



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

Emissions Reduction Plan 2024

August 2024



Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live.

We recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

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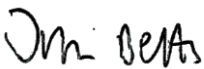
Accountable Authority Sign Off

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 Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts is committed to the achievement of the Government's APS Net Zero 2030 target. The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts 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 Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts is taking to reduce our operational emissions and contribute to the APS Net Zero 2030 target.



SIGNED BY ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY

Emissions Reduction Plan

Purpose

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA) 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 DITRDCA 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 DITRDCA 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 DITRDCA 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.

DITRDCA Operational context

Currently, DITRDCA operates across all Australian states and territories. Its built facilities, managed by Ventia, include 16 commercially leased office spaces, one warehouse and one cafe with a total net lettable area (NLA) of 47,015m². Excluded sites include six commercial offices and six sub-leased work-points which are all under MoU hosting agreements.

DITRDCA operates six fleet vehicles, consisting of four light passenger vehicles, one hybrid and one electric vehicle.

DITRDCA are currently undergoing an office consolidation project, with four Canberra offices relocating into a new build in 2026-27. This is intended to optimise site operations, reduce emissions resulting from activities including energy consumption, water consumption, waste generation, and work point redundancy.

DITRDCA has implemented a range of measures to reduce its impact on the environment. This Plan builds on these key actions and provides a more holistic approach to achieve sustainability and net zero carbon emissions across all areas and functions of DITRDCA including facilities and operations.

- DITRDCA's property portfolio is fully electrified, with no gas or other fuel sources used to energise sites
- Completed a Type-2 Energy audit at the Art Bank, Waterloo to identify opportunities for energy efficiency
- Replaced aging IT systems with energy efficient models
- Introduced printer cartridge and toner recycling
- Introduced co-mingled recycling, organics, paper, and other waste diversion services at some facilities
- Increased the use of carbon neutral paper in offices
- Introduced one hybrid and one electric vehicle
- Landlord installed an electric charging station at its Alinga Street site
- Solar PV at four sites, including an installation at the Phillip Law site that DITRDCA receive rebates
- Installed energy-efficient lighting and automated lighting controls at multiple tenancies
- Use of open-plan floor designs to maximise natural light
- Ensured best practice use of paints, adhesive and materials to minimize volatile organic compounds

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. The complete 2022-23 greenhouse gas emissions inventory tables for DITRDCA are presented in our 2022-23 annual report.

Baseline year	Financial year 2022-23
Scope 1 emissions	11 tCO ₂ e
Scope 2 emissions	2,259 tCO ₂ e
Scope 3 emissions ¹	191 tCO ₂ e
Total emissions	2,459 tCO ₂ e

Engagement

In the development of this plan DITRDCA has been working with

- Fleet & Travel Services
- Strategy, Architecture & Cyber Security
- Net Zero Unit
- Property Services
- Regions, Cities and Territories
- PSP Service Provider – Ventia

Emissions reduction targets

DITRDCA 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.

¹ Scope 3 emissions relates to transmission and distribution losses for electricity and fuels respectively.

Priorities and actions












For DITRDCA 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:






- Ensure all relevant sites hold a NABERS Energy rating of 5.5-stars or more
- Procuring renewable electricity through the Whole of Australian Government Electricity Arrangement
- Consolidate Canberra offices into one facility and optimise office utilisation across the office portfolio
- Transition fleet to low emissions vehicles

Additional actions





- Educate and promote the benefits of sustainable behaviours to all employees
- Investigate where appropriate behind the meter energy generation solutions




Buildings

Action #	Action detail	Action type	Involved participants	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
1.1	<p>Establish a Net Zero Working Group with DITRDCA key stakeholders, leased property managers and leased property owners to establish strategies and boundaries for initiatives that can be undertaken by DITRDCA and garner support from landlords to support and implement net zero initiatives that improve a sites emissions performance.</p> <p>Commencement year and ongoing: 2024</p> <p>Working group schedule: Biannually at a minimum</p>	<p>Influence</p> 	<p>DITRDCA</p> <p>PSP Leasing Services</p> <p>Landlord(s)</p>						
1.2	<p>Undertake annual NABERS Energy ratings for leased properties with an NLA of >1000m², achieving a minimum 5.5-star rating for metropolitan sites and 4.5-star rating for regional sites.</p> <p>These sites include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brisbane, 145 Ann St • Canberra, 111 Alinga St • Canberra, 62 Northbourne Ave • Canberra, 2 Phillip Law St • Mitchell, 13-15 Huddart Crt • Surry Hills, 23-33 Mary St • Waterloo, 198-222 Young St <p>Commencement year and ongoing annually: 2024</p> <p>Predicted emissions reduction: 385 t CO₂-e p.a</p>	<p>Impact</p> 	<p>DITRDCA</p> <p>Property</p> <p>PSP Sustainability</p>						
1.3	<p>Implement Green Lease Schedules (GLS) for all leased properties with an NLA of >1000m² and minimum 4-year lease term.</p> <p>Sites that require a GLS include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brisbane, 145 Ann St • Mitchell, 13-15 Huddart Crt • Surry Hills, 23-33 Mary St • Waterloo, 198-222 Young St <p>Commencement year and ongoing: 1 July 2025</p>	<p>Influence</p> 	<p>DITRDCA</p> <p>Property</p> <p>PSP Leasing Services</p>						
1.4	<p>Maintain an all-electric building portfolio, with all new leases needing to be fully electric.</p> <p>Commencement year and ongoing: 1 July 2024</p>	<p>Impact</p> 	<p>DITRDCA</p> <p>Property</p> <p>PSP Leasing Services</p>						
1.5	<p>Investigate and ensure all new office spaces >1000m² purchased, leased, constructed, or refurbished have separate electricity metering (where practical) or implement separate digital revenue metering where DITRDCA occupies 50% or more of the total building.</p> <p>Commencement year and ongoing: 1 July 2024</p> <p>As of June 2024, all DITRDCA sites are compliant with this requirement.</p>	<p>Influence</p> 	<p>DITRDCA</p> <p>Property</p> <p>PSP Leasing Services</p> <p>Landlord(s)</p>						
1.6	<p>Implement EV charging in accordance with DITRDCA's EV Plan 2024.</p>	<p>Impact</p>	<p>DITRDCA</p> <p>Property</p>						




Action #	Action detail	Action type	Involved participants	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
	Commencement year: 2025		PSP Projects PSP Leasing Services Landlord(s)						
1.7	<p>Undertake Type-2 Energy Audits at sites that are identified as having high energy intensity or that do not meet the required NABERS Energy rating, with the audits used to identify energy efficiency solutions for implementation.</p> <p>Sites with high energy intensity or that do not meet the NABERS Energy rating include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brisbane, 145 Ann St Canberra, 13-15 Huddart Crt Surry Hills, 23-33 Mary St <p>Sites included in the Canberra office consolidation have not been considered as the return on investment would not be realised.</p> <p>Predicted ongoing emissions reduction (at 20% total reduction): 11.5t CO2-e p.a.</p>	Influence 	DITRDCA Property PSP Sustainability		→				
1.8	<p>Upgrade lighting to high efficiency LED, coupled with lighting control sensors such as daylight sensors and occupancy sensors (where applicable).</p> <p>The following site has been identified through the delivery of a Type-2 Energy Audit conducted in 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterloo, 198-222 Young St² <p>Ongoing emissions reduction: 11t CO2-e p.a.</p>	Innovate 	DITRDCA Property PSP Projects		→				
1.9	Maintain existing end of journey facilities for cyclists and investigate opportunities to improve end of journey facilities in new builds to support low/no emissions staff commute.	Influence 	DITRDCA Property PSP WoAG FM	→					
1.10	<p>Implement best practice waste management systems across the whole property portfolio.</p> <p>DITRDCA will focus on integrating best practice waste management systems at its new facility in Canberra, consolidating four sites.</p> <p>The waste management program will focus on the recommendations of the 2023 Waste Audit Report which assessed the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canberra, 111 Alinga St Waterloo, 198-222 Young St <p>With the following core recommendations identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a Waste Management Policy Embed Net Zero Procurement guidelines in all procurement programs 	Impact 	DITRDCA Property DITRDCA personnel	→					

² This proposal does not include lighting sensor technology based on the operational needs of the site and proactive employees that support sustainable outcomes.

Action #	Action detail	Action type	Involved participants	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop targets to reduce waste to landfill by up to 80% p.a. Deliver staff education and awareness programs to support DITRDCA's commitment to Net Zero 2030 Implement standard bin signage at each waste/ recycling collection point to ensure accurate source separation Review and rationalise collection schedules to reduce redundant collections Remove all under-desk bins and implement communal recycling stations Improve print cartridge collection systems to ensure they are only used for print cartridges and stop paper contamination Work with cleaning staff to reduce the unnecessary disposal of partially used toilet rolls Implement Net Zero ICT in alignment with the Strategy, ensuring all new IT equipment is high efficiency and used items are recycled appropriately, with this data made available to DITRDCA Property for inclusion in the Carbon Reporting Tool <p>Additional future and value add recommendations include:</p> <p>Estimated emissions reduction based on 80% diversion rate: 76t CO₂-e p.a.</p> <p>Estimated total waste diverted: 118t p.a.</p> <p>Refer to DITRDCA Waste Audit Report for the detailed site analysis and key recommendations.</p>								
1.11	<p>DITRDCA will support the best waste management systems in its office fit outs by embedding the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designing in circular economy to ensure end of life products are able to be reused, repurposed or recycled Procure products that have a product stewardship program to ensure full end of life recycling <p>Embed sustainable waste management into project scope and contractor requirements to reduce waste to landfill.</p>	Influence 	DITRDCA Property PSP Projects						
1.12	<p>DITRDCA will support waste reduction within its property portfolio by considering and implementing, where feasible the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organics collections, with a particular focus on the new Canberra facility in 2026 Implement single use coffee cup recycling systems Extend small battery recycling through the provision of a communal disposal point Extend the opportunity to partner with local charity organisations to provide ad-hoc collection services for donatable items 	Influence 	DITRDCA Property						









Action #	Action detail	Action type	Involved participants	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
	Remove office shredding machines from the Canberra facilities during the office consolidation, with all confidential paper managed and securely destroyed and recycled through the secure document collections provider								
1.13	<p>Implement office consolidation and optimisation planning to reduce redundant, unused office facilities and equipment across the DITRDCA property portfolio.</p> <p>In 2026 the following sites will be consolidated into one new purpose-built facility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canberra, 111 Alinga St • Canberra, 62 Northbourne Ave • Canberra, 2 Phillip Law St • Canberra, 26 Narellan Ave <p>Based on work point occupancy rates the following sites in order of priority should be investigated to optimise site utilisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wodonga, 131 High St – 27% occupancy • Toowoomba, 526 Ruthven St – 33% occupancy • Darwin, Wood St – 40% occupancy • Moree, 30 Herber St – 50% occupancy • Perth Airport, Hkew Alpha Building – 63% occupancy • Collingwood, 18-24 Down St – 67% occupancy • Waterloo, 198-222 Young St – 67% occupancy <p>Estimated emissions reduction in Canberra: 2,145 t CO2-e (not including emissions resulting from the single new facility)</p>	Influence 	DITRDCA Property						
									





Electricity

Action #	Action detail	Action type	Involved participants	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
2.1	<p>Participate on the Whole-of-Australian-Government electricity agreement as available based on the below timeframe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Sep 2024 – Northern Territory 1 Dec 2024 – Western Australia 1 Jan 2025 – Tasmania 1 July 2025 – New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory, & Victoria 1 Oct 2026 – South Australia 1 Jan 2029 – Queensland <p>All DITRDCA properties will participate in this Green Power purchase scheme to ensure all electricity consumed is from renewable sources.</p> <p>Emissions reduction: 2,259 t CO₂-e p.a. by 2030</p>	<p>Impact</p> 	<p>DITRDCA Property PSP Sustainability</p>						
2.2	<p>Investigate behind the meter energy generation and storage solutions for site³:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitchell, 13-15 Huddart St 	<p>Influence</p> 	<p>DITRDCA Property PSP Sustainability</p>						
2.3	<p>Install behind the meter solar at the following site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterloo, 198-222 Young St <p>Estimated emissions reduction: 16.4 t CO₂-e p.a.</p>	<p>Impact</p> 	<p>DITRDCA Property PSP Sustainability PSP Projects</p>						

³ A desktop review of all DITRDCA properties was conducted in 2024. Due to shadowing or site orientation all other sites were deemed unsuitable for solar PV installation.

Fleet and Travel

Action #	Action detail	Action type	Involved participants	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
3.1	<p>Set a target of 75% of all new passenger fleet vehicles procured by 1 Jul 2025 to be low emissions vehicles.</p> <p>Apply fuel efficiency criteria to the purchase and lease of new vehicles where electric or hybrid options are not commercially or operationally viable.</p>	Influence 	DITRDCA Fleet		→				
3.2	<p>Promote the benefits of public transport, walking, and cycling to new staff during induction programs and familiarise them with end of journey facilities at their workplace.</p> <p>Use internal communications to program active and public transport for business related travel.</p> <p>Consider an employee incentive program and options to purchase E-bikes that meet Australian Standards through novated lease programs.</p> <p>Commencement year and ongoing: 2024</p>	Influence 	DITRDCA Property DITRDCA Training	→					
3.3	<p>Ensure a continued transition of all DITRDCA fleet to low/zero emissions fleet as they are retired.</p> <p>Monitor emerging technologies such as hydrogen powered vehicles.</p> <p>Commencement year and ongoing: 2024</p>	Impact 	DITRDCA Fleet	→					
3.4	<p>Prepare sites to include required EV charging infrastructure to enable the transition to an electric fleet.</p> <p>EV charging infrastructure installations will be in accordance with the Electric Vehicle Charging Plan 2024.</p>	Impact 	DITRDCA Property DITRDCA Fleet PSP Leasing Services Landlord(s)	→					
3.5	<p>Apply fuel efficiency criteria to the purchase and lease of new vehicles where electric or hybrid options are not commercially or operationally viable.</p>	Influence 	DITRDCA Fleet	→					
3.6	<p>Review annual fleet and fuel data reporting in line with the Net Zero Reporting requirement, monitoring fleet performance, vehicle utilisation, fuel consumption and emissions to identify opportunities for fleet optimisation.</p>	Influence 	DITRDCA Fleet	→					
3.7	<p>Develop a Sustainable Travel Policy that prioritises sustainable travel and low emissions travel.</p> <p>The travel policy will support the reduction of domestic travel by 5% year-on-year as noted in action items 3.8-3.10.</p>	Influence 	DITRDCA Travel		→				
3.8	<p>Air travel rationalisation and guidelines to support reduced air travel needs, utilising online meeting platforms where possible.</p> <p>Where air travel is unavoidable, purchase offsets at the point of ticket purchase to reduce DITRDCA's travel emissions profile (detailed in section 8.4.4)</p> <p>DITRDCA will aim to reduce air travel b 5% year-on-year (domestic only)</p>	Impact 	DITRDCA Travel DITRDCA employees	→					

Action #	Action detail	Action type	Involved participants	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
	Estimated emissions reduction: 311t CO ₂ -e over five years								
3.9	<p>Accommodation rationalisation will naturally form a part of the air travel rationalisation with the same 5% year-on-year reduction applied.</p> <p>Accommodation should be selected based on the Government booking systems NABERS Energy advice for accommodation, with the highest star rating applied where practical.</p> <p>Estimated emissions reduction: 38t CO₂-e over five years</p>	<p>Impact</p> 	<p>DITRDCA Travel</p> <p>DITRDCA employees</p>						
3.10	<p>Hire car and taxi rationalisation will naturally form a part of the air travel rationalisation with the same 5% year-on-year reduction applied.</p> <p>Where applicable, electric and low emissions options should be elected.</p> <p>Estimated emissions reduction: 14t CO₂-e over five years</p>	<p>Impact</p> 	<p>DITRDCA Travel</p> <p>DITRDCA employees</p>						

Involved participants

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

Division	Branch
People Culture Change Division	Integrated Services Branch
Finance, Budget and Governance Division	Financial Management Branch
Data, Research, Strategy and Net Zero	Net Zero Unit
Information Technology	Strategy, Architecture & Cyber Security
Regions, Cities and Territories	Executive