

# VERIFICATION OPINION STATEMENT: GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

## To: The Intended Users and Stakeholders of Oceana Group Limited

- **Organization:** Oceana Group Limited (hereafter, 'Oceana' or 'OGL')
- **Address:** Oceana House, 9th Floor, 25 Jan Smuts Street, Foreshore, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa
- **Verification Standard:** ISO 14064-3:2019 '*Specification with guidance for the verification and validation of greenhouse gas statements*'
- **Verification Criteria:** WRI/WBCSD Greenhouse Gas Protocol: *A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard*, 2004
- **GHG Inventory Period:** 01 October 2023 to 30 September 2024 (FY2024)
- **GHG Consolidation Approach:** Operational Control
- **Level of Assurance:** Limited
- **GHG Statement:** 2024-12-05 Oceana Carbon Footprint FY24\_VERIFIED.xlsm

Oceana Group Limited (OGL) is a global fishing and food processing company with operations in South Africa, Namibia and the United States. Business activities cover the full value-chain, including catching or procuring, processing as well as distribution and sales of food products worldwide.

The Group operates 28 vessels and 6 production facilities in Southern Africa that catch and process fish into frozen and canned product, fishmeal and fish oil. A seventh facility started operating in FY2024 for the processing and canning of meat, soya and vegetable products. Through US-based subsidiary, Daybrook, Oceana operates an additional large-scale fishmeal and fish oil production facility.

Oceana engaged Verify CO<sub>2</sub> to conduct an independent third-party verification of the Group's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory for the 2024 financial year reporting period. This Verification Opinion Statement is issued based on the scope of work detailed below.

## Responsible Parties and Verification Objectives

Oceana nominated a third party<sup>1</sup> to prepare the GHG Statement set out below but retains sole responsibility for its preparation and fair presentation in accordance with the stated criteria.

Verify CO<sub>2</sub>'s responsibility is to express an independent assurance opinion on Oceana's FY2024 GHG Statement and to evaluate whether, based on the evidence obtained, the verification objectives noted below are met:

1. Conformity to the principles and reporting requirements of the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard.
2. Completeness and accuracy of the activity data and GHG emissions quantification.

The ISO 14064-3 Standard requires that ethical standards are upheld in planning and performing a verification engagement to obtain the agreed level of assurance that the GHG Statement is free from material misstatement.

## Level of Assurance

GHG quantification is subject to inherent uncertainty as the methods used to estimate GHG emissions rest upon incomplete scientific knowledge.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but it is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the ISO 14064-3 Standard will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or taken together, they could reasonably be expected to influence the intended user's decisions.

---

<sup>1</sup>Data compilation and GHG quantification were carried out by Promethium Carbon on behalf of Oceana.

The verification activities carried out for this engagement provide a limited level of assurance using a 5% materiality threshold per emissions source. Verification activities performed to achieve a limited level of assurance are less detailed in nature, timing, and extent than those for reasonable assurance.

## GHG Verification Activities

Evidence-gathering procedures included but were not limited to:

- Discussion with Oceana's Sustainability & Compliance Executive regarding internal processes and controls for the collection, error checking and reporting of GHG information.
- Site visit to two Lucky Star Operations production facilities in the Western Cape, South Africa.
- Strategic assessment to understand specific changes to Oceana's business activities during FY2024.
- Review of the initial GHG inventory, previous reporting and historical documentation.
- Risk assessment and compilation of the Verification and Evidence-gathering Plans.
- Liaison with Promethium Carbon and Oceana to clarify deviations and anomalies and to provide supporting evidence as required to support the reported information.
- Evaluation of the appropriateness of emission factors, estimation methodologies and assumptions applied.
- Analytical procedures to assess completeness and accuracy of the GHG data, including year-on-year variance checks, referencing source data, recalculation and tracing of primary data to GHG information.
- Evaluation of the accuracy and consistency of the GHG emissions and GHG intensity calculations.
- Evaluation of conformity of the GHG Statement with the verification criteria referenced above.
- Liaison with Promethium Carbon and Oceana regarding the verification findings and corrective action.
- An Independent Review was performed before the Verification Opinion was finalized.

## Verification Scope

### GHG Boundaries

#### Organisational Boundary:

Oceana operates in South Africa (SA), Namibia and the USA (US) through the following facilities/divisions:

- **Administrative Facilities:** Includes the Group Head Office and training facilities in the Western Cape, SA.
- **Lucky Star Operations (LSO):** Includes Lucky Star (LS) and Amawandle Pelagic (AP) which operate a fleet of owned and contracted vessels, 5 processing and canning facilities, as well as a new meat production and canning factory on the West Coast.
- **Blue Continent Products (BCP):** Includes Hake (7 vessels and 1 production facility) and Squid vessels in SA, and Horse Mackerel (HM) operations in both SA (1 vessel) and Namibia (2 vessels; 2 production facilities).
- **Daybrook:** 1 production facility with co-located office in the US (vessels operated by a 3rd party).

#### Organic change in FY2024:

- **LSO Fish:** AP's boiler house was upgraded (only operational from April 2024 which impacted production).
- **LSO Meat:** Following the disposal of Lobster vessels in FY2023, the unused factory was repurposed into a processing and canning facility for meat and vegetable products.

#### Structural change in FY2024:

- Steam production at the new LSO Meat Factory and AP boiler house is now outsourced to a 3rd-party.
- Oceana acquired Pashash, a chicken liver production facility.
- BCP Squid acquired 4 new vessels.

#### Other changes in FY2024:

- Oceana completed a 10 MW solar PV installation on the West Coast to feed the LSO canneries and fishmeal plants. This became operational late in 2024 and is therefore not reflected in FY2024 reporting.

### Reporting Boundary:

- All scope 1 and scope 2 GHG emissions sources as well as the 5 scope 3 GHG categories measured by Oceana<sup>2</sup>
- GHGs used in FY2024 include CO<sub>2</sub>; CH<sub>4</sub>; N<sub>2</sub>O and HCFCs

### Specific Exclusions:

- **Facility Exclusions:** Chicken liver factory; 2 Maritime Academies
- **GHG Source Exclusions:**
  - LSO: Electricity consumption for the 2 desalination plants and 3 sites with insignificant consumption.
  - BCP: General waste incineration on-board the Desert Diamond (insignificant).
  - LS Marketing (LSM): Procurement and distribution activities.
  - Scope 3: Since Oceana does not claim to conform to the GHG Protocol's *Scope 3 Standard*, there are no relevant exclusions from Oceana's FY2024 GHG reporting.
- **Verification Exclusions:**
  - The initially omitted BCP Namibia flights for foreign crew were submitted too late for review.
  - Energy calculations from consumption of purchased steam.
  - Vessel and land-based production values used to calculate intensity ratios were not verified to source.

## GHG Statement

After correction of misstatements, Oceana's verified FY2024 *GHG Statement* is summarized below:

OGL FY2024: GHG Emissions Statement	Metric tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 1	121,503
Scope 2 (location- & market-based) <sup>3</sup>	32,054
<b>Total Scopes 1 &amp; 2</b> (location- & market-based)	<b>153,556</b>
<b>Scope 3</b>	<b>56,749</b>
3.1. Purchased Goods & Services: Water & Packaging Materials	17,829
3.3. Fuel & Energy-related Activities <sup>4</sup>	28,971
3.5. Waste Generated in Operations <sup>5</sup>	3,072
3.6. Business Travel	2,543
3.7. Employee Commute	4,334
<b>Total Scopes 1, 2 &amp; 3</b> (location- & market-based)	<b>210,305</b>
Outside of Scopes (Fugitive refrigerant emissions: HCFC-22) <sup>6</sup>	35,796
<b>Total measured GHG emissions</b> (location- & market-based)	<b>246,101</b>

**100% of Oceana's reported scope 1, scope 2 and measured scope 3 GHG emissions were verified.**

<sup>2</sup> 8 of the 15 scope 3 categories are relevant to Oceana: Reported categories: 1; 3; 5; 6; 7 Omitted categories: 4; 9; 15.

<sup>3</sup> Consistent with previous years, there is a 1-year lag in the Eskom generation factor applied to calculate scope 2 for SA. Location- and market-based scope 2 totals are the same as a residual mix grid emission factor is not available for SA.

<sup>4</sup> Includes upstream fuel well-to-tank (WTT) and downstream electricity T&D Losses. Electricity WTT not reported.

<sup>5</sup> FY22 & FY23 sludge/slops emissions to be recalculated with the more accurate emissions factor used for FY24 reporting.

<sup>6</sup> Fugitive GHG emissions from refrigerant gases not listed under the Kyoto Protocol are reported outside of the scopes.

Additional Verified Information for CDP2025	
Consumption of fuel for heat generation:	448,751 MWh
Consumption of fuel for self-generation of electricity:	9,236 MWh
Consumption of purchased electricity:	30,230 MWh
Consumption of renewable self-generated electricity:	0 MWh
Consumption of non-renewable self-generated electricity:	9,236 MWh
Consumption of purchased steam:	3,691 MWh
<b>Total energy consumption (100% non-renewable):</b>	<b>491,909 MWh</b>
<b>Municipal water consumption:</b>	<b>541,317 kl</b>
Year-on-year change in emissions:	Scope 1; Scope 2; Scopes 1,2; Scope 3; Scopes 1,2,3; Out of Scopes
Year-on-year emissions intensity ratios (excl. Corporate):	OGL; Divisional

## GHG Verification Findings

### GHG Boundaries:

- In accordance with the operational control approach for consolidating emissions, scope 1 and scope 2 emissions for all operationally controlled activities and facilities are included in Oceana's GHG reporting.

### GHG Reporting:

- **Criteria:** Oceana's reporting complied with the GHG Protocol reporting requirements and as such satisfied the relevant reporting criteria. Recalculation of FY2019 base year emissions has been triggered by various structural and methodological changes and is yet to be completed and checked.
- **GWPs:** AR5 100-year GWPs are now used for all tCO<sub>2</sub>e conversions.
- **Emissions Factors:** Fuel GHG conversions for SA were updated to Tier 2 factors. As in prior years, the Eskom generation factor is applied to calculate purchased electricity emissions (with a one-year lag).
- **Activity Data:** Fuel, electricity, refrigerant gas and materials consumption is correlated with days at sea and/or production output. For both BCP HM SA and Daybrook, FY2024 production decreased significantly.

- **Scope 1:** The abovementioned production decreases, combined with the outsourcing of steam generation and coal procurement, led to a 20% drop in FY2024 scope 1 emissions.

- **Scope 2:** The 18% decrease in FY2024 final scope 2 emissions (despite the addition of purchased steam) is attributed to the disposal of the CCS cold storage entity in FY2023, lower industrial fish landings and land-based production, as well as a 2.9% decrease in the SA emissions factor.

Since Oceana did not use contractual instruments during FY2024, and no residual mix emissions factor is available for South Africa, location- and market-based scope 2 emissions are the same.

- **Scope 3 & Out of Scope:** In addition to scope 1 and 2 reductions, a 20% decrease in scope 3 and a 41% decrease in HCFC-22<sup>7</sup> emissions in FY2024 resulted in an overall decrease of 24% compared to FY2023.

<sup>7</sup> HCFC-22 emissions are included in Oceana's GHG intensity ratios and targets in anticipation of this refrigerant being replaced with scope 1 alternatives.

## Qualifications

The following qualifications were raised in relation to the unmodified verification opinion:

- GHG emissions for purchased packaging materials and non-SA municipal water are indicative, as country-specific emission factors were not used.
- Despite thorough investigation, confidence in the accuracy of final waste emissions is low.
- Broad assumptions were used to calculate emissions from employee commuting.
- Head Office scope 1 and scope 3 consumption was estimated using historical data.

## Future Recommendations

### GHG Data Management:

- To improve ongoing reporting inaccuracies, data collection sheets to be redesigned and division-specific.
- For transparency, all conversions to be calculated within the data collection sheet (i.e. not hard keyed in).
- Further investigation is recommended into the significant utilities data inaccuracies for both LSO SHB and the Meat Factory to ensure that data providers understand the GHG data requirements.

### GHG Reporting:

- Base year emissions to be recalculated and preferably also verified.

### GHG Boundaries:

- Scope 3 to be extended to include LSM categories 4 and 9 transport and distribution activities (material).
- Unreported scope 3 categories should be evaluated for materiality (e.g. category 15 emissions associated with operations in which OGL has a non-controlling stake (e.g. Etosha Fisheries and Westbank LLC)).
- For completeness, the following should be included: scope 3.3 upstream WTT emissions associated with the generation of purchased electricity, scope 3.6 and 3.7 WTT emissions and scope 3.6 hotel stays.

### Methodology:

- **Scope 2:** For improved accuracy, it is recommended that the recently available national grid emissions factor published by the SA DFFE should be applied.
- **Scope 3.7:** The assumptions used to calculate employee commuting emissions should be reviewed and, if necessary, updated for each division. Namibia crew flights can optionally be shifted to this category.

### Activity Data:

- **Scope 2:** From FY2025 electricity consumption for both the LS and AP desalination plants to be included.
- **Scope 3.1.** Purchased steel is the highest contributor to category 3.1 emissions. Emissions could be decreased by 40% if Oceana were to purchase steel with recycled content rather than virgin material.
- **Scope 3.5 Waste:** Several errors were found in the FY2024 data despite previously flagging waste as an area needing attention. The Hake division to ensure that the waste disposal destination is correct, and that the unit of measurement reported per waste stream is accurate. FY2022 and FY2023 AP sludge to be recalculated using the more accurate emissions factor sourced for FY2024.
- **Scope 3.6 Business Travel:** A single flight report for the full reporting period should be submitted for both SA and Namibia. Daybrook to start tracking and reporting business travel activity.

---

The significant decrease in R22 usage is mainly due to the conversion of 2 Hake vessels to an alternative refrigerant (Beatrice Marine in FY2023 and Realeka in FY2024), as well as fewer days at sea for the HM SA vessel (Desert Diamond).

## Conclusion and Final Verifier Opinion - Unmodified

Based on the agreed scope of work and the evidence obtained in conducting the limited assurance procedures in accordance with ISO 14064-3, and applying the stated criteria, misstatements were identified and duly rectified.

Notwithstanding the above qualifications, it is our opinion that Oceana has adequate systems for the collection, aggregation, and analysis of activity data required to quantify the company's GHG emissions for the stated period and boundaries. There is no evidence that the GHG Statement set out above:

1. has not been prepared in accordance with the principles and requirements of the *WRI/WBCSD GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard*; and
2. does not provide a true and fair representation of Oceana's GHG emissions data and information for the stated inventory period and boundaries.

## Statement of Competence, Independence and Impartiality

Verify CO<sub>2</sub> has 14 years' experience in corporate GHG verification across various sectors. We conducted this verification independently and, to our knowledge, there has been no conflict of interest. No member of the verification team has a business relationship with Oceana beyond that required of this assignment.

## Attestation:



-----  
Kerry Evans  
**Lead GHG Verifier**  
**Verify CO<sub>2</sub>**  
Cape Town, South Africa  
**Date:** 09.12.2024



## INDEPENDENT REVIEWER DECLARATION

Oceana Group Limited (OGL) engaged Verify CO<sub>2</sub> to verify the Group’s FY2024 GHG inventory. As part of the process, an independent review was performed to evaluate the verification team competency, verification planning, execution and conclusions reached to support the final verification opinion.

To assess the quality of the verification work conducted, a high-level review was carried out on the GHG risk assessment, the verification and evidence-gathering plans and the verification findings.

Based on this review I can confirm the following:

- Verify CO<sub>2</sub> has the required competencies to conduct and lead a GHG verification project.
- All stages of the verification process were sufficiently documented.
- Appropriate procedures were followed for assessing risk, verification planning, data sampling/evidence gathering, and due professional care and judgement were applied.
- Sufficient evidence was available to achieve the stated level of assurance.
- Material misstatements and non-conformities were duly rectified.
- I agree with the verification findings, conclusions and the final opinion expressed in the Verification Opinion Statement.

I hereby declare that I was not a member of the GHG verification team and was not in any way involved in drawing up the verification plan or verification activities.

<b>Signature</b>			
<b>Name of Independent Reviewer</b>	Ohad Shachar		
<b>Position</b>	Sustainability Director		
<b>Company</b>	<b>GCX</b>		
<b>Date</b>	2024	December	09
	Year	Month	Day