



**VERIFICATION OPINION DECLARATION  
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**

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

Total GHG emissions were verified according to the reporting and verification standards noted below. The Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi) target boundaries were reviewed for alignment with the SBTi Corporate Manual and SBTi criteria, but were not independently validated by Apex per the SBTi standards.

The determination of the GHG emissions is the sole responsibility of General Mills. General Mills is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the GHG 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 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
- Exclusions
  - emissions associated with refrigerant losses

**Types of GHGs:** CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>4</sub>

**GHG Emissions Statement:**

<b>GHG Scope/Category</b>	<b>GHG Protocol (metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent)</b>	<b>SBTi Target Boundary (metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent)**</b>
<b>Scope 1</b>	<b>335,600</b>	<b>335,600</b>
<b>Scope 2 (location-based)</b>	<b>534,200</b>	-
<b>Scope 2 (market-based)</b>	<b>20,700</b>	<b>20,700</b>
<b>Scope 3</b>	<b>19,110,800*</b>	<b>15,937,300</b>
Category 1 – Purchased Goods and Services	8,857,600	8,004,800
Category 2 – Capital Goods	245,300	-
Category 3 – Fuel and Energy Related Activities	222,100	222,100
Category 4 – Upstream Transportation & Distribution	3,969,500	3,969,500
Category 5 – Waste Generated in Operations	99,600	99,600

Category 6 – Business Travel (Air Travel)	16,300	16,300
Category 7 – Employee Commuting	87,000	-
Category 9 – Downstream Transportation and Distribution	1,290,100	-
Category 10 – Processing of Sold Products	40,100	40,100
Category 11 – Use of Sold Products	3,251,800	3,251,800
Category 12 – End of Life Treatment of Sold Products	1,025,300	333,100
Category 14 – Franchises	6,000	-

\* Total may not sum exactly with individual entries due to rounding

\*\* SBTi target boundaries have been reviewed for alignment with the SBTi Corporate Manual and SBTi criteria *but* have not been independently validated by Apex Companies per the SBTi standards.

Data and information supporting the Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 GHG emissions statement were in some cases estimated rather than historical in nature.

**Period covered by GHG emissions verification:**

- June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023

**Criteria against which verification 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)
- WRI/WBCSD Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard (Scope 3)

**Reference Standard:**

- ISO 14064-3 Second Edition 2019-04: Greenhouse gases -- Part 3: Specification with guidance for the verification and validation of greenhouse gas statements

**Level of Assurance and Qualifications:**

- Limited
- This verification used a materiality threshold of  $\pm 5\%$  for aggregate errors in sampled data for each of the above indicators.
- It is possible that actual Scope 1 emissions are materially different than reported, as there may be quantities of additional fuels, beyond natural gas, that have not previously been reported by several sites. The quantities of these fuels and their associated emissions are unknown at this time.

**GHG Verification Methodology:**

Evidence-gathering procedures included but were not limited to:

- Interviews with relevant personnel of General Mills;
- Review of documentary evidence produced by General Mills;
- Review of General Mills data, information systems, and methodology for collection, aggregation, analysis, and review of information used to determine GHG emissions during site visits to General Mills Covington Plant, General Mills San Adrian Plant, and General Mills Arras Plant; and



- Audit of sample of data used by General Mills to determine GHG emissions.

**Verification Opinion:**

Based on the process and procedures conducted, there is no evidence that the GHG emissions opinion declaration 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 General Mills 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 General Mills, 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 black ink that reads "Megan K. O'Neil".

Megan O'Neil, Lead Verifier  
ESG Program Manager  
Apex Companies, LLC  
Atlanta, Georgia

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Johnston".

Scott Johnston, Technical Reviewer  
ESG Principal Consultant  
Apex Companies, LLC  
Doral, Florida

February 20, 2024

*This verification statement, including the opinion expressed herein, is provided to General Mills and is solely for the benefit of General Mills in accordance with the terms of our agreement. We consent to the release of this statement by you to CDP in order to satisfy the terms of CDP disclosure requirements but without accepting or assuming any responsibility or liability on our part to CDP or to any other party who may have access to this statement.*