

# PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

NICHE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION FY2022-23

Australian Government

## Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement





An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Niche Environment and Heritage (trading as Niche)
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 Arrears report
DECLARATION	To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this public disclosure statement is true and correct and meets the requirements of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard.
	Name of signatory: Ian Rollins Position of signatory : Managing Director Date: 20/11/2024



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

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Version August 2023.



# 1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	422.68 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	66% ACCUs, 34% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	Total renewables 18.9%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Pangolin Associates
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	14/3/2024 Pangolin Associates Next technical assessment due: FY 2026
THIRD PARTY VALIDATION	Type 1 30/04/2024 GPP Audit Pty Limited

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# 2.CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

### Description of organisation certification

This organisation certification is for the business operations of Niche Environment and Heritage (trading Niche), ABN 19137111721.

This certification includes the business operations of Niche Environment and Heritage in Australia. The operational boundary has been defined based on an operational control approach. This includes the following locations and facilities:

Location	Street Address	Suburb	Postcode	State
Parramatta	L3, 93 George St	Parramatta	2150	NSW
Bulli	2 Rixon Ave	Bulli	2500	NSW
Port Macquarie	25 Sherwood Drive	Port Macquarie	2444	NSW
Brisbane	527 Gregory Terrace	Fortitude Valley	2011	QLD
Cairns	Shop 61, 20-32 Lake St	Cairns	4870	QLD
Sydney Coworking	L3, Customs House 31 Alfred St	Sydney	2000	NSW
Sandgate	L1/67 Brighton Rd	Brisbane	4017	QLD

The delivery of client services is excluded from this certification.

This Public Disclosure Statement includes information for FY2022-23 reporting period.

### **Organisation description**

At Niche, we do work that matters and has a lasting and profound impact on our clients, our communities and our environment. We want to leave a positive legacy on the world and create a sustainable future.

We deliver highly specialised technical expertise and strategic advice. Collaborating with our clients, we help them navigate their environmental, social or sustainability challenges and deliver commercially effective project outcomes.

This certification cover our operations for Niche Environment and Heritage (trading Niche), ABN 19137111721, with no subsidiaries to report.



# **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

Climate Active carbon neutral products and services (flight, electricity, paper)

Electricity

Food

ICT services and equipment

Machinery and vehicles

Products (field supplies, field clothing)

Professional services (Consulting, legal, accounting)

Refrigerants

Stationary energy

Transport (air, land)

Office equipment and supplies

Operational waste

Water

Working from home

#### Non-quantified

Waste generated on site work

Outside emission boundary

#### **Excluded**

N/A



# **4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS**

### **Emissions reduction strategy**

Niche is committed to responsible environmental management, sustainability and protection of the natural environment in our workplace.

Niche is committed to reducing its scope 2 emissions by 30% by FY2028 compared to its FY2023 baseline. Niche commits to reduce its scope 3 emissions from employee-related activities including: business flights, accommodation, printing and stationery, waste in office space and water consumption by 20% per employee by FY2028 compared to FY2023 baseline.

#### Actions to be implemented:

We will develop a Sustainable Procurement Policy to direct procurement to Climate Active or carbon neutral products and services by 2026. Niche will also seek to improve the data quality used to estimate supplier-specific emissions, especially for software services.

We will review electricity suppliers to explore 100% offsets, with GreenPower energy, at time of purchase by 2025. We will also encourage staff to use GreenPower energy at home offices.

We have a plan in place to move from single occupancy offices to co-working spaces in key CBD locations in carbon certified Hub Australia by 2026.

We will encourage staff to request electric vehicles when using ride-share services.

We will encourage the use of video-conferencing to reduce travel.

We will include the *Fuel Consumption Label* data in the decision making process for purchasing new vehicles.

#### Actions already implemented:

Niche has been operating as a carbon neutral organisation since 2019, offsetting our residual emissions with Australian carbon credits from the Aboriginal Carbon Foundation, Greening Australia and Greenfleet.

Niche purchases carbon offsets on all flights at the time of purchase, where available.

Niche has re-scheduled the monthly board meetings to bi-monthly, to minimise travel and business flights.

Since 2010, Niche has purchased and promoted the use of Keep Cups for clients and staff to reduce waste.

In 2020, Niche purchased a hybrid vehicle to join the fleet.



# 5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

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

Certified brand name	Product/Service/Building/Precinct used
Virgin	Business Flight
Qantas	Business Flight
Telstra	Telecommunications
L3, Customs House 31 Alfred St	Tenancy and Base building

### **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 <sub>2</sub> -e)	Scope 2 emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Scope 3 emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Total emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	39.23	39.23
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity	0.00	24.98	53.81	78.79
Food	0.00	0.00	24.09	24.09
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	11.11	11.11
Machinery and vehicles	0.00	0.00	10.73	10.73
Products	0.00	0.00	50.12	50.12
Professional services	0.00	0.00	74.40	74.40
Refrigerants	3.60	0.00	0.00	3.60
Stationary energy (gaseous fuels)	0.89	0.00	0.23	1.12
Transport (air)	0.00	0.00	5.83	5.83
Transport (land and sea)	42.12	0.00	35.22	77.34
Waste	0.00	0.00	19.16	19.16
Water	0.00	0.00	2.65	2.65
Working from home	0.00	0.00	14.35	14.35
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	10.17	10.17
Total	46.61	24.98	351.09	422.68



### Uplift factors

N/A



# 6.CARBON OFFSETS

### Eligible offsets retirement summary

Offsets retired for Climate Active certification

Type of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)	280	66%
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	145	34%

Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Stapled quantity	Eligible quantity retired (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Eligible quantity used for previous reporting periods	Eligible quantity banked for future reporting periods	Eligible quantity used for this reporting period	Percentage of total (%)
Bundled Solar Power Project by Solararise India Projects PVT. LTD.	VCU	Verra	18 December 2023	10730-245050982- 245051581-VCS-VCU- 997-VER-IN-1-1762- 26042018-31122018-0	2018	0	600	280*	177	143	34%
New Leaf Carbon Project – EOP101164	ACCU	ANREU	13 December 2023	8,330,212,579 – 8,330,212,718	2021-22	0	140	0	0	140	33%
Karlantijpa North Savanna Burning project ERF 104800	ACCU	ANREU	27 May 2024	8,333,308,869 – 8,333,309,008	2021-22	0	140	0	0	140	33%
	Total eligible offsets retired and used for this repo							sed for this report	423		
	Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports 177										

\*Niche has been measuring and offsetting emissions since FY18/19 prior to Climate Active accreditation

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### **Co-benefits**

Bundled Solar Power by Solarise; India

The project activity involves the installation of Solar PV project. The total installed capacity of the project is 120 MW of Solar PV plant located at different states in India. The project is promoted by SolarArise India Projects Pvt. Ltd.

Co-benefits:

Social well-being: The project would help in generating employment opportunities during the construction and operation phases. The project activity will lead to development in infrastructure in the region like development of roads and also may promote business with improved power generation.

Economic well-being: The project is a clean technology investment in the region, which would not have been taken place in the absence of the VCS benefits the project activity will also help to reduce the demand supply gap in the state. The project activity will generate power using zero emissions Solar PV based power generation which helps to reduce GHG emissions and specific pollutants like SOx, NOx, and SPM associated with the conventional thermal power generation facilities.

Technological well-being: The successful operation of project activity would lead to promotion of Solar based power generation and would encourage other entrepreneurs to participate in similar projects



# 7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

12

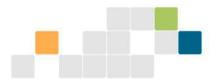
N/A



### **APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### OFFICIAL





13 December 2023

VC202324-00373

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, CANOPY NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS PTY LTD (account number AU-2854).

The details of the cancellation are as follows:

are as follows:			
13 December 2023			
AU31295			
KACCU			
140			
Serial number range 8,330,212,579 - 8,330,212,718			
New Leaf Carbon Project - EOP101164			
2021-22			
Retired on behalf of Niche Environment and Heritage for Climate Active for FY2022 – FY2024			

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

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

Yours sincerely,

David O'Toole ANREU and International NGER and Safeguard Branch Scheme Operations Division Clean Energy Regulator registry-contact@cer.gov.au www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au









Transaction Initiator

Transaction Approver

Transferring Account

Transaction Blocks

Transaction Status Histor

AU

AU-2798

KACCU Voluntary ACCU Cancellation

Account Name Aboriginal Carbon Fund Limited

Account Holder Aboriginal Carbon Fund Limited

Comment

Account Number Foley, Rowan Paul Bulmer

Foley, Rowan Paul Bulmer

Retired on behalf of Niche Environment and Heritage for FY2022 - FY2024

 Party
 Type
 Transaction Type
 Original
 Current
 ERF Project
 NGER Facility
 NGER Facility
 Safeguard
 Kyoto

 CP
 CP
 ID
 ID
 Name
 Project #

ERF104800

Acquiring Account

AU-1068

Account Name Australia Voluntary Cancellation Account

> Vintage Expiry Date

2021-22

Serial Range

8,333,308,869 8,333,309,008 Quantity

140

Account Holder Commonwealth of Australia

Account Number

### 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	ch Activity Data (kWh)		
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	106	0	0%
Climate Active precinct/building (voluntary renewables)	0	0	0%
Precinct/Building (LRET)	937	0	1%
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)	19,127	0	18%
Residual Electricity	86,596	82,699	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	20,170	0	19%
Total grid electricity	106,765	82,699	19%
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	106,765	82,699	19%
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	36%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	31,088	29,689	
Scope 2	27,454	26,219	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	3,634	3,470	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	55,508	53,010	
Scope 3	55,508	53,010	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	18.89%
Mandatory	18.79%
Voluntary	0.10%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	26.22
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	56.48
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t $CO_2$ -e)	24.98
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t $CO_2$ -e)	53.81
Total emissions liability (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	78.79
Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%	



Location-based approach	Activity Data (kWh) total	Under operational control			Not under operational control	
Percentage of grid electricity consumption under operational control	36%	(kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kg CO2- e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO2- e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO2- e)
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	41,786	14,993	10,945	900	26,793	21,167
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	0	0	0	0	0	0
QLD	64,979	23,314	17,019	3,497	41,664	36,665
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)	106,765	38,307	27,964	4,397	68,458	57,831
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)	106,765					
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)						27.96
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)						62.23
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)						
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t $CO_2$ -e)						
Total emissions liability						
						86.22

#### Operations in Climate Active buildings and precincts

Operations in Climate Active buildings and precincts	Electricity consumed in	Emissions			
	Climate Active certified	(kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e)			
	building/precinct (kWh)				
Sydney Coworking Space	5,027	0			
Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity	. These electricity emissions have been of	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 source	ed as renewable electricity by the buildin	g/precinct under the			
market-based method is outlined as such in the market-based sum					

### Climate Active carbon neutral electricity products

	0	
Climate Active carbon neutral electricity product used	Electricity claimed from Climate Active electricity products (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
N/A	0	0



## APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

#### Non-quantified emission sources

The following emissions sources have been assessed as relevant, are captured within the emissions boundary, but are not measured (quantified) in the carbon inventory. They have been non-quantified due to <u>one</u> of the following reasons:

- 1. Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively
- 2. <u>Cost effective</u> Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.
- 3. <u>Data unavailable</u> Data is unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.
- 4. Maintenance Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified.

Relevant non-quantified emission sources	Justification reason	
Waste generated on field work sites	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**

No emission sources were excluded from this assessment.



### Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A







An Australian Government Initiative