# **Q4**<sup>2023</sup>

# **Corporate Engagement Update**

Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing | Bailard

Bailard's approach to corporate engagement focuses on both the shareholder process and supporting other stakeholders working to improve disclosures on important environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues. Bailard's Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing (SRII) group typically focuses its corporate engagement efforts on the following areas:

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

- · Climate change
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- · Global water issues
- Biodiversity & habitat
  protection
- Sustainability reporting
- Renewable energy and decarbonization

#### SOCIAL

- Human rights
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Social justice
- Supply chain management
- Workplace practices
- Income inequality

#### GOVERNANCE

- · Shareholder rights
- Board structure & independence
- · Executive compensation
- · Risk management
- Ethical standards
- Policies & procedures on corporate political giving

## **Recent Activity**

#### Stakeholder Engagement

- Bailard became a <u>Certified B Corporation</u> stay tuned for details and formal announcement to come!
- As a result of a Bailard-led engagement, **Enphase** completed <u>CDP's Climate Questionnaire</u> for the first time this year
- Bailard co-led an engagement call with **The J.M. Smucker Company** regarding the <u>Ceres Valuing Water Finance</u>
  <u>Initiative</u>
- Bailard joined the newly formed <u>Nature Action 100</u> initiative, which is focused on driving greater corporate ambition and action to reverse nature and biodiversity loss

#### **Thought Leadership**

• Bailard's Blaine Townsend authored a piece in *ESG Clarity*: <u>"ESG changed my mind on...the role of politics in investment"</u>

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### **Partner Organizations**

#### As You Sow

The goal of As You Sow (AYS) is to create large-scale systemic change by establishing sustainable and equitable corporate practices. Bailard supports the corporate engagement work of AYS, and Bailard's Blaine Townsend (SRII Director) has been collaborating with AYS since 1997.

#### www.asyousow.org

#### Ceres

Ceres works with investors specifically to better manage carbon, water and supply chain risks, and to ramp up global investments in clean energy and sustainable food and water systems. Bailard is a member of the Ceres Investor Network.

www.ceres.org

#### **CPA-Zicklin Index**

Bailard is a sponsor of the CPA-Zicklin Index, which benchmarks the political disclosure and accountability policies and practices of leading U.S. public companies. It is produced by the Center for Political Accountability in conjunction with the Zicklin Center for Business Ethics Research.

www.politicalaccountability.net

#### CDP

CDP is a nonprofit that runs the global disclosure system for investors, companies, cities, states and regions to manage their environmental impacts, with a focus on disclosure of carbon emissions, water use and deforestation. Bailard is a CDP Investor Signatory.

#### www.cdp.net

#### PRI

The PRI seeks to build a sustainable global financial system by encouraging adoption and implementation of the six Principles for Responsible Investment. Bailard is a signatory of the Principles for Responsible Investment. The PRI is supported by, but not part of, the United Nations.

www.unpri.org

#### ICCR

Bailard is an affiliate members of the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) - a membership organization of over 300 faith and values-based organizations, which engage hundreds of large multi-national corporations each year on social and environmental issues.

#### www.iccr.org

#### **Moskowitz Prize**

Bailard is a sponsor of the Moskowitz Prize, a premier global prize for research in sustainable and responsible finance. The prize is currently presented by Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.

<u>www.kellogg.northwestern.</u> <u>edu/social-impact/academics/</u> <u>moskowitz-prize.aspx</u>

"Disclosure on environmental and social performance is increasingly the expectation rather than the exception." – Ceres

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Published October 2023 For more information, please call (650) 571 5800 or visit www.bailard.com.

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