

NextEnergy Group Nature Position Statement

Version 02: November 2024

Introduction

NextEnergy Group is on a mission to generate a more sustainable future by leading the transition to clean energy. As a mission-driven organisation, the Group pursues positive sustainability outcomes to shape a more prosperous future for people and nature.

Nature describes our natural world and encompasses Land, Ocean, Freshwater and Atmosphere,¹ which provides essential resources and services to humanity. Our people and prosperity are intrinsically linked to a thriving healthy planet: we cannot create a more prosperous future for people without having a safe operating space within which nature can thrive.

The global economy also depends on a stable climate and ecosystem services: an estimated 55% of global GDP, equivalent to USD 58 trillion annually, is moderately to highly dependent on nature, with most industries also exhibiting hidden dependencies in their value chains on more than 50% of the Gross Value Added of their products.²

The **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF)**³ agreed at the 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15) calls for at least USD 200 billion per year to be mobilised in global biodiversity-related finance by 2030. Despite this, nature is still too often viewed as a resource to exploit, rather than an asset to protect and enhance. The key components of nature are declining at an unprecedented rate, and action to halt and reverse this loss is falling short of meeting the KM-GBF's goals.

We must rethink our nature-related impacts and dependencies to create transformative change and reverse these trends.

At NextEnergy Group, we envision a future where every individual and business activity acts to halt and reverse nature loss to enable full nature recovery over the long-term. Our vision is for a nature positive future. For this reason, nature is one of the three priority areas in our Sustainability Framework. We believe that to create positive outcomes for people, we need to tackle the challenges to nature and climate synergistically.

This Nature Position Statement outlines the commitments and implementation detailed in our Nature Strategy, and the governance of nature-related activities at NextEnergy Group.

¹ TNFD (2023), *Recommendations of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures*, Taskforce for Nature-Related Financial Disclosures, <https://tnfd.global/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Recommendations_of_the_Taskforce_on_Nature-related_Financial_Disclosures_September_2023.pdf?v=1695118661>

² PwC (2023), *Managing nature risks: From understanding to action*, PricewaterhouseCoopers <[sbpwc-2023-04-19-Managing-nature-risks-v2.pdf](https://www.pwc.com/au/en/issues-and-ideas/featured-issues/nature-risk-management/2023/04/19-managing-nature-risks-v2.pdf)>

³ Convention on Biological Diversity (2022), *Final text of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework available in all languages*, Convention on Biological Diversity <[NextEnergy Group Nature Position Statement](https://prod.drupal.www.infra.cbd.int/sites/default/files/2022-12/221222-CBD-PressRelease-COP15-Final.pdf?_gl=1*1p6d7vb*_ga*MTM2MjJwMzk4OS4xNzIxMjMwMTQ4*_ga_7S1TPRE7F5*MTcyMTIzMDE0OC4xLjEuMTcyMTIzMDE4NC4yNC4wLjA.>></p></div><div data-bbox=)

Scope

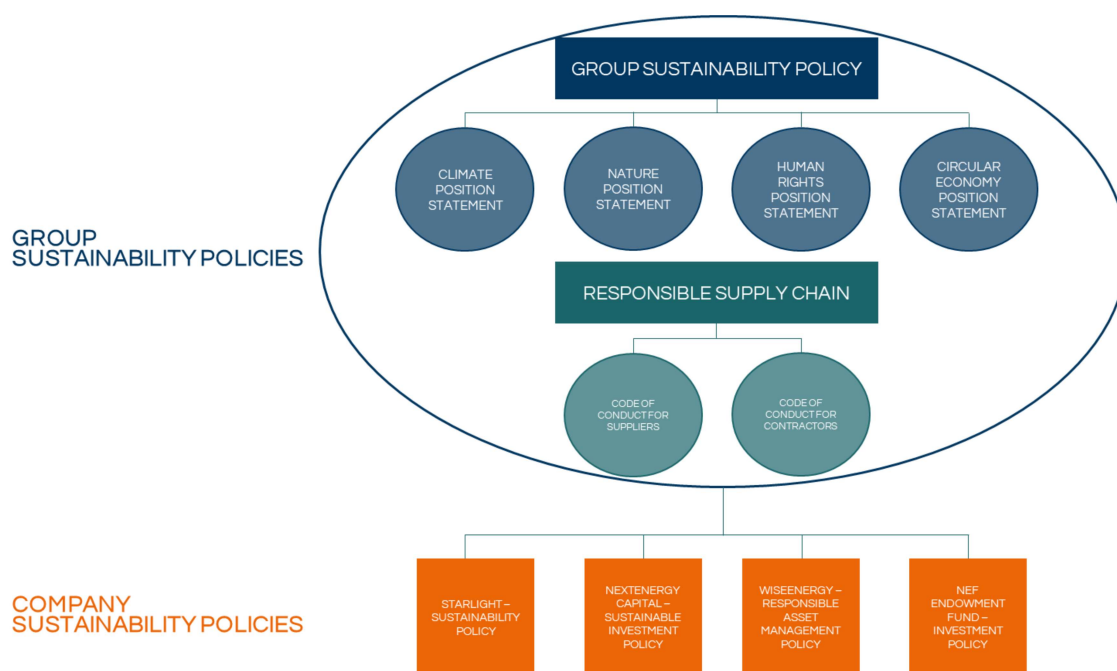
[NextEnergy Group](#) is a specialist investment and asset manager active in the development, operation and financing of renewable energy infrastructure assets. We refer to these assets and their complementary technologies, including energy storage, as **Solar+**.

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). Our approach to sustainability is holistic and forward-looking: we recognise and mitigate climate-related and broader ESG risks, and identify and leverage improvement opportunities.

This Nature Position Statement (the **Statement**) applies to NextEnergy Group’s companies, and the Principles and Commitments set out in it extend to all of our business partners. Governance

Governance

NextEnergy Group’s sustainability and Environmental, Social and Governance (**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 and executive decision-making on sustainability and ESG issues. The position 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.

Nature Steering Committee

NextEnergy Group has established a Nature Steering Committee (the **NSC**, or the **Committee**) to coordinate the Group's nature-related activities. The Committee is composed of Senior Management and General Members who represent each of the Group's companies, including NextEnergy Group's Head of ESG, Starlight's Global Managing Director, NEC's CIO and COO, and Wise ESG. The Chair of the Committee is the Group's Nature Lead. Together, the NSC members have executive oversight of nature-related issues, with responsibilities, including reviewing the Nature Strategy and progress toward targets, and approving major plans of action and capital expenditures, budgets and business plans. The Committee convenes at least quarterly, with ad hoc meetings or circular resolutions called when required. Resolutions are passed with the approval of the majority of votes amongst those attendees to the meeting through a show of hands. The Group Leadership Team makes the final approval of resolutions passed by the NSC.

Objectives

NextEnergy Group is committed to contributing our part to realising the goals and targets of the KM-Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as the **Global Goal for Nature** and its 'Nature Positive by 2030' initiative. These goals include measures to halt and reverse nature loss from 2020 to 2030, aiming for full nature recovery by 2050.

Our Nature Strategy is the roadmap for the proactive steps we are taking to realise our nature positive vision. The overarching objective is to support the transition toward an economy that operates within safe planetary boundaries. To do this, we aim to avoid and minimise the principal drivers of nature loss; fund nature restoration at scale; and, effectively manage nature-related risks in our direct operations and supply chains.

Implementation

NextEnergy Group plans to implement this Nature Position Statement through a delivery framework which follows the **ACT-D** structure (Assess – Commit – Transform – Disclose). This structure is sponsored by the **Capitals Coalition**, the **World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)**, the **Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)** and the **Science Based Targets Network (SBTN)**.

The Group has a standardised approach to apply **International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standard 6⁴** on Biodiversity and the Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources on developing assets in highly sensitive areas. Nature-related science-based targets will be established based on the findings of a materiality assessment and considering internationally-recognised frameworks. These include the recommendations of the **TNFD** –

⁴ IFC (2012), *Performance Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources*, International Finance Corporation <[Performance Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources | International Finance Corporation \(IFC\)](#)>

of which the Group is participating as an Early Adopter – and the guidance of the **SBTN**. Targets will also align with the relevant national objectives of the countries in which we operate.

We are committed to understanding our interface with nature and will continually assess our environmental impact across our direct operations and supply chains in order to prioritise material action. This will be underpinned by geo-spatial data collection and analysis in order to be able to measure and quantify the change in natural capital value and our nature-related impacts in both our upstream and downstream value chains.

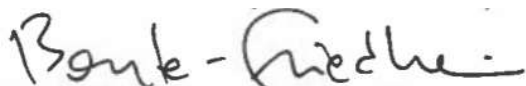
Transparency and Reporting

NextEnergy Group is committed to pioneer sustainability disclosures through transparency in our nature approach and performance. We continue to strengthen our internal systems, policies, and processes to ensure the reliability of our nature-related performance data. Our learning is ongoing and informs our science-based and evidence-led approach which showcases how to take responsibility for nature-related topics to our stakeholders and peers. NextEnergy Group's nature-related disclosures align with the following frameworks:

- [The Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures \(TNFD\)](#), which NEC became forum members of in 2022 and to which NextEnergy Group participates as an Early Adopter since 2024. We have chosen to voluntarily disclose our nature-related impacts, dependencies, risks, and opportunities following the TNFD's recommendation within our International Financial Reporting Standards' (IFRS) S1 General Disclosures and linked to our S2 Climate Disclosures established by the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB).
- [EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation \(EU SFDR\)](#) and [Taxonomy](#) reporting requirements, whereby biodiversity is one of the key environmental objectives relevant to the development and management of solar PV plants. NEC's funds all classify as Article 9 under the EU SFDR. NEC is committed to annually reporting on the biodiversity indicators included in the [Regulatory Technical Standard](#).

Review and Approval

This Nature Position Statement has been reviewed and approved by the NextEnergy Group Leadership Team, and signed by the CEO. It 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 Nature Position Statement – NextEnergy Capital level	Nov 2023	MBF
02	Updated and moved to NextEnergy Group level	Nov 2024	MBF