Our aims & objectives

Net Zero operations

Our aim 1 is to be net zero across our entire operations on an absolute basis by 2050 or sooner.

This aim relates to our Scope 1 (from running the assets within our operational control boundary) and Scope 2 (associated with producing the electricity, heating and cooling that is bought in to run those operations) GHG emissions on an operational control boundary. These emissions were around 55MteCO₂e in 2019. We’re targeting a 20% reduction in our aim 1 operational emissions by 2025 and will aim for 30-35% reduction by 2030 against our 2019 baseline.

How we will meet our aim

We’re continuing to focus on reducing emissions from our operations – this is a core priority for our production & operations business. We continue to make progress on reducing operational emissions through implementing energy efficiency measures, reducing flaring and managing methane. Portfolio changes – including acquisitions, divestments and new projects – will also have an impact on our aim 1 emissions. We do not intend to rely on offsets to meet our net zero targets or aims out to 2030.

Our performance in 2020

We made progress against our operational emissions reduction targets in 2020. Our combined Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions, covered by aim 1, decreased by 16% from 54.4MteCO₂e in 2019 to 45.5MteCO₂e in 2020.

Our performance in 2020

Scope 1 (direct) emissions, covered by aim 1, decreased by 15% from 41.7MteCO₂e in 2020, from 49.2MteCO₂e in 2019. Of those Scope 1 emissions 39.8MteCO₂e were from CO₂ and 1.9MteCO₂e from methane.

Methane emissions also decreased due to the divestment of Alaska, delivery of sustainable emissions reductions (SERs) and reductions in flaring.

Scope 2 (indirect) emissions decreased by 1.4MteCO₂e to 3.8MteCO₂e in 2020, a 27% reduction compared to 2019. This decrease resulted from SERs, reduced energy requirements following COVID-19 demand reductions and a 1MteCO₂e reduction in reported emissions from our Whiting refinery, which, in 2020, put an agreement in place to purchase electricity from our Whiting Clean Energy facility.

In 2020 compared to 2019:

• divestments accounted for 5.4Mte of the Scope 1 emissions decrease including the divestment of our operations in Alaska in Q3 2020
• the delivery of SERs reduced Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 1MteCO₂e
• temporary production related changes accounted for 1.5MteCO₂e of reductions including reductions associated with turnarounds and reduced demand due to the COVID-19 pandemic
• total hydrocarbons flared decreased from 1,395kt to 831kt in 2020

In 2020 we continued to deliver SERs across our businesses and activities:

• One of our offshore facilities in the AGT region delivered 55kteCO₂e of reductions in 2020 through optimizing the efficiency of their water injection pump operation leading to savings in fuel consumption.
• The Angola and Oman regions delivered further reduction in flaring during 2020 of 240kteCO₂e and 120kteCO₂e respectively.
• Our Rotterdam refinery installed an off-gas treatment unit which recovers LPG from fuel and reduces the carbon intensity of gas burned for fuel in the furnaces, providing 8kteCO₂e of emissions reduction in 2020.

Previously, in 2019, SERs included:

• 130kteCO₂e of reductions through operational improvements and associated actions, such as reducing the CO₂ recovery rate at one of our Asian cracking plants.
• 1.9MteCO₂e from methane.
• 3.3MteCO₂e from injection pump operation leading to savings in fuel consumption.
• 1.3MteCO₂e from temporary production related changes during the year associated with COVID-19.
• 1.5MteCO₂e from temporary changes at one of our refineries.

bp equity share emissions

We report our operational (Scope 1 and 2) GHG emissions on two boundaries, operational control and bp equity share. The data for both boundaries are included in the ESG datasheet and annual report. Operational control boundary broadly covers bp-operated assets. bp equity share covers 100% of emissions from subsidiaries including the percentage of emissions equivalent to our share of joint arrangements and associates, excluding bp’s share of Rosneft.

Our Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions reduced on both an operated and equity share basis in 2020 compared to 2019. The divestment of our Alaska operations has reduced our total emissions on both an operational control and equity share basis but has a much larger impact on our reported emissions as noted above.

bp equity share data comprises 100% of emissions from subsidiaries and the percentage of emissions equivalent to our share of joint arrangements and associates, other than bp’s share of Rosneft.
Reducing emissions at bp energy

Our US onshore operations, bp energy, delivered sustainable emissions reductions totalling over 245kt CO₂e in 2020 – driving operational efficiencies and substantively reducing our methane emissions profile. Projects delivered included construction and electrification of centralized facilities, electrification of certain existing facilities and switching to solar power for heat trace pumping.

Our assets in the Permian region delivered 94kt CO₂e of SERs in 2020. The largest of these projects was construction and delivery of a centralized facility and electrification of certain operations combined with use of renewable electricity.
In order to utilize the ‘safe harbor’ provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the ‘PSLRA’), bp is providing the following cautionary statement. This document contains certain forward-looking statements – that is, statements related to future, not past events and circumstances – which may relate to one or more of the financial condition, results of operations and businesses of bp and certain of the plans and objectives of bp with respect to these items. These statements are generally, but not always, identified by the use of words such as ‘will’, ‘expects’, ‘is expected to’, ‘aims’, ‘should’, ‘may’, ‘objective’, ‘is likely to’, ‘intends’, ‘believes’, ‘anticipates’, ‘plans’, ‘we see’ or similar expressions.

In particular, such statements, among other statements, may include but are not limited to: statements relating to the purpose, ambition, aims, targets, plans and objectives of bp – as well as statements, plans and expectations regarding bp’s Aims 1 - 5 to get bp to net zero and Aims 6 - 10 to help get the world to net zero. By their nature forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will or may occur in the future and are outside the control of bp.

Actual results may differ from those expressed in such statements, depending on a variety of factors including the risk factors set forth in our most recent Annual Report and Form 20-F under “Risk factors” and in any of our more recent public reports. Our most recent Annual Report and Form 20-F and other period filings are available on our website at www.bp.com, or can be obtained from the SEC by calling 1-800-SEC-0330 or on its website at www.sec.gov.