



Administrator
National Health
Funding Pool



**National Health
Funding Body**

Emissions Reduction Plan

OCTOBER 2024

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Accountable Authority Statement

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 National Health Funding Body (NHFB) is committed to the achievement of the Government's APS Net Zero 2030 target. The NHFB 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 NHFB is taking to reduce our operational emissions and contribute to the APS Net Zero 2030 target.



SIGNED BY ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY

Shannon White

Chief Executive Officer

*The National Health Funding Body acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, water and community.
We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to elders both past and present.*

Emissions Reduction Plan

Purpose

The NHFB 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 NHFB 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 NHFB 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 report. This, combined with annual emissions reporting, will be used as a measure of the NHFB's 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.

NHFB's operational context

The NHFB and the Administrator of the National Health Funding Pool were established through the National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA) of August 2011.

The NHFB operates as a Commonwealth non-corporate entity under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and is funded as a small agency within the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care Portfolio.

The NHFB is an independent agency with 35 people that support the Administrator to oversee the administration of Commonwealth, State and Territory public hospital funding and payments under the NHRA.

The Administrator is an independent statutory office holder. All Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments must agree on their appointment to the position.

Our purpose is to support the obligations and responsibilities of the Administrator through best practice administration of public hospital funding.

The NHFB does not have any property, plant or equipment assets as these are provided by the Department of Health and Aged Care under a shared services memorandum of understanding. The NHFB works with stakeholders in all states and territories. The Administrator and staff are required to travel in the course of their duties.

The NHFB continues to minimise its environmental impacts by:

- utilising the Whole of Government Travel Arrangements which includes travel management services, domestic air travel services and domestic accommodation
- participating in Whole of Government procurement processes and selects providers from established panels wherever possible
- encouraging staff to reduce the volume of printing, for example using laptops for committee meetings instead of printing folders of agenda papers
- turning off lights and computers when the office is not in use
- using a waste recycling station
- limiting travel by using technological solutions whenever possible, for example, holding meetings via videoconference.

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 and scope 2 emissions, consistent with the APS Net Zero 2030 target.

Electricity-related emissions were calculated using the location-based method and were reported by the Department of Health and Aged Care as our shared services provider. The complete 2022-23 greenhouse gas emissions inventory tables for the NHFB are presented on page 103 of our 2022-23 annual report.

Table 1 Greenhouse gas emissions inventory – location based method (2022-23)

Emission source	Scope 1 kg CO ₂ -e	Scope 2 kg CO ₂ -e	Scope 3 kg CO ₂ -e	Total kg CO ₂ -e
Electricity (location based approach)	N/A	-	-	-
Natural gas	-	N/A	-	-
Fleet vehicles	-	N/A	-	-
Domestic flights	N/A	N/A	6,915	6,915
Other energy	-	N/A	-	-
Total kg CO₂-e	-	-	6,915	6,915

Engagement

In the development of this plan the NHFB has been working with

- Department of Finance
 - Climate Action in Government Operations –to ensure that this plan aligns with the Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy and the Commonwealth Climate Disclosure requirements
- Department of Health and Aged Care – where possible shared considerations could be addressed to lower emissions across the portfolio.

Emissions reduction targets

The NHFB 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

The NHFB, through our Shared Services Provider (the Department of Health and Aged Care), will participate in the whole-of-Australian-Government electricity procurement for renewable electricity being established by the Department of Finance, due to commence 1 July 2025.