

# CLIMATE ACTIVE CARBON NEUTRAL STANDARD PUBLIC DISCLOSURE SUMMARY

Name of certified entity: NGS Super Pty Limited

**Reporting period:** 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019





Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard Public Disclosure Summary 2018-2019

# AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT CLIMATE ACTIVE CARBON NEUTRAL PROGRAM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE SUMMARY

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# Declaration

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Summary is true and correct and meets the requirements of the Carbon Active Carbon Neutral Standard.

Signature: Date: 30 January 2020

Name of Signatory: Benjamin Facer

Position of Signatory: Chief Strategy and Risk Officer

Carbon neutral certification category:	Organisation
Date of most recent external verification/audit:	5 December 2019
Auditor:	Ndevr Environmental
Auditor assurance statement link:	ngssuper.com.au/files/forms/download/ncos- audit-report.pdf



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# 1. Carbon neutral information

### 1A. Introduction

NGS Super is one of the largest superannuation funds dedicated to education and community-focused organisations throughout Australia. It is a public offer fund with over \$12 billion in assets, almost 120,000 members and more than 12,700 participating employers nationally.

NGS Super's strategic vision is to be recognised as a leading super fund and trusted brand and partner in the non-governmental education and community-focused sectors, delivering benefits of scale to our members and ensuring the future security and sustainability of their retirement benefits.

NGS Super has its head office in Sydney, with others in Melbourne, Brisbane, and Adelaide

Table 1 below presents the general information about the company and its reporting period.

Table 1: Company Information		
Website:	www.ngssuper.com.au	
Business area:	Financial services	
Reporting period:	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	
Number of full-time employees (FTE):	64	

NGS Super's greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting and reporting procedure is based on the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations and on 'Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard Revised Edition' (GHG Protocol).

NGS Super's organisational boundaries have been defined by following the control approach. The boundary covers all entities where NGS Super has operational control, including its offices in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Melbourne.

# 1B. Emission sources within certification boundary

### **Quantified sources**

NGS Super includes all direct (Scope 1) and indirect (Scope 2) emissions sources in its GHG emissions inventory. It also includes emissions sources that result indirectly from the operations of its business (Scope 3). In the 2019 carbon accounting process, the emissions listed below have been quantified.

- Scope 1
  - Fuels for combustion in mobile sources (vehicles)
- Scope 2
  - Electricity consumption (tenancy)

### Scope 3

- Fuels and energy-related activities
- Base building electricity, including energy-related activities
- Base building natural gas, including energy-related activities
- Business travel (flights, taxis and rail)
- Business travel accommodation
- Employee commuting
- Freight
- Food and catering
- IT equipment
- Couriers and postage
- Printing and publishing
- Furniture and manufactured goods
- Telecommunications
- Disposal of waste to landfill
- Reticulated water usage (supply and treatment).

# Non-quantified sources

The potential emissions from refrigerants have not been quantified due to the lack of information about the technology used in the air conditioning (AC) systems of the buildings where NGS Super has its offices. Nonetheless, NGS Super will continue working with the building managers with the aim of including these emissions in future carbon accounts. An uplift factor has been applied to estimate the emissions resulting from refrigerants. Based on the portion of emissions from refrigerants reported by Climate Active certified organisations of a similar size to NGS Super, an uplift factor of 0.1% has been estimated.

# **Excluded sources**

The following emission sources have been excluded in line with the provisions of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard Public Disclosure Summary for Organisations. The impact of excluding these sources is not expected to materially affect the overall emissions.

Emissions associated with investments are not included in line with the provisions of the relevance test as applied to NGS Super's trustee operations.



# 1C. Diagram of the certification boundary

# **Adelaide Office**

01/07/18 - 30/06/19

431 – 439 King William Street, Adelaide SA 5000

# **Melbourne Office**

01/07/18 - 30/06/19

737 Burwood Road, Hawthorne VIC 3122

# **Brisbane Office**

01/07/18 – 30/09/18 Office 17 01/07/18 – 30/06/19 Office 17-19

757 Ann Street, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006

# **Sydney Office**

01/07/18 - 30/06/19

14 Martin Place, Sydney NSW 2000

Fleet vehicles
– petrol

Electricity

Business travel – accommodation

Freight

Courier and postage

Waste

Furniture & manufactured goods

Water

Food and catering

Base building – natural gas

Base building -

electricity

Business travel

– taxi

Paper

Staff commuting

Energy-related activities

Business travel
– flights

IT equipment

Telecommunications

Base building

– refrigerant

**Investments** 

KEY:

Scope 1

Scope 2

Scope 3

Non-quantified

**Excluded** 



# 2. Emissions reduction measures

# 2A. Emissions over time

Table 1. Emissions since base year			
	Year 1: 2017-2018	Current year: 2018-2019	
Scope 1	31.21 tCO2-e	23.10 tCO2-e	
Scope 2	72.35 tCO2-e	58.65 tCO2-e	
Scope 3	674.22 tCO2-e	500.90 tCO2-e	
Total (net)	777.78 tCO2-e	582.65 tCO2-e	
Emissions per employee	16.55 tCO2-e	9.10 tCO2-e	

# 2B. Emissions reduction strategy

NGS Super Pty Limited as trustee for NGS Super recognises and addresses the environmental impact of our internal operations. Seeking to attain maximum resource conservation is a motivation to start a new GHG inventory and achieve carbon neutrality.

We currently reduce our GHG emissions by offsetting our carbon footprint through purchasing credits towards projects such as EcoAustralia, the Myamyn Lowland Forest Conservation Australia Project and the Changbin and Taichung bundled Wind Farms Project in Taiwan. We also reduce our GHG emissions by incorporating the following into our everyday practices:

- Reducing air travel and using video/teleconference instead of flying, to avoid approximately 108.58 tons of carbon emissions;
- Leasing hybrid cars for road staff, and ensuring these cars are turned over every four years to get the best technology;
- Encouraging staff to car-pool when travelling for business engagements;
- Focusing on purchasing sustainably produced and responsibly sourced items;
- Conducting paperless Board and Committee meetings;
- Purchasing paper from certified Carbon Neutral sources for all NGS Super offices, to avoid approximately 3.41 tons of carbon emissions.

NGS Super prides itself on developing and maintaining a sustainable superannuation fund as a core principle. This means that the Fund considers and incorporates environmental, social and corporate governance issues ('ESG') into the investment process and actively collaborates with other like-minded investors to seek to improve both regulatory practices and corporate behaviour with regard to ESG-related risks and opportunities. Throughout 2019, NGS Super will disclose its investment contribution to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the financial year (FY) 2019-2020. By offsetting our carbon and reducing our future emissions we are working towards a number of specific UN SDGs including:

- no poverty;
- affordable and clean energy;
- decent work and economic growth;
- sustainable cities and communities;
- responsible consumption and production;
- climate action;
- life on land;
- partnerships for the goals.

It is our commitment as trustee of the superannuation fund to be socially responsible and to minimise our own carbon footprint while providing excellence in the services offered to our members. As the condition of our environment is affected by unprecedented human activity, we have a duty as a leading Australian superannuation fund to take responsibility for reducing carbon emissions and offsetting this wastage on an ongoing basis. Addressing our environmental impact can help to conserve resources, protect the functioning of ecosystems, reduce carbon emissions and ensure that our members are confident of our environmental commitment to sustainable business practices and investment principles. It is our intention to formalise a Sustainability Policy to align with our existing Climate Change Statement and Responsible Investment Policy during 2020.

NGS Super is committed to reducing GHG emissions by 1% per staff member by FY 2019-2020 from the FY 2017-2018 baseline. By 2020, we aim to:

- Purchase renewable electricity for 50% of electricity consumption compared to the FY 2017-2018 baseline;
- Implement energy-efficiency measures to reduce electricity consumption by 5% per staff member against the FY 2017-2018 baseline;
- Communicate waste-recycling practices and recycle 40% of waste generated in all NGS Super offices.



The table below summarises the quantifiable actions for NGS Super's current and future emissions-reduction actions:

Scope	Emission source	Reduction measure	Calculation method	Status
1 & 3	Mobile combustion fuel – petrol	Encourage car-pooling and public transport usage	Fuel consumption	Ongoing
2 & 3	Electricity	Switch to more than 50% renewable energy	Energy bills	Future
2 & 3	Electricity, water, waste	Transform employee behaviours by raising awareness and basic training to reduce waste generation and water consumption	Energy bills, water bills, amount of waste generated	Ongoing
3	Paper	Purchase paper from certified Carbon Neutral sources for all NGS Super offices	Office receipts	Ongoing
3	Travel – all	Develop guidelines and training for virtual meetings and video conferences	Flight records and amount spent on land travel	Ongoing
3	Staff commuting	Implement policies to encourage the use of public transport, biking, walking and co-travelling to work	Employee commuting survey	Future
3	Waste	Separate waste to be recycled	Amount of waste recycled	Future

# 2C. Emissions reduction actions

NGS Super Pty Limited as trustee for NGS Super currently has a number of actions in place to reduce carbon.

NGS Super trustee-initiated emission reduction actions during the 2018-2019 financial year included:

- Leasing 12 fuel-efficient hybrid cars to help reduce emissions from business travel

   these cars are turned over every four years to ensure we are getting the best technology:
- Purchasing paper from certified Carbon Neutral sources, to avoid approximately 3.41 tons of CO2 emissions;
- Reducing air travel and using video/teleconference instead of flying;
- Encouraging staff to car-pool when travelling for business engagements;
- Focusing on purchasing sustainably produced and responsibly sourced items;
- Holding paperless Board and Committee meetings.



# 3. Emissions summary

Table 2:	Emissions summary	
Scope	Emission source	t CO2-e
1	Mobile combustion fuel – petrol	23.10
2	Purchased electricity	58.65
3	Energy-related activities from purchased fuel – petrol	5.97
3	Energy-related activities from purchased electricity	7.12
3	Base building electricity	116.63
3	Base building – electricity (energy-related activities)	14.67
3	Base building natural gas	5.53
3	Base building – natural gas (energy-related activities)	1.26
3	Travel – flights (incl. WTT emissions)	147.51
3	Travel – taxis (incl. WTT emissions)	4.53
3	Travel – rail (incl. WTT emissions)	0.15
3	Accommodation	37.74
3	Waste – municipal solid waste	12.17
3	Staff commuting	59.72
3	Water supply and treatment	
3	Couriers and postage	0.57
3	Furniture and manufactured goods	6.34
3	Printing and publishing	2.42
3	Catering services	33.82
3	Freight	0.20
3	IT equipment	9.35
3	Telecommunications	
3	Carbon-neutral product: paper	0.00
3	Refrigerants – 0.1% uplift applied	0.58
Total Gro	oss Emissions	582.65
GreenPo	ower or retired LGCs	0
Total Ne	Total Net Emissions	



# 4. Carbon offsets

# 4A. Offsets summary

Table 3: Offsets summary						
Projects supported by offset purchase	Eligible offset units	Registry	Cancellation date	Serial numbers (including hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Quantity
Changbin and Taichung Wind Power, Taiwan	577	VER	12-Dec-2019	GS1-1-TW- GS472-12-2018-18583-20604-21180	2018	577
Changbin and Taichung Wind Power, Taiwan	10	VER	24-Jan-2020	GS1-1-TW- GS472-12-2017-6457-87560-87569	2017	10
Total offsets cancelled + offsets banked from previous year (FY17-18)				587 + 4		
Total offsets available for FY18-19			591			
Net emissions after offsetting				0		
Offsets banked for use in future years			8			

# 4B. Offsets purchasing and retirement strategy

NGS Super will acquire a sufficient quantity of Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard eligible offset units to offset the total GHG emissions associated with its operations for each reporting year. The offsets will be retired once the final GHG inventory has been completed and approved by NGS Super and the external auditor (every three years). Offsets will be acquired and retired in arrears at the end of the reporting period.

NGS Super will keep records of and disclose the offset units in a registry and record appropriate details to audit this cancelling activity (e.g. registry name, serial number and cancellation certificate). These details will be reported as part of the public disclosure summary.

# 4C. Offsets projects (co-benefits)

### **EcoAustralia SouthPole Project**

NGS Super purchased 100% of their offsets from South Pole through dual credit product – EcoAustralia.

EcoAustralia is an award-winning stapled carbon credit product, pioneered by South Pole in partnership with Australian biodiversity protection organisation, Cassinia Environmental. The product blends state government-accredited biodiversity protection with international carbon credits. Thanks to EcoAustralia,

Australian organisations now have a unique opportunity to compensate for greenhouse gas emissions while contributing to the regeneration and preservation of Australia's most vulnerable ecosystem types.

EcoAustralia is a stapled product, combining:

- 1 Gold Standard international carbon credit, representing 1 tCO2e of avoided emissions
- 1 Australian Biodiversity Unit, equal to 1.5 m2 of government-accredited, permanently protected Australian vegetation.



An Australian Biodiversity Unit (ABU) is a South Pole-standardised unit that represents 1.5 m2 of protected land delivering biodiversity outcomes for Australian flora and fauna species. ABUs are a division of the larger biodiversity units used on the state-based Native Vegetation Credit Registers, termed a Biodiversity Equivalence Unit (BEU) in Victoria. The state-based units vary in land area based on complex evaluations of vegetation quality, habitat types and expected improvements on the site. The issued BEUs are divided into standardised 1.5 m2 ABUs by Vegetation Link, an independent third party, who manage the ABU registry to ensure transparent allocation to EcoAustralia buyers.

Please visit the following websites for more information:

EcoAustralia Website: **southpole.com/sustainability-solutions/ecoaustralia**EcoAustralia Frequently Asked Questions: **southpole.com/ecoaustralia-frequently-asked-questions** 



# Myamyn Lowland Forest Conservation, Victoria, Australia - EcoAustralia biodiversity component

Located on private land within the Annya State Forest in South-West Victoria, the Myamyn project works to protect and rehabilitate the land that was illegally cleared for blue gum plantations in the 1990s. As well as cleared land, the site contains remnant forests that are among the most undisturbed in the region, while a large freshwater wetland provides a rare pocket of habitat for local frog, bird and bat species such as the southern toadlet, curly sedge and southern bent-wing bat. By protecting the site and replanting cleared areas with native plants, this project permanently protects and enhances local biodiversity.

The Myamyn project has rehabilitated over 20 hectares of cleared lands, protecting a total of 200 hectares against further clearing and enhancing habitat by controlling weeds and pest animals like cats and foxes. In doing so, habitat for a range of vulnerable and endangered native species is protected and enhanced – including the southern brown bandicoot, powerful owl and long-nosed potoroo.

Below is the contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals made by the Myamyn project.





# Gold Standard carbon credits

stapled to each government accredited Australian Biodiversity Unit purchased from

the Myamyn project, meeting strongest standards for Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard eligibility.



### 4 ha

of wetland protected, providing habitat for vulnerable frog, bird and bat species.



# 200 ha

of forests protected and enhanced, including 22 ha that have been replanted with native vegetation.



# Australian-first partnership

enabling voluntary purchases of government-accredited Australian Biodiversity

Units (normally reserved only for offsetting vegetation removal).

The following ABUs were retired by NGS Super towards their EcoAustralia credits:

Table 4: Australian Biodiversity Unit (ABU) Summary			
Projects supported by ABU purchase	Issuance date	Serial numbers	Quantity
Myamyn (302113)	12 Dec 2019	BBA-2467-VOL003-4588 to BBA-2467- VOL003-5164	577
Myamyn (302113)	29 Jan 2020	BBA-2467-VOL003-8143 to BBA-2467- VOL003-8152	10
Total ABUs Issued:		587	



# Changbin and Taichung Wind Power, Taiwan - EcoAustralia carbon component

This Gold Standard project is expanding Taiwan's renewables sector and raising environmental awareness. By harnessing the power of prevailing coastal winds to generate clean energy, the Changbin and Taichung wind farms power Taiwanese homes, while helping to expand Taiwan's renewable energy industry. The project is helping boost sustainable development through a number of local initiatives, such as guided wind farm tours that raise awareness about climate change and pollution, supporting the elderly and a scholarship program.

This project harnesses the strong prevailing winds along Taiwan's west coast. The wind farms consist of 62 wind turbines that generate over 480,000 MWh of clean power on average each year, which is supplied to the local electricity grid.

As well as contributing to global climate change mitigation efforts through emission reductions, the project is engaged in several activities that help to preserve the local ecosystem such as regular beach clean ups and guided tours that raise awareness about climate change, pollution and other environmental issues. The project has also supported the reforestation of 2,400 m2 of land, which is encouraging local biodiversity.

Below is the contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals made by the Changbin and Taichung Wind Project:









### 483,864 MWh

renewable electricity generated annually and supplied to the local grid.



# 28 local jobs

created boosting local economies.



# 328,000+ tCO<sub>2</sub>e

reduced on average annually by providing a clean alternative to fossil fuel generation.



## 2,400 m<sup>2</sup>

of trees planted by the project, encouraging biodiversity in the area.

# 5. Use of trade mark

Table 5 below indicates NGS Super's intended usage of the trade mark.

Table 5: Trade mark register		
Where used	Logo type	
Company website	Certified organisation	
Company marketing materials	Certified organisation	
Certificate to be displayed at the company headquarters	Carbon Neutral Organisation certificate	

# 6. Annex

The following page displays the certificate of climate and biodiversity protection by South Pole.





This certificate verifies that

# **NGS Super**

For the period 01.07.2018 - 30.06.2019 has compensated

# 587 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions

and protected

# 880.5 m<sup>2</sup> of biodiversity

by investing in South Pole's climate protection projects: Changbin & Taichung Wind, Taiwan

**EcoAustralia** Myamyn Conservation, Victoria, Australia

> Renat Heuberger CEO, South Pole



Thank you for committing to bold climate action. Your contribution is not only a meaningful step towards mitigating climate change globally, but also changes lives for the better by contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals set out by the UN.



Date

You have helped take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity, and protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.

Carbon Credits Serial No. Carbon Credits Serial No. Certificate number

GS1-1-TW-GS472-12-2018-18583-20604-21180 GS1-1-TW-GS472-12-2017-6457-87560-87569 Biodiversity Units Serial No. BBA-2467-VOL003-4588 to BBA-2467-VOL003-5164 Biodiversity Units Serial No. BBA-2467-VOL003-8143 to BBA-2467-VOL003-8152

> C1635EN, 01.2020 29/01/2020



This certificate is issued by South Pole. For more information about our services and more than 700 climate protection projects, please visit: southpole.com/projects. The CO<sub>2</sub> emissions indicated on the certificate are compensated through investments in the above mentioned carbon offset projects based on international standards.





More information?

# **Contact us**

Our website is your one-stop shop for information about NGS Super.

You can also contact us at

ngssuper.com.au/contact-us or call us on 1300 133 177 between 8.00am and 8.00pm (AEST or AEDT), Monday to Friday.

Phone number for callers outside Australia **+61 3 8687 1818** 

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# **Important information**

The information in this summary is general information only and does not take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. Before making a financial decision, please assess the appropriateness of the information to your individual circumstances and consider seeking independent advice from a licensed or appropriately authorised financial planner.

ngssuper.com.au 1300 133 177