Audit Number: AO-000605

Audit Report
Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Site Details
Site: Mengniu - Inner Mongolia
Address: Mengniu Dairy Milk Source Building, Helinger Shengle Economic Park, Hohhot, 011500, Inner Mongolia, Nei Mongol, CHINA
Contact Person: Lili Chang
AWS Reference Number: AWS-000584
Site Structure: Single Site

Audit Details
Audited Service(s): AWS Standard v2.0 (2019)
Audit Type(s): Initial Audit
Audit Start Date: 2023-May-16
Lead Auditor: Ike Xu (TUV Rheinland)
Audit team participants:
Eugenia Deng (TUV Rheinland)
Ian Jiang (TUV Rheinland)
Site Participants:
Inner Mongolia Mengniu Dairy (Group) Company Limited, EHS Engineer

Audit Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Audit from</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Auditor</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Ike Xu (TUV)</td>
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ADDITIONAL INFO

Summary of Audit Findings: A total of three findings were raised during the certification audit, no major non-conformity, two minor non-conformities, one observation.

The Client is requested to perform a root cause analysis and define corrective actions for each of the non-conformities and to submit these to WSAS within 60 days of receipt of the audit report by Jun 18, 2023.

Minor non-conformities must be closed out by the time of the next annual audit.

The audit team recommends certification of Gold level certification concluded within this report.


The company is located at Hohhot City and Helinger County Shengle Economic Park, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region China. The site includes main workshops: one dairy collection workshop, one pretreatment workshop, one sterilization workshop, one filling workshop, one packaging workshop, and several auxiliary facilities, including feedstock warehouse, chemical warehouse, waste warehouses, QA/QC lab, power distribution room, water purifying facility, cooling tower, equipment storage room, wastewater collection tank, fire safety control room, etc.

The facility is located in the Baobei river catchment. The total length of the Baobei river is 76 km, of which 30 km in the territory of Hailinger County. The total catchment area is 606.5 square kilometers, of which 10 square kilometers are in Hailinger County. The first-class tributaries with a catchment area of 50 square kilometers or more include Baobei Ditch, Houyaozi Ditch and Lantern Su Ditch converging from the right bank, and there is Shizuizi Reservoir on the main stream of Baobei River.

The audit was conducted onsite on May 16-19, 2023.

The onsite site visit included the assessment of the production workshop, industrial park wastewater treatment plant, chemical warehouse, hazardous waste storage area, and water purified facilities, document review and stakeholder and employee interview.

The following external stakeholders were interviewed during the audit: Local environmental bureau, local water authority, water supply factory, industrial park ETP, employees, pasture, surrounding corporations, community representatives, etc.

SCORE

58.00

AUDIT RESULT

Preliminary: AWS Gold

FINDINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Observation</th>
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<tr>
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</table>
FINDING DETAILS
Finding No: TNR-004886
Checklist Item No: 1.3.2
Status: Open
Finding level: Minor
Checklist item: Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped.
Findings: The Water Balance Map does not show the discharge is combine with the stormwater, this must be corrected.

Finding No: TNR-004685
Checklist Item No: 1.5.7
Status: For information
Finding level: Observation
Checklist item: The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.
Findings: The site did not obtain data that would reflect the overall WASH level in the catchment for domestic sewage interceptor pipeline laying rate.

Finding No: TNR-004571
Checklist Item No: 3.2.1
Status: Closed
Due date: 2023-Jun-18
Finding level: Minor
Checklist item: A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance shall be implemented.
Findings: Hazardous waste (waste emity H202 tank) was found stored at open area that was close to water well and pump for gardening.
Corrective action: The site developed the procedure to standardize the movement and storage of hazardous waste. A clear PROHIBID signage was developed at the open area where the hazardous waste was wrongly placed.
Finding No: TNR-004570
Checklist Item No: 3.6.1
Status: Closed
Finding level: Minor
Due date: 2024-May-18
Checklist item: Evidence of the site’s provision of adequate access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers onsite shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.
Findings: The site didn’t test the water quality of drinking water outlet to the employees.
Corrective action: The site invited Ponytest to conduct drinking water test for its drinking water outlet to the employee in Jun, 2023. The test results showed compliance to national drinking water standard.
## Report Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Report prepared by</td>
<td>Ike Xu (TUV Rheinland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report approved by</td>
<td>Mia Antoni-Naidoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report approved on (Date)</td>
<td>21 July 2023</td>
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## Surveillance

**Proposed date for next audit**
2024-May-18

## Stakeholder Announcements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>06/04/2023</td>
<td><a href="https://a4ws.org/certification/stakeholder-announcements/">https://a4ws.org/certification/stakeholder-announcements/</a></td>
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<td>28/03/2023</td>
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## Stakeholder interviews

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation/Role/Relationship</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Chang</td>
<td>Local Environmental Protection Bureau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Hu</td>
<td>Local Water Supply Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Guo</td>
<td>Water Supply Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Nan</td>
<td>Industrial Park ETP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Wang</td>
<td>Milk Supplier - Daliang Dairy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Zhang</td>
<td>Xiangyu Community Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Liu</td>
<td>Employee in Mengniu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Liu</td>
<td>Surrounding company - Taoli Bakery</td>
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**Main Outcome of Stakeholder Interviews**

...
Local Environmental Protection Bureau - 1. The water quality of the Dahei River is not as good as the Baby River, the outfall into the river has real-time monitoring points by the Environmental Protection Bureau, and the water quality of the Wolin River channel is not abnormal, and the Baby River is Class V water. The vast majority of domestic sewage is included in the sewage network, and the domestic sewage collection rate is close to 100%.
2. The use of water is the biggest challenge. The use of water is costly, strictly managed and difficult to carry out. The wastewater treatment plant is treated to the water treatment plant, after which the water can be used. Jineng Power Plant and Telecom Mobile use more water. The water can be used for greening, but it needs to be treated in the water treatment plant before it can be used, because there are water treatment plants with purification and purification equipment.
3. Mengniu is forward-looking in environmental protection, paying attention to water resources and environmental protection, investing high amounts in wastewater treatment plants and upgrading the effluent standard of wastewater treatment plants to a Class A effluent standard for future development of water utilization projects. Mengniu ground water landscape case.
4. Environmental protection is managed from the tail end, not from the source, so we hope that all parties will promote the management of water use, improve the utilization of water, and take the lead within the city.

Local Water Supply Authority - 1. Dahehe River basin area is vast, and the amount of water that can be extracted in Heilin County according to the rainfall forecast, more than 60 million of groundwater and 30 million of surface water can be extracted in 2023, the amount of water can meet the current enterprise and residential water, 80% of the current water consumption is used for agricultural irrigation, and agriculture is a major user of water. At present, there is a plan to transfer water from the main stream of the Yellow River tributaries to replenish water to Hualin County, a day of 100,000 water consumption indicators, is a policy to deal with water shortage, corresponding to the future construction and planning around the airport of Hualin New District, for this reason, the government invested more than a billion equipped with underground water transfer pipeline network, transferred to the upper reservoir, replenish groundwater. The quality of groundwater is better than surface water and can meet drinking water requirements.
2. Low rainfall in 2022 relative to the last three years, close to a dry year, and in the event of a drought situation, the government to set up emergency water sources around Hualim to deal with the water shortage situation; 3. Mengniu greening water consumption is large, I hope Mengniu can try to reuse the water tail water to greening.

Water Supply Facility - 1. The park draws water from deep underground water to meet the park's water supply, 30,000 tons a day at the maximum, and there is no river near the domestic water to meet the conditions, so groundwater is used. 2. Customers increase, water demand increases, good public program regulation; pipeline, pressure, staff deployment can meet the current usage. 3. Mengniu dosage is stable, daily do a good job of water conservation.

Industrial Park ETP - 1. The sewage from Mengniu 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 plants, 12,000 tons per day. 2. Anaerobic aerobic process can then be reduced to tertiary standards, mainly depending on COD indicators, online monitoring network, every two hours a test, no exceedance of standards since the expansion, the expansion began in October 2021, the recent one or two months can be put into normal operation. 3. Mengniu will communicate with the sewage plant in advance; Mengniu hopes that the water treated to standard can be used for greening; Mengniu used to build an artificial river near the park, but the project was halted due to the tightening of environmental requirements, Mengniu subsequently hopes to resume.

Employee in Mengniu - Mengniu did a good job in water stewardship. In the summer of 2022, we and other Mengniu factories, water companies and banks will go to Shizuizi Reservoir to clean up the garbage, hoping to continue to raise awareness of water conservation among front-line employees.
Milk Supplier - Daliang Dairy - Daliang dairy is about 25 km away from Mengniu, mainly concerned with wastewater effluent management, ranch effluent spotting and positioning to return to the field for fertilization.

Xiangyu Community Resident - Enhancement of employment, higher density of people, increased greenness, no adverse effects.

Taoli Bakery - 1. Conducting water resources activities, encouraging employee participation, and water conservation video campaigns. 2. From improving production technology to improving water efficiency and sharing talents with each other.
Catchment Information

The Dahei River originates 1 km northeast of Beiyingzi Village, Shibaotai Town, Zhuozi County, Ulanqab City, with the geographical coordinates of the river source at 112o 47'E, 40o 47'N, and the elevation of the river source at 1686.5 meters. The catchment area is 12,361.5 square meters, with an area of 11,018 square meters in Hohhot City and a river length of 238 kilometers. The larger tributaries of Dahei River include Shirenwan Ditch, Shilausu River and Baobei River on the left bank and Xiaohei River, Harachin Ditch and Shuimo Ditch on the right bank. The water quality of Dahei River is between V and IV all year round, and the main characteristic pollutants are high manganese index and total phosphorus, according to the "Weekly Report on Monitoring of State-controlled Water Quality Automatic Stations in Surface Water of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region". Shila Usu River, also known as Xilawusu River, originates 1.1 kilometers east of Shaquanzi Village, Yongxing Township, Liangcheng County, Ulanqab City. The Shila Usu River is a dry river about 3 kilometers from its origin, and other sections of the river have intermittent water and clear water. The first-class tributaries with a catchment area of 50 square kilometers and above are mainly the Shila Usu Qianhe, the Baobei River, and the Sha River.

The Baobei River, also known as the Hellinger River and the South Yingzi River, originates 1.6 kilometers south of Wutaiyaozi Village, Chengguan Town, Hellinger County, with the geographical coordinates of the river source at 112o 02' east longitude and 40o 19' north latitude, and the elevation of the river source at 1683.1 meters. The river flows from its source to the northwest to the west of Wutai Yaozi Village, turns southwest to Yao Gou Village, and merges into the Shilaawusu River from the left bank at 29 km west of the north of Manshui Village Committee in Gucheng Town, Tokoto County. The total length of the Baobei river is 76 km, of which 30 km in the territory of Hailinger County. The total catchment area is 606.5 square kilometers, of which 10 square kilometers are in Hailinger County. The first-class tributaries with a catchment area of 50 square kilometers or more include Baobei Ditch, Houyaozi Ditch and Lantern Su Ditch converging from the right bank, and there is Shizuizi Reservoir on the main stream of Baobei River. According to the "Environmental Quality Bulletin of Hailinger County in 2020", the water quality of the control section from the source to the entrance of Baobei Ditch is Class II, which meets the assessment requirements. The water quality of the control section from the entrance of Baobei Ditch to Kutong Rabbit is Class V, which does not meet the standard. The water quality compliance rate in Hailinger County is 75%. Exceeding the standard factors are mainly concentrated in COD and ammonia nitrogen.

The Dahei River Basin is a sub-basin of the Yellow River Basin, and the Dahei River is a tributary of the Yellow River. Shira Usu River Basin is a sub-basin of Dahei River Basin. The Baobei River basin is a sub-basin of the Shira Usu River basin. After literature comparison, site observation and visits, the amount of wastewater discharged from Hualin III has very limited impact on the water users downstream of the Baobei River basin. Therefore, the Baobei River catchment and the groundwater of Shenglan District were selected as the catchment boundary and water source dependent catchment boundary for the discharge impact of Mengniu site respectively for this water resource management.
Client Description and Site Details

Client/Site Background
Mengniu group is one of the leading dairy product manufacturers in China, with Mengniu as its core brand. The site - Inner Mongolia Mengniu Dairy (Group) Limited (Helin Phase 3) is one of the main dairy production site of Mengniu, which is located at Hohhot City and Helinger County Shengle Economic Park, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region China. The site occupies 133000m2 in area, has about 400 employees and has production capability of over 600 tonnes per day. The general production processes include: purification, mixing, steaming, sterilization, canning, etc.
Summary of Shared Water Challenges

Water shortage: Water shortage is a common problem in both the main stream and tributaries of the Yellow River (including the Baobei River basin), constraining local economic and social development. There is also a threat of declining groundwater levels at the water supply source of Mengniu site.

Water Quality: The Environmental Quality Bulletin of Hailinger County in 2020 shows that the water quality of the control section from the entrance of Baobei Ditch to Kutong Rabbit is Class V and does not meet the standard. The main pollutants in the watershed are COD, ammonia nitrogen and total nitrogen. The water quality of Dahei River is between V and IV all year round, and the main characteristic pollutants are high manganese index and total phosphorus, according to the weekly monitoring report of the state-controlled automatic water quality stations in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

River health and irrigation facilities: The "14th Five-Year Plan" water conservation project list for Hailinger County shows that the Baobei River channel and reservoirs will be further strengthened in terms of flood control and irrigation capacity. Environmental protection inspectors and letters and visits to supervise the public information of the case show that there is sand and gravel piracy in the river channel of the Baobei River and damage to irrigation facilities.

Climate Change Mitigation: The site identified two regulations:

- Hohhot 14th Five-Year Plan for Addressing Climate Change - Office of the People's Government of Hohhot City - July 28, 2022
  http://www.huhhot.gov.cn/bmxxgk/szfgzz/szfgzswj/t20220728_1324789.html

- The Implementation Plan for the In-depth Battle of Pollution Prevention and Control (2022-2025) in Hailinger County - Hailinger County People's Government - July 22, 2022
  http://www.helin.gov.cn/zfxxgk/bmxxgk/zfcsxxgk/fdzdgk/zfxxgk/202209/t20220927_1381804.html

Meeting the goals of the regulations, including improving the ecological environment, adapting to climate change and reducing carbon emissions as the key quantitative indicators for future development are the challenge of the site.
0.1 General Requirements for Single Sites, Multi-Sites and Groups

0.1.1 Eligibility Criteria

0.1.1.1 The site(s) occupy one catchment OR an exception has been granted.
Comment The site is located at the Dahei river catchment.

0.1.1.2 The scope of the proposed certification shall be under the control of a single management system.
Comment The site developed an AWS management system that controls the proposed certification.

0.1.1.3 The scope of the proposed certification shall be homogeneous with respect to primary production system, water management, product or service range, and the main market structures.
Comment The site sufficiently evaluated the site status, and developed its own AWS management system that is compatible with production system, water management, product or service range, and the main market structures.
1. **STEP 1: GATHER AND UNDERSTAND**

1.1 Gather information to define the site’s physical scope for water stewardship purposes, including: its operational boundaries; the water sources from which the site draws; the locations to which the site returns its discharges; and the catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and upon which it is reliant.

1.1.1 The physical scope of the site shall be mapped, considering the regulatory landscape and zone of stakeholder interests, including:
- Site boundaries;
- Water-related infrastructure, including piping network, owned or managed by the site or its parent organization;
- Any water sources providing water to the site that are owned or managed by the site or its parent organization;
- Water service provider (if applicable) and its ultimate water source;
- Discharge points and waste water service provider (if applicable) and ultimate receiving water body or bodies;
- Catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and is reliant upon for water.

Comment

The facility provided layout of the site and several maps that shows the position of the site and water-related infrastructure, which shows:

The Factory's boundaries is Inner Mongolia Mengniu milk industry (group) Co.,Ltd.(Helin tertiary plant), which included one main production building, one bulk milk collection lorry cleaning building and milk collection facilities and auxiliary facilities.

The factory's piping network map shows the location of discharge point and tap water input point in the site.

Water service provider of the site is Fenghua Tap Water Co. Ltd. water source is groundwater.

Wastewater treated only offsite, first treated by Mengniu group wastewater treatment company, then treated by municipal wastewater treatment plant, Inner Mongolia Shengle Environmental Protection Technology CO, Ltd. The wastewater after treated, partly discharge to Baobei river, partly reused by Fenghua Thermal Power Co.Ltd.

The catchment where the site located and wastewater destination is Huanghe river catchment.

1.2 Understand relevant stakeholders, their water related challenges, and the site’s ability to influence beyond its boundaries.
1.2.1 Stakeholders and their water-related challenges shall be identified. The process used for stakeholder identification shall be identified. This process shall:
- Inclusively cover all relevant stakeholder groups including vulnerable, women, minority, and Indigenous people;
- Consider the physical scope identified, including stakeholders, representative of the site’s ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body or bodies;
- Provide evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges;
- Note that the ability and/or willingness of stakeholders to participate may vary across the relevant stakeholder groups;
- Identify the degree of stakeholder engagement based on their level of interest and influence.

Comment
The site provided a list of stakeholders identified, included other company belong to Mengniu Group, community around, school, water service company, company around, supplier, government, commercial tenant around, village around, ranch, NGO and association.
The site through telephone interviews, online survey, site visits and consultation to understand stakeholder's water-related interests and challenges.

1.2.2 Current and potential degree of influence between site and stakeholder shall be identified, within the catchment and considering the site’s ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body for wastewater.

Comment
The site has analysis the degree of influence between site and stakeholders and rated for each stakeholder, which included in the stakeholders list.

1.3 Gather water-related data for the site, including: water balance; water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, water governance, WASH; water-related costs, revenues, and shared value creation.

1.3.1 Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.

Comment
The site has published a comprehensive emergency response plan, which included situations like chemical leakage, wastewater leakage and hazardous waste leakage.

1.3.2 Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped

Comment
The site has draw a water balance map which shows the water inflows and outflows of each manufacture process and auxiliary facilities.

Finding No: TNR-004886
Site water balance, inflows, losses, storage, and outflows, including indication of annual variance in water usage rates, shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water balance for people or environment, an indication of annual high and low variances shall be quantified.
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The site installed meters for water inflows of total water inflows and total steam inflows. The site also install meters for main water used unit and main steam used unit, which achieved water monitoring tier 3. The water inflows data is base on the water and steam meter measurement.

The site draw a water balance map which included water and steam inflows, firefighting pool and pure water storage, wastewater outflow, estimated losses.

However, the data of outflows water in the water balance is estimate, because the meter for water discharge just installed at 2023 Apr, and still being debugged. And the storm water discharge shares same pipe network with wastewater, which means the outflows contained a part of stormwater, the this situation didn't present in the water balance map.

1.3.4 Water quality of the site’s water source(s), provided waters, effluent and receiving water bodies shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be quantified.

Comment The site has provided several recent testing report about provided waters, effluent and receiving water bodies, included:
The testing report of drinking water and water provided; the testing report of municipal wastewater treatment plant discharge; Mengniu group wastewater treatment company wastewater discharge; the testing report of Baobei River, the ultimate receiving water body.

According to the interview, the site tested effluent monthly, and the test results showed the water quality seasonal variance. According to the wastewater testing report, all pollutant discharge meet demand.

1.3.5 Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and if applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.

Comment According to the site visit and site risk control layout, the site has identified potential source of pollution in the site and mapped it with layout of the site. The potential source of pollution identified included chemical and waste storage area and areas where concentrated acid and alkaline storage and used.

1.3.6 On-site Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified and mapped, including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values.

Comment According to the site tour and interview, there are no IWRA in the site.

1.3.7 Annual water-related costs, revenues, and a description or quantification of the social, cultural, environmental, or economic water-related value generated by the site shall be identified and used to inform the evaluation of the plan in 4.1.2.

Comment The site has provided a water-related costs table, which presents the water used quantity and water-related costs per tonnes water. The water-related costs per tones water is 10.38 CNY, which included water resource tax, water fee and water pretreatment fee. The site also do water saving benefit statistics, which shows water saving project and benefit from it.

1.3.8 Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.

Comment
Comment
The site evaluated its level of access and adequacy of WASH by using WBCSD tool. According to the site tour, the site provided drinking water, washing room, cleaning toilet, hand washing basin area for all employees. The site hired cleaners to clean toilet and hand washing basin area everyday.

1.4
Gather data on the site’s indirect water use, including: its primary inputs; the water use embedded in the production of those primary inputs the status of the waters at the origin of the inputs (where they can be identified); and water used in out-sourced water-related services.

1.4.1
The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site’s catchment, shall be identified.

Comment
The main raw materials of the product of the site is milk and packaging materials, the suppliers are ranches and packaging material company. The ranches and most packaging materials company is in the same catchment with the site. The site questionnaire to suppliers to understand their water-related situation, included water quantity, water cost, product capacity, what catchment they belong to and waste water discharge. The site also use WWF to understand catchment risk of suppliers, which included water shortage, floor, water quality, status of ecosystem services and environment.

1.4.2
The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site’s catchment, quantified.

Comment
The site rents work clothes from a clothed rental company. The site questionnaire to clothed rental company to understand their water-related situation, included water quantity, water cost, product capacity, what catchment they belong to and waste water discharge. The site also use WWF to understand catchment risk of suppliers, which included water shortage, floor, water quality, status of ecosystem services and environment.

1.4.3
Advanced Indicator
The embedded water use of primary inputs in catchment(s) of origin shall be quantified.

Comment
The site questionnaire to ranches and packaging material supplier to understand their water-related situation, which included products capacity and water quantity. And the site calculated how many water used per tonnes milks and how many water used per tones packaging materials. So the site can know the water use of primary inputs in the raw materials.

Score
7

1.5
Gather water-related data for the catchment, including water governance, water balance, water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, infrastructure, and WASH

1.5.1
Water governance initiatives shall be identified, including catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly-led initiatives under way, and relevant goals to help inform site of possible opportunities for water stewardship collective action.
AUDIT REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

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Comment

The site has gathered water-related data for the catchment and summarized as a Catchment Report. The water governance initiatives identified include:
- Hohhot City's Ecological Environmental Protection and Addressing Climate Change Plan;
- Horinger County's implementation plan for the construction of the practice and innovation base on good environment, the implementation plan for pollution prevention and control, the 2023 work arrangement of the Water Resources Bureau of Horinger county, and the development plan for women and children's situation;
- The Implementation Plan of Innovation for Ecological Protection and High-quality Development in the Yellow River Basin;
- The Ecological Environment Plan of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

The public policies identified above indicated water-related goals the governance planning to achieve, which included water quantity of surface water and ground water, water reusing programme, river ecosystem health, climate change, popularization of tap water.

The site can understand water stewardship opportunities from above public plans.

1.5.2

**Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.**

Comment

The site has gathered water-related data for the catchment and summarized as a Catchment Report. The water-related legal and regulatory requirement identified cover the following topics: water governance, environment impact assessment, pollutant discharge, water resources extraction and utilization, drinking water safety and sanitation and so on. The site also summarized main clauses of regulations identified that related with water and available for the site.

Same regulations in the Catchment report listed below:
- Yellow River Protection Law of the People's Republic of China;
- Regulations of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region on River and Lake Protection and Management;
- Environmental Impact Assessment Law of the People's Republic of China;
- Regulations on discharge permit Administration;
- Water Law of the People's Republic of China;

1.5.3

**The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.**

Comment

The site has gathered water-related data for the catchment and summarized as a Catchment Report, which included catchment water balance. Mengniu is the largest water user in its industrial park, accounting for 9.28% of the total water supply of Fenghua water company.

There is a shortage of water resources in the catchment. The annual average precipitation is 414 mm, and the annual distribution is extremely uneven. The precipitation from June to September accounts for 73.9%. In Horinger, total amount of available water resources was 117.803 million cubic meters, and the amount of groundwater that could be mined was 85.19 million m3, which makes groundwater become main water supply source. Hohhot city has limit of 501 million m3 of water intake from the main stream of the Yellow River and its tributaries, while Helinger country has limit of 35 million m3 of water intake from its tributaries.

1.5.4

**Water quality, including physical, chemical, and biological status, of the catchment shall be identified, and where possible, quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be identified.**

TUV Rheinland (Guangdong) Ltd.
No. 199 Kezhu RoadGuangzhou Science City/Guangzhou, UNITED
Comment
The site has gathered water-related data for the catchment and summarized it as a Catchment Report, which included catchment water quantity.
The water quality of the control section from the source to the entrance of Baobeigou is Class II, which meets the assessment requirements. The water quality of Baobeigou Entrance to Huotongtu control section is Class V. The water quality of Daheihe River in Horlinger reaches 75% of the standard. The water quality of Daheihe River is between Class V and Class IV all year round. The site also sampled and tested related water bodies to understand water quantity in the catchment. The testing sample included Baobei River water acceptable point, municipal wastewater treatment plant outlet and ground water source.

1.5.5
*Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified, and where appropriate, mapped, and their status assessed including any threats to people or the natural environment, using scientific information and through stakeholder engagement.*

Comment
Important water-related areas identified: Shizuizi Reservoir, Toubuzen Reservoir and Brainmuqi Reservoir on the main stream of the Baby River, South Lake Wetland Park in Hohhot, and South Mountain Park in Helin. The plant embodies the important water-related areas with information such as the location of the site and in which part of the watershed it is located as a map. The representative of the site also investigated the condition of the IWRAs onsite.

1.5.6
*Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be identified, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events.*

Comment
According to the "14th Five-Year" water conservancy planning project table of Horlinger County showing the planning status of surrounding water conservancy facilities, the factory identified the existing and planned water-related infrastructure. Water-related infrastructure identified by the factory are: Shizuizi Reservoir, Tubuchan Reservoir, Naomuqi Reservoir, groundwater wells, municipal wastewater treatment plant, Shengle District sewage treatment plant.

1.5.7
*The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.*

Comment
According to the detailed hydrogeological investigation report of water supply in Shenglan District, the groundwater quality is good to meet the surrounding drinking water needs, the town sewage plant treatment capacity to meet the surrounding sewage treatment needs, the main streets of the Baby River basin and the north side of the river bank sewage pipe network laying, sewage plants have all collected and treated.
Enterprises collected the water supply water quality of the water company, visit villages to understand the villagers' feelings about WASH in the watershed, the government's efforts in recent years in the laying of rainwater and sewage networks, the construction of public toilets, tap water supply, etc..

Finding No: TNR-004685

1.5.8
*Advanced Indicator
Efforts by the site to support and undertake catchment level water-related data collection shall be identified.*

Comment
The factory in order to understand the water quality of Baobei River, sewage treatment plant discharge situation, samples the downstream of Baobei River, municipal sewage treatment plant discharge and Shengle park sewage treatment plant discharge and sends them to a third-party company for testing. The test indicators included chemical oxygen demand and PH, according to the test report, the quantity of this sampling point meets demands.

Score 6
## Audit Report

### Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-000605

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.5.9</td>
<td>Advanced Indicator</td>
<td>The adequacy of WASH provision within the catchments of origin of primary inputs shall be identified.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the water challenges identified by stakeholders with the site’s water challenges.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6.1</td>
<td>Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>According to the Catchment Report, the main shared water challenge in this catchment is water shortage. Water shortage is a common problem in both the main and tributaries of the Yellow River, including the Baobao River catchment. The second challenge is water quantity, the water quality of Daheihe River is always between Class V and Class IV and Baobei River water quality requirements for Class V, in 2020 did not meet demand. Two other challenges identified were river health and climate change.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6.2</td>
<td>Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be identified.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>In response to the shortage of water resources, the site have developed measures to save water and reuse reclaimed water. In response to water quality challenges, the site develop measures to meet pollution discharge demand. In view of river health, the site has made plan of voluntary river patrol and beach cleaning activities. In response to climate change, the site has developed climate change adaptation and mitigation plan and building green factory.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6.3</td>
<td>Advanced Indicator</td>
<td>Future water issues shall be identified, including anticipated impacts and trends</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>The site has identified future water issues, according to the 2022 analysis of the Water Resources Demonstration Regional assessment report of Shengyuan Park, in the future to 2025 and 2030, in Horlinger County, domestic, primary industry, tertiary industry and service industry water consumption will be in a tight balance, but the industrial secondary industry will still have the problem of water shortage. According to WRI Aqueduct Water Risk Tool, the risk of water scarcity will increase by about 1.4 times in 2030.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Score</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6.4</td>
<td>Advanced Indicator</td>
<td>Potential water-related social impacts from the site shall be identified, resulting in a social impact assessment with a particular focus on water.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Understand the site’s water risks and opportunities: Assess and prioritize the water risks and opportunities affecting the site based upon the status of the site, existing risk management plans and/or the issues and future risk trends identified in 1.6.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7.1</td>
<td>Water risks faced by the site shall be identified, and prioritized, including likelihood and severity of impact within a given timeframe, potential costs and business impact.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comment: The factory subdivides the water challenges into corresponding water risks scenarios and classifies and scores them. Water risks divided into three categories: physical, legal and reputation. The priority of water risks ranked according to the probability of occurrence and the severity after occurrence.

1.7.2 Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.

Comment: The site analyzes the water opportunities that might arise if each water risk is properly addressed. The factory estimates the potential revenue and benefit of each opportunity and ranks the opportunities by importance and revenue score.

1.8 Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes: Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.

1.8.1 Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be identified.

Comment: The site has developed a detailed concrete and feasible water sustainable management plan, implemented each action in the plan and periodically reviewed and updated the progress and results of the action. The factory is also a provincial water-saving enterprise and a national green factory.

1.8.2 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be identified.

Comment: The site commissioned a third party to make a water balance analysis, implemented effective water-saving measures and achieved water-saving effect, and won the title of water-saving benchmarking enterprise. According to the review opinions of water balance test protection, the production water quota of the site meets the advanced value of Inner Mongolia Industrial water Quota standard (DB15/T385-2020). According to the cleaner production audit report, the water consumption per unit product of the site is better than the liquid milk cleaner production level three water consumption.

1.8.3 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be identified, including rationale for data source.

Comment: The site test drinking water and underground water sources to understand the quality of this water. The factory's container cleaning water and milk tank cleaning water are recycled in the cleaning process. The factory reused steam condensate water and clean other processes with low water quality requirements.

1.8.4 Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.

Comment: The site held beach cleaning activities and river patrol activities to patrol the surrounding water bodies. The site visited Shizizu Reservoir and its surrounding area, and learned that the reservoir has changed from 30 meters deep before to the current level due to erosion of sediment in recent years. The site also organized water source tour, inviting surrounding enterprises and residents to participate.

1.8.5 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be identified.

Comment: The site has developed a detailed concrete and feasible water sustainable management plan, implemented each action in the plan and periodically reviewed and updated the progress and results of the action. The factory is also a provincial water-saving enterprise and a national green factory.
Comment

The site provided clean and hygienic drinking water, washbasins, toilets and showers to employees on site. The site also assess the toilet configuration and the result shows the site meets demand.
## 2 STEP 2: COMMIT & PLAN - Commit to be a responsible water steward and develop a Water Stewardship Plan

### 2.1 Commit to water stewardship by having the senior-most manager in charge of water at the site, or if necessary, a suitable individual within the organization head office, sign and publicly disclose a commitment to water stewardship, the implementation of the AWS Standard and achieving its five outcomes, and the allocation of required resources.

#### 2.1.1 A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document shall be identified. The statement or document shall include the following commitments:

- That the site will implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes
- That the site implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans
- That the site’s stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way
- That the site will allocate resources to implement the Standard.

**Comment**
The president of Mengniu group signed the commitment letter on sustainable water stewardship and the site director also signed the commitment letter. All the requirements including planning and disclosure, communication with stakeholders and resources allocations are mentioned in the commitment letter.

#### 2.1.2 Advanced Indicator

**A statement that explicitly covers all requirements set out in Indicator 2.1.1 and is signed by the organization’s senior-most executive or governance body and publicly disclosed shall be identified.**

**Yes**

**Comment**
The site has disclosed the statement letter from the corporate and site level at the entrance of the site as well as corporate website.

**Score**  
1

### 2.2 Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance.

#### 2.2.1 The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including:

- Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure
- Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.

**Comment**
The site maintained environmental and occupational hygiene system manual that describe water compliance obligations. Detailed requirement are specified in the document "compliance management procedures".

### 2.3 Create a water stewardship strategy and plan including addressing risks (to and from the site), shared catchment water challenges, and opportunities.

#### 2.3.1 A water stewardship strategy shall be identified that defines the overarching mission, vision, and goals of the organization towards good water stewardship in line with this AWS Standard.

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**TUV Rheinland (Guangdong) Ltd.**  
No. 199 Kezhu Road Guangzhou Science City/Guangzhou, UNITED
Comment

The site developed its overall water stewardship strategy as: 1. must operate in accordance with the law and be responsible for exercising social care and responsibility, environmental protection, water management, water resource utilization, circular economy programs, energy conservation and emission reduction programs, etc;
2. carry out risk assessment and business responsibility strategies arising from water scarcity;
3. To produce safe and hygienic products and be a purveyor of positive energy for national products;
4. Promote technology development for water pollution prevention and control and wastewater treatment measures technology;
5. Continuously refine the company's performance in the area of sustainable water management and strive to achieve the five outcomes of the AWS International Standard for Sustainable Water Management: sustainable water balance, good water quality, sound management systems, healthy critical water-related areas, and adequate and safe drinking water and sanitation facilities;
6. consistently and actively support and cooperate with local and basin policy action programs for the protection of water resources and water environment in the basin and contribute to the establishment of good water management mechanisms;
7. maintain interaction with stakeholders in an open and transparent manner, and regularly disclose performance and progress in water management;
8. Consider water conservation as a responsibility and mission as important as food security, and provide the necessary resources to achieve the above commitments for the sustainable improvement of the global environment.

2.3.2

A water stewardship plan shall be identified, including for each target:
- How it will be measured and monitored
- Actions to achieve and maintain (or exceed) it
- Planned timeframes to achieve it
- Financial budgets allocated for actions
- Positions of persons responsible for actions and achieving targets
- Where available, note the link between each target and the achievement of best practice to help address shared water challenges and the AWS outcomes.

Comment

The site developed water stewardship plan, covering the aspects of: water balance, water quality, catchment WASH, water governance, water related climate change, etc. Each goal are defined clearly and set up various measures according to the 2.3.2 requirements.

2.3.3

Advanced Indicator
The site's partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites within the same catchment (which may or may not be under the same organisational ownership) shall be identified and described.

Comment

The site initiated several actions in cooperation with other organizations as follows:
1. applied for Baobei river inspector, which is the receiving water body of the site from local government and got approval;
2. water resource protection activity (protecting Baobei river) with the public;
3. participated in water saving activity launched by environmental protection and water supplies bureau.
4. cleaned Shizuizi lakeshore, which is the IWRA identified in stakeholder recognition.

Score 4

2.3.4

Advanced Indicator
The site's partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites in another catchment(s) (either under same corporate structure or with another corporate site) shall be identified.

TUV Rheinland (Guangdong) Ltd.
No. 199 Kezhu Road Guangzhou Science City/Guangzhou, UNITED
Comment: The site launched communication meeting with Ecolab about the water footprint and water treatment in Kunshan, Jiangsu province.

Score: 4

2.3.5 Advanced Indicator
Stakeholder consensus shall be sought on the site’s water stewardship plan. Consensus should be achieved on at least one target. A list of targets that have consensus and in which stakeholders are involved shall be identified.

2.4 Demonstrate the site’s responsiveness and resilience to respond to water risks

2.4.1 A plan to mitigate or adapt to identified water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.

Comment: The site developed mitigation and adaption plan according to different priority of water risk, i.e. visit water supply authority to discuss and update the water risk information bi-annually; apply for river inspector from river management authority and participate in river inspection monthly.

2.4.2 Advanced Indicator
A plan to mitigate or adapt to water risks associated with climate change projections developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.
### 3. Implement - Implement the site’s stewardship plan and improve impacts

#### 3.1 Implement plan to participate positively in catchment governance.

**3.1.1 Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance shall be identified.**

- **Comment:** The site supported good catchment governance through various actions, including:
  1. The site organized “protecting river” activity, which invited residents and neighbour companies to have awareness on Bobei river and made contribution on its protection.
  2. The site actively applied for industrial park leading water enterprise in 2022.
  3. The site participated in the pollution discharge calculation training organized by municipal ecological and environmental bureau.

**3.1.2 Measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, that are not part of 3.2 shall be implemented.**

- **Comment:** The water rights are respected under legal and regulatory mechanisms.

**3.1.3 Advanced Indicator Evidence of improvements in water governance capacity from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified.**

- **Comment:** The site completed the AWS system manual according to AWS standard 2.0 requirements.
- **Score:** 2

**3.1.4 Advanced Indicator Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to the good water governance of the catchment shall be identified.**

---

#### 3.2 Implement system to comply with water-related legal and regulatory requirements and respect water rights.

**3.2.1 A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance shall be implemented.**

- **Comment:** The site collected environmental related laws and regulations at national and local level, and conducted compliance assessment regarding to each applicable articles and terms.

**Finding No: TNR-004571**

**3.2.2 Where water rights are part of legal and regulatory requirements, measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, shall be implemented.**

- **Comment:** The water rights are not part of legal or regulatory requirements in this region.

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#### 3.3 Implement plan to achieve site water balance targets.

**3.3.1 Status of progress towards meeting water balance targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.**

- **Comment:** The water balance goal, a 7% of water reduction per tonne products had been achieved in 2022. The process of goals in 2023, including pre-treatment, CIP room, RO system cleaning water reuse, etc had been tracked in the water management plans.
3.3.2 Where water scarcity is a shared water challenge, annual targets to improve the site’s water use efficiency, or if practical and applicable, reduce volumetric total use shall be implemented.  
Comment The goals for water balance mentioned in 3.3.1 were also good measures for water saving. Those measures accounted for over 8000 tonnes of water savings from Jan to May 2023.

3.3.3 Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be identified.  
Comment No legally-binding documentation is issued by local government authorities to the site for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs.

3.3.4 Advanced Indicator  
The total volume of water voluntarily re-allocated (from site water savings) for social, cultural and environmental needs shall be quantified.  
Comment The site received consensus and recognition letter regarding to their water governance from water supply company, steam supply company and one of the suppliers.

3.4 Implement plan to achieve site water quality targets  

3.4.1 Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.  
Comment The site's wastewater was discharged to Group's integrated ETP for treatment. Integrated ETP's wastewater, after treatment, was discharged to municipal ETP for further treatment. The site monitored its wastewater once a month and requested integrated ETP to provide monitoring report and the results showed its compliance to national wastewater discharge standard.

3.4.2 Where water quality is a shared water challenge, continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site’s effluent shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.  
Comment Besides for wastewater monitoring, the site installed realtime equipment to monitor the wastewater quantity and COD.

3.5 Implement plan to maintain or improve the site’s and/or catchment’s Important Water-Related Areas.  

3.5.1 Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site’s Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.  
Comment No Important Water-Related Areas was presented in the site. For IWRA in catchment, the site visited 5 IWRAs in 2023, including Nanhu wetland park and water source protection region and increased the awareness of the employees as well as surrounding residents.

3.5.2 Advanced Indicator  
Evidence of completed restoration of non-functioning or severely degraded Important Water-Related Areas including where appropriate cultural values from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified. Restored areas may be outside of the site, but within the catchment.
3.5.3  Advanced Indicator
Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to the healthy status of Important Water-Related Areas in the catchment shall be identified.

3.6  Implement plan to provide access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers at all premises under the site’s control.

3.6.1  Evidence of the site’s provision of adequate access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers onsite shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.

Comment
The site provided direct drinking water to all employees. The site test drinking water source from the RO system outlet the test report showed its compliance to regulatory requirements. The site also provided sufficient toilets according to GBZ1-2010 standard requirements.

Finding No: TNR-004570

3.6.2  Evidence that the site is not impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations, and that traditional access rights for indigenous and local communities are being respected, and that remedial actions are in place where this is not the case, and that these are effective.

Comment
No evidence showed that the site’s not impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations, and that traditional access rights for indigenous and local communities are being respected.

3.6.3  Advanced Indicator
A list of actions taken to support the provision to stakeholders in the catchment of access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene awareness shall be identified.

3.6.4  Advanced Indicator:
In catchments where WASH has been identified as a shared water challenge, evidence of efforts taken with relevant public-sector agencies to share information and to advocate for change to address access to safe drinking water and sanitation shall be identified.

3.7  Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment:

3.7.1  Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.

Comment
The site evaluated the water risk conditions of its suppliers within the catchment, including flooding, water deficiency, water quality, ecosystem status and positive environmental impacts.

3.7.2  Evidence of engagement with suppliers and service providers, as well as, when applicable, actions they have taken in the catchment as a result of the site’s engagement related to indirect water use, shall be identified.

Comment
The site organized an supplier sustainable water stewardship communication meeting in Jan 2023 and introduced AWS standard and the site’s implementation status to its suppliers.
3.7.3  Advanced Indicator
Actions taken to address water related risks and challenges related to indirect water use outside the catchment shall be documented and evaluated.

3.8  Implement plan to engage with and notify the owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns the site may have.

3.8.1  Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt, shall be identified.
Comment: The site actively communicated with local water supply facility and local environmental protection bureau about water and launched onsite visits monthly. The site also communicated with industrial park ETP to share the concerns about wastewater quality regularly through online platforms such as Wechat.

3.9  Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: continually improve towards achieving sectoral best practice having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.

3.9.1  Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance, as applicable, shall be implemented.
Comment: The site achieved a fresh water reduction of 22% per tonnes of milk compared to inner-Mongolia dairy industry average in 2022.

3.9.2  Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance shall be implemented.
Comment: The process water saving and reuse technique for dairy containing beverage the site used was listed as "promoted technique" by Ministry of Water Resources.

3.9.3  Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be implemented.
Comment: The average discharge water quality (COD) was around 50mg/l in 2022, which is far below the national wastewater discharge standard (level 3, 500 mg/l).

3.9.4  Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of the site’s maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.
Comment: The site organized water resource protection activity in Mar 2023 and collected 292 questionnaires from various stakeholders.

3.9.5  Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be implemented.
Comment: The site developed several measures to maintain good WASH level onsite, such as:
1. Formulated drinking water facility cleaning plan, including frequency, detailed processes, acceptance level, records required, etc.
2. Formulated site cleaning and sanitary procedures and standard;
3. Provided showing room and free washing supplies for all employees.

3.9.6  Advanced Indicator
Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of good water governance shall be quantified.
Comment: The site got reward of "outstanding water saving enterprise" issued by Department of Industry and Information Technology of inner-Mongolia in 2021.
3.9.7 Advanced Indicator
Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of sustainable water balance shall be quantified.

Comment
According to the site’s clean production report, the site achieved clean production audit level one, which is leading level nationally.

Score 8

3.9.8 Advanced Indicator
Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of water quality shall be quantified

N/A

3.9.9 Advanced Indicator
Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of the site’s maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas have been implemented.

N/A

3.9.10 Advanced Indicator
Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be quantified.

Comment
The site applied WBCSD & GBZ1-2010 to assess the WASH level.

Score 4

3.9.11 Advanced Indicator
A list of efforts to spread best practices shall be identified.

N/A

3.9.12 Advanced Indicator
A list of collective action efforts, including the organizations involved, positions of responsible persons of other entities involved, and a description of the role played by the site shall be identified.

Comment
The site completed a series of collective actions:
2. The site organized tree planting activity in cooperation with other Mengniu sites in Mar and Apr for water conservation.

Score 10

3.9.13 Advanced Indicator
Evidence of the quantified improvement that has resulted from the collective action relative to a site-selected baseline date shall be identified and evidence from an appropriate range of stakeholders linked to the collective action (including both those implementing the action and those affected by the action) that the site is materially and positively contributing to the achievement of the collective action shall be identified.

N/A
4

STEP 4: EVALUATE - Evaluate the site’s performance.

4.1 Evaluate the site’s performance in light of its actions and targets from its water stewardship plan and demonstrate its contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes.

4.1.1 Performance against targets in the site’s water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.

Comment
The sustainable water resources management program developed by the site sets specific targets and measures for water quality, water balance, climate change, river health, river basin management, WASH, IWRA and other aspects. The site evaluated the completion status and progress of each index in the program.

4.1.2 Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated.

Comment
For the water-saving goal set by the water balance goal, the factory analyzed and calculated the potential economic benefits after the completion of water-saving measures.

4.1.3 The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.

Comment
Through the surrounding water body health watershed treatment, the site for Shizui reservoir clean up solid waste, make Shizui reservoir to restore green. The site jointly carried out water-saving publicity with the water department to enhance the water-saving awareness of all staff.

4.1.4 Advanced Indicator
A governance or executive-level review, including discussion of shared water challenges, water risks, and opportunities, and any water-related cost savings or benefits realized, and any relevant incidents shall be identified.

Comment
According to the management review and internal review records, in March 2023, the company held a management review meeting with the plant manager to discuss goals and achievement in areas including water quality, water balance, WASH, healthy river basin management, etc.

Score 3

4.2 Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine the effectiveness of corrective and preventative measures.

4.2.1 A written annual review and (where appropriate) root-cause analysis of the year’s emergency incident(s) shall be prepared and the site’s response to the incident(s) shall be evaluated and proposed preventative and corrective actions and mitigations against future incidents shall be identified.

Comment
The site made a summary report on 2022 emergency drills, evaluating the completion degree and achievements of various kinds of emergency drills in 2022. There are no contingencies in 2022.

4.3 Evaluate stakeholders’ consultation feedback regarding the site’s water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of the site’s engagement process.
4.3.1 Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site’s water stewardship performance shall be identified.  
Yes

Comment
The site had water-related interviews with Fenghua Water Supply Company, Fenghua Heating Company and Eilin Ranch, and these stakeholders gave written affirmation to the water management performance of the site.

4.3.2 Advanced Indicator
The site’s efforts to address shared water challenges shall be evaluated by stakeholders. This shall include stakeholder reviewing of the site’s efforts across all five outcome areas, and their suggestions for continual improvement.  
Yes

Comment
The site had water-related interviews with Fenghua Water Supply Company, Fenghua Heating Company and Eilin Ranch, sharing the sustainable water management plan and implementation status, and these stakeholders affirmed the water management performance made by the company in writing.

Score 6

4.4 Evaluate and update the site’s water stewardship plan, incorporating the information obtained from the evaluation process in the context of continual improvement.  
Yes

4.4.1 The site’s water stewardship plan shall be modified and adapted to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from the evaluations in this step and these changes shall be identified.  
Yes

Comment
According to the management review and internal review records, in March 2023, the company held a management review meeting with the plant manager to discuss goals and achievement in areas including water quality, water balance, WASH, healthy river basin management, etc.
5 STEP 5: COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE - Communicate about water stewardship and disclose the site’s stewardship efforts

5.1 Disclose water-related internal governance of the site’s management, including the positions of those accountable for legal compliance with water-related local laws and regulations.

5.1.1 The site’s water-related internal governance, including positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations shall be disclosed.

Comment
The site has published the AWS Water Management Public Disclosure Plan and the Sustainable Water Management Plan on the Mengniu website, including an organizational chart related to water management and contact information for the environmental compliance officer.

5.2 Communicate the water stewardship plan with relevant stakeholders.

5.2.1 The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to relevant stakeholders.

Comment
The site shared the Sustainable Water Management Plan with other Mengniu Group plants and the Water Bureau, and met with the People’s Government of Helin County and Shengle Industrial Park to communicate the sustainable water management plan.

5.3 A summary of the site’s water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum.

Comment
The site has published the AWS Water Management Public Disclosure Plan and the Sustainable Water Management Plan on the Mengniu website, which includes water management performance, were announced on the Monmouth Tube website.

5.3.2 Advanced Indicator
The site’s efforts to implement the AWS Standard shall be disclosed in the organization’s annual report.

Comment
Mengniu Group released its 2022 ESG report, which includes and quantifies the efforts and benefits of the site's implementation of water management according to AWS standards, such as water savings, percentage of water reuse, etc.

5.3.3 Advanced Indicator
Benefits to the site and stakeholders from implementation of the AWS Standard shall be quantified in the organization’s annual report.

Comment
Mengniu Group released its 2022 ESG report, which includes and quantifies the efforts and benefits of the site's implementation of water management according to AWS standards, such as water savings, percentage of water reuse, etc.

5.4 Disclose efforts to collectively address shared water challenges, including: associated efforts to address the challenges; engagement with stakeholders; and co-ordination with public-sector agencies.
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5.4.1 The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.
Comment The site has published the AWS Water Management Public Disclosure Plan and the Sustainable Water Management Plan on the Mengniu website, which includes water challenges and efforts.

5.4.2 Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.
Comment The site has published the AWS Water Management Public Disclosure Plan and the Sustainable Water Management Plan on the Mengniu website, which includes communication and coordination with stakeholders. The site shared the Sustainable Water Management Plan with other Mengniu Group plants and the Water Bureau, and met with the People's Government of Helin County and Shengle Industrial Park to communicate the sustainable water management plan. This record also disclosed in Mengniu website.

5.5 Communicate transparency in water-related compliance: make any site water-related compliance violations available upon request as well as any corrective actions the site has taken to prevent future occurrences.

5.5.1 Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.
Comment No water-related violation.

5.5.2 Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable.
Comment No water-related violation.

5.5.3 Any site water-related violation that may pose significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health shall be immediately communicated to relevant public agencies and disclosed.
Comment No water-related violation.
Photographic Evidence from Audit

- Hazardous waste was stored at open area.
- The company developed AWS flyer.
AUDIT REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

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wastewater outlet of the company.jpg

The site’s online wastewater monitoring.jpg

cooling water.jpg

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factory workshop.jpg

Announcement.jpg