# PLEDGE TO NET ZERO

# Race to Zero Guidance

### Overview

To become a signatory of Race to Zero, companies shall commit to:

- 1. Long term emissions target to reach net zero GHG emissions by 2050 at the latest
- 2. One mid-term target to reduce GHG emissions by 50% by 2030 at the latest from a base year not more than 2 years back in time
- 3. A plan demonstrating how interim and long term targets will be met
- 4. Immediate action within months to reduce emissions and meet mid-term target
- 5. Emissions targets inclusive of scopes 1 and 2, and 3

### Background

Pledge to Net Zero (PTNZ) is a Race to Zero partner. This is the global campaign to garner support for climate action from across society in the lead up to COP26 in Glasgow. While joining Pledge to Net Zero and setting a Science Based Target (SBT) is a significant step in the right direction, meeting the additional criteria for Race to Zero means you will be joining over 3000 businesses at the forefront of the Net Zero transition. This guide has therefore been developed to explain the additional requirements which must be met in order to become a Race to Zero member, and encourages signatories' commitment.

# How to begin the process of becoming a Race to Zero member?

- 1. Register your interest through the Pledge to Net Zero website
- 2. Someone will be in contact to get the process started, this is when you should note your interest in Race to Zero

If your organisation is already in the process of developing PTNZ targets but you wish to increase your climate ambition to meet the requirements of Race to Zero, then please contact pledgetonetzero@wsp.com.

For general guidance on the process of setting a science based target please refer to the Pledge to Net Zero General Guidance for Signatories, and Guidance for Accounting and Reporting.

# What's in it for my organisation?

As well as doing the right thing by taking immediate action, members can expect to enhance their public profile through showcasing their commitment to stakeholders. Race to Zero helps with this through providing a number of tools to members and it can also be expected that members be showcased during official Race to Zero events. Further business benefits also accessible through PTNZ such as improving risks, cost management and unlocking innovation may also be enhanced.

### Requirements for Race to Zero



### Pledge

Pledge at the head-of-organisation to reduce GHG emissions at a rate consistent with limiting global warming to 1.5°C and set two targets to ensure this:

- One mid-term target to reduce GHG emissions by 50% by 2030 at the latest from a base year not more than 2 years back in time. This will require roughly 7% annual linear reductions.
- One long term target to reach net zero GHG emissions by 2050 at the latest.

#### Plan

- A plan of future actions to address both long term and interim targets must be provided within 12 months of pledging. Focus should be toward actions in the short to medium term, so as to ensure immediate reductions.
- The plan must provide details regarding the organisations progress and the steps which are expected to be taken.

#### Proceed

The targets which organisations have set require immediate action to reduce emissions:

- Actions should be taken within months to prioritise and directly address emissions which can be reduced (whether or not plans have been finalised).
- Plan should explain how these actions link to the ambition of reaching interim targets.

### Publish

Members should annually publish progress towards interim and long-term targets:

- Reports can be published through the use of any public channel.
- Public channels which are connected to the UNFCCC's global climate action portal are recommended. These include CDP and the ICLEI.
- Reports should not only provide progress being made towards targets, but also how that progress has been made.

#### Notes:

- Targets should always be inclusive of scopes 1 and 2 (95% of combined total)
- Targets should be inclusive of scope 3 categories for which sufficient data is available.
- Given the potentially extended period of time required to build a GHG inventory it is not expected that plans are comprehensive initially, but efforts should be made so that these are continually improved.
- Targets which are consistent with a 1.5°C scenario are acceptable e.g. procurement of renewable energy targets.