

# ASSURANCE STATEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL METRICS

To: The Stakeholders of Ecolab, Inc. (Ecolab)

Apex Companies, LLC (Apex) was engaged to conduct an independent assurance of select environmental metrics reported by Ecolab, Inc. (Ecolab) for the period stated below. This assurance statement applies to the related information included within the scope of work described below.

The determination of the reported metrics is the sole responsibility of Ecolab. Apex's sole responsibility was to provide independent assurance on the accuracy of the data reported, and on the underlying systems and processes used to collect, analyze and review the information. Apex is responsible for expressing an opinion on the reported data based on the assurance. Assurance activities applied in a limited level of assurance are less extensive in nature, timing and extent than in a reasonable level of assurance.

### Boundaries of the reporting company environmental metrics covered by the assurance:

- Operational Control
- Worldwide (see noted facility inclusions)

## **Data Assured (Subject Matter):**

Water Withdrawal: 10.2 million cubic meters

Year on Year Change (2022-2023)¹: ↓ 400 thousand cubic meters

Total Water Replenishment Projects: 1,158 thousand cubic meters

• NOx emissions: 284,000 kilograms

• SOx emissions: 5,660 kilograms

Volatile Organic Compounds emissions: 4.85 metric tons

Hazardous air pollutants emissions: 1.74 metric tons

Hazardous Waste: 71,949,000 kilograms

Data and information supporting the water withdrawal assertion were generally historical in nature. Some supporting information was estimated rather than historical.

1) 2022 water withdrawal used in Year over Year Change calculation revised due to data received post-2022 reporting year assurance.

# Period covered by the assurance:

• January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

## Criteria against which assurance conducted:

- CDP Guidance for Companies, for Corporate Reporting on Water on Behalf of Investors and Supply Chain Members (Water Withdrawal)
- Internal company protocol

#### Reference Standard:

 Apex's standard procedures and guidelines for external Assurance of Sustainability Reports and International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 Revised, Assurance Engagements Other



than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information (effective for assurance reports dated on or after Dec. 15, 2015), issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

#### Level of Assurance and Qualifications:

- Limited
- This assurance used a materiality threshold of ±5% for aggregate errors in sampled data for each of the above indicators.

# **Assurance Methodology:**

Evidence-gathering procedures included but were not limited to:

- Interviews with relevant personnel of Ecolab and their consultant;
- Review of documentary evidence produced by Ecolab;
- Review of Ecolab data and information systems and methodology for collection, aggregation, analysis and review of information used to determine water withdrawal and replenishment; and
- Audit of sample of data used by Ecolab to determine water withdrawal and replenishment.

#### **Assurance Opinion:**

Based on the process and procedures conducted, there is no evidence that the reported data shown above:

- is not materially correct and is not a fair representation of the reported metrics; and
- has not been prepared in accordance with the CDP Project Guidance for Companies, for Corporate Reporting on Water on Behalf of Investors and Supply Chain Members and internal company protocol.

It is our opinion that Ecolab has established appropriate systems for the collection, aggregation and analysis of quantitative data for determination of water withdrawal and replenishment for the stated period and boundaries.



# Statement of independence, integrity and competence

Apex is an independent professional services company that specializes in Health, Safety, Social and Environmental management services including assurance with over 30 years history in providing these services.

No member of the assurance team has a business relationship with Ecolab, its Directors or Managers beyond that required of this assignment. We conducted this verification independently and to our knowledge there has been no conflict of interest.

Apex has implemented a Code of Ethics across the business to maintain high ethical standards among staff in their day-to-day business activities.

The assurance team has extensive experience in conducting assurance over environmental, social, ethical and health and safety information, systems and processes, has over 20 years combined experience in this field and an excellent understanding of Apex's standard methodology for the verification of greenhouse gas emissions data.

Attestation:

Trevor Donaghu, Lead Verifier

ESG Director, National Practice Lead

Apex Companies, LLC

John Rohde, Technical Reviewer

Principal Consultant
Apex Companies, LLC

May 1, 2024

This assurance statement, including the opinion expressed herein, is provided to Ecolab and is solely for the benefit of Ecolab in accordance with the terms of our agreement. We consent to the release of this statement by you to the public or other organizations but without accepting or assuming any responsibility or liability on our part to any other party who may have access to this statement.