



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
20 October 2026

Guthrie Rejects Allegations of Active Fires at its Indonesian Estates

Petaling Jaya, 20 October 2026 – Guthrie categorically denies reports alleging that its subsidiaries or employees caused forest and land fires in Indonesia. The Group takes fire incidents seriously because of its impact on communities. The allegations against Guthrie are not supported by credible evidence and do not reflect the facts established through the Group's latest ground checks which confirms no active fires in any of its estates in Indonesia. Guthrie also found no evidence that its subsidiaries or employees started the fires.

Some of the companies mentioned in public reports as affiliates of Guthrie are not owned, managed or controlled by the Group. Any outdated or incorrect attribution to Guthrie should be corrected, as it is misleading.

Guthrie has maintained a strict Zero-Burning Policy across all its operations since 1985 and also upholds a No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation commitment. The Group's fire-prevention measures include real-time monitoring of water levels, water-table monitoring in peatland areas, measures to maintain appropriate moisture levels, community fire-prevention programmes, and training for smallholders and local farmers on responsible land management.

When a fire is detected within or near its operational boundaries, the Group's operations will respond immediately, regardless of its source. Guthrie's Indonesian subsidiary, Minamas Plantation, has 67 firefighting teams comprising 1,005 trained personnel. Their work is supported by drone and infrared monitoring across its plantations concession area and approximately 322,000 hectares of surrounding community land. The Group spends an estimated IDR3.5 billion (RM800,000) each month to maintain and deploy these resources. Guthrie, through its Indonesian subsidiaries, works with the authorities to tackle forest and land fires beyond the Group's concession areas.

Between January and September 2026, these teams responded to and extinguished 2,411 fires. Of these, 2,376 were on community land. Their response to fires beyond Guthrie's concession area should not be taken as evidence that the Group caused them. Fires which happen within Guthrie's concession area are detected early with action taken immediately to extinguish them.

The reports also appear to rely on outdated *Hak Guna Usaha* (HGU) maps that do not reflect current ownership or operational boundaries. They also overlook a basic operational fact: the palms in the areas concerned are productive and relatively young, rather than mature palms due for clearing. There would therefore be no operational rationale for burning them for land

clearing, and their age profile is wholly inconsistent with any suggestion that the Group deliberately started the fires.

Guthrie will continue to work with the relevant Indonesian authorities and stakeholders. The Group calls for any inaccurate data or ownership attribution to be corrected and for allegations to be supported by credible evidence. Guthrie remains open to constructive engagement with relevant stakeholders towards the shared objective of preventing fires and protecting communities and the environment.

Contacts:

- **Michael Murty, Corporate Communications**
Tel: +6016-326 8373 | E-mail: michael.murty@sdguthrie.com
- **Nur Yee Jie Min, Corporate Communications**
Tel: +6012-355 1885 | E-mail: yee.jie.min@sdguthrie.com