

Mizuho Bank, Ltd.

Type of Engagement: Annual Review

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Engagement Team:

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Introduction

In 2023, Mizuho Bank, Ltd. ("Mizuho BK") launched green deposit products (the "Green Deposits"), allocating the proceeds to finance and refinance the environmental projects (the "Nominated Expenditures"). In October 2024, Mizuho BK engaged Sustainalytics to review the Nominated Expenditures and assess whether they meet the use of proceeds criteria in the Mizuho Bank Green Deposit Framework 2023 (the "Framework").¹ The framework, as a standalone document, was reviewed by Sustainalytics in July 2023 to verify the alignment with market practice.

Evaluation Criteria

Sustainalytics evaluated the Nominated Expenditures based on whether they:

1. Meet the use of proceeds and criteria defined in the Framework.

Table 1: Use of Proceeds Categories and Eligibility Criteria

Use of Proceeds Categories	Eligibility Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
Renewable Energy	I. Development, construction and operation of renewable energy facilities including: i. Wind ii. Solar iii. Solar thermal, with less than 15% fossil fuel back-up. iv. Waste biomass energy, with feedstock limited to i) residues from forestry and agriculture, ii) residues from fishery certified with MSC, ASC or MEL, iii) waste from palm oil operations certified with RSPO or RSB, or iv) wastewater and sewage sludge. v. Non-waste biomass energy with life cycle emissions intensity of less than 100gCO₂e/kWh, using feedstock restricted to i) wood and wood pellets	I. Waste biomass projects wastewater and sewage sludge are derived from fossil fuel operations. II. Non-waste biomass projects using feedstock that: i. is produced on land with high biodiversity that has been converted for its production in the last 10-15 years, or ii. is produced on land with a high amount of carbon that has been converted for its production, or iii. competes with food production. III. Non-waste biomass projects using palm oil,

¹ Mizuho Financial Group Inc., "Green Deposit Framework", (2024): https://www.mizuho-bank.co.jp/corporate/asset/greendeposit/pdf/mhbk_green_deposit_framework.pdf

	certified with FSC or PEFC, or ii) non-wood crops. vi. Geothermal energy, with direct emissions of less than 100 gCO₂/kWh. vii. Run-of-river hydro facilities without artificial reservoir or low storage capacity. viii. Hydropower facilities with i) life cycle emissions of less than 50 gCO_{2e}/kWh (less than 100 gCO_{2e}/kWh for facilities that became operational before the end of 2019), or ii) power density of greater than 10W/m² (greater than 5 W/m² for facilities that became operational before the end of 2019).	peat, uncertified materials, or materials sourced from unknown suppliers. IV. Hydropower projects which have not undertaken an environmental and social impact assessment by a credible body that ensures no significant risks and controversy surrounding the projects.
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Issuer's Responsibility

Mizuho BK is responsible for providing accurate information and documentation relating to the details of the projects, including descriptions and amounts allocated.

Independence and Quality Control

Sustainalytics, a leading provider of ESG and corporate governance research and ratings to investors, conducted the verification of the use of proceeds from the Green Deposits with the eligibility criteria defined in the Framework. The work undertaken as part of this engagement included collection of documentation from Mizuho BK and review of documentation to assess the conformance with the Framework.

Sustainalytics relied on the information and the facts presented by Mizuho BK. Sustainalytics is not responsible nor shall it be held liable for any inaccuracies in the opinions, findings or conclusions herein due to incorrect or incomplete data provided by Mizuho BK.

Sustainalytics made all efforts to ensure the highest quality and rigor during its assessment process and enlisted its Sustainability Bonds Review Committee to provide oversight over the review.

Conclusion

Based on the limited assurance procedures conducted, nothing has come to Sustainalytics' attention that causes us to believe that, in all material respects the Nominated expenditures, do not conform with the use of proceeds criteria in the Framework. Mizuho BK has disclosed to Sustainalytics that the proceeds of the Green Deposits were fully allocated as of March 2024.

Detailed Findings

Table 2: Detailed Findings

Framework Requirements	Procedure Performed	Factual Findings	Error or Exceptions Identified
Use of Proceeds Criteria	Verification of projects to determine alignment with the use of proceeds criteria outlined in the Framework.	The Nominated Expenditures comply with the use of proceeds criteria.	None

Appendix

Appendix 1: Allocation of Green Deposits Proceeds

Category	Sub-Category	Net Proceeds Allocated (%)
Renewable Energy	Solar PV	100%
Total		100%

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