

# **The Ariel Group LLC**

Disclosure Report Date Submitted: April 14th, 2025

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### **Disclosure Materials**

Certified B Corporations must complete a Disclosure Questionnaire to identify potentially sensitive issues related to the company (e.g. historical fines, sanctions, material litigation, or sensitive industry practices).

This component does not affect the company's score on the B Impact Assessment. If the company answers affirmatively to any items in the Disclosure Questionnaire that B Lab deems relevant for public stakeholders, then, as a condition of their certification, the company must:

- Be transparent about details of the disclosure issues identified on the company's public B Impact Report
- 2) Describe how the company has addressed this issue
- 3) Demonstrate that management practices are in place to avoid similar issues from arising in the future, when necessary.

In all cases, the Standards Advisory council reserves the right to refuse certification if the company is ultimately deemed not to uphold the spirit and integrity of the community.

In addition to the voluntary indication of sensitive issues in the Disclosure Questionnaire, companies pursuing Certification also are subject to a background check by B Lab staff. Background checks include a review of public records, news sources, and search engines for company names, brands, executives/founders, and other relevant topics.

Sensitive issues identified through background checks may or may not be within the scope of questions in the Disclosure Questionnaire, but undergo the same review process and are subject to the same possible review by the Standards Advisory Council, including ineligibility for B Corp Certification, required remediation, or disclosure.

This document contains a copy of the company's completed Disclosure Questionnaire and related disclosure documentation provided by the company



# **Disclosure Questionnaire**

#### **Industries and Products**

#### Yes No Please indicate if the company is involved in production of or trade in any of the following. Select Yes for all options that **Animal Products or Services** $\boxed{}$ **Biodiversity Impacts** Chemicals $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Alcohol Disclosure Firearms Weapons** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Mining** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Pornography** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Tobacco** $\boxed{}$ **Energy and Emissions Intensive** $\boxed{}$ Industries Gambling $\square$ **Genetically Modified Organisms** $\square$ Illegal Products or Subject to $\square$ **Phase Out** Industries at Risk of Human $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Rights Violations Monoculture Agriculture Nuclear Power or Hazardous** $\square$ **Materials** Payday, Short Term, or High $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Interest Lending** Water Intensive Industries $\square$ **Tax Advisory Services** $\square$

#### **Outcomes & Penalties**

	Yes	No	
Please indicate if the company has had any formal complaint to a regulatory agency or been assessed any fine or sanction in the past five years for any of the following practices or policies. Check all that apply.			
Anti-Competitive Behavior		<b>∀</b>	
Breaches of Confidential Information		X	
Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption		V	
Company has filed for bankruptcy		N.	
Consumer Protection		$\vee$	
Financial Reporting, Taxes, Investments, or Loans		N	
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)		$\checkmark$	
Labor Issues		$\searrow$	
Large Scale Land Conversion, Acquisition, or Relocation		X	
Litigation or Arbitration		$\vee$	
On-Site Fatality		V	
Penalties Assessed For Environmental Issues		V	
Political Contributions or International Affairs		Y	
Recalls		$\checkmark$	
Significant Layoffs		V	
Violation of Indigenous Peoples Rights		V	
Other		$\checkmark$	



#### **Practices**

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the following statements are true regarding whether or not the company engages in the following practices. Check all that apply. If the statement is true, select "Yes." If false, select "No."		
Animal Testing		<b>∑</b>
Company/Suppliers Employ Under Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)		<b>\</b>
Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining		$\vee$
Company workers are prisoners		V
Conduct Business in Conflict Zones		V
Confirmation of Right to Work		$\vee$
Does not transparently report corporate financials to government		$\vee$
Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour Contracts		K
Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems		K
ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation		K
No formal Registration Under Domestic Regulations		N
No signed employment contracts for all workers		V
Overtime For Hourly Workers Is Compulsory		V
Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions		V

	Yes	No
Sale of Data		V
Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells		N
Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours		N
Workers not Provided Clean Drinking Water or Toilets		$\triangleright$
Workers paid below minimum wage		V
Workers Under Bond		$\checkmark$
Other	$\checkmark$	

### Supply Chain Disclosures

	Yes	No
Please indicate if any of the following statements are true regarding your company's significant suppliers.		
Business in Conflict Zones		N
Child or Forced Labor		N
Negative Environmental Impact		V
Negative Social Impact		<b>V</b>
Other		✓



## **Disclosure Questionnaire Statement**

Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Other - Clients in Controversial and Ineligible Industries

Topic	Clients in Controversial and Ineligible Industries
Summary of Issue	The Ariel Group LLC has clients in the following industries: Fossil Fuels Production, Prisons, Mining, Nuclear Power, and Pharmaceuticals.
	The types of services/products offered to these clients include: - leadership development and executive coaching services
Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	In the last fiscal year, 0.2% of the company's annual revenue was from clients in Fossil Fuel, 0.2% from Mining, 0.1% from Nuclear Power, and 16.2% from Pharmaceuticals.
	In the past, the company has also worked with clients in other ineligible industries, including Prisons. The company has not earned any revenue from these clients in the last fiscal year.
Impact on Stakeholder(s)	Companies that work with clients in controversial industries can directly or indirectly increase the harmful impact to stakeholders by enabling business growth. Therefore, companies that work with clients in these industries should have practices in place to ensure that their impact is aimed at decreasing the negative impacts of the industry.
	Companies offering certain types of services and products to controversial clients are required to have at minimum a grievance/complaints mechanism and a whistleblower protection policy.
Implemented Management Practices	The Ariel Group LLC has the following mechanisms in place to manage the risks related to their business relationships with clients in controversial and ineligible industries:
	Grievance/complaints mechanism. This is accessible to the public through their online form (link below), email (Info@arielgroup.com), and phone (781-761-9000).  A grievance will be accepted if it is:  - Submitted in good faith and supported by reasonable evidence.



- Relevant to the company's operations and within their authority to address.
- Not previously resolved, unless new evidence has emerged.

The company accept grievances that fall under the following categories:

- Ethical Violations Reports of fraud, corruption, conflicts of interest, bribery, or other unethical conduct by employees, management, or stakeholders.
- Retaliation or Victimization Complaints regarding unfair treatment or retaliation for reporting an issue, whistleblowing, or exercising rights under company policies.
- Unresolved Prior Complaints Cases where previously submitted complaints were not properly addressed or resolved. Complaint Handing Process:
- 1. Acknowledgement: The company will confirm receipt of the complaint within 15 business days.
- 2. Investigation: The company will assess and investigate the issue within 45 days depending on the complexity of the matter.
- 3. Resolution: The company will communicate the findings and the resolution steps within 90 days. If more time is needed, the company will keep the whistleblower informed of the progress.

**Whistleblower Protection Policy**. The policy includes the following statements:

- The company is committed to fostering a culture of transparency, integrity, and accountability. The company encourages employees, customers, suppliers, and other stakeholders to report unethical behavior, misconduct, or violations of laws and company policies without fear of retaliation.
- No employee or stakeholder will face retaliation for making a report in good faith. Retaliation, including dismissal, demotion, harassment, or any form of punishment against whistleblowers, is strictly prohibited. Any individual found engaging in retaliation will face disciplinary action, up to and including termination.
- The identity of the whistleblower will remain confidential unless required by law. Reports will be handled discreetly, and information will be shared only with those involved in the investigation.



Report	Grievance mechanism link Whistleblower Protection Policy link