



LRQA Independent Assurance Statement

Relating to GPI's Assertion for the Calendar Year 2023

This Assurance Statement has been prepared for Graphic Packaging International, LLC (GPI) in accordance with our contract.

Terms of Engagement

LRQA was commissioned by Graphic Packaging International, LLC (GPI) to provide independent assurance of its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, energy consumption, and water usage ("the Inventory") for the 2023 calendar year against the assurance criteria below to a limited level of assurance and materiality of the professional judgement of the verifier using LRQA's verification procedure and ISO 14064 - Part 3 for greenhouse gas emissions. LRQA's verification procedure is based on current best practise and is in accordance with ISAE 3000 and ISAE 3410.

Our assurance engagement covered GPI's global operations and activities under its operational control and specifically the following requirements:

- Verifying conformance with:
 - GPI's reporting methodologies for the selected datasets.
 - World Resources Institute / World Business Council for Sustainable Development Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A corporate accounting and reporting standard, revised edition (otherwise referred to as the WRI/WBCSD GHG Protocol) for the GHG data¹.
- Reviewing whether the Inventory has taken account:
 - GRI: Global Reporting Initiative for Scope 1 (305-1), Scope 2 (305-2), Scope 3 (305-3), Energy Consumption (302-1), Water Withdrawal (303-3), and Water Discharge (303-4).
- Evaluating the accuracy and reliability of data and information for only the selected indicators listed below:
 - Direct (Scope 1), Energy Indirect (Scope 2) and Other Indirect (Scope 3) GHG emissions:
 - Scope 3 GHG emissions verified by LRQA were Category 1: Purchased Goods & Services, Category 2: Capital Goods, Category 3: Fuel and Energy Related Activities, Category 4: Upstream Transportation & Distribution, Category 5: Waste Generated in Operations, Category 6: Business Travel, and Category 7: Employee Commuting, Category 8: Upstream Leased Assets, Category 10: Processing of Sold Products, Category 11: Use of Sold Products, Category 12: End of Life Treatment of Sold Products, Category 15: Investments;
 - Energy Consumption; and
 - Water Withdrawal and Discharge.

GPI's Inventory excludes the following GHG emissions sources: mobile emissions from company cars and rail, fugitive emissions from on-site wastewater treatment, sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), perfluorochemicals (PFCs), and process emissions.

LRQA's responsibility is only to GPI. LRQA disclaims any liability or responsibility to others as explained in the end footnote. GPI's responsibility is for collecting, aggregating, analysing and presenting all the data and information within the Inventory and for maintaining effective internal controls over the systems from which the Inventory is derived. Ultimately, the Inventory has been approved by, and remains the responsibility of GPI.

¹ <http://www.ghgprotocol.org/>



LRQA’s Opinion

Based on LRQA’s approach, nothing has come to our attention that would cause us to believe that GPI has not, in all material respects:

- Met the requirements of the criteria listed above; and
- Disclosed accurate and reliable performance data and information as summarized in Tables 1 and 2 below.

The opinion expressed is formed on the basis of a limited level of assurance² and at the materiality of the professional judgement of the verifier.

Table 1. Summary of GPI’s GHG Data for CY2023:

Scope	Category	Quantity	Unit
Scope 1 Emissions	Direct ¹	1,635,704	MT CO ₂ e
Scope 2 Emissions	Location-Based ²	782,276	MT CO ₂ e
	Market-Based ²	810,712	MT CO ₂ e
Biogenic Emissions	Direct Biogenic carbon dioxide (CO ₂)	5,355,494	MT CO ₂
Scope 3 Emissions	Category 1: Purchased Goods & Services	3,986,750	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 2: Capital Goods	186,438	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 3: Fuel & Energy-Related Activities	443,684	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 4: Upstream Transportation & Distribution	1,256,856	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 5: Waste Generated in Operations	164,639	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 6: Business Travel ³	5,886	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 7: Employee Commuting	38,308	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 8: Upstream Leased Assets	32,758	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 10: Processing of Sold Products	95,531	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 11: Use of Sold Products	18,583	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 12: End of Life Treatment of Sold Products	1,257,051	MT CO ₂ e
	Category 15: Investments	5,077	MT CO ₂ e
<p>Note 1: Scope 1 emissions include an immaterial amount of HCFC-22, HCFC-134, and HCFC in R401A (blended refrigerant). Scope 1 emissions do not include emissions from Russian converting plants.</p> <p>Note 2: Scope 2, Location-based and Scope 2 Market-based are defined in the WRI/WBCSD GHG Protocol, 2015.</p> <p>Note 3: Business Travel emissions exclude hotels to align with SBTi reporting; air travel emissions apply radiative forcing; emissions include upstream Well to Tank.</p>			

² The extent of evidence-gathering for a limited assurance engagement is less than for a reasonable assurance engagement. Limited assurance engagements focus on aggregated data rather than physically checking source data at sites. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed.



Table 2. Summary of GPI's Water & Energy Data for CY2023:

Metric	Category	Quantity	Unit
Water	Total Water Withdrawal	150,498	Megaliters
	Other Influent Water	28,640	Megaliters
	Total Influent Water (Withdrawal + Other Influent)	179,137	Megaliters
	Total Withdrawal - Water Stressed ⁵ areas	363	Megaliters
	Total Water Discharges	149,650	Megaliters
	Total Water Discharge - Water Stressed ⁵ areas	244	Megaliters
	Total Water Consumption	43,571	Megaliters
	Total Water Consumption in Water Stressed ⁵ Areas	363	Megaliters
Energy	Total Nonrenewable fuel	8,021,505	MWh
	Total renewable ⁶ fuel	16,646,697	MWh
	Purchased Non-renewable Electricity	1,834,429	MWh
	Purchased Renewable Electricity	29,265	MWh
	Total Purchased Heat/Steam/Cooling (Non-renewable)	8,168	MWh
	Total Purchased Heat/Steam/Cooling (Renewable)	0	MWh
	Total Self-Generated Electricity - Non-renewable	555,820	MWh
	Total Self-Generated Electricity - Renewable	1,175,970	MWh
	Total Energy	26,540,063	MWh
	Percent Renewable ⁵ Energy	63%	MWh
	Electricity Used ⁷	3,595,484	MWh
	Percent Self-Generated Electricity	48%	MWh
Note 4: Water data does not include two Russian converting plants, Tama Mill and Groveport. Note 5: Water stress ranking pulled from WRI's Aqueduct tool by location. Note 6: Renewable Energy consists of biomass. Note 7: Electricity Used consists of Renewable and Non-Renewable Purchased Electricity and Self-Generated Electricity.			

LRQA's Approach

LRQA's assurance engagements are carried out in accordance with our verification procedure. The following tasks were undertaken as part of the evidence gathering process for this assurance engagement:

- interviewing relevant employees of the organization responsible for managing GHG emissions, water and energy data and records;
- reviewing processes related to the control of GHG emissions, water and energy data and records;
- assessing GPI's data management systems to confirm they are designed to prevent significant errors, omissions or mis-statements in the Inventory by reviewing the effectiveness of data handling procedures, instructions and systems, including those for internal quality control;



- checking GPI's conformance to their Base Year Recalculation Policy; and
- verifying historical GHG emissions, water and energy data & records at an aggregated level for the calendar year 2024.

LRQA's Standards, Competence, and Independence

LRQA implements and maintains a comprehensive management system that meets accreditation requirements for ISO 14065 *Greenhouse gases – Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition* and ISO/IEC 17021 *Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems* that are at least as demanding as the requirements of the International Standard on Quality Control 1 and comply with the *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants.

LRQA ensures the selection of appropriately qualified individuals based on their qualifications, training and experience. The outcome of all verification and certification assessments is then internally reviewed by senior management to ensure that the approach applied is rigorous and transparent.

Signed

Dated: 05 August 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marisol Bacong', is written over a light grey horizontal line.

Marisol Bacong
LRQA Lead Verifier
On behalf of LRQA Inc.
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