

# VOLKSWAGEN

AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

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## Environmental Policy Statement of Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft

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## Preamble

The Volkswagen Group develops, produces and distributes motor vehicles and mobility services worldwide. Our goal is to become a leading provider of sustainable mobility and a role model when it comes to protecting the environment.

We are taking on the challenges of climate change and are committed to the United Nations' two degree target. We are aware of our enormous responsibility towards the environment globally, including all of the impacts that our activities and products have on the environment and society.

Environmental compliance is a core value for us. Alongside complying with legal requirements and official regulations, our binding obligations include voluntary commitments, such as meeting the requirements of ISO 14001 and ISO 50001 at our production sites, and achieving our own environmental and energy targets. All aspects of the energy policy are included in this Environmental Policy Statement. We are making our products, processes, sites and services continuously more environmentally compatible.

In particular, being environmentally compatible means:

- Minimising exhaust emissions
- Improving resource efficiency
- Cutting greenhouse gas emissions by reducing fuel and energy consumption as well as by using low-CO<sub>2</sub> energy sources
- Improving energy efficiency

All around the globe, we use environmentally efficient, cutting-edge technologies throughout the life cycle of our products, processes and services. In this way, we are decreasing the environmental footprint of our activities and products. At all of our sites, we work in partnership with communities and politicians to ensure socially and ecologically sustainable development.

We are committed to achieving our major strategy TOGETHER – Strategy 2025+, to our “Environmental Mission Statement – goTOzero” and to the Environmental Policy Statement of the Volkswagen Group, and we undertake to implement the following principles:

## **Basic principles**

### **1. Leadership**

Our management staff at all levels are aware of the environmental risks associated with their work. In both their actions and their words, they reinforce their commitment to conduct that complies with both the law and the company's interests, and to being a role model in environmental matters. They are responsible for ensuring that the requirements described in this Environmental Policy Statement are widely known, implemented and adhered to. Our managers make sure that all staff are informed, correctly trained and accountable for the tasks assigned to them. In their area of responsibility, they create a suitable framework in which employees and business partners can communicate sensitive environmental issues openly and without fear of negative consequences.

The Board of Management ensures by way of appropriate internal regulations that the information required for environmental and energy management is available and that the necessary means of maintaining the management systems is provided. When it comes to important company decisions, environmental and economic criteria are given equal weight in the decision-making process. The Board of Management carries out annual checks to ensure that this Environmental Policy Statement is being complied with, that environmental and energy targets are being met and that our environmental compliance management system is fully effective.

### **2. Compliance**

We comply with legal and statutory requirements and are guided by our environmental standards and targets. Our environmental compliance management system ensures that ecological aspects and obligations are recognised within our business activities and given appropriate consideration. Environmental violations, environment-related misconduct, deliberate deception or deceit are treated as regulatory violations in accordance with our organisational guidelines. Each year, an evaluation is conducted of the extent to which our actions conform with the requirements of the Environmental Policy Statement, and the results are reported to the Board of Management of Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft.

### **3. Protecting our environment**

We take a holistic approach to environmental protection: it spans the entire life cycle in accordance with ISO 14001 and includes the protection of water, soil, air and raw materials. As part of our risk management system, we assess environment-relevant aspects as well as environmentally relevant issues and binding obligations in the context of our business activities, processes, products and our conduct. Based on this, we identify actions and oppor-

tunities that we can use to prevent or mitigate undesirable environmental effects. This includes environment-related actions for contingency planning and emergency response at our production sites. We research and develop products, processes and services that promote sustainable mobility. Using the aforementioned measures, we continuously improve our environmental performance and, taking into account economic feasibility, we help to secure our company's long-term future and to increase our competitiveness.

#### **4. Cooperation with stakeholders**

Providing transparent and credible information is a matter of course for us, as is an open dialogue with our employees, customers and suppliers, as well as with lawmakers, authorities and other stakeholders. At all levels, we work together constructively with representatives from politics and public authorities, taking on tasks within society together.

#### **5. Continual improvement**

Our environmental and energy management systems ensure that the environmental compatibility of our processes, products, services and production sites, as well as the management systems themselves, are subject to a continual improvement process. Targets are set for key environmental parameters including energy efficiency and energy saving, and these are tracked in order to make sure that we are continually improving our performance.

Wolfsburg, December 2020

Dr Herbert Diess  
Chairman of the Board of Management

Dr Oliver Blume  
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