

# INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE OPINION STATEMENT



Statement No.: SRA-HK721528

## AUSNUTRIA DAIRY CORPORATION LTD SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2019

The British Standards Institution is independent of Ausnutria Dairy Corporation Ltd, and its subsidiaries (hereafter referred to as "Ausnutria" collectively in this statement), and has no financial interest in the operation of Ausnutria other than for the assessment and assurance of Ausnutria's Sustainability Report 2019 (the "Report").

This independent assurance opinion statement has been prepared for Ausnutria solely for the purposes of assuring its statements relating to the Report, more particularly described in the Scope below. It was not prepared for any other purpose. The British Standards Institution will not, in providing this independent assurance opinion statement, accept or assume responsibility (legal or otherwise) or accept liability for or in connection with any other purpose for which it may be used, or towards any person by whom the independent assurance opinion statement may be read. This statement is intended to be used by stakeholders & management of Ausnutria.

This independent assurance opinion statement is prepared on the basis of review by the British Standards Institution of the information presented to it by Ausnutria. The review does not extend beyond such information and is solely based on it. In performing such review, the British Standards Institution has assumed that all such information is complete and accurate.

Any queries that may arise by virtue of this independent assurance opinion statement or matters relating to it should be addressed to Ausnutria only.

## Scope

The scope of engagement agreed upon with Ausnutria includes the following:

1. The assurance covers environmental, social and governance ("ESG") information within the sustainability performance table in the Report, and focuses on systems and activities of Ausnutria in the People's Republic of China, the Netherlands, and Australia, which include sourcing, producing, marketing and distributing dairy and nutrition products ranging from infant formula, toddler formula, adult formula, liquid milk to nutrition products, during the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019. The Report is prepared in accordance with The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited's ("HKEX") Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide (the "ESG Reporting Guide").

2. Level 3 – Type 2 Moderate Level of Assurance evaluates the nature and extent of Ausnutria's adherence to three reporting principles: Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness. The reliability of specified sustainability performance information/data disclosed in the Report has been evaluated.

## Opinion Statement

We conclude that the Report provides a fair view of Ausnutria's sustainability performance in the reporting year. We believe that the environmental and social key performance indicators are fairly represented in the Report, in which Ausnutria's efforts to pursue sustainable development are widely recognized by its stakeholders.

Our work was carried out by a team of sustainability report assurers. We planned and performed this part of our work to obtain the necessary information and explanations. We considered Ausnutria has provided sufficient evidence that Ausnutria's self-declaration of compliance with the ESG Reporting Guide were fairly stated.

## Methodology

Our work was designed to gather evidence on which to base our conclusion. We undertook the following activities:

- A top level review of issues raised by external parties that could be relevant to Ausnutria's policies to provide a check on the appropriateness of statements made in the Report;
- Discussion with senior executives on Ausnutria's approach to stakeholder engagement. We had no direct contact with external stakeholders;
- Interview with staff involved in sustainability management, report preparation and provision of report information;
- Review of key organizational developments;
- Review of supporting evidence for claims made in the Report; and
- An assessment of the Ausnutria's reporting and management processes concerning reporting against the principles of Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness.

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### Conclusions

A detailed review against the principles of Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness and the ESG Reporting Guide is set out below:

#### Inclusivity

The Report has reflected the fact that Ausnutria is seeking the engagement of its stakeholders by following the overall approach as stated in the ESG Reporting Guide.

Ausnutria's operation involves various methods of engaging its stakeholders. The Report covers environmental and social aspects of concern to its stakeholders with a fair level of disclosure. In our professional opinion, Ausnutria adheres to the principle of Inclusivity. Our view of areas for enhancement of the Report was communicated to Ausnutria before the issue of this opinion statement.

#### Materiality

Ausnutria publishes sustainability information that enables its stakeholders to make informed judgments about the company's management and performance. In our professional opinion, the Report adheres to the principle of Materiality and identifies Ausnutria's material aspects by following the ESG Reporting Guide. Areas for enhancement of the Report were communicated to Ausnutria before the issue of this opinion statement.

#### Responsiveness

Ausnutria has implemented practices that respond to the expectations and perceptions of its stakeholders. These include using its sustainability report. In our professional opinion, Ausnutria adheres to the principle of Responsiveness. Areas for enhancement of the Report were communicated to Ausnutria before the issue of this opinion statement.

#### THE ESG Reporting Guide

Based on our verification review, we are able to confirm that social responsibility and sustainable development related key performance indicators in two ESG subject areas (Environmental and Social) are reported on basis of the ESG Reporting Guide.

In our professional opinion, the Report covers Ausnutria's social responsibility and sustainability issues. Areas for enhancement of the Report were communicated to Ausnutria before the issue of this opinion statement.

#### Assurance Level

The Level 3 – Type 2 Moderate Level of Assurance provided in our review is defined by the scope and methodology described in this statement.

#### Responsibility

It is the responsibility of Ausnutria's senior management to ensure that the information being presented in the Report is accurate. Our responsibility is to provide an independent assurance opinion statement to stakeholders giving our professional opinion based on the scope and methodology described.

#### Competency and Independence

The assurance team was composed of Lead Auditors, who are experienced in the industrial sector, and trained in a range of sustainability, environmental and social standards including GRI G3, GRI G3.1, GRI G4, GRI Standards, AA1000, HKEX ESG Reporting Guide, UNGC's Ten Principles, ISO20121, ISO14064, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO45001, ISO 9001, and ISO 10002, etc. British Standards Institution is a leading global standards and assessment body founded in 1901. The assurance is carried out in line with the BSI Fair Trading Code of Practice.

For and on behalf of BSI:



**Mr. Chris Cheung**  
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**Hong Kong**

14<sup>th</sup> May 2020