



# 2023 Australian Modern Slavery Act Statement

Updated June 2023

## Introduction

This Statement is made voluntarily pursuant to Australian Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018 (the “Act”) by General Electric Company on behalf of its affiliates conducting business in Australia and covered by the Act (as listed in Appendix A herein referred to as “GE Reporting Entities”), (together the “Company” or “GE”). The Statement discusses actions GE took in its prior fiscal year to address risks of modern slavery in its own operations and value chain, and which the Reporting Entities participated in as part of GE’s human rights program.

GE delivers innovative solutions and services to provide essential infrastructure for the world. We work with the highest integrity, a compliance-oriented culture, and respect for human rights, while also setting ambitious goals to reduce emissions through operational efficiencies and technology. This statement builds on statements we’ve submitted under the *California Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010*, the *United Kingdom Modern Slavery Act 2015*, and *GE’s Human Rights Report* (issued in 2022), to demonstrate GE’s continued commitment to address modern slavery and other human rights risks throughout our global operations and value chain. We are proud of our efforts on this issue but are mindful that our program must continually improve as we remain vigilant in our fight against this global human rights crisis.

As we detail below, we continued our extensive efforts to prevent forced labor in the Company’s supply chain through on-site audits, employee training, supplier monitoring, and supplier pre-qualification and education. We view multi-stakeholder collaboration as critical to addressing this important issue, and in 2022 we continued to engage in joint efforts to drive change in challenging regions and sectors.

## Our Structure, Operations & Supply Chain

### Structure and Operations

For more than 130 years, GE has invented the future of industry, and today the company’s dedicated team, leading technology, and global reach and capabilities help the world work more safely, efficiently, and reliably. 2022 was a year that propelled GE forward. GE previously announced a strategic plan to form three industry-leading, global, investment-grade public companies from (i) our Aerospace business, (ii) our Renewable Energy, Power, Digital and Energy Financial Services businesses, which we plan to combine and refer to as GE Vernova, and (iii) our former HealthCare business. In July 2022, we announced the new brand names for our three planned future companies: GE Aerospace, GE Vernova and GE HealthCare. On January 3, 2023, we completed the separation of the HealthCare business from GE through the spin-off of GE HealthCare Technologies Inc. (GE HealthCare).

At year-end 2022, GE and consolidated affiliates employed approximately 172,000 employees, of whom approximately 960 were employed in Australia. A more detailed description of GE’s business operations and ambitions can be found in our [2022 Annual Report](#).



Since 2005, GE businesses have conducted more than 36,000 supplier assessments spanning 100 countries

*GE is committed to taking steps to prevent acts of modern slavery and human trafficking in its business operations and supply chains.*

 <https://www.ge.com/sustainability/ourpriorities>

We serve customers in over 170 countries. Manufacturing and service operations are carried out at 75 manufacturing plants located in 26 states in the United States and Puerto Rico and at 130 manufacturing plants located in 32 other countries.

GE owns and controls the GE Reporting Entities listed in Appendix A. GE Company is incorporated in New York, with its principal executive office in Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

**Supply Chain**

GE’s supply chain is expansive and global, spanning more than 115 countries. We source a wide variety of raw materials and components that are incorporated into the products and services that GE sells. GE also buys products and services to support our business operations, which are used to develop or create, but are not incorporated into, GE’s products or services.

**Our Commitments & Programs**

Our commitment to human rights is grounded in the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact. Driven by those standards, we strive to respect the fundamental dignity of everyone we might affect directly through our operations, products, and services and indirectly through our business relationships across the globe. Our ideals flow from the International Bill of Human Rights, the International Labor Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Using those as our foundation, we address modern slavery risks through specific policies, training and awareness, due diligence and remediation.

**Policies, Standards & Reports**

The Company’s [Human Rights Statement of Principles](#) (applicable across GE, including the Reporting Entities) is the cornerstone of our global program, emphasizing the importance of “respect for fundamental human rights.” The Statement specifically prohibits reliance on any form of forced, child, prison or indentured labor and is embedded in expectations of all businesses and personnel through our code of conduct, The Spirit & The Letter.

[The Spirit & The Letter](#) (“S&L”) sets the Company’s expectations regarding ethics & compliance and applies to all GE directors, officers and employees, including those working for our subsidiaries and affiliates. All new hires are required to review and agree to abide by the S&L during the onboarding process, and employees are further expected to annually acknowledge their commitment to comply. The S&L and its accompanying policies, including a new policy dedicated exclusively to human rights, address the full spectrum of integrity and compliance issues across GE’s global value chain. GE expressly prohibits the types of actions associated with the most common forms of modern slavery, including the charging of recruitment fees, the withholding of immigration documents, and the use of misleading recruitment tactics. Violations of this policy can result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

In 2022, we issued our first GE [Human Rights Report](#), providing a deeper look into how we implement our human rights program to address human rights risks across our value chain, including modern slavery risks. Beyond our unwavering commitment to human rights,



this report details our salient risks and our human rights priorities, which includes worker welfare. A detailed process map demonstrates our upstream due diligence in evaluating suppliers as well as how we conduct due diligence on downstream relationships with our customers.

The **Human Rights Enterprise Standard** (applicable across GE, including the Reporting Entities) is intended specifically for GE business compliance professionals and supplements the S&L Human Rights Policy by setting forth the core human rights expectations of the businesses. More specifically, the document outlines auditable controls and requires that the businesses have appropriate mechanisms in place to monitor those controls. The Enterprise Standard further sets out minimum requirements regarding risk assessment and mitigation, due diligence of third parties, and escalation and remediation of any concerns related to human rights. Other related policies and procedures, such as the S&L Environment, Health, and Safety Policy and the S&L Respectful Workplace Policy, are also embedded through GE’s business enterprise through similar enterprise standard and policy documents.

The Company’s [Integrity Guide for Suppliers, Contractors and Consultants](#) (“Integrity Guide”) (which is applied by all GE companies, including the Reporting Entities, when applicable) extends the reach of our Code of Conduct and its requirement of “unyielding integrity and high standards of business conduct” to our suppliers and their subcontractors, including labor providers. Beyond compliance with all applicable local laws and regulations, the Integrity Guide mandates third-party adherence to GE standards in areas including respectful workplace, environment, health and safety, and human rights. In the area of forced labor, the Integrity Guide expressly prohibits any form of compulsion, coercion or human trafficking; lists prohibited activities associated with trafficking, such as withholding passports, charging recruitment fees, and misleading recruitment; and imposes affirmative obligations on suppliers in certain circumstances such as reimbursement of return transportation costs and providing workers with written contracts in a language they understand. We most recently updated the Integrity Guide in early 2022 to clarify and expand upon our human rights-related expectations. The Integrity Guide also encourages reports of violations of the policy through telephone, email and in-person channels by employees and third parties.

**Governance**

GE has embedded respect for human rights throughout our global organization with a multi-layered approach with engagement from the most senior levels of the Company and execution driven by functional leaders within our businesses. Our Global Human Rights Counsel is responsible for setting human rights strategy for GE businesses, including our modern slavery program. She works closely with a cross-functional Sustainability Leadership Council, comprised of senior personnel from across the Company, to establish ESG priorities and coordinate GE’s global initiatives. The Company’s Board of Directors and its committees oversee the execution of GE’s ESG strategies and initiatives – including human rights - as an integrated part of their oversight of GE’s overall strategy and risk management. The Reporting Entities, through their business divisions, are responsible for operationalizing the Company’s governance strategy. For more information, see GE’s [Human Rights Report](#), page 8.

**Training & Awareness**

GE’s human rights program depends on the practical understanding of our people and business partners. We provide our businesses with learning modules on human rights and forced labor which give employees an easy, efficient way to understand the core principles of human rights; the company-wide policies and programs; the causes and global footprint of forced labor; and most importantly, how they can serve a role in identifying and reporting possible signs of modern slavery when they are at GE operations, supplier facilities, or customer sites.

We ensure that this awareness raising is ongoing. At their discretion, businesses host spotlight campaigns or “Human Rights Month” in which we remind and reinforce our principles to our employees and provide them with relevant learning resources and materials on their role.

GE businesses provide their direct material suppliers an online compliance video, which includes a module explaining GE’s position on human rights, with a more in-depth focus on forced labor—what it is, how extensive the problem is globally, and what suppliers must do or avoid doing to comply with GE’s forced labor policy. Suppliers can view this video as part of their commitment to abide by GE’s Integrity Guide. The Company also provides training on its forced labor prevention expectations to potential Engineering, Procurement and Construction

(“EPC”) partners on large GE Power and Renewable Energy construction projects, where low-skilled, migrant labor will likely be working.

We deploy “fast training” learning modules on human rights and forced labor to our employees and business partners for a brief, practical way to understand indicators of key risks; the Company’s policies and programs; the causes and global footprint of forced labor; and most importantly, how they can serve a role in identifying and reporting possible signs of modern slavery when they are at GE operations, supplier facilities, or customer sites.

**TOTAL SRG GLOBAL AUDITS IN 2022: 1,233**

- Total Suppliers Approved (New and Existing): **1,011**
- Total Suppliers Rejected (New and Existing): **43**
- Total Findings: **6,482**

NOTE: The number of Total SRG Global Audits is greater than total suppliers reviewed as some suppliers were audited twice (i.e., desktop audit due to COVID-19 restricted followed by on-site visits) or there were return visits to confirm corrective actions were completed.

**Processes & Risks:**

**Due Diligence & On-Site Supplier Assessments**

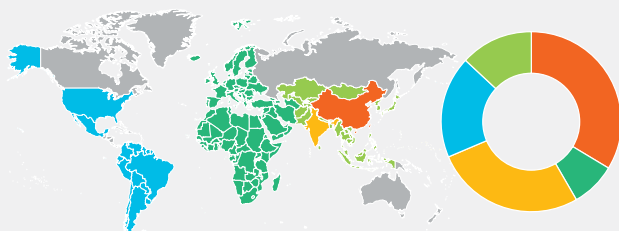
GE strives to ensure compliance with these policies through a rigorous due diligence program reaching throughout our value chain.

One significant way GE advances respect for human rights, in particular in the area of forced labor, is through our well-established, multifaceted ethical supply chain program. Under this program, GE businesses (of which the Reporting Entities are a part) conduct due diligence on their suppliers, known as the Know Your Supplier (“KYS”) process, where, based upon the location and type of service engagement, GE will research and review the third party for human rights risks. As a part of our Supplier Responsibility Governance (SRG) Program, suppliers in high-risk countries will undergo an in-depth, on-site assessment of their manufacturing site, both before they are approved for onboarding and periodically thereafter, to ensure supplier compliance with GE’s principles on fundamental human rights. Among other things, these assessments inquire specifically into how workers are recruited into their jobs and treated by their employers to detect any conditions of modern slavery.

In 2022, GE businesses, including those within which the Reporting Entities sit, assessed approximately 1,233 new or existing suppliers, generating more than 6,482 findings. Since 2005, GE businesses have conducted more than 36,000 supplier assessments spanning 100 countries. GE publishes an annual overview of its businesses’ supply chain assessment results on its website and Sustainability Report. The human rights portion of the assessment focuses significantly on forced labor indicators, such as wage practices, recruitment efforts, and passport handling. The questionnaire and indicators provide GE with a way to assess potential suppliers on their human rights programs, educate them as to the nature of forced labor and explain what is needed to prevent it.

We record, track and monitor results with a proprietary reporting tool, which is supplemented with information from regional databases. When issues are identified, our goal is to work with and coach the suppliers to bring their practices into compliance with our requirements as this is in the

**SUPPLIER AUDITS BY REGION (2022)**



- China: 416
- North and South America: 225
- Europe, Middle East & Africa: 100
- India: 332
- Rest of Asia: 160

best interest of the workers. However, we will suspend or terminate our relationship with a supplier if the supplier is uncooperative or findings are not promptly addressed. For more information, see GE's [Human Rights Report](#), pgs. 11-12, 16.

#### **Pre-Qualification**

GE is attuned to the risk of forced labor in other operations and business relationships. Accordingly, businesses supplement the KYS due diligence process with an additional contractor pre-qualification program used for specific labor service providers. The program requires labor contractors to provide upfront information on worker safety and human rights policies and programs as part of the assessment. The human rights portion of this process emphasizes forced labor indicators, such as wage practices, recruitment efforts, and passport handling. This process provides GE businesses with a way to both assess potential contractors on their human rights programs and educate contractors as to the nature of forced labor and what is needed to prevent it. Businesses have also been posting at many sites around the globe a human trafficking education and hotline notice to alert employees and contract workers of GE's prohibition on forced labor and how to report any suspicion of such actions. The notice makes clear that complaints of such behavior can be anonymously reported to the internal ombudsperson network, not only by employees but also by contract workers, without fear of retaliation.

In 2022, we continued to conduct due diligence on high-risk supply chain partners, train our auditors and other employees in how vulnerable populations end up in forced labor, and engage in joint efforts to drive change in challenging regions and sectors, particularly recruiting.

#### **Facility Site Certifications**

In 2022, GE rolled out a new assessment process to mitigate modern slavery risks within our operations. At manufacturing and office locations, contingent workers who support GE through its janitorial, food/beverage, security, and other facility-type services are a known vulnerable population in the workforce for modern slavery. Every 2 years, GE, with the support of its facility management service teams, meets with workers to certify they are being treated and paid fairly and provides them with copies of how to report issues or violations to GE. Each GE site also posts copies of our Human Trafficking Awareness Poster translated in various languages to ensure effective communication on reporting concerns to onsite contingent workers.

#### **Modern Slavery Risks**

Based on our due diligence and risk assessments, we have identified the following general types of modern slavery risks that may be present in our operations and supply chains:

1. **Operations** – In our operations, modern slavery risks may exist within the population of contingent workers that support GE office and manufacturing sites. These workers provide janitorial, food/beverage, security and other facility support services. These contingent workers are primarily provided through an enterprise-wide vendor arrangement but may also be further sub-contracted. GE maintains a strong partnership with the vendors who provide us with our contingent workers and conducts periodic reviews to ensure they are complying with their obligations and respecting human rights.
2. **Supply Chain** – Due to the nature of GE's products and services, potential sources of modern slavery risks include manufacturing sites in higher risk countries; mineral sourcing deep in our supply chain; and use of low-skilled and/or migrant workers from subcontractors. Our modern slavery risks are most acute in those parts of our supply chain where we have limited or no visibility, such as subcontractors

using seasonal, low-skilled, and/or migrant labor and pre-smelter mineral sourcing. GE is also committed to working to eliminate from our products all minerals that support armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or from conflict-affected and high-risk areas ("CAHRAs"), while at the same time minimizing unintended consequences for legitimate miners and their dependents. More information on our responsible mineral sourcing program can be found in our [Responsible Mineral Sourcing Statement of Principles](#).

## **Ensuring Continuous Improvement**

GE assesses the effectiveness of actions through the Human Rights Working Group, review & analysis of its supply chain audit results, and learnings from the Open Reporting & Ombudsperson program.

#### **Human Rights Working Group**

Our Global Human Rights Counsel leads a cross-functional Working Group of Human Rights Champions across all GE business units. The Working Group meets regularly to review key findings, share important legal and regulatory alerts, learn best practices and discuss trends identified through our various due diligence and investigative processes. The Working Group is comprised of representatives from the various businesses – known as Human Rights Champions, who represent different functions – including Human Resources, Sourcing, Legal/Compliance – to address feedback and opportunities. As deemed necessary, the Working Group may partner with local business teams to engage suppliers on their compliance and human rights programs to understand how modern slavery risks are mitigated. The Working Group also focuses on the implementation of the Human Rights Enterprise Standard.

#### **Ongoing Assessment & Effectiveness Review**

GE strives for continuous improvement in all aspects of its operations. GE's Ethics & Compliance team runs an annual assessment that focuses on evaluating the inherent risks and the strength of our internal controls across all our businesses. The assessment process asks each business to benchmark its own compliance programs against the Human Rights Enterprise Standard (among others), which the Ethics & Compliance team includes in an overall assessment as to how GE performs in this key policy area. Insights from this process are used in many aspects of the compliance program including by identifying additional training needs, control improvements, and other areas that may need remediation efforts. GE also actively engages with external stakeholders such as the Global Business Initiative and the Leadership Group for Responsible Recruitment (see Our Partnerships), to benchmark our program's practices and identify ways to improve effectiveness.

#### **Global Open Reporting & Ombuds Program**

The Global Open Reporting & Ombuds Program, comprised of hundreds of trained employees at the Corporate and business level, is a chief vehicle for the Company to hear from employees regarding any violations of our integrity standards. The program enables employees to raise concerns, including those relating to respect for human rights, confidentially and without fear of retaliation. Consistent with our Human Rights Statement of Principles, and in the spirit of "Eyes Always Open," employees are expected to report unfair employment practices and human rights concerns they observe at GE sites or working with direct business partners. In 2022, GE engaged with an external human rights consulting firm to assess the effectiveness of its grievance mechanism program relative to its peers and regulatory expectations. As a result of this assessment, we are undertaking actions to adopt best practices and improve elements of our program.

## GE'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GLOBAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE

As a founding member of Global Business Initiative on Human Rights (GBI), GE is committed, along with other member multinational corporations, to embed respect for human rights into our business operations. Peer learning and benchmarking enables GE to determine the right strategy and process to address human rights risk in our business area. By connecting with industry leaders and engaging with this business led group, GE gains insights into emerging trends and issues and examines challenges and potential solutions that other members have experienced.



1. Create demand for responsible recruitment by raising awareness about the benefits of ethical practices and developing tools to help companies implement the Employer Pays Principle.
2. Increase the supply of ethically sourced labor by creating an enabling environment and supporting the development and implementation of systems to identify and use ethical recruitment agencies.
3. Advocate for improved protection for migrant workers by brokering dialogue to promote the effective regulation and enforcement of the recruitment industry.

## Our Partnerships

1. Beyond our own workers and suppliers, GE and its businesses engage with external stakeholders to identify human rights risks throughout our value chain and to collaborate with peers, experts, and civil society groups to seek practical solutions. GE provides financial support to the **Institute for Human Rights and Business' Leadership Group for Responsible Recruitment**, focused on addressing modern slavery. GE is also a Signatory and Participant in the **UN Global Compact**.
2. As a founding member of **Global Business Initiative on Human Rights**, GE is committed, along with other member multinational corporations, to embed respect for human rights into our business operations. Peer learning and benchmarking enables GE to determine the right strategy and process to address human rights risk in our businesses. By connecting with industry leaders and engaging with this business-led group, GE gains insights into emerging trends and issues, and examines challenges and potential solutions that other members have experienced.

GE is actively engaged in the **Leadership Group for Responsible Recruitment**, a collaboration between leading companies and expert organizations to drive positive change in the way that migrant workers are recruited, with a focus on eliminating fees being charged to workers to secure employment. The aims of this initiative are to:

## Our Consultation Process

As set out above, GE owns and controls the Reporting Entities listed in Appendix A, with company-wide policies and processes embedded throughout our global organization. The office of our Global Human Rights Counsel oversees the administration of the Human Rights Enterprise Standard and engages on ESG strategies through close collaboration across various internal functions such as human resources, sourcing, commercial, legal and compliance, with outcomes of our human rights audits, due diligence programs and annual compliance risk assessments regularly reported to the Reporting Entities' Boards of Directors. GE's Australian Modern Slavery Statement has been approved and adopted by way of resolution by the various Boards prior to publication, following briefing to the directors by the local legal and compliance teams.

## Conclusion

The *Australian Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018* serves a significant role in driving transparency in global efforts to address the problem of modern slavery. As discussed above, GE and its businesses, including the Reporting Entities, continue to build on the Company's longstanding human rights program to better identify and prevent forced labor in their own operations and those of their suppliers and business partners. This global scourge can only be overcome by a joint effort of states, private enterprises, and civil society. We have been and remain committed to upholding our fundamental role in this critical effort.

This statement was approved voluntarily by the Board of General Electric Company and pursuant to *Australian Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018* by the Boards of the Reporting Entities as listed in Appendix A.

*H. Lawrence Culp, Jr.*

H. Lawrence Culp, Jr.

Jun 29, 2023 4:29 PM EDT

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer  
General Electric Company



## Appendix A

### **Company Name**

GE Grid Australia Pty Ltd

GE Healthcare Australia Holdings Pty Ltd

GE Healthcare Australia Pty Limited

GE Power Holdings Australia Pty Ltd

GE Power Australia Pty Ltd

GE Renewable Energy Australia Pty Ltd