Southern Company

Response received by BHRRC from Southern Co regarding assessment of exposure to and steps taken in response to forced labour issues in XUAR as documented by Sheffield Hallam University, among others, 14 July 2023.

(1) Assessment of exposure & (2) Steps taken in response

“The foundation of Southern Company is built on being a citizen wherever we serve. We are committed to conducting business with honesty, integrity and fairness and creating a workplace where we all feel welcomed, valued, respected and engaged. Our commitment to human rights is embodied in Our Mission, Our Values, Our Code of Ethics and in our policies and practices. These commitments are consistent with the general principles of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and the International Labour Organization’s Declaration of Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

Southern Company’s Human Rights Statement summarizes our commitments, philosophies and practices regarding human rights. This statement is intended to inform our employees, customers, suppliers, communities and other stakeholders of our commitments, philosophies and practices, and this statement includes a prohibition on the use of forced or involuntary labor.

As noted in our Code of Ethics, our reputation for doing the right thing is a valuable asset and we respect and comply with all laws and regulations. Similarly, we expect our suppliers to share these same commitments to compliance with all laws and regulations, including compliance with The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act.

We appreciate the opportunity to engage with stakeholders like the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre to help inform our work to address potential human rights risks in our operations, supply chains and communities that we are privileged to serve.”