

# **Soter Vineyards**

Disclosure Report

Date Submitted: December 19th, 2023



## **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** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Biodiversity Impacts** Chemicals $\square$ **Disclosure Alcohol Disclosure Firearms Weapons** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Mining** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Pornography** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Tobacco** $\boxed{}$ **Energy and Emissions Intensive** $\boxed{}$ Industries Fossil fuels $\square$ Gambling **Genetically Modified Organisms** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ Illegal Products or Subject to $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Phase Out** Industries at Risk of Human $\square$ **Rights Violations Monoculture Agriculture** $\square$ **Nuclear Power or Hazardous** $\square$ **Materials** Payday, Short Term, or High Interest Lending Water Intensive Industries $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Tax Advisory Services**

#### **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   |     | $\checkmark$ |  |
| Breaches of Confidential<br>Information   |     | V            |  |
| Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption   |     | V            |  |
| Company has filed for bankruptcy  |     | V            |  |
| Consumer Protection   |     | V            |  |
| Financial Reporting, Taxes,<br>Investments, or Loans  |     | N            |  |
| Hazardous Discharges Into<br>Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)  |     | N            |  |
| Labor Issues  |     |              |  |
| Large Scale Land Conversion,<br>Acquisition, or Relocation  |     | K            |  |
| Litigation or Arbitration   |     |              |  |
| On-Site Fatality  |     | V            |  |
| Penalties Assessed For<br>Environmental Issues  |     | N            |  |
| Political Contributions or<br>International Affairs   |     | K            |  |
| Recalls   |     |              |  |
| Significant Layoffs   |     | V            |  |
| Violation of Indigenous Peoples<br>Rights   |     | N            |  |
| 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   |     | V            |  |
| Company/Suppliers Employ Under<br>Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)  |     | V            |  |
| Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining   |     | V            |  |
| Company workers are prisoners  |     | $\checkmark$ |  |
| Conduct Business in Conflict Zones   |     |              |  |
| Confirmation of Right to Work  |     |              |  |
| Does not transparently report corporate financials to government   |     | K            |  |
| Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour<br>Contracts  |     | V            |  |
| Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems   | N   |              |  |
| ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation   |     | \            |  |
| No formal Registration Under<br>Domestic Regulations   |     | V            |  |
| No signed employment contracts for all workers   |     | V            |  |
| Overtime For Hourly Workers Is<br>Compulsory   |     | V            |  |
| Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions  |     | V            |  |

|   | Yes | No           |
|---|-----|--------------|
| Sale of Data  |     | $\checkmark$ |
| Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells                  |     | V            |
| Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours      |     | $\searrow$   |
| Workers not Provided Clean<br>Drinking Water or Toilets |     | V            |
| Workers paid below minimum wage                         |     | $\vee$       |
| Workers Under Bond                                      |     | $\vee$       |
| 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  |     | $\checkmark$ |
| Child or Forced Labor   |     | $\checkmark$ |
| Negative Environmental Impact   |     | $\checkmark$ |
| Negative Social Impact  |     | $\checkmark$ |
| Other   |     | $\checkmark$ |



#### **Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Animal Products and Services**

Soter Vineyards is involved in the production or sale of animal products and services, meaning that they are more likely to have significant impacts on the environment and animal welfare. Based on the size of the company, these impacts may be limited. Certified B Corps are required to make transparent their involvement in such industries.

Any party aware of specific company practices that have had a negative impact related to their involvement in the sensitive industry, and which may constitute a violation of the B Corp standards, may contact us via our <u>public complaints procedure</u>.



### Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Biodiversity and/or Monoculture

Soter Vineyards is involved in activities that could affect local biodiversity, meaning that they are more likely to have significant impacts on the environment given its interference with the balance of local fauna and flora. Certified B Corps are required to make transparent their involvement in such practices.

Any party aware of specific company practices that have had a negative impact related to their involvement in the sensitive industry, and which may constitute a violation of the B Corp standards, may contact us via our <u>public complaints procedure</u>.



#### **Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Alcohol**

Soter Vineyards is involved in the production or sale of alcohol, which has risks of potential negative impact on the health and well-being of individuals and their communities. Based on the size of the company, these impacts may be limited. Certified B Corps are required to make transparent their involvement in such industries.

Any party aware of specific company practices related to their marketing or other topics that could contribute to the negative impacts of alcohol, and which may constitute a violation of the B Corp standards, may contact us via our <u>public complaints procedure</u>.



### **Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Water Intensive industry**

Soter Vineyards is involved in the production/sale of products, or is part of an industry that can potentially be classified as water intensive, meaning that they are more likely to have significant impacts on the environment, such as water stress or depletion of local water sources if water use is not appropriately managed. Certified B Corps are required to make transparent their involvement in such activities or industries.

Any party aware of specific company practices that have had a negative impact related to its involvement in these or other controversial industries, and which may constitute a violation of the B Corp standards, may contact us via our <u>public complaints procedure</u>.



Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems

| Topic  | The company has vineyards located in the Willamette Valley in Oregon, United States.   |
|--|--|
| Summary of Issue   | Oak woodlands situated in the Willamette Valley of Oregon are regarded as sensitive ecosystems. It has been estimated that the historical oak woodland has decreased significantly. As a result, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has recognized it as a Strategy Habitat in the Willamette Valley under the Oregon Conservation Strategy, and there are ongoing efforts to restore it.  |
| Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected) | 50% of the company's production takes place on a 240-acre property, out of which approximately 30 acres are covered with oak trees. Although none of the company's operations are located within the Oak trees areas; around 15% of the biodynamic vineyard operations take place adjacent to the Oak trees.   |
| Impact on Stakeholders   | The company has not identified any potential risks that could harm the sensitive natural ecosystem which may arise from their operations. Nevertheless, there are risks such as the presence of invasive flora and fauna, like Himalayan blackberries, that could potentially cause harm to the ecosystem in the area.   |
| Implemented Management Practices   | The company works with a regenerative farming system that focuses on biodiversity, integration of plants and animals, and soil health. In 2023, the company received a three-year grant from Yamhill County via the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. As a part of this grant, restored the oak habitat in existence, which included the removal of blackberries and other invasive plants and small trees. As part of the implemented practices, Soter Vineyards financed and planted oak trees. |