

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001934

### SITE DETAILS

Site: **Mengniu Dairy (Dangyang) Co.,Ltd**

Address: No. 28, HuanCheng East Road, Dangyang City, Hubei Province, 444100, Dangyang, Hubei, P.R. CHINA

Contact Person: Yue Song

AWS Reference Number: AWS-000874

Site Structure: Single Site

### CERTIFICATION DETAILS

Certification status: Certified Gold

Date of certification decision: 2026-Apr-08

Validity of certificate: 2029-Apr-07

### AUDIT DETAILS

Audited Service(s): AWS Standard v2.0 (2019)

Audit Type(s): Initial Audit

Audit Start Date: 2026-Feb-11

Audit End Date: 2026-Feb-11

Lead Auditor: Ian Jiang

Audit team participants:

Jing Tu

Site Participants:

Zhao Jin Qi, Factory General Manager

Li Jun, Environmental Engineer

Liu Yong Tao, Head of the Quality Department

Meng Qing Hong, Inspection

Yang Chen, Head of the Technology Department

Zheng Zhi Yong, Comprehensive Management Officer

Guo Yu Tao, Wastewater treatment plant engineer

Li Jin, Environmental Engineer

Lu Dong Ming, Supervisor of warehouse

Huang Min, Power Engineer

Xiong Mei Shuang, Mechanical Engineer

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### ADDITIONAL INFO

Summary of Audit Findings: During the certification audit 3 of non-conformities and 1 observation were raised.

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 14 days of receipt of the audit report by 27/02/2026.

The non-conformities must be closed within 90 days of the end of the audit. In order to meet this timeline evidence is to be submitted to WSAS (within 75 days) [30/04/2026].

The audit team recommends certification of Mengniu Dairy (Dangyang) Co.,Ltd at Gold level pending approval of the corrective actions plan and closure of the non-conformities.

Scope of Assessment: The scope of services covers the Initial certification audit for assessing conformity of Mengniu Dairy (Dangyang) Co.,Ltd against the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Version 2.

Mengniu Dairy (Dangyang) Co.Ltd. was established with investment from Inner Mongolia Mengniu Dairy (Group) Co., Ltd. Construction began in October 2002 and the total land area is 80,200 square meters. The site is a dairy product production factory under the Mengniu Group. It currently has 394 employees and operates 7 production lines for ice cream and snow cones, with an average daily output of 160 tons. The production process is: Weighing - Mixing - Homogenization - Sterilization - Aging - Freezing - Forming - Inserting skewers - Rapid freezing - Coating and hanging - Packaging - Inspection - Storage

The site is located in the Bangling Economic and Technological Development Zone of Dangyang City, under the jurisdiction of Bangling Industrial Park. On the north of the site, there are residents and individual businesses operating. On the east, there are farmers raising fish and engaging in agricultural planting. On the south and west sides, there are adjacent factories. All the water used by the site is sourced from the municipal water supply plant.

The wastewater is treated by the site's own wastewater treatment station, then discharged through the municipal pipeline into the Jintiao Sewage Treatment Plant in Dangyang City. The treated water is then discharged into the artificial wetland outside the WWTP and finally flows into the Ju River.

The audit was conducted onsite on February 11-13, 2026.

The onsite visit included the assessment of all facilities in the site, including production building,warehouse, wastewater treatment plant, water purification system and canteen.

### FINDINGS

#### NUMBER OF FINDINGS PER LEVEL

Observation	1
Non-Conformity	3

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### FINDING DETAILS

Finding No: TNR-023540  
Checklist Item No: 1.2.1  
Status: Closed  
Finding level: Non-Conformity  
Checklist item: 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.

Findings: The stakeholder identification process is relatively simple and does not include key elements such as determining the scope of stakeholders, and considering the capabilities and intentions of different stakeholders.

Corrective action: Revise the "AWS System Management Manual of Dangyang Factory" to clearly define the process, methods and scope for identifying stakeholders.

Evidence of implementation: Updated AWS manual more comprehensive stakeholder identification process.

Finding No: TNR-023544  
Checklist Item No: 1.3.3  
Status: Open  
Finding level: Observation  
Checklist item: 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.

Findings: The site should continue to refine the estimated water balance data and confirm the estimated proportions, such as evaporation volume, water content in products, etc.

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## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

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Finding No: TNR-023542  
Checklist Item No: 1.4.1  
Status: Closed  
Finding level: Non-Conformity  
Checklist item: The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.  
Findings: During the identification of raw materials, the site failed to evaluate the water volume, water quality and water risk level for the supplier of milk powder (Mengniu Brothers Company).  
Corrective action: Ask milk powder supplier to complete the suppliers' water management the self-assessment questionnaire, collect indirect water usage data, add the internal milk powder supplier risk assessment for Mengniu to the "Summary Table of Water Risks and WASH for Raw Material Suppliers", and add the indirect water usage data to the "Supplier Water Resources Data Management Form"  
Evidence of implementation: Suppliers' water management the self-assessment questionnaire of the Milk powder supplier (Other Mengniu Company)  
Updated indirect water consumption summary table.

Finding No: TNR-023292  
Checklist Item No: 4.1.1  
Status: Closed  
Finding level: Non-Conformity  
Checklist item: Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.  
Findings: However, the water-saving amounts in the "2025 Water Stewardship Performance Report," the "Water-Saving Plan (Water-Saving Project Tracking Table)," and the "2025 Sustainable Water Stewardship Action Plan" do not match. Additionally, the number of suppliers surveyed in the "Mengniu Danyang Factory 2025 Water Stewardship Performance Report" does not align with the actual survey data statistics.  
Corrective action: Correct the water saving amount and surveyed suppliers amount in 2025 Water Stewardship Performance Report  
Evidence of implementation: The water saving amount and surveyed suppliers amount has been updated in 2025 Water Stewardship Performance Report.

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## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

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### Report Details

Report	Value
Report prepared by	Ian Jiang
Report approved by	Carla Oberdiek
Report approved on (Date)	09.April.2026

### Stakeholder Announcements

Date of publication	Location
18/12/2025	<a href="https://a4ws.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/AWS-000874_Mengniu-Dairy-Dangyang-Co.Ltd_StakAnn_26.pdf">https://a4ws.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/AWS-000874_Mengniu-Dairy-Dangyang-Co.Ltd_StakAnn_26.pdf</a>
18/12/2025	<a href="https://www.tuv.com/content-media-files/greater-china/about-us/downloads/terms-and-conditions-and-certification-regulations/aws-000874_mengniu-dairy(dangyang)-co.-ltd_stakeholderannouncement_mont-hyy_v3.0-bilingual.docx">https://www.tuv.com/content-media-files/greater-china/about-us/downloads/terms-and-conditions-and-certification-regulations/aws-000874_mengniu-dairy(dangyang)-co.-ltd_stakeholderannouncement_mont-hyy_v3.0-bilingual.docx</a>
18/12/2025	<a href="https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/25925.html">https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/25925.html</a>

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### Catchment Information



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### Catchment Information

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The site is located in the Juzhang River Basin. The site is situated to the north of Ju River. The geographical coordinates are East Longitude: 111°48'37", North Latitude: 30°50'19". The Ju River flows eastward for 30 kilometers and merges with the Zhang River at Hesheng Town at the Two-River Mouth. Then, the Juzhang River flows southward for 30 kilometers and joins the mainstream of the Yangtze River.

The site's water supply is entirely sourced from the Dangyang City Water Supply Co., Ltd. The water sources are Gonghe Reservoir and Zhanghe Reservoir, with Ju river serving as the backup source. The site's wastewater is treated by the onsite WWTP, then discharged through the municipal pipeline to the Dangyang Jinqiao Wastewater Treatment Plant. The treated water is then directed to the artificial wetland outside the WWTP and finally flows into Ju River.

Juzhang River is a first-level tributary of the Yangtze River, with a length of 344 kilometers. It is one of the important rivers on the north bank of the middle section of the Yangtze River in the upper reaches. The upper part of Juzhang River is mountainous, while the lower part is a plain. The main features include the following aspects:

1. The Juzhang River Basin is located in the transitional area from southern Hubei to northern Hubei. The average annual precipitation of the entire basin is 1037 millimeters, which is relatively low in the province.
2. About 60% of the annual precipitation is concentrated in May to August. The mountainous areas in the upper part often experience heavy rainstorms, with high flood intensity. For example, the annual average flow of Juzhang River is 40.9 cubic meters per second, and according to historical flood surveys, the maximum flood peak at the Mulin Rock station reached 8500 cubic meters per second. It is 208 times the average annual flow, so the flood comes with a fierce momentum, the flow changes rapidly, and the water level rises and falls sharply.
3. The Juzhang River Basin is not a single protected area, but a multi-level, full coverage ecological protection system composed of the source natural protection area, drinking water source protection area, national wetland park, ecological protection red line, and coordinated legislative and management control area of the entire basin. It is an important water source conservation and ecological security barrier on the north bank of the middle reaches of the Yangtze River.
4. Juzhang River does not have cross-basin transfer.
5. The Juzhang River Basin belongs to the North Subtropical Humid Monsoon Climate, which belongs to the humid zone of China.
6. The dominant industries in the Juzhang River Basin (covering Nangzhang in Xiangyang, Yuan'an/Fangyang/Jianning in Yichang, Jingmen, and Jingzhou) can be clearly divided into five major sectors: agriculture, industry, forestry, ecological tourism and culture, water conservancy and water resources. The differences between the upper, middle and lower reaches are significant.

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### Client Description and Site Details



site map.jpg

#### Client/Site Background

Mengniu Dairy (Dangyang) Co.Ltd. was established with investment from Inner Mongolia Mengniu Dairy (Group) Co., Ltd. Construction began in October 2002 and the total land area is 80,200 square meters. The site is a dairy product production factory under the Mengniu Group. It currently has 394 employees and operates 7 production lines for ice cream and snow cones, with an average daily output of 160 tons. The production process is: Weighing - Mixing - Homogenization - Sterilization - Aging - Freezing - Forming - Inserting skewers - Rapid freezing - Coating and hanging - Packaging - Inspection - Storage

The site is located at the No. 28, East Ring Road Overpass, Dangyang City, Yichang City, Hubei Province, under the jurisdiction of Bangling Industrial Park. On the north of the site, there are residents and individual businesses operating. On the east, there are farmers raising fish and engaging in agricultural planting. On the south and west sides, there are adjacent factories. All the water used by the site is sourced from the municipal water supply plant.

The wastewater is treated by the site's own wastewater treatment station, then discharged through the municipal pipeline into the Jintiao Sewage Treatment Plant in Dangyang City. The treated water is then discharged into the artificial wetland outside the WWTP and finally flows into the Ju River.

### Summary of Shared Water Challenges

#### Summary of Shared Water Challenges

The site has identified following shared water challenges:

1. Priority as high, drought
2. Priority as medium high, high cost of water treatment
3. Priority as medium, climate change
4. Priority as medium low, agricultural point and non-point pollution from livestock farming
5. Priority as low, abnormal water quality in tap water
6. Priority as low, water supply interruption or insufficient water pressure

#### 0.0.1 Water Source & Discharge Locations

<b>0.01</b>	<i>Have any water source or discharge locations been visited during the audit, if so, which and where? If none were visited, please provide justification.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The discharge point of rainwater and municipal WWTP were visited. The location of water source is far away from the site, so it is not visited.	

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### 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.

  
Yes

Comment The site has mapped the physical scope of the site.  
It contains:

- Map of site boundaries with the source of water supply and discharge points of wastewater and rainwater.
- Map of water-related infrastructures at the site such as pipeline, wastewater treatment plant, fire pool and emergency pool.
- Map of water plant (Dangyang City Water Supply Co., Ltd.) and its ultimate water source (Gonghe Reservoir and Zhanghe Reservoir), and the ultimate receiving water body for discharged wastewater and rainwater (Ju River).
- Map of catchment that the site affects and is reliant upon for water. (Juzhang River).

**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.

  
No

Comment The site established stakeholder identification and engagement process. They also identified key stakeholders such as government, employees, clients, infrastructures, NGOs, surrounding factories and suppliers etc. All the stakeholders except for suppliers are list in a spreadsheet. The spreadsheet contains the information such as the key contacts of different stakeholders, the degree of influence, the communication way and etc. The site communicated with stakeholder via stakeholder meetings, seminars, trainings, emails, hotlines, etc.

**Finding No: TNR-023540**

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<b>1.2.2</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The degree of influence between site and stakeholder has been identified of each stakeholder and list in the spreadsheet.	
<b>1.3</b>	<i>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.</i>	
<b>1.3.1</b>	<i>Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has developed a series of water-related incident response plans that include multiple scenarios. The scenarios include emergency plans for chemical spills, malfunction of WWTP, emergency plans for water supply stopped, emergency plans for leakage of hazardous waste, comprehensive emergency plans and etc.	
<b>1.3.2</b>	<i>Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site drawn a water balance map that demonstrates detail water flow including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows. For example, the map shows the incoming water, discharge water, evaporate water, water usage in production processes and water in the product.	
<b>1.3.3</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Obs.
Comment	The site recorded the daily water meter data, and made the summary monthly, therefore, the annual high and low variances could be quantified. The site draws the water balance maps for 2025, which depict total water inputs, water inputs for each major process, predicted losses, and total discharge. In 2025, the difference of the water balance is about 0.3%.	
<b>1.3.4</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site monitored the water quality of incoming water, the purified water and discharged water. The purified water used for ingredient mixing will be tested daily via the internal lab. The incoming water will be tested once every quarter. For discharged water, the site has installed online monitoring system which can monitor the water quality in real time. The site also entrusted qualified laboratory to testing the discharged water and rainwater. According to the results of the test reports, all water quality meets the standards. For discharged water of municipal WWTP, the site will collect the water quality data from the government's public data platform.	
<b>1.3.5</b>	<i>Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and if applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site presents the inventory of all chemical materials found in the factory, the document has information on: where the product is, in which type of tank or container, the substance, storage capacity, as well as a graphical description. The site also draws a layout that illustrated the pollution sources, like chemical warehouse, chemical loading area and hazardous waste storage area etc.	

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<b>1.3.6</b>	<i>On-site Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified and mapped, including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values.</i>	 Yes
Comment	As per site tour, document review and interview, no IWRA is within the site.	
<b>1.3.7</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The water-related costs sheet was provided for review, including 1. Water supply cost 2. Water purification cost 3. Wastewater treatment cost 4. Boiler steam generation cost 5. Water facilities maintenance and upgrade cost 6. AWS activities related expenses	
<b>1.3.8</b>	<i>Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site provided the sufficient drinking water, sanitation and hygiene facility to the employees. -Drinking water The site provides employees with free drinking water, which is originated from the site purified water. The site will test the water quality daily to ensure the quality meet the drinking and product requirement. For sanitation and hygiene facility like toilet and washing faucet, via the assessment, the number and allocation comply with the requirements of the Hygiene Standards for Industrial Enterprises (GBZ 1-2002). The site also conducts WBCSD self-assessment to evaluate the level of onsite WASH. The result is satisfied.	
<b>1.4</b>	<i>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.</i>	
<b>1.4.1</b>	<i>The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.</i>	 No
Comment	The site identified and screened the top 49 suppliers with transaction amounts and through the investigation questionnaires. The site analysed the water related risk level of suppliers by the intensity of water consumption, water management, environmental violation records, WWF water risk screening results. For suppliers within the catchment, in addition to the above information, the site also requires suppliers to provide wastewater discharge test reports.	
<b>Finding No: TNR-023542</b>		
<b>1.4.2</b>	<i>The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site's catchment, quantified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	A list of outsourced services within the site's catchment has been established by the site. Meanwhile, the intensity of water consumption and water pollution has been analysed based on their water quantity and quality. Based on the investigation, the outsourced services mainly include the cloth laundry and disposal of solid waste. The transportation vendors did not have a car washing center, so the car washing is performed by driver randomly, making it unable to quantify.	
<b>1.4.3</b>	<i>Advanced Indicator The embedded water use of primary inputs in catchment(s) of origin shall be quantified.</i>	 Yes

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Comment	<p>The site identified and screened the top 49 suppliers with transaction amounts and through the investigation questionnaires. The site analysed the water related risk level of suppliers by the intensity of water consumption, water management, environmental violation records, WWF water risk screening results.</p> <p>For suppliers within the catchment, in addition to the above information, the site also requires suppliers to provide wastewater discharge test reports.</p> <p>The indirect water consumption of raw materials associated with the site is 1.02 million tons.</p>	
<b>1.5</b>	<p><i>Gather water-related data for the catchment, including water governance, water balance, water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, infrastructure, and WASH</i></p>	
<b>1.5.1</b>	<p><i>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.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Water governance initiatives were identified in by the site. The initiatives included national, provincial and local level, including the catchment development plan, industrial development plan, environmental and ecological conservation plan etc. The water governance initiatives were led by the local government, and normally not requested the factory to participate. So the site mainly cooperated with the government or follow the government's requirement.</p>	
<b>1.5.2</b>	<p><i>Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The site presents a laws and regulations list that contains all legal actions. The document is used by the site to monitor the status of each of the site's legal obligations. The site also maintains a permit list covering all compliance requirement, including water-related permit/licenses.</p>	
<b>1.5.3</b>	<p><i>The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The water balance of the catchment is not available. The Catchment Background Survey Report uses the water balance data of Yichang City as a simulation, and provides a detailed analysis of water balance from 2021 to 2023. The water balance is analysed based on the rainfall (mm), precipitation (m3), surface water resources (m3), groundwater resources(m3), water diversion (m3), displacement(m3), storage(m3), consumption(m3), total water supply (m3) and total water consumption(m3). All the data is collected from government website and publishing report.</p> <p>During 2021~2023, the total water consumption is ranged from 2.1 to 2.3 billion cubic meters, and the water resource volume is from 8.96 to 12.9 billion cubic meters. Overall, the local water resources in Yichang City are sufficient. However, the uneven distribution of the rainfall may cause the temporary water scarcity. Based on the data, the annual variance is also analysis as well.</p>	
<b>1.5.4</b>	<p><i>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.</i></p>	 Yes

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Comment	<p>The site collected the water quality information of the water body within the catchment. All the data is from the government website. (Mainly from the Environmental and Ecological Bureau). The data includes the water quality of the water source, the final discharged water body, the discharged water from municipal WWTP.</p> <p>The data will be published monthly or annually, therefore, the annual variances could be identified.</p> <p>The site performed a detailed analysis of water quality for catchment based on this data. In recent years, the surface water environment quality in catchment has continued to improve. However, water quality may still slight fluctuate in recent years for some areas.</p>	
<b>1.5.5</b>	<p><i>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.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The Catchment Background Survey Report lists the Important Water-Related Area of the catchment.</p> <p>The Important Water-Related Areas are collected based on stakeholder engagement and government published documents, including 'Yichang City Environmental Master Plan (2013 - 2030)', 'Implementation Plan for Ecological Environment Zoning Control under the "Three Lines and One Outline" in Yichang City'.</p> <p>The status of the IWRA is collected from the managing authorities and described in the list.</p>	
<b>1.5.6</b>	<p><i>Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be identified, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The site lists the existing and planned water-related infrastructure including water supply, condition and potential exposure to extreme events, flood control and drainage, wastewater treatment, emergency response at provincial, catchment and city levels and water-related objectives.</p> <p>Based on the available information, the water-related infrastructure in the catchment is sufficient, though the flooding drainage system still have space to improve.</p>	
<b>1.5.7</b>	<p><i>The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The facility obtained the WASH status in Yichang from Yichang Statistical Yearbook for 2023, including the tap water penetration rate, wastewater treatment rate and other data.</p> <p>Overall, the WASH services is good in Yichang City.</p>	
<b>1.5.8</b>	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Efforts by the site to support and undertake catchment level water-related data collection shall be identified.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The site has selected one of water receiving river, Ju River. They sample monitoring points in upper stream and downstream stream, total two sample points. Then entrust a third party to perform the water quality testing semi-annually. And share the testing result to local environmental bureau.</p> <p>According to the testing report, water quality could meet the surface water standard Level Four requirement, except for total Nitrogen.</p>	
<b>1.5.9</b>	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>The adequacy of WASH provision within the catchments of origin of primary inputs shall be identified.</i></p>	 Yes

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Comment	The site investigated the supplier of primary inputs within and outside the site's catchment. The site has established a list of product suppliers covering suppliers of main materials, suppliers of ingredient, suppliers of packing materials. Then they send the questionnaires to suppliers to investigate the water-related information. As per the questionnaires, the site searches the WASH information of the statistical yearbook. The site has identified adequacy of WASH provision within the catchments of origin of primary inputs including the coverage of safety drinking water supply, the coverage of wastewater treatment, the rate of security disposal of municipal solid waste, and public facilities and environmental sanitation in urban districts.	
<b>1.6</b>	<i>Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the water challenges identified by stakeholders with the site's water challenges.</i>	
<b>1.6.1</b>	<i>Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has identified following shared water challenges: 1.Priority as high, drought 2.Priority as medium high, high cost of water treatment 3.Priority as medium, climate change 4.Priority as medium low, agricultural point and non-point pollution from livestock farming 5.Priority as low, abnormal water quality in tap water 6.Priority as low, water supply interruption or insufficient water pressure	
<b>1.6.2</b>	<i>Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
<b>1.6.3</b>	<i>Advanced Indicator Future water issues shall be identified, including anticipated impacts and trends</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site analyzed the trends in population changes, agricultural, industrial, and domestic water use changes, climate, and ecological environment changes within the catchment by querying reports published by government or academic institutions. And based on research reports and WWF, WRI water risk analysis models, predictions were made for future water issues in the basin. Overall, by 2030, the water demand may remain stable, however, the continuous warming and the persistent drought in the basin will lead to significant uncertainty in the supply of the main production raw materials for enterprises. Enterprises need to promptly pay attention to the overall impact of climate change on milk sources and other production raw materials, as well as the potential impact of the persistent drought on water usage, and formulate response plans in advance.	
<b>1.6.4</b>	<i>Advanced Indicator Potential water-related social impacts from the site shall be identified, resulting in a social impact assessment with a particular focus on water.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has prepared the social impact assessment report, which included the water-related social impacts. The report evaluated the positive impact and negative impact of the water by the site's operation. For the negative impact, the report also listed the mitigation plans for the influence.	
<b>1.7</b>	<i>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.</i>	
<b>1.7.1</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes

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Comment	The site identified its water risks and summarized in a spreadsheet. In the spreadsheet, the frequency of the risk, the severity of the impact, potential costs and business impact are evaluated by the site. The site scored the frequency of the risk and severity of the impact, and then multiple two scores to prioritize the level of the risk. The control measures or respond actions are also included.	
<b>1.7.2</b>	<i>Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has identified seven major water related opportunities at the site level in a spreadsheet, considering following factors: how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, magnitude of business opportunities. The site scored the possibility and benefit, and then multiple two scores to prioritize the priority of the opportunity.	
<b>1.8</b>	<i>Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes: Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.</i>	
<b>1.8.1</b>	<i>Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has identified relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of water governance including: Work with the municipal WWTP, utilize the untreated production wastewater as an effective carbon source and discharge into the municipal WWTP directly. Conduct a centralized stakeholder communication and keep records of daily communication. Promote the standardization of site water consumption mechanism.	
<b>1.8.2</b>	<i>Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has identified relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of water balance including: Recovery and utilization of air conditioning condensate water Regularly conduct water balance tests Intelligent Water Management: IoT sensors monitor water leakage in the pipeline network in real time, reducing unnecessary water usage. Applied two-stage RO membrane system in the production of pure water, and the pure water recovery rate is $\geq 85\%$ (higher than the national standard of 75%).	
<b>1.8.3</b>	<i>Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be identified, including rationale for data source.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has identified relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of water quality including: Formulate internal control standards stricter than discharge permit for industrial wastewater	
<b>1.8.4</b>	<i>Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has identified relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of IWRAs services including: River patrol and river bank cleaning activity Apply for a civilian river guardian	
<b>1.8.5</b>	<i>Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be identified.</i>	 Yes

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- Comment
- The site has identified relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services including:
- WBCSD self-assessment tool
  - The voluntary clause of the GBZ 1-2010 Hygienic standards for the design of industrial enterprises
  - Provision of sufficient and high standard facilities for toilets and washrooms for other relevant needs, such as for disabilities, age and religion.

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<b>2</b>	<b>STEP 2: COMMIT &amp; PLAN - Commit to be a responsible water steward and develop a Water Stewardship Plan</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	<i>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.</i>	
<b>2.1.1</b>	<p><i>A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document shall be identified. The statement or document shall include the following commitments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>That the site will implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes</i></li> <li>- <i>That the site implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans</i></li> <li>- <i>That the site's stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way</i></li> <li>- <i>That the site will allocate resources to implement the Standard.</i></li> </ul>	 Yes
Comment	The site management team signed the "Sustainable Water Stewardship Policy and Commitment for the Ice Cream Danyang Factory," and the President of Mengniu Group signed the "Sustainable Water Stewardship Commitment," both of which were publicly released on the website.	
<b>2.1.2</b>	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	The site management team signed the "Sustainable Water Stewardship Policy and Commitment for the Ice Cream Danyang Factory", and the President of Mengniu Group signed the "Sustainable Water Stewardship Commitment", both of which were publicly released on the website."	
<b>2.2</b>	<i>Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance.</i>	
<b>2.2.1</b>	<p><i>The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure</i></li> <li>- <i>Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.</i></li> </ul>	 Yes
Comment	The site has established a compliance obligation maintenance process and clearly defined the responsible personnel for various compliance activities. A regulatory list has been developed to track applicable regulations and review compliance status, which includes water and wastewater management and is updated at least once a year. Additionally, annual internal audits are conducted in accordance with the ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 systems.	
<b>2.3</b>	<i>Create a water stewardship strategy and plan including addressing risks (to and from the site), shared catchment water challenges, and opportunities.</i>	
<b>2.3.1</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes

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**Comment** The site has established the "Mengniu Dangyang Factory Medium- and Long-Term Sustainable Water Stewardship Strategy," which includes the site's mission, vision, and goals for sustainable water management. The water stewardship strategy outlines the following:

Vision: Integrity and compliance, green operations, quality improvement and efficiency enhancement, and low-carbon development.

Mission: To fulfill corporate social responsibility, practice green and low-carbon operations, achieve sustainable development, and cultivate a legacy of sustainability that lasts for generations.

Goals: Compliance with regulations and system establishment, water-saving through intelligent technologies and processes, risk management and full-chain collaboration, and continuous advancement of the roadmap.

**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.



Yes

**Comment** The water stewardship plan has been developed and evaluated against the five AWS outcomes. It currently includes the following water stewardship plan actions:

-By implementing measures such as replacing water defrosting with hot ammonia defrosting, recycling air conditioning condensate, improving cleaning processes, and promoting the implementation of the "Factory Water Standardization" project, the site aims to achieve an annual savings of 7,000 tons of tap water.

-Throughout the year, the concentrations of COD, ammonia nitrogen, total phosphorus, and total nitrogen at the wastewater discharge outlet will meet internal control standards, which are 20% to 60% lower than the wastewater discharge permit requirements.

-By formulating the site's energy management plan (including water), collecting sustainable water management policies, and developing a sustainable water management manual, the site aims to document water management requirements and goals, and ultimately obtain AWS certification.

**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.*



Yes

**Comment** In 2025, the water stewardship activity was conducted with carton box supplier within the same catchment, which included the following:

Understanding the current water environment situation of the suppliers, identifying existing issues, and discussing challenges they face.

-Introducing the sustainable water management practices implemented by Mengniu (Dangyang) under the AWS framework, as well as the progress of the 2025 WSP. The exchange also involved sharing water-saving technologies, inspecting water application equipment, providing improvement suggestions, and collaborating on enhancements.

Additionally, in September 2025, an emergency rescue mutual assistance agreement was signed with the site to support both parties in responding to environmental emergencies and handling sudden incidents.




**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.*



Yes

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Comment	<p>The site conducted a water management exchange activity with the Mengniu Wuhan Low-Temperature Branch concerning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Gained an understanding of the current water environment situation at Wuhan Low-Temperature, including existing issues and challenges.</li> <li>-Introduced the AWS practices implemented by the site and the progress of the 2025 WSP, while learning from Wuhan Low-Temperature's advanced water management practices.</li> </ul>	
<b>2.3.5</b>	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i>  <i>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.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The site conducted visits to stakeholders, such as surrounding enterprises and residents, and utilized surveys to understand the current water environment in the community, identify existing issues, and explore challenges. During these interactions, the site also introduced its sustainable water management practices, achievements, and data to seek consensus on its Water Stewardship Plan (WSP).</p> <p>For example, the site achieve the consensus on sustainable water balance with surrounding enterprises. During interviews with surrounding enterprises, concerns were raised about the lack of adequate water-saving equipment and insufficient knowledge about water conservation. The site introduced its water-saving technologies and shared data on its water-saving achievements. Stakeholders acknowledged the effectiveness of the site's WSP and its results, expressing hope that the site would continue its efforts, promote the sharing of water-saving technologies, and collaborate with surrounding enterprises to carry out more water conservation awareness activities.</p>	
<b>2.4</b>	<p><i>Demonstrate the site's responsiveness and resilience to respond to water risks</i></p>	
<b>2.4.1</b>	<p><i>A plan to mitigate or adapt to identified water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The site has identified its water-related risks, including excessive wastewater discharge, hazardous chemical leaks, and natural disasters (such as heavy rainfall). A series of response plans have been developed to address these water risks, such as emergency measures for chemical prevention and leakage, emergency response measures for wastewater treatment facility failures, and emergency measures for illegal pollutant discharge (hazardous waste disposal), etc. These plans have been reported to the local ecological and environmental bureau.</p>	
<b>2.4.2</b>	<p><i>Advanced Indicator</i>  <i>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.</i></p>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The site visited the Danyang Meteorological Bureau and identified drought-related risks, which could potentially lead to water supply shortages and production interruptions at the factory. In response, corresponding emergency plans have been developed.</p>	

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3 STEP 3: IMPLEMENT - Implement the site's stewardship plan and improve impacts		
3.1	<i>Implement plan to participate positively in catchment governance.</i>	
3.1.1	<i>Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance shall be identified.</i>	✔ Yes
Comment	The site actively cooperates with government agencies, such as by attending meetings, webinars, or consultations hosted by the Dangyang Environmental Protection Bureau. Relevant participation records are available for review.	
3.1.2	<i>Measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, that are not part of 3.2 shall be implemented.</i>	✔ Yes
Comment	The water rights are respected under legal and regulatory mechanisms, and there is no indigenous people in the catchment area.	
3.2	<i>Implement system to comply with water-related legal and regulatory requirements and respect water rights.</i>	
3.2.1	<i>A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance shall be implemented.</i>	✔ Yes
Comment	The site has established a "Legal and Regulatory Identification and Compliance Management Procedure" to ensure compliance with relevant obligations and has designated responsible personnel for each compliance activity. A list of applicable laws and regulations has been created to track and review the compliance status. Necessary permits, such as the wastewater discharge permit, pollutant discharge permit, and environmental impact assessment approval, have all been obtained. The compliance evaluation table for laws, regulations, and other requirements is updated at least once a year, and immediately updated in the event of significant legal or regulatory changes.	
3.2.2	<i>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.</i>	✔ Yes
Comment	The water rights are respected under legal and regulatory mechanisms, and there is no indigenous people in the catchment area.	
3.3	<i>Implement plan to achieve site water balance targets.</i>	
3.3.1	<i>Status of progress towards meeting water balance targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.</i>	✔ Yes
Comment	The site continues to pursue improvements in water balance and has implemented the following measures in 2025: 1.Replacing water defrosting with hot ammonia defrosting. 2.Recycling air conditioning condensate. 3.Standardizing water usage. 4.Improving cleaning processes (reducing pollutants in wastewater discharge).	
3.3.2	<i>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.</i>	✔ Yes

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Comment	The 2025 WSP specifies that the 2025 sustainable water balance targets include: 1. Water consumption per ton of product: 7.05 t/t for the factory in 2025. 2. Total annual freshwater intake: 250,000 tons. 3. Water savings: more than 7,000 tons.	
<b>3.3.3</b>	<i>Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be identified.</i>	✔ Yes
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."	
<b>3.3.4</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator The total volume of water voluntarily re-allocated (from site water savings) for social, cultural and environmental needs shall be quantified.</i>	⬇️ N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
<b>3.4</b>	<i>Implement plan to achieve site water quality targets</i>	
<b>3.4.1</b>	<i>Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.</i>	✔ Yes
Comment	The 2025 WSP states that the water quality goals for 2025 include: 1. Ensuring that the concentrations of COD, ammonia nitrogen, total phosphorus, and total nitrogen at wastewater discharge outlets meet internal control standards. 2. Improving cleaning processes to reduce pollutant levels in wastewater effluent. 3. Promoting the direct discharge of production wastewater to the Jinqiao wastewater treatment plant to reduce water treatment costs for both parties (the site's wastewater treatment costs and the external carbon source costs of the wastewater treatment plant), while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions.	
<b>3.4.2</b>	<i>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.</i>	✔ Yes
Comment	For discharged water, Dangyang Mengniu has established an internal control index management plan for wastewater discharge at the Dangyang factory (with internal control values set 20% to 60% stricter than the "Jinqiao Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge Standards"). The plan clearly specifies monitoring parameters, frequency, and sampling points. The monitoring methods include wastewater validation monitoring (conducted by third-party testing agencies) and automatic monitoring (online monitoring by the Environmental Protection Bureau, with data updated every two hours) to ensure that the quality of discharged wastewater (in terms of concentration and total volume) meets control requirements and ensures the normal operation of the wastewater treatment system.  During the audit, the annual online monitoring data for wastewater discharge was reviewed and found to meet internal control requirements.	
<b>3.5</b>	<i>Implement plan to maintain or improve the site's and/or catchment's Important Water-Related Areas.</i>	
<b>3.5.1</b>	<i>Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site's Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.</i>	✔ Yes
Comment	The site does not have onsite IWRAs but performs the following actions to maintain and enhance the catchment's IWRAs. The site collaborated with merchants within the catchment to organize a cleanup activity at Yuquan Wetland Park. In April 2025, the event was carried out along a designated route in the park. All volunteers participated in a fitness walk while simultaneously collecting waste from areas such as tidal flats, trails, and greenbelts. Additionally, they promoted environmental awareness to nearby residents, advocating for responsible tourism and the protection of the ecological environment.	

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<b>3.5.2</b>	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>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.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The facility chooses to apply for gold certification and does not perform the platinum advance indicator.	
<b>3.5.3</b>	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>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.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The facility chooses to apply for gold certification and does not perform the platinum advance indicator.	
<b>3.6</b>	<i>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.</i>	
<b>3.6.1</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The drinking water for the site's employees comes from the production (purified water) used in the production workshop, and a "Shared Ingredient Water Monitoring Plan" has been established to regularly monitor the relevant indicators of the purified water. According to "the sanitary facility compliance evaluation report (Dangyang factory)", the number of sanitary facilities in the factory meets the requirements of the "Hygienic Standards for the Design of Industrial Enterprises" (GBZ1-2010).	
<b>3.6.2</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	No evidence is showed that the site is impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations according to the interviews with employees, local community and local government authorities.	
<b>3.6.3</b>	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>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.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The facility chooses to apply for gold certification and does not perform the platinum advance indicator.	
<b>3.6.4</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator:</i> <i>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.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
<b>3.7</b>	<i>Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment:</i>	

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<b>3.7.1</b>	<i>Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	It is pointed out in the 2025 WSP that the 2025 indirect water use targets include: conducting water management training for suppliers, with a goal of 2 suppliers per year. In June 2025, Dangyang Mengniu carried out offline cooperation and exchanges on factory water resource management with two suppliers, covering topics such as the application of water-saving technologies, the optimization of water treatment processes, and resource sharing.	
<b>3.7.2</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site uses the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs (IPE) website track the environmental compliance performance of its suppliers. If any violations are identified, suppliers are required to take immediate corrective actions and submit rectification feedback on the IPE website. In 2025, three suppliers were identified with records of violations within the past three years. Dangyang Mengniu assisted these suppliers in communicating with IPE to address and resolve their environmental monitoring penalty records. Currently, one supplier has completed the cancellation of their IPE environmental monitoring penalty record, while the other two have submitted rectification evidence to IPE, which has been uploaded and is now publicly disclosed.	
<b>3.7.3</b>	<i>Advanced Indicator Actions taken to address water related risks and challenges related to indirect water use outside the catchment shall be documented and evaluated.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The facility chooses to apply for gold certification and does not perform the platinum advance indicator.	
<b>3.8</b>	<i>Implement plan to engage with and notify the owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns the site may have.</i>	
<b>3.8.1</b>	<i>Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt, shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site maintains regular communication with shared water infrastructure entities such as the Dangyang Municipal Water Supply Company and the Jinqiao Wastewater Treatment Plant through tools like phone calls and WeChat. In July 2025, the site conducted on-site visits to the Dangyang Municipal Water Supply Company and the Jinqiao Wastewater Treatment Plant, during which photos were taken and written records were created.	
<b>3.9</b>	<i>Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: continually improve towards achieving sectoral best practice having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.</i>	
<b>3.9.1</b>	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance, as applicable, shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site takes actions based on the current best practices identified in Step 1, such as conducting water quality sampling and monitoring upstream and downstream of the Jinqiao wastewater treatment plant's river discharge outlet, organizing an annual stakeholder communication, and conducting offline water stewardship experience exchanges meeting with suppliers within the catchment.	
<b>3.9.2</b>	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes

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Comment	The site uses a water-saving plan (water-saving project tracking table) to record the completion status and other information of the following measures: 1.Switching from water defrosting to hot ammonia defrosting. 2.Recycling air conditioning condensate. 3.Standardizing water usage. 4.Optimizing cleaning processes (reducing pollutants in wastewater discharge quality).	
<b>3.9.3</b>	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	For the discharged water, the site has formulated an internal control index management plan for wastewater discharge (with internal control values set 20% to 60% stricter than the "Jinqiao Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge Standards"). The plan clearly specifies monitoring parameters, frequency, and sampling points. The monitoring methods include wastewater validation monitoring (conducted by third-party testing agencies) and automatic monitoring (online monitoring by the Environmental Protection Bureau, with data updated every two hours) to ensure that the quality of discharged wastewater (in terms of concentration and total volume) meets control requirements and to ensure the normal operation of the wastewater treatment system.  For drinking water quality, the drinking water for the site's employees comes from the production water (purified water) used in the production workshop, and a "Shared Ingredient Water Monitoring Plan" has been established to regularly monitor the relevant indicators of the purified water.	
<b>3.9.4</b>	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site does not have onsite IWRA's but performs the following actions to maintain and enhance the catchment's IWRA's. The site collaborated with merchants within the catchment to organize a cleanup activity at Yuquan Wetland Park. In April 2025, the event was carried out along a designated route in the park. All volunteers participated in a fitness walk while simultaneously collecting waste from areas such as tidal flats, trails, and greenbelts. Additionally, they promoted environmental awareness to nearby residents, advocating for responsible tourism and the protection of the ecological environment.	
<b>3.9.5</b>	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The drinking water for the site's employees comes from the production (purified water) used in the production workshop, and a "Shared Ingredient Water Monitoring Plan" has been established to regularly monitor the relevant indicators of the purified water. According to "the sanitary facility compliance evaluation report (Dangyang factory)", the number of sanitary facilities in the factory meets the requirements of the "Hygienic Standards for the Design of Industrial Enterprises" (GBZ1-2010).	
<b>3.9.6</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of good water governance shall be quantified.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
<b>3.9.7</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of sustainable water balance shall be quantified.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
<b>3.9.8</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of water quality shall be quantified</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	

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<b>3.9.9</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas have been implemented.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
<b>3.9.10</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be quantified.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
<b>3.9.11</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator</i> <i>A list of efforts to spread best practices shall be identified.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
<b>3.9.12</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator</i> <i>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.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
<b>3.9.13</b>	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator</i> <i>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.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	

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4 STEP 4: EVALUATE - Evaluate the site's performance.	
4.1	<i>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.</i>
4.1.1	<i>Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.</i>
Comment	The site completed the "Mengniu Danyang Factory 2025 Water Stewardship Performance Report" in January 2026, evaluating its performance against the targets listed in the WSP. The WSP states that each objective can be associated with several main outcomes of the standard. Each objective has defined project description, actions, targets, cost/benefit, desired outcomes, responsible party, start date, end date and status. The site also used " the "Water-Saving Plan (Water-Saving Project Tracking Table)" to document progress in each season.
	<b>Finding No: TNR-023292</b>
4.1.2	<i>Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated.</i>
Comment	The factory has analyzed the value created by implementing a water resource management plan, particularly the benefits generated by water-saving projects. For example, the site implemented a cleaning process improvement project, optimizing the cleaning frequency of production lines to reduce wastewater generation and discharge. In 2025, the site saved a total of 8,675.5 tons of water, reducing water costs by approximately 50,000 RMB.
4.1.3	<i>The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.</i>
Comment	The site has carried out activities to raise awareness about water resources and shared water management practices with its suppliers. The site also organized various water-saving activities, such as joint waste cleanup activity. Through these activities, participants' knowledge and environmental awareness have been significantly enhanced.
4.1.4	<i>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.</i>
Comment	The facility chooses to apply for gold certification and does not perform the platinum advance indicator.
4.2	<i>Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine the effectiveness of corrective and preventative measures.</i>
4.2.1	<i>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.</i>

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Comment	The site has provided emergency response procedures and plans, clearly outlining the preventive and corrective measures to be taken, as well as response measures to mitigate the impact of future incidents. In recent years, the site has not experienced any water-related emergencies or extreme events. The site has conducted a series of emergency drills, including simulations addressing potential water risks such as droughts and water supply interruptions. No water-related emergencies occurred throughout 2025. In February 2025, an emergency drill was conducted to address a sudden water supply interruption on-site.	
<b>4.3</b>	<i>Evaluate stakeholders' consultation feedback regarding the site's water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of the site's engagement process.</i>	
<b>4.3.1</b>	<i>Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>In January 2026, the site conducted visits to farmers, residents, communities, Neighborhood Committee, and nearby companies. The surrounding companies acknowledged and praised the WSP and performance of the site, noting that the company had not caused any negative impact on them. Furthermore, the site has actively committed to improving the catchment water environment. The site documented the visit with photographs and written records.</p> <p>Additionally, the site conducted a water usage survey among nearby residents, shared the outcomes of its WSP, and sought feedback, receiving 28 valid responses. During an interview with the community officer, it was revealed that the site shared its 2025 WSP during the visits to farmers, residents, communities, and administrative committees, and the achievements were positively acknowledged.</p>	
<b>4.3.2</b>	<i>Voluntary 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.</i>	 N/A
Comment	The site does not perform this indicator.	
<b>4.4</b>	<i>Evaluate and update the site's water stewardship plan, incorporating the information obtained from the evaluation process in the context of continual improvement.</i>	
<b>4.4.1</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has developed a procedure which specifies that its WSP shall be modified and adapted to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from the annual evaluations. The site has developed a 2026 Water Stewardship Plan based on the 2025 performance management review results.	

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5 STEP 5: COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE - Communicate about water stewardship and disclose the site's stewardship efforts	
5.1	<i>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.</i>
5.1.1	<i>The site's water-related internal governance, including positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations shall be disclosed.</i> <span style="float: right;">✔ Yes</span>
Comment	The site discloses the AWS Sustainable Water Management Report on the corporate website, which includes the responsible person and department for sustainable water management. <a href="https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html">https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html</a>
5.2	<i>Communicate the water stewardship plan with relevant stakeholders.</i>
5.2.1	<i>The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to relevant stakeholders.</i> <span style="float: right;">✔ Yes</span>
Comment	The site discloses the AWS Sustainable Water Management Report on the official website. The site also communicates the water stewardship plan through various channels, such as stakeholder visits, questionnaire surveys. <a href="https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html">https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html</a>
5.3	<i>Disclose annual site water stewardship summary, including: the relevant information about the site's annual water stewardship performance and results against the site's targets.</i>
5.3.1	<i>A summary of the site's water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum.</i> <span style="float: right;">✔ Yes</span>
Comment	The site discloses the AWS Sustainable Water Management Report on the official website, which including quantified performance against targets. <a href="https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html">https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html</a> They also shared the related information through various channels, such as stakeholder visits, questionnaire surveys.
5.3.2	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> <i>The site's efforts to implement the AWS Standard shall be disclosed in the organization's annual report.</i> <span style="float: right;">↓ N/A</span>
Comment	The facility chooses to apply for gold certification and does not perform the platinum advance indicator.
5.3.3	<i>Voluntary Advanced Indicator</i> <i>Benefits to the site and stakeholders from implementation of the AWS Standard shall be quantified in the organization's annual report.</i> <span style="float: right;">↓ N/A</span>
5.4	<i>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.</i>
5.4.1	<i>The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.</i> <span style="float: right;">✔ Yes</span>
Comment	The group disclosed the shared water-related challenges and the effort to address shared water challenges on its official website <a href="https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html">https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html</a>


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<b>5.4.2</b>	<i>Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The group disclosed the effort to address shared water challenges, internal governance in relation to water, and communication on sustainable water management issues on its official website <a href="https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html">https://www.mengniu.com.cn/contact/detail/26324.html</a> They also shared the related information through various channels, such as stakeholder visits, questionnaire surveys, and collaborated with stakeholders to take collective action to address water challenges or risks within or outside the catchment.	
<b>5.5</b>	<i>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.</i>	
<b>5.5.1</b>	<i>Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.</i>	 Yes
Comment	A procedure to manage non-conformance and related corrective action is developed, there is no water-related compliance violation identified in past a few years.	
<b>5.5.2</b>	<i>Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable.</i>	 Yes
Comment	A procedure to manage non-conformance and related corrective action is developed, there is no water-related compliance violation identified in past a few years.	
<b>5.5.3</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	A procedure to manage non-conformance and related corrective action is developed, there is no water-related compliance violation identified in past a few years.	

### Previous Findings

	<i>Have all corrective action plans for previous non-conformities raised been effectively implemented?</i>	 N/A
Comment	This is the initial audit, so this is not applicable.	