctuary, located on the Bundoora campus.

La Trobe University has purchased one Greenfleet offset to accompany every VCU purchased from the Bundled Solar Power Project. For each Greenfleet offset purchased, Greenfleet will plant enough native trees to capture 1 tonne CO2-e.

Greenfleet is revegetating native ecosystem on 4 properties in South Gippsland, named the Strzelecki Nature Link. Once restored, the area will form a 3.5 kilometer stretch of continuous koala habitat with locally native tree species. The project will remove carbon and ensure safe passage for wildlife.



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	1,386,306	0	21%
Total non-grid electricity	1,386,306	0	21%
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)	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)	708,242	0	11%
Residual Electricity	4,411,210	4,014,201	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	2,094,548	0	32%
Total grid electricity	5,119,452	4,014,201	11%
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	6,505,758	4,014,201	32%
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	4,411,210	4,014,201	
Scope 2	3,926,462	3,573,080	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	484,748	441,121	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	0	0	
Scope 3	0	0	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	32.20%
Mandatory	10.89%
Voluntary	0.00%
Behind the meter	21.31%
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	3,573.08
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	441.12
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t ${\rm CO}_2$ -e)	3,573.08
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO_2 -e)	441.12
Total emissions liability (t CO₂-e)	4,014.20
Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%	



Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh) total	Unde	r operational	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	5,119,452	5,119,452	4,044,367	358,362	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	5,119,452	5,119,452	4,044,367	358,362	0	0
VIC	1,386,306	1,386,306	0	0		
Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)	1,386,306	1,386,306	0	0		
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	6,505,758					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	4,044.37
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	358.36
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO ₂ -e)	4,044.37
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO ₂ -e)	358.36
Total emissions liability	4,402.73



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. <u>Immaterial</u> <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.

Taxi

 The emissions associated with taxi trips have been non-quantified in line with the provisions of CACNS. The emissions correspond to less than 1% of the total carbon account and are not considered material.

Relevant non-quantified emission sources	Justification reason		
Taxi	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 precinct'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 precinct'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 precinct'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 precinct's boundary, or from outsourced activities typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable precincts.



Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
Student commute	Υ	N	N	N	N	La Trobe understands that the emissions from student commute may be substantial in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption. However, given the complexity involved in gathering the necessary data and the fact that the emission source does not meet any other criteria in the relevance test, it has been excluded from the carbon account.
Food & catering	N	Υ	N	N	N	The emissions from food and catering are deemed immaterial in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption.
Refrigerants	N	Υ	N	N	N	The volume of refrigerants on campus is deemed to be very low. Emissions from this source are likely to be immaterial in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption.
Office and IT equipment	N	Υ	N	N	N	The emissions from office and IT equipment are deemed immaterial in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption.
Cleaning services	N	Υ	N	N	N	Cleaning services are provided by an external provider. Even though La Trobe is very particular with the environmental practices of services providers, the emission source is considered immaterial in comparison to emissions from the campus' electricity consumption and does not meet any other criteria in the relevance test.
Investments	N	N	N	Υ	N	Investments consist of managed products and La Trobe does not have the potential to influence emission reductions. However, La Trobe understands that investments are deemed relevant by stakeholders. As such, investments are carefully considered, subject to an internal policy that takes into account social, ethical and environmental concerns.





