

# Water Management Policy

## **Purpose**

Vedanta Limited ("Vedanta") is committed to the principles of water stewardship. At Vedanta, we recognise the social, economic, environmental, and cultural value of water and the increasing global concern of water scarcity. Water has been identified as a societal risk, with access to clean water emerging as one of the most critical issues affecting economic activity across the world.

Water is a key resource for all our operations - required for the health and wellbeing of employees and at every stage of an operation's life cycle, including closure. The dependency and impact on a shared resource creates material risk for our business, which requires effective management that balances the needs of many different users. With many of our operations in water-stressed areas, we maintain sustained focus on efficient water use, and giving back more water to the environment than we take. Not only are we exploring less water-intensive technologies and embedding circularity in our water management, but also ensuring water security in areas where we operate by replenishing water in watersheds and other community sources. Thereby, we target to achieve Water positivity ratio of >1 by 2030.

This policy is forward looking and sets a vision for businesses across the Vedanta group.

## **Scope**

This policy is applicable to all Vedanta Limited companies, including subsidiaries, joint ventures, and acquisitions, managed sites, licensees, outsourcing partners, corporate offices, and research facilities. This policy is also applicable to all Vedanta Limited employees, contractor employees, business partners, suppliers, and others with whom Vedanta does business.

In addition, this policy is applicable throughout the operational lifecycle of the projects and mines, covering stages from exploration and planning to evaluation, operation, and closure. Furthermore, it extends to upstream operations.

## **Objectives of the Water Management Policy**

- Commitment to being water positive in operations where it is economically, socially, environmentally, and technologically feasible.
- Apply a zero-discharge philosophy wherever possible and treat all wastewater to good international practice before discharging to the environment including storm water runoff.
- Provide access to safe drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in the workplace and to local communities.
- Commitment to conserve freshwater ecosystems.

Vedanta will strive to:

- Comply with, and exceed whenever feasible, the local, regional, and national legislative requirements concerning land management and biodiversity conservation, as well as relevant international agreements, in all jurisdictions where we operate.
- Adopt and maintain global best practices on water management and minimizing water related impacts throughout our operations, including:
  - Determining baselines and developing ongoing monitoring of water quality.
  - Measuring water withdrawal, consumption, discharge across all operations and geographies and maintain year-on-year efforts to reduce water consumption and water efficiency.
  - Disclosing water related metrics for operations - including that of suppliers and business partners.
  - Defining water withdrawal reduction roadmap in alignment with Vedanta's commitment to become a water positive by 2030.
- Publicly report on the company's water performance using consistent industry metrics, recognized approaches, and upheld transparency in the entire reporting process.

- Avoid pollution of surface water, ground water and other water resources by implementing relevant checks, preventing leakages, and testing the source points periodically.
- Ensure that water and waste-storage facilities are engineered and maintained to good international standards.
- Conduct risk assessments to understand the impact of water availability, water quality on the business under different scenarios and time periods.
- Integrate water management considerations into our strategic approach, financial planning and analyzing the climate-related risks and opportunities.
- Include the adoption of water pricing or similar mechanisms into our investment decision-making.
- Implement adaption and mitigation actions to the physical risks of climate change and to achieve an orderly adaptation to a 1.5 degrees world.
- Promote, engage, and invest in water recycling, water reuse and water reduction projects including projects with other stakeholders such as communities, customers, suppliers, government etc.
- Foster research and innovation techniques within our operations leading to optimal utilization of resources which continuously improve the efficiency of operations, minimizing water consumption and resource use.
- Support joint efforts by the private and public sectors to reduce the impacts of water stress, water quality and physical risks of climate change. Participate in local or regional water catchment planning activities to secure sustainable water resources for our operations and the activities of other users.
- Encourage and influence our business partners including supply chain to adopt water stewardship practices, set water and climate targets and report on their practices.
- Conduct training and build awareness on water conservation for employees, business partners and communities.
- Review the performance against the policy on a periodic basis to ensure management of water as per our objectives including the sharing of good practices throughout the organization and stakeholders

### **Responsibility & Review**

This policy is part of the Vedanta Sustainability Framework, and each Vedanta business shall implement this policy. Executive Director will be accountable for controlling and setting the policy, and the Group Executive Committee are responsible for the full implementation of the policy and associated standards. The Board ESG Committee will review this policy annually and recommend appropriate revisions to the Board as may deem necessary.

Signed by:



Arun Misra  
Executive Director, Vedanta Limited

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024