



EARTHCHECK

# BENCHMARKING ASSESSMENT REPORT

ACCOMMODATION - BUSINESS HOTEL BENCHMARKING

**THE GATEWAY HOTEL, VIJAYAWADA**  
VIJAYAWADA, INDIA



REPORT DATE: 25 August 2011

Benchmarking Data Collection Period: 1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011

*The planet deserves more than half measures*

## OVERVIEW

This annual assessment of **The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** was undertaken against EarthCheck benchmarking indicators and checklists developed for EarthCheck and listed below. <sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup>

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

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

EarthCheck® is a registered trademark of Earthcheck Pty Ltd.

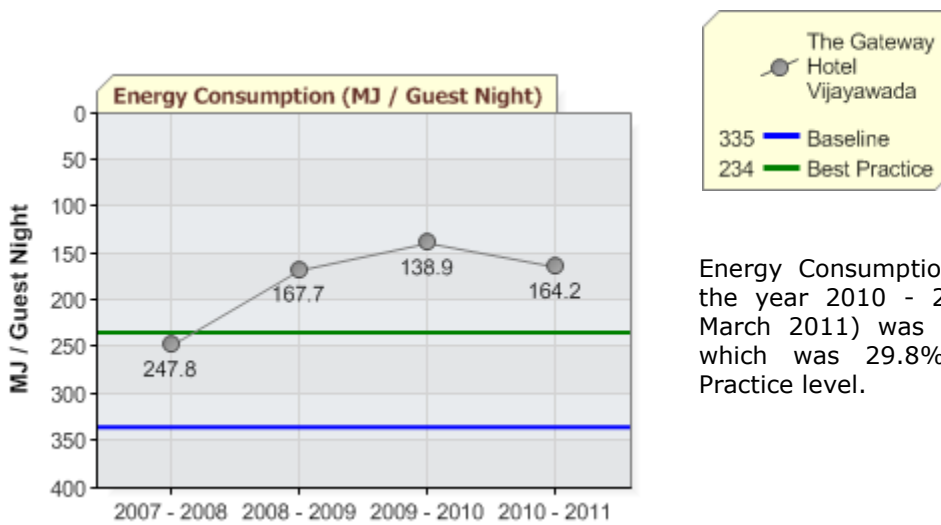
# ACCOMMODATION - BUSINESS HOTEL PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

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

## 1. Policy ★

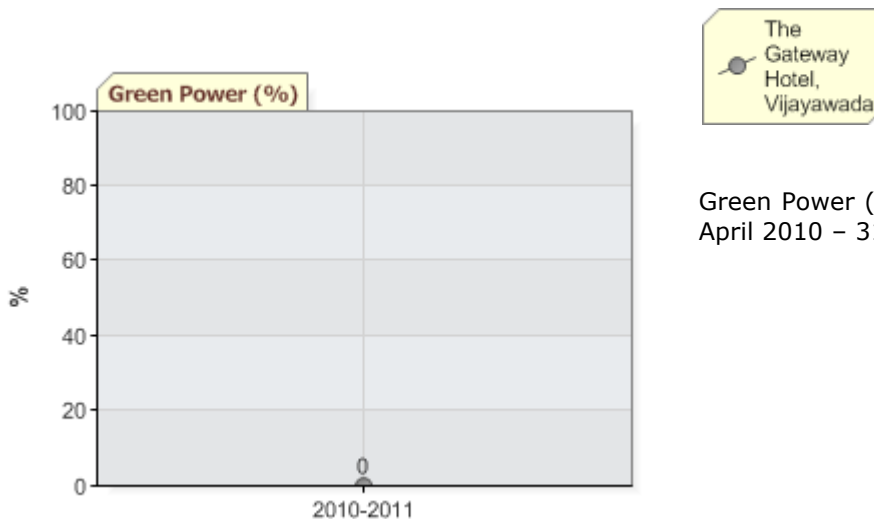
## 2. Energy

### Energy Consumption (MJ / Guest Night) ★



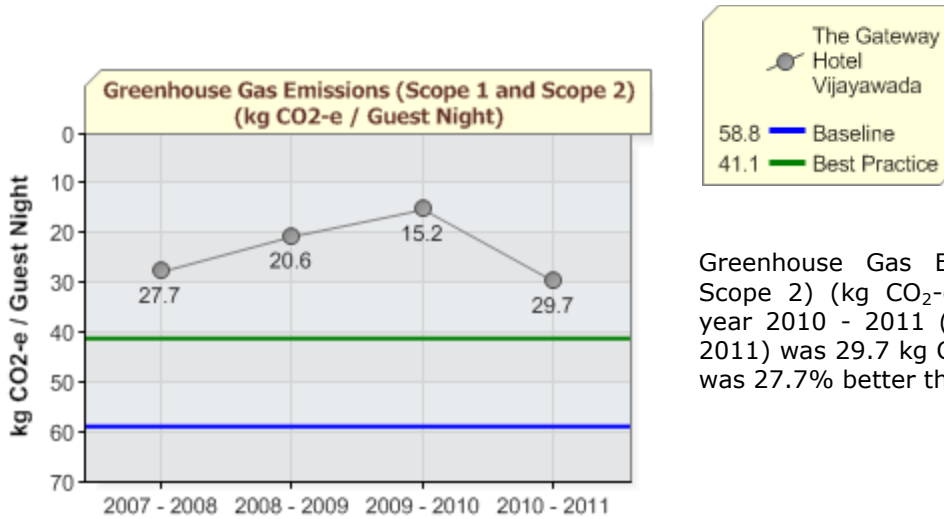
Energy Consumption (MJ / Guest Night) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011) was 164.2 MJ / Guest Night, which was 29.8% better than the Best Practice level.

### Green Power (%)



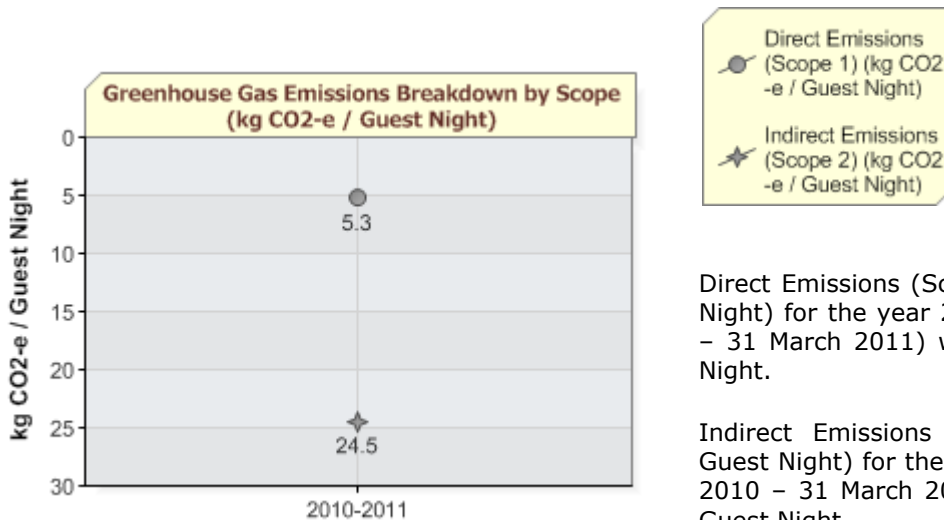
Green Power (%) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011) was 0%.

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night) ★



Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011) was 29.7 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night, which was 27.7% better than the Best Practice level.

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions Breakdown by Scope (kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night)



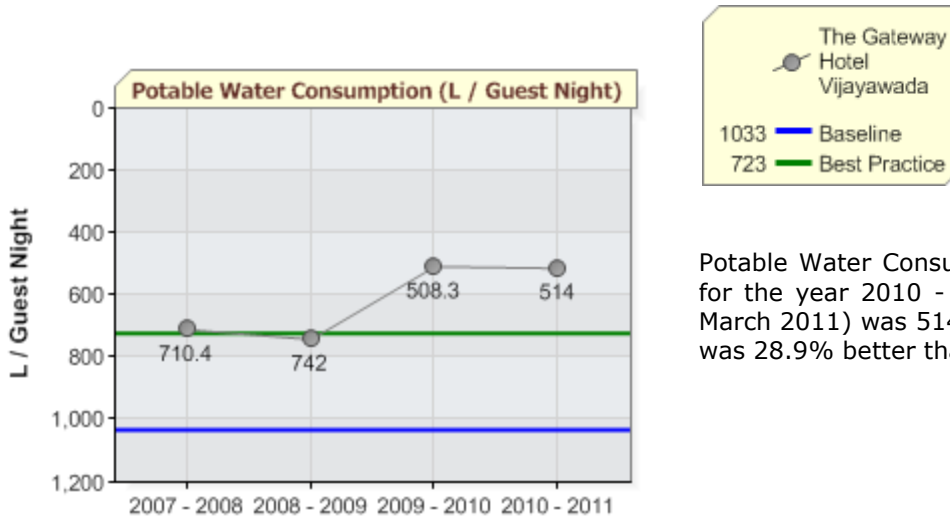
Direct Emissions (Scope 1) (kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011) was 5.3 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night.

Indirect Emissions (Scope 2) (kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011) was 24.5 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night.

<b>Direct Emissions (Scope 1)</b>							
<b>Stationary Fuel Combustion</b>							
Type	Quantity	Unit	Energy Consumption (MJ)	CO <sub>2</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	CH <sub>4</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	N <sub>2</sub> O Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Total Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
Diesel	84532	litres (L)	3075105.1	227.9	0.6	0.6	229.1
LPG	35815	kilograms (kg)	1694049.5	106.9	0.2	0.05	107.1
Black coal	22779	kilograms (kg)	608199.3	59.8	0.1	0.3	60.2
subtotal			5377353.9	394.5	1.0	0.9	396.4
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>5377353.9</b>	<b>394.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>396.4</b>
<b>Indirect Emissions (Scope 2)</b>							
<b>Purchased Electricity</b>							
Quantity	Unit	% Green Power	Provider	Energy Consumption (MJ)	CO <sub>2</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	CH <sub>4</sub> Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)	Total Emission Estimate (t CO <sub>2</sub> -e)
1938375	Kilowatt hour (kWh)	0	India	6978150.0	1828.8	0.7	11.8
subtotal				6978150.0	1828.8	0.7	11.8
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>6978150.0</b>	<b>1828.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>11.8</b>
<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2)</b>							
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>				<b>12355503.9</b>	<b>2223.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>12.7</b>

### 3. Water

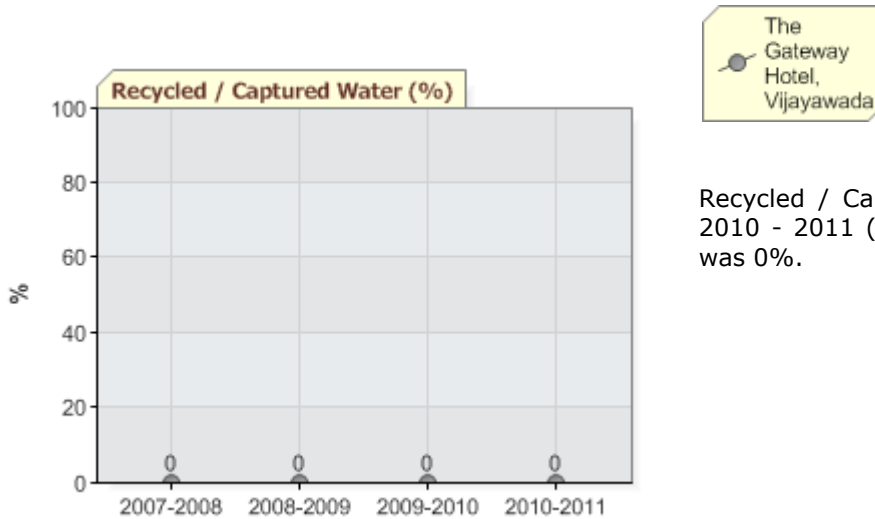
#### Potable Water Consumption (L / Guest Night) ★



Potable Water Consumption (L / Guest Night) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011) was 514.0 L / Guest Night, which was 28.9% better than the Best Practice level.

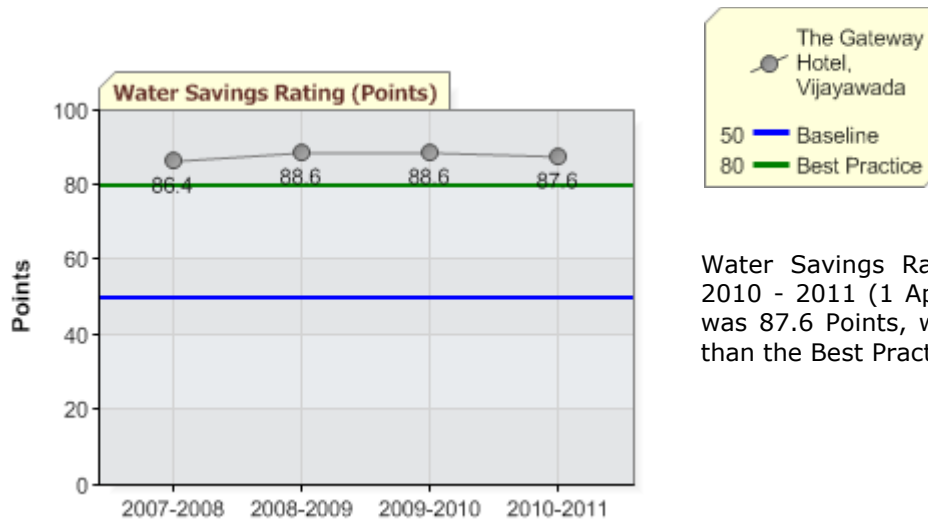
Quantity	Unit	Potable Water Consumption (kL)
38682	kilolitres (kL)	38682.0 kL
<b>Totals:</b>		<b>38682.0 kL</b>

#### Recycled / Captured Water (%)



Recycled / Captured Water (%) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011) was 0%.

## Water Savings Rating (Points) ★

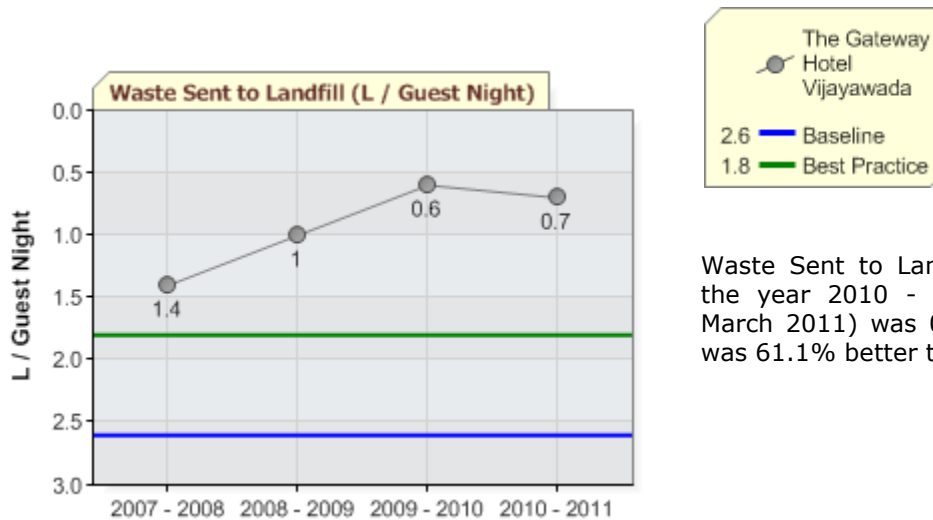


Water Savings Rating (Points) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011) was 87.6 Points, which was 7.6 Points better than the Best Practice level.

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	100%	100.0 Points
Minimal irrigation landscaping	20-39%	58.8 Points
Use of recycle/grey/rain water	Not Relevant / Not Available	-
	<b>Overall Rating:</b>	<b>87.6 Points</b>

## 4. Waste

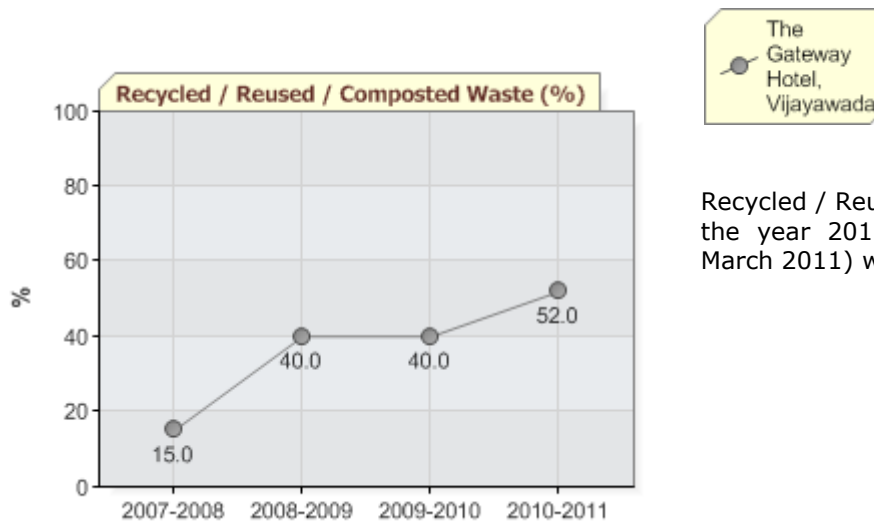
### Waste Sent to Landfill (L / Guest Night) ★



Waste Sent to Landfill (L / Guest Night) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011) was 0.7 L / Guest Night, which was 61.1% better than the Best Practice level.

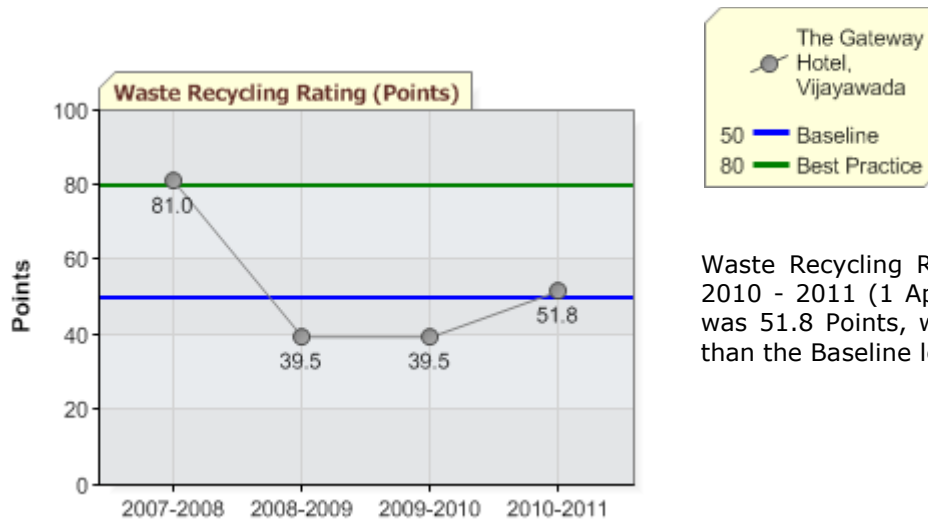
Quantity	Unit	Waste Sent to Landfill (m <sup>3</sup> )
33801	kilograms (compacted)	52.0 m <sup>3</sup>
	<b>Totals:</b>	<b>52.0 m<sup>3</sup></b>

### Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%)



Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011) was 52.0%.

## Waste Recycling Rating (Points) ✓

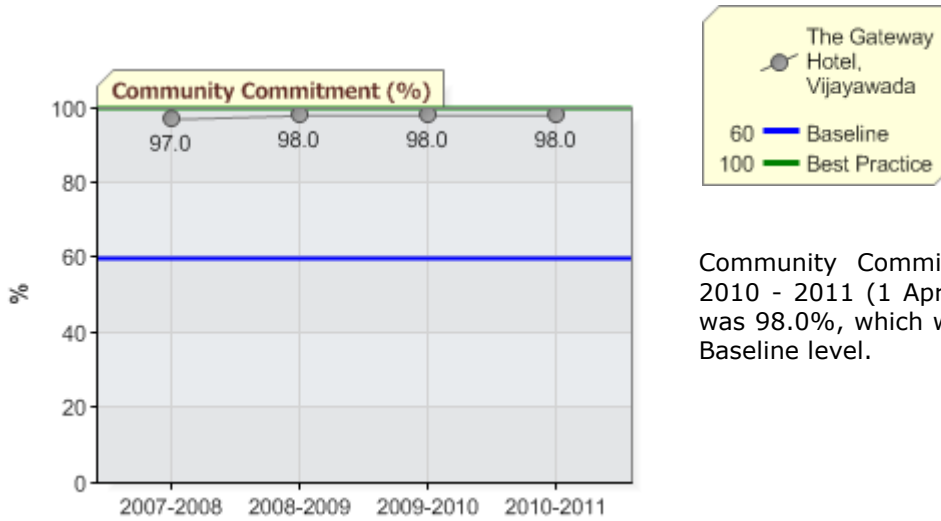


Waste Recycling Rating (Points) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011) was 51.8 Points, which was 1.8 Points better than the Baseline level.

Waste Recycling Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Waste Recycling Rating (Points)
Glass	40-59%	65.1 Points
Paper/card	60-79%	73.9 Points
Iron & steel (ferrous metals)	20-39%	58.8 Points
Other metals (non-ferrous)	Not Relevant / Not Available	-
Plastics	20-39%	58.8 Points
Rubber	0%	0.0 Points
Green waste	1-19%	54.0 Points
	<b>Overall Rating:</b>	<b>51.8 Points</b>

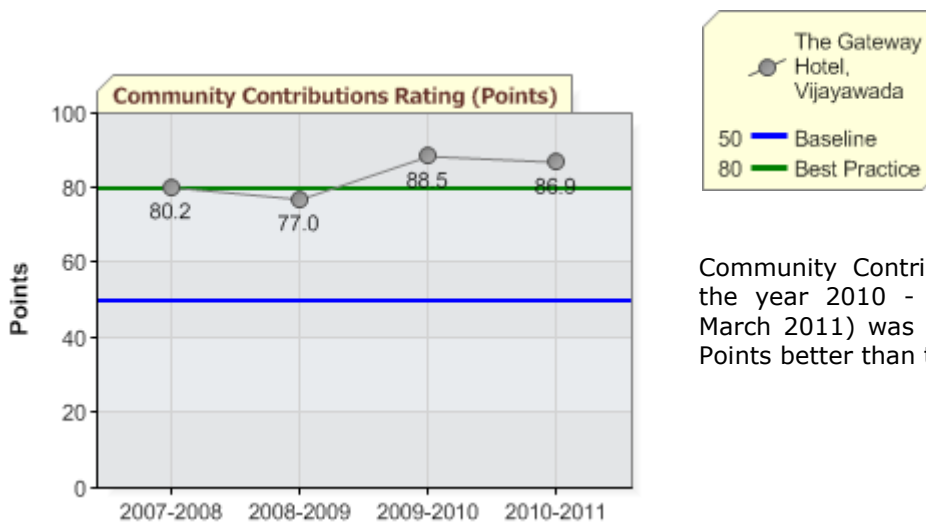
## 5. Community

### Community Commitment (%) ✓



Community Commitment (%) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011) was 98.0%, which was 38.0% better than the Baseline level.

### Community Contributions Rating (Points) ★

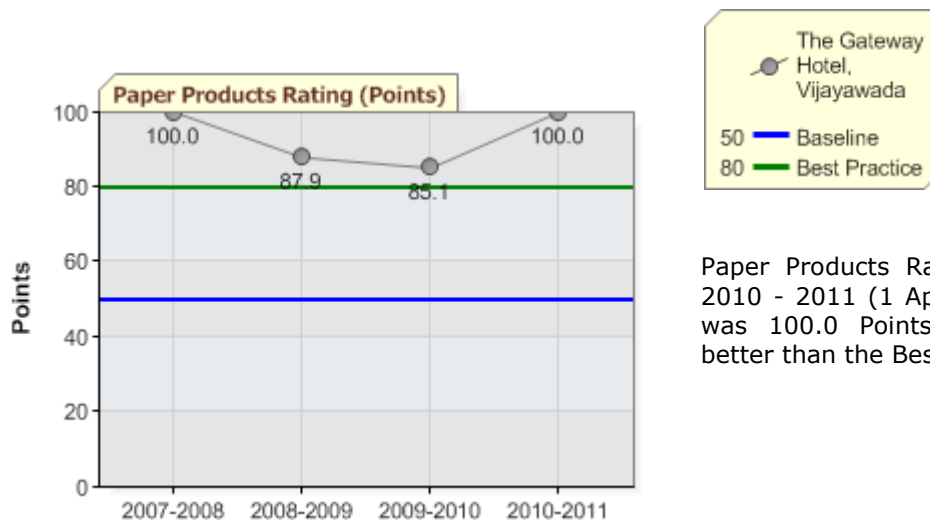


Community Contributions Rating (Points) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011) was 86.9 Points, which was 6.9 Points better than the Best Practice level.

Community Contributions Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Community Contributions Rating (Points)
Net income spent on sustainability programs	2.0% - 3.9%	58.8 Points
Perishable purchased goods that are of local origin	100%	100.0 Points
Service contracts given to local contractors	80-99%	88.9 Points
Staff received training on sustainability issues	100%	100.0 Points
	<b>Overall Rating:</b>	<b>86.9 Points</b>

## 6. Paper

### Paper Products Rating (Points) ★

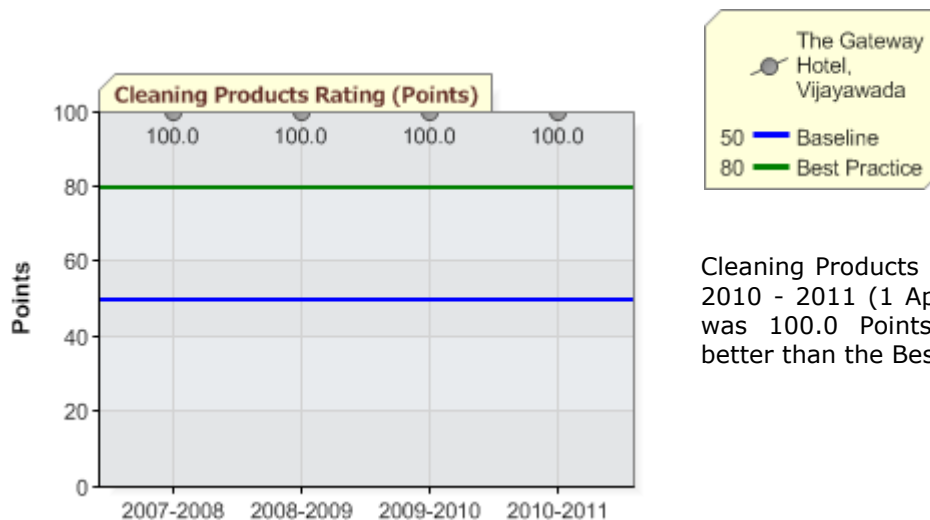


Paper Products Rating (Points) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011) was 100.0 Points, which was 20.0 Points better than the Best Practice level.

Paper Products Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Paper Products Rating (Points)
Office paper	100%	100.0 Points
Serviettes	Not Relevant / Not Available	-
Tissues	100%	100.0 Points
Toilet tissue	100%	100.0 Points
Paper towels	100%	100.0 Points
	<b>Overall Rating:</b>	<b>100.0 Points</b>

## 7. Cleaning

### Cleaning Products Rating (Points) ★

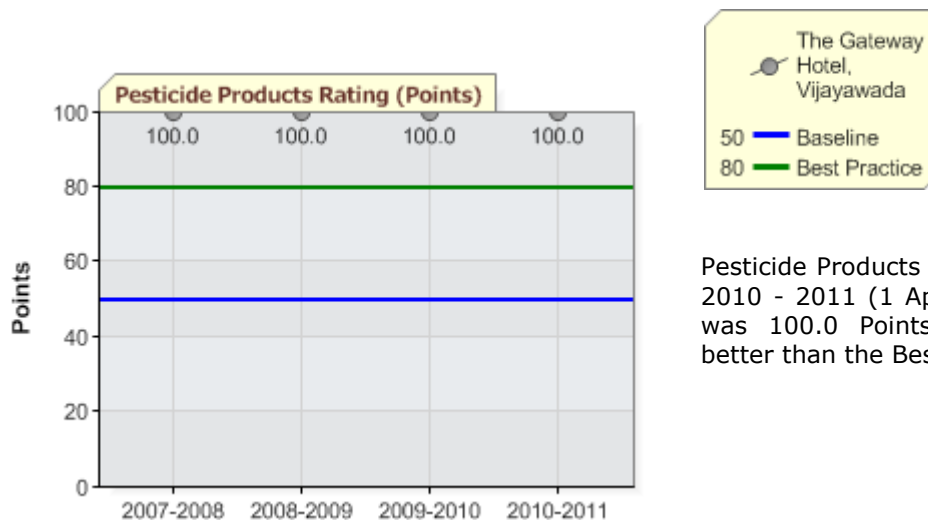


Cleaning Products Rating (Points) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011) was 100.0 Points, which was 20.0 Points better than the Best Practice level.

Cleaning Products Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Cleaning Products Rating (Points)
Hard floor cleaners	100%	100.0 Points
Carpet cleaners	100%	100.0 Points
Interior surface cleaners	100%	100.0 Points
External surface cleaners	100%	100.0 Points
Glass cleaners	100%	100.0 Points
Detergents	100%	100.0 Points
Personal hygiene	100%	100.0 Points
	<b>Overall Rating:</b>	<b>100.0 Points</b>

## 8. Pesticides

### Pesticide Products Rating (Points) ★



Pesticide Products Rating (Points) for the year 2010 - 2011 (1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011) was 100.0 Points, which was 20.0 Points better than the Best Practice level.

Pesticide Products Measures	Frequency / Percentage Rating	Pesticide Products Rating (Points)
Weed killers	100%	100.0 Points
Fungal killers	100%	100.0 Points
Rodent killers	100%	100.0 Points
Insect killers	100%	100.0 Points
	<b>Overall Rating:</b>	<b>100.0 Points</b>

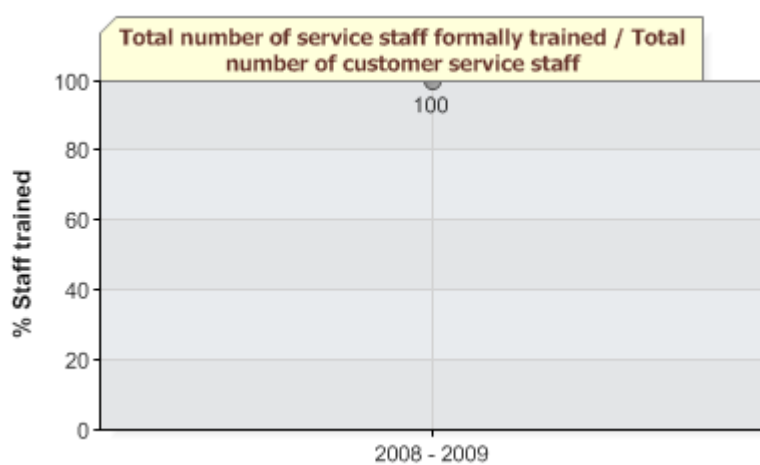
## OPTIONAL BENCHMARKING INDICATORS

**The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** has also nominated 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**

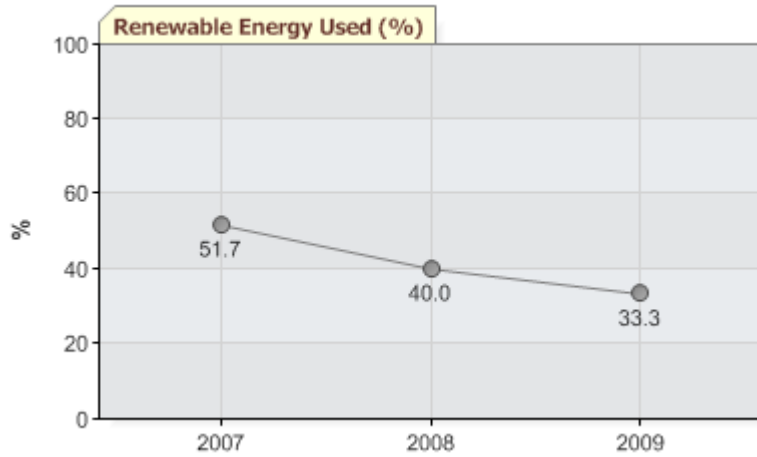


# HISTORIC BENCHMARKING INDICATORS

## 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 **The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** in the prescribed manner, authorised by a senior executive of the company and submitted for an annual assessment.*

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Congratulations, **The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** has passed the requirements to be recognised as an EarthCheck Benchmarked Accommodation - Business 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), Potable Water Consumption, 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.

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 **The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** 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 **The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** to continue to meet the benchmarking requirements of the EarthCheck program.

## APPENDIX

### BENCHMARKING POLICY

**A member benchmarking for the 4th time (and subsequent assessments) is not permitted to fail any EarthCheck™ indicators (excluding supplementary EarthCheck™ indicators).**

### GREEN POWER

The Benchmarking Assessors sought clarification regarding *Green Power* as the submitted figure of 60.4% was greater than expected. **The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** advised:

*"Please find below the details of power consumption during the benchmarking period.*

	<b>APSEB</b>	<b>HYDEL</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Apr-10</b>	94,810	71,761	166,571
<b>May-10</b>	146,060	12,604	158,664
<b>Jun-10</b>	187,180	-	187,180
<b>Jul-10</b>	168,328	-	168,328
<b>Aug-10</b>	77,805	98,499	176,304
<b>Sep-10</b>	23,767	151,649	175,416
<b>Oct-10</b>	8,000	156,248	164,248
<b>Nov-10</b>	20,748	141,192	161,940
<b>Dec-10</b>	10,279	136,709	146,988
<b>Jan-11</b>	10,000	129316	139,316
<b>Feb-11</b>	10,000	147,996	157,996
<b>Mar-11</b>	11,676	123,748	135,424
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>768,653</b>	<b>1,169,722</b>	<b>1,938,375</b>

*Total Hydel Power is 1169722 out of total power consumption which is 1938375.*

*This is working out to be 60.35% and the same was mentioned in the benchmarking data.*

*For providing you better clarity on the Green power. Please find the details below:*

- 1. APSEB is Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board which supplies power to all the consumers.*
- 2. All values mentioned are in KWh.*
- 3. Hydel Power is supplied by Thirumala Hydel Power Projects Pvt Ltd.*
- 4. Total Hydel Power consumed is 1169722 KWh and other sources (non-green) of power consumption is 768653 KWh.*
- 5. Total power consumption is 1938375 KWh*

*Thus we confirm the value 60.35% of green power (hydel) is correct."*

As **The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** does not have a specific *Green Power* agreement in place the Benchmarking Assessors have updated the figure for *Green Power* to 0%. Please see below for an explanation regarding *Green Power*.

The Green Power figure is calculated through a Green Power agreement with the energy supplier. The value for Green Power is not calculated by the amount of renewable energy sources used by the energy supplier. Green Power is the additional renewable energy used as per the green power agreement with the energy supplier.

Green Power is the percentage (%) of total purchased electricity over the 12 month benchmarking period that is sourced through a "Green Power" agreement.

A "Green Power" agreement is where the supplier guarantees to provide a percentage of the site's purchased electricity with electricity generated from renewable energy sources (e.g. Wind, Solar or Hydro)

If your organisation does not have a "Green Power" agreement this question is not applicable. If however, **The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** does have a *Green Power* in place with its energy providers please communicate this with the Benchmarking Assessors who will update the assessment report accordingly.

### WASTE SENT TO LANDFILL

The submitted value of 33 801 kg of waste (specified by the operator as compacted waste) has been converted into a volume by using the standard conversion of: 1 kg (compacted waste) = 0.00153846 m<sup>3</sup> or 1.53846 L (i.e. 33 801 kg x 0.00153846 = 52 m<sup>3</sup> or 52 001.5 L). (If the waste is uncompacted, then the standard conversion is: 1 kg = 0.00333333 m<sup>3</sup> or 3.33333 L).

This equates to 0.7 L per Guest Night.

### COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

During clarification it was identified by **The Gateway Hotel, Vijayawada** that the initially submitted figure of 100% was incorrect. The following was advised:

*"One minor change in the data, community contribution is mentioned as 100% but it is actually 98%."*

Therefore the Benchmarking Assessors have updated the *Community Commitment* indicator as below:

Initial Rating 100%  
**Revised Rating 98%**

### BENCHMARK REVIEW

As standard policy, all EarthCheck indicators are reviewed annually, along with the performance levels which operators have to achieve in order to meet the benchmarking requirements. 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.

The Benchmark Review was undertaken in August 2011. The following benchmarks were revised as part of the review:

*India Business Hotel:*

Energy Consumption

- Previous Baseline Level: 480 MJ per Guest Night

- Previous Best Practice Level: 336 MJ per Guest Night
- **Revised Baseline Level: 335 MJ per Guest Night**
- **Revised Best Practice Level: 234 MJ per Guest Night**

#### Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2)

- Previous Baseline Level: 39.6 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e per Guest Night
- Previous Best Practice Level: 27.7 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e per Guest Night
- **Revised Baseline Level: 58.8 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e per Guest Night**
- **Revised Best Practice Level: 41.1 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e per Guest Night**

#### Potable Water Consumption

- Previous Baseline Level: 900 L per Guest Night
- Previous Best Practice Level: 630 L per Guest Night
- **Revised Baseline Level: 1033 L per Guest Night**
- **Revised Best Practice Level: 723 L per Guest Night**

#### Waste Sent to Landfill

- Previous Baseline Level: 4 L per Guest Night
- Previous Best Practice Level: 2.8 L per Guest Night
- **Revised Baseline Level: 2.6 L per Guest Night**
- **Revised Best Practice Level: 1.8 L per Guest Night**



EARTHCHECK

**Benchmarks Assessed by EarthCheck**

# SUMMARY OF SUPPLIED BENCHMARKING DATA

## Activity Measures

Guest Nights	75259
Area Under Roof	144291

## Supplied Benchmarking Data

### Energy

#### Energy Consumption (MJ / Guest Night)

Supplied	12355503.9 MJ
Calculated	164.2 MJ / Guest Night
Baseline	335 MJ / Guest Night
Best Practice	234 MJ / Guest Night
Difference	29.8% better than the Best Practice level

#### Green Power (%)

Supplied	0%
Calculated	0%

#### Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) (kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night)

Supplied	2237654.7 kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e
Calculated	29.7 kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Guest Night
Baseline	58.8 kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Guest Night
Best Practice	41.1 kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Guest Night
Difference	27.7% better than the Best Practice level.

#### Direct Emissions (Scope 1) (kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night)

Supplied	396404.5 kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e
Calculated	5.3 kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Guest Night

#### Indirect Emissions (Scope 2) (kg CO<sub>2</sub>-e / Guest Night)

Supplied	1841250.2 kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e
Calculated	24.5 kg CO <sub>2</sub> -e / Guest Night

### Water

#### Potable Water Consumption (L / Guest Night)

Supplied	38682000.0 L
Calculated	514.0 L / Guest Night
Baseline	1033 L / Guest Night
Best Practice	723 L / Guest Night
Difference	28.9% better than the Best Practice level

### Recycled / Captured Water (%)

Supplied	0%
Calculated	0%

### Water Savings Rating (Points)

Supplied	87.6 Points
Calculated	87.6 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	7.6 Points better than the Best Practice level

### Waste

#### Waste Sent to Landfill (L / Guest Night)

Supplied	52001.5 L
Calculated	0.7 L / Guest Night
Baseline	2.6 L / Guest Night
Best Practice	1.8 L / Guest Night
Difference	61.1% better than the Best Practice level

#### Recycled / Reused / Composted Waste (%)

Supplied	52.0%
Calculated	52.0%

#### Waste Recycling Rating (Points)

Supplied	51.8 Points
Calculated	51.8 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	1.8 Points better than the Baseline level

### Community

#### Community Commitment (%)

Supplied	100%
Calculated	98%
Baseline	60 %
Best Practice	100 %
Difference	38% better than the Baseline level.

---

## **Community Contributions Rating (Points)**

Supplied	86.9 Points
Calculated	86.9 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	6.9 Points better than the Best Practice level

## **Paper**

### **Paper Products Rating (Points)**

Supplied	100.0 Points
Calculated	100.0 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	20.0 Points better than the Best Practice level

## **Cleaning**

### **Cleaning Products Rating (Points)**

Supplied	100.0 Points
Calculated	100.0 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	20.0 Points better than the Best Practice level

## **Pesticides**

### **Pesticide Products Rating (Points)**

Supplied	100.0 Points
Calculated	100.0 Points
Baseline	50 Points
Best Practice	80 Points
Difference	20.0 Points better than the Best Practice level

## 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 (m<sup>3</sup>) or litres (L)). These are: 1 kg (uncompacted waste) = 0.00333333 m<sup>3</sup> or 3.33333 L and 1 kg (compacted waste) = 0.00153846 m<sup>3</sup> 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).