

Accolade Wines
Packaged/Bulk wine and formulated
beverages

Qualifying Explanatory Statement
in support of the
Achievement of and ongoing
commitment to carbon neutrality

Application Period: 1st January 2021 – 31st December 2021 and
1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022

Date: 24/7/2024

1. Executive summary

This document is the Qualifying Explanatory Statement (QES) which provides information in support of the declaration that Accolade Wines:

1. has achieved carbon neutrality for a selection of its wine brands and formulated beverages marketed as part of its EU portfolio, from the period commencing 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021 and 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022; and
2. is committed to maintaining carbon neutrality for 43 brands (2021) and 46 brands (2022) within the EU portfolio.



Derek Nicol

Regional Managing Director, Europe

24/7/2024

2. General information

General information	Information Relating to the Carbon Neutral Declaration
Entity making Carbon Neutrality declaration:	Accolade Wines
Subject of Carbon Neutrality declaration:	2021 Accolade Wine's wine brands imported in bulk, flavoured wine and ginger beer: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Australia: Banrock Station, Berri Estates, Between Thorns, Grant Burge (Barossa Ink), Hardys, Jam Shed, Short Mile Bay, Starve Dog Lane, Stowells, The Busselton Boys• New Zealand: Dusky Sounds, Mud House, Waipara Hills• South Africa: Bespoke, Echo Falls, Kumala, Stowells, Vino Societa• Chile: Anakena, Echo Falls, Jack Rabbit, Stowells, Vino Societa• USA: Echo Falls, Jack Rabbit, Stowells, Turner Road, Wicked Lady• Europe – Spain: Corrida, Echo Falls, El Zondaz• Europe – Italy: Da Luca, Echo Falls, Jack Rabbit, Stowells• Europe – Germany: Stowells• Echo Falls Fruit Fusions (blended wine with additional ingredients, South Africa & Spain)• Echo Falls Blends (blended wine, South Africa & USA)• Stone's (ginger beer, UK)• Nine Yards (hard seltzer, UK)

*New Brands in 2021 – The Busselton Boys, Vino Societa, Nine Yards

2022

Accolade Wine's wine brands imported in bulk, flavoured wine and ginger beer:

- Australia: Banrock Station, Berri Estates, Between Thorns, Grant Burge (Barossa Ink), Hardys, Jam Shed, Short Mile Bay, Starve Dog Lane, Stowells, The Busselton Boys
- New Zealand: Dusky Sounds, Mud House, Waipara Hills, Madam Sass
- South Africa: Bespoke, Echo Falls, Kumala, Stowells, Vino Societa
- Chile: Anakena, Echo Falls, Jack Rabbit, Stowells, Vino Societa
- USA: Echo Falls, Jack Rabbit, Stowells, Turner Road, Wicked Lady
- Europe – France: Madam Sass
- Europe – Spain: Corrida, Echo Falls, El Zondaz, La Vivienda
- Europe – Italy: Da Luca, Echo Falls, Jack Rabbit, Stowells, Vino Societa, Madam Sass
- Europe – Germany: Stowells
- Echo Falls Fruit Fusions (blended wine with additional ingredients, South Africa & Spain)
- Echo Falls Blends (blended wine, South Africa & USA)
- Stone's (ginger beer, UK)
- Nine Yards (hard seltzer, UK)

*New Brands in 2022 – Madam Sass, La Vivienda, &Then

2021

Accolade Wine's wine brands imported packaged:

- Australia: Arras, Banrock Station, Bay of Fires, Brookland Valley, Croser, Grant Burge, Hardys, Houghton, Knappstein, Leasingham, Mud House, Petaluma, Reynella, St Hallett, Starve Dog Lane, Stonier
- Europe – Italy: Da Luca, Dusky Sounds, Jack Rabbit, Sette Bello
- New Zealand: Mud House
- South Africa: Dragons Back Mountain, Featherstone, Fish Hoek, Flagstone, Jack Rabbit, Kumala
- Chile: Anakena,
- USA: Echo Falls, Geyser Peak, Ravenswood

2022

Accolade Wine's wine brands imported packaged:

- Australia: Arras, Banrock Station, Bay of Fires, Brookland Valley, Croser, Grant Burge, Hardys, Houghton, Knappstein, Leasingham, Mud House, Petaluma, Reynella, St Hallett, Starve Dog Lane, Stonier
- Europe – Italy: Da Luca, Dusky Sounds, Jack Rabbit, Sette Bello, Madam Sass
- New Zealand: Mud House
- South Africa: Dragons Back Mountain, Featherstone, Fish Hoek, Flagstone, Jack Rabbit, Kumala
- Chile: Anakena
- USA: Echo Falls, Geyser Peak, Ravenswood

<p>Description of Subject:</p>	<p>Bulk wine: Wines produced in Australia, New Zealand, Chile, South Africa, USA, Italy, Germany and Spain. Grapes grown at various vineyards, and wine then produced at wineries in the respective countries. Wine transported in bulk to the UK where it is packaged at The Park in Bristol, then is distributed to the EU including the UK. Each bulk wine brand is made from 100% of wine from one of these COO's. The blended wines are a mixture of wines from South Africa, USA and European wine.</p> <p>Stone's (Ginger Joe) is a ginger beer which is produced and bottled in the UK.</p> <p>Nine Yards is a hard seltzer produced and filled in the UK.</p> <p>Imported Packaged: Wines produced in Australia, New Zealand, Chile, South Africa, USA, Italy and Germany. Grapes grown at various vineyards, and wine then produced at wineries in the respective countries. The wine is then bottled at the wineries of production or transported a small distance to a local packing facility in COO. The packaged wine is then transported to The Park in Bristol from COO, and then distributed to EU countries including the UK. Each imported packaged wine brand is made from 100% of wine from one of these COO's.</p> <p>Accolade Wines wish to certify these brands as carbon neutral in order to communicate to their customers and stakeholders the sustainability values of their company.</p>
<p>Boundary:</p>	<p>Cradle-to-Grave</p>
<p>Type of conformity assessment:</p>	<p>Independent third-party certification (see Annex 2)</p>
<p>Baseline date for Carbon Neutrality programme:</p>	<p>1st January 2019 – 31st December 2019 1st January 2020 – 31st December 2020 1st January 2021 – 31st December 2021 (for new products that entered the EU market within this year) 1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022 (for new products that entered the EU market within this year) *New products highlighted above</p>
<p>Confirmation that there has been no change to the definition of the subject</p>	<p>There has been no change to the core method of wine and formulated beverages production across the brands listed above. The supply chain production process has remained the same since the previous year. New brands have been introduced and therefore haven't yet achieved a reduction.</p>

3. Declaration of achievement of carbon neutrality

	Information relating to the carbon neutral declaration
Declaration of achievement:	Carbon neutrality of Accolade Wine’s wine brands and formulated beverages sold across Europe will have achieved Carbon Neutrality at 24 th July, 2024 for the period commencing 1 st January 2021 – 31 st December 2021 and 1 st January 2022 – 31 st December 2022, certified by the Carbon Trust.
Carbon offsets purchased	224,262 tCO ₂ e (2021) 223,155 tCO ₂ e (2022) See Annex 1 for further details.

Carbon footprint summary

Carbon Footprint <i>(for latest footprinting year)</i>	Information relating to the carbon neutral declaration
Total Carbon Footprint	The total emissions for all products sold in the boundary is as follows: 224,262 tCO ₂ e (2021) 223,155 tCO ₂ e (2022)
Description of the standard and methodology used to determine GHG emissions and reductions	The methodology for calculating the carbon footprint was as follows in accordance with the requirements of GHG Protocol Product Standard, PAS 2050.

Carbon reduction

	Information relating to the carbon neutral declaration
Description of the means by which reductions have been achieved and any applicable assumptions or justifications	2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended the diversion of PET label-backing from incineration to recycling. Introduction of a canning line offering a lighter packaging format to help reduce the weight of packaging transportation and therefore aim to reduce emissions associated with this. An innovation (alternative formats) line and crown closures were also introduced with sustainability and resource conservation embedded within the project planning.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed replacement dual fuel, energy efficient, domestic boiler. • Continuation of renewably sourced electricity usage at The Park. 43% of electricity generated from the on-site wind turbine and the remainder from certificated renewable grid supply. <p>2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplier collaboration - The change to 100% recycled UK supplied board, saving 161,000 miles on the road equivalent to 16 tonnes of CO² annually. The box is 7% lighter saving 265 tonnes of paper annually. <i>*Not verified.</i> • Increased recycled content in Plastic Packaging: 187ml PET bottles and shrink-film to 30% recycled content from 0%. • We continued to work with our indirect customers to drive efficiencies, resulting in reduction in CO₂e by delivering products to customer's local distribution hubs where they will consolidate loads of these product and others, to onward distribute to specific outlets, rather than separate deliveries to multiple locations • Pallet load optimisation: By increasing the number of pallets we load onto each outgoing delivery vehicle: (average of 18 in FY18 to 21.8 in FY22). reduced the number of deliveries on the roads, which in turn reduced congestion and improved air quality. • Continuation of renewably sourced electricity usage at The Park. 44% of electricity generated from the on-site wind turbine and the remainder from certificated renewable grid supply.
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Carbon offsets

	Information Relating to the Carbon Neutral Declaration
Offset methodology	Verified Carbon Standard and Clean Development Mechanism.
Offset Confirmation	<p>The offsets generated represent genuine, additional GHG emission reductions elsewhere. Projects involved in delivering offsets meet the criteria of additionality, permanence, leakage and double counting. Carbon offsets are verified by an independent third-party verifier.</p> <p>The credits from the selected carbon offset projects are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • only issued after the emission reduction has taken place. • supported by publicly available project documentation on a registry which provides information about the offset project, quantification methodology and validation and verification procedures. • stored and retired in an independent and credible registry.
Offsets	Full details of the carbon offsets included in making this declaration are provided in Annex 1.

Annex of Qualifying Explanatory Statement

Annex 1: Offsets

The below information relates to the compensation of residual emissions (i.e. offsetting):

The volume of emissions reduced or sequestered via carbon offsetting corresponds to the residual emissions of the products in question. It has been confirmed the offsets have been retired on a public registry to avoid double accounting. The internal process for ensuring there is no double accounting of offsets is as follows:

Project name	Country	Project type	Standard	Type of credits	Total credits	Generation period	Retirement date	Reference No. & link to registry	Offset volume (tCO ₂ e)	Offset Price	Justification for choice of offset
Clean Power Portfolio, Global South	India	Renewable Energy	VCS	Avoidance/Reduction	31,158	2021	Part retired on 09/07/24	VCS1767 Verra Search Page	25,000	£1.29	To help support the avoidance/reduction of GHG emissions through renewable energy projects.
Cleantech Solar Power, India	India	Renewable Energy	VCS	Avoidance/Reduction	133,516	2019	Part retired on 09/07/24	VCS1753 Verra Search Page	124,000	£1.29	To help support the avoidance/reduction of GHG emissions through renewable energy projects.
Clean Power Portfolio, Global South	India	Renewable Energy	VCS	Avoidance/Reduction	100,000	2022	09/07/24	VCS1560 Verra Registry	100,000	£1.29	To help support the avoidance/reduction of GHG emissions through renewable energy projects.
Yuxian Wind Power, China	China	Renewable Energy	CDM	Avoidance/Reduction	200,000	2013	09/07/24	CDM2088 CDM: QJ7LI09NBX1HVO2LFRWRHX0AS1OUWB (unfccc.int)	200,000	£4.13	To help support the avoidance/reduction of GHG emissions through renewable energy projects.
Total tonnes (tCO₂e) offset									449,000		

[PLEASE INSERT ANY CERTIFICATES PROVIDED BY THE OFFSET SUPPLIER HERE IF APPLICABLE]



Certificate of Verified Carbon Unit (VCU) Retirement

Verra, in its capacity as administrator of the Verra Registry, does hereby certify that on 09 Jul 2024, 25,000 Verified Carbon Units (VCUs) were retired on behalf of:

Accolade Wines Limited

Project Name

Bundled Solar Power Project by Mahindra Susten Private Limited

VCU Serial Number

15804-719803236-719828235-VCS-VCU-842-VER-IN-1-1767-24092021-31122021-0

Additional Certifications



Certificate of Verified Carbon Unit (VCU) Retirement

Verra, in its capacity as administrator of the Verra Registry, does hereby certify that on 09 Jul 2024, 124,000 Verified Carbon Units (VCUs) were retired on behalf of:

Accolade Wines Limited

Project Name

Bundled Solar Photovoltaic Project by ACME

VCU Serial Number

8995-58581813-58705812-VCS-VCU-997-VER-IN-1-1753-01012019-31122019-0

Additional Certifications

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Certificate of Verified Carbon Unit (VCU) Retirement

Verra, in its capacity as administrator of the Verra Registry, does hereby certify that on 09 Jul 2024, 100,000 Verified Carbon Units (VCUs) were retired on behalf of:

Accolade Wines Limited

Project Name

Tejuva-Chandgarh Wind Project

VCU Serial Number

16483-763577354-763677353-VCS-VCU-999-VER-IN-1-1560-01102022-31122022-0

Additional Certifications

Transaction Details

Transaction details appear below.

Transaction ID	AU34691
Current Status	Completed (4)
Status Date	10/07/2024 00:21:24 (AEST) 09/07/2024 14:21:24 (GMT)
Transaction Type	Cancellation (4)
Transaction Initiator	Kennedy, Amelia Jean
Transaction Approver	Butler, Caitlin Primrose Mary
Comment	Retired by Climate Impact Partners on behalf of Accolade Wines Limited

Transferring Account

Account Number	AU-2931
Account Name	Natural Capital Partners Americas, LLC
Account Holder	Natural Capital Partners Americas, LLC

Acquiring Account

Account Number	AU-2764
Account Name	Voluntary Cancellation – CP2
Account Holder	Commonwealth of Australia

Transaction Blocks

Party	Type	Transaction Type	Original CP	Current CP	ERF Project ID	NGER Facility ID	NGER Facility Name	Safeguard	Kyoto Project #	Vintage	Expiry Date	Serial Range	Quantity
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-2088			1,140,142,889 - 1,140,322,003	179,115
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-2088			1,140,367,371 - 1,140,371,976	4,606
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-2088			1,140,367,370 - 1,140,367,370	1
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-2088			1,140,361,572 - 1,140,361,585	14
CN	CER	Kyoto Voluntary Cancellation	2	2					CN-2088			1,140,328,853 - 1,140,345,116	16,264

Transaction Status History

Status Date	Status Code
10/07/2024 00:21:24 (AEST) 09/07/2024 14:21:24 (GMT)	Completed (4)

Annex 2: Independent third-party assurance

[INSERT CARBON TRUST CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT]



**CARBON
TRUST**

Carbon Neutral Label

Accolade Wines

has achieved carbon neutrality and is committed to on-going carbon neutrality of the total carbon footprint of its

Packaged/Bulk wine and formulated beverages

Carbon Trust Assurance has certified that this project has met all of the requirements for using the Carbon Trust Carbon Neutral Label.



A full description of the scope of certification and a detailed list of certified results can be found in the associated Certification Letter CERT-13710.

Awarded: **9th September 2022**

Valid Until: **8th September 2023**

for and on behalf of Carbon Trust Assurance Ltd,

Martin Hockaday,
Head of Assurance

This certificate is for presentation purposes only. Please do not copy or circulate this certificate without the Certification Letter and associated Annexes where full details on the scope of the certification are documented. This certificate remains the property of Carbon Trust Assurance Limited and is bound by the conditions of the contract. Information and Contact: Carbon Trust Assurance Limited is registered in England and Wales under Company number 06547658 with its Registered Office at Level 5, Arbor, 255 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 9AX, UK. Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7 170 7000. Carbon Trust Assurance Limited is a fully owned subsidiary of the Carbon Trust.



CARBON TRUST

Certificate of Achievement

Accolade Wines

has achieved carbon neutrality and is committed to on-going carbon neutrality of the total carbon footprint of its

Packaged/Bulk wine and formulated beverages

Anakena	Dusky Sounds	Hardys Tintara	Reynella
Arras	Echo Falls	Haymaker	Riddle (Hardys)
Banrock Station	Echo Falls Blends	Houghton	Sette Bello
Barossa Ink (Grant Burge)	Echo Falls Fruit	Jack Rabbit	Short Mile Bay
Bay of Fires	Fusion	Jam Shed	St Hallett
Berri Estates	El Zondaz	Knappstein	Starve Dog Lane
Bespoke	Featherstone	Kumala	Stones
Between Thorns	Fish Hoek	La Vivienda	Stonier
Brookland Valley	Flagstone	Leasingham	Stowells
Corrida	Geyser Peak	Madam Sass	The Busselton Boys
Croser	Ginger Joe	Mud House	Turner Road
Da Luca	Gran Tierra	Nine Yards	Vino Societa
Dragons Back	Grant Burge	Petaluma	Waipara Hills
Mountain	Hardys	Ravenswood	Wicked Lady &Then
	Hardys 0%		

Carbon Trust Assurance Limited certifies that Accolade Wines has calculated the carbon footprint representing specified Packaged/Bulk wine and formulated beverages Cradle-to-Grave Business-to-Consumer and marketed in 55 geographical areas.

A detailed list of certified results can be found in the associated Certification Letter CERT-13710

Awarded: 24th July 2024

for and on behalf of Carbon Trust Assurance Ltd,

Martin Hockaday,
Head of Assurance