



B Lab Statement on Nijhuis Saur Industries (NSI) UK & Ireland Ltd- B Corp Certification

Overview

B Lab and its independent Standards Advisory Council have determined that water utilities companies are eligible for B Corp Certification if they have not engaged in specific prohibited practices in the last five years AND are meeting additional industry-specific practice requirements. For more information on the specific requirements, please refer to B Lab's position statement on the water utilities industry [here](#).

Water Utilities and B Corp Certification

B Lab and its independent Standards Advisory Council have rendered the following decision regarding the water utilities industry's eligibility for B Corp Certification:

“Companies engaged in the following practices in the last five years as demonstrated through company disclosures or through publicly available information, are currently ineligible for B Corp Certification:

- *The company is involved in lobbying or policy advocacy for cheaper water prices for the company or to weaken regulations regarding water access for the company,*
- *There are significant, material, and justified stakeholder concerns over the company's access to water sources that remain unresolved,*
- *There are significant, material, and justified stakeholder concerns over the company's interactions with the public sector, such as allegations of bribery, anti-competitive behavior, or favorable contract claims, that remain unresolved.”*

Additionally, companies in the Water Utilities industry are eligible for B Corp Certification if they are able to confirm that they are meeting B Lab's risk standards for the industry related to the following topics:

- Anti-Corruption and Government Affairs
- Water Affordability
- Water Access
- Water Quality and Regulated Jurisdictions

- Wastewater Treatment
- Sustainable Water Usage
- Collective Action

Company Overview

Nijhuis Saur Industries provides solid and adaptive solutions for sustainable and resilient water use, energy, and resource recovery for Light and Heavy Industries, Utilities, and Commercial Buildings around the world. The company's services range from the supply of equipment to a complete integrated solution encompassing design, civil & areas of mechanical, electrical, instrumentation, control and automation (MEICA) installation & commissioning. They help in the most cost-effective solution with experience in both refurbishment and creating new systems:

Areas of Expertise

- Drinking-Water Treatment
- Wastewater Treatment
- Sludge & Bio-resources
- Waste to Value

In-House Services

- Process Design & Engineering
- Design for Manufacture Assembly (DfMA)
- Modular Build & Offsite construction
- Civil, mechanical & electrical installation
- Commissioning & Training

Nijhuis Saur Industries UK & Ireland has a 20-year history of providing equipment and services to the UK water industry, having worked with most of the UK's Water Utility companies with over 175 reference sites in the UK across a range of industries. Nijhuis Saur also served several markets.

More information on markets and services provided can be found on the company's website: <https://www.nijhuisindustries.com/industries>.

In the 2023 fiscal year, the company earned 42.8% of its annual revenue in 2023 from providing products and services to clients within the Water Utility Industry.

Nijhuis Saur Industries UK & Ireland Disclosure on Prohibited Practices

- The company has reported they are not engaged in lobbying nor policy advocacy for cheaper water prices for the company nor to weaken regulations regarding water access for the company.

- The company has reported there are no significant, material, and justified stakeholder concerns over the company's access to water sources that remain unresolved.
- The company has reported there are no significant, material, and justified stakeholder concerns over the company's interactions with the public sector that remain unresolved.

Nijhuis Saur Industries UK & Ireland do not own or operate water supply and wastewater treatment systems. They provide operational and other specialized water services systems to Water Utility companies. The company sells innovative technology and services & maintains the sold equipment. The company is not involved in setting water rates or affordability, they do not hold abstraction licenses determining access to water sources or how much water is withdrawn from the environment, and do not hold discharge licenses determining the responsibility for compliance to local or national effluent regulations.

NSI UK & Ireland are not engaged in lobbying nor policy advocacy for cheaper water prices for the company nor to weaken regulations regarding water access for the company. There are no significant, material, and justified stakeholder concerns over the company's access to water sources that remain unresolved.

Nijhuis Saur Industries UK & Ireland Disclosure on Required Best Practices

Anti-corruption

The Company has a publicly available Code of Conduct, which is followed by all companies within the global Saur group, including all entities within Nijhuis Saur Industries UK and Ireland. The Code of Conduct helps the group combat all forms of corruption; setting the key fundamentals that apply to all Group entities and employees with respect to corruption prevention. and covers the acceptance of gifts and invitations, conflicts of interest, the use of commercial intermediaries, sponsorship and political involvement. In addition, NSI UK & Ireland has an Anti-corruption and Bribery policy and a Gifts and Invitations policy.

More information on the company's position in relation to anti-corruption is available on the company's website [here](#).

The monitoring of Ethics and Anti-Corruption is assigned to the Parent company Saur which is fed back to the Managing Director for NSI UK and then to the UK's Quality Health Safety and Environment (QHSE) team. Within NSI UK, the QHSE department is responsible for Compliance and Anti-Corruption and the implementation of relevant policies.

The company provides mandatory anti-corruption training through [iHASCO](#) (online training platform) for all employees.

Employees, suppliers, clients, and members of the public can anonymously report wrongdoing through their formal whistleblowing procedure, detailed in their whistleblowing policy, or through

the whistleblowing channel on Saur's website available here: [Saur Group's ethical reporting forum](#).

Government Affairs

The company's approach to Government affairs, lobbying or policy advocacy, is detailed in section in the company's [Code of Conduct](#) which states that the group *"Does not make any contributions to political parties, politicians and related organizations"* In addition it states that the company *"Is not intended to support a candidate"*. The formal [Whistleblowing procedure](#) would be used to report wrongdoing or corruption in this area.

NSI UK & Ireland reported that they are not engaged in lobbying nor policy advocacy for cheaper water prices for the company nor to weaken regulations regarding water access for the company.

Water Affordability

The [Water Services Regulation Authority \(Ofwat\)](#) is the economic regulator in England and Wales. One of the ways Ofwat regulates is to set the price, investment, and service package that customers receive. This includes setting controls that limit what companies can charge their customers. Prices are reviewed and agreed every five years for the following 5-year period.

In Scotland, the regulator is the [Water Industry Commission for Scotland](#) (WICS). In Northern Ireland it is the [The Drinking Water Inspectorate \(DWI\)](#) and in Ireland, [The Commission for the Regulation of Utilities](#) (CRU-independent economic regulator).

Nijhuis Saur Industries UK & Ireland is not involved in water access, water pricing or affordability and are in no way involved with pricing set by Ofwat, WICS, DWI or CRU. The services and solutions provided by the company improve the efficiency and performance of Water Treatment processes and water recovery by Utility companies which may lead to cost savings and improved water affordability.

Water Access

Most water and sewerage services in England and Wales are not provided in competitive markets. Most people receive their water services from the licensed company for their area. Only business customers in most of England are able to choose their supplier. NSI UK does not own or operate water supply and wastewater systems. They provide operational and other specialized water services systems to Water Utilities companies. The company does not hold abstraction licenses determining access to water sources and does not play a role in water access.

Water Quality and Regulated Jurisdictions

The provision of water in England and Wales is made up of privately-owned companies while in Scotland it is the responsibility of Scottish Water (government-owned company) in Northern Ireland it is Northern Ireland Water (government-owned agency) and in Ireland- [Uisce Éireann](#) (government-owned). These entities are responsible for both discharging treated water into the

environment and also monitoring discharges into the environment – both their own, and that of others. Regulation of the services provided is the responsibility of the following:

- Environmental regulator:
 - [The Environment Agency](#), in England
 - [Natural Resources Wales](#), in Wales
 - [Scottish Environmental Protection Agency \(SEPA\)](#), in Scotland
 - [Water Management Unit of the Northern Ireland Environmental Agency](#), in Northern Ireland
 - [The Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#), in Ireland.
- Economic Regulator:
 - [The Water Services Regulation Authority \(Ofwat\)](#) is the economic regulator for the water and sewerage sectors in England and Wales. It is responsible for regulating the water industry and ensuring that water companies provide consumers with a good quality service and value for money.
 - WICS, in Scotland
 - [The Drinking Water Inspectorate \(DWI\)](#) of the Northern Ireland Environmental Agency.
 - [Commission for Regulation of Utilities \(CRU\)](#) in Ireland.
- Drinking water quality regulator:
 - [Drinking Water Inspectorate \(DWI\)](#) as the drinking water quality regulator in England and Wales.
 - [The Water Industry Commissioner for Scotland \(WICS\)](#)
 - [The Drinking Water Inspectorate \(DWI\)](#) unit of the Northern Ireland Environmental Agency (NIEA)
 - [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#), Ireland
- Consumer protection
 - [Consumer Council for Water \(CCW\)](#) represents consumers within the water and sewerage sectors, also investigating consumer complaints that have not been resolved by the water companies.
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More information on England and Wales authorities and regulation [here](#), for Scotland [here](#), for Northern Ireland, [here](#) and for Ireland [here](#).

The regulatory framework for water and sewerage policy is set by the [Department for Environment, food and Rural Affairs \(Defra\)](#), including standard setting, drafting of legislation and creating special permits (eg. drought orders). In Wales this role is carried out by the [Welsh Government](#) together with Defra.

With regards to regulation, most of the UK's recent environmental legislation originates in the European Union (EU). This legislation also applies to all other EU member states. Some of the most important directives for the water and sewerage sectors are listed below.

- [The EU Water Framework Directive](#) creates a single system of water management, based around a natural river basin – which may form part of two or more member states, or local government areas. The directive sets objectives and deadlines for improving water quality. It looks overall at both the ecology of the water and its chemical characteristics.
- [The EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive](#) aims to protect the water environment from being damaged by urban wastewater and certain industrial discharges.
- [The EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive](#) establishes marine regions on the basis of geographical and environmental criteria. Member states – cooperating with other member states and non-EU countries within a marine region – are required to develop strategies to protect their marine waters.
- [The EU Floods Directive](#) requires member states to carry out flood risk assessments, create maps of flood risk and develop flood risk management plans.
- [The EU Drinking Water Directive \(DWD\)](#) sets quality standards for drinking water and requires drinking water quality to be monitored and reported.
- [The EU Bathing Water Directive](#) aims to protect public health and the environment by keeping coastal and inland bathing waters free from pollution.
- [The Sewage Sludge Directive](#) aims to encourage the use of sewage sludge in agriculture and to regulate its use in such a way as to prevent harmful effects on soil, vegetation, animals, and man.

More information on water provision, sewage and regulation in England and Wales available [here](#).

Nijhuis Saur Industries UK & Ireland provide products and services to Water Utility companies to support them in supplying high water quality for municipal use in compliance with local and national regulations.

Wastewater Treatment

Wastewater Treatment is the responsibility of the water service providers outlined in the Water Quality section. Nijhuis Saur Industries UK & Ireland provides products and services to companies or agencies that carry out this service in each jurisdiction. The services provided by the company contribute to the efficient functioning of wastewater treatment and compliance with local and national regulations, from the provision of solutions, and spare parts, as well as process design and installation.

Sustainable Water Usage

NSI UK & Ireland supply of equipment, spare parts as well as services that include design, installation and commissioning to Water Utility companies in the UK & Ireland. Their products and services aid Water utilities companies in carrying out treatment of water. NSI does not hold abstraction licenses determining access to water sources or how much water is withdrawn from the environment. The company does not hold discharge licenses determining the responsibility for compliance to local or national effluent regulations.

Nijhuis Saur Industries UK & Ireland enables Water Utility companies to address challenges faced in the UK Water Industry ranging from shortages in drinking water, aging infrastructure, restrictions on space and pollution of the local environment while trying to meet the Government target of reaching Net Zero by 2035. NSI UK craft solutions to help the Water Industry in this journey, supporting them in achieving efficient and sustainable water and wastewater treatment and injecting innovation to reduce their carbon footprint. The company enables the UK Water Industry to save energy, recover resources, improve the quality and volume of water recovered for municipal use and ensure discharge compliance thereby reducing the negative environmental impacts of the industry.

The company supports the Water Utility Industry in sustainable water abstraction through providing products and services which augment their water supply from plentiful surface water sources to protect withdrawals from diminishing groundwater.

Collective Action

NSI's [Mission Water](#) has the following three commitments:

1. Take action on a daily basis to ensure that people have the water they need in terms of quantity and quality.
- 2 Advocate that everyone (municipalities, industries, citizens, farmers, NGOs and civil society as a whole) gives water the value it deserves.
- 3 Use all their knowledge, expertise and skills to rally as many people as possible around the stakes of water. Saur's innovations for resource management and wastewater treatment to digitization and the water-energy-food nexus can be reviewed in further detail [here](#).

Actions to achieve these commitments are demonstrated through the company's [Sustainable Development Roadmap 2021-2025](#).