

NextEnergy Group Human Rights Position Statement

Version 02: November 2024

Introduction

The idea of human rights is as simple as it is powerful: that people have a right to be treated with dignity ~ United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Renewable energy empowers lives. NextEnergy Group is on a mission to generate a more sustainable future by leading the transition to clean energy. But we know that this transition must also be just, and that leading it comes with the responsibility to ensure the highest environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards.

Respecting, promoting and protecting human rights in our own activities and throughout the solar and energy storage supply chains is fundamental to NextEnergy Group's approach to sustainability. We have a zero-tolerance policy towards human rights abuses and support industry-wide action to ensure a more sustainable and ethical supply chain.

Scope

[NextEnergy Group](#) is a specialist investment and asset manager active in the development, operation and financing of renewable energy infrastructure assets. We refer to these assets and their complementary technologies, including energy storage, as **Solar+**.

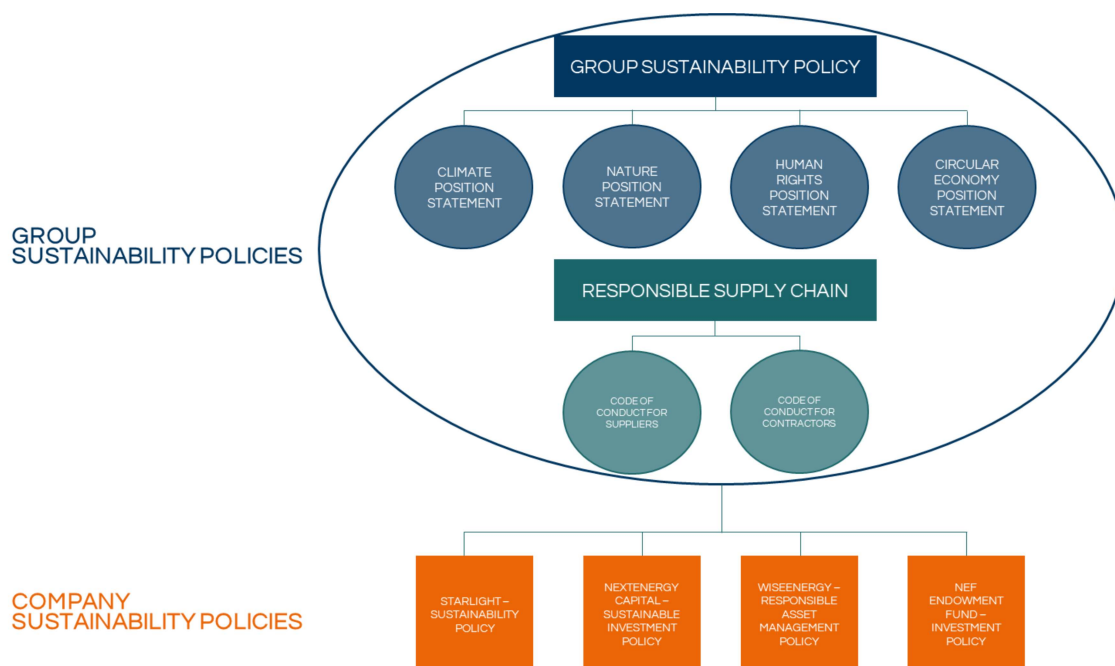
The Group comprises five companies: **Starlight** (asset development), **NextEnergy Capital** (investment management, **NEC**), **WiseEnergy** (asset management), **NextSTEP** (VC sustainability accelerator) and **NextEnergy Foundation** (international charity). We are on a mission to generate a more sustainable future by leading the transition to clean energy generation. Our approach to sustainability is holistic and forward-looking: we recognise and mitigate the climate-related and broader ESG risks, and identify and leverage improvement opportunities.

This Human Rights Position Statement (the **Statement**) applies to NextEnergy Group's companies, and the Business Conduct Principles set out in it extend to all of our business partners.

Governance

NextEnergy Group's sustainability and ESG activities are governed by a suite of Sustainability Policies, as illustrated in the figure below.

The corporate governance structure of the NextEnergy Group is intended to give all stakeholders confidence in its trustworthiness, fairness and transparency. The Head of ESG is responsible for ensuring adherence to the Group's Sustainability Policies, including this Human Rights Position Statement, and executive decision-making on sustainability and ESG issues. The Head of ESG reports to the Group's CEO and Founding Partner. The Group CEO and Head of ESG consult with the independent leadership committees for each of NextEnergy Group's companies, benefiting from the expertise of senior professionals across the energy, finance, construction and procurement, portfolio and asset management and environmental sectors.



Business Conduct Principles

NextEnergy Group supports fundamental human rights’ principles and opposes any form of human trafficking, slavery or forced labour, child labour, discrimination, and inequalities.

Our commitments align with the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ (UDHR)**. We recognise the **OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct²** and the **International Finance Corporation’s Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability³** as the framework through which to identify and manage human rights’ risks associated with our operations, our supply chain, and throughout our business relationships.

Our business conduct principles follow the **UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPR)**, and we expect our partners to adhere to, and uphold, these same standards:

¹ United Nations, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* <<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>>

² Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct* <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/finance-and-investment/oecd-guidelines-for-multinational-enterprises-on-responsible-business-conduct_81f92357-en>

³ International Finance Corporation, *Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability* <<https://www.ifc.org/content/dam/ifc/doc/2010/2012-ifc-performance-standards-en.pdf>>

- We support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights, which stem from the International Bill of Human Rights⁴ and the International Labour Organization's Declaration on the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work⁵;
- We are opposed to any form of discrimination, and forced, compulsory, trafficked or child labour; instead, we are committed to providing safe and healthy working conditions for all our employees and those of our business partners and suppliers;
- We promote the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining and consultation procedures;
- We are committed to engaging with our business partners and discuss with them how they can provide access to effective remedy if evidence emerges of a human rights violation on the part of one of our contractors towards their employees;
- We recognise the importance of land and cultural rights, particularly where these are not supported fairly by local laws;
- Where we interact with cultural minorities and indigenous people, we are committed to the principle of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC);
- We recognise the critical role our suppliers play in helping us to promote ethical and responsible business conduct.

We take our responsibility to uphold human rights very seriously, placing both people and their rights at the centre of NextEnergy Group's companies' business activities in order to ensure no one falls victim to abuse. This no-tolerance principle is fundamental to enable the Group to flourish in the longer term.

Implementation

In order to implement our business conduct principles in our operations, and throughout our supply chain our business relationships, we will continue to:

- Grow NextEnergy Group's activities by minimising impacts on people and nature, and respect human rights across the value chain;
- Strengthen the due diligence on our investments and throughout the [supply chain](#) in order to better identify and manage potential human rights-related risks;
- Increase awareness and transparency of potential human rights risks and opportunities associated with the Solar+ assets which we develop, invest in, and operate.

Addressing Human Rights Impacts

⁴ United Nations, *International Bill of Human Rights* <<https://www.ohchr.org/en/what-are-human-rights/international-bill-human-rights>>

⁵ International Labour Organization, *ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work* <<https://www.ilo.org/ilo-declaration-fundamental-principles-and-rights-work>>

- Integrate human rights considerations into the ESG due diligence as part of Starlight's development process; NEC's investment processes; and, WiseEnergy's management practices, acting on key findings and tracking and reporting transparently on our actions;
- Enhance the due diligence in countries and regions where there could be higher, systemic risks of human rights abuses;
- Extend the due diligence to our supply chain, engaging extensively to ensure that we only work with suppliers that meet our business conduct principles;
- Pay particular attention to individuals or groups who may be at greater risk of negative human rights impacts due to their vulnerability or marginalisation, including Indigenous People, and other minorities;
- Ensure effective communication channels with our employees, business partners, communities, and other external stakeholders who are, or could potentially be, affected by our actions or by those of our suppliers, including through grievance mechanisms.

Grievance and Access to Remedy

- Provide access to remedy wherever human rights impacts occur through company-based grievance mechanisms;
- Encourage our business partners to provide appropriate remediation where we are not directly causing or contributing to human rights impacts;
- Build awareness and knowledge on human rights, including labour rights and the importance of establishing grievance mechanisms across our employees, contractors and other stakeholders;
- Continue to increase the capacity of our management to effectively identify and respond to concerns from employees and communities impacted by our operations.

Transparency and Reporting

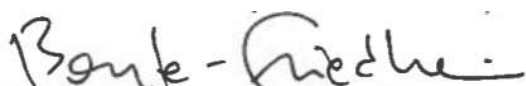
Transparent communication and disclosure are key factors in ensuring that standards and commitments are being upheld; they stimulate accountability and enhance credibility. NextEnergy Group is committed to transparently disclosing our approach to sustainability, and communicating our progress and learnings.

The actions we continue to take respect, promote and protect human rights are detailed in NextEnergy Group's and NextEnergy Capital's sustainability disclosures and reporting. In this way, we hold ourselves accountable to our commitments and drive best practice in the solar industry. As a mission-driven organisation, contributing to a more sustainable, responsible and just future demands nothing less of us.

Review and Approval

This Human Rights Position Statement has been reviewed and approved by senior management and the Group Leadership Team, and signed by the CEO. It consolidates our existing commitments and brings increased clarity on our processes and procedures.

The Position Statement is effective from November 2024 and is re-evaluated and amended as appropriate from time to time.



Michael Bonte-Friedheim

Chief Executive Officer and Founding Partner
NextEnergy Group

Version Control

Version	Reason for update	Date of release	Initials
01	Initial version of Human Rights Position Statement – NextEnergy Capital level	Nov 2023	MBF
02	Updated and moved to NextEnergy Group level	Nov 2024	MBF