

# **LRQA Independent Assurance Statement**

Relating to The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company's Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Social Indicators for the 2021 calendar year

This Assurance Statement has been prepared for The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company in accordance with our contract.

### **Terms of Engagement**

LRQA Canada was commissioned by The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company (Manulife) to provide independent assurance of its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory and social indicators ("the Report") for the 2021 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 Manulife's operations and activities in operationally controlled owned and leased facilities worldwide in two of Manulife's three business units: the Manulife Investment Management (MIM) Real Estate and Corporate Real Estate division. MIM Timberlands and Agriculture was not included in this verification, though Scope 3 emissions from business travel and paper use have been extrapolated across the entire organization. Specifically, this engagement covered the following requirements:

- Verifying conformance with:
  - Manulife's GHG Accounting Guidance; and
  - 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 data<sup>1</sup>.
- 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 only include the following:
      - Business Travel: Air and Vehicle
      - Paper Use
      - Waste Generated in Operations (note this category only covers a portion of properties in Manulife's portfolio, as discussed below);
  - Energy Use;
  - Social Indicators:
    - Workforce Diversity
      - Woman percent of all employees
      - Woman percent of Vice President and Above
    - Community Investments
      - Cash contributions
      - Volunteer hours
    - Employee Engagement
      - Employee engagement score
      - Employees participating in engagement survey
    - Talent Acquisition & Retention
      - Average employee tenure
      - Open positions filled by internal candidates
      - Voluntary turnover rate

<sup>1.</sup> http://www.ghgprotocol.org/



Except for the Scope 3 categories mentioned above, our assurance engagement excluded the data and information of Manulife's suppliers, contractors and any third-parties mentioned in the report.

Scope 3 emissions from municipal solid waste are currently being gathered for a portion of the properties in Manulife's portfolio. Therefore, LRQA was commissioned to verify the portion of data currently being gathered, presented below as percentages of the total portfolio for each business unit:

Business Unit	Data Coverage <sup>1</sup> (%)
Manulife Investment Management Real Estate	67
Manulife Corporate Real Estate	0

<sup>1.</sup> Data coverage is percent of total floor area with reported consumption.

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

#### **LRQA's Opinion**

Based on LRQA's approach, except for the effect of the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion, nothing has come to our attention that would cause us to believe that Manulife 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 Table 1 below.

The opinion expressed is formed on the basis of a limited level of assurance<sup>2</sup> and at the materiality of the professional judgement of the verifier.

### **Basis for Qualified Opinion**

Paper usage from one vendor and recycled paper values from three vendors were omitted in calculating Scope 3 emissions from paper use. This does not have a material impact on the emission value reported.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2.</sup> 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 1. Summary of Manulife's GHG Emissions and Environmental Data for CY 2021:

Data Parameter	Data	Unit
Scope 1 GHG emissions <sup>1,</sup>	35,642	Metric Tons CO₂e
Scope 2 GHG emissions (Location-based) <sup>1,2</sup>	106,154	Metric Tons CO₂e
Scope 2 GHG emissions (Market-based) 1,2	91,520	Metric Tons CO₂e
Scope 3 GHG emissions: Paper Use	5,705	Metric Tons CO₂e
Scope 3 GHG emissions: Waste <sup>3</sup>	1,560	Metric Tons CO₂e
Scope 3 GHG emissions: Business Travel <sup>4</sup>	1,985	Metric Tons CO₂e
Energy Use 5	654,281,457	kWh equivalent

<sup>1.</sup> This data does not include Scope 1 and 2 emissions from the Manulife Investment Management (MIM) Timberlands and Agriculture business unit, as they have not been included in this verification, though Scope 3 emissions from business travel and paper use have been extrapolated to include MIM Timberlands and Agriculture.

Table 2. Summary of Manulife's Social Indicators for CY2021.

Data Parameter	Data	Unit	
Workforce Diversity			
Woman (% of all employees)	56%	Percent	
Woman (% of Vice President and Above)	31%	Percent	
Community Investments			
Cash contributions (C\$ millions)	\$21.70	Million CAD	
Volunteer hours (#)	17,704	Hours	
Employee Engagement			
Employee engagement score (on a five point scale)	4.34	Five-point scale	
Employees participating in engagement survey (%)	95%	Percent	
Talent Acquisition & Retention			
Average employee tenure (years)	7	Year	
Open positions filled by internal candidates (%)	39%	Percent	
Voluntary turnover rate (%)	12%	Percent	

#### 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, energy use and social data and records;
- auditing Manulife's data management systems to confirm that there were no significant errors, omissions or mis-statements in the Report; and
- verifying historical GHG emissions, energy use and social data and records at an aggregated level for the calendar year 2021.

<sup>2.</sup> Scope 2, Location-based and Scope 2, Market-based are defined in the GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance, 2015.

<sup>3.</sup> Waste refers to municipal solid waste. Data is currently being gathered for a portion of the properties in Manulife's portfolio. Data coverage percentages are included in the Terms of Engagement section above.

<sup>4.</sup> Business Travel includes air travel, personal vehicle milage and rental car mileage.

<sup>5.</sup> Energy use includes kWh equivalent energy from use of electricity, steam and chilled water, combustion of natural gas, and diesel fuel from stationary sources.



## **LRQA's Standards and Competence**

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: 30 June 2022

Brooke Farrell
LRQA Lead Verifier
On behalf of LRQA, Inc.
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