



### **B Lab Statement on Ocean52'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."*

Ocean52 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](#).

### **Summary of Company**

Ocean52 is a bottled water wholesaler with the mission of transforming a polluting business into an ocean protecting business. Ocean52 is headquartered in Barcelona, Spain, and is a wholesaler of bottled water, water with gas, and soft drinks based on mineral water. The company has never bottled in plastic, and it is only using eternally recyclable aluminum cans and refillable bottles. In FY2023, the company earned 96,8% of its annual revenue from the sale of flat and sparkling water.

Ocean 52 has the following brands of flat and sparkling water: No Plastic Water by Ocean52.

### **Ocean52's Industry Practices**

#### Water Access

The company is not directly responsible for the water extraction. It relies on its suppliers in France to do this process as well as the packaging.

Both suppliers have a long lease contract to extract water. The first has authorization to extract water from the Roy Spring located in the commune of Ogeu-les-Bains in the Pyrénées-Atlantiques and the second is authorized to extract from the Pédourés spring within the Municipality of Aix-les-Thermes. Ocean52 has reported and provided documentation to show that their suppliers have the rights and authorizations to extract mineral water and to use water for industrial purposes. The companies pay a volume-based fee per hectolitre of water extracted.

In terms of collective action, Ocean52 donates 52% of its profits towards ocean protection. The company also strives to raise awareness amongst its consumers by holding workshops in schools, having branding and messages on their water cans and can collection containers about



the importance of protecting the ocean, recycling cans, drinking tap water, and drinking from their canned water only when tap water isn't available.

The following agencies play a role in regulating access to water: The following agencies play a role in regulating their supplier's water extraction practices: Préfecture de l'Ariège (Regional Agency of Santé Occitanie Regional Thermal Bottle Unit) and Préfecture des Pyrénées Atlantiques (Regional Agency of Santé d'Aquitaine Occitanie).

Ocean52 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

To ensure the supplier's water extraction rates will not significantly affect the water table or water access for others, the suppliers extract water within the limit established by the local authorities. It has been verified that the suppliers' total volume of water extraction is respecting these limits. The companies reported that they do not operate on over-licensed and overexploited water sources designated by independent bodies.

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#### Waste Management

Since the founding of the company, the company has not packed any beverage products in PET plastic. For their bottled water, they use aluminum (cans and refillable bottles) owing to the strong recyclability of the material.

Ocean52's bottled water in cans is manufactured by a third-party supplier in France; utilizing natural mineral water. The company's bottled water in refillable bottles is manufactured by another third-party supplier in France (B Corp pending) utilizing natural mineral water.

Further, the company places receptacles for these cans at their clients' establishments to encourage collection of cans and the company's sales representatives support clients to encourage recycling.



### **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.