

**Australian Transport
Safety Bureau (ATSB)
Emissions Reduction Plan**

Acknowledgement of Country

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau acknowledges the Traditional Owners and custodians of the of the lands on which we work, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

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Accountable Authority Sign Off

The Australian Government released the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy in November 2023, setting out the overall approach and action required by Commonwealth entities to achieve the APS Net Zero 2030 target.

The Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy represents a strong commitment by the Australian Government to lead by example on emissions reduction and contribute to the decarbonisation of Australia's economy.

The ATSB is committed to taking tangible steps in working towards the Government's APS Net Zero 2030 target. The ATSB is following the APS Net Zero 2030 target in full, as per the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy.

This Emissions Reduction Plan describes the priorities and actions ATSB is taking to reduce our operational emissions and contribute to the APS Net Zero 2030 target.

Angus Mitchell
Chief Commissioner / Chief Executive Officer

Emissions Reduction Plan

Purpose

ATSB is responsible for managing and implementing emissions reduction initiatives set by the Australian Government's [Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy](#) (the Strategy) developed by Department of Finance. The Strategy sets out the Australian Government's approach to achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions from its operations by 2030 and the reinstatement of public emissions reporting.

The goal of this Emissions Reduction Plan is to provide a pathway for the ATSB to contribute to the achievement of the APS Net Zero 2030 target through emissions reduction activities. This plan encompasses existing and new priorities and actions within ATSB to reduce emissions.

This Emissions Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with the Strategy, associated guidance and reporting standards for annual emissions reporting.

Net zero greenhouse gas emissions

APS Net Zero 2030 is the target set by the Australian Government to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions from government operations by the year 2030. It includes scope 1 and scope 2 emissions from activities in Australia and its territories, as described in the Strategy. The APS Net Zero 2030 target applies at the aggregate level to non-corporate Commonwealth entities and generally covers the entirety of the entity's organisation. From an organisational perspective, this means minimising the greenhouse gas emissions that are within our control.

Governance and reporting

Progress against actions identified within this Emissions Reduction Plan, and any additional measures adopted, will be included in our annual reports. This, combined with annual emissions reporting, will be used as a measure of ATSB progress towards reducing its emissions.

As part of the Net Zero in Government Operations Annual Progress Report, the Department of Finance will aggregate these measures to provide whole-of-Australian Government emissions reporting.

ATSB Operational context

The ATSB, with a workforce of approximately 120 employees, operates across all Australian states and territories from various locations. The organisation's infrastructure includes office spaces, specialised laboratory facilities, and a records storage warehouse. Across the nation, the ATSB has lease agreements for four properties situated in Canberra, Brisbane, Perth, and Melbourne, which provide designated areas for staff, encompassing a total of 3,076 square meters of Net Lettable Area (NLA).

As part of its ongoing efforts to reduce emissions, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) is set to review our electricity accounts under the Whole of Australian Government Electricity Contract (WoAGEC). In addition, the Canberra office, which covers an area of

2,152m2 and has a 4.5-star NABERS rating for the building and is in active negotiations with the landlord to improve this rating during the lease term. These actions reflect our commitment to sustainability and management of our environmental footprint.

The ATSB tenancy space boasts a 5.5-star NABERS rating.

The ATSB operates under the Energy Efficiency in Government Operations (EEGO) Policy and the ATSB’s environmental management system complies with ISO 14001:2004, the international standard for environment management systems. The system is focused on ATSB’s office-based activities in Canberra. Initiatives are applied at regional office premises where appropriate.

Baseline emissions

Baseline emissions are a record of greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and were produced prior to the introduction of any strategies to reduce emissions. The baseline emissions from financial year 2022-23 are the reference point against which emissions reduction actions can be measured.

The baseline emissions for this plan focus on scope 1, scope 2 and scope 3 emissions, consistent with the APS Net Zero 2030 target. Electricity-related emissions were calculated using the location-based method. The complete 2022-23 greenhouse gas emissions inventory tables for ATSB are presented in our 2022-23 annual report.

Emission Source	Scope 1 kg CO2-e	Scope 2 kg CO2-e	Scope 3 kg CO2-e	Total kg CO2-e
Electricity (Location Based Approach)	N/A	69,062	7,026	76,088
Natural Gas	-	N/A	-	-
Fleet Vehicles	3,260	N/A	801	4,061
Domestic Flights	-	N/A	98,239	98,239
Other Energy	-	N/A	-	-
Total kg CO2-e	3,260	69,062	106,065	178,388

Engagement

In the development of this plan ATSB has been working with

- Department of Finance - Climate Action in Government Operations team to ensure that this plan aligns with the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy and the Commonwealth Climate Disclosure requirements.
- Travel Team – to explore strategies and considerations for reducing travel-related carbon emissions. This has included a reduction of ATSB vehicles to 1 vehicle per 50 staff, and will further explore the use of electric vehicles (EVs) where practicable for necessary staff travel.
- Landlords – to discuss options and considerations for lowering emissions to achieve a higher NABERS star rating within our leased buildings.
- Neighbouring Tenants – to discuss options for any associated and relevant outcomes to lower emissions.

Emissions reduction targets

ATSB is following the APS Net Zero 2030 target in full, as per the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy. The target covers the entirety of our entity's operations within Australia and its territories for scope 1 and scope 2 emissions, as described in the Strategy.

Priorities and actions

For ATSB to contribute to the achievement of the APS Net Zero 2030 target, targeted action on existing emissions reduction measures and the introduction of further or new measures is required. These actions are summarised in the following points, with further detail provided below:

- Procuring renewable electricity under Whole of Australian Government Electricity Contract (WoAGEC).
- Working with our landlords with improving building operations to achieve higher NABERS rating.
- Keep monitoring the market to find a vehicle that can meet our operational requirements with lower emissions.

Buildings

Canberra Lease - 12 Moore Street, Canberra City (Ground floor, Level 1, and Level 2)

- Lease Expiry Date - 31 July 2031
- Office Area m² - 2,152m²

Brisbane Lease - Level 6, 179 Turbot Street, Brisbane.

Our new office lease is on level 26 within the same building. The space is currently in the design and fit-out phase, with an anticipated occupancy date set for around November 2024. Office Area m² – 583m²

- Lease Expiry Date - 31 March 2024
- Office Area m² - 525m²

Perth Lease - Unit 1, 327 Great Eastern Hwy Redcliffe, Perth 6104

- Lease Expiry Date - 21 Feb 2026
- Office Area m2 – 151m2

Melbourne Lease - Level 7, 360 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

- Lease Expiry Date - 1 May 2026
- Office Area m2 - 194m2

ACTION: Prior to each lease renewal, the ATSB will perform a comprehensive market analysis to identify properties with a NABERS rating of 5.5 stars or higher, aligning with our commitment to achieving net zero targets.

Electricity

Under the Whole of Australian Government (WoAG) arrangements, our Property Service Provider manage the ATSB current electricity accounts.

ACTION: The ATSB is dedicated to emission reduction, and in line with the Whole of Australian Government (WoAG) arrangements, our Property Service Provider will consult with the Department of Finance to ensure our participation in WoAG electricity procurement as outlined in the Strategy. This will involve replacing all existing electricity contracts with contracts for renewable electricity.

Fleet

The ATSB has reduced its vehicle fleet to two HiLux vehicles (one in Canberra and Brisbane), allocated for operational deployment.

ACTION: Given the vehicles currently available in the market, our diesel off-road options are well-suited to meet our operational demands. They provide the necessary performance and reliability for incident sites with challenging terrain, where standard road access is limited or non-existent. Additionally, they offer the benefit of extended mileage for operations in remote locations. The ATSB will continue to review the current market to identify any suitable vehicles that meet our operational needs.

Flights

The ATSB is an operational agency and requires deploying to accident sites across the country.

ACTION: To minimise travel and contribute to the APS Net Zero 2030 target for reducing emissions, the ATSB utilises IT technology such as Teams video calls and other collaboration methods to minimise unnecessary interstate travel.

Involved participants.

The following areas of ATSB have been involved in the development of this plan:

Division	Branch
Corporate	IT, Property and Security
Corporate	Governance

Title	Emission Reductions Plan template			
Created By	Climate Action in Government Operations (CAiGO)			
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Maintained By	Climate Action in Government Operations (CAiGO)			
Version Number	Modified By	Modifications Made	Date Modified	Status
1.0	CAiGO	Initial release		Final
1.1	CAiGO	Alteration of words 'carbon emissions' to 'greenhouse emissions' at p.4.	May 2024	Final
2.0	CAiGO	Revisions to streamline the template and align language and approach with other climate action in government operations initiatives.	June 2024	Final