

## Summary of carboNZero certification:



### Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa

*Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa meets the requirements of the carboNZero<sup>Cert™</sup> certification having measured its greenhouse gas emissions in compliance with ISO 14064-1: 2006, committed to managing and reducing its emissions and neutralised the remaining unavoidable emissions in respect of the operational activities of its organisation.*



**Introduction<sup>1</sup>** –Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa (a division of Emirates Hotels Australia Pty Ltd) is a former Australian grazing property that has been developed into a luxury-based conservation tourism project. It is located approximately 190km north-west of Sydney, adjacent to the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, and the Wollemi and Gardens of Stone National Parks. The resort complex consists of 40 free-standing suites, plus additional buildings for activities such as dining, recreation, and spa facilities. Additional staff accommodation (for up to 90 staff) and support buildings are also located on the property, including the original 1832 homestead, which has been restored into a heritage museum. Where possible, new buildings have been constructed using sustainable, locally-available materials and adherence to green building design standards.

The area of the property is approximately 1600ha, of which the building footprints occupy less than 2%. Guests are able to participate in a range of activities on the property including nature walks, mountain biking, heritage tours, horse-riding and wildlife spotting. The resort also has a large swimming pool, a fully equipped gymnasium and tennis courts.

Conservation is key to the project, with numerous ongoing programmes to preserve remnant ecosystems and rehabilitate degraded ecosystems on site. These include restoration of native vegetation in key wildlife corridors and riparian zones, as well as habitat protection and rehabilitation. An active feral animal control programme seeks to reduce the numbers of introduced predators that hunt and kill indigenous fauna. A feral proof fence is being constructed around parts of the property to exclude introduced predators such as feral cats and foxes. Numerous ongoing research programmes are underway on site to examine the feasibility of various habitat restoration and indigenous fauna re-introduction programmes. The carbon-neutral certification of Emirates Wolgan Valley Resort and Spa is a small part of the project's overall commitment to conservation and ecologically sustainable development.

**Boundary** – Figure 1 below show the organisational structure used for describing Wolgan Valley Resort and Spa's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory, and what business units

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<sup>1</sup> **Disclaimer:** This Disclosure Statement is a summary of the verified information considered for certification and the certification decision. It should not be taken to represent the full submission for certification. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this Disclosure Statement is accurate and complete, Landcare Research does not, to the maximum extent permitted by law, give any warranty or guarantee relating to the accuracy or reliability of the information.

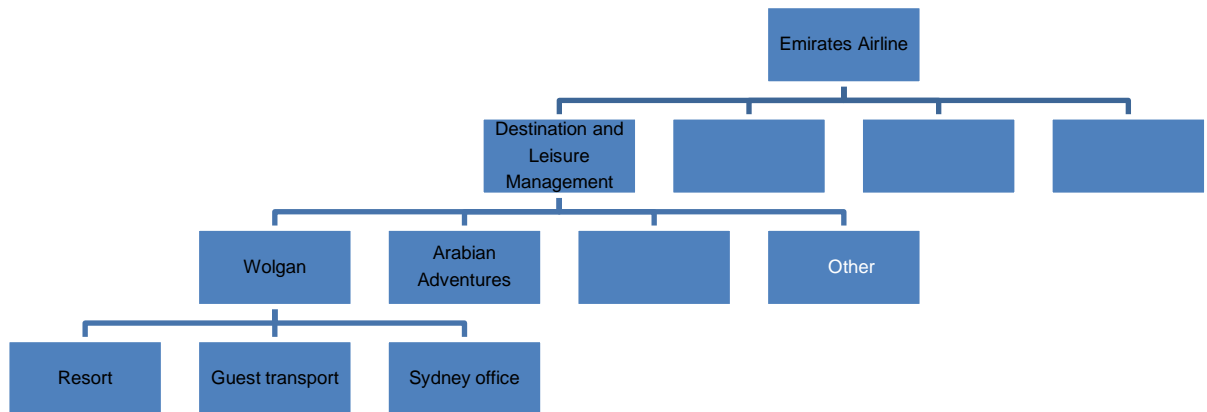
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were included in the carboNZero certification. Yellow business units were excluded from the certification.

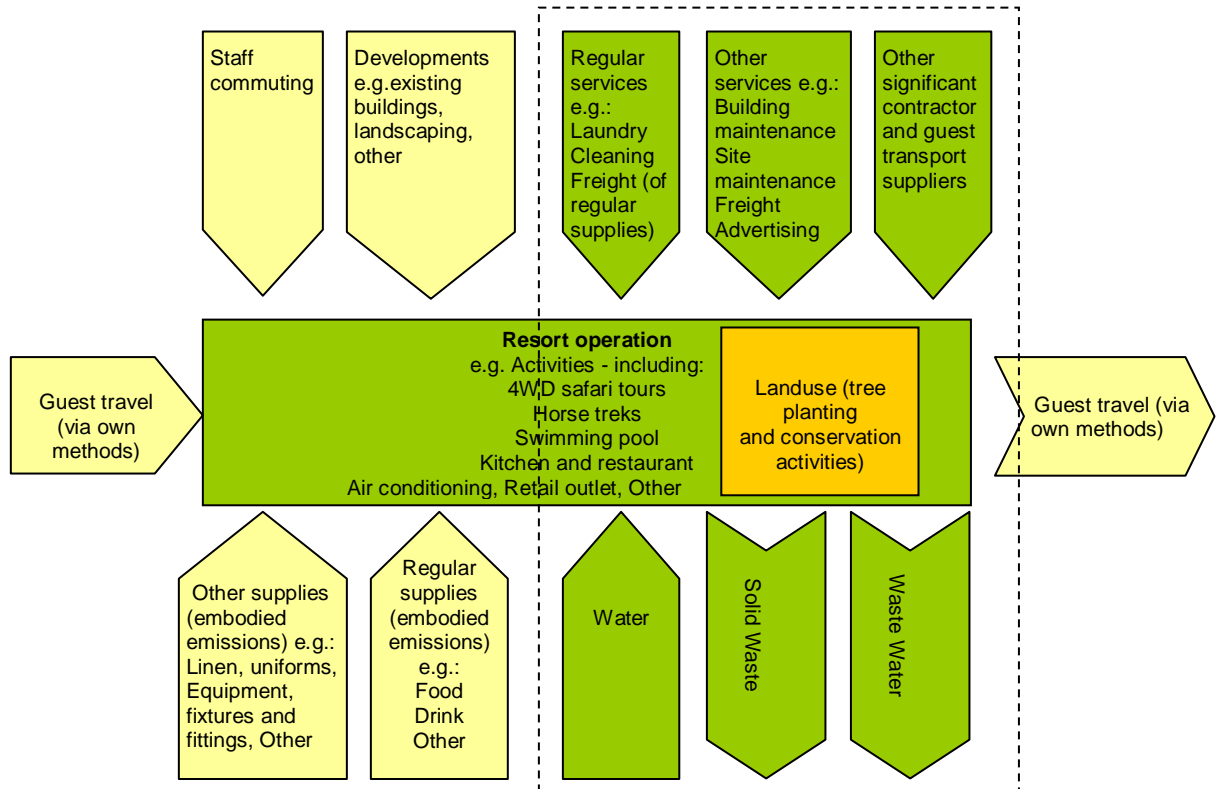
Figure 2 shows the emissions sources for the organisation in the context of the service (i.e. guest experience). Emissions sources in green have been included, and sources in yellow were excluded.



**Figure 1:** Organisational chart showing management status of the resort.

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**Figure 2:** Supply chain diagram showing emissions sources for the organisation in the context of the service (i.e. guest experience).

#### Consolidation approach – Operational control

**Base year** – 01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010 (please note that the 2009/10 year was certified on projected data and this verification and certification is a wash-up based on actual data).

#### Measurement period – 01/01/2010 to 31/12/2010

This is Emirates Wolgan Valley Resort and Spa's second GHG emissions inventory report. At the time of writing the first report (September 2009) Emirates Wolgan Valley Resort and Spa had not yet opened. The calculations in this report have been used to confirm the forecasted estimates of emissions source activity data that was used in the first report. By producing this second report, measurement has been brought into line with normal emissions calculation methods, whereby the organisation is being measured and recertified based on actual emissions source activity data.

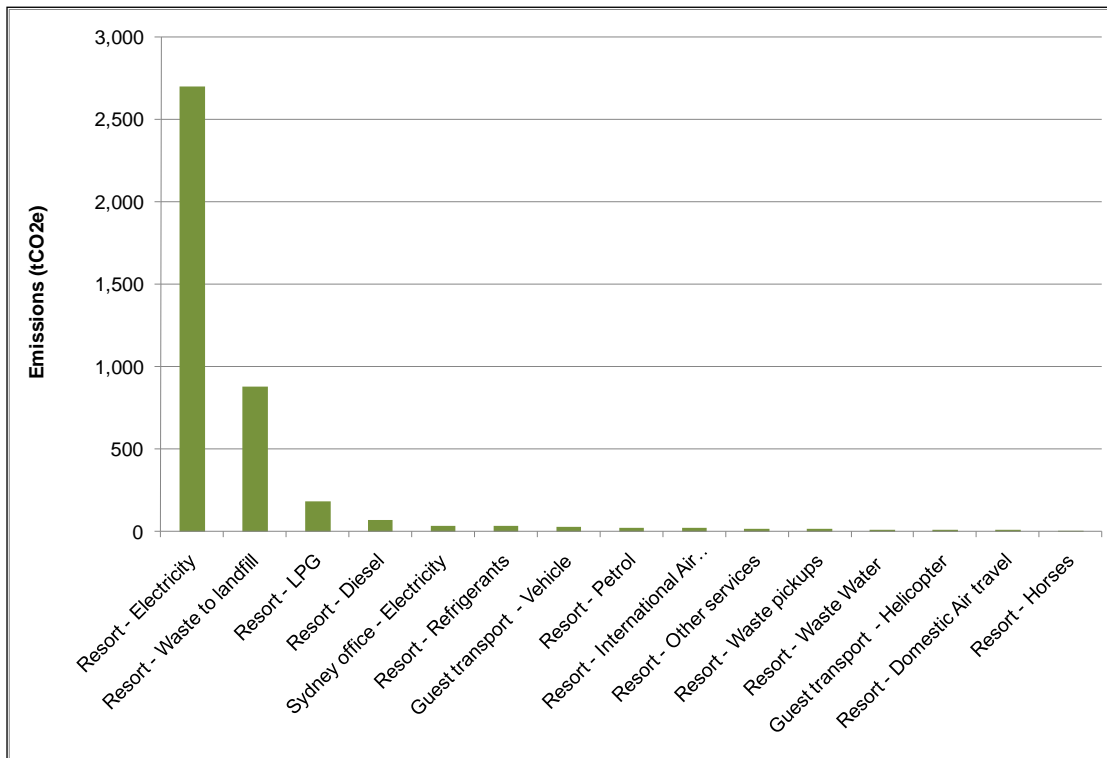
**Emissions source inclusions** – The diagram below shows the operational GHG emissions for Wolgan Valley Resort and Spa by emissions source. Wolgan Valley Resort and Spa's total emissions for this period were 4,016 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e) comprising 315 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e Scope 1, 2,736 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e Scope 2 and 965 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e Scope 3 emissions.

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Although guests arrange their own travel, the emissions associated with guest travel by helicopter and limousine is being monitored. These emissions are reported at 33 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e but they are not offset as the activity is not owned or controlled by Emirates.



**Emissions source exclusions** – The following emissions sources were excluded from the inventory for this time period:

- Paper use
- Embodied emissions associated with supplies and materials
- Embodied emissions associated with fuels used on site
- Outsourced services

**Emissions reduction commitments** – Wolgan Valley Resort and Spa has developed a GHG emissions reduction plan. Some projects in this plan include:

- Reducing packaging waste by working with major suppliers to implement sustainable procurement criteria
- Reducing waste by implementing more waste diversion options via waste contractor
- Investigate the feasibility of decreasing solar gain in staff buildings to reduce the cooling requirements
- Investigating options for reducing water consumption
- Increasing staff awareness and behaviour change

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**Offset** – 556 Gold Standard certified VERs generated by the Te Apiti windfarm project were retired on the Gold Standard Registry following the 1<sup>st</sup> measurement report, and this volume is sufficient for covering the actual emissions in this 2<sup>nd</sup> report (serial numbers were GS1-1-NZ-340-12-2007-11-15377 to GS1-1-NZ-340-12-2007-11-15932)

The offset requirement has been reduced through the purchase of certified 35% GreenPower from Origin Energy and annual removals enhancements associated with the removal of livestock from agricultural land and its restoration to native forest. This results in an 89tCO<sub>2</sub>e credit.

**Verified by** – Green Fox Ltd

**Threshold of materiality** – Excluded emissions do not exceed 5% of the total footprint for organisation stated.

**Level of assurance** – Limited assurance

**Certification status** – carboNZero certified “organisation”.

**Certificate number** – 2009080J/2

**Valid until** – 30 April 2014

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