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Carbon Footprint Assurance Statement

Ricardo Energy & Environment has been working with YBS Group (YBS) in 2018 to independently assure the Group's carbon footprints for 2017. This statement summarises the outcome of the review. Ricardo Energy & Environment's findings and recommendations are given in the *YBS Group Carbon Footprint Assurance* report, which is provided as a separate document.

Assurance period

The assurance review of YBS' carbon footprint has been carried out for the carbon footprint year, 2017 covering the period from January 1st until December 31st.

Level and scope of assurance

Ricardo Energy & Environment has carried out a limited level assurance review, which included the review of a 5% sample of the primary data on which the footprint is based.

The assurance exercise has been carried out for the YBS' carbon footprint, which covers the following emissions associated with its activities, where:

- ✓ means robust and reliable data is provided;
- ✓ means data is provided for the year, but the data quality cannot be guaranteed (i.e. there are some data gaps or estimates made);
- ✗ means data is not captured.

| | 2017 |
|---|------|
| Scope 1 | |
| Generation of heat (natural gas) | ✓ |
| Company vehicles used on company business | ✓ |
| Scope 2 | |
| Electricity | ✓ |
| Scope 3 | |
| Transmission and distribution losses from purchased electricity | ✓ |
| Private vehicles used on company business | ✓ |
| Business travel by air | ✓ |
| Business travel by rail | ✓ |
| Waste | ✓ |
| Water consumption and wastewater generated | ✓ |

It should be noted that no visits were made to YBS premises to review on-site data and systems.

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Methodology

In undertaking the assurance exercise, Ricardo Energy & Environment has reviewed YBS' carbon footprint data collection and calculation methodologies against the requirements the ISO 14064-3 (Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions) and the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard.

A material error is defined in the assurance plan as a 5% error in an emissions source.

Full details of the scope of assurance and methodology used are given in the separate document *YBS Group Carbon Footprint Assurance* report.

Ricardo Energy & Environment's opinion

Based on the review of the 2017 carbon footprint, Ricardo Energy & Environment is able to provide the following opinions:

- YBS continues to make good progress in calculating its carbon footprints and has set up credible processes for collating data and calculating emissions. It should therefore be commended for the efforts that it has made.
- The data sources used to calculate the footprint are robust and, in instances where future improvements can be made, it is clear that YBS will work towards these as part of the on-going improvement of its footprint calculation process.
- No refrigeration data has been captured and we recommend that YBS looks to include this within future carbon footprints.
- In accordance with the points above, we can make the following final opinion¹:

Based on the process and procedures conducted, there is **no evidence** that the 2017 GHG assertion:

- is not materially correct and is not a fair representation of GHG data and information, and
- has not been prepared in accordance with the ISO 14064-1 and the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard.

YBS should keep up this good effort and Ricardo Energy & Environment recommends that YBS undertakes a similar carbon footprint assurance, for its 2018 footprint, in 12 months time.

Independence and competence

Ricardo Energy & Environment is one of the world's leading energy and climate change consultancies, with over 1,000 internationally respected experts in the fields of energy, air quality, resource efficiency, transport, sustainability and economics. It has been involved in ground breaking technical and policy development across the environmental spectrum for the last 40 years, and continues to play a lead role as advisor to governments and major corporations.

¹ Note this is standard text for a limited assurance against ISO 14064-3.

Validity of statement

This statement is valid for the carbon footprint assurance review, for the periods from 1st January to 31st December 2017.

Ricardo Energy & Environment accepts no liability whatsoever to any third party for any loss or damage arising from any interpretation or reliance upon this assessment.

Ricardo Energy & Environment

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