



# Yangzhou Hanjiang District State-owned Capital Investment Group Co., Ltd.

Second-Party Opinion | Green Finance Framework

## Report Type

Green Finance Framework  
Second-Party Opinion

## Analytical Standards

- » Green Bond Principles (GBP) (June 2021 Edition)
- » Green Loan Principles (GLP) (February 2023 Edition)

## Industry

Local Investment and  
Development Companies

## Country/Region

China

## Report Date

8<sup>th</sup> October 2024

## Summary

Not Aligned	Aligned	Good	Excellent
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### Pillar

### Alignment

Use of Proceeds	Good
Process for Project Evaluation and Selection	Good
Management of Proceeds	Good
Reporting	Good
External Reviews	Good

Lianhe Green Development Company Limited ("Lianhe Green") has reviewed a series of documents including the "Yangzhou Hanjiang District State-owned Capital Investment Group Co., Ltd. Green Finance Framework", and assessed the company's relevant work in respect of the use of proceeds, project evaluation and selection process, management of proceeds, reporting, and external review. The Framework has received a Good assessment opinion from Lianhe Green. Lianhe Green considers that the Framework is in compliance with the Green Bond Principles (GBP) (June 2021 Edition) and the Green Loan Principles (GLP) (February 2023 Edition). In addition, the eligible green projects listed in this Framework are in line with the Green Bond Principles (GBP) (June 2021 Edition) and the Green Loan Principles (GLP) (February 2023 Edition). At the same time, Lianhe Green's assessment includes the contributions of the project categories to the relevant United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs)<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the definitions of (A/RES/70/1 - Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)



## About the Company

Yangzhou Hanjiang District State-owned Capital Investment Group Co., Ltd. (the "Company" together with its subsidiaries, the "Group") was established on 23 September 2009. As a state-owned sole proprietorship established by the Finance Bureau of Yangzhou City Hanjiang District, the Company is an important construction and state-owned asset operation entity in Hanjiang District. The Company has a diversified business scope including infrastructure construction and relative industrial investment in provincial-level parks and streets in the Hanjiang District. At present, a diversified business structure has been formed, consisting of several major sectors including engineering construction, infrastructure construction, urban renewal services, leasing business, and service industry. The Company's operating income has been steadily increasing year by year, with considerable room for growth.

The Group has been committed to implementing the development blueprint of Hanjiang District Government with the aim of upgrading infrastructure and public facilities, promoting local industries, improving quality of urban life with better living environment as well as accelerating regional economic growth. With strong support from its shareholder and after years of business growth, the Group has established a strong regional presence and played an important role in the development of Yangzhou City. As at 31 December 2023, the Issuer was owned as to 100% by Yangzhou Hanjiang District Finance Bureau.

## Company Sustainability Strategy

As a state-owned enterprise, Lianhe Green believes the Group's strategies to align with the Chinese government's strategies and relevant policies, such as China's pledge to peak carbon emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060.

After media review, Lianhe Green did not find any significant negative ESG news or controversial issues about the Group.

## About the Framework of the Group

The company has prepared the Green Finance Framework (hereinafter referred to as the "Framework" or "GFF"), which is intended to provide overarching principles and guidelines for all green financing opportunities for the company.

With respect to bonds, bonds issued under GFF will be in alignment with the Green Bond Principles (GBP) 2021<sup>2</sup> released by International Capital Market Association (ICMA) or the Climate Bonds Standard V3.02 issued by Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI)<sup>3</sup>, or the Green Bond Endorsed Projects Catalogue (2021 Edition)<sup>4</sup> jointly announced by the People's Bank of China (PBOC), the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) or as they may be subsequently amended.

With respect to loans, loans issued under GFF will be in alignment with the Loan Market Association ("LMA") Green Loan Principles ("GLP") 2023<sup>5</sup> or as they may be subsequently amended.

Other forms of financing may conform to other green finance principles as may have been established at the time of such financing transaction being undertaken.

In this Second-Party Opinion, Lianhe Green has specifically examined the framework but has not reviewed any transaction-specific legal documents or marketing materials. Nevertheless, the framework does provide a description of the qualifying projects as described in the legal documentation of the framework.

<sup>2</sup> In alignment with ICMA Green Bond Principles, June 2021, <https://www.icmagroup.org/green-social-and-sustainability-bonds/green-bond-principles-gbp/>

<sup>3</sup> In alignment with the Climate Bond Standard V3.0, <https://www.climatebonds.net/climate-bonds-standard-v3>

<sup>4</sup> In alignment with the Green Bond Endorsed Projects Catalogue (2021 Edition), [http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/zhengceku/2021-04/22/content\\_5601284.htm](http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/zhengceku/2021-04/22/content_5601284.htm)

<sup>5</sup> In alignment with LMA Green Loan Principles, February 2023, <https://www.lsta.org/content/green-loan-principles/>



This framework addresses the five pillars including use of proceeds, process for project evaluation and selection, management of proceeds, reporting, and external review.

## A. Use of Proceeds

### Company Materials

The Group will allocate an amount at least equivalent to the net proceeds of the Green Financing Instruments issued under the Framework to finance and/or re-finance, in whole or in part, projects which meet the eligibility criteria of the following Eligible Green Project categories ("Eligible Green Projects"), as defined as below.

A maximum 3-year look-back period would apply for refinanced projects and the Group is committed to fully allocate the net proceeds of each issuance under the Framework within 24 months from issuance/borrowing.

Eligible Green Project Categories	Qualified Green Projects
<b>Energy Efficiency</b>	<p>Increase energy efficiency and reduce building and facility energy consumption by at least 15 per cent. by investing in and spending on projects such as, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the design and construction process, in accordance with the requirements of "Intelligent Building Design Standards (GB/T 50314-2015)", adopt timely and feasible intelligent technology to realize the functions of saving resources and optimizing environmental quality management, including but not limited to effective utilization and management of renewable energy based on building equipment monitoring systems, Building Information Modeling (BIM) technology, etc.; or</li> <li>• Install energy-efficient equipment, replace and/or maintain existing equipment to reduce energy consumption or avoid greenhouse gas emissions, including but not limited to smart metering systems, high-efficiency HVAC systems, etc. Relevant products should comply with the current national standards "Energy-saving Design Standards for Public Buildings" (GB50189-2015), "Energy-saving Domestic Water Appliances" (CJ/T164-2014) and other standards; or</li> <li>• Renovation of green lighting, using LED lamps, high/low pressure sodium lamps, metal halide lamps, tri-color double-ended straight fluorescent lamps (Type T8, T5), etc., as well as the use of natural light sources, intelligent lighting control systems, etc. Relevant lighting products should meet the first-level energy efficiency requirements of relevant national and/or regional energy efficiency standards; or</li> <li>• Energy Conservation and Environmentally-friendly Renovation of Existing Buildings: Technical indicators of the building meet relevant national or local energy conservation standards for existing buildings and relevant requirements for energy-saving renovation activities of building energy systems after renovation. Renovation, operation and purchase of the existing buildings which have obtained relevant national green building star-level within the validity period; and the renovation, operation and purchase of existing buildings that have reached the national-relevant green building star-level within the validity period after renovation. For example, the building technology complies with technological standards such as the "Statistical Standard for Civil Buildings" (GB 50352), the "Standard for Energy-Saving in Public Buildings" (GB 50189)</li> </ul>



	and the "Standard for the Evaluation of Green Retrofit of Existing Buildings" (GBT 51141).
<b>Green Building</b>	Buildings must meet regionally, nationally, or internationally recognized green building standards or certifications, including but not limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ China Green Building Evaluation Label (2 star or above)</li> <li>✓ U.S. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) (Gold or above)</li> <li>✓ Hong Kong BEAM (Gold or above)</li> <li>✓ Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) (Very Good or above)</li> </ul> Any other green building certification with the same standard as the above

### Exclusion Criteria

The Group commits that any activities, assets and technologies related to the below will be excluded from Eligible Green Projects:

- activities that violate national laws, regulations or international conventions and agreements, or are subject to international bans;
- production or trade in arms and ammunition;
- production or trade in alcoholic beverages (other than beer and wine);
- production or trade in tobacco;
- gambling, casinos and equivalent businesses;
- production or trade in radioactive materials (radioactive sources considered insignificant and/or adequately shielded, such as quality control equipment, are not covered);
- production or activities involving harmful or exploitative forms of forced labor or harmful child labor.

### Opinion of Lianhe Green

Not Aligned	Aligned	Good	Excellent
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Lianhe Green has reviewed a number of documents, including the Green Finance Framework, and has conducted a comprehensive review of the Group's policies related to the use of proceeds based on the relevant assessment criteria.

Lianhe Green compared the green project categories listed in this framework with the Green Bond Principles (GBP) (June 2021 Edition), the Green Loan Principles (GLP) (February 2023 Edition), China's Green Bond Endorsed Projects Catalogue (2021 Edition), Hong Kong Taxonomy, EU Taxonomy and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) respectively.

After the assessment, the eligible green projects align with China's "Green Bond Endorsed Project Catalogue (2021 Edition)" and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)<sup>6</sup>. Lianhe Green believes that energy efficiency is partially eligible with the renovation of existing buildings activity in the Hong Kong Taxonomy. In addition, Lianhe Green considers that energy efficiency is

<sup>6</sup> Based on the Lianhe Green's methodology, we evaluate each eligible project category of the issuer against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and selected goals with a clear contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, the issuer's eligible project categories may also contribute to other goals of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



partially eligible with the installation, maintenance, and repair of energy efficiency equipment in the EU Taxonomy.

The look-back period is longer than the market's best practices, and the exclusion project list has less coverage than market practices. Lianhe Green considers that the Group's Use of Proceeds is Good, which is in line with the requirements of the assessment criteria.

## 1) Eligible Green Projects: Energy Efficiency

### Lianhe Green Findings / Suggestions

Lianhe Green considers that this project category under the framework is most relevant to the eligible green projects category "Energy efficiency (such as in new and refurbished buildings, energy storage, district heating, smart grids, relevant equipment and products)" under both GBP and GLP.

In September 2024, the Yangzhou Municipal Government issued the "[Yangzhou City Implementation Measures for Promoting the Renewal of Traction Equipment and the Replacement of Consumer Product Standards](#)", which clearly requires strengthening the implementation and application of standards, especially in the fields of energy conservation and carbon reduction, safety, environmental protection and recycling, and accelerating the revision and formulation of relevant standards to maximize the effectiveness of standardization. At the same time, the Measures also emphasize the need to quickly formulate and implement energy consumption and emission safety standards, strictly enforce energy consumption, energy efficiency and pollutant emission standards, promote the research of low-carbon technologies and the application of green technologies, so as to achieve higher environmental protection and energy efficiency goals.

Lianhe Green thinks the framework's description on "Renovation of green lighting, using LED lamps, high/low pressure sodium lamps, metal halide lamps, tri-color double-ended straight fluorescent lamps (Type T8, T5), etc., as well as the use of natural light sources, intelligent lighting control systems, etc. Relevant lighting products should meet the first-level energy efficiency requirements of relevant national and/or regional energy efficiency standards" is aligned with the description of "1.1.3.1 Renovation of Green Lighting" under "Green Bond Endorsed Project Catalogue (2021 Edition)", which states that "Energy-saving technology upgrading of high-efficient lighting products using LED, high / low pressure sodium lamps, metal halide lamps, three primary color double-ended tubular fluorescent lamps (Type T8 and T5), and other lighting facilities using natural light sources, both indoors and outdoors. The energy efficiency of the lighting products should meet Level One of the national standards".

Furthermore, Lianhe Green thinks the framework's description on "Energy Conservation and Environmentally-friendly Renovation of Existing Buildings: Technical indicators of the building meet relevant national or local energy conservation standards for existing buildings and relevant requirements for energy-saving renovation activities of building energy systems after renovation. Renovation, operation and purchase of the existing buildings which have obtained relevant national green building star-level within the validity period; and the renovation, operation and purchase of existing buildings that have reached the national-relevant green building star-level within the validity period after renovation. For example, the building technology complies with technological standards such as the "Statistical Standard for Civil Buildings" (GB 50352), the "Standard for Energy-Saving in Public Buildings" (GB 50189) and the "Standard for the Evaluation of Green Retrofit of Existing Buildings" (GBT 51141)" is aligned with the description of "5.2.1.5 Energy Conservation and Environmentally-friendly Renovation of Existing Buildings" under "Green Bond Endorsed Project Catalogue (2021 Edition)", which states that "Technical indicators of the building meet relevant national or local energy conservation standards for existing buildings and relevant requirements for energy-saving renovation activities of building energy systems after renovation. Renovation, operation, and purchase of the existing buildings which have obtained relevant national green building star-level with the validity period; and the renovation, operation and purchase of existing building that have reached the national-relevant green building star-level within the validity period after renovation. For example, the building technology complies with technological standards such as the Statistical Standard for Civil Buildings (GB 50352), the Standard for Energy-Saving in Public Buildings (GB 50189) and the Standard for the Evaluation of Green Retrofit of Existing Buildings (GBT 51141)".

Lianhe Green considers the criteria set by the Hong Kong taxonomy for the renovation of existing



buildings to be more stringent compared to the framework requirements. According to the Hong Kong taxonomy, the building renovation should lead to a reduction of primary energy demand, energy consumption, or direct GHG emissions of at least 30% against the building's historic average for both existing commercial buildings and residential buildings. For existing commercial buildings, buildings may also use HKGBC's Zero-Carbon-Ready Building, with at least Extra Low or Level 2 improvement (i.e., 25% reduction) according to Zero-Carbon-ready building Certification Scheme. However, the framework only requires increase in energy efficiency and reduce building and facility energy consumption by at least 15 percent.

Lianhe Green generally considers these types of projects to positively contribute to the environment, as the EU Taxonomy includes the installation, maintenance, and repair of energy efficiency equipment. Information relevant to EU taxonomy's substantial contribution criteria will be required after project commencement or completion to determine EU taxonomy eligibility, in Lianhe Green's opinion.

Lianhe Green thinks this qualified green project category contributes positively to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), in particular, there is significant contributions to Target 7.3 of Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) "By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency".

## 2) Eligible Green Projects: Green Building

### Lianhe Green Findings / Suggestions

Lianhe Green considers that this project category under the framework is most relevant to the eligible green projects category "Green buildings that meet regional, national or internationally recognised standards or certifications for environmental performance" under both GBP and GLP.

In May 2024, the Yangzhou city government implemented the "[Implementation Opinions on Accelerating the Construction of Ecologically Livable Cities](#)". The Opinion promotes the optimization and improvement of green buildings. New urban civil buildings are designed and constructed in accordance with green building standards. The Opinion also clearly states that "New residential buildings fully implement the 75% energy saving standard and explore the development of near-zero energy consumption and zero-carbon buildings".

Lianhe Green believes the framework's description on "China Green Building Evaluation Label (2 star or above)" is aligned with the description of "5.2.1.2 Green Buildings" under "Green Bond Endorsed Project Catalogue (2021 Edition)", which states that "All civil and industrial buildings are designed and constructed in accordance with the national green building codes and standards to obtain national green building evaluation labels within the validity period. For example, the building should comply with indicators as listed in technical standards, such as the "Green Building Evaluation Standard" (GB/T 50378), the "Green Industrial Building Evaluation Standard" (GB/T 50878), the "Green Ecological Area Evaluation Standard" (GB/T 51255), the "Green Office Building Evaluation Standard" (GB/T 50903), the "Green Store Building Evaluation Standard" (GB/T 51100), the "Green Hospital Building Evaluation Standard" (GB/T 51153)".

Lianhe Green considers the criteria set by the Hong Kong taxonomy for the construction of new commercial and residential buildings in Mainland China to be more stringent compared to the framework requirements. According to the Hong Kong taxonomy, projects should be rated to the three-star level of the Chinese Green Building Evaluation Standard, whereas the framework criteria only require two-star or above. Furthermore, the Hong Kong taxonomy for the renovation of existing commercial and residential buildings places emphasis on specific carbon and energy performance improvements rather than focusing on technological standards.

Lianhe Green generally considers these types of projects to positively contribute to the environment, as the construction of new buildings and renovation of existing buildings are included in the EU taxonomy. However, the EU taxonomy focuses on specific energy performance indicators rather than green building certification schemes. Information relevant to EU taxonomy's substantial contribution criteria will be required after project commencement or completion to determine EU taxonomy eligibility, in Lianhe Green's opinion.

Lianhe Green thinks this qualified green project category contributes positively to the United Nations



Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), in particular, there is significant contributions to Target 11.c of Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) "Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials Indicators".

## B. Process for Project Evaluation and Selection

### Company Materials

The overall principle includes two parts as follows.

- 1) Select national and regional key green projects with a certain scale effect or demonstration effect.
- 2) Adhere to the principle of diversification in the selection of project types and regions.

Specific screening criteria: two-tier green project screening mechanism.

Eligible green projects will be selected according to above eligibility criteria.

#### **Stage 1 Evaluation Procedure:**

Review and select green projects preliminarily in accordance with the Green Bond Principles (GBP) 2021 released by International Capital Market Association (ICMA), or the Climate Bonds Standard V3.0 issued by Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI), or the Green Bond Endorsed Projects Catalogue (2021 Edition) jointly announced by the People's Bank of China (PBOC), the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC).

#### **Stage 2 Evaluation Procedure:**

Further review and confirm on the green projects based on the direct and indirect environmental KPIs.

- 1) Direct environmental KPIs: environmental KPIs disclosed in the supporting documents for the projects, which are expected to be quantitative.
- 2) Indirect environmental KPIs:
  - i. According to the supporting documents for the projects, energy-saving technologies or producing methods have been adopted in the projects.
  - ii. The projects are in line with the policies and initiatives on the sustainable development at low carbon emissions, energy-savings and emissions reduction in the national or international markets.

#### *Accountability Mechanisms for the Group's Green Finance*

The Group's Green Finance Working Group ("GFWG") is responsible for the management of this GFF and the compliance of all financing instruments issued under the Framework. The GFWG consists of executive members of the Group and senior representatives from the following departments, including:

- Finance and Capital Department
- Financing Management Department
- Project Management Department

The GFWG may be supplemented from time to time, or expanded, by the inclusion of representatives from other relevant teams.

The GFWG will

- Meet at least two times each year to select and evaluate green projects to invest in for the current year and the next year
- Ratify Eligible Green Projects, which are initially proposed by the constituent team members



- Undertake regular monitoring of the asset pool to ensure the eligibility of Green Projects with the criteria set out in the Group's GFF Section 1, Use of Proceeds, whilst replacing any ineligible Green Projects with eligible new Green Projects
- Ensure that projects comply with the Group's Environmental Risk Management framework as well as applicable local governmental regulations and ensure that projects no longer meeting the selection criteria detailed in the Framework will be removed and/or substituted on a best-efforts basis throughout the life of the bond/loan
- Ensure that the proceeds of bonds/loans will be periodically adjusted to match allocation to eligible projects made during that period
- Facilitate regular reporting on any GFT in alignment with our Reporting commitments
- Manage any future updates to the Framework
- Ensure that the approval of Eligible Green Projects will follow the Group's existing credit/loan/investment approval processes

### Opinion of Lianhe Green

Not Aligned	Aligned	<b>Good</b>	Excellent
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Lianhe Green has reviewed the Green Finance Framework and other series of documents, and the company's policies on process for project evaluation and selection based on the relevant assessment criteria.

The Group has established a comprehensive process for screening, identifying, and evaluating green projects. The Group has a process to pre-select and evaluate the projects based on national and international standards. Direct and indirect environmental KPIs will be further reviewed, and the GFWG will meet at least two times each year to select and evaluate the green projects to invest in.

Lianhe Green considers that the Group's process for project evaluation and selection system is Good, which meets the requirements of the assessment criteria.

## C. Management of Proceeds

### Company Materials

The proceeds of each of the Group's GFT can be managed through using a designated account or keeping a GFT Register. Under the GFT Register method, the proceeds will be deposited in the general funding accounts, and earmarked for allocation towards the Eligible Green Projects. The Group will maintain a GFT Register to track the use of proceeds for the GFT. Green Finance Allocation Register will be established to ensure and monitor the allocation of green finance proceeds.

The Register will contain, for each GFT launched, information including:

1. GFT Details: ISIN (if applicable), Pricing Date, Maturity Date and etc.
2. Eligible Green Project Allocation List, information including:
  - The Eligible Projects List, including for each Eligible Project, the Eligible Green Project category, project description, project location, Group's ownership percentage, total project cost, amount allocated, settled currency, etc.
  - Amount of unallocated Proceeds.

#### Management of the unallocated proceeds

It is the Group's intention to deploy proceeds of each of the Group's GFT to Eligible Green Projects within a 2-year period. If part of the proceeds cannot be allocated to Eligible Green Projects at the moment, the Group can deposit the unallocated proceeds into the designated account for the green bond, or invest the unallocated proceeds into qualified money market products or debt instruments according to the





relevant rules and regulations set out by the competent authorities.

### Opinion of Lianhe Green

Not Aligned	Aligned	<b>Good</b>	Excellent
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Lianhe Green has reviewed a series of documents such as the Green Finance Framework and the company's policies on the management of proceeds based on the relevant assessment criteria.

The proceeds of each of the Group's GFT can be managed through using a designated account or keeping a GFT Register, and earmarked for allocation towards the Eligible Green Projects. Green Finance Allocation Register will be established to ensure and monitor the allocation of green finance proceeds. The unallocated proceeds may be deposited into the designated account for the green bond, or invest unallocated proceeds into qualified money market products or debt instruments according to the relevant rules and regulations set out by the competent authorities.

Lianhe Green considers that the Group's management of proceeds is Good, which meets the requirements of the assessment criteria.

## D. Reporting

### Company Materials

The Group will provide information on the allocation of the net proceeds of its Green Financing Instruments in a Green Finance Report. Such information will be provided on an annual basis until all the net proceeds have been allocated. According to the market needs, the information may contain the following details:

- 1) List of Eligible Green projects
- 2) The amount of Proceeds allocated to each Eligible Green Project category
- 3) When possible, descriptions of the Eligible Green Projects financed, such as project locations, amount allocated, etc.
- 4) Selected examples of projects financed
- 5) Percentage of financing vs. refinancing
- 6) Amount of unallocated Proceeds

Furthermore, the Group will confirm that the use of proceeds of the GFT conforms to this GFF and that report on a timely basis if any material development until full allocation.

### Impact Reporting

The Group will provide reporting on the environmental benefits of the Eligible Green Projects potentially with the following environmental impact indicators. In addition, calculation methodologies and key assumptions will be disclosed.

Eligible Project Categories	Impact Indicators
<b>Energy Efficiency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Amount of energy saved (in MWh)</li> <li>» Annual energy efficiency improvement in percentage</li> </ul>
<b>Green Building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» The number and type of green building certifications obtained</li> <li>» Obtained certification level</li> </ul>

The allocation and impact reporting mentioned above will be disclosed to the Group's stakeholders.



**Opinion of Lianhe Green**

Not Aligned	Aligned	<b>Good</b>	Excellent
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Lianhe Green has reviewed a series of documents, including the Green Finance Framework and the company's policy based on the relevant assessment criteria.

The Group will provide green project category level disclosure reports annually until the proceeds of the GFTs have been fully allocated, and in the event of any material changes. The descriptions of the eligible Green Projects financed, such as project locations, amount allocated, etc. may be provided when possible.

Lianhe Green considers that the Group's information disclosure and reporting is Good, which meets the requirements of the assessment criteria.

**E. External Review**

**Company Materials**

**Pre-issuance:**

The Group has engaged Lianhe Green Development Company Limited ("Lianhe Green") to provide a second party opinion on the Green Finance Framework to review and confirm its alignment with the GBP and GLP. Lianhe Green has reviewed the Green Finance Framework and on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 provided its Second Party Opinion. The objective of the Second Party Opinion is to provide investors with an independent assessment. The Second Party Opinion is a statement of opinion, not a statement of fact. No representation or assurance is given by the Issuer and the Joint Lead Managers as to the suitability or reliability of the Second Party Opinion or any opinion or certification of any third party made available in connection with the Bonds issued as Green Bonds. The Second-Party Opinion together with the Green Finance Framework will be published on the Group's website. Neither the Green Finance Framework nor the Second Party Opinion is incorporated into this Offering Circular and neither the Green Finance Framework nor the Second Party Opinion forms part of this Offering Circular.

**Post-issuance:**

An independent third party may be engaged to review and verify the internal tracking and allocation of funds from the GFTs to Eligible Green Projects, as well as the Eligible Projects expected and actual impact that is disclosed in the Annual Reporting.

**Opinion of Lianhe Green**

Not Aligned	Aligned	<b>Good</b>	Excellent
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The company has engaged Lianhe Green to assess the compliance of this framework with relevant international and domestic standards and to issue a second-party assessment opinion. An independent third party may be engaged to review and verify the internal tracking and allocation of



funds from the GFTs to eligible green projects, as well as the eligible projects expected and actual impact that is disclosed in the Group's annual reporting.

Lianhe Green considers that the Group's management system for external review is Good and meets the requirements of the assessment standards.

## Analysis of Environmental Benefits

### Eligible Green Project: Energy Efficiency

#### Environmental Benefits

According to the [China Environment News](#), compared with traditional production lines, production lines equipped with smart meters can undertake 70% more production tasks. The carbon emission for producing a single smart meter is 50.15 kilograms (CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent), which is an 8% carbon reduction compared to traditional production methods. Lianhe Green believes that smart meters, by providing real-time data support, not only promote more efficient use of energy but also significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This plays an important role in optimizing electricity consumption.

In May 2024, the State Council issued the "[Energy-saving and Carbon Reduction Action Plan for 2024-2025](#)". The plan proposes that by the end of 2025, the energy-saving rates of residential and public buildings that have been renovated will be increased by 30% and 20% respectively. Lianhe Green believes that upgrading the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to more energy-efficient models can significantly reduce energy usage, which directly translates to lower carbon emissions. This plays a crucial role in optimizing power consumption.

LED lighting consumes less energy than traditional bulbs, lasts longer, and reduces energy consumption and waste. Finally, investing in energy storage technology can store excess energy during times of high energy production and release it during times of peak demand, thereby reducing dependence on fossil fuels, lowering carbon emissions, and boosting the use of renewable energy.

### Eligible Green Project: Green Building

#### Environmental Benefits

Green building is a new type of building that does not destroy the basic ecological balance conditions of the environment during the construction period, and consumes significantly less material and energy than traditional buildings during the operation period, which can also be called sustainable building, ecological building, back to nature building, energy-saving and environmentally friendly building and so on. According to "[Tech New Era](#)", green buildings can reduce energy consumption by 30% to 50% compared to traditional buildings.

Compared with ordinary buildings, green buildings can use land resources more efficiently and provide relatively more centralized public service facilities, use a higher proportion of renewable and recyclable materials in the construction process, give fuller consideration to the natural conditions of the site, and set up air-cooling systems according to the principle of natural ventilation, so that the green building can effectively make use of the dominant wind direction in summer; reasonably design the building envelope, using energy-saving lighting and configure corresponding intelligent control systems during operation. Elevators are equipped with high-efficiency transformers, and energy-using equipment can be equipped with variable frequency functions.

According to the "[Energy-saving and Carbon Reduction Action Plan for 2024-2025](#)", by the end of 2025, all new urban buildings will fully implement green building standards, with new public institution buildings and new factory buildings aiming for a photovoltaic coverage rate of 50% on rooftops, and the share of renewable energy in urban buildings reaching 8%. Additionally, the construction area of new ultra-low energy consumption buildings and nearly zero energy consumption buildings will increase by more than 20 million square meters compared to 2023.



The relevant technical indicators of buildings that have undergone energy-saving renovation shall meet the relevant national or local requirements for energy conservation and environmentally friendly renovation of existing buildings. Such projects are conducive to reducing energy consumption, saving energy, and alleviating the shortage of energy demand; and can also contribute to sound insulation, dust reduction, and thermal insulation of buildings, thus reducing usage costs, and improving the comfort of the building's indoor environment. Moreover, the green lighting technology used during renovation is also conducive to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, mitigating air pollution and improving environmental quality.



## Appendix

### About Lianhe Green

Lianhe Green Development Company Limited ("Lianhe Green") was established in 2023 and is a subsidiary of Lianhe Equator Environmental Assessment Co., Ltd. ("Lianhe Equator") and Lianhe Credit Management Co., Ltd. ("Lianhe Group"). Lianhe Equator is the largest green and sustainable bond/loan certification provider in mainland China. As an external reviewer recognised under the Hong Kong Monetary Authority's Green and Sustainable Finance Grant Scheme, Lianhe Green is headquartered in Hong Kong, mainly responsible for green and sustainable finance certification business in international markets, ESG reporting and consulting, ESG training services, and assist in operating carbon market-related businesses within and outside China.

Lianhe Green aims to become an internationally recognized external verifier for sustainable finance through cooperation with Lianhe Equator's professional and experienced team in this industry. With a goal of "shaping the origin of the earth and sky, and transmitting the civilization of mankind", Lianhe Green is committed to helping Chinese and foreign enterprises demonstrate their determination in sustainable development, and providing investors with independent and objective third-party certification services. It is our mission to leave green and oceans to our future generations.

### Scope of Analysis

Lianhe Green was engaged by the Group to provide an assessment of the company's Green Finance Framework. The assessment is to provide a professional second-party opinion of the compliance of the Green Finance Framework and does not provide any financial indicators or judgement on the investment values of the company's issuance.

### Responsibilities

#### The Company

The Group's responsibilities are to accept the interviews from Lianhe Green's analytical team, to provide relevant data and institutional documents for the analysis, and to ensure that the data and institutional documents provided are true and effective.

#### External Reviewer

Lianhe Green's responsibilities are to collect data and documents provided by the Group. Lianhe Green will review all important data and documents, and issue conclusions. In addition, Lianhe Green will disclose information collected from the Group and relevant parties to demonstrate whether its Green Finance Framework meets the relevant requirements of the above standards.

### Analytical Process

The main aspects of this assessment include the following:

- » Performing a comprehensive review on the persons in charge of the relevant departments to understand the key matters related to the Group's policies and processes;
- » Review the Green Finance Framework developed by the Group;
- » Review relevant disclosure reports;
- » Obtain and review appropriate supporting documentation to support key findings.

### Solicitation Status

The Second-Party Opinion was solicited and assigned or maintained by Lianhe Green at the request of the company.

### Disclaimer

A Lianhe Green SPO is an assessment of the green and sustainable financing frameworks of entities. It is not a credit rating.



Please note that individuals identified in an SPO report are not responsible for the opinions stated therein and are named for contact purposes only. Our report is neither a prospectus nor a substitute for the information assembled, verified and presented to investors by the issuer and its agents in connection with the sale of financial instruments and securities.

Lianhe Green receives compensation from entities and other market participants for conducting this service. None of the aforementioned entities nor its related parties participated in the review process aside from providing information requested by Lianhe Green.

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