



## **Assurance Statement**

Jacobs evaluated NiSource Inc.'s annual Integrated Report (2020), which combines the company's Annual Report to Stockholders and Sustainability Report into a single publication. The Integrated Report, the Sustainability Scorecard, and the Supplemental Data form the basis for its self-declaration of Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) In Accordance-Core, relative to the GRI Standard reporting framework. In addition, Jacobs recommended specific improvements for future reporting efforts.

## **Completeness**

NiSource reported on all required General Disclosure and Management Approach categories including Organizational Profile; Material Aspects and Boundaries; Stakeholder Engagement; Governance, and Ethics and Integrity, as included in the GRI Guidelines. In addition, NiSource reported on the materiality aspects identified by stakeholders through the materiality assessment conducted in 2014, aligned with the priorities identified by EPRI Environmental Sustainability Interest Group and the EEI/ESG and AGA Steering committees. NiSource has provided its level of compliance with GRI Guidelines for each performance indicator. Performance is reported in the body of the 2020 Integrated Report, the 2020 Form 10-K, the 2020 Proxy Statement, the 2020 Sustainability Scorecard, and the Supplemental Data, as well as to the NiSource website.

## **Assurance Approach**

Jacobs' assurance activities included multiple readings of the 2020 GRI Reporting, NiSource 2020 Integrated Report, review of reference documents; and comparison to the 2019 Sustainability Report for continuity and accuracy.

After Jacobs reviewed the initial draft of the report, we identified minor improvements for a few General and Management Approach Disclosures for better alignment with the GRI Standard.

## **Recommendations for Improvement**

Jacobs recommended adding detail on NiSource's supply chain, protection of biodiversity, and efforts to remain aligned with materiality issues in its sector. Additionally we suggested minor edits for clarity and consistency with previous reporting.

## **Key Findings**

Based on the scope and limitations of our review:

- Based on the information provided by NiSource during the assessment, nothing has come to our attention which causes us to believe that the information reported by NiSource in the 2020 Integrated Report has been materially misstated.

- We found that the NiSource 2020 Integrated Report presents a clear focus on the company's material aspects and the clarity of information provided with respect to reporting on the GRI Standard.
- Based on the verbal and written information provided by NiSource during the assessment, we found that the NiSource 2020 Integrated Report, 2020 Sustainability Scorecard, and Supplemental Data provides a reliable representation of NiSource's economic, environmental and social performance and that it meets the intent of the GRI Standard reporting framework with respect to boundary, balance, materiality, and quality. Nothing has come to our attention to cause us to believe that the NiSource self-declared application level of In Accordance-Core, in relation to the GRI Standard, is materially misstated.

This independent statement is not intended to identify all errors, omissions or misstatements in the NiSource 2020 Integrated Report, 2020 Sustainability Scorecard, and Supplemental Data; third parties should not rely on it as a statement that there are no such errors, omissions or misstatements.

Jameson Morrell  
Sustainability Consulting Practice Director  
Jacobs  
April 27, 2021

Kylee Hamilton  
Senior Sustainability Consultant  
Jacobs  
April 27, 2021