

PLANET - GHG EMISSIONS

VTX acknowledges WEF's view that;
'business dependencies on the environment need to be managed effectively to ensure business continuity'.

Vertex Minerals Limited (VTX) is pleased to be making progress on our **Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG)** reporting and we acknowledge the importance of incorporating ESG into our business model for ethical and financial reasons.

Vertex Minerals Limited (VTX) acknowledges the importance of environmental impact assessment and review in business modelling and risk assessment in conjunction with good management which anticipates, negotiates and responds to these ongoing issues. We understand that Australia has made commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the **Paris Agreement** and that this also relates to the **World Economic Forum's Sustainable Development Goals**.

According to the **European Commission's** webpage: *The Paris Agreement is the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate change agreement, adopted at the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015. It sets out a global framework to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. It also aims to strengthen countries' ability to deal with the impacts of climate change and support them in their efforts.*

As a responsible explorer, VTX acknowledges its role in protecting the natural environment, reducing global greenhouse gas emissions, and improving people's lives now and for generations to come. At VTX we believe that a strong environmental, social and governance performance is essential for the success and growth of the Company's business and for our community. VTX's primary objective is to deliver maximum shareholder value through profitable growth and the development of stable and sustainable projects whilst acting lawfully, ethically, and responsibly.

Currently, we are assessing our business approach to the **Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard**, how it relates to and/or impacts on our business so that we can develop an appropriate strategy for gathering and mitigating and reporting our GHG Emissions across all our projects.

The GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard provides requirements and guidance for companies and other organisations preparing a corporate -level GHG Emissions inventory. VTX aims to minimise our environmental footprint and our goal is to reduce CO2 emissions as much as possible, especially given the importance of the framework of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement and the knowledge that Australia has committed to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, to track progress towards those commitments and to report each year on our country’s GHG emissions by way of the **National Inventory Report** to the **UNFCCC** which will provide estimates by economic sector. We support the Paris Agreement’s ETF – enhanced transparency framework - which commences in 2024, whereby countries will report transparently on actions taken, progress in climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.

VTX has to table its Rehabilitation Management Plan obligations which includes Forward Management Planning and Rehabilitation Objectives. These are assessed and monitored by the NSW Resources Regulator, and reflects our responsible exploring and mining approach. Although in our infancy as a small exploration firm, we are currently assessing potential alternative energy sources for plant operation and recording diesel & oil consumption, with a vision of having a much fuller understanding of our GHG emissions and the ability to produce an inventory according to the GHG Protocol by the EOFY 2024.

Reporting in accordance with the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard

According to **The Greenhouse Gas Protocol, Revised Edition** published by the **World Business Council for Sustainable Development** and the **World Resources Institute**:

*The **GHG Protocol Initiative** encourages the use of the **GHG Protocol Corporate Standard** by all companies regardless of their experience in preparing a **GHG inventory**. The term “shall” is used in the chapters containing standards to clarify what is required to prepare and report a GHG inventory in accordance with the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard. This is intended to improve the consistency with which the standard is applied and the resulting information that is publicly reported, without departing from the initial intent of the first edition. It also has the advantage of providing a verifiable standard for companies interested in taking this additional step.*

Related VTX policies:

- Corporate Governance Plan, Schedule 01, Board Charter, 2021
- Corporate Governance Plan, Schedule 02, Corporate Code of Conduct, 2021
- Corporate Governance Plan, Schedule 03, Audit & Risk Committee Charter, 2021
- Corporate Governance Plan, Schedule 06, Environmental Social and Governance Committee Charter, 2021

- Corporate Governance Plan, Schedule 08, Continuous Disclosure Policy, 2021
- Corporate Governance Plan, Schedule 09, Risk Management Policy, 2021
- Corporate Governance Plan, Schedule 10, Trading Policy, 2021
- Corporate Governance Plan, Schedule 14, Shareholder Communication Policy, 2021
- Corporate Governance Plan, Schedule 15, ESG Policy, 2021
- Corporate Governance Statement, 2021

Sources:

Accessed 25/7/2023

Vertex Minerals Limited
Corporate Governance Plan

<https://vertexminerals.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Corporate-Governance-Plan-VTX2806539.2.pdf>

Corporate Governance Statement

<https://vertexminerals.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Corporate-Governance-Statement-VTX2806535.2.pdf>

United Nations Websites

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement#:~:text=It%20entered%20into%20force%20on,above%20pre%2Dindustrial%20levels.%E2%80%9D>

<https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/net-zero-coalition#:~:text=To%20keep%20global%20warming%20to,reach%20net%20zero%20by%202050.>

The GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard

<https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard>

Dept Climate Change Energy Environment Water

dcceew.gov.au/about/news/australias-greenhouse-gas-emissions-march-2022-quarterly-update

The European Commission

https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/international-action-climate-change/climate-negotiations/parisagreement_en#:~:text=The%20Paris%20Agreement%20sets%20out,support%20them%20in%20their%20efforts.