

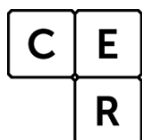


Australian Government
Clean Energy Regulator



Corporate Emissions Reduction Transparency (CERT) report

Guidelines
FY2022-23 and CY2023



**CLEAN
ENERGY
REGULATOR**



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Key dates

Activity	Date
Opt-in deadline ¹	31 January 2024
Surrender deadline ²	28 February 2024
Reporting deadline ³	15 March 2024 for 2022/23 financial year reporters 30 April 2024 for 2023 calendar year reporters
Publication	By 30 June 2024

¹ Participants already opted in for a previous reporting year will not be required to opt-in for subsequent reporting years.

² Deadline to surrender eligible units and certificates for the reporting year.

³ A request to opt out must be submitted by the reporting deadline.



1. Introduction

1.1 What is the Corporate Emissions Reduction Transparency report?

The Corporate Emissions Reduction Transparency (CERT) report provides a framework for eligible companies that report under the [National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting](#) (NGER) scheme to:

- Present progress towards their climate-related commitments and net emissions position in a clear and consistent way
- Verify their use of eligible carbon offsets and renewable energy using trusted CER data
- Support voluntary participation in Australia's carbon markets.

The CERT report is administered by the Clean Energy Regulator (CER) and leverages the CER's trusted data holdings from the NGER scheme, the [Renewable Energy Target](#) (RET) scheme and the [Australian National Registry of Emissions Units](#) (ANREU). It is supplemented by data and information provided by the participant.

1.2 About the CERT report guidelines

- 1.2.1 The CERT report guidelines (hereafter, CERT guidelines) set the rules and interactions between participants and the CER.
- 1.2.2 The CERT report does not replace any legal or regulatory obligations that participants have to report, undertake, or accurately describe their activities to reduce emissions.
- 1.2.3 This version of the CERT guidelines supersedes all previous versions of the guidelines and any prior agreements or representations made by the CER in relation to the CERT guidelines and their design.

1.3 Accuracy and verification of provided data and information

- 1.3.1 Participants are responsible for ensuring data and information provided to the CER for the purposes of their CERT report does not breach Australian law or regulatory requirements.
- 1.3.2 Participants must ensure that the data, information and claims provided to the CER are true, accurate, complete, and not misleading or capable of being misleading.
- 1.3.3 Participants are responsible for the accuracy and quality of data or information provided to the CER and for ensuring they comply with relevant Australian laws and regulatory requirements including corporate and financial reporting.
- 1.3.4 The CER uses its data holdings, data-matching and other internal processes to verify a participant's progress towards their commitment goal. This verification includes a participant's surrendered units and certificates, net emissions position and renewable electricity percentage.
- 1.3.5 If further information to support publication of the CERT report is required, the CER may request additional information be provided from participants within a specified timeframe.
- 1.3.6 The CER reserves the right to remove from publication or not publish any information it deems inappropriate, misleading, inaccurate or unable to be verified by the CER.
- 1.3.7 Where the CER proposes not to publish information, it will provide the participant with reasons for its position and an opportunity to respond. The CER will consider any response, and will notify the participant of its final decision, which may include:
 - a) Publication of the information
 - b) Publication of part of the information, such as the publication of a CER data verified commitment or independently assured commitment as a company assured commitment
 - c) Not publishing information.



1.4 Changes to the CERT guidelines

1.4.1 Participants agree that:

- a) the CER may change the terms of the CERT guidelines at any time following a period of consultation
- b) if the CER provides participants with notice of any change to the guidelines, the participant must comply with the updated version (at its own expense)
- c) if a participant does not agree to the changes, the participant must cease participation in the CERT report, and
- d) if a participant opts-in to the CERT report after being provided with a notice of any change to the CERT guidelines, it will be taken that the participant has agreed to that change.

1.4.2 Changes to the CERT guidelines (including calculation methodologies or emissions factors) will not apply to CERT reports that have previously been published by the CER.

2. Participation

2.1 Eligibility and opting in

2.1.1 CERT report participation is open to companies that meet the NGER scheme data [publication threshold](#).

2.1.2 CERT report participation is voluntary.

2.1.3 Participants must opt-in to the CERT report by completing the opt-in form available on the CER's [Online Services](#) platform. The form must be signed and submitted by someone with the authority to opt-in and consent to participation in the CERT report on behalf of the participant, and any other entity referred to in the opt-in form.

2.1.4 The opt-in form, and the subsequent reporting form, require signatories to consent to the use and disclosure of information supplied by the participant. This includes publication of the participant's CERT report and disclosure by any other lawful purpose.

2.1.1 Once a participant has opted into the CERT report, their participation is assumed to be ongoing. A participant must submit an annual reporting form prior to the reporting deadline each year.

2.2 Opting out

2.2.1 Participants may opt-out of the CERT report by advising the CER in writing prior to the reporting deadline.

2.2.2 Once a participant opts out, no further CERT reports will be published on behalf of the participant nor amendments made to previous CERT reports.

3. Eligible commitments

3.1 Eligible climate-related commitments

3.1.1 Participants must report all eligible climate-related commitments in their CERT report.⁴

3.1.2 A commitment is eligible for inclusion in a participant's CERT report if all the following are met:⁵

⁴ Where a participant has set more than one commitment based on the same metric and accounting boundary, for example a short-term and long-term commitment, the CER may at its discretion accept inclusion of later commitments as additional contextual information related to the earliest commitment, rather than as separately reported commitments.

⁵ See the [CERT Reporting Guidance and Supporting Examples](#) for examples of eligible commitments.



- a) It applies to the participant's global or Australian activities
- b) It has been published by the participant prior to the end of the reporting year
- c) It relates to the participant's greenhouse gas emissions and/or renewable electricity use.
- 3.1.3 Participants may report a commitment(s) at the subsidiary-level, provided the participant reports all their eligible climate-related commitments for that subsidiary (as per section 3.1.2b-c of the guidelines above).
- 3.1.4 The framing elements of a commitment published in a participant's CERT report must align with the participant's own climate-related reporting.⁶
- 3.1.5 The framing elements of a commitment should remain the same across reporting years unless the participant publishes a change to a commitment and notifies the CER in writing.
- 3.1.6 To request a change to a commitment, the participant should notify the CER ahead of the reporting deadline and provide a link to a public report with the company's revised commitment/s.
- 3.1.7 The CER reserves the right not to publish a commitment if it considers the commitment does not meet the criteria set out in Section 3.

3.2 Commitment types

- 3.2.1 A participant may report a climate-related commitment in their CERT report as either a(n):
 - a) 'CER data verified' commitment (see 3.3), or
 - b) 'Independently assured' commitment (see 3.4), or
 - c) 'Company assured' commitment (see 3.5).
- 3.2.2 A CER data verified commitment (detailed in 3.3) is a commitment for which the CER has the necessary information and data to calculate and verify progress from activities occurring in Australia.
- 3.2.3 An independently assured commitment (detailed in 3.4) is a commitment where the participant has received third party assurance of their progress towards that commitment.
- 3.2.4 A company assured commitment (detailed in 3.5) is a commitment that does not meet the criteria set out in sections 3.3 or 3.4.
- 3.2.5 All commitments reported in a participant's CERT report must have the same reporting boundary and reporting period (see section 7).
- 3.2.6 Participants must provide a context statement to accompany each commitment reported in their CERT report (see section 3.6).

3.3 'CER data verified' commitments

- 3.3.1 A CER data verified commitment may apply to a corporation or to corporate group members, such as a subsidiary or business unit, if emissions and energy use for that subsidiary or business unit is reported under the NGER scheme and can be distinguished from that of the controlling corporation.
- 3.3.2 The CER will only verify and report progress for a CER data verified commitment based on the participant's Australian activities. However, a CER data verified commitment may refer to the participant's Australian, regional or global operations.
- 3.3.3 All CER data verified commitments will be published with a progress bar calculated and verified by the CER. The progress bar will show the participant's progress (as a percentage and an absolute value) towards their achievement of that commitment (see section 8).
- 3.3.4 There are two types of CER data verified commitments:

⁶ Framing elements may include the commitment goal, commitment year, base period (for emissions reduction commitments), reporting boundary and reporting period. See section 3.3 for more information.



- a) Emissions reduction commitments (see section 3.3.5-6)
- b) Renewable electricity commitments (see section 3.3.7).

Emissions reduction commitments

3.3.5 An emissions reduction CER data verified commitment must include all the following framing elements:

- a) **Commitment goal** – the percentage reduction in emissions from the nominated base period
- b) **Commitment year** – the year or multi-year averaging period when the participant intends to achieve their commitment goal
- c) **Base period** – the year or years (if averaged over multiple years) against which progress is measured. A participant's base period will be presented with the following information:
 - i. The calculated emissions for the base period
 - ii. Whether base period emissions are calculated on a gross or net basis (that is, with or without eligible units and certificates).
- d) **Coverage** – the scope of emissions covered by the commitment, being:
 - i. Scope 1, or
 - ii. Scope 2, or
 - iii. Both scope 1 and 2.
- e) **Basis** – the calculation basis for the emissions reduction, being:
 - i. Gross basis (absolute reduction from base period emissions), or
 - ii. Net basis (reduction from base period emissions including eligible units and certificates).
- f) **Reporting** – nominating either operational control or equity share of emissions and energy data that relates to the commitment
- g) **Reporting period** – nominating either financial year or calendar year emissions and energy data, as relevant to the participant's commitments
- h) **Scope 2 accounting approach** (for commitments with scope 2 coverage) – the nominated method for calculating progress towards a commitment, being either the location-based or the market-based method (see section 5).

3.3.6 Participants with an emissions reduction CER data verified commitment should update their base period emissions if, since their last CERT report, significant changes have occurred to their corporate structure or emissions accounting. See section 7.5 for further information.

Renewable electricity commitments

3.3.7 A renewable electricity CER data verified commitment must include all the following framing elements:

- a) **Commitment goal** – the share of the participant's Australian electricity consumption that will be sourced from renewable generation
- b) **Commitment year** – the year or multi-year averaging period when the participant intends to achieve their commitment goal
- c) **Reporting boundary** – nominating either operational control or equity share of emissions and energy data
- d) **Reporting period** – nominating financial year or calendar year of emissions and energy data.

3.4 'Independently assured' commitments

3.4.1 A participant may report an eligible climate-related commitment (see section 3.1) as 'independently assured' if all the following criteria are met:



- a) The participant has received limited or reasonable assurance of their reporting year's and base period's greenhouse gas and/or energy data, as relevant to that commitment⁷
- b) The assurance reports are provided to the CER
- c) The assurance is conducted by a suitably qualified assurance practitioner in accordance with at least one of the following standards:⁸
 - i. ASAE 3000: *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information*
 - ii. ASAE 3410: *Assurance Engagements on Greenhouse Gas Statements*
 - iii. ISAE 3000: *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information*
 - iv. ISAE 3410: *Assurance Engagements on Greenhouse Gas Statements*
 - v. ISO 14064-3: *Specification with guidance for the verification and validation of greenhouse gas statements*

3.4.2 A participant's assurance report(s) must contain the following information:

- a) The assurance provider
- b) The nature of the assurance engagement (limited or reasonable)
- c) The standard/s used for the assurance engagement (for example, the ASAE 3410)
- d) The applicable criteria or accounting methodology used, if applicable (for example, the NGER legislation, the Global Reporting Initiative 305 standard, the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, or other recognised accounting methodology).

3.4.3 In their CERT reporting form, the participant must supply their relevant greenhouse gas and/or energy data for their:⁷

- a) Reporting year
- b) Base period.

3.4.4 All independently assured commitments will be published with a progress bar. The progress bar will show the participant's progress (as a percentage and an absolute value) towards their achievement of that commitment (see section 8).

3.4.5 If the participant's progress is calculated from a base period, participants should update their base period emissions if significant changes have occurred to the company's corporate structure or emissions accounting since their base period. See section 7.5 for further information.

3.5 'Company assured' commitments

3.5.1 A commitment other than those specified in sections 3.3 and 3.4 is eligible for publication as a company assured commitment, where it meets the criteria for climate-related commitments set out in section 3.1.

3.5.2 A company assured commitment presented in a participant's CERT report must be accompanied by a 'progress statement'.

3.5.3 A 'progress statement' should provide readers with a descriptive snapshot of the participant's progress towards achieving that commitment.⁹

3.5.4 The participant should update their 'progress statement' annually for each company assured commitment included in their CERT report.

⁷ For example, if a participant commits to reduce its global gross scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions, relevant data for that commitment includes the participant's global gross scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions in their base period and reporting year. Participants must have assurance of their base period emissions if progress towards the commitment is calculated from a base period.

⁸ The participant may choose a Category 2 auditor from the CER's [Register of Greenhouse and Energy Auditors](#).

⁹ A progress statement is published in lieu of a progress bar for company assured commitments.



3.6 Context statements

- 3.6.1 Participants must provide a brief supporting statement as context for each of their commitments.
- 3.6.2 Participants may provide a brief supporting statement as context for their company's CERT report as a whole, including their climate related strategy, position, or progress.
- 3.6.3 Context statements should be used to disclose information set out in paragraphs 33-37 of the [International Financial Reporting Standards' S2 Climate-related Disclosures Standard](#) – *Climate-related Targets*, where this information is not disclosed elsewhere in the CERT report.¹⁰
- 3.6.4 Context statements may also include, but are not limited to:¹¹
 - a) International context (for example, where the commitment applies to a global corporation with progress calculated for Australian activities)
 - b) Commentary on commitment progress, including major progress milestones or setbacks
 - c) Commentary on any material inclusions or exclusions from the commitment's scope or reporting boundary
 - d) Commentary on any material differences between the CERT report and the participant's other publications
 - e) Other frameworks the participant has reported the commitment under

3.7 Links to additional information

- 3.7.1 Participants may include a hyperlink to a relevant published report or webpage providing further details on the participant's climate-related commitments, strategies and/or progress.
- 3.7.2 If provided alongside a commitment, the linked document or page should provide specific details about the participant's commitment.
- 3.7.3 If provided as supporting information about the company or their CERT report as a whole, the link should provide further information about the participant's climate-related strategies and progress.
- 3.7.4 Linked reports may be annual, climate or sustainability reports published by the participant, or a website or report detailing the participant's compliance with another reporting standard.¹²

4. Eligible units and certificates

4.1 Eligible units and certificates

- 4.1.1 Units and certificates eligible for reporting under the CERT report are:
 - a) Australian carbon credit units (ACCUs) that are voluntarily cancelled
 - b) ACCUs surrendered to meet [safeguard mechanism](#) compliance including deemed surrenders¹³
 - c) ACCUs cancelled under state or territory schemes that are held in a Commonwealth cancellation account

¹⁰ If a current Australian equivalent of this standard exists, participants should refer to this when making context statements.

¹¹ When writing context statements participants are encouraged to refer to current guidance from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on environmental and sustainability claims.

¹² For example, a link to the participant's Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement.

¹³ Unlike the CERT report, Climate Active do not currently recognise ACCUs from deemed surrenders as part of their carbon accounting for carbon neutral certification.



- d) Certified Emission Reduction units (CERs) voluntarily cancelled in the ANREU, excluding those outlined in section 4.2
- e) Verified Carbon Units (VCUs), Verified Emissions Reductions (VERs) and CERs cancelled otherwise than in the ANREU, provided that adequate evidence of the cancellation and purpose are provided in accordance with section 9.2
- f) Large-scale generation certificates (LGCs) that are voluntarily surrendered directly or by a third party (such as GreenPower) – these may be included in participants' market-based scope 2 emissions accounting (see section 5.3) or renewable electricity percentage (see section 6.1).

4.2 Ineligible units and certificates

4.2.1 Units and certificates ineligible for reporting under the CERT report are:

- a) Small-scale technology certificates (STCs)¹⁴
- b) ACCUs required to be relinquished under the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011*¹⁵
- c) ACCUs delivered to the CER under a carbon abatement contract except for those listed at section 4.1.1b)
- d) LGCs required to be surrendered because they were improperly created or created in error
- e) LGCs surrendered to meet a liable entity's obligations under the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000* (REE Act)¹⁶
- f) Units or certificates surrendered for another reporting year or company¹⁷
- g) Units created under state and territory schemes. This includes but is not limited to:
 - i. Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates; and
 - ii. Energy Savings Certificates.
- h) Long-term CERs (ICERs) and temporary CERs (tCERs)
- i) CERs from nuclear projects, the destruction of trifluoromethane, the destruction of nitrous oxide from adipic acid plants or from large-scale hydro-electric projects not consistent with criteria adopted by the European Union (based on the World Commission on Dams' guidelines)¹⁸
- j) CERs that have been voluntarily cancelled to transfer to another carbon unit registry or program.

4.3 Unit vintages

4.3.1 Eligible carbon units (ACCUs, CERs, VERs and VCUs) must have a vintage year (date of issuance) later than 2012.

¹⁴ STCs are excluded from the CERT report as the [Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme](#) design is effectively a 'closed loop'. Supply meets demand each year with surplus STCs added to the [small-scale technology percentage](#) in the following year. Hence, there are no excess certificates available for voluntary surrender. Onsite consumption from small-scale PV systems that create STCs can be included in renewable electricity percentage calculations.

¹⁵ This could include over-creation, reversal of sequestration or other events.

¹⁶ LGCs surrendered by RET [liable entities](#) to meet their obligations under the REE Act are represented by the 'RPP' term of participants' market-based scope 2 emissions (see section 5.3.9) and renewable electricity percentage (see section 6.1.1) calculations.

¹⁷ For example, where a transaction comment in the relevant registry indicates the transaction is for a different year or company than the one it is being claimed for. However, where a participant has apportioned a surrender across multiple years under another government program such as Climate Active, these may be apportioned in the same way for CERT reporting purposes, where there is sufficient publicly available information to verify the apportionment.

¹⁸ World Commission on Dams, [Dams and Development- A New Framework for Decision Making](#), 2000, accessed 6 September 2022.



- 4.3.2 Eligible LGCs must have a generation date of no more than 36 months before the end of the reporting year.

5. Emissions accounting

5.1 Net emissions position

- 5.1.1 'Net scope 1 & 2 emissions' for a participant is calculated as the sum of their 'Net scope 1 emissions' and 'Net scope 2 emissions' for that reporting year:

$$\text{Net scope 1 \& 2 emissions} = \text{Net scope 1 emissions} + \text{Net scope 2 emissions}$$

- 5.1.2 If more eligible units and certificates are surrendered than the total gross scope 1 and 2 emissions, then net emissions will be presented as a negative number.¹⁹

5.2 Scope 1 emissions

- 5.2.1 A participant's 'Gross scope 1 emissions', as presented in their CERT report, are calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Gross scope 1 emissions} = \text{Scope 1 emissions (NGER)} + \text{ACCUs issued for emissions reductions activities}$$

Where:

- 'Scope 1 emissions (NGER)' are the participant's actual scope 1 emissions as reported under the NGER scheme, adjusted for the participant's nominated accounting approach for their reporting boundary and reporting period.
- 'ACCUs issued for emissions reductions activities' refers to the volume of ACCUs issued in relation to activities that occur at an NGER facility during the reporting year and within the participant's reporting boundary.²⁰

- 5.2.2 A participant's 'Net scope 1 emissions' are calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Net scope 1 emissions} = \text{Scope 1 emissions (NGER)} + \text{ACCUs issued for emissions reductions activities} - \text{Eligible units (scope 1)}$$

Where:

- 'Eligible units (scope 1)' are those listed in section 4.1 (excluding LGCs) and reported against scope 1 emissions.

5.3 Scope 2 emissions

- 5.3.1 Scope 2 emissions are calculated by the CER using both the location-based and market-based accounting methods and published in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions.
- 5.3.2 Participants may nominate one of the following emissions accounting approaches for presenting progress towards their commitments:
- Location-based accounting, or
 - Market-based accounting.
- 5.3.3 If a participant does not nominate a scope 2 emissions accounting approach for the purposes of section 5.3.2, market-based accounting will be used.

¹⁹ This excludes LGC surrenders. See section 5.3.11 for further information.

²⁰ To avoid double counting of abatement, ACCUs issued are added when calculating 'Net scope 1 emissions'.



- 5.3.4 Participants' location- and market-based emissions will be published in their CERT reports, however only the participant's nominated method will be used to calculate progress towards their commitments (see section 8).²¹

Location-based accounting

- 5.3.5 A participant's 'Location-based net scope 2 emissions' are calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Location based net scope 2 emissions} = \text{Gross scope 2 emissions} - \text{Eligible units (scope 2)}$$

Where:

- 'Gross scope 2 emissions' are the actual scope 2 emissions as reported by the participant under the NGER scheme, adjusted for the participant's nominated reporting boundary and reporting period.
- 'Eligible units (scope 2)' are those units listed in section 4.1 (excluding LGCs) and reported against scope 2 emissions.

Market-based accounting

- 5.3.6 A participant's 'Market-based net scope 2 emissions' are determined based on [section 7.4 – Method B of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting \(Measurement\) Determination 2008](#) ('NGER Measurement Determination') and any eligible units allocated to Scope 2 emissions.
- 5.3.7 'Market-based net scope 2 emissions' are calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Market based net scope 2 emissions} = \text{Residual emissions} - \text{Eligible units (scope 2)}$$

- 5.3.8 A participant's market-based 'Residual emissions' are calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Residual emissions} = \text{Residual electricity} \times \text{Residual mix factor}$$

Where the 'Residual mix factor' (RMF) is the "Residual Mix Factor" published in [Schedule 1, Part 6 of the NGER Measurement Determination](#), converted into t-CO₂-e/MWh equivalent.²²

For FY2022/23, this value is 0.846 t CO₂-e/MWh. For CY2023, this value is 0.81 t CO₂-e/MWh.

- 5.3.9 A participant's market-based 'Residual electricity' is calculated using the following equation:²³

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Residual electricity} = & \\ & [(\text{Imported electricity} - \text{EITE electricity consumption}) \times (1 - (\text{RPP} + \text{JRPP})) + \text{EITE Electricity consumption} \times (1 - \text{JRPP})] \\ & + \text{Renewable on-site electricity consumption (LGC)} - \text{LGCs surrendered} \end{aligned}$$

Where:

- 'Imported electricity' refers to all electricity consumed and reported under the NGER scheme under the:
 - NGER Measurement Determination [section 7.2](#) ('purchase and loss of electricity from main electricity grid'), or
 - NGER Measurement Determination [section 7.3](#) ('purchase and loss of electricity from other sources').

²¹ Participants can elect to publish their emissions using only the location-based method. Participant's renewable electricity percentage is published in either case.

²² For financial years prior to FY2023/24 and for all calendar years, the RMF is 'National Scope 2 RMF' number calculated by Climate Active for the relevant year.

²³ The CER calculates the term in square brackets for each facility and sums these to determine total imports not covered by the RET or jurisdictional renewable energy targets.



- b) 'Renewable on-site electricity consumption (LGC)' refers to the NGER-reported²⁴ electricity generation not from combustion that was produced and consumed behind the meter by the participant and was credited with LGCs under the REE Act. Specifically, this includes all electricity reported under the NGER scheme under [paragraph 4.20\(2\)\(a\)](#) ('electricity that was produced for use to operate the facility') of the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulations 2008* (NGER Regulations), where the energy source is reported under [subregulation 4.20\(1\)](#) of the NGER Regulations as:
- geothermal generation, or
 - solar generation, or
 - wind generation, or
 - water generation, or
 - electricity generation from biogas, or
 - thermal generation if the fuel used to produce the electricity is listed as an eligible renewable energy source under section 17 of the REE Act.
 - If LGCs are credited for generated power that is then consumed on-site (i.e., behind the meter), the same number of LGCs must be surrendered to claim zero-emission electricity consumption under market-based reporting.
- c) 'RPP' is the average of the two relevant calendar year renewable power percentage (RPP) values (for example, the 2022 RPP and 2023 RPP) for financial year reporting.²⁵ Calendar year reporting will use the RPP relevant to that year.
- d) 'JRPP' is the jurisdictional renewable power percentage (JRPP) applied to a facility. Where LGCs surrendered by a jurisdictional authority do not cover EITE activities, JRPP is zero for these activities, otherwise it is calculated using data provided by the responsible jurisdictional authority as:²⁶

$$JRPP = \frac{LGCs \text{ surrendered by jurisdictional authority}}{Total \text{ jurisdictional electricity consumption}}$$

- e) 'EITE electricity consumption' refers to the number of approved exemption certificates provided to the participant for emission-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) activity sites (that are also facilities) reported under the NGER scheme. EITEs electricity consumption is adjusted for the participant's relevant reporting boundary and reporting year.
- f) 'LGCs surrendered' is defined at 5.3.10.

5.3.10 A participant's 'LGCs surrendered' are calculated using the following equation:

$$LGCs \text{ surrendered} = LGCs \text{ voluntarily surrendered} + Third \text{ party LGCs surrendered} + GreenPower \text{ purchases}$$

Where:

- a) 'LGCs voluntarily surrendered' refers to the value, in MWh, of LGC surrenders made by the participant in the Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) Registry (excluding those LGCs that are surrendered in association with a liable entity's obligations under the REE Act);

²⁴ This extends to any electricity not reported under NGER but included in the CERT reporting form, where this electricity could have been reported under [paragraph 4.20\(2\)\(a\)](#) of the NGER Regulations with one of the energy sources listed here.

²⁵ The RPP is specified in regulations made for that purpose – see section 39 of the REE Act and regulation 23 of the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001.

²⁶ Where available data is based on the financial year, the calendar year JRPP will take the average of data from the relevant financial years and vice versa. Where data is not available for the reporting year, the JRPP will be based on the most recent data available.



- b) 'Third party LGCs surrendered' refers to the value, in MWh, of LGCs voluntarily surrendered in the REC Registry by a third party on behalf of the participant
- c) 'GreenPower purchases' refers to the value, in MWh, of LGCs surrendered through the GreenPower program that represent the participant's GreenPower purchases.

5.3.11 If more LGCs are surrendered than the total required to reach zero residual electricity (calculated according to section 5.3.9), then residual emissions will be taken to be zero.

6. Renewable electricity accounting

6.1 Renewable electricity percentage

6.1.1 The 'renewable electricity percentage' is calculated using the following equation:²⁷

$$\text{Renewable electricity percentage} = \frac{[(\text{Imported electricity} - \text{EITE electricity consumption}) \times (\text{RPP} + \text{JRPP}) + (\text{EITE Electricity consumption} \times \text{JRPP})] + \text{LGCs surrendered} + \text{renewable on-site electricity consumption (other)}}{\text{Total electricity consumed}}$$

Where:

- a) 'Imported electricity' has the same meaning as in section 5.3.9
- b) 'EITE electricity consumption' has the same meaning as in section 5.3.9
- c) 'RPP' has the same meaning as 5.3.9
- d) 'JRPP' has the same meaning as in section 5.3.9
- e) 'LGCs surrendered' has the same meaning as in section 5.3.10
- f) 'Renewable on-site electricity consumption (other)' refers to NGER-reported²⁸ renewable electricity that is produced and consumed on-site by the participant where the generation is not credited with LGCs.²⁹ This includes renewable electricity below the 1997 eligible renewable power baseline (as defined in the REE Act) consumed on-site (if reported).
- g) 'Total electricity consumed' refers to all electricity consumption reported under the NGER scheme and/or reported in the CERT reporting form by the participant for the reporting year:

$$\text{Total electricity consumed} = \text{Imported electricity} + \text{Renewable on-site electricity consumption (LGC)} + \text{Renewable on-site electricity consumption (other)} + \text{Non-renewable on-site electricity consumption}$$

Where:

- i. 'Renewable on-site electricity consumption (LGC)' has the same meaning as in section 5.3.9. LGCs must be surrendered to contribute to the 'renewable electricity percentage'
- ii. 'Non-renewable on-site electricity consumption' refers to all other electricity consumption reported under the NGER scheme for NGER [regulation 4.20\(2\)\(a\)](#) ('electricity that was produced for use for the purposes of the operation of the facility').

²⁷ The CER calculates the term in square brackets for each facility and sums these to determine total imports covered by the RET or jurisdictional renewable energy targets.

²⁸ This extends to any renewable on-site electricity not reported under NGER but included in the CERT reporting form.

²⁹ Electricity produced and consumed on-site is not eligible to have its RPP or JRPP portion claimed as zero emissions or renewable in market-based accounting.



- 6.1.2 A participant may include renewable electricity consumed on-site from systems lower than the NGER reporting threshold for their energy reporting, if it is reported under NGER or in the CERT reporting form.³⁰
- 6.1.3 If more LGCs are surrendered than the total required to reach 100% renewable electricity, the participant's renewable electricity percentage will be taken to be 100%.

7. Accounting options and adjustments

7.1 Adjustments

- 7.1.1 A participant's greenhouse gas and energy data, as presented in their CERT report, is calculated in accordance with the participant's nominated reporting boundary and reporting year.
- 7.1.2 A participant may nominate one of the following reporting boundaries:
- Operational control-based reporting, or
 - Equity share reporting.
- 7.1.3 A participant may nominate one of the following reporting periods:
- Calendar year reporting,³¹ or
 - Financial year reporting.
- 7.1.4 If the participant does not nominate a reporting boundary or reporting year, operational control-based and financial year reporting (in line with reporting under the NGER scheme) are assumed by default.
- 7.1.5 If a participant nominates financial year reporting, the:
- 'RPP' is adjusted to be the average of the RPP for the two calendar years over which the given financial year falls.
 - 'EITEs electricity consumption' (see section 5.3.9) is adjusted to be the average of the EITE exemption certificates provided for facilities within the participant's reporting boundary, for the two calendar years over which the given financial year falls.
- 7.1.6 For participants nominating equity share or calendar year reporting, a participant may nominate one of the following methodologies for calculating their Australian net emissions and renewable electricity percentage:
- reporting data that has received independent assurance (see section 7.2)
 - adjusting NGER data using a multipliers (see section 7.3 and 7.4).

7.2 Accounting using independently assured data

- 7.2.1 If a participant nominates to provide independently assured equity share or calendar year data according to section 7.1.6a), the participant must:
- Provide the greenhouse gas and energy data for their chosen reporting boundary and reporting year for activities undertaken in Australia (see section 9.3.1 for reporting requirements).
 - Provide an assurance report covering the quantities reported under a) that meets the requirements in section 3.4.2.
 - Present all reported commitments as independently assured commitments or company assured commitments (see section 3.2).

³⁰ See section 4.19 of the NGER Regulations for more information on reporting on-site energy production under the NGER scheme.

³¹ Participants may be required to provide further information to the CER if they select calendar year reporting to enable the CER to conduct verification and assurance processes for their CERT report.



- d) A note will be published on the participant's CERT report stating that their gross and net emissions and electricity data, as presented in their CERT report, has been independently assured and is not separately verified by the CER.

7.3 Equity share accounting using multipliers

7.3.1 If a participant nominates to adjust their greenhouse and energy data for equity share reporting using NGER data multipliers (according to section 7.1.6b):³²

- a) The participant must provide details of their equity share in each jointly owned facility that is reported under the NGER scheme (see section 9.4.1 for reporting requirements).
- b) The participant's NGER-reported emissions and electricity for each facility are multiplied by their equity share in a jointly owned facility (irrespective of whether the facility is under their operational control).³³
- c) 'EITEs electricity consumption' (see section 5.3.9) is multiplied by equity share to represent the participant's equity share of each jointly owned EITE site that receives EITE exemption certificates (within the participant's reporting boundary).
- d) If the CER does not have, or receive, sufficient information to verify claims made in relation to a participant's equity share reporting, it may not publish information about the applicable commitment(s).
- e) Participants must ensure that they have authority to share information with the CER for the purposes of their CERT report, including consent from other entities with equity in facilities within the participant's reporting boundary, and for the publication of such information in their CERT report on the CER's website. This requires a participant to have the authority to disclose their equity in all facilities within their CERT reporting boundary to the CER.
- f) For any facilities reported under NGER by an entity other than the participant and included in the participant's CERT report, the participant must obtain and provide evidence that the entity that reports the facility under NGER consents to the disclosure of that facility's emissions and energy data to the participant.

7.4 Calendar year accounting using multipliers

7.4.1 If a participant nominates to adjust their greenhouse gas and energy data for calendar year reporting using NGER data multipliers (according to section 7.1.6b):³⁴

- a) The participant must provide multipliers and a supporting explanation for certain NGER quantities used in the CERT calculations (see section 9.3.1 for reporting requirements)
- b) Multipliers are used to estimate unreported calendar year values by scaling data already reported under the NGER scheme. Multipliers are in the form of a percentage.³⁵
- c) Calendar year base period emissions will be calculated using averages of the participant's relevant financial year emissions reported under the NGER scheme.
- d) Once NGER data is submitted for the following financial year, the CER may use this data to undertake quality assurance of previous CERT report calendar year quantities and where any discrepancies are found may note this in subsequent CERT reports for the company.

³² This section applies irrespective of the participant's nominated reporting period.

³³ Where owned interest varies from working interest, equity share emissions multipliers should be based on working interest.

³⁴ This section applies irrespective of the participant's nominated reporting boundary.

³⁵ Multipliers reflect information already collected by the participant before the NGER reporting deadline, but not yet reported under NGER, and as such are not forecasts.



7.5 Updating base period emissions

- 7.5.1 In accordance with the [Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard](#), a participant's base period emissions for a commitment should be revised following significant changes to the participant's corporate structure or emissions accounting. This is to allow meaningful comparison of the participant's emissions over time.³⁶
- 7.5.2 Significant changes may include:
- a) Structural changes to the corporation, such as an acquisition, divestiture, merger, or the insourcing or outsourcing of emitting activities.
 - b) Changes in the calculation methodology or improvements in the accuracy of emissions factors.
 - c) The discovery of significant errors.
- 7.5.3 Changes specified in section 7.5.2 are considered significant if, when aggregated, they would alter the participant's base period emissions by more than 5 per cent.
- 7.5.4 For CER data verified commitments, the CER will update a participant's base period emissions to reflect significant changes to the CERT report's calculation methodologies or emissions factors, including changes to global warming potentials (see section 1.4 for further information).³⁷
- 7.5.5 A commitment's base period emissions should not be updated for changes other than those specified in section 7.5.2.³⁸
- 7.5.6 The participant must notify the CER to revise their base period emissions to reflect significant changes (as defined by sections 7.5.2 and 7.5.3), other than those covered by 7.5.4. If this occurs, the participant must also provide the CER with their updated base period emissions and an explanation of the changes made.³⁶

8. Calculating progress

8.1 Progress

- 8.1.1 Progress for CER data verified commitments is calculated by the CER and presented as a *progress percentage* (percentage value), and as *absolute progress* (in tonnes of CO₂-e or MWh).
- 8.1.2 Progress for independently assured commitments is calculated by the CER using independently assured data provided by the participant. Progress is presented as a *progress percentage* (percentage value), and as *absolute progress* (in tonnes of CO₂-e or MWh).³⁹
- 8.1.3 Progress for company assured commitments is provided as a statement by the participant and is not calculated by the CER.
- 8.1.4 *Progress percentage* represents the proportion of a commitment goal achieved.
- 8.1.5 Progress may be negative, for example, where net emissions have increased against base period emissions for the reporting year.

³⁶ Greenhouse Gas Protocol, [A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard](#), 2004, Chapter 5, accessed 6 September 2022.

³⁷ Clean Energy Regulator, [Global warming potentials](#), CER website, 2022, accessed 6 September 2022.

³⁸ For example, base period emissions should not be updated for natural growth and decline, which may include increases or decreases in production output or changes in product mix. For further information, see Chapter 5 of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol's [A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard](#).

³⁹ Absolute values for independently assured commitments will be presented to the unit assured (for example, Mt CO₂-e).



8.2 Calculating progress towards emissions reduction commitments

8.2.1 A participant's *progress percentage* towards a commitment is calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Progress percentage} = \frac{\text{Current position}}{\text{Commitment goal}} \times 100$$

8.2.2 For a CER data verified emissions reduction commitment for the purposes of section 8.2.1, a participant's *current position* is calculated using one of the following equations:⁴⁰

a) for an emissions reduction commitment calculated on a net basis:

$$\text{Current position} = 1 - \frac{\text{Net scope 1 \& 2 emissions}}{\text{Base period emissions}}$$

b) for an emissions reduction commitment calculated on a gross basis:

$$\text{Current position} = 1 - \frac{\text{Gross scope 1 emissions} + \text{Gross scope 2 emissions}}{\text{Base period emissions}}$$

8.2.3 A participant's *absolute progress* (tonnes CO₂-e) is calculated using one of the following equations:⁴⁰

a) for an emissions reduction commitment calculated on a net basis:

$$\text{Absolute progress} = \text{Base period emissions} - \text{Net scope 1 \& 2 emissions}$$

b) for an emissions reduction commitment calculated on a gross basis:

$$\text{Absolute progress} = \text{Base period emissions} - (\text{Gross scope 1 emissions} + \text{Gross scope 2 emissions})$$

8.2.4 For an independently assured commitment, a participant's *current position* is as provided by the participant.

8.2.5 Under a market-based accounting approach, 'Gross scope 2 Emissions' for the equations in 8.2.2 and 8.2.3 is substituted with 'residual emissions' (see 5.3.8)

8.2.6 If a participant's commitment covers only scope 1 or scope 2 emissions, then only the relevant emissions for the equations in 8.2.2 and 8.2.3 are considered. i.e., if the commitment covers only scope 1 emissions, then the scope 2 terms are zero.

8.3 Calculating progress towards renewable electricity commitments

8.3.1 For renewable electricity commitments, a participant's *progress percentage* is based on their share of electricity consumption from renewable sources (see section 6) and calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Progress percentage} = \frac{\text{Renewable electricity percentage}}{\text{Commitment Goal}}$$

⁴⁰ Participants may nominate to measure their 'base period emissions' on a gross or net basis. See section 3.3.5 for further information.



9. Reporting

9.1 General requirements

- 9.1.1 Participants may provide preliminary information about their commitments and reporting arrangements at the time of opting in by completing the CERT opt-in form on the CER's [Online Services](#) platform.
- 9.1.2 Participants must provide a CERT reporting form for the relevant reporting year by the reporting deadline each year.
- 9.1.3 Participants must submit the required data and information to opt-in and report under CERT in the manner and form specified by the CER.

9.2 Specific requirements

Base period emissions

- 9.2.1 Participants must report details of any relevant adjustment to their base period emissions (see section 7.5), and details of all eligible units and certificate surrenders for their base period.

Eligible units and certificates

- 9.2.2 All eligible unit and certificate surrenders must be made before the reporting deadline for the reporting year. They must also be attributed to a specific year⁴¹ for a single entity with a commitment (either the participant or a subsidiary corporation, on behalf of which the participant has given all consents for the purposes of the CERT report).
- 9.2.3 Eligible units and certificate surrenders by a third party on behalf of the participant may be accepted where this arrangement is clearly stated in the comments section of the relevant registry.
- 9.2.4 Each entity seeking to include eligible units and certificates in their CERT report must, as a minimum, provide for each eligible unit and certificate:
 - a) The transaction IDs from the relevant registry
 - b) The volume of units or certificates surrendered
 - c) The year towards which the units or certificates are counted, and
 - d) Allocation to the participant's nominated emissions scope (except for LGCs).⁴²
- 9.2.5 Eligible units surrendered in registries other than the ANREU or REC Registry may be accepted where the information is provided to the CER, and there is sufficient public information to confirm the volume, purpose and beneficiary of the surrender.
- 9.2.6 The CER will allocate each eligible surrender to the nominated entity making a commitment or commitments as outlined in the participant's report for that year.
- 9.2.7 ACCUs issued for an ERF project at a relevant facility that reduced reportable scope 1 or scope 2 emissions within a participant's reporting boundary must be reported to the CER.
- 9.2.8 Participants must provide the exemption certificate ID for each EITE facility that received EITE exemption certificates.⁴³

⁴¹ If a participant has apportioned a surrender across multiple years under another government program such as Climate Active, these may be apportioned in the same way for CERT reporting purposes where there is sufficient publicly available information to verify the apportionment.

⁴² Units surrendered against emissions other than scope 1 and 2 emissions (such as scope 3 emissions) may be reported as 'additional units surrendered'.

⁴³ EITE exemption certificates are issued under the REE Act.



Reporting GreenPower

- 9.2.9 A participant must provide all the following for each reported GreenPower claim:
- a) the name of the relevant corporation (if other than the controlling corporation)
 - b) the quantity, in MWh, of GreenPower electricity claimed.
 - c) electricity bills or other evidence from their GreenPower provider showing the quantity of GreenPower purchased for the reporting year.

On-site electricity consumption

- 9.2.10 A participant must include all electricity generated and consumed on-site from a renewable generator that has been credited with LGCs. This information may be reported:
- a) As part of the participant's NGER reporting, and/or
 - b) In the participant's CERT reporting form.
- 9.2.11 A participant may choose to include electricity generated and consumed on-site by renewable generators that are below the NGER reporting threshold⁴⁴ and have *not* been credited with LGCs. This information may be reported:
- a) As part of NGER reporting, and/or
 - b) In the participant's CERT reporting form.
- 9.2.12 For the purposes of the equations in sections 5.3.9 (market-based net scope 2 emissions) and 6.1.1 (renewable electricity percentage), all renewable electricity reported under NGER will be assumed to have been credited LGCs, unless:
- a) It is reported in the participant's CERT reporting form as having not received LGCs, and
 - b) This can be verified with CER-held data.
- 9.2.13 For all renewable electricity generated and consumed on-site the participant must supply the ABN of the nominated person/s that the generation system/s are registered under in the REC Registry.⁴⁵

9.3 Reporting independently assured emissions and energy data

- 9.3.1 If a participant nominates to provide independently assured equity share or calendar year data according to section 7.1.6, the participant must, for their chosen reporting boundary and reporting year, provide all of the following quantities for the controlling corporation and any reported subsidiaries related to activities occurring in Australia:⁴⁶
- a) Gross scope 1 emissions
 - b) Gross scope 2 emissions
 - c) Imported electricity (see 6.1.1)
 - d) Imported electricity consumed in the Australian Capital Territory (see 6.1.1)
 - e) Renewable on-site electricity consumption²⁹
 - f) Non-renewable on-site electricity consumption (see 6.1.1)
 - g) An accompanying assurance report covering the metrics listed at a) to f).

⁴⁴ The NGER reporting threshold applies to generating capacity above 0.5 MW or 100 MWh per annum.

⁴⁵ Or other evidence of the generation system/s as considered appropriate by the CER.

⁴⁶ If any of these quantities are not within the terms of engagement for the provided assurance report, the agency may decide not to publish the data or dependent calculations in the net emissions section of the participant's CERT report. See section 1.3 for further information.



9.4 Equity share reporting using multipliers

9.4.1 If a participant nominates an equity share reporting boundary according to section 7.1.2 and nominates to adjust their NGER scheme data using a multiplier according to section 7.1.6, the participant must provide the following for each jointly owned facility reported under the NGER scheme:

- a) Facility name
- b) Facility address
- c) Facility reporter name
- d) Facility reporter ABN
- e) Equity share in facility
- f) Number of days in a reporting year that the equity share percentage was held
- g) Evidence of consent or authority to consent to the disclosure of emissions data of any reported non-operated facilities to the participant (see 7.3.1e).

9.5 Calendar year reporting using multipliers

9.5.1 If a participant nominates a calendar year reporting period according to section 7.1.2 and nominates to adjust their NGER data using a multiplier according to section 7.1.6, the participant must provide multipliers (see section 7.4.1) for the reporting year for all of the following NGER data for the controlling corporation and any reported subsidiaries:

- a) Gross scope 1 emissions
- b) Gross scope 2 emissions
- c) Imported electricity (see 6.1.1)
- d) Renewable on-site electricity consumption²⁹
- e) Non-renewable on-site electricity consumption (see 6.1.1).

9.6 Estimates of base period emissions and progress

9.6.1 A participant may provide the CER with estimates of base period emissions and progress toward commitments based on their own calculations to assist with quality assurance.

10. Publishing

10.1 Draft CERT reports

10.1.1 Before publication, the CER will make a participant's draft CERT report available to that participant for review.

10.2 Contents of the CERT publication

10.2.1 The following will be published on the CER's website annually:

- a) A CERT report for each participant, which presents an overview of the participant's published information for the reporting year. This includes participants':
 - i. Commitments
 - ii. Progress (in percentage and absolute terms)^{47,48}

⁴⁷ A progress bar will not be presented for company assured commitments. See section 3.5 for further information.

⁴⁸ For emissions reduction commitments, the progress percentage will be presented as an overall progress percentage and as a progress percentage broken down into gross emissions reductions and offsets. See the [CERT Reporting Guidance and Supporting Examples](#) for further details.



- iii. Gross and net emissions relating to Australian activities (Scope 1 and 2) ⁴⁹
 - iv. Renewable electricity details
 - v. Use of eligible units and certificates ⁵⁰
 - vi. Company details ⁵¹
 - vii. Safeguard facility details where applicable.
- b) A data workbook including all participants' CERT report data. The data workbook presents the same information included in a participant's CERT reports in table format, supplemented by information on the framing elements of each CER data verified commitment and base period, including the: ⁵²
- i. Commitment goal
 - ii. Commitment year (including reporting year)
 - iii. Gross or net framing
 - iv. Nominated base period
 - v. Commitment coverage
 - vi. Nominated reporting boundary
 - vii. Nominated scope 2 emission accounting approach.
- c) Summary statistics and key insights about the information presented in participants' CERT reports.
- d) Explanatory information on how to interpret the CERT report and key terms.
- 10.2.2** If a participant reports a commitment for a subsidiary or other corporate group member, this will be published as part of the participant's CERT report.
- 10.2.3** A participant may nominate a preferred trading name to be published on their CERT report, for either the controlling corporation, a subsidiary or corporate group member.
- 10.2.4** The CERT publication will present information that is correct at the time of publication. Previous publications will only be retrospectively updated at the discretion of the CER if a significant error is identified.

10.3 Important information to be included in publication

- 10.3.1** To aid interpretation and use of CERT reports, important information and explanations of the different terms used in the CERT publication will be published on the CER's website. This includes, but is not limited to:
- a) The CER has published this material in good faith to increase market transparency and to disseminate statistical information relevant to the operation of the legislation and schemes administered by the CER including the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011*.
 - b) This publication is provided for general information only, and is not legal, business or financial advice. You should obtain your own independent professional advice for your particular circumstances before making any investment decisions.
 - c) Some data presented in this report may be different from data published elsewhere, such as in a company's sustainability report or under the NGER scheme. When reading the CERT publication, it is important to consider the context provided by the company and the notes provided by the CER throughout the report.
 - d) The entity that supplied the information in their CERT report is responsible for that information. In particular, participants are responsible for the accuracy and quality of data

⁴⁹ Yearly gross and net emissions data will be presented where data has been published under a previous CERT report.

⁵⁰ A participant's use of eligible units and certificates may be published (as a quantity and as a percentage) by unit, by method, as a share of total unit surrenders and as a share of the participant's reporting year emissions or progress.

⁵¹ This includes participants self-reported Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) codes.

⁵² Items iii, iv, and vii in section 10.2.1b) are not presented for renewable electricity commitments.



and information provided to the CER for their CERT report, and the CER cannot guarantee its accuracy or completeness. It is the responsibility of participants to ensure they comply with legal or regulatory requirements, including any guidance from the Australian Securities and Investments Commission on climate risk disclosure and legal requirements regarding the provision of false or misleading Information.

- e) To the extent permitted by law, neither the CER nor the Commonwealth of Australia accepts responsibility or liability for any direct, incidental or consequential loss or damage resulting from a CERT report, the information provided (or not provided) through a CERT report, or the availability or non-availability of a CERT report. The CER and the Commonwealth reserve their rights in relation to the provision of incorrect, false or misleading information.
- f) The CER may use and disclose information provided in connection with CERT for any lawful purpose, including for the purposes of (and subject to) the legislation and requirements set out in the [CER's privacy policy](#).
- g) The CER's publication of an independently assured commitment assured by a third party should not be seen as the CER's endorsement of that third party.
- h) Only Australian emissions and renewable electricity consumption are considered in calculating a participant's progress against their CER data verified commitment/s.
- i) The RMF used for market-based emissions accounting is calculated by Climate Active and is an approximation of the national grid emissions intensity if all renewable generation was removed.
- j) Information will be presented either on a calendar year or financial year basis, depending on the reporting period nominated by the participant. Data for a company may be presented on an equity share basis rather than for a controlling corporation. For these reasons, CERT reports may not appear to align with published emissions and energy data under the NGER scheme.
- k) Location-based gross scope 1 and 2 emissions data used by the CER is sourced from the NGER scheme unless otherwise stated.
- l) Emissions for a commitment's base period are adjusted to account for revisions to the global warming potential of various greenhouse gases. These emissions may be different to the data published under the NGER scheme for that year.
- m) Where a participant has been credited with ACCUs under the ERF for a project that reduces reportable emissions under the NGER scheme, the equivalent emissions are added to the participant's gross scope 1 emissions for the relevant period.



Glossary

Term	Definition
ACCU (Australian carbon credit unit)	A unit issued pursuant to the <i>Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011</i> and equivalent to one (1) tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions .
ANREU (Australian National Registry of Emissions Units)	A secure electronic system designed to track the location and ownership of Australian carbon credit units (ACCUs) issued under the Emissions Reduction Fund and units issued under the Kyoto Protocol .
Base period	The nominated year or years from which progress towards an emissions reduction commitment is measured.
Base period emissions	A company's emissions for their nominated base period . A company's progress towards an emissions reduction commitment is calculated by dividing their reporting year emissions by their base period emissions .
Carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (CO₂-e)	Greenhouse gas emissions measured as kilotonnes of carbon dioxide emissions with equivalent global warming potential. For example, in 2015–16, one tonne of methane released into the atmosphere is estimated to contribute as much to climate change as 25 tonnes of carbon dioxide. One tonne of methane could therefore be expressed as 25 tonnes of CO₂-e.
CERs (Certified Emission Reductions)	A unit issued for emissions reduction activities undertaken outside of Australia, pursuant to Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol and subsequent agreements under the United Framework Convention on Climate Change.



CER data verified commitment	A commitment where the participant's emissions, energy and progress data can be calculated and verified by the Clean Energy Regulator for activities occurring in Australia, based on the Clean Energy Regulator's data holdings and other verifiable data provided by the participant. CER data verified commitments are defined in section 3.3 of the CERT report guidelines. There are two types of CER data verified commitments: • Emissions reduction commitments: A commitment where the participant has committed to reduce their scope 1 and/or scope 2 emissions. Progress towards these types of commitments can be calculated on a 'gross only' or 'combined net and gross' basis. • Renewable electricity commitments: A commitment where the participant has committed to sourcing a certain percentage of their electricity consumption from renewable sources. This is demonstrated through the matching and surrender of LGCs or the reporting of its metered consumption of eligible on-site renewable electricity.
CERT report <u>(Corporate Emissions Reduction Transparency) report</u>	A voluntary reporting framework to allow eligible NGER scheme reporters to publish information about their commitments, progress, eligible unit surrenders, net emissions and renewable electricity consumption. The Clean Energy Regulator will prepare and publish a CERT report annually, using its data holdings and data submitted voluntarily by participants.
CERT report guidelines	The rules that govern participation in the CERT report.
Commitment	A published statement by a corporation which identifies the steps it is taking to reduce emissions and/or consume renewable electricity. Commitment as a term includes, but is not limited to, the following terminology: <i>aim, ambition, aspiration, commitment, goal, projection, intention, target, trajectory</i>. A public statement of intent framed using any of the above or similar terminology that could be reasonably interpreted to be a commitment is assumed to be a commitment.
Commitment goal	The percentage of emissions reduction or renewable electricity use the participant commits to achieve in their commitment year. For example, if the participant commits to sourcing 100% of their electricity from renewable sources in 2030, 100% is their 'commitment goal'.



Commitment year	The year or multi-year averaging period when the participant intends to achieve their commitment goal. For example, if the participant commits to sourcing 100% of their electricity from renewable sources in 2030, 2030 is their 'commitment year'.
Company assured commitment	A commitment where the participant's emissions and energy data has not been calculated and verified by the Clean Energy Regulator nor a third party. Company assured commitments are defined in section 3.5 of the CERT report guidelines.
Controlling corporation	For the purposes of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007, a controlling corporation is a constitutional corporation that does not have an Australian incorporated holding company.⁵³
EITE entity (Emissions-intensive trade-exposed) entity	A company that conducts emissions-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) activities that has been issued exemption certificates under the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000. EITE activities are prescribed in the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001.
Eligible units and certificates	Units and certificates eligible for inclusion in the CERT report against a participants' gross emissions. See section 4.1 of the CERT report guidelines for further information.
Eligible commitment	A commitment that must be disclosed if it meets the requirements set out in the CERT report guidelines. Where a participant has set more than one commitment based on the same metric and accounting boundary, for example a short-term and long-term commitment, the CER may at its discretion accept inclusion of later commitments as additional contextual information related to the earliest commitment, rather than as separately reported commitments.
Equity share reporting	An accounting approach for emissions and energy that reflects a company's shared ownership in facilities that may or may not be under its operational control.

⁵³ For further information, see the CER's website for [Key steps in reporting your NGER obligations](#).



Facility	For the purposes of the CERT report, a facility is defined as an activity, or a series of activities, that: - involve the production of greenhouse gas emissions, the production of energy or the consumption of energy - form a single undertaking or enterprise and meet the requirements of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulations 2008 - are attributable to a single industry sector.
Gross emissions	Sometimes referred to as ‘absolute’ emissions, gross emissions are a participant’s total reported scope 1 emissions or scope 2 emissions before any eligible units and certificates have been accounted for.
Independently assured commitment	A commitment where the participant has received independent assurance of the emissions and/or energy data underpinning their progress. Independently assured commitments are defined in section 3.4 of the CERT report guidelines.
JRPP (Jurisdictional Renewable Power Percentage)	A percentage representing LGCs surrendered by a jurisdictional authority (for example, the ACT Government) as a proportion of the jurisdiction’s electricity usage. See section 5.3.9 for further information.
LGCs (Large-scale generation certificates)	A certificate issued pursuant to the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000 and is equal to one (1) MWh of renewable electricity generated.
Limited assurance engagement	An assurance engagement in which the assurance practitioner reduces engagement risk to an acceptable level in the circumstances of the engagement but where the nature, timing, and extent of procedures performed is limited compared with that necessary in a reasonable assurance engagement, and where the risk is greater than for a reasonable assurance engagement. In a limited assurance engagement, the assurance practitioner’s conclusion conveys whether, based on the procedures performed and evidence obtained, a matter(s) has come to their attention to cause them to believe the subject matter information is materially misstated.⁵⁴ For further information on the meaning of this term, refer to Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000.

⁵⁴ Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, [Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 \[PDF 695KB\]](#), Commonwealth of Australia, 2017, accessed 6 October 2022, p.10.



Location-based accounting	An emissions accounting approach that calculates electricity emissions based on the average emissions intensity of the electricity grid in the location (state) in which the electricity consumption occurs. Location-based accounting therefore does not recognise the surrender of LGCs as evidence of renewable electricity use. This is the approach used in the NGER scheme .
Market-based accounting	An emissions accounting approach that allows total electricity consumption to be reduced by the MWh of renewable electricity consumed by the company before applying an emissions factor to grid-imported electricity. Market-based accounting therefore recognises the surrender of LGCs as evidence of renewable electricity use.
Multipliers	Multipliers are scaling values provided by participants to estimate their emissions and electricity consumption for calendar year and/or equity share reporting . Multipliers are applied to relevant NGER-reported data.
MWh (Megawatt hour)	A measure of electrical energy equivalent to a power consumption of 1000 kilowatts for one hour.
NGER scheme <u>(National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER)) scheme</u>	An Australian Government scheme, established under the <u>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</u> , for reporting and disseminating company information about greenhouse gas emissions and energy use.
NGER reporter <u>(National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting scheme (NGER)) reporter</u>	A corporation required to report under the <u>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</u> .
Net emissions	The emissions of a company (scope 1 emissions or scope 2 emissions) after all eligible units and certificates have been deducted from their gross emissions .
<u>Operational control-based reporting</u>	An accounting approach for emissions and energy based on who has operational control of a facility , as defined by section 11 of the <u>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</u> .
Participant	An eligible NGER scheme reporter that opts-in to the CERT report.
NGER reporting year	One of the years for which a person must provide a report under Part 3, 3E, 3F or 3G of the <u>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</u> .



Reasonable assurance engagement	An assurance engagement in which the assurance practitioner reduces engagement risk to an acceptably low level in the circumstances of the engagement as the basis for the assurance practitioner's conclusion. The assurance practitioner's conclusion is expressed in a form that conveys their opinion on the outcome of the measurement or evaluation of the underlying subject matter against criteria.^{Error!} Bookmark not defined. For further information on the meaning of this term, refer to Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000.
REE Act (Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000)	The Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000 .
RET (Renewable Energy Target)	An Australian Government scheme, established under the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000 (the REE Act), designed to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in the electricity sector. The scheme allows large-scale power stations and the owners of small-scale systems to create tradeable certificates for every megawatt hour of energy they generate.
Reporting boundary	A participant's nominated company boundary for which its emissions and electricity use is calculated. CERT report participants may choose to use either operational control-based reporting or equity share reporting .
Reporting period	A participant's nominated period over which its emissions and electricity use is calculated. CERT participants may choose either financial year reporting or calendar year reporting. Financial year reporting is used under the NGER scheme. For participants using calendar year reporting, their data is calculated using averages of their relevant financial year data. For participants using financial year reporting period, calendar year-specific values, such as the Renewable Power Percentage, are calculated using averages of the relevant calendar year values.
Reporting year	A year for which participants must provide a reporting form for the publication of their CERT report. For example, the reporting years for the 2024 CERT report are either the 2022-2023 financial year or the 2023 calendar year, depending on the reporting period chosen by the participant.
Residual emissions	The emissions of all electricity not demonstrated as renewable through the surrender of LGCs .



RPP (Renewable Power Percentage)	The percentage used to determine the number of LGCs required to be surrendered by liable entities to meet obligations under the Renewable Energy Target . For the purposes of the CERT report, the RPP applies to all participants' imported electricity (less EITE electricity consumption) to recognise the minimum estimated renewable component of the wholesale electricity market.
Scope 1 emissions	Emissions released into the atmosphere as a direct result of an activity, or series of activities, at a facility . Scope 1 emissions are sometimes referred to as direct emissions.
Scope 2 emissions	Emissions released into the atmosphere from the indirect consumption of an energy commodity. For example, emissions from the use of electricity produced by the burning of coal in another facility . Scope 2 emissions are sometimes referred to as indirect emissions.
Scope 3 emissions	Emissions, excluding scope 2 emissions , that occur as a consequence of an organisation's activities, but from sources not owned or controlled by the organisation. For example, emissions from the transportation of purchased fuels or from the use of sold products and services.
Surrender	For the purposes of the CERT report guidelines , surrender is taken to mean any of the following actions in the ANREU or another unit registry: the surrender, retirement, cancellation or transfer of units to a permanent holding account.
TCFD (Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosure)	An internationally recognised reporting framework for corporations to disclose climate-related financial information.
VCU (Verified Carbon Unit)	An emissions unit verified by Verra and equal to one (1) tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions .
VERs (Verified Emission Reduction units)	An emissions unit verified by the Gold Standard and equal to one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions .