

# **Verification Statement**

# Background

Optera was engaged by Best Buy Co., Inc. (Best Buy) to provide independent verification on the accuracy of selected information included in Best Buy's 2021 GHG emissions and water withdrawal datasets, and express a conclusion as to whether the assertions contained in the inventory is presented fairly in accordance with (1) ISO 14064-1 *Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals,* and (2) Global Reporting Initiative's (GRI), *G4 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines.* 

Per contractual agreement, Best Buy's 2021 GHG Emissions and water withdrawal Inventory Verification Report and Statement were prepared by Optera solely for Best Buy's benefit. The information contained therein, its presentation to CDP and inclusion in corporate sustainability reports are the sole responsibility of Best Buy.

## **Boundary and Scope**

Optera examined Best Buy's 2021 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and water withdrawal assertion, as follows:

Scope 1	Direct emissions from onsite fuel combustion and fugitive emissions	
	Indirect emissions from purchased electricity, steam, heating, or cooling	
Scope 2	<ul> <li>Location-based accounting method</li> </ul>	
	Market-based accounting method	
	Other indirect emissions in the value chain	
Scope 3	Business travel: commercial air travel	
	<ul> <li>Employee Commute (to/from corporate campus)</li> </ul>	
	Waste Generated in Operations	
	Use of Sold Products	
	Water withdrawals for use in operations	
Water	Municipal sources	
	Well sources	

The verification was conducted on 100 percent of Best Buy's reported scope 1, scope 2 and scope 3 emissions. The water withdrawal inventory includes 100 percent of the reported municipal and well water withdrawals. This includes all direct and indirect emissions and water withdrawals from facilities that are under Best Buy's *operational control*: all Best Buy stores, distribution centers, off-site warehouses, offices and data centers, fleet vehicles, corporate travel and use of sold products for United States, Puerto Rico, Canada and Mexico operations.

## **Period Covered**

Best Buy's GHG assertion covers the 2021 calendar year: 1 January to 31 December 2021.



# **Data Verified**

The final quantities verified were presented in (1) *BBY CY2021\_GHG Inventory\_04.25.2022\_v4.xlsx* and (2) *CY2021\_Scope 2 MB\_Final\_REC Additions.xlsx*, and (3) *2021 Water Usage 4.12.2022.xlsx, as follows:* 

Item	Quantity		
Scope 1 emissions	257,049 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e		
Scope 2 emissions			
Location-based emissions	257,641 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e		
Market-based emissions	131,875 mtCO₂e		
Scope 3 emissions			
Business Travel: Commercial air travel	12,152 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e		
Employee Commute to/from corporate campus	668 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e		
Use of Sold Products	24,143,208 mtCO2e lifetime*		
Waste Generated in Operations	25,870 mtCO₂e		
Water Withdrawals	1,015 megaliters		

\*Emissions resulting in the Use of Sold Product are computed over the product lifetime and accounted for/reported in the year sold.

Historical data was used to inform the calculation of this assertion.

## Methodology

This Verification has been developed based on principles and methods described in (1) ISO 14064-3 *Specification with Guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions,* and (2) GRI's *G4 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines.* The verification has been conducted to achieve a *limited level of assurance.* Given the status of Best Buy's GHG emissions inventory and management system, a limited level of assurance verification was appropriate for this project.

As part of the independent assessment Optera performed the following tasks:

- Examination of the 2021 GHG emissions and water withdrawal data;
- Examination of underlying calculations to confirm the formula references and accumulation of data, and re-performance of a sample of the calculations;
- Determine whether the elements of the protocol were consistently and appropriately applied;
- Cross-check of emissions factors against referenced sources and assessment of the appropriateness of the selected factors;
- Evaluation of potential errors, omissions or misrepresentations resulting from data input, transformation and/or output processes; and
- Collection of testimonial evidence (i.e. interviews), data review and sampling to provide an understanding of management/operational and control procedures to be implemented by the responsible party to ensure the quality, integrity and security of the GHG and water information.



#### Findings

It is Optera's opinion that based on the verification methodology and activities described above, there is no evidence that Best Buy's 2021 GHG emissions and water withdrawal assertions are not:

- Founded upon appropriate systems for the collection, aggregation and analysis of quantitative data for determination of scope 1 (direct), scope 2 (indirect) and scope 3 (other indirect) emissions; and water consumption data;
- Correct at a *limited* level of assurance;
- Meets the minimum level of accuracy of at least 95 percent;
- Accurate, materially correct, and a fair representation of GHG emissions and water withdrawal data and information; and
- Prepared in accordance with ISO 14064-1 and GRI G4 guidelines, including associated requirements for the design, development, management, reporting and verification of an organization's environmental data.

#### Statement of Independence, Impartiality and Competence

Optera is an independently owned and operated consulting and software services company that specializes in technical analysis and innovation for efficiency and renewable resources. Optera has considerable experience in the development, reporting and verification of GHG emissions information for industrial, utility, municipal and corporate clients. Optera's verification team did not contribute to the compilation of Best Buy's 2021 fiscal year GHG inventory and did not work on the GHG inventory beyond what is required of this assignment. Optera has conducted this verification independently, and there has been no conflict of interest.

Ty Colman

Lead Reviewer

June 18, 2022