



B Lab Statement on OH A ÁGUA' B Corp Certification

B Lab's independent Standards Advisory Council has rendered the following decision and guidance regarding eligibility for B Corp Certification for bottled water companies:

"Bottled water companies are eligible for B Corp Certification with additional review by the Standards Advisory Council and, at minimum, incremental disclosure on their public B Corp profile regarding material sensitive issues in the industry."

OH Agua is required to disclose a summary of its practices in the areas of Water Access, Sustainable Usage, and Waste Management as a part of its B Corp Certification. For more information on the review process, please refer to B Lab's statement on the bottled water industry and B Corp Certification [here](#).

Summary of Company

OH A ÁGUA is an innovative bottled water company based in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The company has developed its patented system, which allows the use of rainwater, sea, lake, river or groundwater for drinking purposes. The system purifies, alkalizes, salinizes, ionizes and packages alkaline and isotonic water that are rich in essential minerals such as Magnesium, all in a compact and efficient system.

The company is responsible for the extraction, bottling, distribution, and sale of bottled water. In its last fiscal year, the company earned 100% of its annual revenue from the sale of alkaline water.

OH A ÁGUA has the following brands of alkaline water:

- Agua Alcalina Oceánica
- Agua Alcalina ISOTONICA
- Agua Alcalina Zero Sodio

OH A ÁGUA's Industry Practices

Water Access

OH A ÁGUA owns or leases the property where the company's water extraction and bottling occur. The company's operations take place in Itaboraí, Rio de Janeiro State. The company shares and explores groundwater from Região Hidrográfica V - Baía de Guanabara. Other users of the aquifer are industries, agriculture and the local utility company (for domestic use).



Authorization to exploit and commercialize water in Rio de Janeiro is granted by the State Environmental Authority - INEA (Instituto Estadual do Meio Ambiente) under the use of attributions according to the following Law and decree (Lei no. 5.101/07, decreto no.44.820/14). The company extracts water through two tubular wells under registration IN002853.

The company's exploration license (Outorga) allows the company to explore and extract 50,19 m3 of water daily, from the aforementioned aquifer. As required by federal law, the company pays specific fees (volume-based) related to license allowance.

"OH A ÁGUA has reported they are not engaged in any lobbying or policy advocacy for cheaper water prices nor easier water access. The company also reported there are no stakeholder concerns regarding its water access that remain unresolved."

Sustainable Usage

In order to ensure the company's water extraction rates are environmentally sustainable, the company relies on the hydrogeological studies conducted by INEA, which meets the standards set by the REGLA System, developed by the National Water Agency and serves as a reference to the permitted extraction of 50,19 m3/day. Moreover, the extraction rate is monthly recorded and reported annually to the National Registry of Water Resources. Extraction rates are monitored and adjusted by hydrological experts and according to the Brazilian regulatory framework, to ensure water levels do not go below minimum permitted thresholds, ensuring sustainability over time.

The company extracts 100% of its water from two tubular wells and has opted to not exceed 45.00 m3/day. The company, under its patented extraction process, manages to utilize 100% of the water extracted using low energy intensity equipment (12 Kw installed). The company tubewells are encapsulated and extraction occurs at depths of 150 meters, avoiding water source contamination. Lastly, the company has a wastewater plant to treat its effluents before discharging them.

Waste Management

OH A ÁGUA is committed to the sustainability of its packaging (water bottles). Although the company's bottles have 0% recycled content, the company's approach focuses on material reduction (bottle weight) and material recyclability (use of mono-material).

According to the company, the advantages of the company's bottle are:

- 100% made of ethanol (100% renewable material)
- Degradable (up to 30 years)
- BPA free



- Plastic Reduction. 75% less plastic than an average PET water bottle (It weighs only 3 grams compared to 12 grams of an average PET bottle)
- Bottle recyclability. It contains only one mono-material (LDPE) compared to up to 4 materials of a PET bottle.

Under Brazilian regulation, the company should manage at least 22% of the total packaging volume placed in the market. For that, the company has a commercial agreement with a third-party waste operator, in which the company directly finances the management and recovery of 100% of the volume of packaging sold yearly.