



EARTHCHECK

BENCHMARKING ASSESSMENT REPORT

ACCOMMODATION - VACATION HOTEL BENCHMARKING

SANDALS NEGRIL BEACH RESORT & SPA
NEGRIL, WESTMORELANT, JAMAICA



REPORT DATE: 21 October 2011

Benchmarking Data Collection Period: 1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010

The planet deserves more than half measures

OVERVIEW

This annual assessment of **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa** was undertaken against EarthCheck benchmarking indicators and checklists developed for EarthCheck and listed below.¹ They have been carefully selected to track performance in key areas of environmental and social performance impact. Their outcomes which are presented in this report are used by EarthCheck to evaluate whether the operation has reached the standards necessary to pass the benchmarking requirements, as stated in the EarthCheck Benchmarking Policy.²

	Indicator Measure (Benchmark)
1 Policy	Policy is produced and in place
2 Energy	Energy Consumption (MJ / Guest Night) Green Power (%) ³ Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (kg CO ₂ -e / Guest Night) Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (kg CO ₂ -e / Guest Night)
3 Water	Potable Water Consumption (L / Guest Night) Recycled / Captured Water (%) ³ Water Savings Rating (Points)
4 Waste	Waste Sent to Landfill (L / Guest Night) Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%) ³ Waste Recycling Rating (Points) Waste Sent for Incineration (m ³ / Guest Night) ³
5 Community	Community Commitment (%) Community Contributions Rating (Points)
6 Paper	Paper Products Rating (Points)
7 Cleaning	Cleaning Products Rating (Points)
8 Pesticides	Pesticide Products Rating (Points)

¹ Refer to the EarthCheck Sector Benchmarking Indicator (SBI) document for more information. For frequently asked questions (FAQs) about benchmarking or specific help, please log on to 'My EarthCheck' and visit your EarthCheck Benchmarking software.

² To meet the requirements stipulated in the EarthCheck Company Standard, the benchmarks for all the submitted EarthCheck indicators need to be at, or better than, the Baseline level. Baseline and Best Practice performance levels are set with reference to the type of activity (registered sector/s) and appropriate national and international data which take into account social, geographical and climatic impacts.

First-time benchmarking operations that fail to meet the minimum requirements (Baseline performance or better) for up to two submitted EarthCheck indicators (with a third indicator within 10% of the Baseline level), will be permitted to pass benchmarking. The operation is however, given a maximum of 12 months to improve performance in at least one of the indicators to Baseline performance or better. If on the next submission this is not achieved without substantiated evidence that the situation was beyond the control of the operation (e.g., occurrence of a natural disaster), then the right to use the appropriate EarthCheck logo will be withdrawn.

As a standard policy, all EarthCheck indicators are continuously reviewed, along with the performance levels which operators have to achieve in order to meet the requirements of the Company Standard. This review takes into account "business-as-usual" changes in practices and equipment, and is used to update where appropriate Baseline and Best Practice levels.

³ These indicators are for guidance only and do not affect the overall benchmarking evaluation.

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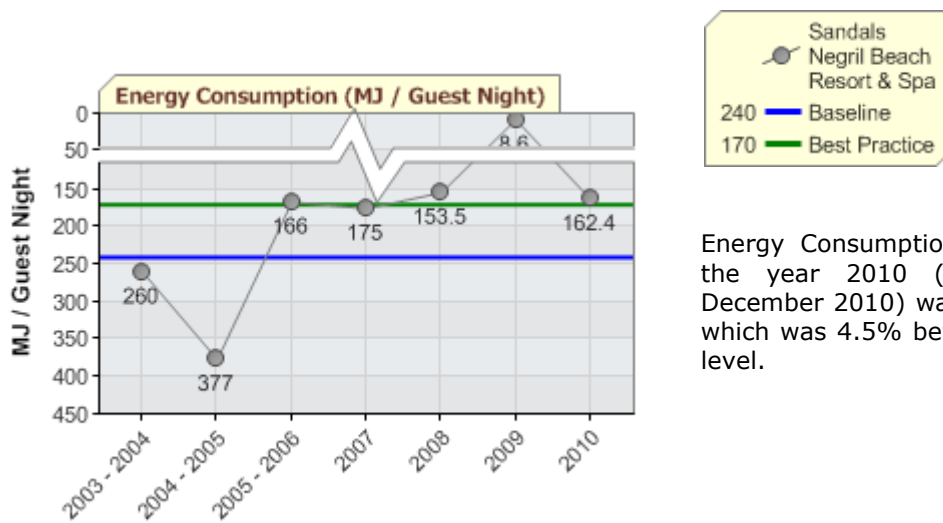
ACCOMMODATION - VACATION HOTEL PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

Current performance: Below Baseline * At or above Baseline ✓ At or above Best Practice ★

1. Policy ★

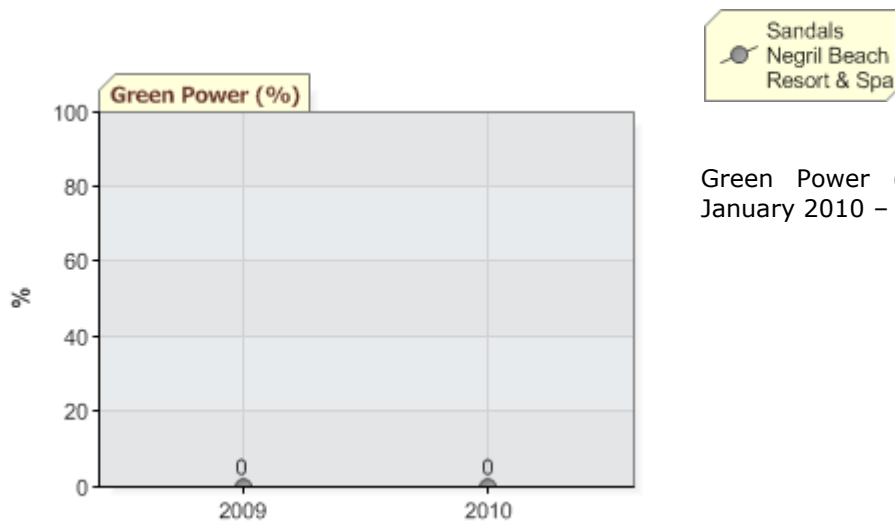
2. Energy

Energy Consumption (MJ / Guest Night) ★



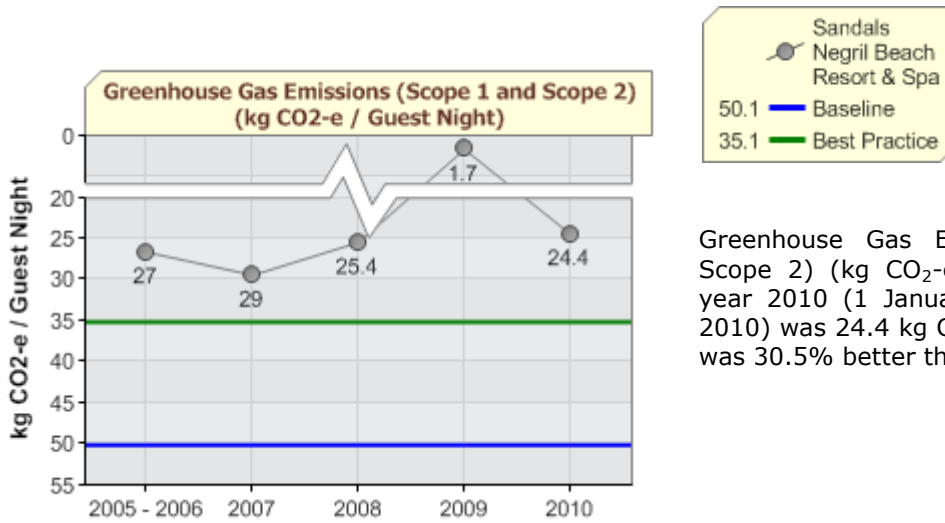
Energy Consumption (MJ / Guest Night) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 162.4 MJ / Guest Night, which was 4.5% better than the Best Practice level.

Green Power (%)



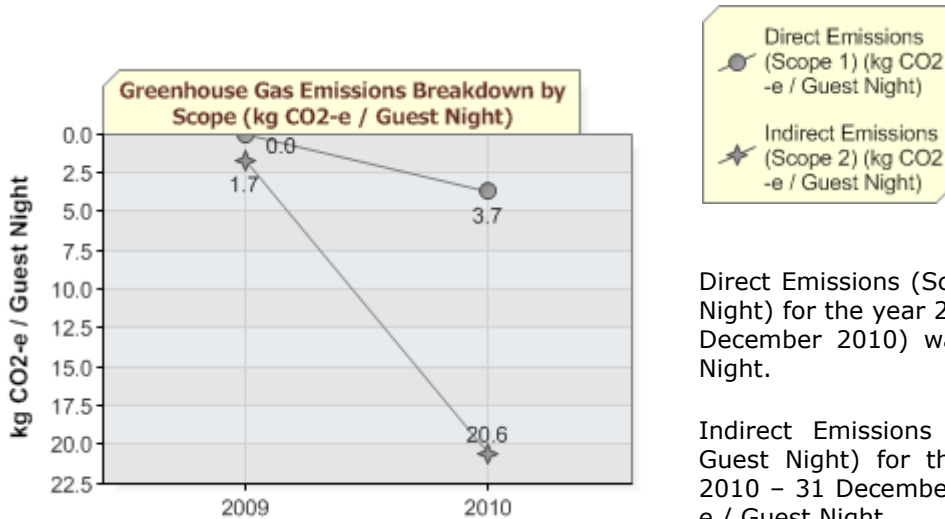
Green Power (%) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 0%.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night) ★



Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 24.4 kg CO₂-e / Guest Night, which was 30.5% better than the Best Practice level.

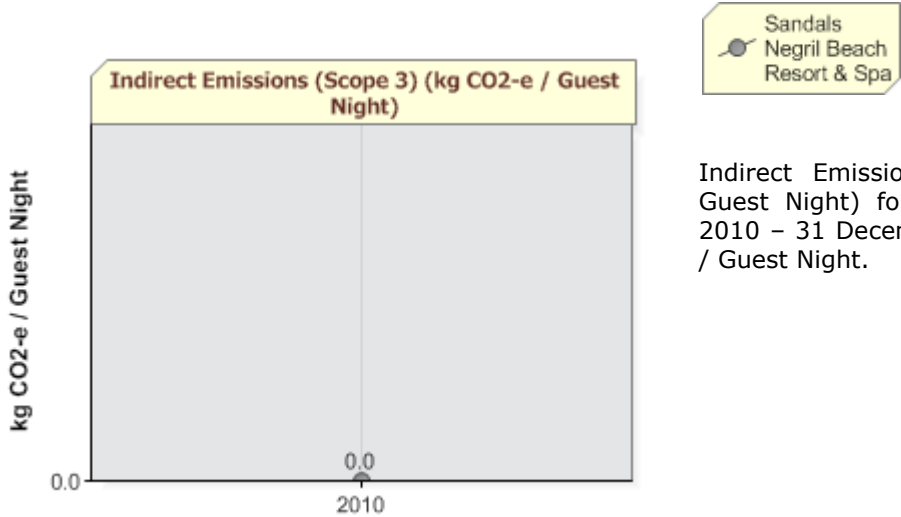
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Breakdown by Scope (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night)



Direct Emissions (Scope 1) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 3.7 kg CO₂-e / Guest Night.

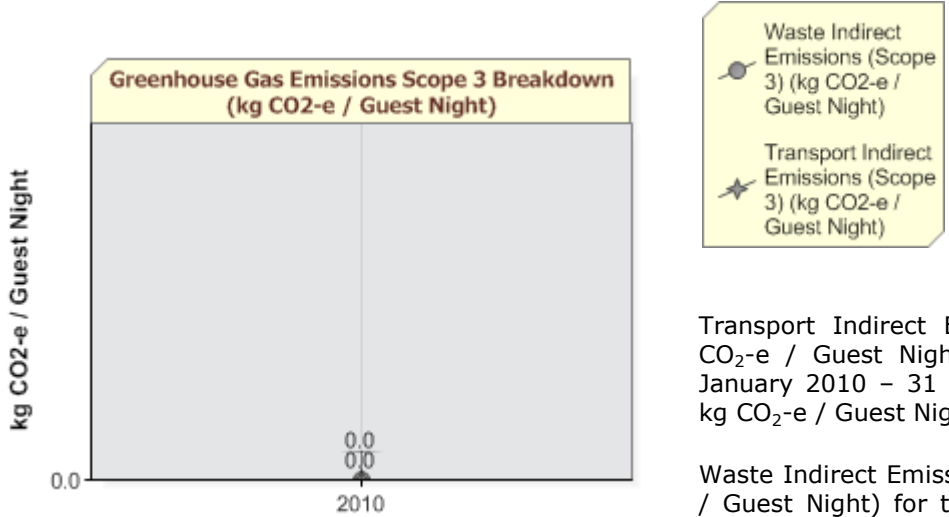
Indirect Emissions (Scope 2) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 20.6 kg CO₂-e / Guest Night.

Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night)



Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 0.0 kg CO₂-e / Guest Night.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Scope 3 Breakdown (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night)



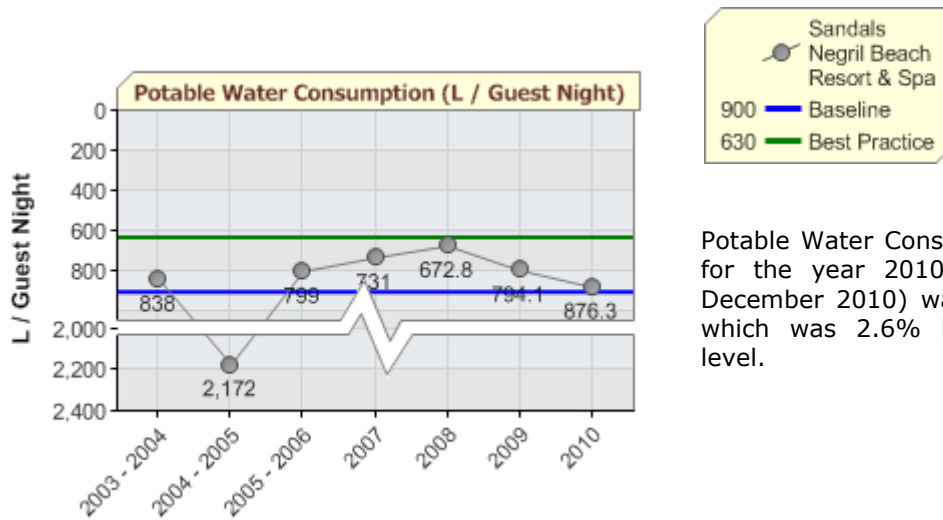
Transport Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 0.0 kg CO₂-e / Guest Night.

Waste Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 0.0 kg CO₂-e / Guest Night.

Direct Emissions (Scope 1)									
Stationary Fuel Combustion									
Type	Quantity	Unit	Energy Consumption (MJ)	CO ₂ Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	CH ₄ Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	N ₂ O Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	Total Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)		
Diesel	12379.7	litres (L)	450348.7	33.4	0.09	0.08	33.5		
LPG	314741.85	litres (L)	7722037.1	487.3	0.8	0.2	488.3		
subtotal			8172385.8	520.6	0.9	0.3	521.9		
TOTAL			8172385.8	520.6	0.9	0.3	521.9		
Indirect Emissions (Scope 2)									
Purchased Electricity									
Quantity	Unit	% Green Power	Provider	Energy Consumption (MJ)	CO ₂ Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	CH ₄ Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	N ₂ O Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	Total Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	
4012996.97	Kilowatt hour (kWh)	0	Jamaica	14446789.1	2863.3	3.1	9.2	2875.6	
subtotal			14446789.1	2863.3	3.1	9.2	2875.6		
TOTAL			14446789.1	2863.3	3.1	9.2	2875.6		
Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2)									
GRAND TOTAL			22619174.9	3383.9	4.0	9.6	3397.5		
Indirect Emissions (Scope 3)									
Waste Sent to Landfill									
Quantity	Unit	Type of Landfill	Type of Waste	Type of Operation	Source	CO ₂ Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	CH ₄ Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	N ₂ O Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)	Total Emission Estimate (t CO ₂ -e)
435331.64	kilograms (uncompacted)	Covered and/or managed waste treatment facility	Other inert	Motels, hotels and lodgings	International	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
subtotal						0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL						0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

3. Water

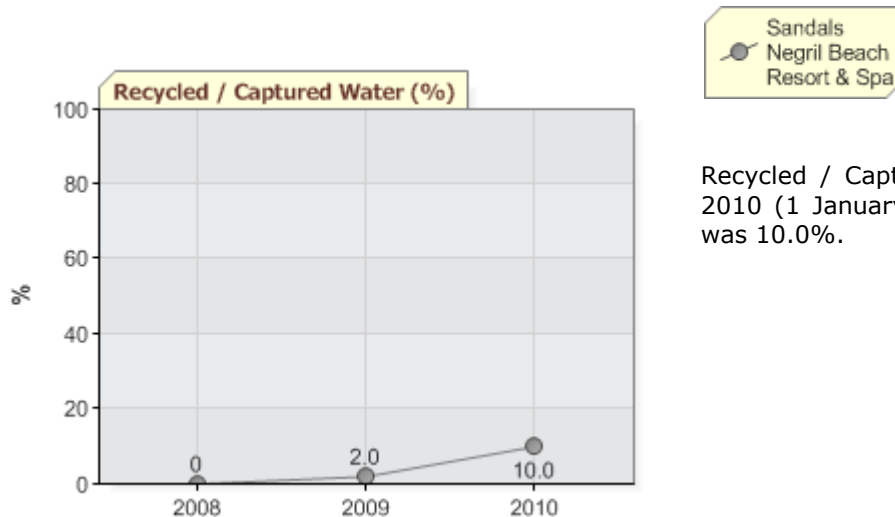
Potable Water Consumption (L / Guest Night) ✓



Potable Water Consumption (L / Guest Night) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 - 31 December 2010) was 876.3 L / Guest Night, which was 2.6% better than the Baseline level.

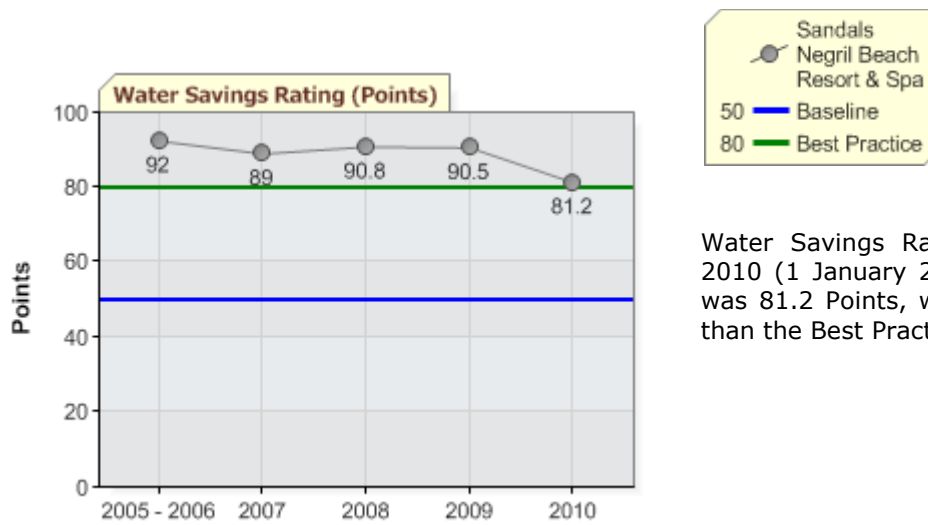
Quantity	Unit	Potable Water Consumption (kL)
122042572.84	litres	122042.6 kL
	Totals:	122042.6 kL

Recycled / Captured Water (%)



Recycled / Captured Water (%) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 - 31 December 2010) was 10.0%.

Water Savings Rating (Points) ★

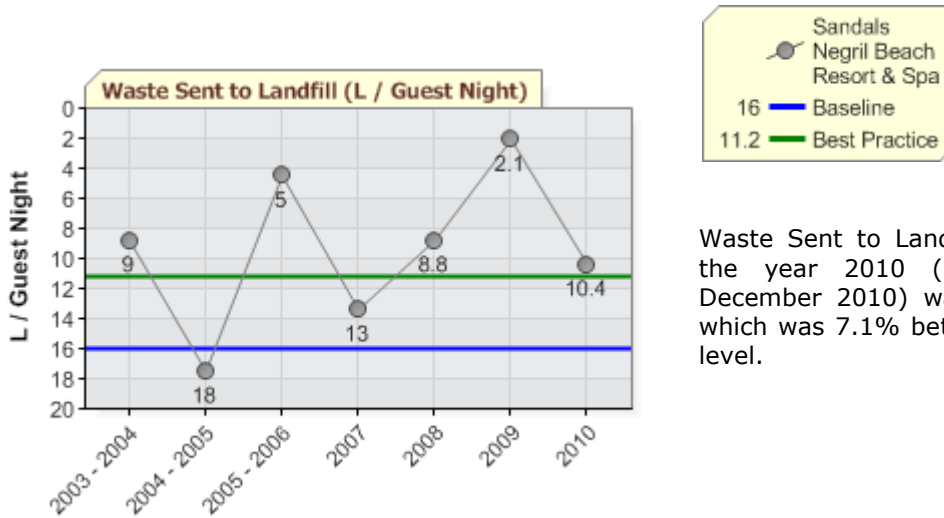


Water Savings Rating (Points) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 - 31 December 2010) was 81.2 Points, which was 1.2 Points better than the Best Practice level.

Water Savings Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Water Savings Rating (Points)
Check for leaks	Every week	100.0 Points
Low/dual flush toilets	80-99%	88.9 Points
Low flow tap fittings	80-99%	88.9 Points
Low flow shower fittings	80-99%	88.9 Points
Water sprinklers used after dark	80-99%	88.9 Points
Minimal irrigation landscaping	20-39%	58.8 Points
Use of recycle/grey/rain water	1-19%	54.0 Points
	Overall Rating:	81.2 Points

4. Waste

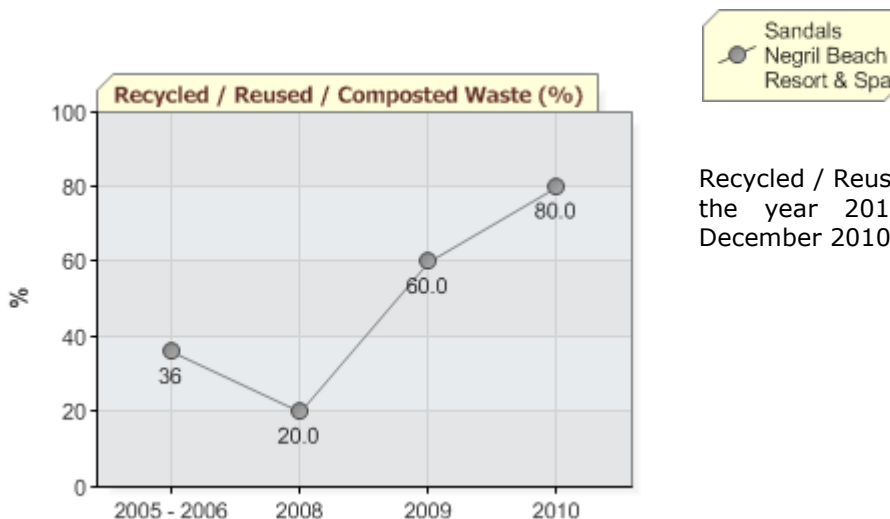
Waste Sent to Landfill (L / Guest Night) ★



Waste Sent to Landfill (L / Guest Night) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 - 31 December 2010) was 10.4 L / Guest Night, which was 7.1% better than the Best Practice level.

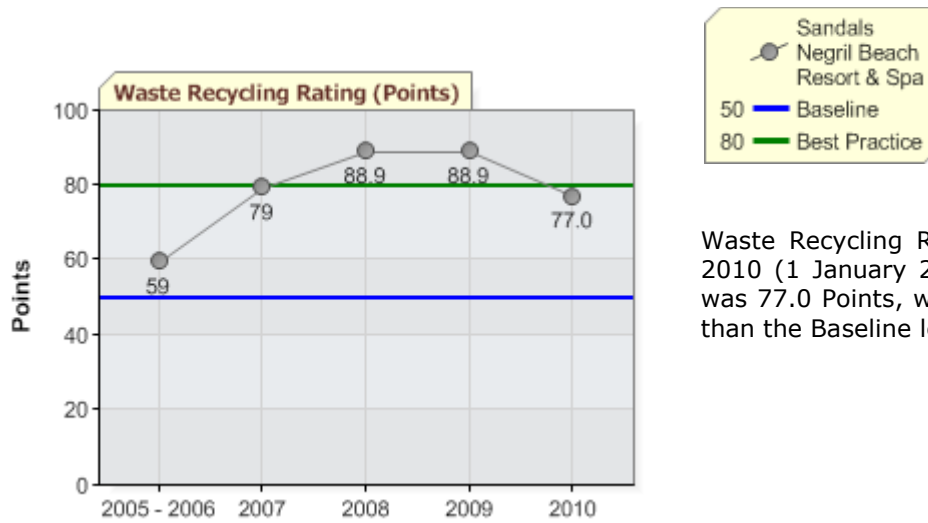
Quantity	Unit	Type of Landfill	Type of Waste	Type of Operation	Waste Sent to Landfill (m ³)
435331.64	kilograms (uncompacted)	Covered and/or managed waste treatment facility	Other inert	Motels, hotels and lodgings	1451.1 m ³
				Totals:	1451.1 m³

Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%)



Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 - 31 December 2010) was 80.0%.

Waste Recycling Rating (Points) ✓

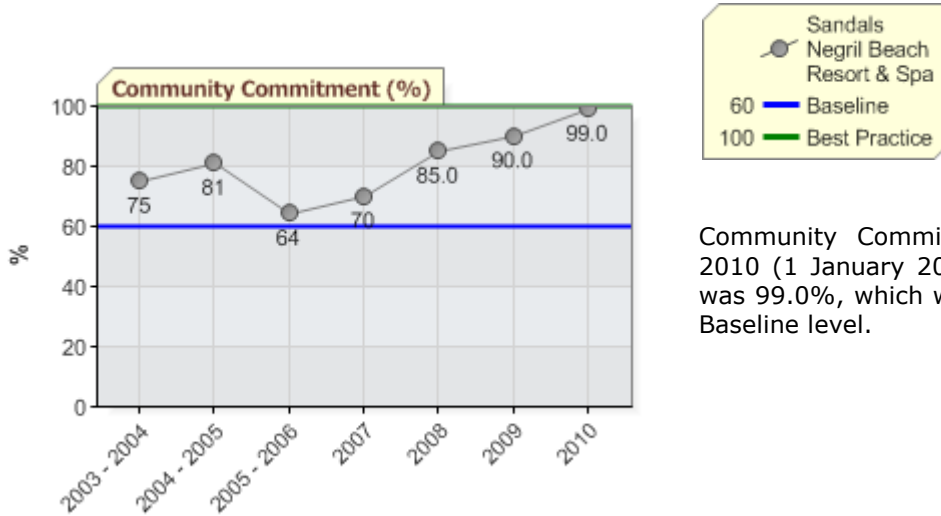


Waste Recycling Rating (Points) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 - 31 December 2010) was 77.0 Points, which was 27.0 Points better than the Baseline level.

Waste Recycling Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Waste Recycling Rating (Points)
Glass	80-99%	88.9 Points
Paper/card	80-99%	88.9 Points
Iron & steel (ferrous metals)	Not Relevant / Not Available	-
Other metals (non-ferrous)	Not Relevant / Not Available	-
Plastics	40-59%	65.1 Points
Rubber	Not Relevant / Not Available	-
Green waste	40-59%	65.1 Points
	Overall Rating:	77.0 Points

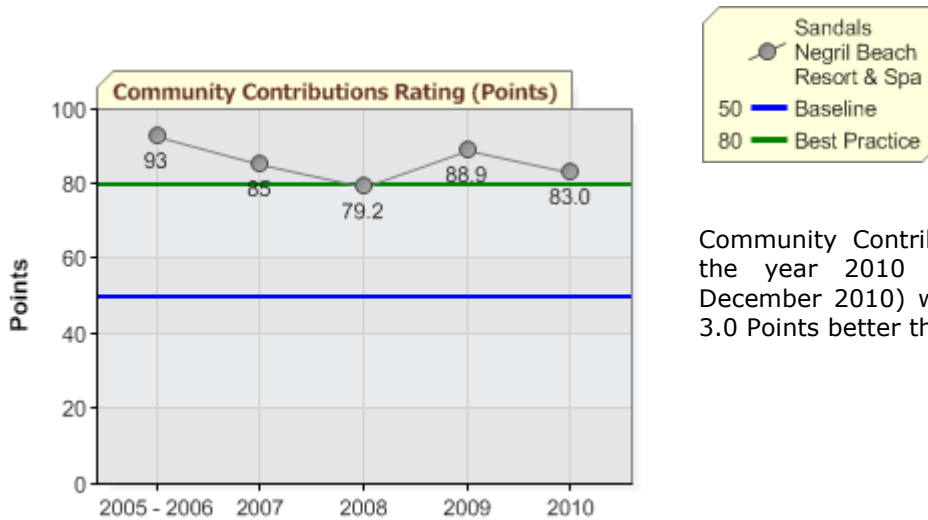
5. Community

Community Commitment (%) ✓



Community Commitment (%) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 99.0%, which was 39.0% better than the Baseline level.

Community Contributions Rating (Points) ★

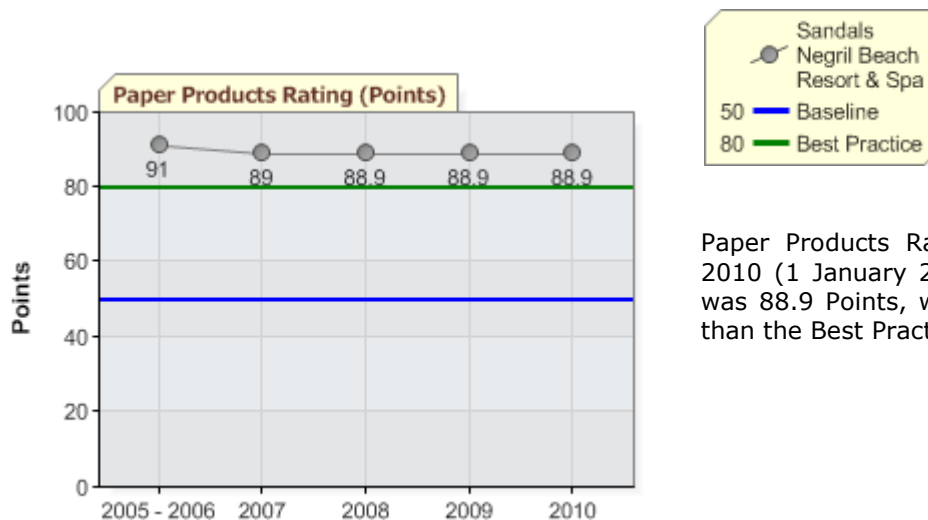


Community Contributions Rating (Points) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 83.0 Points, which was 3.0 Points better than the Best Practice level.

Community Contributions Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Community Contributions Rating (Points)
Net income spent on sustainability programs	4.0% - 5.9%	65.1 Points
Perishable purchased goods that are of local origin	80-99%	88.9 Points
Service contracts given to local contractors	80-99%	88.9 Points
Staff received training on sustainability issues	80-99%	88.9 Points
	Overall Rating:	83.0 Points

6. Paper

Paper Products Rating (Points) ★

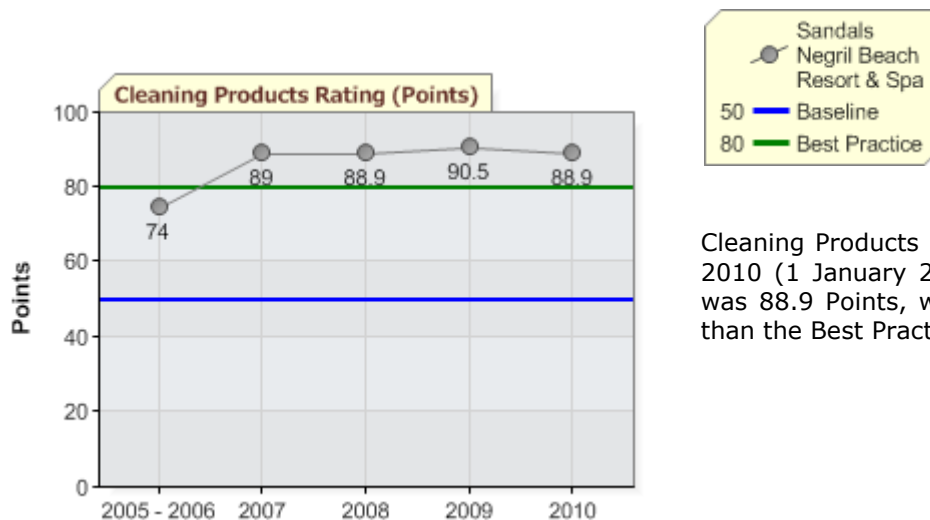


Paper Products Rating (Points) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010) was 88.9 Points, which was 8.9 Points better than the Best Practice level.

Paper Products Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Paper Products Rating (Points)
Office paper	80-99%	88.9 Points
Serviettes	80-99%	88.9 Points
Tissues	80-99%	88.9 Points
Toilet tissue	80-99%	88.9 Points
Paper towels	80-99%	88.9 Points
	Overall Rating:	88.9 Points

7. Cleaning

Cleaning Products Rating (Points) ★

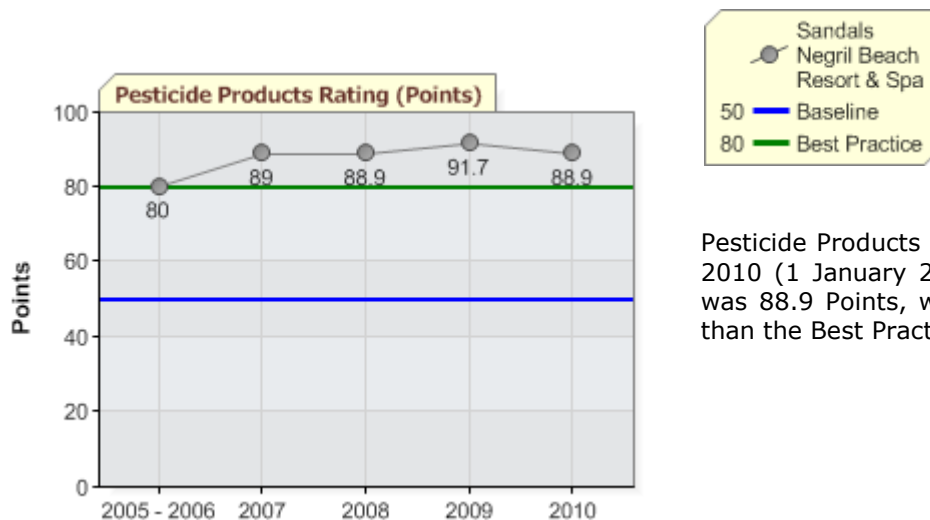


Cleaning Products Rating (Points) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 - 31 December 2010) was 88.9 Points, which was 8.9 Points better than the Best Practice level.

Cleaning Products Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Cleaning Products Rating (Points)
Hard floor cleaners	80-99%	88.9 Points
Carpet cleaners	80-99%	88.9 Points
Interior surface cleaners	80-99%	88.9 Points
External surface cleaners	80-99%	88.9 Points
Glass cleaners	80-99%	88.9 Points
Detergents	80-99%	88.9 Points
Personal hygiene	80-99%	88.9 Points
	Overall Rating:	88.9 Points

8. Pesticides

Pesticide Products Rating (Points) ★



Pesticide Products Rating (Points) for the year 2010 (1 January 2010 - 31 December 2010) was 88.9 Points, which was 8.9 Points better than the Best Practice level.

Pesticide Products Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Pesticide Products Rating (Points)
Weed killers	80-99%	88.9 Points
Fungal killers	80-99%	88.9 Points
Rodent killers	80-99%	88.9 Points
Insect killers	80-99%	88.9 Points
	Overall Rating:	88.9 Points

OPTIONAL BENCHMARKING INDICATORS

Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa has also nominated an optional Operation Selected Indicator that they consider relevant to their specific operation and locality. The Operation Selected Indicator does not form part of the formal annual benchmarking exercise.

1. Selected Indicators

Selected Indicators are from a supplied list of EarthCheck indicators.

Total number of service staff formally trained / Total number of customer service staff

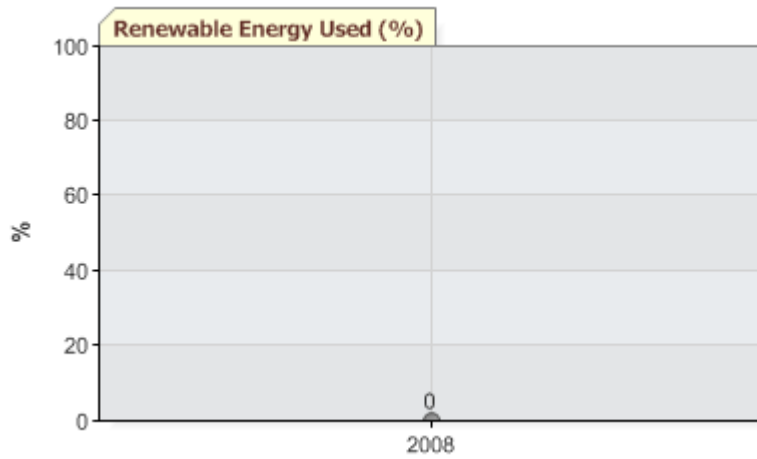
There is a 90% trained staff. Staff members are trained to preserve the environment, utilities both at home and work, customer services, social development, risk, health etc.

HISTORIC BENCHMARKING INDICATORS

1. Renewable Energy

Renewable Energy % is no longer a supplementary indicator; it is included here for historical reference.

Renewable Energy Used (%)



*The supplied data has been compiled by **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa** in the prescribed manner, authorised by a senior executive of the company and submitted for an annual assessment.*

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Congratulations, **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa** has passed the requirements to be recognised as an EarthCheck Benchmarked Accommodation - Vacation Hotel.

In addition to having a Sustainability Policy in place, eleven of the assessed EarthCheck indicators are at or above the Baseline level. From the benchmarking data provided, eight indicators, *Energy Consumption, Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2), Water Savings Rating, Waste Sent to Landfill, Community Contributions Rating, Paper Products Rating, Cleaning Products Rating* and *Pesticide Products Rating*, are at or above the Best Practice level, which is an excellent achievement to be very highly commended.

It is acknowledged that whilst information presented in the benchmarking assessment report displays results for the year 2009, it is **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa's** sixth benchmarking assessment. The information for the 2009 benchmarking period represents historical data and has not been formally assessed. It has been requested by the operation to be displayed in the report to provide an overall reflection of the organisation's operational performance.

Improvements in all the EarthCheck indicators will not only help the environment, but can also help reduce operational costs. Due to the positive commitment that **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa** has demonstrated to the environment, the assessors are confident that they can maintain their very high standards and remain a leader in environmental performance. In line with EarthCheck Policy this would enable the **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa** to continue to meet the benchmarking requirements of the EarthCheck program.

APPENDIX

BENCHMARKING POLICY

A member benchmarking for the 6th time (and subsequent assessments) is not permitted to fail any EarthCheck™ indicators (excluding supplementary EarthCheck™ indicators).

HISTORICAL DATA

It is acknowledged that whilst information presented in the benchmarking assessment report displays results for the year 2009, it is **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa's** sixth benchmarking assessment. The information for the 2009 benchmarking period represents historical data and has not been formally assessed. It has been requested by the operation to be displayed in the report to provide an overall reflection of the organisation's operational performance.

ACTIVITY MEASURE

2009 Benchmarking Period

The Benchmarking Assessors sought clarification as to whether the submitted figure of 12 306 *Guest Nights* for the historical data period of 2009 had been correctly calculated. The **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa** advised:

"With regards to the 2009 Guest Nights sold is 147,674."

Therefore the Benchmarking Assessors have updated the 2009 Activity Measure to 147 674 *Guest Nights*.

ENERGY CONSUMPTION

The Benchmarking Assessors sought clarification regarding *Energy Consumption* as the submitted figures (below) were different than the previous assessment.

Stationary Fuel Combustion

Fuel Type	Quantity	Unit	Energy Consumption (MJ)	Total Emission Estimate (t)
Diesel	12 379.7	Litres	450 348.7	33.5

Purchased Electricity

Quantity	Unit	% Green Power	Provider	Energy Consumption (MJ)	Total Emission Estimate (t)
4 012 996.97	kWh	0	Jamaica	14 446 789.1	2 875.6

These sources produced a total of 14 897 137.8 MJ which equates to 107 MJ per Guest Night. Total *Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2)* was 2 909 198.1 kg which equates to 20.9 kg per Guest Night.

The **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa** advised:

"LPG for the period 2010 is 314741.85 L"

*Electricity for the period 2010 is 4,012,996.97 kWh
Diesel for the period 2010 is 12,379.70 L"*

As advised the Benchmarking Assessors have updated the *Energy Consumption* as below:

Stationary Fuel Combustion

Fuel Type	Quantity	Unit	Energy Consumption (MJ)	Total Emission Estimate (t) (t)
LPG	314 741.85	L	7 722 037.1	488.3
Diesel	12 379.7	Litres	450 348.7	33.5

Purchased Electricity

Quantity	Unit	% Green Power	Provider	Energy Consumption (MJ)	Total Emission Estimate (t)
4 012 996.97	kWh	0	Jamaica	14 446 789.1	2 875.6

These sources produced a total of 2 2619 174.9 MJ which equates to 162.4 MJ per Guest Night. Total *Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2)* was 3 397 508.8 kg which equates to 24.4 kg per Guest Night.

2009 Benchmarking Period

The Benchmarking Assessors have noted that the figure submitted for 2009 is significantly less than expected. As this is historical data it has not been formally assessed. It is recommended that the **Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa** double check the 2009 figure for *Energy Consumption* and if any revision is required the Benchmarking Assessors can update accordingly.

WASTE SENT TO LANDFILL

The submitted value of 435 331.64 kg of waste (specified by the operator as uncompacted waste) has been converted into a volume by using the standard conversion of: 1 kg (uncompacted waste) = 0.00333333 m³ or 3.33333 L (i.e. 435 331.64 kg x 0.00333333 = 1 451.1 m³ or 1 451 104.0 L). (If the waste is compacted, then the standard conversion is: 1 kg = 0.00153846 m³ or 1.53846 L).

This equates to 10.4 L per Guest Night.



EARTHCHECK

Benchmarks Assessed by EarthCheck

SUMMARY OF SUPPLIED BENCHMARKING DATA

Activity Measures

Guest Nights	139272
Area Under Roof	52609.13

Supplied Benchmarking Data

Energy

Energy Consumption (MJ / Guest Night)

Supplied	22619174.9 MJ
Calculated	162.4 MJ / Guest Night
Baseline	240 MJ / Guest Night
Best Practice	170 MJ / Guest Night
Difference	4.5% better than the Best Practice level

Green Power (%)

Supplied	0%
Calculated	0%

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night)

Supplied	3397508.8 kg CO ₂ -e
Calculated	24.4 kg CO ₂ -e / Guest Night
Baseline	50.1 kg CO ₂ -e / Guest Night
Best Practice	35.1 kg CO ₂ -e / Guest Night
Difference	30.5% better than the Best Practice level

Direct Emissions (Scope 1) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night)

Supplied	521859.9 kg CO ₂ -e
Calculated	3.7 kg CO ₂ -e / Guest Night

Indirect Emissions (Scope 2) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night)

Supplied	2875648.9 kg CO ₂ -e
Calculated	20.6 kg CO ₂ -e / Guest Night

Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night)

Supplied	0.0 kg CO ₂ -e
Calculated	0.0 kg CO ₂ -e / Guest Night

Transport Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (t CO₂-e / Guest Night)

Supplied	0.0 t CO ₂ -e
Calculated	0.0 t CO ₂ -e / Guest Night

Waste Indirect Emissions (Scope 3) (kg CO₂-e / Guest Night)

Supplied	0.0 kg CO ₂ -e
Calculated	0.0 kg CO ₂ -e / Guest Night

Water

Potable Water Consumption (L / Guest Night)

Supplied	122042572.8 L
Calculated	876.3 L / Guest Night
Baseline	900 L / Guest Night
Best Practice	630 L / Guest Night
Difference	2.6% better than the Baseline level

Recycled / Captured Water (%)

Supplied	10.0%
Calculated	10.0%

Water Savings Rating (Points)

Supplied	81.2 Points
Calculated	81.2 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	1.2 Points better than the Best Practice level

Waste

Waste Sent to Landfill (L / Guest Night)

Supplied	1451104.0 L
Calculated	10.4 L / Guest Night
Baseline	16 L / Guest Night
Best Practice	11.2 L / Guest Night
Difference	7.1% better than the Best Practice level

Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%)

Supplied	80.0%
Calculated	80.0%

Waste Recycling Rating (Points)

Supplied	77.0 Points
Calculated	77.0 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	27.0 Points better than the Baseline level

Calculated	88.9 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	8.9 Points better than the Best Practice level

Waste Sent for Incineration (m³ / Guest Night)

Supplied	0.0 m ³
Calculated	0.0 m ³ / Guest Night

Community**Community Commitment (%)**

Supplied	99.0%
Calculated	99.0%
Baseline	60 %
Best Practice	100 %
Difference	39.0% better than the Baseline level

Community Contributions Rating (Points)

Supplied	83.0 Points
Calculated	83.0 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	3.0 Points better than the Best Practice level

Paper**Paper Products Rating (Points)**

Supplied	88.9 Points
Calculated	88.9 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	8.9 Points better than the Best Practice level

Cleaning**Cleaning Products Rating (Points)**

Supplied	88.9 Points
Calculated	88.9 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	8.9 Points better than the Best Practice level

Pesticides**Pesticide Products Rating (Points)**

Supplied	88.9 Points
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DETERMINATION OF BASELINE AND BEST PRACTICE LEVELS

General

The values for the Baseline and Best Practice levels for each indicator are derived from extensive worldwide research into available and appropriate case studies, industry surveys, engineering design handbooks, energy, water and waste audits, and climatic and geographic conditions.

National and regional data for per capita energy use, greenhouse gas and other emissions, wastes to landfill and water consumption, where available provide background data for normalisation of the expected performance values for per customer or employee, and/or overall performance of an enterprise being benchmarked. They are used to gauge the regional or national situation and environmental performances that an enterprise is based in, and hence what are reasonable levels to expect the enterprise to achieve.

A benchmarking result at, or above, the Baseline level demonstrates to all stakeholders that the enterprise is achieving above average performance. A result below the Baseline level indicates that an enterprise can and should carry out actions that will make beneficial improvements in performance.

Consideration of Climate

A major determinant of energy consumption in some sectors, primarily those centred on buildings such as accommodation, visitor centres and administration offices will be the dominant climatic conditions in which the enterprise is located. In general, to maintain the same level of indoor comfort, enterprises operating in hot or cold climates will consume more energy than those in temperate climates.

Similarly, it is recognised that in certain sectors a major determinant of potable water consumption will be the climate in which an enterprise is located, in particular those with large grounds and/or significant water-based facilities or activities. That is, enterprises located in hot climates are more likely to consume more potable water than equivalent ones located in cooler climates. Factors that are likely to lead to a higher level of potable water consumption, for example in the accommodation sector, include increased evaporation rates of swimming pools, personal bathing and irrigation demands of grounds. In consideration of this factor, Baseline and Best Practice levels can vary in relation to country location.

Waste Sent to Landfill

The benchmark indicator used for Waste Sent to Landfill is given in litres as waste bins are usually calibrated by volume, and it has been found that the majority of operations do not have access to the weight of material disposed of. However, if a weight is supplied, standard factors are used to convert from weight (e.g., kilograms (kg)) to volume (e.g., cubic metres (m³) or litres (L)). These are: 1 kg (uncompacted waste) = 0.00333333 m³ or 3.33333 L and 1 kg (compacted waste) = 0.00153846 m³ or 1.53846 L.

Operations should make note of the level of compaction when submitting data for assessment by EarthCheck.

Review of Performance Levels

The Baseline and Best Practice performance levels for EarthCheck indicators are continuously reviewed and are likely to change over time. This review by a team of international experts, takes into account "business-as-usual" changes in practices, equipment and facilities, as well as regulations and general improvement trends in performance and procedures. This review is used to update the levels of Baseline and Best Practice, and provides useful feedback to the user of the indicators.

The list below summarises the basic generic rules used to determine Baseline and Best Practice levels for EarthCheck indicators.

- If relevant enterprise sector specific case studies are not available for a type of activity in a designated region, then national averages will be used to ascertain the Baseline level. In this case, the Best Practice level will be set at a minimum of 30% better performance than the Baseline.
- If case study or national data are not available for a specific indicator, then the first enterprise that benchmarks will have its results set as 15% better than Baseline (i.e., half way between Baseline and Best Practice).