Our Mission is to improve lives by accelerating a safer and greener energy future.

The AES Corporation (AES) is committed to acting with the highest ethical standards in all of our business activities. We fulfil our company values when we apply ethical standards throughout our business and supply chain. In this Statement we describe our business and supply chain, and how we operate them. We explain our current policies and practices, and our plans to enhance them in light of the Modern Slavery Act.

ABOUT US

AES is a Fortune 200 global power generation and distribution company headquartered in Arlington, Virginia in the United States. Through our diverse portfolio of distribution and thermal and renewable power plants, we provide affordable and sustainable energy to 15 countries using diverse fuel technologies that are well-suited to the individual markets in which we operate. Our workforce of 10,000 people is committed to meeting the world’s current and increasing energy needs, while providing communities and countries the opportunity for economic growth through available, reliable, and affordable electric power.

At the end of 2017, AES’ total installed generation capacity was 34.9 gigawatts (GW) and our distribution networks served over 2 million customers. Our power plants encompass a broad range of technologies and fuel types including coal, diesel, solar, hydro-power, gas, oil, wind and biomass. Our six utilities power several diverse markets in the United States and Central America, and have brought electricity access to first-time customers in El Salvador.

AES’ business operates around the world including in the Americas, the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia. Our business is organized by geographic region (named Strategic Business Units - SBUs) so we have a better socio-political-economic understanding of our business in each market.

In the United Kingdom and Ireland, AES AES, through its subsidiaries, is Northern Ireland’s largest electricity generator, owning and operating Ballylumford and Kilroot Power Stations, both in County Antrim. AES and its subsidiaries are committed to meeting the power needs of the people of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. We believe that we do more than just provide power, though, as improving lives and making a lasting difference in the communities in which we operate has always been a part of our values and our mission.

More details about the nature and structure of our business can be found on our website.

OUR CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT AND HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

AES is a values driven company; our values guide our actions and provide a common framework for how we conduct business with our partners and suppliers, and serve our customers and the many communities in which we operate around the world. Our Values Guide, which we refer to as our Code of Conduct, helps each AES person translate our values into action in the diverse business, legal, and cultural climates that we operate.

In support of our Code of Conduct we also have diverse global policies and, in many cases, these global policies are supported by additional guidance documents and Frequently Asked Questions sheets. AES people may request guidance in applying these policies to specific situations from supervisors, Compliance personnel, and anonymously through our AES Helpline. Our people and our stakeholders are empowered with a strong sense of ownership and accountability for their work, and we fully expect each person to adhere to our corporate values as described in the Code of Conduct.
Since 2016, AES has a global Human Rights Policy that formalizes our long-standing commitment to uphold and respect human rights through our people, communities and suppliers. Starting 2017 and onwards our businesses in the Europe SBU undergo training regarding slavery and human trafficking.

Our people are diverse and hired for their abilities, and are required to work in compliance with global standards and local safety and labor requirements, including rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining. AES respects all applicable laws establishing a minimum age for employment and we do not use child or forced labor in any of our global operations or facilities. Our Human Rights Policy encourages collaborative and transparent work with local communities and development of meaningful relationships with stakeholders. Our suppliers are expected to meet these same commitments to employees and communities, and to adhere to local and relevant international laws.

AES’ Code of Conduct and policies cannot provide complete advice for every business situation that may arise, but they guide our people to use good judgment and a sense of pride to do the right thing and to seek further guidance when needed. In addition, AES people, contractors, and external stakeholders are encouraged to bring matters of concern to the company’s attention for prompt resolution. An open-door culture is a key part of this, but AES also maintains a Helpline that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for anyone to use to ask questions or report suspected wrong-doing. People may make reports anonymously and a third-party supplier operates the AES Helpline platform for that purpose.

OUR SUPPLY CHAIN AND DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS

At AES we construct and operate power plants and connect and maintain transmission and distribution networks. As such, we have three key business activities that engage in supply chain activities: fuels (to obtain the fuels needed to operate); global supply chain (to obtain non-fuel materials like turbines), and; engineering and construction (to build and maintain facilities). A detailed description of our supply chain can be found in the Supplement of our Sustainability Report and our Suppliers section of our website.

AES expects everyone who acts on our behalf, including business partners, consultants, agents, and suppliers to operate consistent with our Code of Conduct and with applicable local and international laws. Contractors, suppliers, and service providers are provided a copy of AES’ Code of Conduct and are required to acknowledge it. Promoting acceptable working conditions, environmentally responsible management, and ethical behavior are all parts of our commitment under our Code of Conduct and we expect our suppliers and contractors to meet those same standards.

For purchases made through our Global Supply Chain or Engineering and Construction, transactions are put through a pre-execution due diligence review tailored to the specific engagement and the supplier risk profile. Due diligence may cover screening of beneficial owners and key personnel, reputational due diligence, conflicts of interest, government relations, sanctions, anti-corruption controls, and legal and regulatory compliance.

Although slavery and human trafficking are not specifically called out in our Code of Conduct, the prevention of slavery and human trafficking is consistent with AES’ values and way of doing business, and would be addressed through these tools. During 2017, the businesses in our Europe SBU worked towards prioritizing certain categories of suppliers to send a new enhanced due diligence questionnaire that includes queries directly related to modern slavery and human trafficking. Also, in every contract and purchase order awarded, clauses and language regarding the same topics were included.

Approved by AES Board of Directors on July 12th, 2018

This Statement is made pursuant to Section 54, Part 6 of the UK Modern Slavery Act 2015, and constitutes AES’ statement for the financial year ending December 2017.