



B Lab Statement on Late's 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."

Late! 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

Late is a company based in Chile that sells household products including bottled water. The company is responsible for the sale of both Bottled Mineral Water (500cc) and Drums of purified water of 20 and 10 liters. For both product lines, water extraction, bottling and labeling is carried out by a third party. The company sells the bottled water under its brand.

Bottled Mineral Water (500cc)

In FY2023, the company earned 62% of its annual revenue from the sale of Mineral Bottled Water under the brand name "Late!". The company purchases their bottled water from a third party that is responsible for extracting and bottling Late's bottled water. The water is extracted from two springs called "High Watershed" (Vertiente Alta) and "Low Watershed" (Vertiente Baja) located in the "Rincón Chanqueahue" estate in the commune of Rengo, in the Sixth Region of Chile. These springs have been declared as a curative source by a [Supreme Decree of the Ministry of Health in 1997 \(Chile\)](#). The source of water is from rain and mountain snow that naturally recharge these springs. The third-party supplier acquired water rights and have exclusive permission to extract water from these springs. The water extraction method involves the movement of water from the springs to storage ponds, using gravity; this method does not require pumps or other equipment.

Drums of Purified Water (20 and 10 liters)

In its last fiscal year, the company earned 25% of its annual revenue from the sale of Drums of purified water. The water for this product line is sourced from a supplier that sells the company purified water that they extract from the municipal water network provided by the water concessionary company Aguas Andinas S.A. The extraction method is a connection to the public network, allowing the collection of 25,000 liters per hour. This water undergoes a purification process using reverse osmosis before being bottled.



Late's Industry Practices

Water Access

Bottled Mineral Water (500cc)

The third party responsible for the extraction of Late's water supply has exclusive rights to the springs from which it extracts the water from, no other individuals or entities extract water from the springs within the "Rincón Chanqueahue" estate. The water use rights were acquired in 2007 through a one-time payment of one billion Chilean pesos (\$1,000,000,000,000), which gives them the right to extract water without additional costs related to consumption in liters.

Water is captured from both watersheds at a lower rate compared with the natural recharge flow, and of this captured flow, only a percentage is used for production and the rest is returned to nature for forest irrigation and others. For the "Low Watershed" the water extracted is 4,0 l/s which represents 70% of the natural recharge flow of the watershed and for the "High Watershed, water extraction corresponds to 2,5 l/s, which represents 86% of the natural recharge flow of the watershed. With this amount of water captured, the percentage of water use of captured water is 2%, returning the remainder of the surplus water to the environment.

A hydrogeological study was conducted in 1996 by the consulting firm Acuaconsult (no website at present), which led to the 1997 Supreme Decree that confirms that the springs are not hydraulically connected to the Claro River, and that water use does not affect other water sources in the region.

The following agencies play a role in regulating access to water and the company's water extraction practices:

[The Dirección General de Aguas of the Chilean Ministry of Public Works](#) is responsible for managing and verifying the proper use of water resources. In addition, the [Conservador de Bienes Raíces of Rengo](#) was responsible for approving the transfer of water rights to the third party supplier, which guarantees the legality of the use of the springs.

Drums of Purified Water (20 and 10 liters)

The company's supplier of purified water in drums is a company that extracts water from the communal drinking water network provided by the concessionaire [Aguas Andinas S.A.](#) The extraction method is a connection to the public network, allowing the collection of 25,000 liters per hour. This water undergoes a purification process using reverse osmosis before being bottled. As the company uses potable water from the communal network, the responsibility for sustainability falls on Aguas Andinas, which manages both gravity and subway catchments. Late's water



supplier is connected to the system and follows the concessionaire's regulations to avoid depletion of water resources.

The company pays a tariff to Aguas Andinas S.A., and this is the same as that applied to other water users in the region, whether they are companies or households. The cost per cubic meter of water in Santiago is \$1319.

Access to water is supervised by the Chilean Superintendence de Sanitary Services ([Superintendencia de Servicios Sanitarios, SISS](#)), which regulates the rates and quality of drinking water service in Chile.

LATE! 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

Bottled Mineral Water (500cc)

The [Presidential decree issued in July 1997](#) established a protection perimeter of 437 hectares around the springs in order to protect the water source from any type of contamination. This protection perimeter is composed of a polygon of 8 vertices with their coordinates clearly stipulated. This perimeter establishes the total absence of activities that could affect the quantity and quality of the water emanating from the springs, such as the construction of wells that could reduce the flow or use toxic substances that could infiltrate into the groundwater that feeds the springs.

In addition, there is a declaration of intent, which indicates that Late's third party water supplier that has authorization to extract water from the two watersheds, has the intention not to carry out any work that could contaminate or alter the composition of the mineral waters.

The outcrops are confined by a perimeter wall, which supports a roof slab with an access cover, as well as ventilation with two chimneys, one for intake and one for exhaust air. This is complemented by a 40x40 meter mesh fence to prevent animals or unauthorized persons from approaching the catchment.

The company indicates that the extraction of water to avoid affecting the water table is restricted by the connection provided by Aguas Andina. It is not possible to extract more water than the capacity of the junction and this is done according to Aguas Andinas studies.

Drums of Purified Water (20 and 10 liters)



Late nor the supplier have carried out hydrological studies, as the management of the water resource is of Aguas Andinas. The area that the supplier extracts water from is from Maipo River which is also used to supply water to the city of Santiago and satisfy the agricultural irrigation needs. In addition, there are hydroelectric projects such as Alto Maipo that use the same resource.

Waste Management

Bottled Mineral Water (500cc)

Late uses PET bottles that contain 0% recycled material. The company does not currently have measures in place to reduce the use of plastic input materials, claiming that technology for using bottles containing recycled material is still incipient in Chile, however, they are attentive of the industry innovations that could permit them to use bottles with recycled plastic material in the future. Late has provided evidence that in June 2024, the bottling company [CCU has launched the first recycling plant of plastic bottles in Chile](#) and that when these bottles with recycled plastic are available for other market players in Chile, the company will migrate to these bottles, as will also be required based on [Chilean Law 21368](#) requiring that disposable plastic bottles marketed must be composed of a percentage of plastic that has been collected and recycled within the country

- The percentage that disposable plastic bottles must incorporate will be 70 percent by the year 2060, and cannot be less than 15 percent by the year 2025;
- 25 percent by the year 2030;
- 50 percent by the year 2040;
- and 60 percent by the year 2050.

The company has practices in place to manage the waste produced by the provision of their products. Late offers recycling of their plastic bottles, lids and labels through strategic partner ECOSER (a [Volta company](#)) if requested by their clients, without an additional cost. Their direct recycling of containers with customers accounted for 0.4% of the containers sold. Late also meets national waste management objectives of the Law 20.920, the Extended Producer Responsibility and Promotion of Recycling ([REP Law](#)); all of their waste from the packaging of their products is recycled and recovered through the Re Simple waste management program. (see [Re Simple's](#) website). For Distributors and Marketers, the REP law dictates that they must:

1. Agree to have a management system in place as well as the establishment and operation of a reception and storage facility, in accordance with the provisions of the supreme decree. The operation of such a facility shall be the responsibility of the management system.



2. To accept without cost the delivery of the waste of priority products marketed by the consumers. The obligation to accept the delivery shall not be conditioned to the sale of a new product.
3. To deliver free of charge, to the respective management system, all those wastes received from consumers.
4. The reception and storage facilities destined for this purpose shall not require a sanitary authorization additional to that of the establishment itself.
5. All distributors and marketers are forbidden to sell priority products whose producer is not registered in a management system, when public health or the preservation of the environmental heritage is at risk.

Drums of Purified Water (20 and 10 liters)

The company's drums are reused, they are made from 100% virgin PET that can be reused for more than 30 fillings. The purchase of new drums corresponds to 5% of sales, corresponding to both clients purchasing for the first time and drums requiring replacement. Containers that have to be disposed of (due to leaks, dents, or quality problems) are 100% recycled through ECOSER.

B Lab's Public Complaints Process

Any party may submit a complaint about a current B Corp through [B Lab's Public Complaint Process](#). Grounds for complaint include:

1. Intentional misrepresentation of practices, policies, and/or claimed outcomes during the [certification process](#), or
2. Breach of the core values articulated in our [Declaration of Interdependence](#) within the B Corp Community.