



VERIFICATION OPINION DECLARATION GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

To: The Stakeholders of W. W. Grainger, Inc.

Apex Companies LLC, (Apex) was engaged to conduct an independent verification of the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reported by W. W. Grainger, Inc. (Grainger) for the period stated below. This verification opinion declaration applies to the related information included within the scope of work described below.

The determination of the GHG emissions is the sole responsibility of Grainger. Grainger is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the GHG emissions statement in accordance with the criteria. Apex's sole responsibility was to provide independent verification on the accuracy of the GHG emissions reported, and on the underlying systems and processes used to collect, analyze and review the information. Apex is responsible for expressing an opinion on the GHG emissions statement based on the verification. Verification activities applied in a limited level of assurance verification are less extensive in nature, timing and extent than in a reasonable level of assurance verification.

Boundaries of the reporting company GHG emissions covered by the verification:

- Operational Control
- Worldwide

Types of GHGs: CO₂, N₂O, and CH₄

GHG Emissions Statement:

- **Scope 1:** 31,100 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **North America & Panama:** 29,712 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **International:** 1,388 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
- **Scope 2 (Location-Based):** 67,239 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **North America & Panama:** 58,245 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **International:** 8,994 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
- **Scope 2 (Market-Based):** 60,544 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
- **Scope 3:**
 - **Category 1, Purchased Goods and Services:** 2,201,042 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **Category 2, Capital Goods:** 44,034 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **Category 3, Fuel and Energy Related Activities:** 26,077 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **Category 4, Upstream Transportation & Distribution:** 278,401 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **Category 5, Waste Generated in Operations:** 9,834 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **Category 6, Business Travel:** 23,957 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **Category 7, Employee Commuting:** 33,677 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **Category 11, Use of Sold Products:** 22,260,851 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent
 - **Category 12, End of Life Treatment of Sold Products:** 258,275 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent

Data and information supporting the Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions statement were primarily historical but were in some cases estimated in nature.

Data and information supporting the Scope 3 GHG emissions statement were in some cases estimated rather than historical in nature.

Period covered by GHG emissions verification:

- January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

Criteria against which verification was conducted:

- World Resources Institute (WRI)/World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (Scope 1 and 2)

Reference Standard:

- ISO 14064-3 Second Edition 2019-04: Greenhouse gases -- Part 3: Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas statements
- WRI/WBCSD Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard (Scope 3)

Level of Assurance and Qualifications:

- Limited
- This verification used a materiality threshold of 5% for aggregate errors in sampled data for each of the above indicators.

GHG Verification Methodology:

Evidence-gathering procedures included but were not limited to:

- Interviews with relevant personnel of Grainger;
- Review of documentary evidence produced by Grainger;
- Review of Grainger data and information systems and methodology for collection, aggregation, analysis and review of information used to determine GHG emissions; and
- Audit of sample of data used by Grainger to determine GHG emissions.

Verification Opinion:

Based on the process and procedures conducted, there is no evidence that the GHG emissions statement shown above:

- is not materially correct and is not a fair representation of the GHG emissions data and information; and
- has not been prepared in accordance with the WRI/WBCSD GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (Scope 1 and 2) and WRI/WBCSD Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Value Chain Accounting and Reporting Standard (Scope 3).

It is our opinion that Grainger has established appropriate systems for the collection, aggregation and analysis of quantitative data for determination of these GHG emissions for the stated period and boundaries.

Statement of independence, impartiality and competence

Apex is an independent professional services company that specializes in Health, Safety, Social and Environmental management services including assurance with over 30 years history in providing these services.



No member of the verification team has a business relationship with Grainger, its Directors or Managers beyond that required of this assignment. We conducted this verification independently and to our knowledge there has been no conflict of interest.

Apex has implemented a Code of Ethics across the business to maintain high ethical standards among staff in their day-to-day business activities.

The verification team has extensive experience in conducting assurance over environmental, social, ethical and health and safety information, systems and processes, has over 20 years combined experience in this field and an excellent understanding of Apex's standard methodology for the verification of greenhouse gas emissions data.

Attestation:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Donaghu'.

Trevor Donaghu, Lead Verifier
ESG Director, National Practice Lead
Apex Companies, LLC
Pleasant Hill, California

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mary E. Armstrong-Friberg'.

Mary E. Armstrong-Friberg, Technical Reviewer
ESG Program Manager
Apex Companies, LLC
Akron, Ohio

October 5, 2023

This verification opinion declaration, including the opinion expressed herein, is provided to Grainger and is solely for the benefit of Grainger in accordance with the terms of our agreement. We consent to the release of this declaration by you to the public or other organizations but without accepting or assuming any responsibility or liability on our part to any other party who may have access to this declaration.