PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2022–23

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Blacktown City Council
REPORTING PERIOD	1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023
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.* 
	Kerry Robinson, OAM Chief Executive Officer 19 December 2023

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

Version August 2023.

1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	39,678 tCO_2-e
OFFSETS USED	100% CERs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	18.11 %
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Blacktown City Council
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Next technical assessment due: FY 2024

Contents

2.CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This public disclosure statement (PDS) supports the certification of Blacktown City Council (ABN 18 153 831 768) as an organisation committed to net-zero operational carbon emissions from financial year 2020/21, under the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification Standard for Organisations (Climate Active Organisation Standard). This report details Blacktown City Council's operational greenhouse gas emission boundary and a summary of our greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy. Emissions that are outside the boundary of this report and have been excluded, are explained in Appendix D

Organisation description

Blacktown City Council (ABN 18 153 831 768) provides local government services to the most populous local government area in NSW. It is dedicated to ensuring Blacktown City is a great place to live and to providing leadership and good governance for the people of Blacktown City.

Blacktown City Council wholly owns Blacktown Venue Management Ltd, a sub-entity that manages key Council facilities such as aquatic centres, leisure centres and large sporting venues. Our offices and other core assets are located in Blacktown City.

Council is made up of 5 wards, spanning an area of 247 square kilometres. It manages local infrastructure and assets and provides a broad array of services for the City's 415,000 residents. Our broader City is a mixed-use area, with residential, commercial, industrial, medical, institutional, educational, cultural and entertainment land uses, and substantial parkland and sporting facilities.

Our Blacktown 2041 is Council's long-term community strategic plan for the City. The main priorities for the plan are to maintain and improve quality of life for the Blacktown City community and ensure Blacktown City identifies and embraces future liveability and sustainability opportunities.

Blacktown City Council has been a leader in sustainability practices for more than 20 years. Council has been active in responding to climate change, focusing on the performance of its own operations, as well as delivering initiatives to support our residents and businesses to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

Council endorsed our Responding to climate change policy and strategy in July 2018, and we are progressing well with implementation. The policy provides targets and a clear focus for our work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to climate change and build resilience, especially in the face of increasing urban heat and its associated health threats during summer heatwaves. The policy's accompanying strategy is annually updated, reporting progress on the past year and outlining a program for the upcoming year.

Blacktown City Council has committed to being net zero carbon certified under the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations from financial year 2020/21 onward. We take an operational control approach for our carbon neutrality organisational boundary. This is our third Public Disclosure Statement

(PDS) for our Australian business operational emissions, outlining our 2022/23 carbon account, emission reduction measures and annual carbon offset reconciliation.

In 2022/23, Council provided the following services to the residents of Blacktown City:

- land use planning and development assessment
- transport network development and maintenance
- waste management services for residential customers
- provision of on and off-street parking services
- development and maintenance of urban parks
- provision and management of arts and cultural facilities and events
- provision and maintenance of libraries, community halls and sports and recreational facilities
- street cleaning and graffiti removal
- animal management
- flood risk management
- biodiversity conservation
- green community initiatives, including programs and events to support greater sustainability action by households, students and businesses.

The following subsidiaries are also included within this certification:

Legal entity name	ABN	ACN
Blacktown Venue Management Ltd	80 098 490 978	098 490 978

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 our 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

Electricity

Food

ICT services and equipment

Postage, courier and freight

Professional Services

Refrigerants

Stationary Energy (gaseous fuels)

Stationary Energy (liquid fuels)

Transport (Air)

Transport (Land and sea)

Waste

Water

Working from home

Office equipment & supplies

Non-quantified

Diesel – stationary

Hire cars

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

Capital works

Sites outside Council's control

4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Blacktown City Council's Responding to climate change policy commits us to:

- achieve net-zero emissions from the electricity, fuel and gas we use in our operations by 2030 (scopes 1 and 2)
- reach a target of 100% renewable electricity for Council operations by 2025 (scope 2). We have secured a contract that will provide 100% of our operational electricity demand from emissions-free renewable sources from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2029. This will be verifiable through Large Scale Generation Certificates (LGCs).

Council has also committed to completing the replacement of our older, remaining mercury vapour streetlamps with LEDs in 2023/24.

Blacktown City Council is committed to reducing emissions from its activities and operations. In an effort to meet this commitment, our aim is a 30% reduction in emissions we generate by 2030, from our 2021 baseline.

We are now working with our consultant, 100% Renewables, to extend our emissions reduction strategy to scope 1 transport fuels and our scope 3 supply chain, including the setting of emission reduction targets in these scopes. We aim for these strategies to be operational by 2026.

Emissions reduction actions

Our emission reduction actions included:

- incrementally replacing our City's older streetlights with LED lamps, 98% completed by the end of 2022/23 and the remainder scheduled for 2023/24. All new streetlights are fitted with LED lamps.
- previous replacement of gas boilers with heat pumps at our aquatic centres, continuing the step down from to keep our reliance on natural gas lower than in the base year.
- transitioning our leaseback fleet to lower emission vehicles, specifically hybrids, plug-in hybrids and battery electric vehicles.

5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

When looking at the changes in Council's emissions between the 2022 and 2023 financial years, there was a significant change in categories, including Technical Services and Diesel Oil Post 2004. Blacktown City Council is one of the fastest growing Local Government Areas in NSW. As such, there has been large investment into our strategic planning and development. It is due to this increased investment that we can correlate an increase in emissions of 22% to Technical Services, which includes engaging professional and consultants.

There has been a similar increase in emissions related to Diesel Oil Post 2004, between 2022 and 2023 financial years, increasing by 21%. Due to the increase in our Council's development, this correlation can also be attributed to increased activity of services to our residents. These services have required the use of diesel-powered vehicles and machinery, such as waste collection.

		Emissions since base year	
		Total tCO_2-e (without uplift)	Total tCO_2-e (with uplift)
Base year/Year 1:	2020-21	47,971	N/A
Year 2:	2021–22	41,612	N/A
Year 3:	2022–23	39,678	N/A

Significant changes in emissions

Emission source	Activity data unit	Previous year emissions (kg CO2-e)	Current year emissions (kg CO2-e)	Reason for change
Electricity	kg CO2-e	20,054	16,873	Improved energy efficiency from LED streetlighting

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

Certified brand name	Product/Service/Building/Precinct used
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 (t CO2-e)	Sum of Scope 2 (t CO2-e)	Sum of Scope 3 (t CO2-e)	Sum of Total Emissions (t CO2-e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	27.60	27.60
Cleaning and chemicals	0.00	0.00	893.35	893.35
Electricity	0.00	16872.73	2233.16	19105.89
Food	0.00	0.00	364.23	364.23
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	372.01	372.01
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	194.03	194.03
Professional services	0.00	0.00	6524.55	6524.55
Refrigerants	62.98	0.00	0.00	62.98
Stationary energy (gaseous fuels)	1532.95	0.00	389.71	1922.65
Stationary energy (liquid fuels)	0.15	0.00	0.05	0.20
Transport (air)	0.00	0.00	41.16	41.16
Transport (Land and Sea)	3931.09	0.00	2238.81	6169.90
Waste	0.00	0.00	2915.13	2915.13
Water	0.00	0.00	741.49	741.49
Working from home	0.00	0.00	150.92	150.92
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	191.22	191.22
Total	**5527.16**	**16872.73**	**17277.41**	**39677.30**

Uplift factors

N/A

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

This certification has taken an in-arrears offsetting approach. The total emissions to offset is 39,678 tCO2-e. The total number of eligible offsets used in this report is 90,000. Of the total eligible offsets used, 51,417 were previously banked and 0 were newly purchased and retired. 11,739 are remaining and have been banked for future use.

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 (%)**
Guodian Wuqi Zhouwan 1st 49.5MW Wind Power Project	CER	ANREU	10/07/2023	1,126,612,097 - 1,126,662,096	CP2		50,000	38,583	0	11,417	30.6
Guodian Wuqi Zhouwan 1st 49.5MW Wind Power Project	CER	ANREU	10/07/2023	1,126,762,097 - 1,126,775,615	CP2		13,519	0	0	13,519	36.3
Guodian Wuqi Zhouwan 1st 49.5MW Wind Power Project	CER	ANREU	10/07/2023	1,126,743,464 - 1,126,762,096	CP2		18,633	0	3,891	14,742	33.1
Guodian Wuqi Zhouwan 1st 49.5MW Wind Power Project	CER	ANREU	10/07/2023	1,126,709,584 - 1,126,712,096	CP2		2,513	0	2,513	0	0
Guodian Wuqi Zhouwan 1st 49.5MW Wind Power Project	CER	ANREU	10/07/2023	1,126,606,762 - 1,126,612,096	CP2		5,335	0	5,335	0	0
									Total eligible offsets retired and used for this report	39,678	
									Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports	11,739	

Type of offset units	**Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)**	**Percentage of total**
Certified Emissions Reductions (CERs)	39,678	100%

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A.

The following RECs have been surrendered to reduce electricity emissions under the market-based reporting method.

1. Large-scale Generation certificates (LGCs)*	0

* LGCs in this table only include those surrendered voluntarily (including through PPA arrangements), and does not include those surrendered in relation to the LRET, GreenPower, and jurisdictional renewables.

Project supported by LGC purchase	Project location	Eligible unit type	Registry	Surrender date	Accreditation code	Certificate serial number	Generation year	Fuel source	Quantity (MWh)
Total LGCs surrendered this report and used in this report									0

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See attachment 1 for confirmation of carbon offset retirement.

Transaction ID	AU28358
Current Status	Proposed (1)
Status Date	10/07/2023 10:14:32 (AEST) 10/07/2023 00:14:32 (GMT)
Transaction Type	Cancellation (4)
Transaction Initiator	Dobbs, Ian Alexander
Transaction Approver	Dobbs, Ian Alexander
Comment	Retired on behalf of Blacktown City Council for its organisational Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification for 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Transferring Account

Account Number	AU-3255
Account Name	Tasman Environmental Markets Australia Pty Ltd
Account Holder	Tasman Environmental Markets Australia Pty Ltd

Acquiring Account

Account Number	AU-2764
Account Name	Voluntary Cancellation – CP2
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
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,126,612,097 - 1,126,662,096	50,000
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,126,762,097 - 1,126,775,615	13,519
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,126,743,464 - 1,126,762,096	18,633
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,126,709,584 - 1,126,712,096	2,513
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-8620			1,126,606,762 - 1,126,612,096	5,335

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 CO2-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)	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)	4,424,521	0	18%
Residual Electricity	20,006,162	19,105,885	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	**4,424,521**	**0**	**18%**
Total grid electricity	**24,430,684**	**19,105,885**	**18%**
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	**24,430,684**	**19,105,885**	**18%**
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	**20,006,162**	**19,105,885**	
Scope 2	17,667,780	16,872,730	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	2,338,383	2,233,155	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	**0**	**0**	
Scope 3	0	0	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	**18.11%**
Mandatory	**18.11%**
Voluntary	**0.00%**
Behind the meter	**0.00%**
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO2-e)	**16,872.73**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO2-e)	**2,233.16**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	**16,872.73**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	**2,233.16**
Total emissions liability (t CO2-e)	**19,105.89**

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				
Percentage of grid electricity consumption under operational control	100%	(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	24,430,684	24,430,684	17,834,399	1,465,841	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	0	0	0	0	0	0
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)	24,430,684	24,430,684	17,834,399	1,465,841	0	0
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		

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO2-e)	**17,834.40**
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO2-e)	**1,465.84**
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	**17,834.40**
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	**1,465.84**
Total emissions liability (t CO2-e)	**19,300.24**

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.

Relevant non-quantified emission sources	Justification reason
Diesel - stationary	Immaterial
Hire cars	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.

Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
Capital works (embodied emissions)	Y	N	N	N	N	This emissions source does not meet the following 4 relevance tests: • influence, because we are not in a potential to strongly influence the emissions from this source • risk, because there are no relevant laws or regulations that apply to limit emissions specifically from this source • stakeholders, because our residents are unlikely to consider this a major emissions source over which we have direct control • outsourcing, because we have not previously undertaken this activity within our emissions boundary and comparable organisations do not typically undertake this activity within their boundary.
Sites outside Council's control	N	Y	N	N	N	This emissions source does not meet the following 4 relevance tests: • size because the emissions from sites outside our control are small compared with those from the use of electricity, fuel and gas on our sites and directly within our control • risk, because there are no relevant laws or regulations that apply to limit emissions specifically from these sources • stakeholders, because our residents are unlikely to consider this a major emissions source from Council • outsourcing, because 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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