



B Lab Statement on The Earth Group'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."

The Earth Group is required to disclose a summary of its practices in the areas of Sustainable Usage, Water Access, and Waste 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](#).

The Earth Group is an organization that exists entirely to support the [World Food Programme](#) to help provide school meals to children. Regarding its bottled water sales, the company does not own any bottling facilities but rather buys finished goods from third-party bottlers. The company is responsible for the distribution and sale of bottled water. In its last fiscal year, the company earned 94% of its annual revenue from the sale of bottled still water.

The Earth Group has the following brands of bottled water:

- Earth Water
- Earth Water Sparkling (berry, lemon, pear)

The Earth Group's Industry Practices

Water Access

The company uses two spring sources. The first source is located on the land where the bottling facility is located. The company has four wells on site. Bore wells are used to pump out water directly into the production plant. Permits are issued by the [Provincial Minister of Environment](#) for 10 year periods. Current permits are valid until May 2029 for a total of 238 million litres capacity pumping per year which is 120 US gallons per minute. Water price rates are also managed under [government law](#).

The second source of water is glacial deposits through wells, and it has been granted the right to use 50 cubic decameters of water annually for industrial purposes. This agreement has a 5-year term, expiring on October 6, 2027. The [Water Security Agency \(WSA\)](#) can renew a Water Rights License (WRL) prior to its expiry provided the water use and water level data on file supports



reissuance, and the licensee has adhered to the conditions of the Approval to Operate (ATO) and WRL.

The Earth Group has not engaged in any lobbying or policy advocacy for cheaper water prices nor easier water access. The company has not experienced any stakeholder concerns regarding its water access that remain unresolved.

Sustainable Usage

In the first source, the spring is located on the land where the bottling facility is located, so there are no emissions generated from transport. Provincial rights and government law permit the bottler to extract 450M liters of water from four wells annually, and the bottler is currently using < 1% of total capacity. In the second source, 4 gallons of water are produced per minute. A 44 millimeter diameter High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) is connected to the bottling facility for the extraction. The WSA permits the bottler to extract up to 7% of the well's output, and the bottler is currently using 360,600 gallons of the source which represents 2.3% of the total output.

The company is committed to respect its water extraction limits to avoid an extraction at a scale or rate that will significantly affect the water table or water access for others.

Waste Management

The Earth Group's reusable aluminum bottles contain up to 70% post consumer recycled content. The company's plastic bottles are 100% recyclable and made with 25% of r-PET per bottle.

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.