Everest Carbon Inc. 548 Market St PMB 77589 San Francisco, CA, 94104-5401 United States



## 19 June 2023

## Removal activities under the Article 6.4 mechanism

## **Everest Carbon Inc. response to information note**

Dear Supervisory Board:

Everest Carbon Inc. is grateful for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body's <u>Information note on Removal activities under the Article 6.4 mechanism Version 04.0</u>.

Everest Carbon Inc. was founded in December 2022 in the United States. The company conducts Enhanced Weathering projects in India and sells carbon removal credits internationally, predominantly to the European and North-American markets. Enhanced Weathering removes carbon from the atmosphere by accelerating the Earth's natural geochemical carbon cycle; we grind natural alkaline silicate rocks, like Wollastonite, to fine powders and spread them in soils, thereby increasing the effective weathering rate of those rocks by multiple orders of magnitude. The removed CO2 is locked away for >100,000 years (source). Apart from carbon removals, Enhanced Weathering is known to lead to an array of environmental and social co-benefits with a high potential to contribute toward climate justice goals. Scientific studies identify i) improved soil health, ii) improved water management iii) an increase in crop yields, especially in nutrient-depleted soils, and iv) enhanced stress and pest resistance for crops (source, source, source, source). Those socio-environmental co-benefits are particularly strong when operating projects in the global south, and in our opinion, present a great opportunity for reparative climate justice. Everest Carbon is venture-capital backed, is actively conducting and selling its first commercial projects, and aims to scale to a carbon removal capacity of one billion tons per year by 2035. Our MRV approach is centered around precisely measuring and tracking dissolved species of atmospheric carbon dioxide through soil and soil porewater samples that give us a detailed picture of carbon drawdown.

This letter is to express some concerns about the supervisory body's info note. Firstly, we believe the info note's conclusions are inconsistent with current IPCC accounting guidance and do not acknowledge the need for gigatonne scale CDR in the coming decades. It misrepresents the benefits of long-term storage and its foreseen role according to scientific assessments, e.g. via the inclusion of tonne-year crediting. Secondly, the info note's framing of CDR as either "engineering-based activities" or "land-based activities" seems arbitrary and not based in science. Thirdly the info note's argument that 'engineered' CDR solutions are inconsistent with sustainable development goals for the Global South is arbitrary and does not reflect emerging economic and environmental opportunities presented by emerging and

already commercial CDR pathways and solutions. Lastly, as our project demonstrates, these activities can and do take place in the Global South and benefit people living there.

We trust that our response can be of use to the Supervisory Body as it moves forward with its work and will be happy to contribute in any way helpful.

Sincerely,

Pascal Michel

Pascal Michel
President and Chief Executive Officer
Everest Carbon Inc.