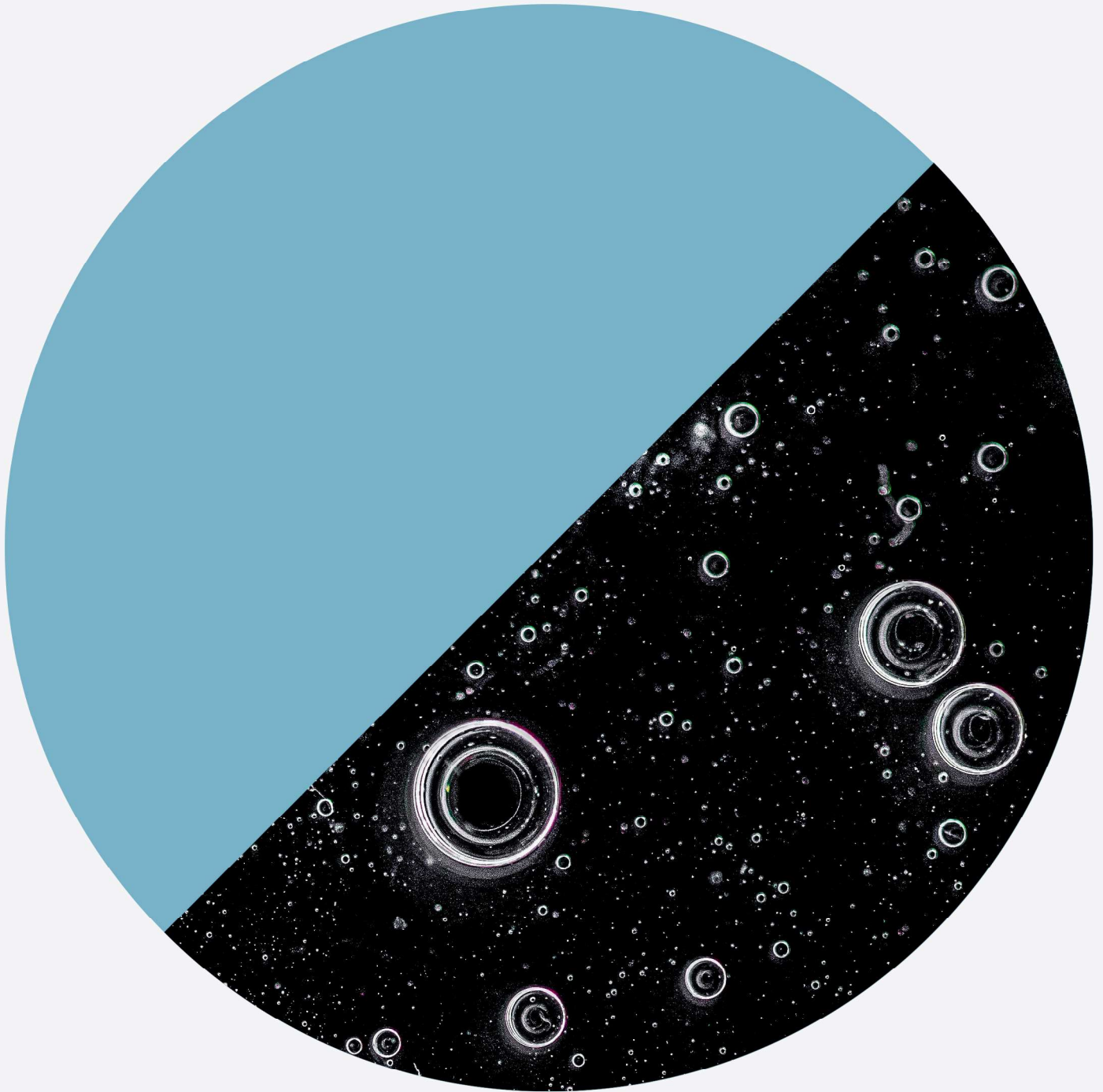


Part 1: Royal Dutch Shell GHG emissions

October 2021



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In-Depth, Timely, Company-level Analysis

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Shu Ling Liauw, Lead Analyst | **Rohan Bowater**, Analyst
Marina Lou, Climate communications | **Dimitri Lafleur**, Carbon Analyst

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Initiation of coverage: Royal Dutch Shell (RDS)

Part 1: Royal Dutch Shell GHG emissions

“**Part 1: Royal Dutch Shell GHG emissions**” is the first of a two-part report on Royal Dutch Shell’s climate transition strategy. In this report we take RDS’ own climate transition targets and aspirations for market share in key fuels and forecast what this could deliver in terms of absolute emission reduction from now until FY50.

We do not take a view on the price of commodities, or short-term demand and supply changes. We look at the long-term technology trends that are necessary to achieve the 1.5°C ambition under the Paris Agreement. We reference key scenarios that provide a good indication of sectoral outlook including IEA NZE, the IPCC 1.5°C Special Report and Sixth Assessment.

In assessing RDS’ potential energy and GHG emissions forecasts we use a FY19 baseline to account for the impacts of COVID-19 in FY20. However, the path to rebound from COVID-19 is unlikely to be linear.

Our analysis shows a potential path that RDS’ GHG emissions profile may take based on RDS’ own statement. We believe investors need to understand the true GHG emissions profile of stocks to make informed decisions on how they allocate funds to meet their climate goals.

In section 1.2.3 we list the actions RDS is taking to achieve its climate transition strategy “Powering Progress”. This is a list of eight items, the only material drivers to achieve its climate transition targets.

In our second report, “**Part 2: Royal Dutch Shell in a decarbonised economy**”, we assess how RDS is currently positioned in terms of financial capacity and business segments to thrive and grow in a zero emissions economy.

1. Royal Dutch Shell (RDS) Group

1.1 Historical greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile

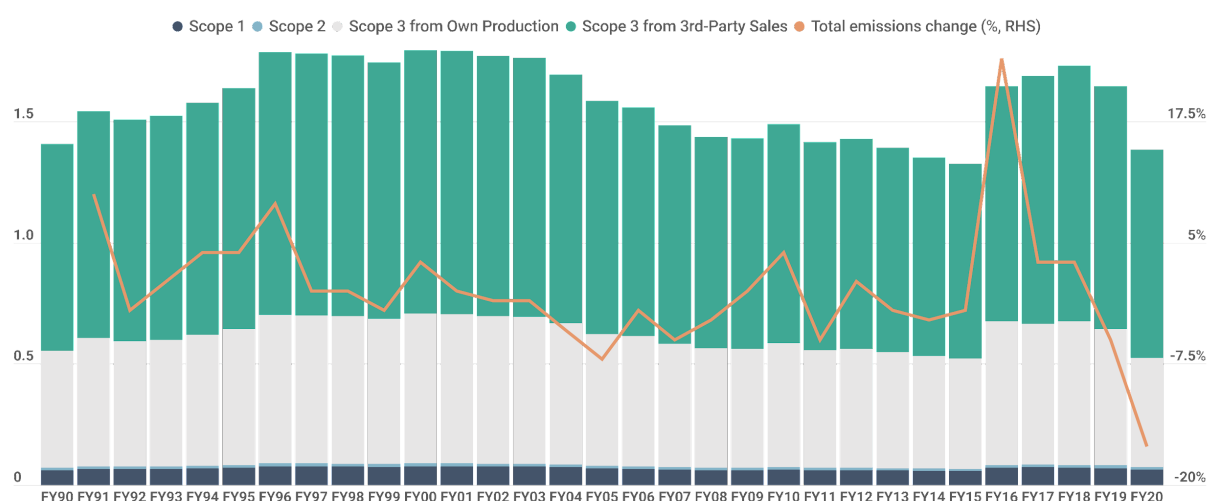
Annual emissions

To form a view on RDS' current climate strategy, we estimated RDS' historical 30-year emissions profile by incorporating data from RDS and the Carbon Accountability Institute. Using assumptions based on RDS' recent disclosures (FY16 to FY20), we have estimated the contribution of 3rd-Party Products, RDS' historical product mix, and fuel carbon intensities.

Based on this analysis, in the last 30 years (FY1990 to FY2020), RDS' emissions have ranged from ~1.4 Gt to 1.8 Gt CO₂e p.a. This includes direct emissions from its own operations (Scope 1), indirect emissions from purchased energy (Scope 2), and other indirect emissions from the value chain and end use (Scope 3, Own Production and 3rd-Party Products). RDS excludes Scope 3 emissions from non-energy products such as chemicals, lubricants and trading. In FY20, Scope 3 GHG emissions comprised ~95% of the total 1,376 Mt CO₂e reported.

RDS expects its total annual emissions to have peaked in FY18 at 1.7 Gt CO₂e p.a. In our analysis RDS' annual GHG emissions may have been even higher in FY2000 at ~1.8 Gt CO₂e. Our analysis indicates that since FY2001, annual emissions declined 26% to reach 1.3 Gt CO₂e in FY15, before increasing 24% by FY16 to ~1.6 Gt CO₂e. This was driven by production growth with the acquisition of BG Group (increasing oil and gas production by ~25%).¹

Chart: RDS GHG emissions (Gt CO₂e) FY1990 - FY2020, Scopes 1, 2 and 3 energy products



Source: Company data, Carbon Accountability Institute estimates of RDS' historical GHG emissions, Global Climate Insights estimates

¹ RDS (2016) [Q42016 Quarterly Results announcement](#).

Cumulative GHG emissions

Emissions are largely discussed on an annual basis - influenced by reporting protocols, disclosures, and alignment with financial statement analysis. While it is useful to understand year on year emissions performance, CO₂ remains in the atmosphere for centuries.² It is the “stock” of emissions, not the “flow”, that really matters for climate outcomes.

Global cumulative emissions between 1750-2020 are estimated to be 3,864 Gt CO₂e³. As of FY19, RDS has cumulatively produced an estimated 116.5 Gt CO₂e in emissions (FY1892 to FY2019). **RDS' historical cumulative emissions have contributed to 3% of total GHG emissions.** The company has had a sizable impact on the committed level of human-induced warming that has caused irreversible changes to the climate - the cost of which has yet to be fully reflected on its balance sheet or earnings.

Net zero in a particular year (or in 2050) alone will not ensure a safe climate. The pathway to reduce reliance on fossil fuels now, in preparation of growth opportunities in a zero emissions economy, should be the priority. Corporate boards should manage this risk in line with established risk management frameworks and escalation mechanisms. Every percentage reduction in absolute emissions made today will drive proportionately larger reductions in cumulative emissions.

Scientists estimate the remaining carbon budget, to stay on course for a 1.5°C warming of our climate, is around 620.4 Gt CO₂e.⁴ In the absence of absolute emissions reduction targets from RDS, we review four scenarios to understand how annual emissions may impact its cumulative impact. We found that under Scenario 1, if RDS maintains its FY19 emissions until FY50, it would produce cumulative emissions of 48.96 Gt CO₂e, 7.9% of the remaining global carbon budget. If RDS were to reduce emissions from FY21 by 5% p.a, its footprint would almost halve to ~25.6 Gt CO₂e, 4.1% of the remaining carbon budget. If a 5% p.a reduction was delayed by 10 years, its footprint would be ~35 Gt, 5.7% of the remaining carbon budget.

For the fourth scenario, we look at how RDS' current strategy - including portfolio mix, market share and carbon intensity targets - may translate into absolute emissions.

Although our analysis is formed using a number of assumptions (detailed in section 1.3 below), we estimate that under its current decarbonisation strategy, RDS will not reduce annual absolute emissions (pre-Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage - CCUS/offsets) until FY30. Furthermore, we

² NASA (2019) [The Atmosphere: Getting a Handle on Carbon Dioxide](#).

³ The historical cumulative CO₂e carbon budget is calculated by Global Climate Insights using the 1750-2019 historical greenhouse emission data (Nicholls, Z.R.J, et al., 2020, <https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-13-5175-2020>) and 100-year Global Warming Potentials for greenhouse gases. See explanatory note under section 4.3 Definitions; *Historical Cumulative carbon budget (CO₂e)*

⁴ The remaining CO₂e carbon budget to stay below 1.5C global warming with a 83% likelihood is calculated using the relationship between cumulative CO₂ emissions and cumulative greenhouse gases based on the scenarios from IPCC (2018): Global Warming of 1.5°C, <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>. See explanatory note under section 4.3 Definitions; *Remaining carbon budget (CO₂e)*.

estimate that RDS will produce a cumulative footprint of ~53.3 Gt CO₂e by FY50, 8.6% of the global carbon budget and the highest of all scenarios.

Table: RDS' cumulative emissions scenarios

	1. No action	2. Linear decline (5% p.a decline)	3. Delayed action (5% p.a decline from FY30)	4. Current strategy (est. absolute emissions)
Cumulative absolute emissions (FY21-FY50)	48,960 Mt	25,634 Mt	35,136 Mt	53,331 Mt
Absolute annual emissions in FY50	1,632 Mt	367 Mt	556 Mt	1,765 Mt
Highest absolute emissions (FY21-FY50)	1,632 Mt (FY21)	1,632 Mt (FY21)	1,632 Mt (FY21)	1,857 Mt (FY30)
% change to No Action scenario (cumulative emissions)	-	-48%	-28%	+9%
Cumulative emissions/remaining global carbon budget	7.9%	4.1%	5.7%	8.6%

Source: Company data, IPCC 6th assessment report, Global Climate Insights estimates.

Emission materiality FY20

In FY20, RDS' total emissions were 1,384 Mt CO₂e, which declined by 16% from FY19 largely due to impacts from COVID-19 (oil and gas production declined 8%, LNG sales declined 6%). Scope 1 and 2 emissions were 72 Mt CO₂e, a decrease from 80 Mt CO₂e in FY19. These changes were largely driven by reduced capacity and divestments.

Included in Scope 1 were emissions from methane (CH₄), contributing 67,000 tonnes (1.9 Mt CO₂e)⁵, a decline of 27% from FY19. We believe that there is a high degree of uncertainty around this data. Research suggests that methane emissions in various geological basins are higher than estimated by oil and gas companies and regulators, in particular in shale gas developments.⁶ RDS should move away from using emission factors⁷ for methane measurement and adopt more rigorous emission monitoring and verification systems.

⁵ Based on the RDS estimate using IPCC's fifth assessment of global warming potential.

⁶ Brandt, A. R., et al. (2014) <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1247045>; Peischl, J., et al (2016) <https://doi.org/10.1002/2014JD022697>; Hausmann, P. et al (2016) <https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-16-3227-2016>;

⁷ Henne, et al. (2016) <https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-16-3683-2016> ; Luhar, et al. (2020) <https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-20-15487-2020>.

Management of methane emissions is gaining increasing global focus, with the European Union and the United States expected to shortly announce a target to reduce methane by one-third by 2030.⁸

To successfully decarbonise, all companies must focus on maximising the reduction of absolute emissions today. Reduction in Scope 3 emissions (1,312 Mt CO₂e) and methane emissions will be most material. Minimising methane emissions is particularly important, given that methane is a short-lived greenhouse gas with potent warming potential. Methane's warming impact is 28-34 times more powerful than carbon dioxide over a 100-year period, but 84-87 times more powerful than carbon dioxide over a 20-year period.⁹ By drastically reducing its methane emissions, RDS can contribute to near-term slowing of temperature increase.

Our view on divestment

To address Scope 3 emissions, key decarbonisation actions include reducing production (working with end users to substitute feedstocks and fuels), improving efficiency, or divestment of carbon intensive businesses.

We do not see divestment as a GHG emission reduction strategy in itself. We believe divestments should only represent a small percentage of a company's GHG emission footprint reduction. Sale agreements for oil and gas assets should consider wind-down and incorporate provisions for remediation, with companies providing warranties over the adequacy of these provisions. We note that current transactions do not include these obligations for sellers. Further work needs to be done on the criteria that should be included as part of a divestment strategy that materially results in emissions reduction in alignment with the Paris Agreement. We note that RDS recently announced the sale of its assets in the Permian Basin. We will assess the impact on emissions forecast post-completion in 4Q21.

⁸Reuters (2021) US, [EU pursuing global deal to slash planet-warming methane](#).

⁹ US EPA (2020) [Understanding Global Warming Potentials](#).

1.2 Climate transition strategy

1.2.1 RDS' strategy

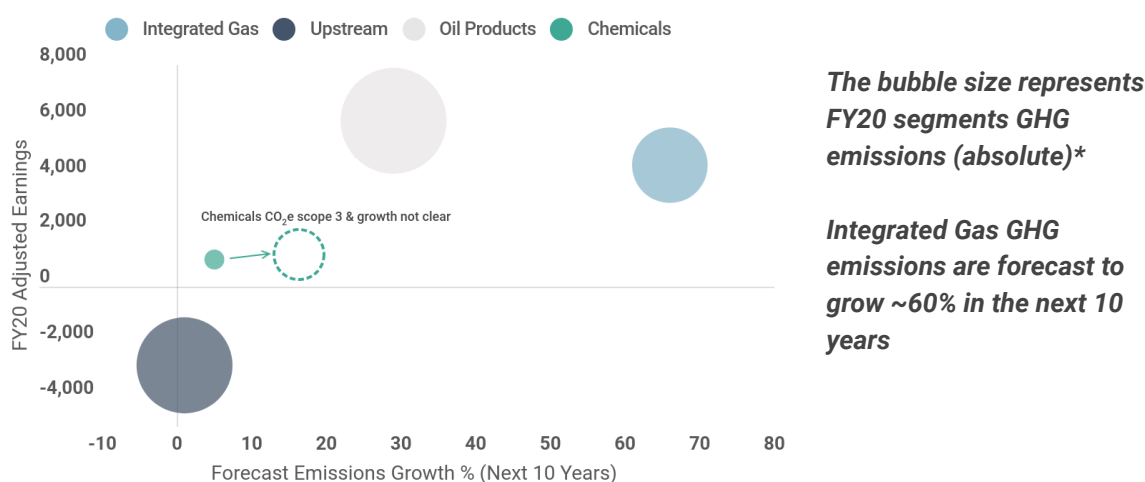
Historically, Oil and Gas companies have provided investors with exposure to the oil price and global growth (including that from developing economies). The key risks to returns have traditionally come from oil price volatility, with exposure to geopolitical factors (mostly supply), economic shocks (demand, e.g. COVID-19), and poor safety and environmental management. Extracting maximum resources for the lowest cost has underpinned business models, thus cash generation is strong when the oil price is high. Over the last 5 years, ROE (a reflection of the capital intensity) has ranged from -12.1% to 10.6%, gearing between 23% to 43%, and dividend yields of 4.6% to 8.6%.

In order to exist in a decarbonising world, some Oil and Gas companies are seeking to broaden their focus and adopt a portfolio approach as integrated energy companies. The aspiration here is to be fuel agnostic, delivering the energy in demand at the time needed from a diversified portfolio of alternatives.

The chart below shows RDS' current segments: Upstream, Integrated Gas, Oil Products and Chemicals. We plot the FY20 Adjusted Earnings against our forecast emissions growth in the next 10 years. The bubble size represents FY20 GHG emissions Scope 1-3 (with illustrative Scope 3 for Chemicals), and we assume Oil Products emissions include all oil and gas sold by third-parties.

On our forecasts for emissions growth, GHG emissions from Integrated Gas are expected to grow ~66% in the next 10 years. Although accurate forecasts for Chemicals GHG emissions are unavailable, we believe that of RDS' existing segments, Upstream will be the only one that does not have a growing emissions profile. This is due to a decline in oil production.

Chart: RDS segments, FY20 Adjusted Earnings and GHG emissions (bubble size) vs 10 year emission growth outlook






Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates. * Chemicals GHG emissions illustrative only.

How is RDS' business model positioned?

To align with decarbonisation, RDS has announced a business model that is focused on three material drivers - LNG, hydrogen, and leveraging its large distribution network. In our view, these are the activities that will have the most impact on its future product mix.

Of RDS' key strategies, only one (distribution) is not highly reliant on post-emissions compensation with CCUS and/or carbon offsets, creating a risk that RDS' strategy will not result in absolute emission reductions.

Table: RDS' decarbonisation strategy

Strategy	RDS aspirations
LNG	
 Carbon Offsets	<p>RDS is the largest seller of LNG globally with 20% of the global market share. RDS has aspirations to grow its LNG capacity by 4% p.a until 2025, with transportation for “carbon neutral LNG” (LNG sold with carbon offsets).</p> <p>RDS is seeking to grow gas production to 55% of fossil fuel production by FY30, equivalent to ~4% Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) from 2019. RDS will invest \$4bn p.a in Integrated Gas, broadly in line with prior years.</p>
Hydrogen	
 CCUS	<p>RDS is targeting a double-digit share of “clean” (gas with CCUS and renewable) hydrogen by FY30. Its gas-based production of hydrogen will be reliant on large amounts of CCUS. By FY35, production is projected to reach 9 Mt, yielding 56 Mt of CO₂.</p> <p>Assuming 85-95% CCUS capture efficiency is achieved by FY35, RDS would need to sequester 48-54 Mt of CO₂. This is double the 25 Mt p.a. provided in RDS' ambitions.</p>
Distribution	
 None	<p>RDS' distribution business sits within its Oil Products - Marketing segment. It plans to expand the distribution footprint of its retail outlets and convenience stores. It plans to focus on increasing power delivered to customers via increased electric vehicle (EV) charge points, growing to 0.5m by FY25 and 2.5m by FY30.</p> <p>The carbon content of the power delivered will be reliant on the fuel mix of local electricity supply, unless RDS commits to sourcing renewable energy exclusively. RDS will continue to focus on its premium fuels and lubricants. RDS is aiming for capex in Marketing of \$3m p.a.</p>

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

How does RDS' strategy compare to BP?

The table below summarises the key points of differentiation in RDS' business model transformation compared to BP. Underlying each part of its strategy are material assumptions about technology, demand, margins, and impact on emission reduction. Understanding which are most material to RDS will assist us in assessing its business transformation strategy.

Table: RDS' decarbonisation strategy compared to BP

More reliance	Less reliance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LNG liquefaction and gas. • Retail distribution and artificial intelligence. • Large and explicit use of CCUS and carbon offsets. • Chemicals sector exposure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of renewable energy generation. • Material reductions in the production of oil. However, RDS has stated it expects no new exploration for fields post-FY25 and oil production to decline 1-2% p.a from its 2019 peak.

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

Our view

We believe RDS' plans to leverage its global network as an integrated energy provider, across wholesale and retail outlets, are an appropriate response to decarbonisation. However, we are concerned that its focus on LNG as a growth driver in a decarbonising economy may be misplaced. Both LNG and gas-based production of hydrogen have little ability to reduce absolute emissions. With growing global energy demand, a focus on these fuels may negate any progress RDS can make in reducing absolute emissions in the next 10-20 years. RDS may better use the associated capital and operational expenditures to build out non-fossil fuels and invest in smart technology for distribution.

The majority of growth in production and sales appears to be driven by expansion of LNG and gas-based production of hydrogen. We therefore see a risk that the growth outlined in RDS' transition strategy is still materially driven by fuels that will increase emissions, producing a growth strategy that does not truly align with a decarbonising world. The task to reduce absolute emissions will be left to the scaling up of renewable hydrogen (0.4% of RDS FY20 hydrogen), and how effectively RDS' distribution business can deliver renewable electricity to its customers, thereby displacing fossil fuels. Our question is whether renewable hydrogen and distribution are receiving the level of investment and focus required for RDS' decarbonisation to succeed.

In section 1.6 we look at the issues with post-emissions compensation, on which RDS is highly reliant in order to continue production of gas and its legacy assets.

1.2.2 Emissions reduction targets

What emissions does the company disclose?

A key challenge for investors is to compare company GHG emission footprints and targets on a like for like basis. Within its footprint, RDS includes Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions for its energy business, and excludes Scope 3 emissions from chemicals, lubricants and trading activities. While further information is required from RDS to quantify the gap, we believe GHG emissions from chemicals and lubricants will form a material component on GHG emissions, particularly given the energy intensity of chemical production and end of use products (including incineration).

Table: RDS GHG emissions disclosed

Emissions type	FY20 Mt CO ₂ e
Scope 1	63
Scope 2 (operational, market-based)	9
Scope 3	1,304
Total emissions included in RDS targets	1,376
Methane emissions (Scope 1)	1.9
Emissions excluded from targets:	
Scope 3 for non-energy business	Not disclosed
Emissions from trading activities	Not disclosed. We see a risk from exclusion of trading and physically settled derivatives to customers.

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

What are the company's emission reduction targets?

The table below summarises RDS' emission reduction targets from FY25, which are primarily based on carbon intensity. From an FY16 baseline, the company is targeting a 20% reduction in carbon intensity by FY30, 45% by FY35, and 100% by FY50. RDS does not have any targets for absolute emissions, but has a "net" zero 2050 GHG emission target.

RDS' carbon intensity targets are based on its FY16 carbon intensity of 79 g CO₂e/ MJ. As at FY20, carbon intensity had reduced 5% to 75 g CO₂e/ MJ, although 4% of this decline occurred in the last year and was likely influenced by COVID-19.

RDS is already operating within its stated methane intensity target of <0.2% (as percentage of sales), raising questions regarding methane measurements. RDS could reduce uncertainty around its

reported methane emissions given that proven technology to quantify emissions around operations already exists.

RDS' targets for FY35 and FY50 rely on "mitigation actions by customers such as carbon capture and storage and nature-based offsets"¹⁰ in addition to its own use of CCUS and carbon offsets. Given the material reduction in RDS' carbon intensity targets between FY30 and FY35 (an additional 25% expected over the five years), RDS will likely rely on customer mitigation to achieve its target.

Table: RDS' emissions reduction targets

Aim	Targets	Target type	FY25	FY30	FY35	FY50
1	Scope 1, 2, and 3 (energy business only)	Carbon intensity reduction on FY16	-	20%	45%*	100%*
2	Scope 1, 2, and 3 (energy business only)	Net Zero (absolute emissions less CCUS and carbon offsets)	-	-	-	zero
3	Methane	Methane intensity	<0.20%	-	-	-

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates. * RDS appears to be relying on customer mitigation to achieve its FY35 and FY50 targets.

Does the company have a target to reduce absolute emissions in the next 10 years?

No. While RDS has stated that it expects absolute emissions to have peaked in FY18 at 1.7 Gt CO₂e p.a, it has not made any commitment that absolute emissions will reduce further from FY20 levels in the next 10 years. In addition, our initial forecasts of RDS' GHG emissions profile indicate that due to its plans to increase LNG and hydrogen production, it will be difficult for absolute emissions to be reduced (see section 1.3).

Why does this matter?

Emissions reduction in the next 10 years is critical in keeping warming to 1.5°C. The fundamental requirement of any climate transition strategy must be to reduce absolute emissions in the near term. Management and boards must approach the need to decarbonise with the same level of rigour and urgency as any other business risk or regulatory issue.

Our analysis in section 1.1 indicates that the cumulative impact on emissions from delayed action is material; a 5% annual reduction in RDS' absolute GHG emissions today could save 48% in cumulative emissions by 2050. Delaying this action for 10 years would limit this to 28%. Reduction targets must therefore address all material emissions and go beyond incremental short-term and intensity-based targets.

¹⁰ RDS (2021) [Energy Transition Strategy](#).

What are the strongest aspects of RDS' emissions reduction targets?

RDS has quantified and set targets against Scope 3 emissions from third-party sold energy (largely oil and gas), which represents a material (57%) share of total Scope 3 emissions. We would like to see this extended to non-energy products.

1.2.3 What are the strategies to achieve its FY30 and FY35 targets?

RDS has disclosed some activities it will undertake to reach its FY30 carbon intensity target.

However, it has not quantified the expected impact of these measures. In this section we seek to understand how material each activity may be in reducing its carbon intensity and if there are any activities that may also reduce absolute emissions. **We note that RDS has a more ambitious FY35 target to reduce its carbon intensity by 45%. No material detail has been provided on how this will be achieved.**

Table: RDS commitments to reach its carbon intensity targets

Year	RDS commitments
FY25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 Mt p.a of new LNG new capacity (20% growth on FY20)
FY30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share of gas to increase to 55% of fossil fuel production Produce 8x more low-carbon fuels than FY20 Double-digit share of global clean hydrogen 120 Mt p.a of nature-based carbon offsets Doubling electricity sold from FY20 Delivering >50 million households equivalent renewable power
FY35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 Mt p.a of CCUS

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

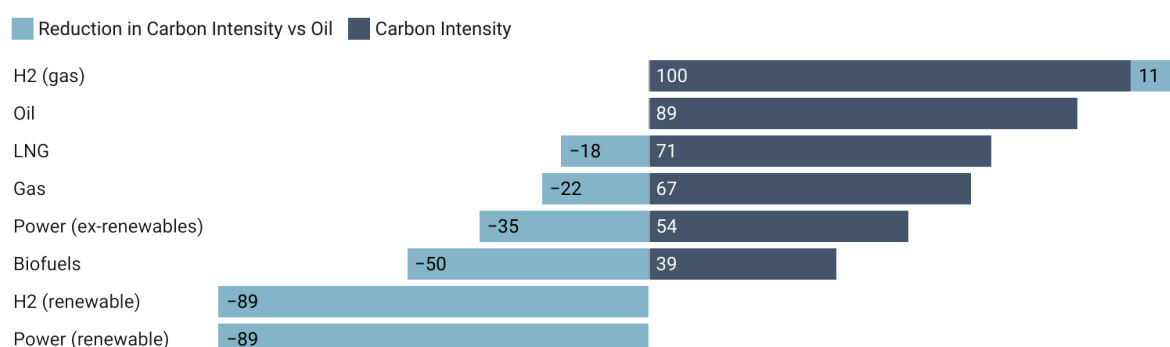
1.3. Emissions forecasts

To understand if RDS can meet its own intensity targets, we have forecast its GHG emission trajectory based on stated production ambitions and strategy. We have used RDS' own transition scenario, Sky 1.5, and data from the International Energy Agency to understand the size of the markets for each fuel type under a 1.5°C scenario. To account for outlier impacts of COVID-19 in FY20, we have used energy delivered in FY19 as a baseline.

1.3.1 Emission intensity by fuel type

The chart below illustrates the carbon intensities we have assumed in our analysis. This remains constant throughout the forecast period of FY21 to FY50. Post-emissions compensation technologies, such as CCUS and carbon offsets, are applied after gross emissions are calculated.

RDS: Emissions Intensity by Fuel type excluding use of CCUS (g CO₂e/MJ)



Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

We have assumed the carbon intensity for hydrogen produced using gas as feedstock is 100 gCO₂e/MJ. This is based on 12 kgCO₂e/kgH₂ using Steam Methane Reforming, which is one of the most common methods of hydrogen production today.¹¹ We note that the amount of gas needed to produce hydrogen can vary and materially impact its carbon intensity.

Carbon intensity for renewable hydrogen and renewables generation is assumed to be zero, although we note that some emissions may be generated from the production of renewable infrastructure (much like existing oil and gas assets). Other carbon intensities for Oil, Gas, LNG, Biofuels and Power (electricity generation ex-renewables) represent RDS' average emissions intensities by fuel between FY16 and FY20.

¹¹ Blank et al (2020) [Hydrogen's Decarbonization Impact for Industry](#).

1.3.2 RDS' energy forecasts by fuel

By FY30, RDS' total energy delivered is forecast to increase 25% on FY19, of which:

1. ~13% driven by: Expanding gas and LNG production to 55% total fossil fuel portfolio (4% implied CAGR), equivalent to 11,118 bcf p.a;
2. ~6% driven by: Doubling power production to 3.8 million GJ (~6 percentage points);
3. ~4% driven by: Producing 8x more "low-carbon" fuels (hydrogen and biofuels). This equates to an additional 3.7 Mt p.a of hydrogen (1.4pp) and 249 million boe of biofuels.

Oil production is forecast to decrease 20% from FY19 (-2% CAGR) to FY30. This compares to the IEA NZE 25% decline for oil consumption and 9% decline in energy consumption.¹²

RDS: Annual energy by fuel type (EJ), FY21 to FY50

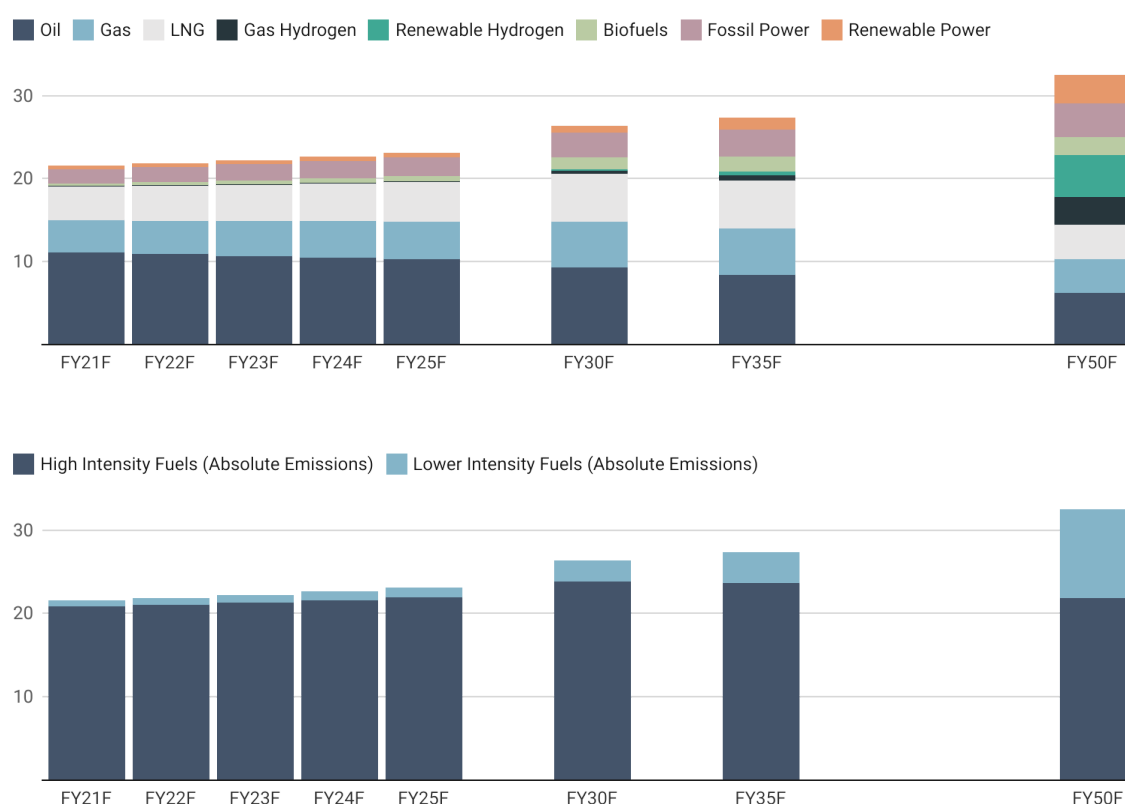


Table: RDS' percentage of annual energy by fuel type

	FY20	FY30	FY50	Trendline
Oil	47%	35%	19%	
Gas	21%	21%	12%	
LNG	19%	22%	13%	
Hydrogen	0%	2%	26%	
Biofuels	1%	6%	7%	
Power	12%	14%	23%	

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

¹² IEA (2021) [Net zero by 2050: A roadmap for the global energy sector](#).

1.3.3 RDS' emission forecasts by fuel

From FY19, RDS' total absolute emissions are forecast to grow 12.43% by FY30, reaching a peak of 1,857 Mt CO₂e. This exceeds the company's stated peak of 1.7 Gt in FY18.

The increase in absolute emissions is driven by RDS' growth aspirations in gas and LNG. Between FY16 and FY30, the additional emissions produced by gas and LNG (238 MtCO₂e) are forecasted to outpace the reduction in emissions produced by oil (-183 MtCO₂e). Furthermore, 'low-carbon' fuels (hydrogen and biofuels) are a major driver of absolute emissions growth between FY19 and FY30, increasing emissions by 76 Mt CO₂e p.a.

Our forecasts indicate that RDS will not be able to achieve the 45% reduction in net emissions required by the Hague District Court Dutch court by FY30, and will instead increase net emissions by 4.4%. We note our forecasts are sensitive to the assumptions for the intensity of gas hydrogen production and RDS' renewable electricity production split. However, assuming half the intensity of gas hydrogen and double the proportion of renewable power delivered, RDS net emissions would reduce 1% from FY16.

RDS: Annual Emissions by fuel type (Mt CO₂e), FY16 to FY50

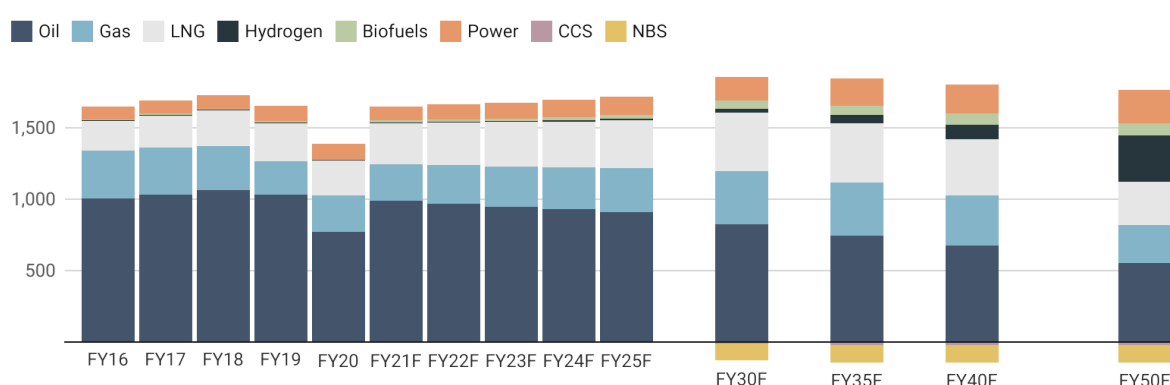


Table: RDS' percentage of annual absolute emissions by fuel type

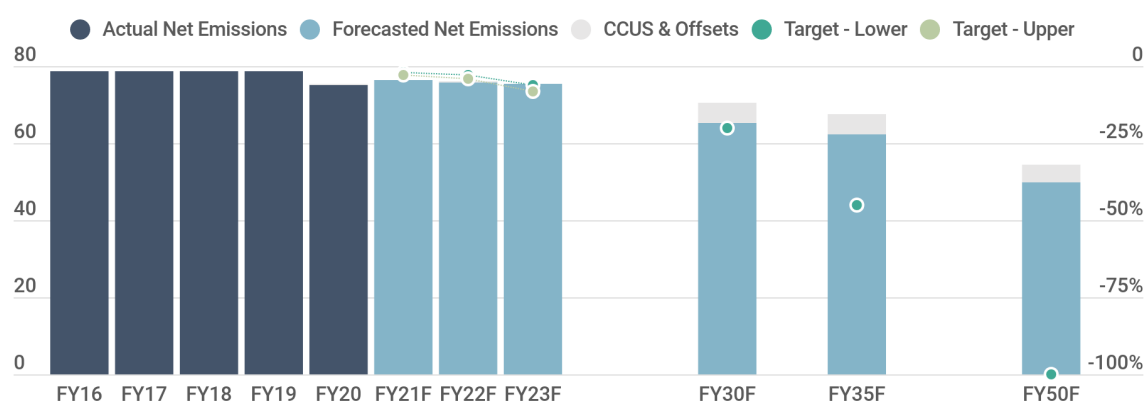
	FY20	FY30	FY50	Trendline
Oil	55%	44%	31%	
Gas	18%	20%	15%	
LNG	18%	22%	17%	
Hydrogen	0%	2%	19%	
Biofuels	1%	3%	5%	
Power	8%	9%	13%	

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

1.4 Can RDS meet its emission reduction targets?

A key question for investors is whether RDS will be able to meet its own carbon intensity targets based on its current strategy. **We forecast RDS will be able to meet its targets in FY21 and FY22 only, and will not achieve its targets from FY23 to FY50.**

Chart: RDS' Net Carbon Intensity forecasts (gCO₂e/MJ) vs reduction targets (%), FY19 to FY30



The table below summarises the forecasted carbon intensity of RDS products compared to its target, as well as the resulting absolute emissions.

Table: RDS' forecast emissions reduction targets (includes CCUS and carbon offsets)

Target type	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY30	FY35	FY50
RDS' target carbon intensity reduction on FY16	2-3%	3-4%	6-8%	20%	45%*	100%*
Carbon intensity forecast	76.4	75.9	75.3	65.4	62.2	49.8
Change on FY16 (%)	-3%	-4%	-4%	-17%	-21%	-37%
Achieve target?	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Reduction from CCUS and carbon offsets (%)	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.2%	-7%	-8%	-8%
Absolute emissions forecast	1,650	1,662	1,677	1,857	1,843	1,765
Change on FY16 (%)	+0.2%	+1%	+2%	+13%	+12%	+7%
Change on FY19 (%)	-0.2%	+1%	+1%	+12%	+11%	+7%
Net emissions change on FY19 (%)	-0.3%	+0.3%	+1%	+4%	+3%	-2%

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates * RDS appears to be relying on customer mitigation to achieve its FY35 and FY50 targets.

1.4.1 A closer look at RDS' FY30 target

RDS targets a 20% reduction in net carbon intensity between FY16 and FY30, down to 63g CO₂e/MJ. We forecast it will miss this target by ~3 percentage points, or 2.5g CO₂e/MJ. The largest driver of net carbon intensity reductions are 120Mt of nature-based carbon offset (NbS), accounting for -4.5g CO₂e/MJ, just over one-third of the total change. The carbon intensity also benefits from 11Mt of CCUS (-0.4g CO₂e/MJ). The largest driver of the reduction in carbon intensity outside of its post-emission compensation is the increase in renewables (-2.0g CO₂e/MJ), followed by the reduction in oil production (-1.8g CO₂e/MJ), and increase in biofuels (-1.4g CO₂e/MJ).

Chart: RDS FY30 carbon intensity change from FY19 (CO₂e/MJ)

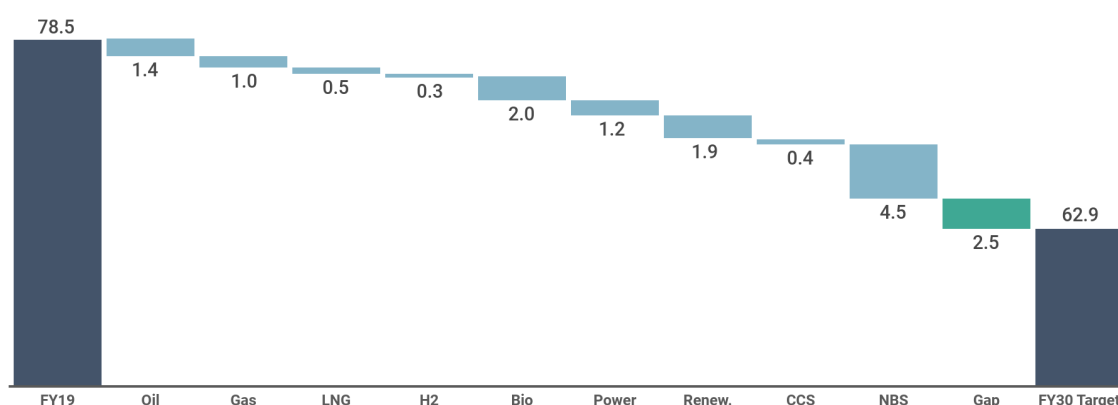
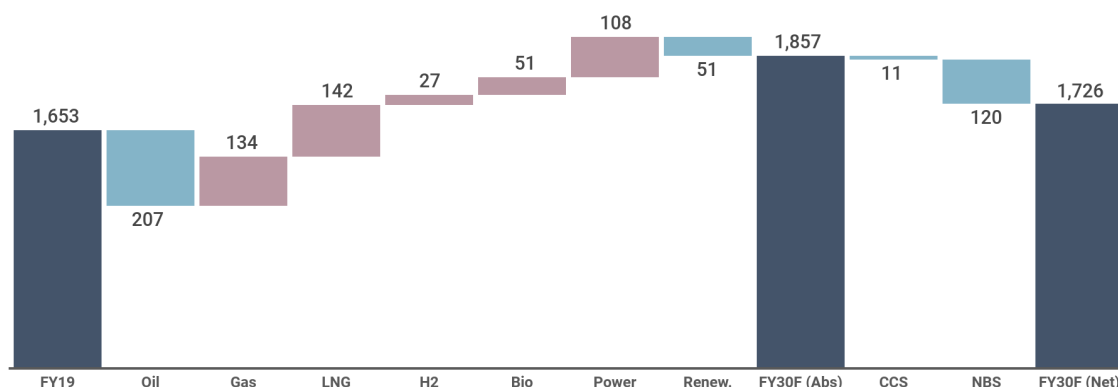


Chart: RDS FY30 absolute and net emission change from FY19



Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

From FY19, absolute emissions are forecast to increase by 204 Mt CO₂e by FY30, 12% (1.1% p.a). Net emissions (post-emissions compensation) are forecast to increase 73 Mt CO₂e, 4.4% (0.4% p.a). Absolute emissions growth is predominantly underpinned by continued expansion in natural gas and LNG production +238 Mt CO₂e, exceeding the decline in oil -183 Mt CO₂e.

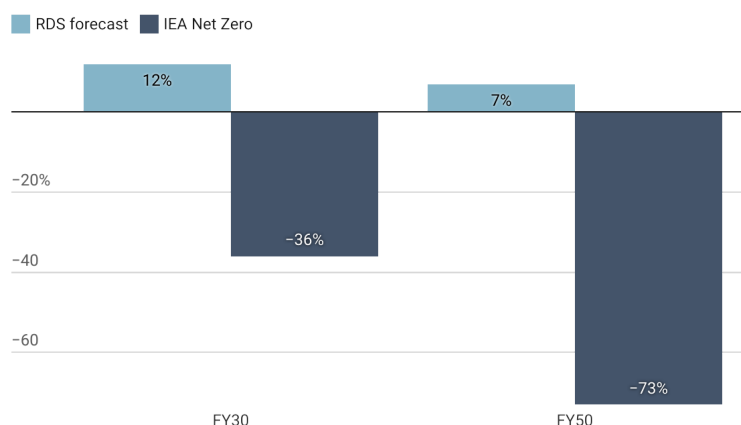
Is RDS' forecast FY30 emissions profile Paris-aligned?

No. Our assessments of whether corporate decarbonisation plans align with the Paris Agreement's ambition to keep warming to 1.5°C are based on:

1. **A minimum expectation:** that company emissions should decrease in proportionate alignment with the global emissions trajectory necessary for a 1.5°C world (with little or no overshoot)
2. **Immediate emissions reduction:** absolute emissions must reduce in the next 10 years in a way that demonstrate ambition and credibility
3. **Growth in a zero emissions economy:** corporate ambition should be to deliver growth within a 1.5°C pathway by incorporating full utilisation of available low-emission fuel sources and technology. For the latter we compare RDS' net emissions path to the IEA NZE and the IPCC 1.5°C scenario (2018)

As we have detailed above, we forecast RDS will not be able to reduce net and absolute emissions between FY19 and FY30. In addition, the gap of its absolute emissions compared to the proportionate decrease illustrated by the IEA NZE and IPCC 1.5°C pathway is significant, at -36%.

Chart: Absolute emissions reduction FY19 to FY30/FY50, forecast for RDS (CO₂e) vs Net Zero Scenario (NZS, CO₂)



Absolute emissions for RDS could greatly exceed that set out in the IEA NZE

By FY50 we forecast RDS absolute emissions to increase by 7%, compared to a 73% decline required in the NZS

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

1.4.2 A closer look at RDS' FY35 target

RDS targets a 45% reduction in net carbon intensity to 43.3g CO₂e/MJ by FY35. **We forecast it will miss this target by ~24 percentage points, or 18.9g CO₂e/MJ, delivering a 21% reduction in net carbon intensity.** This includes an additional 14 Mt (-0.5g CO₂e/MJ) of CCUS from FY30 and no additional carbon offsets. The largest driver of carbon intensity reduction between FY30-35 is the decline in oil (-0.8g CO₂e/MJ), increase in power (-0.7g CO₂e/MJ), and increase in renewables (-0.6g CO₂e/MJ).

To achieve a 45% reduction in net carbon intensity, RDS will need to further reduce its net emissions by over 515 Mt CO₂e/p.a by FY35.

Chart: RDS FY35 carbon intensity change from FY30 (g CO₂e/MJ)

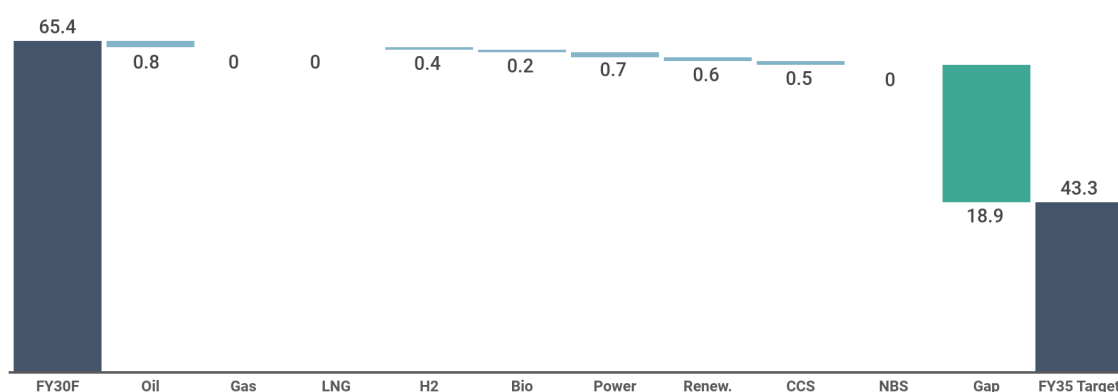
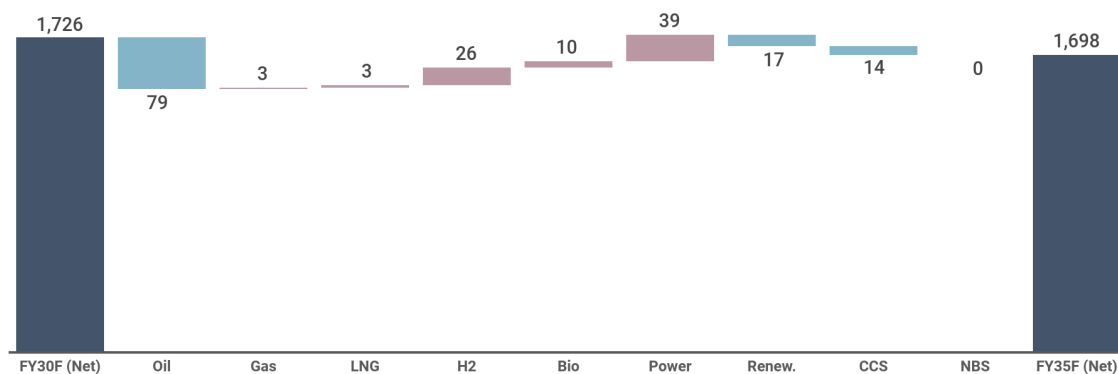


Chart: RDS FY35 net emissions change from FY30 (Mt CO₂e)



Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

1.5 Alternative energy production

1.5.1 Hydrogen

Increasing hydrogen production is a major component of RDS' energy transition strategy. Currently, RDS produces ~0.329 Mt of hydrogen p.a,⁸ of which <0.004% is based on renewable energy. If RDS were to reach its target of double-digit share of global clean hydrogen by FY30 (assume 10%), ~40% of its hydrogen production would need to be renewably sourced to reduce its net carbon intensity. RDS will need to invest significantly in building renewable hydrogen capability to achieve its targets.

Table: RDS Hydrogen overview and assessment

RDS target	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce 8x more low-carbon fuels by FY30 2. Double-digit share of global clean hydrogen by FY30
What does it plan to make?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gas-based hydrogen production with CCUS • Hydrogen production using renewables
Current production	329 kt p.a via Quest ¹³ (Canada) gas-based hydrogen production, linked to an oil sands bitumen upgrader, with CCUS. 1.3 thousand tonnes p.a. renewable hydrogen at REFHYNE, Rheinland refinery (Germany) ¹⁴ . This equates to ~0.2% of current energy sold.
Energy production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY30: 479,840 TJ, (62.5% gas / 37.5% renewable) • FY50: 8,349,216 TJ, (39.3% gas / 60.7% renewable)
Use of CCUS/carbon offsets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY30: 11 Mt p.a. CCUS • FY50: 25 Mt p.a. CCUS (note this is RDS' total target of CCUS)
Estimated carbon intensity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gas-hydrogen (100g CO₂e/MJ used in our forecast) • Renewable hydrogen (0g CO₂e/MJ assumed in our forecasts)
End use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus for RDS: Heating, heavy transport, industry. • Sectors without other lower-emission alternatives: Chemicals, Steel (feedstock/heat).
Risks to decarbonisation	We have used a carbon intensity of gas-based hydrogen production of 100g CO ₂ e/MJ. This exceeds RDS' current oil intensity of 89g CO ₂ e/MJ. There is a risk this may be higher once factoring in fugitive methane emission. Use of CCUS may address half of the carbon intensity but will also increase emissions from the total energy required. ¹⁵
Risks to RDS strategy	RDS has only limited hydrogen production using renewables, which will be essential to reduce its GHG emissions.

¹³ BNEF (2021) Number of hydrogen production projects with CCS by planned commissioning year

¹⁴ Refhyne project (2021) [Project overview](#).

¹⁵ IEA (2019) [Future of hydrogen](#).

1.5.2 Biofuels

RDS plans to produce 8x more low-carbon fuels (biofuels and hydrogen) by FY30. Given its hydrogen market share targets, we forecast biofuels sales will increase from ~9.5 bn litres in FY20 to ~79 bn litres by FY30. The majority of RDS' biofuel production comes from its Raizen joint venture. There are two types of biofuels - ethanol and biodiesel - of which RDS today produces mostly ethanol.

The estimates of carbon intensity of biofuels vary greatly depending on the type of agriculture feedstock and how lifecycle emissions are defined. For some combinations, the carbon intensity may not be significantly lower than oil. In addition, there are large land use implications, where biofuels may indirectly drive the expansion of agriculture into areas of high carbon stock such as rainforest or peatlands,¹⁶ and be in competition for food production.

The two primary uses of biofuels are for transportation (including long-haul) and aviation. However, transportation has alternatives, such as electrification for vehicles and ammonia for shipping. Furthermore, trucks may benefit from electrification and replacement of transport modes (trains). Aviation does not have strong alternatives that are low-carbon; however there are practical barriers, including the amount of feedstock needed, where the volume required for a large jet using 100% biofuel would be the equivalent of 40,000 square metres of palm oil.¹⁷

We estimate the use of biofuels will decrease RDS' FY30 net carbon intensity by 1.4 gCO₂e/MJ.

Table: RDS Biofuels overview and assessment

RDS target	RDS' ambition is to produce 8x more low-carbon fuels (biofuels and hydrogen) by FY30.
What does it plan to make?	<p>RDS has not specified fuel mix; however, it has disclosed a focus on the following fuels¹⁸:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable diesel (from used cooking oil, waste animal fat and other industrial and agricultural residual products, and vegetable oils such as rapeseed)¹⁹ • Sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) • Bioethanol, ethanol produced through fermentation of carbohydrate or sugar crops (corn, wheat, sugar cane). • Renewable compressed natural gas, made from organic waste
Current production	In FY20 RDS sold 9.5 bn litres of biofuels (<1% of total energy sold). This is largely from its 50% Raízen joint venture in Brazil, which produced 2.5 bn litres of ethanol and 4.4 m tonnes of sugar cane.

¹⁶ Centre for International Forestry Research (2011) [A global analysis of deforestation due to biofuel development](#).

¹⁷ Chris Goddall (2020) What we need to do now: for a zero carbon future.

¹⁸ Royal Dutch Shell, [Low carbon fuels](#)

¹⁹ Royal Dutch Shell (2021), [Shell to build one of europe's biggest biofuels facilities](#)

Energy production (FY30 and FY50 forecast)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY30: 1,524,160 TJ FY50: 2,167,052 TJ
Use of CCUS/carbon offsets	None required.
Estimated carbon intensity	We assume 38g CO ₂ e/MJ, in line with RDS carbon intensity. We note this excludes GHG emissions from combustion. Biofuel carbon intensity can range from 16-135.7g CO ₂ e/MJ depending on the fuel type and feedstock. ²⁰
Impact on carbon intensity - FY30	We estimate a decrease in net carbon intensity of 1.4g CO ₂ e/MJ by FY30.
Impact on carbon intensity - FY50	We estimate a decrease in net carbon intensity of 0.7g CO ₂ e/MJ by FY50.
End use	<p>Focus for RDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethanol can be blended for transportation fuel. Biodiesel is a potential alternative to jet fuel (Sustainable Aviation Fuel). As at FY20, this is 3% of the biofuel market.²¹ <p>Sectors without other lower-emission alternatives: Aviation fuel, but there are barriers to biofuel's decarbonisation potential and its ability to fully decarbonise air transport.</p>
Risks to decarbonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethanol and biodiesel are not carbon neutral. They generate emissions from crop cultivation, feedstock processing, transportation, and combustion. RDS' carbon intensity of biofuel is 38g CO₂e/MJ, which excludes emissions from end use. There are significant land use implications depending on the agricultural feedstock.
Risks to RDS strategy	This market is in its early stages of development. RDS needs to determine which biofuel they plan to sell and ensure they have capacity and capability to deliver.

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

²⁰ Global Climate Insight range, based on papers cited in footnote 18 and 19 below.

²¹ BNEF (2021) Global Renewable Fuel Projects Tracker.

1.5.3 Renewables

Renewable power is an essential cornerstone of a decarbonised world, accounting for 88% of electricity in the IEA's NZE by FY50.²² RDS' renewable power ambitions are: 1) doubling electricity sold by FY30, and 2) delivering renewable power to the equivalent of 50 million households by FY30. RDS' targets imply RDS will deliver 3.8 TJ of power per year by FY30 (2.2 TJ FY20, 70% increase), of which ~24% is renewable²³. We forecast this renewable target will contribute to a ~2.5% decrease in the company's net carbon intensity.

Table: RDS renewables overview and assessment

RDS target	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Double electricity sold by FY30. 2. Deliver >50 m households' equivalent renewable power by FY30.
What does it plan to make?	We believe RDS will rely on its own solar and wind generation and that purchased from third-parties.
Current energy delivered	8,623 million MJ p.a
Energy forecasts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY30: 3,789,000 million MJ, (60% fossil / 40% renewable) • FY50: 7,524,843 million MJ, (23% fossil / 77% renewable)
Use of CCUS/offsets	None required.
Estimated carbon intensity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fossil-based power 57g CO₂e/MJ • Renewable power assumes 0g CO₂e/MJ
Forecast impact on carbon intensity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY30: A decrease in net carbon intensity of 2g CO₂e/MJ. • FY50: A decrease in net carbon intensity of 6g CO₂e/MJ
Risks to RDS strategy	RDS has limited expertise in the renewable energy sector. Currently, its own renewable power comprises ~0.4% of its total power delivered. RDS will be relying heavily on third-party contracts, grid renewables, and acquisitions (e.g FY19 ~A\$617m acquisition of Australian energy retailer ERM) to achieve its ambitions.

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

RDS lacks a strong presence and expertise in the renewable energy sector. RDS has a renewable capacity of 8,623 million MJ p.a operational today (see appendix), ~0.4% of its total power sales. **RDS' current and future renewable investments amount to a capacity of 62,387 million MJ per year. This accounts for ~4% of RDS' 2030 renewables target, and the remaining 96% must come from additional investment in renewable projects, acquisitions, and purchased renewable power from third-party producers over the coming decade.**

²² IEA (2021) [Net zero by 2050: A roadmap for the global energy sector](#).

²³ 1 household consumes ~5000 kwh/year. AER (2020) [Residential energy consumption benchmarks](#)

1.6 Post-emission compensation

RDS' primary decarbonisation strategies depend heavily on post-emission compensation technologies such as carbon capture utilisation and storage (CCS and CCUS) and carbon offsets. In this section we review what role these technologies can play and their effectiveness. We do not review carbon credits that may be generated from these technologies which have separate issues that must be considered when assessing the credibility of a decarbonisation strategy.

What should investors care about

In our view, both CCUS and carbon offsets require significant capital in order to compensate for the emissions generated by fossil fuels. Both have limitations in their ability to 'neutralise' emissions in their implementation, and should be viewed as a transition (temporary) tool for hard-to-abate sectors. **In the next ten years, strategic capital allocation in pursuit of building a business model that can thrive in a zero emissions economy will be crucial for RDS' long-term value. Capital expenditure in pursuit of "carbon compensation" should be scrutinised in comparison to proven technologies that reduce emissions today.**

1.6.1 Carbon Capture, and Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCS/CCUS)

Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) is the process of capturing CO₂ from industrial production or the atmosphere for permanent storage, most commonly in underground reservoirs. Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) involves using that carbon in further processes (including enhanced oil recovery). This does not lead to the same reduction of CO₂ in the atmosphere and can enable further CO₂ emissions through ongoing fossil-fuel production. For the purpose of analysis we use the term CCUS to cover both carbon storage and carbon utilisation, as it is often unclear how much CO₂ is permanently stored.

CCUS has the potential to capture emissions at large point sources, including gas production, synthetic fuel plants, fossil-fuel hydrogen plants, power plants, major CO₂ emitting industries (cement and steel), refineries (chemicals and oil) and for biofuels.

CCUS cannot be used to capture all CO₂ emissions. For RDS, it can only address Scope 1 emissions, which is 4-5% of its total emissions inventory. RDS customers might implement CCUS for energy intensive processes as mentioned above; however it is unlikely that all CO₂ emissions will be addressed across RDS' value chain. CO₂ from distributed fossil fuel combustion (transport) and other GHG emissions, including methane, cannot be addressed with CCUS.

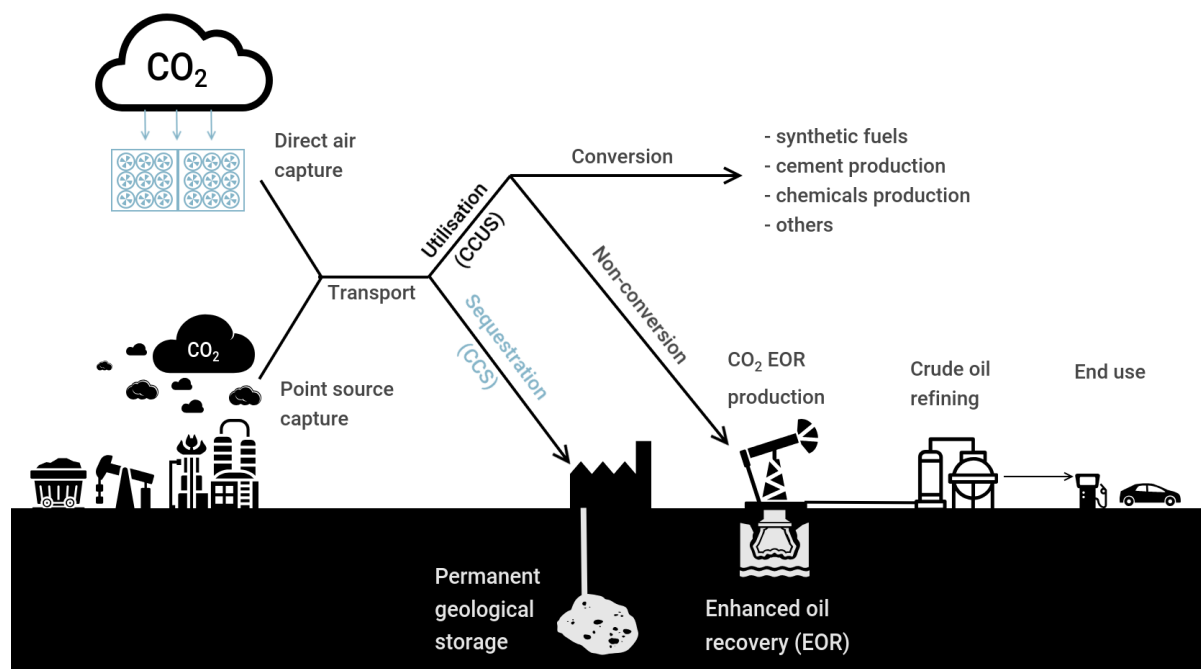
Quest Canada is RDS's first CCUS project (owned 10% by RDS, 70% Canadian Natural Resources Limited, and 20% Chevron). The plant which uses CCUS produces hydrogen that is used to mix with bitumen to create synthetic oil products. The CO₂ is stored geologically; however the hydrogen produced is not reducing emissions but rather enabling further production of synthetic crude oil. The average capture ratio of CO₂ at Quest in FY19 was 78.8%²⁴. CCUS solutions used to generate

²⁴ Quest Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Project (2020), [FY19 Quest CO2 capture ratio performance](#)

lower-carbon fuels that can be used as a substitute for traditional fossil fuels for hard-to-abate sectors (cement, steel, chemicals) should be prioritised over expanding crude oil production.

The diagram below shows an example of CCUS use, under both geological storage (Gorgon Project) and for utilisation (Quest Canada). The diagram below shows an example of CCUS use, under both geological storage (Gorgon Project) and for utilisation (Quest Canada).

Diagram: Overview of Carbon Capture Storage and Utilisation (CCUS)



Source: Global Climate Insight illustration ²⁵

²⁵ Sekera, J., Lichtenberger (2020) <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41247-020-00080-5>.

Table: RDS CCUS overview and assessment

RDS target	25 Mt p.a. of CCUS by FY35
Where does RDS plan to use CCUS?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RDS has not identified the specific plants and processes (pre-combustion - CO₂ captured before the fuel is burnt, or post-combustion - CO₂ captured after the fuel is burnt, predominantly through flue gas streams) where CCUS will be used. CCUS has been referred to in RDS' discussion of its strategy for hydrogen production, natural gas processing, and power generation.
Current capture	1.2 mt pa of CO ₂ , implying a 21x increase by FY35. We do not have details on contributions by project but believe this includes Quest Canada and Gorgon.
Forecast impact on carbon intensity	<p>Our forecast assumes CCUS peaks at 25Mt in FY35. As RDS does not have targets beyond FY35 we have not increased use of CCUS. This also allows us to see a clearer trend of absolute GHG emissions.</p> <p>Impact on forecast carbon intensity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY30: decrease of ~0.4g CO₂e/MJ (~0.4% of RDS FY19-FY30 carbon intensity reduction) FY50: decrease of ~0.4g CO₂e/MJ (~0.6% of RDS FY31-FY50 carbon intensity reduction) <p>If the 25 Mt of CO₂ is not permanently stored, forecasted emission intensity will increase.</p>
Risks to decarbonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capture rate. Not all CO₂ can be captured, with peak capture rates estimated to reach 85-95%²⁶. The higher the capture rate, the more expensive the CCUS technology. In CCUS used for Enhance Oil Recovery (EOR), capture rate tends to be lower than the peak rate, as plants are not designed to capture the highest share of CO₂, but to create a cheap source of CO₂. Permanence of stored CO₂. Storage sites will need to be monitored for leaks. The amount of CO₂ stored may be significantly less if leaks are not accurately detected or addressed in a timely manner. In CCUS for enhanced oil recovery, it will likely lead to more lifetime emissions, rather than emissions reduction.²⁷ Ongoing monitoring and liabilities. Companies will need to monitor and maintain sites over long durations of 100+ years. Additionally, companies will need provisions for costs to maintain sites, and account for reversal of CCUS benefits that do not eventuate. Misalignment of incentives and timeframe. CO₂ must be stored forever. In contrast, the entities responsible for meeting this obligation

²⁶ E3G (2021) [Hydrogen: factsheet series](#).

²⁷ Núñez-López, V. et al (2019) <https://doi.org/10.3389/fclim.2019.00005>.

	<p>may last 50-100 years, and executive tenures of 3-10 years. There is a mismatch between the short-term incentive to produce and use CCUS vs the long-term environmental imperative to manage the CO₂. Consequently, the cost is likely to be borne by future generations and governments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy intensity. CCUS requires a significant amount of energy, ranging from 0.25-0.3 MWh/tonne of CO₂ captured²⁸. Energy is often provided by fossil fuels, increasing the CO₂e and Scope 2 emissions²⁹. As an example, this equates to 355 million MJ p.a for Quest to capture and store CO₂. • CCUS use in sectors with available low-carbon alternatives. RDS' current investments are largely positioned towards sectors that have readily available renewable alternatives (electricity generation and heating). Pursuing CCUS for these uses will be financially costly, and will prevent reduction in absolute emissions.
Risks to RDS strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High uncertainty of achieving intended outcome. Targets hinge on unproven advances in CCUS technology. This includes achieving a carbon capture efficiency of up to 95%. • Impairment risk. Uncertainty in technologies creates risk of write-downs. • Costly. There are associated capital expenditures and operating costs per tonne of CO₂ captured. For example, the total project cost for Quest was US\$1.35 billion, and the plant carries operating costs of up to US\$63 per tonne CO₂ captured. Costs are likely to vary considerably and increase quickly (Chevron/RDS Gorgon Project CCS has cost ~US\$2.5bn³⁰ to date and stored ~5 Mt CO₂, equivalent to \$480m per tonne). This is in addition to the ongoing cost of monitoring and potential liabilities. The costs will also be influenced by the parts of the process where CCUS is applied (pre or post combustion), and where the CO₂ is stored (existing reserves/geological formation onshore or offshore).

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

²⁸ Climate policy watcher (2021) [Efficiency parameters of CCS](#).

²⁹ Robert Howart & Mark Jacobson (2021) [How green is blue hydrogen?](#)

³⁰ Bloomberg Finance L.P.

1.6.2 Carbon Offsets

To achieve net-zero by 2050, RDS will utilise carbon credits to offset its emissions. A carbon credit represents the avoidance or removal of one tonne of CO₂ in compensation for the emissions generated.³¹

To date, RDS has set targets for Nature Based Solutions (NbS) carbon offsets only. NbS are methods that enhance the natural carbon sinks by either preventing, reducing, or removing CO₂ from the atmosphere. We believe that RDS will be highly reliant on carbon offsets to compensate for the absolute emissions that it will continue to produce, with an annual requirement of ~1,6 Gt CO₂ by FY50. This includes up to 271 Mt CO₂ p.a to compensate for gas production targets, 300 Mt CO₂ p.a for its LNG production targets, and up to 328 Mt CO₂ p.a to offset hydrogen targets.

The voluntary carbon offset market is highly speculative and volatile, and the ability of underlying projects to demonstrate real and permanent emissions reduction differs widely. Importantly, at a climate response level, one carbon offset does not balance one carbon emitted.³² The projects underlying the carbon credits can only compensate for CO₂ emissions, leaving RDS' methane and other greenhouse gas emissions unanswered.

Table: RDS carbon offsets overview and assessment

RDS target	120mt p.a of Nature-based carbon offsets by FY30.
Where does it plan to use offsets?	“Carbon neutral” LNG and to offset residual absolute emissions
Current production	<p>In FY20, RDS retired 4.3 Mt CO₂e worth of carbon credits generated from avoided forestation, of which 3.9 Mt CO₂e was included in its net carbon intensity. This is likely to have been used for sale of its “carbon neutral” LNG.</p> <p>RDS' current projects focused on planting of new trees (afforestation) are in the early stages and do not produce carbon credits. The combined peak sequestration of current projects equates to 0.16Mt of CO₂ annually (<0.15% of its target).</p> <p>In FY20 it purchased Select Carbon (Australia), which has a portfolio of 70 carbon farming projects that span an area of more than 9m hectares.</p> <p>By FY30, RDS aims to acquire most of its carbon credits via its own portfolio, with the remainder purchased through the voluntary carbon market.</p>
Forecast impact on	Impact on forecast carbon intensity:

³¹ Royal Dutch Shell [Working with Customers to Compensate for Their Emissions](#)

³² Zickfeld, K. et al (2021) doi:10.1038/s41558-021-01061-2.

carbon intensity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY30: RDS' offset target will decrease net carbon intensity by 4.6g CO₂e/MJ (~ 6% of RDS FY19-FY30 carbon intensity reduction) • FY50: RDS' offset target will have no effect on net carbon intensity between FY31-50.
Risks to decarbonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume required. RDS' FY30 target equates to 240,000 square kilometres of land³³, approximately the size of the UK. • Quality. Offsets programs need to show that they result in additional emissions reduction, that emissions will be permanently stored, and avoid any double counting. In considering which carbon offsets are more likely to drive reduction in CO₂, we have a clear preference for creating new projects to store carbon over avoided emissions, given how difficult the benefits are to measure and verify. • Overestimation risk. A 2016 study on the effectiveness of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme found 73% of potential certificates issued were likely to have overestimated emission reduction.³⁴ • Lead time. Newly planted saplings take decades to mature³⁵ and reach peak carbon sequestration capacity³⁰. • Permanence. For nature-based carbon offsets, threats of wildfires, drought, and disease create risk to permanence. Ensuring CO₂ stored is reflective of offset value, which will require a costly, complex, long-term monitoring program. • Risk to biodiversity. Nature-based solutions involving afforestation must be carefully managed to prevent overplanting of monoculture species for their absorption or fast growth over consideration on how it impacts local biodiversity.³⁶
Risks to RDS' strategy	Whilst trees are valuable carbon sinks, their value as a tradable credit to negate future emissions is highly speculative, and creates risk to achieving real emissions reduction.

Source: Company data, Global Climate Insights estimate

³³ Carbon Independent (2019) [Planting trees is not the answer](#)

³⁴ Stockholm Environment Institute (2016) [How additional is the Clean Development Mechanism.](#)

³⁵ Woodland Trust (2019) [Life cycle of a tree: how trees grow](#)

³⁶ Seddon et al (2020) [Understanding the value and limits of nature-based solutions to climate change and other global challenges.](#)

2. Appendix

2.1 Financial Summary

COMPANY SUMMARY | FUNDAMENTALS

Royal Dutch Shell (RDS)
30/09/2021 EUR\$19.43 EUR/USD 1.16 EUR\$149bn US\$173bn

RDSA Amsterdam Stock Exchange

RDSA London Stock Exchange

Royal Dutch Shell (RDS) is a global energy and petrochemical company, headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands, and incorporated in the United Kingdom as a public limited company. RDS' expertise is in the exploration, production, refining and marketing of oil and natural gas, and the manufacturing and marketing of chemicals.

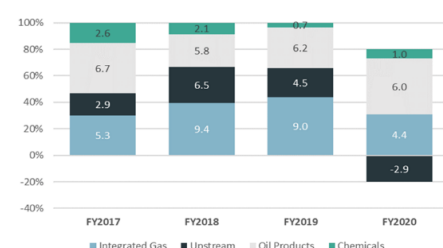
We estimate that through its business RDS has contributed ~3% to global GHG emissions. RDS was the first oil and gas company to announce a vote on its climate transition plan in 2021.

Pricing Chart (RDSA EUR)



US\$m	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Earnings summary				
Net income after tax	12,977	23,352	15,842	-21,680
Growth (%)	184%	80%	-32%	-237%
Adjusted earnings	15,764	21,404	16,462	4,845
Growth (%)	346%	36%	-23%	-71%
Free Cash Flow	27,621	39,426	26,399	20,827
Growth (%)	-367%	43%	-33%	-21%
Basic EPS	1.58	2.82	1.97	-2.78
Growth (cps)	0.99	1.24	-0.85	-4.75
Diluted EPS	1.56	2.79	1.95	-2.77
Growth (cps)	0.98	1.24	-0.85	-4.72
Dividend per share	1.88	1.88	1.88	0.65
Tax rate (%)	26%	33%	36%	20%

Segment Adjusted Earnings contribution to Group (% LHS) and US\$m



	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Valuation				
Dividend Yield	6.7%	5.7%	6.2%	11.1%
P/E (diluted, Capital IQ)	21x	10x	15x	9x
P/Book (Capital IQ)	1.4x	1.2x	1.2x	0.9x
EV/EBITDA (Capital IQ)	7x	6x	6x	4x
Key ratios				
Profit margin (Adj. Earnings %)	5%	5%	5%	3%
RoACE (%)	6.6%	8.5%	6.9%	2.8%
Net debt/Equity	33%	25%	42%	48%
Working Capital	15,637	19,669	13,065	16,744
Dividends/Op. CF	31%	30%	36%	22%

	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Pricing				
Oil price (Brent)	67	54	66	52
Oil price (WTI)	60	45	61	49
Currency (EUR/USD)	1.20	1.15	1.12	1.22

	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Profit summary				
Revenue	311,870	396,556	352,106	183,195
Expenses	293,740	360,935	326,621	210,162
Profit Pre Tax	18,130	35,621	25,485	-26,967
Tax	4,695	11,715	9,053	-5,433
Significant items, of which:	-3,683	2,429	-1,192	-24,766
Impairments	-3,042	-1,112	-3,162	-21,267
Divestment gains/(losses)	1,657	3,064	2,170	4

	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Balance sheet				
Total Assets	407,097	399,194	404,336	379,268
Property Plant and Equipment	226,380	223,175	238,349	210,847
Intangible assets	24,180	23,586	23,486	22,822
Debt	85,665	76,824	96,424	108,014
Net Debt	65,944	51,428	79,093	75,386
Provisions	28,431	25,192	24,610	30,934
Total Equity	197,812	202,534	190,463	158,537
Cash Capital Expenditure	21,534	24,077	23,919	17,827

	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Cash Flow				
Operating Cash Flow (CFO)	35,650	53,085	42,178	34,105
Capital expenditure	-20,845	-23,011	-22,971	-16,585
Divestments/(investments)	12,933	9,398	6,923	2,768
Dividends to shareholders	-10,877	-15,675	-15,198	-7,424
Debt borrowed/(repaid)	-11,829	-8,331	-3,415	5,585
Total Cash Flow	1,182	6,429	-8,686	13,775

US\$m	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Integrated Gas				
Revenue	35,074	48,267	43,376	33,863
Growth (%)		38%	-10%	-22%
% of Group	11%	12%	12%	18%
Adjusted earnings	5,268	9,399	8,955	4,383
Growth (%)		78%	-5%	-51%
% of Group	30%	40%	44%	52%
Capital employed	87,462	86,850	90,824	80,529
% of Group	30%	40%	44%	52%
RoACE (%)	6.3%	11.0%	10.2%	5.2%
Employees	8,000	9,000	10,000	11,000

	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Upstream				
Revenue	9,296	10,349	12,041	7,302
Growth (%)		11%	16%	-39%
% of Group	3%	3%	3%	4%
Adjusted earnings	2,865	6,472	4,452	-2,852
Growth (%)		126%	-31%	-164%
% of Group	16%	27%	22%	-34%
Capital employed	117,300	113,247	109,980	92,960
RoACE (%)	2.9%	6.1%	4.5%	-2.4%
Employees	16,000	14,000	14,000	14,000

	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Oil Products				
Revenue	247,669	317,905	281,910	129,611
Growth (%)		28%	-11%	-54%
% of Group	79%	80%	80%	71%
Adjusted earnings	6,686	5,794	6,232	5,995
Growth (%)		-13%	8%	-4%
% of Group	38%	24%	31%	71%
Capital employed	43,138	41,813	52,394	42,792
RoACE (%)	16.6%	13.8%	13.4%	12.7%
Employees	38,000	35,000	32,000	34,000

	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A
Chemicals				
Revenue	19,411	19,335	14,107	12,288
Growth (%)		0%	-27%	-13%
% of Group	6%	5%	4%	7%
Adjusted earnings	2,622	2,076	741	962
Growth (%)		-21%	-64%	30%
% of Group	15%	9%	4%	11%
Capital employed	15,245	16,885	20,622	22,794
RoACE (%)	18.1%	13.0%	4.0%	4.4%
Employees	4,000	4,000	4,000	2,000

Source: Market data: Bloomberg Finance L.P. Company data, Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

2.2 Carbon Summary

COMPANY SUMMARY | DECARBONISATION

Royal Dutch Shell (RDS)

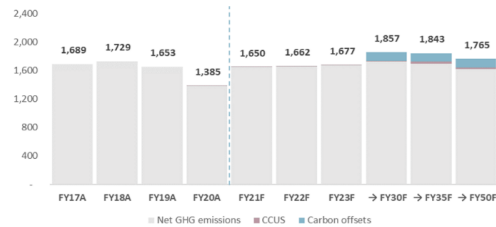
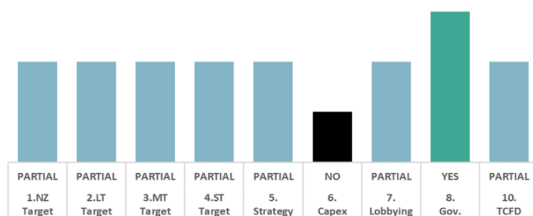
Influence Map: Lobbying score C-
S&P current long-term rating A+
Moody's current long-term rating Aa2

CA100+ Net Zero Company Benchmark (March 2021)

How we forecast RDS emissions

We use company targets for market shares and production of energy to forecast a potential pathway for GHG emissions. We compare this to the company's stated GHG emission reduction targets. This is based on RDS commitments and potential market shares for oil and gas from scenarios aligned with a 1.5C pathway.

Forecast GHG emissions (Absolute and Net Mt CO₂e), as included in Net Carbon Intensity



	FY2017A	FY2018A	FY2019A	FY2020A		FY2021F	FY20122F	FY2023F	FY2030F	FY2035F	FY2050F
RDS disclosed - GHG emission footprint (Mt CO₂e)											
Scope 1 (operational)	73	71	70	63	GHG emission footprint (Mt CO₂e)						
Scope 2 (operational, market-based)	12	11	10	9	Absolute GHG emission	1,650	1,662	1,677	1,857	1,843	1,765
Scope 3	1,591	1,637	1,551	1,304	Change yoy (%)	19%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%
Total Absolute GHG emissions	1,676	1,719	1,631	1,376	Change yoy, from FY16)	0%	1%	2%	13%	12%	7%
Change yoy (%)	3%	3%	-5%	-16%	Change yoy, from FY19)	0%	1%	1%	12%	11%	7%
Change yoy, from FY16)	3%	6%	0%	-15%	Post-emission compensation (Mt CO₂e)						
Post-emission compensation (Mt CO₂e)					CCUS	-3	-3	-4	-11	-25	-25
CCUS	1.14	1.07	1.13	0.94	Carbon offsets	0	0	0	-120	-120	-120
Carbon offsets	0	0	2.2	3.9	Total compensation	-3	-3	-4	-131	-145	-145
Net GHG emissions	1,689	1,729	1,653	1,383	Net GHG emissions (Mt CO₂e)						
Change yoy (%)	3%	2%	-4%	-16%	Net GHG emissions	1,647	1,659	1,673	1,726	1,698	1,620
Net Carbon Intensity (g CO₂e/MJ)					Change yoy (%)	19%	1%	1%	-5%	0%	1%
Net Carbon Intensity	78.7	78.7	78.2	75.2	Change yoy, from FY16)	0%	1%	2%	5%	3%	-2%
Change yoy (%)	0%	0%	-1%	-4%	Change yoy, from FY19)	0%	0%	1%	4%	3%	-2%
Change yoy, from FY16)	0%	0%	-1%	-4%	Carbon intensity (g CO₂e/MJ)						
Additional carbon data (Mt CO₂e)					Net Carbon Intensity	76.4	75.9	75.3	65.4	62.2	49.8
Scope 1 (equity)	97	102	105	98	Change yoy (%)	1.7%	-0.8%	-0.7%	-8%	-1%	-2%
Methane (Scope 1)**	3.1	2.3	2.3	1.7	Change yoy, from FY16)	-3%	-4%	-4%	-17%	-21%	-37%

* RDS uses CO₂ equivalents using global warming potentials (GWP) from the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report.

					RDS emission reduction targets (carbon intensity)						
Energy delivered (TJ)					Target reduction	2-3%	3-4%	6-8%	20%	45%	100%
Oil	11,577,600	12,100,000	11,577,500	8,648,000	Forecast status	Met	Met	Not Met	Not Met	Not Met	Not Met
Gas	4,891,200	4,580,000	3,538,500	3,824,000							
LNG	3,216,000	3,520,000	3,789,000	3,496,000							
Hydrogen	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000							
Biofuels	214,400	220,000	210,500	184,000	Emissions not included in GHG emission footprint						
Power (electricity generation)	1,500,800	1,540,000	1,894,500	2,208,000	Scope 3 emissions are not disclosed from RDS non-energy business including chemicals, lubricants and trading.						
GHG emissions from energy delivered (Mt CO2e)											
Oil	1,030	1,065	1,030	770							
Gas	328	307	234	256							
LNG	228	250	269	245							
Hydrogen	4	4	4	4							
Biofuels	8	8	8	7							
Power (electricity generation)	90	95	108	106							
					FY2021F	FY20122F	FY2023F	FY2030F	FY2035F	FY2050F	
RDS forecast energy delivered (TJ)											
Oil					11,119,031	10,896,650	10,678,717	9,270,467	8,379,768	6,189,038	
Growth on FY19 (%)					-4%	-6%	-8%	-20%	-28%	-47%	
Gas					7,931,828	8,252,433	8,585,997	11,330,571	11,422,303	8,288,043	
Growth on FY19 (%)					8%	13%	17%	55%	56%	13%	
Hydrogen					51,282	65,746	84,289	479,840	1,045,787	8,349,216	
Growth on FY19 (%)					28%	64%	111%	1100%	2514%	20773%	
Sales and production volumes					IEA NZS forecast energy delivered (TJ)						
Oil Products sales (k b/d)	6,599	6,783	6,560	4,710	Oil			137,000,000		42,000,000	
Change yoy (%)		3%	-3%	-28%	Growth on FY19 (%)					-78%	
Oil and Gas production (k b/d)	3,664	3,666	3,665	3,386	Gas			129,000,000		60,000,000	
Change yoy (%)		0%	0%	-8%	Growth on FY19 (%)					-57%	
LNG liquefaction (m tonnes)	33	34	36	33	Hydrogen			21,000,000		70,000,000	
Change yoy (%)		3%	4%	-7%							
Total LNG sales (m tonnes)	66	71	74	70							
Change yoy (%)		8%	5%	-6%							
Chemicals sales (k tonnes)	18,239	17,644	15,223	15,036							
Change yoy (%)		-3%	-14%	-1%							

Source: Market data: Bloomberg Finance L.P. Company data, Company data, Global Climate Insights estimates

2.3 Definitions

The key terms we use in this report are listed in the table below.

Term	Meaning
Adjusted Earnings	Profit, removing both the effects of oil price changes on inventory carrying amounts and identified items (including impairments). The Current Cost of Supplies adjustment is added to this calculation.
Cash Capital expenditure	Includes investments in joint ventures and associates and equity securities.
Average Capital Employed	Denominator in the Return on average capital employed calculation (RoACE). It includes the average of total equity, current debt and non-current debt.
Organic Free Cash Flow	Free cash flow excluding cash flow from acquisitions and divestments.
Climate	
Absolute GHG emissions	Absolute GHG emissions are the total amount of emissions being released into the atmosphere through a company's value chain. For climate change to slow down, an absolute emissions reduction target is needed. It is also the more effective measure of the climate impact of emissions reduction, in comparison to an intensity reduction.
Post-emission compensation technology	Carbon offsets and carbon capture are both post-emission compensation measures. We consider both in our assessment of company targets but separately from the measures that reduce emissions from being released in the first instance.
Net GHG emissions	Net emissions, typically associated with 'net zero', are a company's emissions footprint after accounting for post-emissions compensation. These are not necessarily 'negative emissions', as envisaged by the IPCC models. Corporations should aim to thrive in a zero emissions economy, rather than 'net zero' in any particular year.
Carbon neutral	Carbon neutral means any CO ₂ released into the atmosphere from a company's activities is balanced by the equivalent amount being removed through post-emissions compensation. It does not account for other greenhouse gases such as methane which can still contribute to increasing levels of global emissions.

Carbon budget	There are several types of carbon budgets. In this report, the term refers to the total net amount of emissions that can still be emitted by human activities while limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Net zero emissions describe a situation in which all the anthropogenic emissions are counterbalanced by deliberate removal so that on average, no emission is added or removed from the atmosphere by human activities.
Historial CO ₂ e carbon budget (CO ₂ e)	The historial CO ₂ e carbon budget is based on the historical annual mean greenhouse gas emissions from 1750 to 2019, accessed from https://rcmip-protocols-au.s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/v5.1.0/rcmip-emissions-annual-means-v5-1-0.csv (see further details on rcmip.org) and 100-year Global Warming Warming (GWP) potentials for greenhouse gases listed in Table 7.SM.7 of the Ch. 7 Supplementary Material (https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGI_Chapter_07_Supplementary_Material.pdf).
Remaining carbon budget (CO ₂ e)	<p>The Remaining CO₂e carbon budget is calculated using the method outlined here (https://www.climatechange.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/421704/Deriving-a-1.5C-emissions-budget-for-Victoria.pdf) in order to calculate a remaining CO₂e budget to 2050.</p> <p>It is based on the remaining CO₂ budget of 300Gt CO₂ for a likelihood of 83% to stay below 1.5°C global warming relative to 1850-1900 (IPCC (2021) Summary for Policymakers in Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis, Table SPM.2).</p> <p>To be able to use 2020 as a starting year a new intercept is calculated and the linear relationship becomes $1.235x + 249.2$. This method accounts for the future earth system feedback and assumes no net negative emissions after 2050. It does not account for the additional warming that occurred prior to 1850-1900. While the term <i>pre-industrial</i> is defined by the starting year 1750, all IPCC modeling starts at 1850. There is however data and research that shows there has been anthropogenic warming prior to 1850-1900 (IPCC (2021) Summary for Policymakers in Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis, Chapter 5, section 5.5) This would reduce the remaining carbon budget even further.</p>
IEA Net Zero Emissions Scenario (NZE)	A scenario produced by the IEA (2021) as part of its report titled Net zero by 2050: A roadmap for the global energy sector. The scenario describes how energy demand and the

energy mix will need to evolve if the world is to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

Climate Action 100+ Net Zero Company Benchmark

Climate Action (CA) 100+ is an investor-led initiative engaging companies on improving climate change governance, cutting emissions and strengthening climate-related financial disclosures. In 2021 CA100+ launched a framework for assessing company performance on climate transition for high-GHG emitting stocks. The framework includes key indicators covering targets, strategy and governance.

Source: Global Climate Insights

2.4 RDS' biofuels

Table: RDS' major biofuels investments and joint ventures

Project	Operational date	Capacity (kt p.a)	Technology	Feedstock	Products
Brazil - Raizen JV	2010	7,500		Sugarcane	Ethanol, Biogas, Bioproducts
U.S. - Jackson, MS	2020	107	Hydroprocessing	Vegetable oils, tallow	Renewable Diesel Oil
Canada - Varennes	2023	89	Gasification Fischer-Tropsch	Non-recyclable waste, wood waste	Chemicals
Germany - Rheinland refinery	2025	91	Power-to-liquids	Renewable energy, CO ₂ , biomass	Sustainable Aviation Fuel
Netherlands - Rotterdam	2025	73	Gasification Fischer-Tropsch	Hard to recycle waste	Sustainable Aviation Fuel
	Total	7,860			

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., Global Climate Insights estimates

2.5 RDS' renewable capacity

Table: RDS' major renewable projects

Project	Location	RDS interest	100% capacity (MW)	IEA Capacity (Upper)	Annual Production (Million MJ)	Power Source
Silicon Ranch	USA	46%	1,130	21%	3,478	Solar
Noordzee Wind NL	The Netherlands	50%	108	52%	886	Offshore wind
Brazos, TX	USA	100%	160	44%	2,220	Onshore wind
Total annual production from operational renewable power projects					8,623	
Under construction/development						
CrossWind	The Netherlands	80%	759	52%	9,945	Offshore wind
Mayflower	USA	50%	1,600	52%	13,119	Offshore wind
Atlantic Shores	USA	50%	2,500	52%	20,498	Offshore wind
Total annual production from future renewable developments					53,764	

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., IEA, Global Climate Insights estimates

2.6 RDS' CCS facilities

Table: RDS' CCUS projects

Project	Location	Status	Year	Application	Capacity (MtCO ₂ /yr)
Net Zero Teesside (cluster)	United Kingdom	Early development	2030	Various	10
The Clean Gas Project	United Kingdom	Early development	2025	Power generation (natural gas)	6
Gorgon Carbon Dioxide Injection (25% RDS)	Australia	Reduced operation due to ongoing issues	2019	Natural Gas Processing	4)has stored ~4.8Mt in 2 years ³⁷⁾
Porthos (CO ₂ transport & storage)	Netherlands	Advanced development	2024	Various (incl. Hydrogen production)	2.5
Northern Lights - Longship	Norway	Advanced development	2024	Various	1.5
Quest (10% RDS)	Canada	Operational	2015	Hydrogen Production used for upgrading bitumen (oil sands) to other oils	1.2
Brevik Norcem - Longship	Norway	Advanced development	2024	Cement Production	0.4
Fortum Oslo Varne - Longship	Norway	Advanced development	2024	Power generation (waste to energy)	0.4
Tabangao Refinery Hydrogen Plant	Philippines	In construction		Hydrogen production	

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., Global Climate Insights estimates

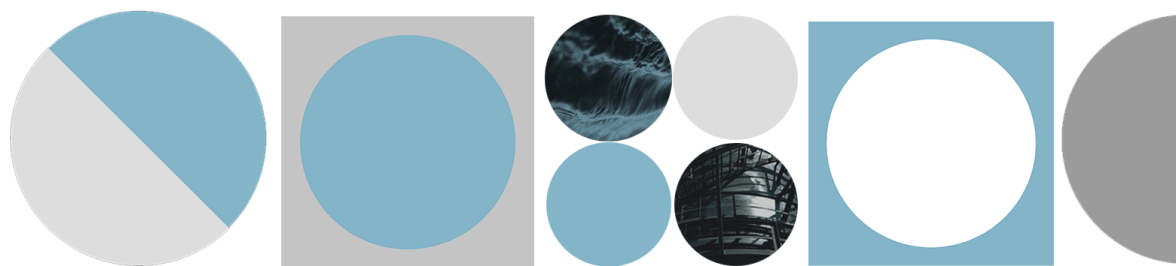
³⁷ Boiling Cold (2021), [Chevron's Gorgon CO₂ injection fix needs more time, so more emissions](#)

2.7 RDS' Nature Based Offsets

Table: RDS' major NBS investments between 2019 and 2020

Location	Amount	Emissions Sequestered (tCO2/year)
Canada	840,000 trees	18,000
Spain	300,000 trees	6,000
UK	1,000,000 trees	21,000
Netherlands	5,000,000 trees	108,000
Germany	20 hectares	100
Australia	800 hectares	4,000

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., Carbon Independent, Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership, Global Climate Insights estimates



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